

Executive Director Report

Kol Hadash 2021-22 Accomplishments

In yet another year of global pandemic, Kol Hadash continued to offer meaningful programs and connections for members and friends.

Among our highlights:

Continued Book Group with titles from “The Communist Manifesto” to Atul Gawande’s “Being Mortal”

Continued Cultural Literacy Programs on Sunday Afternoon

Virtual Yoga with Jill

Shabbats

Series led by Lindy on Friday evenings and Saturday Mornings
with much music from Robyn and Danny
Special Darwin Day gathering with Alana

Rosh Hashanah virtual ritual with Alana and Ben

Tashlich at Albany Memorial Park
Yom Kippor with Kol Hadash in Deerfield, Illinois

Passover Seder with Alana and Ben

Jews for a Secular Democracy Event with Paul Golin in February

Members attended celebrations of life for Bill Nemoyten, Helene Lecar and Rita Wilson

High Holidays Lunch at Zaytoon

Thanksgiving Brunch at LaNote

Purim Lunch at Cafe Leila

Kol Hadash 2022-23 Plans

Report to membership

Board recommends ending the 501c3 during the coming fiscal year
Board Recommends continuing existing as an informal havurah, affiliated with SHJ

Over the past year, Kol Hadash has experienced the stresses of the pandemic and the changes in our membership. Gathering in person through mask-mandates and local ordinance changes has been difficult to manage. Our community has continued to stay connected however, travels and mobility are growing more complicated. Our attempts at drawing new members in the Bay Area Jewish and Humanist ecosystems have not been particularly successful as generational and programmatic needs have stretched our historic and energetic capacities. Inquiries into merging or consolidating with other organizations has not resulted in a clear/aligned path forward.

Implications

- No membership dues or renewals in Summer 2022
- Budget will call for end of staffing late 2022/early 2023

Shift in programming

- Book group, lecture series continue
- Newsletter continues to December
- Shift Shabbats to casual in person gatherings as energy and interest remains
- High Holidays will happen with (preplanned) celebratory meals and rituals

- Start anew as Havurah with a Passover celebration

Considerations

Through the summer and fall, Michelle and Kimberly will work with the Board to tend to the tasks of ending our non-profit organization. Much of this is technical work closing accounts, filing reports, archiving and taking inventory of Kol Hadash assets. Our staff will continue to guide communications with us as each phase progresses. We will continue to hold events and celebrate the High Holidays with ritual and shared meals.

Programs will be designed to support our celebration of the stories of Kol Hadash. We will take time to acknowledge of joys and sorrows together, recognizing the accomplishments of this special community over the past (nearly!) 35 years.

Tentative Calendar

Summer/Fall 2022

June 2022 and ongoing

- (to meet online and in person in people's homes as appropriate)
- Book Club Continues
- Lecture Series Continues

June - July

- Annual Member Meeting
- Initiate story project and video archive

Outdoor Lunch Gathering

July - August into September

Prepare for HH / fall activities (reserve space, hire musician, plan refreshments, etc)

Monthly newsletter continues - website updates including HH info posted

Outdoor Summer Elul Shabbat

September 2022

KH newsletter with upcoming holiday dates

KH holds ritual for HH

Alana will prepare ritual

Location and hospitality TBA

October 2022

KH newsletter with calendar and non-profit timeline report

Video Story Project Interviews

Press releases announcing KH future

November 2022

KH newsletter with invitations and organization update

Gratitude Shabbat - informal gathering to share stories? (Saturday, in person if at all possible)

Final paperwork with AG - legal review

Accounts closed/assets transferred

File final state tax return with franchise tax board

December 2022 -

Kimberly and Michelle host a "keep the lights burning" ritual at Albany Community Center to acknowledge and thank community in celebration of Hannukah

Last KH newsletter emailed

Credit cards closed

Last website update - consolidate SEO

Close Google Voice phone service

Final communications to membership

Last days for employees

Obtain dissolution waiver (document disposal of assets)

Final Payroll with arrangements and tax forms sent to employees

March 2023

Lay leaders finalize Passover and other ongoing program plans

April 7ish - Reintroduce KH as a Havurah - with a prepaid Passover celebration

