

Ramaz Upper School

Co-Curricular Program Guide

2020-2021
5780-5781

The logo consists of the letters 'R', 'M', and 'Z' in a stylized, blue, sans-serif font. The 'M' is particularly large and features a rounded, arching top. The 'R' and 'Z' are also stylized, with the 'Z' having a sharp, angular bottom. The letters are set against a bright yellow rectangular background.

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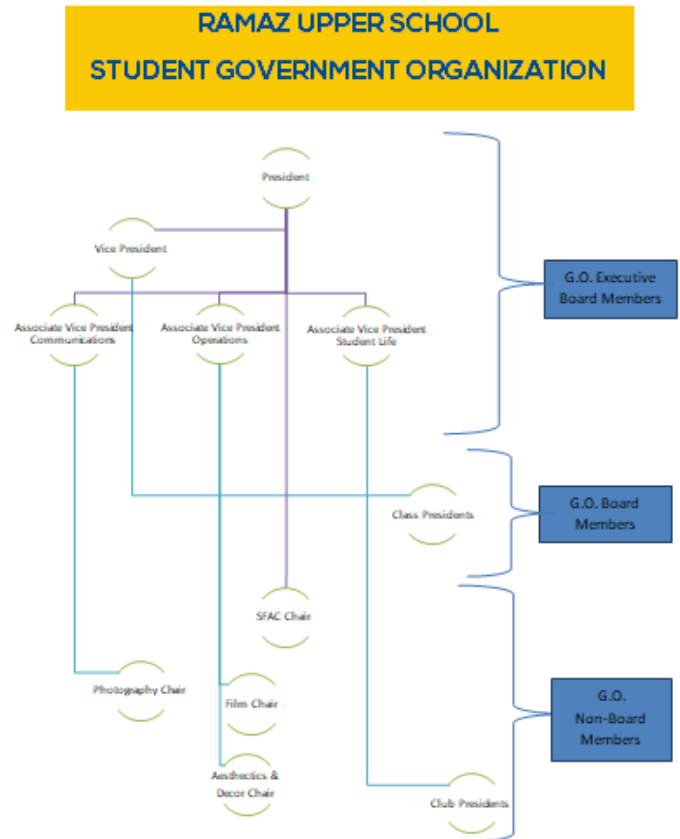
STUDENT GOVERNMENT

The General Organization (G.O.) is the representative organization of the student body. It is responsible for a host of school wide activities & programs. This year the G.O. is being supervised and mentored by Rabbi Dov Pianko, Director of Programming and Student Life.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

The G.O. is comprised of the following elected officials

- **President**
 - Represent student body to administration and administration to student body
 - Manage, delegate, and oversee G.O. Executive Board in its responsibilities
 - Collaborate with school representatives regarding school initiatives
- **Vice President**
 - Manage, delegate and oversee Class Presidents (G.O. Board members)
 - Assist President in all responsibilities listed above
- **Associate Vice President: Communications**
 - Manage all G.O. communications (e-mail, Webpage, Facebook, Instagram, etc.)
 - Photograph and archive school events & manage photography chair
 - Record keeping for all meetings including weekly G.O. and monthly SFAC meetings
- **Associate Vice President: Operations**
 - Manage, develop and oversee Non-Board G.O. members (excluding SFAC Chairperson; see Student Government Organization Chart)
 - Responsible to help keep the G.O. organized and create a timetable to help ensure success.
- **Associate Vice President: Student Life**
 - Oversee all co-curricular programming ("clubs") in coordination with Director of Programming & Student Life; screen new club applications; manage club fair; highlight clubs for social media; oversee Club Presidents
 - Organize and implement all unscheduled B4 periods, special programs and trips.



CLASS PRESIDENTS – BOARD MEMBERS

Class President responsibilities include but are not limited to:

Programming

- Organize, develop and implement grade trip(s) & initiatives
- Work with Director of Programming and Student Life & Grade Dean on the organization, development & implementation of Grade Shabbaton
- Collaborate with Executive G.O. on school-wide initiatives

Communication

- Communicate with students about school happenings
- Communicate with Executive G.O. concerning ongoing projects
- Bring matters of concern to their Grade Deans, the SFAC Chairperson, Director of Programming and Student Life, depending on the issue.

Academics

- Represent peers to the administration
- Represent administration to peers
- Liaise between students, faculty & Grade Dean test calendar

G.O. 2020-2021

President - Caitlin Levine

Vice President - Caleb Rosenfeld

Associate Vice President of Communications - Rachel Freilich

Associate Vice President of Operations- Gabby Ostad

Associate Vice President of Student Life- Izzie Ottensoser

Senior Class Presidents - Aaron Zanger & Isaac Silverman

Junior Class Presidents - Yona Weinstock & Julia Feit

Sophomore Class Presidents - Talia Leifer & Andrew Speilfogel

Freshman Class Presidents - TBD

COMMITTEES

CHESED COMMITTEE

Chesed Committee will meet regularly to discuss how to bring chesed and its many applications to the Ramaz student body, community and the world. It's members will include student leaders who have a passion in various types of chesed. This club will be responsible for discussing, organizing, and implementing ideas and programs. Anyone in the school is welcome to submit ideas to the faculty adviser or leaders of this committee. Students who would like to attend a meeting, may request permission from the faculty adviser.

On a number of occasions throughout the year, the committee plans and implements chesed projects that are designed to involve the entire school community. Committee members will research the project and design ways to inform, motivate and encourage participation. The committee presents a wonderful opportunity to bring together an entire community to achieve what a single individual cannot do alone.

Students who would like to join as a committee member, should reach out to the chairperson.

The Chessed Committee Chairperson is Ms. Tammie Senders.

STUDENT FACULTY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

"SFAC" meets regularly to discuss items of relevance to the student body. The members include student officers, faculty representatives and members of the administration. Meetings are chaired by a representative of the student body selected by the G.O. Past discussions have been on subjects such as the honor system, dress code, school time scheduling, school calendar and building maintenance. Although SFAC is an Advisory body, it does influence administration policy through the vigor and frankness of its deliberations. Anyone is welcome to submit topics to their G.O. representatives (Board Members & Executive Board Members). Students who would like to attend may request permission to attend from the SFAC Chairperson.

The SFAC Chairperson for this year is Ms. Tamar Benus.

