THE POLONSKY PRIZES

For Creativity & Originality In The Humanistic Disciplines
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem Board of Governors 2023

Dr. Leonard S. Polonsky CBE has had a successful business career in the financial services sector and is a philanthropist with particular interests in higher education, cultural heritage and the arts. Dr. Polonsky grew up in New York City. He was a pupil at the prestigious Townsend Harris High School, and received his BA degree from New York University at age 18.

Following military service in 1945–46, he pursued graduate studies in literature at Lincoln College, Oxford, and at the Sorbonne, Paris, where he received his doctorate in 1952. He taught in Heidelberg several years before embarking on his business career.

Dr. Polonsky began working in financial services in New York in 1955, gaining further experience in Rome, Frankfurt, and Zurich, before establishing Liberty Life Assurance Company Limited in London in 1970. Hansard Global plc, its successor, of which he is President, has been listed on the London Stock Exchange since 2006.

Dr. Polonsky has involved himself in a broad range of philanthropic activities over many years. In 2013, he was named a Commander of the British Empire (CBE) for charitable services by HM Queen Elizabeth II. He is a Companion of the Guild of Benefactors of Cambridge University, a Fleming Fellow at Lincoln College, Oxford, and an Honorary Member of the Royal College of Music, London.

Principal activities of The Polonsky Foundation include: the digitization of significant collections at leading libraries (the Bodleian Library, Oxford; Cambridge University Library; the British Library; the New York Public Library; the Library of Congress; the Vatican Apostolic Library; the Bibliothèque nationale de France); support for Theatre for a New Audience at the Polonsky Shakespeare Center in Brooklyn, New York; and post-doctoral fellowships at the Polonsky Academy for Advanced Study in the Humanities and Social Sciences at the Van Leer Jerusalem Institute.

In Israel, The Polonsky Foundation also supports the University of Haifa, Tel Aviv University and the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design, of which Dr. Polonsky is a Governor and Honorary Fellow.
Since its founding in 1928, our faculty has been the country’s leader in research and teaching of the humanities. Our faculty’s researchers produce scholarship of the highest quality, making uncounted contributions to the world of knowledge in the process. We are the world leader in Jewish Studies, and also strive to excel in the study of Western civilization alongside Asian and African cultures. Our reputation and our international rankings continue to rise from year to year, and we find it important to present incentives to help maintain this progress.

The Polonsky Prizes for Creativity and Originality in the Humanistic Disciplines, established in 2004 through the vision and generosity of Dr. Leonard Polonsky and the Polonsky Foundation, do precisely that. They encourage creativity and “out of the box” thinking, which make for an engaging scientific dialogue within the humanities. The prizes are also an excellent way to recognize outstanding faculty members, postdoctoral scholars, and advanced graduate students, who have produced innovative scholarship of the highest quality.

The Polonsky Prizes are the highest honor that we offer as a faculty, and we therefore receive many outstanding nominations every year. Choosing this year’s winners was no simple task. As chair of the Polonsky Prize committee, I can personally attest to the difficulty of choosing only four scholars from among so many impressive candidates.

I wish to thank my eighteen fellow members of the prize committee for their participation and contribution to this process, to Prof. Menahem Blondheim who helped with its design, and to Prof. Aaron Palmon, Vice President for Research and Development, for his support. I also wish to thank Ms. Merav Atar from the University’s Authority for Research and Development, Ms. Shulamit Lasnes, and Ms. Hivit Koudinski from the Faculty of Humanities, for coordinating the work of the prize committee.

I am extremely grateful to Dr. Polonsky and the Polonsky Foundation for its continued support of our faculty and for helping us encourage cutting-edge scientific research in the humanities. We look forward to future Polonsky Prize winners who will join today’s honorees in making their mark on world scholarship by generating new and creative ideas, approaches, and findings that promote scholarly excellence.

With best wishes,

Prof. Nissim Otmazgin
Dean
Jacob's Younger Brother: Christian–Jewish Relations after Vatican II

A new chapter in Jewish–Christian relations opened in the second half of the twentieth century, when the Second Vatican Council exonerated Jews from the accusation of deicide and declared that the Jewish people had never been rejected by God. In a few carefully phrased statements, two millennia of deep hostility were swept into the trash heap of history.

