

# Nasiyah Isra-UI *(they/she)*

*Aspiring rabbi, experienced organizational leader & educator*

**Portfolio:** <https://linktr.ee/nasiyahisraul>

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Aspiring rabbi, Jewish educator, and community builder dedicated to Torah-based healing, inclusive Jewish practice, and lifelong learning. Experienced nonprofit leader, writer, and disability advocate with a background in K12 education, education policy, and leadership coaching.

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## EDUCATION

*Modern Rabbi Program (Semicha)*  
Rabbinical Seminary International

*The Torah Studio*  
Certificate in Liberatory Torah Education, anticipated August 2026

*Liberty University*  
Bachelor's Degree, Interdisciplinary Studies (Education and Social Sciences), 2025

Cornell University  
Certificate in Women's Entrepreneurship, 2023

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## WORK EXPERIENCE

*Mishpacha Rising Collective — Founder & Director | June 2025–Present*

Lead community-building, program development, and operations for a global Jewish arts and education collective centering BIPOC, queer, and disabled Jewish voices. Designs and facilitates outreach initiatives, events, and learning circles that merge creative expression, cultural identity, and religious study.

*Foundation for Economic Education (FEE) — Education Associate | Aug 2024–Present*

Produces research-based articles and multimedia content for LiberatED and the Education Entrepreneurship Lab. Manages social media strategy, operations, communications, and fellowship programming for youth in policy, writing, and leadership to increase engagement.

*Freelance Content Creator & Coach | Feb 2024–Present*

Develops branded digital content, courses, and podcasts across platforms. Designs educational materials and leads virtual workshops and coaching sessions focused on storytelling, identity, and professional development. Mentors clients in leadership and business development.

*Thomas Jefferson Institute for Public Policy — Research Fellow | Jan–Jul 2024*

Conducted policy research and authored articles on Virginia education reform.

*Homeschool EmpowerED, Inc. — Founder & Executive Director | July 2017–Oct 2025*

Directed a Gen Z-led nonprofit advancing equitable homeschooling and digital learning. Oversaw staffing, instruction, communications, fundraising, and partnerships. Produced national events and publications on education innovation, entrepreneurship, and youth empowerment.

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## **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & RELIGIOUS LEADERSHIP**

Project Mekor RVA (powered by Mishpacha Rising Collective), Hadar Community Group, October 2025 - present

JPride Event Committee, Weinstein JCC, September 2025 - present

Jewish Community Relations Committee, Jewish Community Federation of Richmond, August 2025 - Present

Advisory Council Member, Disability Torah Project, June 2025 - Present

Autism Society of Central VA, Self-Advocate Council Member, March 2025 - Present

Independent Work, Volunteer Youth Mentorship & Leadership Coaching, March 2022-present

National Society of High School Scholars, Student Council & Mentorship, October 2020-2024

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## **AWARDS AND GRANTS**

*Youth Public Service Award*, 2024. Policy Pathways.

*EdPrize* (for Homeschool EmpowerED), 2023. State Policy Network.

*NSLS Dream Support Award*, 2023. National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS).

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## **FELLOWSHIPS**

Jewish Federations of North America, Changemakers Fellow, February - March 2025

50CAN, National Voices Fellow, March 2024 - December 2024

America's Future, GO! Fellowship, June - August 2024

Emergent Ventures Fellowship, Mercatus Center at George Mason University, August 2023

Watson Institute, Western Union Foundation Fellow, Fall 2023 & Spring 2024

Virginia Humanities, K12 Educator Fellow Summer & Fall 2023

4.0 Schools, Tiny Fellow Summer & Fall 2022

Ignite! Reading Program, Virtual Reading Tutor, August 2022 - February 2023

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## **ACADEMIC & RELIGIOUS PUBLICATIONS**

Sep 28, 2025 – *Torah is for Trauma Survivors, Too*, Disability Torah Project.

Sep 11, 2025 – *Generation Homeschooled: A Collection of Essays from Unconventionally Schooled Learners and Alumni Across the Country*, Foundation for Economic Education | Education Entrepreneurship Lab

Aug 28, 2025 – *A Holy Contradiction: Midrash of a Misfit*, We Live Confident Press.

Jul 15, 2025 – *Torah's Call to Dissent: Making Space for Neurodivergent and Gender-Expansive Jews*, Sefaria.