COMPETITIONS & TEAMS

***Due to many unknowns in the 2020-21 school year, students who are interesting in clubs/teams that normally compete, should reach out to the respective faculty Advisers for updates on when/if/where they will take place.**

Chess Team

The Chess team is one of Ramaz's finest co-curricular activities. Everyone is invited to attend and play chess during these meetings. The team competes in the interscholastic tournaments of the Yeshiva Chess League.

Mr. Eli Vovsha is Faculty Adviser.

Chidon HaTanakh

Chidon HaTanakh, the National Bible Contest, is a great club for those who love Tanakh and want to learn. The contest consists of three regional exams, administered at Ramaz in November, February and March, followed by the national exam, in May, for those students who score in the highest score range on the regional exams. All questions are multiple choice. The regional exam is not too difficult. The national exam requires more precise knowledge of the same material. First and second place national winner go on to compete in the International Bible Contest held in Jerusalem on the following Yom Ha'atzmaut. Ramaz has had close to a dozen winners in recent years!. Students who perform consistently well on Chidon exams (as determined by the club faculty Adviser), may be exempted from one Tanakh test in the spring semester.

Ms. Tamar Benus is Faculty Adviser.

College Bowl

The Ramaz College Bowl team is one of our school's most successful co-curricular clubs. Small in size, almost by definition, the club emphasizes a wide expertise and a mastery of random trivia. The team generally prepares for competitions by working on reaction discipline and exploring team members' strengths and weaknesses to determine primary levels of responsibility in given fields. Questions are provided by an impartial private service. It has always prided itself on being a close-knit group that has developed an uncanny ability to discuss topics which invariably appear in the meets. This team competes at both the JV and Varsity level.

Dr. Ethan Rotenberg is Faculty Adviser.

Debate Team

Members of the Debate Team, chosen after a tryout procedure held in September, learn many skills and have the opportunity to use these skills in both intra- and inter-school debates. Each member learns the format of a formal debate (e.g., first affirmative, second negative, etc.), the terminology (e.g., resolved, status quo, etc.), and he/she also learns how a true debater prepares for a debate: research. During meetings, members discuss the issues of upcoming debates, helping to devise a winning strategy.

Mr. David Deutsch is Faculty Adviser.

The George Jacobs Mock Trial Program

The George Jacobs Mock Trial Program team consists of six lawyers, six witnesses, and several alternates. Each year the team participates in a statewide competition sponsored by the New York State Bar Association. Every participating school is given a set of stipulated facts and witness statements concerning a hypothetical case. Opposing schools represent different sides of the case before a "judge" in an actual courthouse. Lawyers must develop effective questions and learn the proper procedure for questioning witnesses. Witnesses must be able to act their parts well. Tryouts begin in October. In addition to being New York State champions in 2002, , the Ramaz George Jacobs Mock Trial Program Team has won the NYC Championship four times and has been a finalist or a semi-finalist an additional six times.

Dr. Jon Jucovy is Faculty Adviser.

Model Congress

What makes our democracy a government “by the people and for the people?” Congress. Often overshadowed by the President, Congress creates law, controls the national check book, authorizes the President to make war, and provides a place where every citizen can go and advocate for their interests. It is the cornerstone of the world’s first modern republic, a place where the minority can always maintain a voice in government. If you’re thinking of how you might one day change your world, Congress is a great place to start.

Dr. Jon Jucovy is Faculty Adviser.

Model U.N.

The Ramaz Model U.N. Team participates annually in the Yeshiva University Model U.N. together with many other schools from the U.S. and Canada. The team focuses on merging skills in research, public speaking, and persuasion within a large forum. Typically, each student represents the views of a single country on a specific Committee such as the Security Council or World Health. Students particularly relish the highly intellectual and competitive nature of the Model U.N., as well as the opportunity to meet students from yeshivot across the country.

Dr. Yehuda Bernstein is Faculty Adviser.

Science Olympiad

Our team competes with 15 NY/ NJ Yeshivot in 12-14 different events at a competition administered by the BJE that usually takes place in March or April. Each event has a team of 2 students that prepare extensively over a period of several months. Events can be based on knowledge, skills or building or a combination. Building events can typically involve 10-15 students contributing to their project. The competition itself follows the strict rules and guidelines of the National Science Olympiad and medals are awarded to the top three teams for each event. Popular events are Gravity Vehicle, Write It Do It, Anatomy & Physiology, Disease Detectives, Elevated Bridge or Tower Building, Thermodynamics, Dynamic Planet, Forensics and Technical Problem Solving.

Dr. Terri Aharon is Faculty Adviser.

Torah Bowl

Torah Bowl offers our students a unique and exciting opportunity to broaden their knowledge of Tanakh. Team members study selected sections of Chumash and Nev'im, along with Rashi's commentary, and then compete against the twenty or so yeshivot that currently take part in a competition patterned closely after the College Bowl League. Students who express an interest in joining this co-curricular club will be invited to take a screening test early in the year, and we will then form a boys' team and a girls' team to represent Ramaz at the three regular season meets and – go teams! – at the division and league championship meets, as well.

Rabbi Manu Hass is Faculty Adviser for the Boys.

Ms. Tammie Senders is Faculty Adviser for the Girls.

FINE & PERFORMING ARTS

***Due to many unknowns in the 2020-21 school year, students who are interesting in the fine and performing arts that normally perform in person, should reach out to the respective faculty Advisers for updates on when/if/how they will take place.**

Art Club

Art club is a club dedicated to creating. The members of art club should always come in ready to explore creatively. If they are in need of direction, there will always be a prompt. Prompts will always be optional, and only there for people who need inspiration. These prompts will give everyone the space to create something entirely from their own imagination. They are a push in the right direction.

The art club may always be open, but it's nice to have peers creating side by side with you. The club creates a community for anyone interested in art. Members should always feel free to express themselves in any ways, while using any of the endless materials from our art-studio.

This summer we were able to meet, so whether our sessions are online or in person, students are committed to showing up and participating. Every activity is student driven, this enthusiasm is what makes our club so dynamic and productive.

This year, the art club will be going to try to meet with all the other various art-related clubs, such as photography, virtual reality, film, and woodworking, to learn new techniques and different points of view from diverse artists.

Club Leaders for Art Club: Sasha Dunst, Rebecca Kalimi, Fortune Laboz, Ella Low, & Eliana Sobel.