But old animosities die hard. While Catholic and Jewish leaders publicly promoted interfaith dialogue, doubts remained behind closed doors. Catholic officials and theologians soon found that changing their attitude toward Jews could threaten the foundations of Christian tradition. For their part, many Jews perceived the new Catholic line as a Church effort to shore up support amid atheist and secular advances. Drawing on extensive research in contemporary rabbinic literature, Jacob's Younger Brother shows that Jewish leaders welcomed the Catholic condemnation of antisemitism but were less enthusiastic about the Church's sudden urge to claim their friendship. Catholic theologians hoped Vatican II would turn the page on an embarrassing history, hence the assertion that the Church had not reformed but rather had always loved Jews—or at least should have. Orthodox rabbis, in contrast, believed they were finally free to say what they thought of Christianity.

Jacob's Younger Brother pulls back the veil on interfaith dialogue to reveal how Orthodox rabbis and Catholic leaders spoke about each other when others were not listening. The tome reveals the Jews reluctant to accept the latest whims of a Church that had unilaterally dictated the terms of Jewish–Christian relations for centuries.
From Scribes to Scholars: Rabbinic Biblical Exegesis in Light of the Homeric Commentaries (Tübingen: Mohr Siebrek Ek, 2022)

In antiquity, the Homeric poems and the Torah were identity-forming canonical texts in Hellenistic and Jewish cultures, respectively. The centrality of these texts and their undisputed status led to the development of exegetical communities in which these texts were interpreted in a collective effort by dozens of scholars over hundreds of years. In the Alexandrian library from the third century BCE onward, numerous scholars labored at editing the Homeric poems and interpreting them according to philological, rhetorical, grammatical, and literary criteria. This exegetical tradition continued to evolve during the first centuries of the Common Era throughout the Roman Empire. Parallel to the exegetical efforts on the Greek side, dozens of rabbis dedicated themselves during the first centuries CE to interpreting the Torah, using a wide array of exegetical methods. These rabbis were divided into distinct exegetical schools, and their commentaries were collected and redacted during the third century CE into Midrashic compilations, known as the Halakhic Midrashim.

This book argues that ancient Homeric scholarship had a major impact on the formation of rabbinc biblical commentaries and their modes of exegesis. This impact is discernible not only in the terminology and hermeneutical techniques used by the rabbis, but also in their perception of the Bible as a literary product, their didactic methods, editorial principles, and aesthetic sensitivities. In fact, it is the influence of Homeric scholarship which can best explain the drastic differences between earlier biblical commentaries from Palestine, such as those found among the Dead Sea Scrolls, and the scholastic Halakhic Midrashim. The implications of this study call for a reexamination of numerous assumptions regarding the emergence of Midrash—as well as a broader appreciation of the impact of Homeric scholarship on biblical exegesis in Antiquity.

Karma Ben Johanan is a senior lecturer at the Department of Comparative Religion at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. She completed her PhD at the Zvi Yavetz School of Historical Studies at Tel Aviv University. Subsequently, she was a Fulbright postdoctoral scholar at the University of California, Berkeley, and a postdoctoral fellow at the Polonsky Academy for Advanced Studies in the Humanities and Social Sciences at the Van Leer Jerusalem Institute. In 2019, Ben Johanan was appointed the first chair of Jewish–Christian relations at the Faculty of Theology at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, where she served until the summer of 2022. In 2023, Ben Johanan received the Dan David Prize—the world’s biggest prize in history.
Charity in Saudi Arabia: Civil Society under Authoritarianism (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2022)

Derbal’s research examines politics “from below” and “everyday Islam” on the Arabian Peninsula through the lens of charity and humanitarian work. In her book, Charity in Saudi Arabia: Civil Society under Authoritarianism, she explores non-profit organizations dedicated to fighting poverty in Saudi Arabia and their struggle to improve the lives of marginalized communities. With zakat considered one of the five pillars of Islam, non-profit organizations in Saudi Arabia have enjoyed relative freedom and legitimacy under the umbrella of charity, which has enabled various types of activism. By following those social workers, philanthropists, and social activists, who actively engage working for the poor and needy in the kingdom, the book sketches a rich ethnography of community activism and the inner workings of Saudi society. The research explains how Saudis and non-Saudis in the kingdom find in Islam a worldly guide and ethical framework that is often at odds with religious officialdom.