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## **ARTICLES & RELATED PUBLICATIONS**

*My Hardships Don't Give Me Strength. Here's Why*, Nasiyah Isra-UI ([nasiyahisraul.com](http://nasiyahisraul.com)), Nov 13 2025

*Why I Didn't Fast for Yom Kippur This Year, Nasiyah Isra-UI (nasyahisraul.com), Oct 12 2025*

*Building a Sukkah of Healing During Sukkot, Nasiyah Isra-UI (nasyahisraul.com), Oct 16 2025*

*Empowered Learning: How Homeschooling Through High School Helped Me Thrive, Foundation for Economic Education (FEE.org), September 16, 2025*

*Elul Reflection #2, Nasiyah Isra-UI (nasyahisraul.com), Sep 8 2025*

*Elul Week 1 Recap, Nasiyah Isra-UI (nasyahisraul.com), Sep 1 2025*

*Making the Future of Education Accessible for All, Foundation for Economic Education (FEE.org) / Education Entrepreneurship Lab, March 22, 2025*

*How This Fourth-Generation Educator Is Continuing the Family Legacy with Her Own Microschool, Education Entrepreneurship Lab, 2025 (early fall)*

*On the Rising Number of Homeschoolers of Color (with Elan Page), Education Entrepreneurship Lab, 2025 (mid-year)*

*Homeschoolers Fighting Back Against Regulation, Foundation for Economic Education (FEE.org) / Education Entrepreneurship Lab, March 7, 2025*

*Meet the 2025 Cole Summers Fellows, Foundation for Economic Education (FEE.org) / Education Entrepreneurship Lab, January 28, 2025*

*Post-(re)Diagnosis, Here's What I've Learned in 2024..., nasyahisraul.com, Jan 17 2025*

*Shattering Homeschooling Stereotypes Through Storytelling, Education Entrepreneurship Lab, 2025 (estimated Mar–Apr cycle)*

*Self-Directed Education and the Future of Learning, Education Entrepreneurship Lab, 2025 (estimated Mar cycle)*

*How Two Homeschooled Sisters Are Getting an Early Start to Entrepreneurship, Foundation for Economic Education (FEE.org) / Education Entrepreneurship Lab, August 29, 2024*

*A Young Entrepreneur Offers Tips for Education Trailblazers, Foundation for Economic Education (FEE.org) / Education Entrepreneurship Lab, August 19, 2024*

*Homeschoolers and Microschoolers Describe the Benefits of Alternative Education, Foundation for Economic Education (FEE.org), December 17, 2024*

*A Fellowship for Homeschoolers, Microschoolers, and More, Foundation for Economic Education (FEE.org) / Education Entrepreneurship Lab, November 15, 2024*

*Why One Teacher Created a School to Prioritize Parents and Learners, Education Entrepreneurship Lab, 2024 (early fall)*

*How Unconventional Education's Focus on Self-Actualization Is Creating a Unique Market in the Education Industry, Education Entrepreneurship Lab, 2024 (late summer)*

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## **CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS HOSTED**

A BIJOCSM Gathering: Welcoming Elul, A Queer Nigun Project, September 2025

Education Entrepreneurship Lab x Foundation for Economic Education, "Storytelling for Emerging Voices," August 2025

International School Choice & Reform Conference (ISCRC), "Critical Conversation — Collaboration Throughout Implementation," January 2025.

Talking Person Podcast, "Intersectionality, Religion, and Chronic Illness," 2025

Exploring Alternative Educational Pathways — Education Entrepreneurship Lab (FEE), Sep 23, 2024.

Virginia Education Summit, "Keynote Speech" May 2024

VaHomeschoolers unConvention, "Tips from a Homeschool Grad," May 18, 2024.

SXSW EDU, "Welcome to the Education Entrepreneur Revolution," March 2024

Virginia Education Innovation Conference, "Healthy Risk-Taking in Entrepreneurship," January 2024

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## **COURSES & ADDITIONAL LEARNING EXPERIENCES**

2025 Jewish General Assembly & Capitol Hill Jewish Advocacy Day

Neuroqueer Talmud: Gender Beyond the Binary, the Autistic Rabbi(nical) Student Beit Midrash

Ulpan I, Rosen School of Hebrew

The Weekly Parasha, Hadar Institute

A Taste of Mussar, the Mussar Institute

Rosh Chodesh Rising Song Circle Hadar Community Group, Temple Beth El x Congregation Or Atid

Introduction to Feminist Torah, The Torah Studio

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## **OTHER PROJECTS**

Mx100 Music

Emerging Voices in Storytelling for Edupreneurs (powered by the Education Entrepreneurship Lab at FEE)

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## **LANGUAGES & SKILLS**

English - Native

Hebrew - Intermediate Proficiency  
Mandarin - Beginner  
Spanish - Basic Conversational

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## **REFERENCES**

Available on request