



RASHUT HA'RABIM

THE JERUSALEM FORUM OF
JEWISH RENAISSANCE ORGANIZATIONS

“Behold, how
good and how
pleasant it is
for brethren to
dwell together
in unity.”

Psalm 133

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The Jerusalem Forum of Jewish Renaissance Organizations

“Jerusalem is a port city on the shore of eternity,” wrote the poet Yehuda Amichai. And indeed, an ancient metropolis, it has always been home to an extraordinary variety of cultures, beliefs, languages, prayers and perspectives, an inspiration to poets, artists, and scholars worldwide and throughout time.

But for just as long and just as persistently, it has been an epicenter of conflict and strife. Even today, this spiritual and cultural symbol, while vibrant and dynamic, is struggling to cope with intensifying religious, social and national radicalization.

Thankfully, there are those in the city who are having none of that.

Over the past decade, a growing cluster of secular, traditional, and pluralistic organizations have emerged, rallying to fight for Jerusalem on all fronts – political, civic, educational, and cultural. And they have brought a sorely needed energy and *joie de vivre* back to the city.

But these are individual and disparate endeavors that must be brought together. If change is to happen, cogently and permanently, their collective impact must be harnessed and jointly leveraged.

And that challenge has now been addressed – and powerfully met - by the Jerusalem Forum of Jewish Renaissance Organizations.

At the Jerusalem Forum we have gathered more than 30 organizations that operate throughout Jerusalem, all of whom share a Jewish, Zionist, and pluralistic worldview. Whether focused on education, culture, lobbying, or activism, they all work through us to coordinate activities and to pool resources; and through us they deploy the ‘power of the many’ across the city.

For all them, we secure municipal budgets, forge broad urban partnerships, and tackle the thorny issue of religion and public space with municipal decision makers.

On behalf of them all, we ensure public visibility, reaching tens of thousands of residents every week through our marketing and advertising, and with our ever-expanding schedule of city-wide events.

And we work to maximize the individual impact of each organization by providing training and developing knowledge-sharing infrastructure for the benefit of every member.

Rome wasn't built in a day.

Neither will diversity and inclusiveness in Jerusalem. But we have a solution that works, and we believe we can do it, though not in a day and not alone. We hope you will make the decision to help us, to support Jerusalem, and to ensure that, as the capital of Israel and the historical center of world Jewry, it stays open and welcoming for all its residents and for all Jews everywhere.

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Hillel
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