The research is based on extensive fieldwork in Saudi Arabia. Derbal conducted three rounds of research between 2009 and 2020, with the support of fellowships from King Abdulaziz University, Effat University, and the King Faisal Center for Research and Islamic Studies. During the total of 19 months, Derbal arranged for almost 80 expert interviews and visited approximately 50 charity projects in Jeddah and Riyadh, including shelters, orphanages, food banks, project offices, ateliers, and charity bazaars.

Derbal hopes that her research will contribute to a more nuanced discussion of Saudi society across academic disciplines—a discussion that both listens to and gives voice to ordinary Saudis, and which considers the complexities of their everyday lives.

Nora Derbal is a postdoctoral fellow at the Martin Buber Society of Fellows at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. She studied at Oxford University, King Abdulaziz University in Jeddah, and Freie Universität Berlin where she earned her PhD in Islamic Studies in 2017. Before joining The Hebrew University, Derbal was a visiting researcher at the King Faisal Center for Research and Islamic Studies in Riyadh (2020); taught at the American University in Cairo (2018–2020); and worked for the Orient-Institut Beirut (2015–2016). Her current research examines the life and works of Heinrich von Maltzan (1826–1874), the German Orientalist and travel writer. Derbal has also started exploring Saudi–Palestinian relations during the British Mandate Period.

DR. NORA DERBAL

Nora Derbal is a postdoctoral fellow at the Martin Buber Society of Fellows at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. She studied at Oxford University, King Abdulaziz University in Jeddah, and Freie Universität Berlin where she earned her PhD in Islamic Studies in 2017. Before joining The Hebrew University, Derbal was a visiting researcher at the King Faisal Center for Research and Islamic Studies in Riyadh (2020); taught at the American University in Cairo (2018–2020); and worked for the Orient-Institut Beirut (2015–2016). Her current research examines the life and works of Heinrich von Maltzan (1826–1874), the German Orientalist and travel writer. Derbal has also started exploring Saudi–Palestinian relations during the British Mandate Period.

RESEARCH DESCRIPTION

Charity in Saudi Arabia: Civil Society under Authoritarianism (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2022)

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Ami Asyag is a PhD (Honors) student at the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School for Advanced Studies in the Humanities. His doctoral thesis examines the continuity and change in the liturgy of Uruk in ancient Mesopotamia, in the second and first millennium BCE. He was an MA Honors student at the Mandel School for Advanced Studies and wrote his MA thesis on Sumerian Emesal prayers. The thesis examined an early Old Babylonian corpus from the city of Girsu and focused on local traditions related to the Lagash region and its pantheon, and on the syllabic orthography in which these texts are written. Asyag holds a BA in general history from the Open University of Israel (summa cum laude).

**The Corpus of Prayers from Girsu—NFT 202–211: The Earliest Sumerian Emesal Prayers**

In his master’s thesis, written under the supervision of Prof. Uri Gabbay, Asyag published the first edition of a small corpus of Emesal prayers, written on clay tablets in the cuneiform script. This corpus consists of ten tablets and fragments that were excavated in the ancient city of Girsu (modern-day Telloh, in southern Iraq) and are considered the earliest cultic prayers ever attested in written records. Sumerian texts are typically written in an ideographic script, but this corpus was written phonetically making it difficult to understand.

The focus on a corpus from a single city, along with it being the earliest finding of its kind, being provenanced, and being dedicated to the city’s goddess—led to several breakthroughs in the research field. First, Asyag discovered that when the corpus was written, ca. 2000 BCE, two types of Sumerian prayers existed: One in the standard register of Sumerian and the other in the Emesal register—reserved for goddesses and feminine beings in Sumerian literature—in contrast to the common opinion that all prayers were written in Emesal. Second, he was able to show that some of the prayers were dedicated to the city goddess, Bau, and not to Inana, the main goddess in Mesopotamia, to whom almost all the other cities dedicated their prayers. Third, Asyag demonstrated that during that period the editing process was still in its preliminary stage, with many experiments taking place in the structure of the prayers, the sequence of their units, and in the litany segment. This led him to suggest that this phenomenon could be seen as a rare example of a tradition in the making, which involved the composing of these cultic prayers before being standardized and performed for two millennia.
The Emergence of The Nose: Opera as an Epistemological Metaphor for Complexity Theories of Cities