Art Club, and all clubs operating within the Art Club listed below are overseen by Ms. Rachel Rabhan.

Drawing and Dreaming/ Sketching at the MET

This completely chill, no experience necessary club is for everyone; whether you're an art geek or just in it to explore the city with friends, we plan on delving into some of New York City's finest artwork through sketching. Sights we would like to visit include (but are not limited to), The Met, The Guggenheim, The MOMA, various local galleries, and street art. We also hope to make some larger trips to museums such as Storm King, Aldrich Contemporary, and Parrish Art Museum. As a relaxing end to the week, the club plans to meet on Fridays, but we are flexible to meet other days as well. Some events may be limited, so first come, first serve.

Additionally, here are some Museum opening dates for your own amusement:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| - MOMA, August 27th | - Brooklyn Museum, September 12th |
| - Fotografiska, August 28th | - El Museo del Barrio, September 12th |
| - The MET, August 29th | - New Museum of Contemporary Art, September 27th |
| - The Whitney, September 3rd | - Guggenheim, October 3rd |
| - Bronx Museum of Art, September 9th | |

Rise Magazine

Rise Magazine is a creative arts and culture magazine founded by two Ramaz students, Moselle Kleiner '17 and Tamar Sidi '17. A seasonal online and print magazine, Rise presents the way Ramaz students experience and are influenced by the rich culture of New York City. Art in all its forms from paint, photography, poetry, art reviews of exhibitions, fashion, music, and more are included in the magazine.

This year, Rise's first issue will capture today's unique time period and societal transformation. The theme is Futurism, an exploration of the past and how it shapes our future. Members of the Rise team publish what matters to them in any creative form. What does Futurism mean to you?

Ms. Rachel Rabhan & Ms. Barbara Abramson are Faculty Advisers.

Natural Engineering/Woodworking Club

Woodworking is an introductory club course designed to introduce participants to general woodworking practices. Through various hands on projects, students will expand their knowledge and experience using planning, design, and building techniques. In other words, build an idea with wood. Towards this end, students will be expected to learn about and safely use various tools from hand and power tools to woodworking machinery. All will have the opportunity to work on solo projects or collaborative projects for the school. This club will not meet in the Fall of 2020.

Mr. Windsor Cousins is Faculty Adviser.

Photography Club

In the history of art, photography, as a medium, is comparatively young. In the attempt to define the role of photography in the world of images, it is interesting to explore the attraction we have to the camera. This club allows individuals a chance to uncover the reasons for this fascination.

The club is open to all students who are interested in learning the art of black and white photography. Students work on individual projects and may ultimately create a comprehensive portfolio.

Mr. Kevin Goggin is Faculty Adviser.

Club Leader is Eitan Goldberg.

Creating Short Form Videos

This is a great time to learn how to film and edit, or sharpen your skills as a filmmaker. In this moment videos are the ideal tool to share your thoughts, inspire your community, and connect. With multiple social platforms available as free venues for your videos, the options are endless. All you need is a Smartphone and editing software.

In this weekly class (Wednesday) we will study the best tactics for filming with a Smartphone or whatever camera you have access to, then utilizing the footage to edit short videos. We will begin with ideas, exploring short films, past and present, as inspiration. Engaging short-term

assignments will be catered towards learning specific skills that illustrate how to translate your ideas into a final product. The class will cover planning for a shoot, camera angles, lighting, sound, and editing.

Sessions

- Investigating a range of short films, analyzing the tactics utilized and drawing inspiration from them.
- A Premiere Pro editing tutorial.
- Utilizing already existing footage to edit a "time-capsule" video.
- The camera-angle challenge will involve the use of as many different kinds of framing to create a short instructional video.
- Exploring camera movements and their meanings by creating 2 versions of a 10 second video.
- Writing a script.
- Creating narrative videos that are under 1-minute.
- A group assignment during which students will collaborate by editing one another's footage. - The art of the on-camera interview.
- Proposing an idea by creating a pitch. -Making a shot list and schedule.
- Organizing your media.
- Edit review.
- Final touches such as effects, color and exposure correcting and sound levels.
- Screening.

Expectations and Goals

After completion of this course, students will have knowledge of how to properly use their available cameras and edit the footage they create. The varied assignments will give students the opportunity to attempt different methods and become inspired to dream up their own ideas.

Materials Needed: Smartphone, Tripod, Adobe Premiere

Suggested: L.E.D. light panel, external microphone

Sophia Peer is Faculty Advisor

Dance Team

The Ramaz Dance Ensemble learns various dance techniques including Modern, Jazz, Ballet, Israeli Folk Dance, Hip Hop, and others. Students also have opportunities to create their own dances. The ensemble performs at the annual Dinner Dance, at other school functions and around the city. Auditions are held at the beginning of the school year.

Ms. Ruth Goodman is Faculty Adviser.

Music Clubs

Instrumental Music and Production

Chamber Music Ensemble

Open to all students who play an instrument and read music with proficiency. The ensemble will work on classical music and crossover pieces, with a focus on the joy of making music together. Participants are expected to have access to a teacher. Rehearsals take place as required.

Mr. Oded Lev-Ari is Faculty Adviser.

Guitar Ensemble

If you play acoustic, electric or bass guitar, you should consider trying out for the new and exciting club, "Guitar Ensemble." While the challenges of "Ensemble" are demanding, they are equally enjoyable and promise to expand your playing and musical abilities. We will be strumming student and instructor driven compositions as well as guitar-specific repertoires.

Mr. Brody Greif is Faculty Adviser.

Strumming with Seniors

This project of the guitar ensemble is led by Simon Feritg '23. They play for seniors who can't get out as much and have less visitors due to the current health crisis. It is a wonderful opportunity to put a smile on a senior's face! It won't take much time or effort, and it will make a big impact on a senior's life. All you need is an instrument and a laptop or iPhone. If you are interested, please reach out to Simon (fertigs@ramaz.org).

Jazz Ensemble

Open to all students who play an instrument and are interested in playing jazz. The ensemble will cover various jazz styles based on student interest and ability, with an emphasis on ensemble playing and improvisation. Rehearsals take place as required.

Mr. Oded Lev-Ari is Faculty Adviser.

Lighting Crew

Join the Lighting Crew to learn the art and craft of lighting design for the theatre. We will learn the elements of design including color mixing, sculpting form, and movement, as well as the technical elements of electricity, computer control and drafting. We will also work on the design and running of the Ramaz plays and musicals.

