

in partnership with



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, BROWN RISD HILLEL

To apply for this position, send cover letter and resume to BrownRISDHillelED@PBRSearch.com.

BACKGROUND

[Brown RISD Hillel](#) serves as the gateway to Jewish life at Brown University and Rhode Island School of Design (RISD). More than a center for Jewish programming and ritual, Hillel is an integral part of the social, cultural, educational, and political life for students.

POSITION

Brown RISD Hillel seeks a builder, a visionary, a convener and a leader who will both steward the activities of Hillel and serve as a central thought leader for Jewish life at Brown, RISD and beyond.

This is an unusual opportunity at this moment in time. The Hillel Board, in collaboration with the Brown administration, is willing and able to support a gifted director's efforts to reimagine the possibilities for on-campus Jewish engagement and create a new paradigm for involved and effective Jewish life. Working with the board, administration, staff, students and others, the executive director will set a strategic vision for activating and energizing an intellectually engaged and diverse Jewish student body. This will include outlining the necessary resources for achieving the vision, recruiting prospective Jewish students from all denominations, developing a broad range of robust programming that meaningfully engages students on campus, and leading a team of passionate professionals. The ED will endeavor to knit together all Jewish resources on campus and beyond into a cooperative rubric emblematic of Brown in many other areas. Operating from a [\\$10M building](#) in the heart of campus, the executive director will manage a budget of \$1.2M and report directly to the Brown RISD Hillel Board of Trustees via the board president.

The ideal candidate will be intelligent, deeply thoughtful, and steeped in Jewish learning. In addition, s/he will have exceptional leadership and interpersonal skills. S/he will also have a nuanced understanding of the complex issues surrounding Judaism and Israel and be skilled at engaging in meaningful conversations among disparate groups. S/he will have a fierce commitment to creating an inclusive, vibrant, and pluralistic Jewish community with the capacity to create the space for a range of perspectives and Jewish values.

While an advanced degree in religious or Judaic studies, or rabbinic training are not required, they are a real plus. The board is also committed to providing support and professional skills development for exceptionally gifted leaders with less experience.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- ***Break the mold for what pluralistic Jewish engagement looks like on a college campus.*** Be an instigator, catalyst, and generator of new ideas. Partner with key stakeholders to develop a vision for Jewish life at Brown and RISD that inspires, energizes, connects and challenges students of all denominations.
- ***Lay out the welcome mat and fling the doors open wide.*** Invite students from across the religious and political spectrum to engage in meaningful conversations and programs that deepen their spiritual and intellectual curiosity, creating an inclusive and dynamic center for exploring Jewish life.
- ***Promote Brown/RISD as the best place in the country to be a Jewish student of any denomination.*** The Forward ranks Brown as the #1 college (tied with Harvard) for Jewish students; continue to build on that distinction by serving students on campus and building partnerships across the country. Create new models for engagement and learning that complement the learning ethos of Brown and invite others to emulate them.
- ***Spearhead development initiatives to make the vision a reality.*** Leverage existing robust resources while creating a plan to grow the budget to support increased staff and initiatives.
- ***Lead and inspire the board, staff and students.*** Be an example, a motivator, and a trusted partner for all.