In this work, Ariel interprets The Nose (1928), Dmitri Shostakovich’s (1906–1975) first opera, as a contemporary epistemological metaphor for the complex behavior of the populated urban space. On a larger scale, the research aims to explore whether the operatic genre is still relevant in contemporary society and whether The Nose, which has recently been revived in various opera houses, is an artistic commentary on the complexities of urban living. The study hypothesizes that The Nose is indeed a relevant opera and a meaningful metaphor for the current era.

The analysis is structured into two separate layers: the first puts forward and interlocks the idea that The Nose serves as an epistemological metaphor, while the second analyzes the ways in which this metaphor is enacted in the opera. The epistemological metaphor of The Nose is constructed from five points of view: the chronology of the narrative, from Gogol’s original version to Shostakovich’s composition; the legends of the city of St. Petersburg; the political reality of Soviet Russia; absurdist literature; and the notion of complexity in Western thinking. This second layer of research analyzes the musical language of The Nose in relation to the concept of a complex system (a scientific physical phenomena), which describes the dynamics of many components that coalesce into superstructures through emergence and self-organization. The city of St. Petersburg is viewed as a hybrid system, and the ad-hoc musical language of The Nose is shown to be a consolidated expression of the complexity of the city. Ariel also examines various concepts of complexity, such as order out of chaos and nonlinearity, which are musically delineated in the percussion interlude and the opera’s two urban scenes. The research concludes by demonstrating how the entire opera is structured as a twofold fractal organized over a definitive pivot point.

The general implication of Ariel’s work is the plausibility of analyzing the musical language of a modern opera through the prism of a scientific theory.

Phd or MA Student

MR. YAKIR ARIEL

Yakir Ariel, a doctoral candidate at the Department of Musicology at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, has dedicated his academic pursuits to exploring the intersections of music with various scientific fields. With a bachelor’s and a master’s degree in musicology from The Hebrew University, Ariel’s research interests extend beyond the confines of traditional musicology. He is fascinated by the exchange of ideas across creative arts and the complex causal relationship between music making and economic prosperity or crises.

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem Board of Governors 2023
2022

First Prize:
PROF. ELITZUR BAR-ASHER SIEGAL
Department of Hebrew Language
Faculty of Humanities

Second Prize:
PROF. YOSSI MAUREY
Department of Musicology
Faculty of Humanities

First Prize Post-Doctoral Researcher:
DR. OFER PERES
Department of Comparative Religion
Faculty of Humanities
In the Trail of the Wailing King: A Cultural Biography of a Traditional Indian Narrative.

First Prize Ph.D. and M.A. Students:
DANIELLA SELTZER
Department of Cultural Studies
Faculty of Humanities
What do we talk about when we talk about walking? Walking with Haredi Women.

Second Prize Ph.D. and M.A. Students:
JOEL BINDER
Department of Talmud and Halakha
Faculty of Humanities
A Multi-Text Manuscript from Fourteenth Century Ashkenaz: MS Darmstadt, University and State Library, Cod. Or. 25 in Context.

2021

First Prize:
PROF. RUTH HACOHEN (PINCZOWER) & PROF. YARON EZRAHI
Musicology Department, Faculty of Humanities
Composing Power, Singing Freedom, The Interplay of Music and Politics in the West

First Prize:
PROF. MAREN NIEHOFF
Department of Jewish Thought
Faculty of Humanities
Philo of Alexandria. An Intellectual Biography

Post-Doctoral Researcher:
DR. MADAR FELDMAN SAMET
Department of Jewish Thought
Jack, Joseph & Morton Mandel School for Advanced Studies in the Humanities
Faculty of Humanities
The Songs of the Sabbatian Ma’amim in their Ottoman Cultural Context

Graduate Student:
QIAO YANG
Department of Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies
Faculty of Humanities
Like Stars in the Sky: Networks of Astronomers in Mongol Eurasia