Mr. Sam Gordon is Faculty Adviser.

Music Production and Songwriting

Open to songwriters and beatmakers. Make your own beats, produce your own songs. Hone your lyric and melody writing, and share ideas and music with your peers. Learn the fundamentals of music production and recording.

Mr. Oded Lev-Ari is Faculty Adviser.

Piano Ensemble

Open to all students who play piano or keyboard. Some music reading experience required. Students will play popular and classical repertoire arranged specifically for the group, with a focus on the joy of making music together. Rehearsals take place as required.

Mr. Oded Lev-Ari is Faculty Adviser.

Rock Band

The Ramaz Rock Band consists of students grades 9-12 who are dedicated to the study of a musical instrument at a high level. The joyful rehearsals take place on Tuesday after school. The group primarily plays rock music as well as Israeli music, Jazz and Pop. The band accompanies the annual Ramaz Dinner, and plays throughout the school year at various community and cultural events.

Mr. Oded Lev-Ari is Faculty Adviser.

Vocal Music

High School Choir

The Ramaz High School Choir is the largest co-curricular activity that meets on a regular basis, consisting of approximately 50 students from Grades 9-12. They are the premier performing group in school and are widely acclaimed for their talent, spirit, and professionalism. They sing in styles ranging from Renaissance liturgical music to contemporary secular and Israeli pop. Highlights of each year include their performance at the Annual Dinner, a choir trip (recent trips have included Boston, Washington DC, Los Angeles, and Israel) and a Ramaz album recorded roughly every three years. Auditions take place in September and rehearsals are Wednesdays after school.

Mr. Daniel Henkin is Faculty Adviser.

Chamber Choir

Singers in grades 10-12 have the option of auditioning for the Ramaz Chamber Choir. This group of advanced singers performs with the high school choir, as well as throughout the school year at various community and cultural events. They sing accompanied, as well as a cappella, and learn to sight sing.

Rehearsals take place on Tuesdays after school, and are in addition to high school choir rehearsals. Members understand that being part of this elite singing group is a major commitment. Competition for the few open slots is fierce, but well worth the effort. While it requires a tremendous amount of devotion, it is extremely rewarding and a lot of fun. Auditions take place each spring for the upcoming year.

Mr. Daniel Henkin is Faculty Adviser.

Stage Crew

Stage Crew gives students experience creating scenery, organizing costumes and working backstage for the school's theatrical productions. We paint, draw and build props and scenery. This work requires energy and enthusiasm, but all levels of creativity and ability are welcome (any previous experience is always appreciated). Stage Crew is a great creative outlet at the end of a hard day.

Ms. Barbara Abramson is Faculty Adviser.

Theatre

Ramaz Theatre consists of a musical, a drama, and senior show. Catapulting the cast into a fantastical world, Ramaz Theatre allows its participants to explore various characters and settings. It is a unique experience mingling the upperclassmen and underclassmen together, melding the group into more than just a cast. While the productions are magnificent, the shows entail a certain amount of devotion, rehearsing two - three times a week. The commitment, however, only lasts for about six weeks, still allowing students to pursue other interests.

Mr. Jason Robinson is Faculty Adviser.

PUBLICATIONS

Breakthrough

Breakthrough is the Ramaz science and technology publication. Students contribute articles on science related issues that reflect their particular interests, opinions, and hobbies. Students are invited to contribute articles on current events in science, new developments in applied technology, as well as ethical issues that they may raise.

Ms. Lenore Brachot is Faculty Adviser.

La Gazette

La Gazette is the Ramaz French publication. French students, or any student who speaks French, contribute to articles related to French culture around the world and current events. Students are invited to submit articles about their experience in a French speaking country like places they visited and cultural comparison; reviews on cultural events, books or movies; sports; recipes; poems or short stories.

Ms. Julie Bellaiche is Faculty Adviser.

Likrat Shabbat

Likrat Shabbat is a weekly publication that includes divrei Torah as well as Israel-related items of interest. Students are also welcome to submit work that they wrote for class which they want to publish. If you are interested in publishing divrei Torah or keeping people informed about Jewish topics, there is a place for you in Likrat Shabbat.

Rabbi Manu Hass is Faculty Adviser.

Parallax

Parallax is the Ramaz writing club and literary magazine. At meetings we hold creative writing workshops, during which we write, read, and gently critique student poetry and prose. Parallax publishes an annual literary magazine, in addition to a creative writing section in the yearbook.

Our magazine has won the gold medal from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association for the past twenty years. In addition, we have won the more prestigious Silver Crown Award and Gold Crown Award multiple times, which means we are one of a handful of the best high school literary magazines in the country. Parallax also helps to run the annual Celebration of the Arts night. Members often read their work aloud for this evening. Professional writers address the club from time to time, and we have also attended public poetry readings together. For anyone who loves to write, but never has the time or discipline, Parallax provides a writing home and just the little push you may need.

Dr. Edith Honig is Faculty Adviser.

Ram MD

Ram MD is the Ramaz Upper School Medical Journal. Each issue, we focus on one aspect of medicine and include both informative and engaging content.

Ms. Rena Dashiff is Faculty Adviser.

RamPage

RamPage, the school newspaper, provides an opportunity for fun and experience in research and writing. The paper includes articles on school news, opinion pieces, and news on Israel. Members are encouraged to develop article ideas, discuss current events, and improve writing techniques; everyone gets a chance to write an article. Students can also help out with the design of the paper. Five to seven issues are published each year. RamPage is for anyone interested in journalism, research, design, or current events.

Dr. Steve Milowitz is Faculty Adviser.

Sport Report

The Sport Report is the Ramaz magazine dedicated to all things sports. Professional or college, high school or Olympic, playoffs or fantasy, anything is fair game. Articles include serious analytical breakdowns of students' favorite teams and players, as well as more soccer coverage than any American needs.

Mr. Rafael Blumenthal, a die-hard Boston fan, is Faculty Adviser.

Tosses / תוסס

Tosses is the only all-Hebrew student publication at Ramaz. We feature articles about politics, technology, culture, and Israel along with creative writing. We welcome all writers to join.

Mr. Elie Adelman is Faculty Adviser.

