

# Every Human has a Story: A Story a Day

## Facilitator Guide

**How might we overcome our differences and highlight our common values?**

### ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

*Questions for facilitators to use during the program:*

- What are the stories that the Jewish People tell? When and how are they told? (Pesach, Purim, Chanukah as examples)
- What “tools” are used to help tell the story? (Haggadah, foods, songs)
- What stories do you tell over and over again? Why are these stories compelling for you?
- What is a recent story you heard that moved you? What is the last story you told?
- What is the value of telling the stories of the hostages? When, how and why should they be told?

### FRAMING THE ISSUE

Every human being has a story. It deserves to be told and heard. Every time one tells a story it is a bit different based on where they are in the world that day and who they are telling it to. Stories are what people remember and repeat. They have the power to change opinions and create new realities. Stories are the foundation of memory.

At this moment in time, one of the greatest tools we have to help the hostages is our ability to share their stories. Every single hostage has a story that needs to be told. And heard.

### Info For Facilitator



#### Target Audience:

High School or University students



#### Length Of Program

90 minute program



#### Materials & Prep:

- Large poster boards
- Markers
- Tape/scissors
- Print outs of the three texts to hang (or the texts can be written on the poster boards)
- Phones

## LET'S EXPLORE

### Opening

- *Facilitator asks:* What is the value of storytelling?
- *Participants call out words and the facilitator puts them up on the whiteboard to have for the whole session. .*

### Discussion

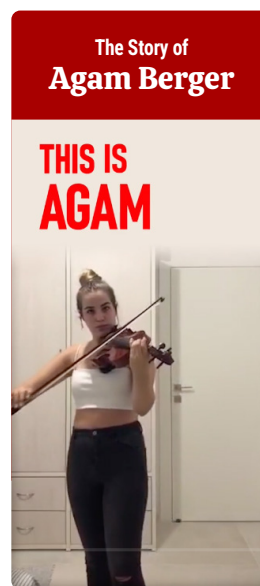
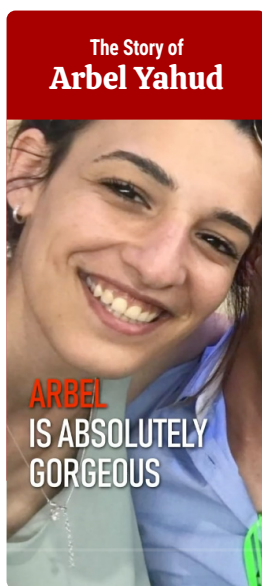
- *Turn to the person sitting next to you and ask them:*
  - What is a story that you remember from your childhood? Please add a sense, smell, taste, sound, sight or touch to the story.
  - Have you heard a story about a hostage? Please share.
- Come back together & highlight themes.

### Learning

- *Post the three texts on the wall around the room.*
- *Ask the group to read all three of the texts quietly.*
- *Invite participants to go stand next to the text that speaks to them the most. In this text group, split up into smaller discussion groups of 2-3 people and answer the following questions:*
  - What spoke to you about this text?
  - How does this text relate to the hostage situation?
  - What action item (s) do you see in the text?
  - How does the text inform how we tell the stories of the hostages?

### Activity

- Go into your phone and search the #bringhomenow hashtag. Peruse some of the stories and find a story of a specific hostage that especially speaks to you.
- Find a pair and swap stories.



# TAKE ACTION!

Create a social media strategy within your group (youth group/ congregational school class / Hillel / camp group, etc) to share the story of a different hostage each day and make it viral. Invite each member of the group to commit to sharing it broadly on their channels.

The stories do not need to be limited to their captivity. Learn and share about the hostage's life before October 7 as well, so that you can tell a bright story. What are their hobbies, likes, dislikes, favorite food, passions, etc?

In addition, your group can design some more in depth opportunities for sharing hostage stories:

Organize a gathering (online or in-person) to meet with someone who has a personal connection to one of the hostages.

At communal gatherings- such as a football or other sports game, a musical performance or a dance party- open with a personal story of one of the hostages by connecting it to their passions.

## Resources:

[This site](#) has the entire list of all the current hostages being held in Gaza.

[Here](#) are short tiktok video stories about individual hostages.

[The Times of Israel](#) has photos and personal stories. In addition, [this site](#) and the hashtag **#bringhomenow** on Instagram both have many stories, reels and videos.

## CLOSING INTENTION

Storytelling is a universal value that appears in Jewish texts, holidays, and lifecycle events. Stories weave our human experience together and help us relate to one another on a personal level.

- As a result of this conversation, one thing I will carry with me about the power of storytelling is...
- As a result of this conversation, one tool I will use to tell the story of a hostage is...
- As a result of this conversation, one story I will tell is...