



Professional Development Workshop

“Pointing the Way: Sacred Objects across Cultures”

An Interdisciplinary Workshop for Elementary, Middle and High School Educators
Focusing on Visual Arts, and Social Studies

Sunday, January 21, 2018, 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.



Above: Photograph of the “Yad,” literally “hand.” The instrument is used to study Sacred Text to minimize damage to parchment and indicate respect.

Exhibit Summary:

The Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU offers this workshop in conjunction with our temporary exhibit: **POINTING THE WAY: THE ART OF THE TORAH POINTER** on display **November 20, 2017 – March 18, 2018**. For the first time, the Barr Foundation has made available for public exhibition its remarkable collection of antique and contemporary *Torah* pointers, used to guide the reader across the words while reading or chanting per custom. Artists from different periods and cultures, and represent diverse materials including wood, precious metals, jewels, ceramics and paper created these artistic treasures. This display of *yads* transcends religious iconography and appeals to all who appreciate the beauty and artisanship of fine art.

Workshop Description: Assists educators in conveying world cultures, minority characteristics and “sacred” subjects that are potentially rendered “taboo” or problematic for the school community.

Specifically, the workshop:

- Offers insight into how candid explorations encourage an appreciation of such contributions to pluralistic society, in general, and, the visual arts, in particular.
 - Provides educators with enhanced methods of contextualizing identity development.
- The workshop goes further to engage educators in questions that arise in school settings where cultural, religious, and “other” values often challenge the professional’s knowledge base, relationship to the above and/or overall sense of “fairness” and duty to benchmark pronouncement.
- Combines formats of lecture, interactive exercises, group collaboration and lesson plan development

Workshop Goals: This interactive Problem Based Learning professional development is designed:

- To enhance educators’ cultural sensitivity skills and successfully navigate multicultural South Florida.
- To support students’ development of inquiry of content knowledge needed to appreciate “the other’s” differing cultural information.
- To encourage the use of visual history, testimony, and sensitivity in the classroom, thereby providing opportunities for students to examine their own personal relationship to sacred objects, spaces, and practices in their midst.

Please see attached Workshop Agenda and return the Registration Form. **Workshop is FREE OF CHARGE. (4) Master Plan Points** awarded based on attendance & completion of follow up assignment. Open to all public and private school teachers. **Raffle Prizes:** 1). Free Museum Membership; 2). Museum Store Gift Certificate; 3). Free bus for student group field experience.

WORKSHOP RESERVATIONS: Due January 14, 2018 to Museum Educator. Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU, 301 Washington Ave., Miami Beach, FL 33139. Questions or School Group Reservations? Call: 786.972.3187 or Email: clieberp@fiu.edu.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP AGENDA

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- 1:45-2:00** **Registration Check-in & Light Refreshments**
- 2:00-2:15** **Welcome and Overview of JMOF-FIU:** Susan Gladstone, Executive Director
- 2:15-2:20** **Workshop Format:** Chaim Lieberperson, Museum Educator
- 2:20-3:00** **Tour of Pointing the Way: The Art of the Torah Pointer**
- 3:00-3:45** **Keynote Presentation:** A Noted Expert will Present on **“Teaching the Sacred on Secular Turf: What is the Effect on Students who Perceive their Culture is Disrespected?”**
- 3:45-4:30** **Collaborative Lesson Planning Opportunity:**
“Celebrating the Diversity of All Students” or “How Not to Nullify Students” is the challenge presented. Participants will work together in small groups to “Identify Sacred Time, Space, Objects” that are brought into the school community. The activity will be based on information from the workshop and participants will be asked to define their own Cultural Heritage and subjective values in the spirit of “full disclosure.” The group presentation, in a creative format (e.g. sketches, skit, poster, music or other modality), will include a lesson plan for a project your students can create individually or in groups. An appropriate rubric to evaluate skills, application and educative value will be required.
- 4:30-4:50** **Participants will share** their group projects to assess effectiveness and discuss ways to apply the concepts to best practice across subject areas and grade levels.
- 4:50-5:00** **Closure:** Raffle Prizes are awarded and final instructions for credit.



Jewish Museum of Florida
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

**REGISTRATION FORM
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP**

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NAME _____

SCHOOL AFFILIATION _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

DAY PHONE _____ CELL _____

EMAIL _____

WORKSHOP is FREE

- **MyLearningPlan.com registration required** to earn (4) Master Plan Points. **MyLearningPlan.com registration required** for both Miami-Dade County Public School Educators (Visual Arts portal) and/or CAJE Miami affiliated licensees. **Additionally, please send this Registration Form to the Museum.**
- **Raffle Drawings will be held for:** 1). Free Museum Membership; 2). Museum Store Gift Certificate; 3). Free bus for student group field experience.
- **Please send your completed form and payment by *Due January 14, 2018* to:**
Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU, 301 Washington Avenue, Miami Beach, Florida 33139
or via e-mail: clieberp@fiu.edu or fax: 305-672-5933.

Questions or “Field Experience” Reservations? Call Chaim Lieberperson, Museum Educator 786-972-3187.