Graduate Student:
MOISHI CHECHIK
Department of Talmud and Halakha
Jack, Joseph & Morton Mandel School for Advanced Studies in the Humanities
Faculty of Humanities
The Struggle over Ashkenazi Legacy in Poland: The Printing of Shulhan Aruch in Poland and the Reactions to It
2020

First Prize:
**DR. AVISHAI BAR-ASHER**
Department of Jewish Thought
Faculty of Humanities

Second Prize:
**PROF. RONIT RICCI**
Department of Asian Studies
Faculty of Humanities
Banishment and Belonging: Exile and Diaspora in Sarandib, Lanka, and Ceylon

First Prize Post-Doctoral Researcher:
**DR. SIVAN GOREN**
Department of Comparative Religion
Jack, Joseph & Morton Mandel School for Advanced Studies in the Humanities
Faculty of Humanities
The Songs of the Sabbatian Ma’amim in their Ottoman Cultural Context

Second Prize Post-Doctoral Researcher:
**DR. NICOLE KHAYAT**
History department
Faculty of Humanities
Historiography and Translation during the Arabic Naha: European History in Arabic (Ph.D. dissertation, University of Haifa)

Graduate Student:
**ELAD EISEN**
Department of Linguistics
Faculty of Humanities
The concept of borrowability not on the basis of the empirical frequency of borrowing, but rather on the basis of typological frequency

2019

First Prize:
**PROF. RUTH HACOHEN (PINCZOWER) & PROF. YARON EZRAHI**
Musicology Department, Faculty of Humanities
Composing Power, Singing Freedom, The Interplay of Music and Politics in the West

First Prize:
**PROF. MAREN NIEHOFF**
Department of Jewish Thought
Faculty of Humanities
Philo of Alexandria. An Intellectual Biography

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Post-Doctoral Researcher:
**DR. HADAR FELDMAN SAMET**
Department of Jewish Thought
Jack, Joseph & Morton Mandel School for Advanced Studies in the Humanities
Faculty of Humanities
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Graduate Student:
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Graduate Student:
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Department of Talmud and Halakha
Jack, Joseph & Morton Mandel School for Advanced Studies in the Humanities
Faculty of Humanities
The Struggle over Ashkenazi Legacy in Poland: The Printing of Shulhan Aruch in Poland and the Reactions to It
2018

First Prize:
DR. AYELET EVEN-EZRA
Department of History, Faculty of Humanities
Schemata as Maps and Editing Tools in Thirteenth-Century Scholasticism

First Prize:
DR. ABIGAIL JACOBSON
Department of Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies, Faculty of Humanities
Oriental Neighbors: Middle Eastern Jews and Arabs in Mandatory Palestine

Post-Doctoral Researcher:
DR. MICHAL BIRKENFELD
Department of Archaeology, Faculty of Humanities
Changing Systems: Pre-Pottery Neolithic B Settlement Patterns in the Lower Galilee, Israel

Post-Doctoral Researcher:
DR. YANINA TCHEKANOVETS
Department of Archaeology, Faculty of Humanities
Armenian, Georgian and Albanian Communities in the Holy Land in the Byzantine and Early Islamic Periods

Ph.D. or M.A. Student:
MR. YEHONATAN NAEH
Department of Romance and Latin American Studies, Faculty of Humanities
On Knowing Other People’s Lives: A Study of La Galatea and Lazarillo de Tormes on the Background of the Spanish Inquisition

2017

First Prize:
PROF. MOSHE TAUBE
Department of Linguistics & the Department of German, Russian and East European Studies, Faculty of Humanities

Second Prize:
PROF. ROBERT BRODY
Department of Talmud and Halacha, Faculty of Humanities
Mishnah and Tosefta Ketubbot: Text, Exegesis and Redaction

Young Researcher:
DR. MICHAL MARMORSTEIN
Department of Linguistics, Faculty of Humanities

Young Researcher:
MS. BAT-AMI ARTZI
Department of Romance and Latin American Studies, Faculty of Humanities
“…and they are Indians to be conquered”: The Incas’ Feminine Allegories of the Four Suyus in Archaeological and Ethno-historical Testimonies

MA/Doctoral Student:
MR. SHRAGA BICK
Department of Comparative Religion, Faculty of Humanities
“But I am Prayer”: Voice, Body and the Anthropology of the Praying Self in Rabbinic and Syriac-Christian Literature
2016