XeVeX

XeVex, the Ramaz Math Magazine, explores and reports on mathematical ideas and news. Students have an opportunity to write about mathematical concepts and submit them to a quarterly issue which includes a puzzle section, as well as a section devoted to conceptual articles. We hope to have an even more successful year than last year, so come and see how you can contribute to XeVeX.

Dr. Fabio Nironi is Faculty Adviser.

SPECIAL INTERESTS

AIPAC-Israel Advocacy Club

AIPAC is one of the strongest and most powerful lobbies in Washington, D.C. The AIPAC/Israel Advocacy Club provides a chance to learn more about AIPAC and discover how you can advocate for Israel on the national political scene and in mainstream society. Students will meet regularly to learn about the most current issues in U.S./Israel relations and to discuss how we can make Israel awareness and advocacy a greater part of our community's consciousness in places like schools, synagogues, and on college campuses. In addition, students may apply to attend one or both AIPAC leadership conferences in Washington, D.C. where they will learn more about these important contemporary issues, meet influential speakers and leaders, practice lobbying skills, and then actively participate in real lobbying sessions with members of the House of Representatives.

Faculty Adviser to be determined.

American Sign Language (ASL) Club

The American Sign Language (ASL) Club teaches students ASL, and also educates participants regarding deaf culture, in an engaging way. During each lesson, students learn and practice new signs through songs and games. This year the club hopes to feature guest speakers and presentations from its members.

Rabbi Dov Pianko is Faculty Adviser.

Book Club: What is Literature?

Do you like to read? Do you abhor picking up anything that even resembles a book that's not mandated by your teacher? Do you know what the words abhor and mandated mean? No matter what your answer, Book Club is the club for you. Flexible, student-led (for the most part), book club meets once a month. Participants read provocative material- novels, graphic novels (yay mangal!), essays, short stories, poetry- and discuss them outside of the classroom. Discussions will be loud if not heated and strong opinions are encouraged. As a group we decide what to read and how to present the reading (start thinking about themes now!). Change your world one book at a time.

Ms. Ann Chechik is Faculty Adviser.

Coding Club

This club allows students with interests in technology, coding, and data science to utilize their talents outside of the classroom. We write code, solve challenging problems, and develop web applications.

Mr. Eli Vovsha is Faculty Adviser.

Business Investment Club (BIC)

Learn how to spot the successes and failures before they happen and you can change the world. We plan to meet weekly and hear presentations from different professionals in their field. Sometimes we have students present their own thoughts on investments and trends in the business world.

Rabbi Dov Pianko is Faculty Adviser.

Economics Club

The Economics club discusses how individuals and nations decide to allocate their resources. Members of this club will learn to think like a true Economist. We will delve into a number of sub-disciplines within economics such as Monetary Economics, Environmental Economics, Labor Economics, and Information Economics as well.

Rabbi Ilan Schimmel is Faculty Adviser.

Engineering Club

Have you ever wanted to build something cool like a robotic arm, but never known how? Are you the kid who would love to build stuff in his/her spare time, but never had a community to rely on to help you? Look no further than Ramaz's engineering club. Maybe you have what it takes to build the next big thing? Hone your skills here. No prior engineering experience is necessary. *This club will not take place in Fall 2020.

Dr. Fabio Nironi is Faculty Adviser.

Entrepreneurship Club

The entrepreneurship club aims to provide aspiring entrepreneurs a conduit to pursue their passion by providing lectures and meaningful experiences of real life entrepreneurs.

Ms. Rena Dashiff is Faculty Adviser.

Environmental Club

The Environmental Club is dedicated to creating awareness of the importance of sustaining our beautiful natural world and saving our planet from ourselves. We do this in a way that is consistent with the highest standards of Jewish tradition. If the environment is not protected, ultimately, none of the other clubs will matter! Add your voice, energy and come join us to Grab Green by the Horns!

Ms. Barbara Abramson is Faculty Advisor.

Feminist Club

Feminist Club welcomes all students who identify as feminists (or future feminists) to engage in dialogue regarding the range of theories, political and social movements and ideologies surrounding feminism. We will explore the history of the feminist movement and explore how, and if, the movement has evolved to fit today's multicultural world. Feminist Club looks to create a safe space to all students who hope to learn more about feminism and dialogue with their peers.

Ms. Abby Davis is Faculty Adviser.

French Culture Club

You don't have to be French to appreciate the French influence on the finer things in life. Come join the French Culture Club, where we routinely entertain our members with events with French flair! We satisfy all the senses with film, fashion, literature, art, and of course, French cuisine fantastique. Our meetings are held once a month, with ample notice, and if you have joie de vivre, then you should sign up!

Ms. Julie Bellaiche is Faculty Adviser.

Global Activism Club

The Global Jewish Activism Club was created to connect Ramaz students with Jews around around the world. It's mission is to raise awareness about different Jewish communities, both from an educational perspective (to learn about different cultures and the way different groups practice their Judaism and relate to the idea of community) and a chesed/giving perspective (to support the more disadvantaged Jewish communities and show them we care about their challenges). The GJA Club partners with the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) to connect with these various communities and set up opportunities for engagement. To achieve these goals, the GJA Club holds meetings during the school year and encourages club members to participate in ongoing activities. In the past, the GJA Club has invited speakers who have been involved with different JDC initiatives to share their experiences, created chesed drives themed around the chagim or other important events, and set up a summer Pen Pal cohort for students to connect with Jewish teens from different countries. The GJA Club always welcomes new members and new ideas to create more meaningful connections with our global Jewish family.

Ms. Tammie Senders is Faculty Adviser.

History's Mysteries

Have you ever wondered what really happened to Amelia Earhart? Who was Jack the Ripper? Are their real cases of alien abductions? Well, find out, or at least try....in History's Mysteries.

Dr. Josh Gaylord is Faculty Adviser.

Leadership in STEM

Students will have an opportunity to hear from different professionals that work within the many fields related to STEM. Special emphasis will be made to include female speakers, to highlight the importance we place on exposing women to the many possibilities in a career in STEM.

Ms. Rena Dashiff is Faculty Adviser.

Persian Culture Club

Salam (hello in Farsi)! Welcome to the Persian Culture Club! PCC offers you a taste of Persian cuisine, the chance to hear from Persian guest speakers, and the opportunity to learn about Iran's rich culture. All are welcome!

Ms. Julie Bellaiche is Faculty Adviser.

