



The Collier-Menmon Animal Rights and Welfare Program
The Buchmann Faculty of Law
Tel Aviv University



The Bob Shapell School of Social Work
Tel Aviv University



פְּעֻמוֹת רוּחַ
מרחב טיפול לנאצים על 2 בעל



מכון אדם וחיה
לקידום היחסים בין בני-החיים



Shared Spaces

Reciprocity, Vulnerability, and Healing in Human–Animal Relationships

May 12–13, 2026

16:30–20:30 (IDT, UTC+3), 09:30–13:30 (ET)

Tuesday, May 12 | 16:30–20:30

Facing Forward

16:30–16:40 | Opening Remarks

Expanding the Boundaries of Solidarity

Prof. Lia Levin, Bob Shapell School of Social Work, Tel Aviv University

Plenary Session

Chair: Dr. Anat Ben Yehonatan, Tel Aviv University

16:40–17:40 | Beyond Resilience: Trauma, Grief, and Love in Animals

Prof. Barbara J. King, Emerita Professor of Anthropology, William & Mary; Research Fellow, PAN Works Ethics Center

17:40–18:20 | The Neurobiology of the Human–Animal Bond

Prof. Shlomit Flaisher-Grinberg, Saint Francis University, Loretto

18:20–18:35 | Break

18:35–20:15

Initiatives from Israel and Around the World: Emerging with Hope

Chair: Dr. Noam Rudich, Tel Aviv–Yafo College; Wind Chimes Association

18:40–18:55 | The Unheard Voice: A Mutual Approach in Arab Society as a Space for Recognizing Humans and Animals as Subjects, and as a Platform for Exercising the Right to Speak and Be Heard

Hanin Mahamid Agbariya, Amgad High School, Kefar Qara; Animals Now

18:55–19:10 | Establishing a Healing Space for Animals and People in the Gaza Envelope: A Community Initiative

Sivan Shefer, Dialogue for Life NGO

19:10–19:25 | From Invisible to Essential: Restoring Purpose for Older Adults and Community Cats

Gabi Shani, Menmon Foundation

19:25–19:40 | Rehabilitation, Compassion, and Reciprocal Ethics in Jewish–Arab Cooperation at the “Freedom Farm” Sanctuary

Ilanit Branchina, Tel Aviv University

19:40–19:55 | Audience Q&A and Discussion

19:55–20:15 | Ethical Dimensions of Animal-Assisted Interventions: How do You Balance Human Benefit and Animal Welfare?

Prof. Lori Kogan, Colorado State University

20:15–20:30 | Day Summary

Prof. Philip Tedeschi, Graduate School of Social Work, Institute for Animal Sentience and Protection; University of Denver

Gal Hakim-Asscher, Human and Animal Institute; Oranim College

Wednesday, May 13 | 16:30–20:30

Psychotherapy in the Presence of Animals: A Relational Approach

16:30–16:40 | Opening Remarks

Healing Together: A Joint Initiative Between Israel and the United States

Steven Puzarne and Suzanne Singer

Plenary Session

Chair: Dr. Sarit Lev-Ben Dov, Oranim College

16:40–17:40 | Reciprocal Recovery: How Veterans and Animals Suffering from Trauma Heal Each Other

Dr. Lorin Lindner, Lockwood Animal Rescue Center, California

17:40–17:50 | Break

17:50–20:10

From Theory to Practice: Psychoanalytic Perspectives on Reciprocity in Human–Animal Relationships

Chair: Dr. Sarit Lev-Ben Dov, Oranim College

18:00–18:40 | Women Leading Change: Intersubjectivity as the Foundation for a New Ethics in Human–Animal Therapeutic Relationships

Gal Hakim-Asscher, Human and Animal Institute; Oranim College

18:40–18:50 | Break

18:50–19:20 | Every Dog Needs a Safe Place Where They Can Be Afraid: Integrating Insights from Human and Animal Trauma Studies

Dr. Noam Rudich, Tel Aviv–Yafo College; Wind Chimes Association

19:25–19:55 | Post-Traumatic Growth Among Nova Festival Survivors Through Human–Animal Encounters: A Relational Psychoanalytic Perspective

Dr. Shiri Raz, Hily Center for Relational Animal-Assisted Therapy; Keren-Or Therapeutic Farm

19:55–20:10 | Audience Q&A and Discussion

20:10–20:30 | Conference Summary

The Shared Space Between Species: Integration Through a Relational Lens

Dr. Sarit Lev-Ben Dov, Oranim College

The conference will be conducted in English. Presentations delivered in other languages will be simultaneously interpreted into English.



Participation is free of charge but requires prior registration. To registrate please [press here](#) or scan the QR Code.