

BERNARD AND AUDRE RAPOPORT
L'Taken
SOCIAL JUSTICE SEMINARS

A Jewish Social Justice Program in Washington, D.C.



*Get ready for a fun, meaningful and
exciting trip to Washington, DC.*

Throughout the weekend, we will give you the knowledge and tools to write an effective, persuasive and passionate speech on a topic of your choice to present when you visit the offices of your Senators and Representatives. Lobbying a Member of Congress is a unique experience that very few Americans take advantage of and one that can have a significant impact on the course of legislation: after meeting with our students, Members of Congress have chosen to co-sponsor, offer amendments to and vote for pieces of legislation that participants discussed. We expect to have similar stories to tell after you present your remarks this year. We're excited for you to join us in Washington where you'll discover your power to be an effective advocate and a Jewish voice for justice in the nation's capital. And, of course, we'll also make sure you have time to explore D.C. and to make new friends from across North America!

For more information about the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, visit www.rac.org.

FRIDAY

6:10 PM

Kabbalat Shabbat and Welcome

Together we welcome Shabbat and introduce ourselves and the L'Taken program

6:30 PM

Shabbat Dinner

A festive dinner and get-to-know-you mixer for students

7:45 PM

Shabbat Services

9:00 PM

Opening Economic Justice Program

This interactive program educates students about the challenges facing low-income Americans. It includes a simulation illustrating how federal poverty alleviation programs operate and an overview of Jewish texts and values that inform the Reform Movement's position on economic equality.

Returning Student Program

For students who have previously attended the L'Taken Seminar, a program that explores concepts of power, social justice and creating change.

10:50 PM

Free Time & Snacks

11:00 PM

Meet with your congregation/group

Debrief with your congregation/group to discuss the evening program and the next day's schedule.

11:30 PM

Lilah Tov –

All students in their own rooms



SATURDAY

8:00 AM
Boker Tov

8:30 AM
Breakfast

9:00 AM
Shabbat Services

10:45 AM
Kesef, Koach, and Politika: A Lobbying Simulation (KKP)

Explore how money and power influence politics. Students are broken up into interest groups and work to win the votes of three “senators” on a proposed bill.

12:15 PM
Lunch

1:15 PM
Visit the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum & Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial



4:30 PM
Free Time & Dinner in Georgetown

6:45 PM
Havdallah Service at the Jefferson Memorial

8:30 PM
Elective Program 1

Examples Include:

- Israel: Conflicted about the Conflict?
- Gun Violence Prevention: Rifling Through Gun Legislation
- Immigration Reform: A Nation of Immigrants
- Reproductive Rights: The Meaning of Choice

9:45 PM
Free Time & Snack

10:30 PM
Meet with your congregation/group

11:00 PM
Lilah Tov –
All students in their own rooms

SUNDAY

7:30 AM
Boker Tov

8:00 AM
Breakfast

8:30 AM
Storytelling for Action

Ever heard an amazing story from an activist or at a protest? Stories communicate our values and inspire others. In this program, students will learn the art of social justice storytelling and use what they've learned to make their voices heard on Capitol Hill and beyond.

9:45 AM
Debrief & Check-in by Congregation/Group

10:30 AM
Elective Program 2

Examples Include:

- Criminal Justice Reform: Privilege, Profiling, and the Police
- LGBTQ Rights: Beyond Marriage Equality; The Full Rainbow of LGBTQ Rights
- Church and State: A Wall of Separation?
- Climate Change: Are We All in the Same Boat?

11:45 AM
Lunch

12:30 PM

Advocacy Prep – How to be an Effective Advocate

We'll learn about the legislative process through skit, song, and game show!

1:30 PM

Advocacy Prep – State Delegation Time

2:30 PM

Visit Smithsonian Museums on National Mall

Buses will have drop-offs at the National Museum of Natural History and the National Air & Space Museum, both on the National Mall. Groups can spend the afternoon at the Smithsonian museum(s) of their choice.

5:20 PM

Dinner in Pentagon Row – Arlington, VA

7:20 PM

Lobby Prep – Issue Briefings

Students will meet with RAC legislative staff to review important information to craft their remarks.

Students write speeches & present to LAs

Students will write their lobby speeches and then review them with a member of RAC legislative staff. The RAC staff will have printers to print copies of the students' final remarks.

10:45 PM

Lobby Prep Ends

11:15 PM

**Lilah Tov –
All students in their own rooms**

MONDAY

7:35 AM
Boker Tov

7:50 AM
Breakfast

10:00 AM – 1:45 PM
Meetings on Capitol Hill

2:00 PM

Where Do We Go From Here? – Wrap up

Students will gather in the Rayburn Foyer on Capitol Hill to reflect on lobby day and discuss how to build on the experience once back home.

2:30 PM

L'hitraot!



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