Physics Club

Exciting developments are happening all the time in physics, and there is often not enough time to discuss them in physics class. This club offers the opportunity to examine such contemporary developments, as well as other topics in physics that may not be covered in class. From quantum mechanics to string theory, from condensed matter to plasmas, we will use newspaper and magazine articles, as well as original research articles to study some of these topics. Students may also propose other areas of interest to them. In addition, we will perform interesting demonstrations and even build apparatus that exhibits physics phenomena.

Mr. Jay Klotz is Faculty Adviser.

Pre-med Club

The Ramaz Pre-med club meets to discuss current issues in medicine and related topics. Approximately once a month, a guest speaker is brought in to discuss his/her profession in the medical field and to answer questions of students who are contemplating pursuing a career in medicine. The club is open to all students interested in medicine.

Mr. Avraham Kavian is Faculty Adviser.

Psychology Club

Do you watch too much Criminal Minds? Are you curious about how people think? Whether you are interested in the medical aspect of psychology such as the workings of the brain and medical disorders, or just generally curious how the psychology of human motivation, every other Wednesday evening is the time to show your interest. We would like to discuss a whole host of topics ranging from introductory to criminal psychology. We hope to bring in guest speakers and watch various films. Our meetings will be tailored to those that attend.

Ms. Eva Bernfeld is Faculty Adviser.

Race in American Culture

This club is a study seminar that will explore the history, sociology, and politics of race in the United States. Chaired by the faculty of the history department, and with assistance of other faculty to boot, it will provide a multidisciplinary perspective on a burning political issue with the aim of deepening student understanding as well as fostering informed, civil, and illuminating discussion. All students with a curiosity for these matters are welcome.

Dr. Yehuda Bernstein is Faculty Adviser.

RAMPO – Politics and Foreign Policy Club

The Ramaz Politics and Foreign Policy Club is for budding young politicians and policy wonks. We explore different current issues with an emphasis on contemporary American politics. But we don't stop there: we also juxtapose different countries' foreign policy with how they relate to domestic issues. We also will explore different fields and how they affect and are shaped by politics. Political discussion and guest speakers with expertise in specific fields will help us understand the issues at hand better.

Mr. David Deutsch is Faculty Adviser.

Russian Culture Club

"Whether you are an active member of the Russian community, a history buff, or you just love quality food, The Russian Culture Club is the place for you!!! From sharing Russian recipes, music, and holidays to learning about communism in Russia and the split of the USSR, we really will be doing it all! Our club will meet once a month and is welcome to all! **до встречи!**"

Mr. David Deutsch is Faculty Adviser.

Sephardi Culture Club

This club is the place to be if you are a passionate member of the Sephardi community, if you are looking for some great food, live entertainment, or if you're an Ashki and want to learn about the many different and unique customs of Sephardis. This party of a club meets once a month and is welcome to all!

Rabbi Yosef Albo is Faculty Adviser.

Sports Talk

Sports Talk is a time to discuss, debate and share ideas about sports. Come prepared to talk about sport current events, get and give fantasy sports advice, and overall have a good time.

Dr. Steven Milowitz is Faculty Adviser.

YEARLY PROGRAMMING

Co-curricular activities and events are an integral part of the educational environment at Ramaz. We have created a program that includes a wide range of informal educational programming to meet the varied interests of our student body and to promote the educational goals and philosophy of the school. If students want to be involved with the creation and implementation they can get in touch with the Director of Programming and Student Life, Rabbi Dov Pianko (piankod@ramaz.org).

***Due to COVID-19, some of these programs may look different, or may not happen. If you are interested in more information, please reach out to the contact person before the events.**

Celebration of the Arts

The Ramaz annual Celebration of the Arts is the most impressive evening of the year as students turn out to showcase their artistic talents. Student artists exhibit their work either on the auditorium walls or online, student musicians perform solo acts or in bands, student dancers choreograph and present their work, student creative writers read their original work. Under the tutelage of a faculty committee, the evening is led by a panel of students, who help to choose the acts and to organize and emcee the evening.

Contact person: Mr. Oded LevAri at levario@ramaz.org.

The Aschendorf Family Mishmar Program at Ramaz (Daily)

Mishmar is an opportunity to learn, discuss, ask about various Torah topics after school with students throughout the school and without any grades. On each night of the week, mishmar is taught by a different teacher. On Mondays nights, mishmar is led by a rotation of teachers. On Tuesday nights, Mishmar will be led by Rabbi Weiser. On Wednesday nights, it will be led by Rabbi Manu Hass. On Thursday night,s mishmar will be led by Rabbi Ariel Mizrahi. Students and faculty are welcome to join on any night, whenever they are interested. Topics and updates will be posted on Schoology. Each mishmar is sure to be an enlightening and interesting experience; an opportunity to form a connection informally with peers and teachers on a foundation of Torah.

Contact person: Rabbi Kenny Schiowitz at schiowitzk@ramaz.org.

Moadon Ha'Atzmaut

Moadon Ha-Atzma'ut is an annual celebration of Israeli culture held at the Upper School during Yom Ha-Atzma'ut (Independence Day,) involving performances by US students presented to the entire student body, the climax of a special day of Israeli programming. Several students prepare songs by a variety of Israeli songwriters, some perform solo, others get together in bands, duos and trios, and perform with the larger school ensembles such as the Ramaz Choir and Band. The Dance team performs an original number usually accompanied by a medley of Israeli songs, several Israeli poems are often read by different students, and student Emcees create unique interludes and introductions...and more. The Upper School auditorium is decorated in festive lighting, and the entire student body enjoys a warm, exuberant and inspired hour of Israeli arts and humanities.....by students for students, all in Hebrew.

Contact person: Mr. Efran Elisha at eelisha@ramaz.org.

Peer Tutoring

Peer Tutoring is a program in which senior honors students tutor freshmen, sophomores and juniors in all subject areas. Your classroom teacher may recommend you for the program, or you may request a peer tutor by emailing Ms. Litwack, the coordinator at litwacks@ramaz.org. There is no fee. You and your tutor decide on the meeting schedule, and your classroom teacher lets your tutor know which topics to cover and how best to approach them. Students usually meet with their tutors about once a week, often finding a new friend, as well as an academic mentor

Contact person: Ms. Susan Litwack at litwacks@ramaz.org.