First Prize:
PROF. RINA TALGAM
Department of Art History, Faculty of Humanities
Mosaics of Faith: Floors of Pagans, Jews, Samaritans, Christians, and Muslims in the Holy Land

Second Prize:
PROF. MANUELA CONSONNI
Department of Romance and Latin American Studies
Department of the History of the Jewish People and Contemporary Jewry, and School of History Faculty of Humanities
L’ eclisse dell'Antifascismo. Resistenza, questione ebraica e cultura politica in Italia, 1943-1989

Young Researcher:
DR. YAKIR PAZ
Department of Talmud and Halacha, Faculty of Humanities
From Scribes to Scholars: Rabbinic Biblical Exegesis in Light of the Homeric Commentaries

Young Researcher:
DR. MERON PIOTRKOWSKI
Department of the History of the Jewish People and Contemporary Jewry, Faculty of Humanities
Priests in Exile: The History of the Temple of Onias and Its Community in the Hellenistic Period

MA/Doctoral Student:
MR. RAY SCHRIRE
Department of History, Faculty of Humanities
Learning Latin in 16th and 17th Century England: Lily's Grammar as a Case Study in Cognitive History

2015

First Prize:
DR. YOSSI MAUREY
Department of Musicology, Faculty of Humanities
Medieval Music, Legend, and the Cult of St. Martin: The Local Foundations of a Universal Saint

Second Prize:
PROF. YFAAT WEISS
Department of the History of the Jewish People and Contemporary Jewry, and School of History Faculty of Humanities
Journey and Imaginary Journey: Leah Goldberg in Germany, 1930-1933

Young Researcher:
DR. JOSEPH WITZTUM
Department of Arabic Language and Literature, Faculty of Humanities
The Syriac Milieu of the Quran: The Recasting of Biblical Narratives

Young Researcher:
MR. ELI OSHEROFF
Department of Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies, Faculty of Humanities
Where Did You Come From? The History of the Jewish People in Early Palestinian Historiography (1920-1948)
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<th>Year</th>
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| 2014 | **PROF. DROR WAHRMAN**  
Department of History, Faculty of Humanities  
Mr. Collier's Letter Racks: A Tale of Art and Illusion at the Threshold of the Modern Information Age | **DR. UZI LEIBNER**  
Institute of Archaeology, Faculty of Humanities  
The Origins of Jewish Settlement in the Galilee in the Second Temple Period: Historical Sources and Archaeological Data | **DR. TAWFIQ DA'ADLI**  
The Martin Buber Society of Fellows, Faculty of Humanities  
The Pictorial Language of the Herat School of Painting: Two Nizāmī Manuscripts as a Case Study | **MS. NOA NAHMIA**  
Department of Asian Studies, Faculty of Humanities  
Displaying Patriotism: Narratives of the May 4th Movement in Chinese Museums | **MR. ARIEL ZINDER**  
Department of Hebrew Literature, Faculty of Humanities  
"Is This Thy Voice?" Rhetoric and Dialogue in Shlomo Ibn-Gabirol's Poems of Redemption ('Piyyutei Ge'ulah') | **MS. LIAT NAHMIA**  
Institute of Archeology, Faculty of Humanities  
Miniature Vessels and Seven-Cupped Bowls in the Middle Bronze Age Temple of Nahariya: Their Role and Meaning in Light of Cultic Miniature and Complex Vessels of the Middle Bronze Age |
2011

First Prize:
PROF. MAREN R. NIEHOFF
Department of Jewish Thought
Jewish Exegesis and Homeric Scholarship in Alexandria (Cambridge, 2011)

Second Prize:
PROF. ESTHER COHEN
Department of History
The Modulated Scream: Pain in Late Medieval Culture. 1755-1816 (Chicago, 2010)

Young Researcher:
DR. ALEKSEI KRAKHMALNIKOV
Department of German, Russian and Eastern European Studies
The Literature of the Belokrynitsa Old-Believers (1846-1862)

Young Researcher:
DR. JENNIFER OSER
Federmann School of Public Policy and Government
Expanded Citizen Participation and Participatory Inequality: A Vicious or Virtuous Circle?

