

## **Berkeley Hillel Israel-Related Programming Guidelines**

### **GUIDING PRINCIPLE:**

Berkeley Hillel is steadfastly committed to the support of Israel's right to exist as a Jewish homeland and democratic State.

### **I. GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

- A. All individuals of the University of California at Berkeley community, regardless of political views related to Israel, are welcome at Hillel events and activities.
- B. Any speaker on the topic of Israel/Palestine that uses the Berkeley Hillel facility, receives Berkeley Hillel funds, support from Berkeley Hillel staff or publicity via Berkeley Hillel, cannot be inconsistent or in conflict with the Guiding Principle, or endorse violence, bigotry and hatred of any individual or groups of people.
- C. Hillel is committed to promoting an array of Israel related activities to help students develop a thoughtful relationship with both the people and the land of Israel. Hillel will support and promote these activities so long as the programming is consistent with our Guiding Principle, and has a desire to promote opportunities of constructive dialogue. At our core, Berkeley Hillel strives to offer a safe place for students to express a wide spectrum of programming related to Israel.
- D. Berkeley Hillel is committed to the nuanced and complex Israel education of the students at UC Berkeley and creating space for the students to have conversations with one another on any topic. We are committed to offering and supporting a venue for students to have student led conversations on a wide variety of topics.
- E. As an organization, Hillel strives to strike a balance between its character as a university-affiliated organization that is responsive to the diverse constituencies and pluralistic ethos of the campus, and as a Jewish organization that works in partnership and with the support of individuals and organizations in the larger Jewish community. We fully support the university's commitment to intellectual freedom and exploration as well as the Jewish community's and Berkeley Hillel's commitment to our Guiding Principle.

### **II. APPLICATION OF PROGRAMMATIC GUIDELINES:**

- A. At the beginning of each semester, student led Israel groups that have been involved with Berkeley Hillel must meet with the Israel Fellow and discuss possible speakers and programs for the upcoming semester. At that time the Israel fellow will work with the student and/or student group to ensure it meets the Israel Related Programming Guidelines.
- B. **Individual speakers, programs, or events:**
  - 1. Student groups asking for support from Berkeley Hillel must complete an event request form at least 3 weeks before any event with a non UC Berkeley speaker.
  - 2. Student groups asking for support must follow Berkeley Hillel's Group and Club expectations
  - 3. Berkeley Hillel staff will always have the opportunity to introduce the speaker and contextualize the topic and information being presented before the talk.

- C. **Student groups:** Hillel will not provide support to student groups or student-initiated activities that have a mission and/or conduct programs that are inconsistent with our Guiding Principle, **unless otherwise noted in the exceptions listed in this guideline.**
- D. **Panel and speaker series events:** Hillel may support a panel or speaker series intended for repeat participants, even if one (or more) speaker(s) in the panel/series promotes a view inconsistent with our Guiding Principle, so long as one either a majority or balanced number of panelists promotes a view consistent with that principle.
- E. **Co-sponsorships with other groups:** Hillel may co-sponsor a program with another group/organization as long as:
  - 1. The particular program is consistent with our Guiding Principle;
  - 2. The mission of the group/organization is consistent with our Guiding Principle;
  - 3. The group does not support the International BDS movement or anti-normalization with the Jewish community.
  - 4. It is to create a community coalition of broad based groups joining together for an event or program in solidarity of a shared cause which does not relate to our Guiding Principle.

### III. PROCESS GUIDELINES

- A. If a situation arises in which these guidelines do not provide clear guidance on a programmatic outcome, the Hillel Student Board members or staff will consult with the executive director regarding the particular situation. The executive director will have a duty to consult with at least two representatives of the board of directors and Hillel Student Board.
- B. If a public statement is made by any individual or organization on or off campus that criticizes Hillel in relation to an Israel-related program, and that program was consistent with this policy, Hillel's board of directors will pursue commensurate public communications to reaffirm the Guiding Principle and the associated programmatic decisions of the Hillel staff.
- C. If there has been a perceived violation of these guidelines, the Executive Director, Hillel Student Board President and a representative of the Berkeley Hillel Board will consult with student representatives of the group/program organizer and gather all the relevant information to best determine whether the action was in violation of this guideline. If after review and in consultation with the Board of Directors, the Hillel Student Board, the students, and other community organizations it is determined that there has been a violation, the entirety of programs and initiatives of the group will be examined. If the programs have been in line with Berkeley Hillel's mission and our Guiding Principle, the students/group will be encouraged to address the concerns raised from the specific event. Berkeley Hillel reserves the right to deny funding, sponsorship, resources and building usage to any group that is in continuous violation of this guideline.