Ram Jam

The annual concert that has come to be known as "RamJam" is an opportunity for the Upper School community to hear several (sometimes all) of the faculty-directed student performing ensembles in one celebratory event during school hours. The Upper School Choir and Chamber Choir, the Band, Percussion Ensemble, Guitar Ensemble, Dance team, and Musical Theater group have all taken part in the program. "RamJam" has become a highly anticipated and enjoyable highlight of the school year.

Contact person: Mr. Oded LevAri at levario@ramaz.org.

Ramaz Retreat

Each year in the Spring we plan a two day retreat to camp for students in 9th-11th grade. These days are jammed packed with optional activities for the students and faculty to participate. Some of the highlights from over the years include: boating, go-karting, basketball tournaments and student vs faculty softball (to name a few). This is great opportunity for both students and faculty to relax and unwind. Students are always encouraged to reach out if they would like to be a part of our planning committees for these types of events.

Contact person: Rabbi Dov Pianko at piankod@ramaz.org.

Service Missions

One of the hallmarks and core values of the Ramaz Upper School is our commitment to service and "A sense of responsibility for the Jewish people and all humankind." To that end, we have piloted missions to send our students to service local and global communities that could use our support and spirit of volunteerism. Such trips are an opportunity for students to learn about different communities and put the idea of *chesed* into action. Traditionally, these missions have taken place over the Presidents' Day weekend break and involve an educational component as well as service-oriented activities. In the past, students have traveled to Puerto Rico, South Carolina, and New Orleans to assist with the ongoing recovery from the devastation caused by hurricanes and other natural disasters. More recently, students have also visited Moldova, in partnership with the JDC, to support the small and impoverished, yet incredibly inspiring, Jewish population and learn about their history and community infrastructure

Students are selected for service missions through an application process and will be informed of these opportunities in the fall. *Due to COVID-19, it is very likely that we will not be able to offer service missions that require travel for the 2020-2021 school year, but there may be other related opportunities more locally.

Contact person: Ms. Tammie Senders at senderst@ramaz.org.

Senior Journey

Senior Journey is an opportunity for seniors to participate in a deeply meaningful experience visiting both Poland and Israel. We spend 6 full days in Poland exploring sites that resonate with the richness of our Jewish past and that reflect the horrors of the Holocaust's destruction. After that intensive week, we travel on to Israel for two days with reinforced pride and deep appreciation of a revitalized Jewish nation in our homeland.

This journey occurs towards the end of senior year and is a profound culmination of the years spent at Ramaz. It allows for seniors to strengthen their commitment related to their personal Jewish identity and generate a resolve to go forward and contribute to the Jewish community.

Contact person: Ms. Eva Bernfeld at bernfelde@ramaz.org.

Shabbaton

Our grade Shabbaton programs are a highlight of the year. Each grade has a specific shabbat during the year, when they get to go away with their entire grade, joined by members of our faculty and administration. Each Shabbaton features a specific theme which highlights situations and experiences that are unique to those years of high school. The overall goal of the Shabbaton experience is to help foster appropriate social, emotional and religious growth. Shabbatons are one of the most meaningful experiences of the year. Students who would like to be involved in speaking, planning, or programming on their grade Shabbaton, should be in touch with their Class Presidents, Grade Deans, and the Director of Programming and Student Life.

Contact person; Rabbi Dov Pianko at piankod@ramaz.org.

Shakespeare Recital Competition

The Shakespeare Recital Competition, held yearly, challenges students to memorize and act out 15-line monologues from various plays by Shakespeare. Traditionally, our school competition is judged by the English department, and the winner receives a beautiful edition of Shakespeare's complete works. Most years we are also part of the national competition sponsored by the English Speaking Union, so our school winner goes on to a New York City Boro competition, possibly followed by a state competition, and then a national competition.

Contact person: Dr. Edith Honig at edith@ramaz.org.

Yearbook

Want to be part of one of the most timeless productions at Ramaz? Do you want to create history? Yearbook is for you!

Although we are back in school, this year will be a little more unusual. This is the first time that school will be taking place without all four grades in the building at once and a lot of our communal experiences will be different. However, this doesn't mean that the year won't be amazing. This Yearbook will have the opportunity to record a special year of school, and a time unprecedented in modern history; this yearbook will be one of a kind. In a year when so much of our communal experiences will be virtual, the yearbook will aim to capture and represent the best moments. That's why we need your help. Being part of yearbook allows you to be a part of that history. To create a

book that will hold the memories and experiences we make in 2020-2021 forever. It takes a lot of time and dedication, but it's worth it in the end because there's nothing better than seeing people smile and laugh together as they go through each page of the yearbook you helped create.

Faculty Advisers

Ms. Rachel Rabhan (rabhan@ramaz.org) and Ms. Barbara Abramson (abramson@ramaz.org).

Yearbook Editors 2020-2021

Avigail Dupont (duponta@ramaz.org) & Lauren Lepor (leporl@ramaz.org).

Witness Theater

Witness Theater is a collaborative project in which a small group of students meet weekly or biweekly with Holocaust survivors to hear their stories and prepare to transmit them theatrically to a larger audience. These sessions culminate in a dramatic retelling of the survivors' experiences on Holocaust Remembrance Day in which students assume the roles of the adults. No acting ability or experience is required. The relationships formed between teenagers and adults are meaningful and deep, offering students an intimate view of the history of the Holocaust and providing survivors with the knowledge their stories will live on and continue to raise awareness of this horrific period in history. Due to the pandemic, the program has become virtual and is open to all Manhattan high school juniors and seniors.

For an application and further information, please contact Ms. Susan Litwack at litwacks@ramaz.org.

The Mural Project

Project Description

The Mural Project is a hands-on community based art initiative that functions as an emblem of Ramaz present, past, and future. It presents who we are, what we value, and what we aspire to be. The Project is a living record of what we've learned, our culture, individual and group discovery, and as a whole, reflects how we integrate ideas to find meaning in our experience.

What is a mural?

A mural is any artwork painted or applied directly on a wall, ceiling or other permanent surface. Murals often incorporate surrounding architectural elements into their design. Content, meaning, or purpose is open - murals can be aesthetically motivated - intended to uplift or beautify - they can be political, memorial, informative, and even spiritual. Murals are meant to be seen; they are meant to have an impact on each person who encounters their image.

Who can participate? How can you participate?

All members of the Ramaz Community, future, current and past, can and are encouraged to participate.