MA/Doctoral Student:
MR. YARON GIRSH
School of Education and Department of Sociology and Anthropology
“The Cultural Boundaries of Thinking”: Cultural Narratives in the Philosophy of Education of Friedrich Nietzsche and John Dewey

2012

First Prize:
PROF. RUTH HACOHEN
Department of Musicology
The Music Libel against the Jews

Second Prize:
DR. YUVAL NOAH HARARI
Department of History
A Brief History of Mankind

Young Researcher:
DR. MAOZ KAHANA
Department of the History of the Jewish People
From Prague to Pressburg: Halakhic Writing in a Changing World, from the “Noda B’Yehudah” to the “Hatam Sofer,” 1730-1839

Young Researcher:
DR. JENNIFER OSER
Federmann School of Public Policy and Government
Expanded Citizen Participation and Participatory Inequality: A Vicious or Virtuous Circle?

MA/Doctoral Student:
MR. YARON GIRSH
School of Education and Department of Sociology and Anthropology
“The Cultural Boundaries of Thinking”: Cultural Narratives in the Philosophy of Education of Friedrich Nietzsche and John Dewey
First Prize:
**PROF. YURI PINES**
Department of East Asian Studies, Faculty of Humanities
Envisioning Eternal Empire

Second Prize:
**DR. PAWEL MACIEJKO**
Department of Jewish Thought, Faculty of Humanities
The Mixed Multitude: Jacob Frank and the Frankist Movement 1755-1816

**DR. SIMCHA KOJMAN-ROZEN**
History, Philosophy and Sociology of Science Program, Faculty of Humanities
Time and Emergence in Scientific Theories in England in the 19th Century

**MS. NOGA AYALI-DARSHAN**
Department of Jewish History, Faculty of Humanities
The Bride of the Sea: The Tradition about Astarte and Yamm in the Ancient Near East

First Prize:
**DR. YUVAL NOAH HARARI**
Department of History, Faculty of Humanities
The Ultimate Experience: Battlefield Revelations and the Making of Modern War Culture, 1450-2000

Second Prize:
**PROF. SIMCHA EMANUEL**
Mandel Institute of Jewish Studies, Faculty of Humanities
Fragments of the Tablets - Indian and Armenian Studies, Faculty of Humanities
The Fullness of Emptiness: Nāgārjuna’s Thought in Light of the Yukti-sastika-karika and the Śūnyatā-saptati

Young Researcher:
**DR. NIRA ALPERSON-AFIL**
Institute of Archeology, Faculty of Humanities
Ancient Flames: Controlled Use of Fire at the Acheulian Site of Gesher Benot Ya’aqov, Israel

Student Prize:
**MS. NOA SHASHAR**
Mandel Institute of Jewish Studies, Faculty of Humanities
The Role of Niddah Laws in Daily Lives of Men and Women in the Ashkenazi World of the 17th-19th Centuries

Student Prize:
**MR. KOBI BEN-MEIR**
Forum Europa, Faculty of Social Sciences
Images of Pain, Disease and Death in 1970’s Israeli Art
2007

First Prize:
**DR. DIEGO OLSTEIN**
Department of History, Faculty of Humanities
La Era Mozárabe: Los Mozárabes de Toledo (Siglos XII y XIII) en la Historiografía: Las Fuentes y la Historia

Second Prize:
**PROF. GANNIT ANKORI**
Department of Art History, Faculty of Humanities
Palestinian Art

Second Prize:
**DR. JONATHAN DEKEL-CHEN**
Harman Institute of Contemporary Jewry, Faculty of Humanities
Farming the Red Land: Jewish Agricultural Colonization and Local Soviet Power, 1924-1941

Young Researcher Prize:
**DR. TSIPPI KAUFFMAN**
Mandel Institute of Jewish Studies, Faculty of Humanities
Between Immanence and Religious Behavior: Avodah be-Gashmiyut in the Early Stages of Hasidism

Student Prize:
**MR. MAOZ KAHANA**
Mandel Institute of Jewish Studies, Faculty of Humanities
Stability and Change in the Responsa of Rabbi Moshe Sofer

Student Prize:
**MR. ODED PORAT**
Mandel Institute of Jewish Studies, Faculty of Humanities
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