There are many ways to participate:

- Design and propose murals
- Help paint mural designs

- Support mural teams by preparing materials (mixing paints, readying palettes, photographing, filming and documenting the creative process)

Please contact Ms. Rachel Rabhan (rabhan@ramaz.org) if you would like to start the process or learn more about the Mural Project..

Project Goals

The Goal of the Ramaz Mural Project is to inspire community connection through the act of making art. It is a live action place of learning, where all involved (designers, painters, documentarians and viewers) gain new perspectives on individual and shared environments.

The process is long-term and measured. It is an analog response to our digital age. The act of making, which is a physical, mental and spiritual experience, invigorates, sparks new ideas and ultimately instills a sense of pride and love towards oneself and community.

Each participant in the mural project is an architect of our shared experience as we move through the stairways of the school.

Timeline

The time is prime for Ramaz to embark upon this community wide mural project. We are here! Hineini, We do not have to look far to find the symbolism in our collective work - we celebrate life, Chai, as this project was started by the class of 2018 and we began painting our 18 floor mural project. We embrace art - a practice of doing, thinking, and observing - as a means to enhance learning in all disciplines. Art is a method for understanding the connectivity of all things, The Mural Project aims to celebrate interdisciplinary reflection in our "silver box" at the center of the art world.

בְּרִאשִׁית into being

Setting the conceptual terms, preliminary designs and broad strokes for the 18 year project, the mural will begin on One West, the ground floor stairwell leading to the gym. We will complete a design for that specific portion, but in addition, collect ideas to generate a design forecast including a guiding palette and timeline for each level in both the East and West stairwells.

קֶשֶׁת Arc

Most of the vision and design for the mural will take place in the "arc" of our project. Building upon the infrastructure set up during the first stage, academic departments, after school clubs, committees, teams and any other group within the Ramaz community will have the opportunity to take ownership of a section. These sections can be

thought of as domains within the spiraling web of our communal identity. Think of it as Minecraft meets the stairs (building worlds within worlds)! Each group can propose a design that reflects their interests, vision, and connection to Ramaz's mission and unique fabric. The Arc will illustrate the layers and reveal the deep and complex attributes at the heart of our community.

סיום Culmination:

The last phase of the mural project, the Culmination, will fuse the threads laid down during the בְּרִאשִׁית and קֶשֶׁת phases. This phase will ensure that each section of the mural has a cohesive aesthetic and identifiable directive. The mural will be a visual manifestation of the evolution and transformation of Ramaz. It is our hope that each participant, supporter, or passerby feels connected and impacted by the mural.

SPORTS

***Due to many unknowns in the 2020-21 school year, students who are interested in the athletic program, should reach out to Coach Miriam Cohen (mcohen@ramaz.org) for updates on when/if/how they will take place.**

Ramaz fields a number of teams throughout the school year. In most cases, our teams are members of the Yeshiva Athletic League which represents many of the yeshiva day schools throughout the New York area. In addition, we play exhibition games against other schools both in the yeshiva day school and independent school communities. Below you can find a list of most of the activities managed by the Ramaz athletic program. If you have any questions, contact Coach Miriam Cohen, (mcohen@ramaz.org).

Fall Semester

Tryouts for the following teams take place at the beginning of the school year.

- Boys Ice Hockey
- Boys' Junior Varsity Basketball
- Boys' Varsity Basketball
- Boys' Junior Varsity Hockey
- Boys' Varsity Hockey
- Cross Country
- Girls' Junior Varsity Basketball
- Girls' Varsity Basketball
- Girls' Junior Varsity Volleyball
- Girls' Varsity Volleyball
- Swim Team
- Table Tennis

Spring Semester

Tryouts for the following teams take place in March.

- Boys' Baseball
- Boys' Junior Varsity Volleyball
- Boys' Varsity Volleyball
- Boys' Soccer
- Boys' Tennis
- Girls' Hockey
- Girls' Soccer
- Girls' Softball
- Girls' Tennis
- Swim Team
- Table Tennis
- Track

CLINICS

English / Writing

Ms. Sue Litwack		Wednesday
Ms. Susannah Grossman		Tuesday

World Languages

Ms. Julie Bellaiche	French Clinic	Wednesday
Ms. Diana Arboleda	Spanish Clinic	Monday

Hebrew

Mr. Elie Adelman		Monday
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Math

Dr. Fabio Nironi		Monday
Ms. Bonnie Shine		Wednesday

Science

Ms. Rena Dashiff	Biology Clinic	Monday
Mr. Jay Klotz	Physics Clinic	Tuesday
Mr. Ethan Rotenberg	Chemistry Clinic	Monday

Clinics generally take place at 6:00PM (or 4:10PM if it's a zoom day or for a single grade). The times may fluctuate a bit, you should check Schoology for the most up to date information.

CLUB AND CLINIC SCHEDULE

*As of now, due to many unknowns in the 2020-21 school year, clubs and clinics will be meeting virtually. Students who are interested in attending clubs/clinics, should reach out to their respective faculty Advisers for updates on when they will take place.

Clubs will generally not start before 6:00PM to allow for students coming into school to get home. Clubs can start at different times, allowing more flexibility than the past. Clubs should not end later than 9:00PM. If we are all on zoom, a club, or a clinic is for one grade and it is a zoom day, they may start earlier.

There are many clubs that will take place that are not featured below, because they don't have a designated day that they meet. Students should contact faculty Advisers, and be sure to check our Schoology pages frequently.

Throughout the year the Schoology pages will have the most up to date information (this document will not be updated as regularly).

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<i>Mishmar with Rotating JS Teachers</i>	<i>Mishmar with Rabbi Weiser</i>	<i>Mishmar with Rabbi Hass</i>	<i>Mishmar with Rabbi Ariel Mizrachi</i>
Art Club	BIC	Chess	ASL
Biology Clinic	Chamber Choir	Debate	Mock Trial
Drivers Ed	Coding	English/Writing Clinic	Parallax
Chemistry Clinic	Dance Team	French Clinic	Physics Club
Hebrew Clinic	Feminist Club	French Culture Club	Pre-Med
Math Clinic	English/Writing Clinic	HS Choir	Rampage
Spanish Clinic	Photography	Math Clinic	
Yearbook	Physics Clinic	Model Congress	
	RAMPO		
	Sephardi Culture Club		