

## MEDIA ALERT

### Calendar Event: Jewish Gay Men's Retreat March 5-7

**What:** The First Annual Nehirim Men's Retreat is a weekend of community and spirituality for gay and bisexual Jewish men. <http://www.nehirim.org/men>

**Who:** Presenters include adult film star **Mike Dreyden**, playwright **Dan Fishback**, Huffington Post columnist, **Jay Michaelson**, Storahelling founder and artistic director, **Amichai Lau-Lavie**.

**Jay Michaelson**, Nehirim founder and executive director was recently named to the "Forward 50" list of the 50 most influential Jews in America. Michaelson is a writer, scholar, and activist whose work addresses the intersections of Judaism, sexuality, spirituality, and law. He is the author of *Everything is God: The Radical Path of Nondual Judaism* (Shambhala, 2009). Michaelson is **available for interviews** regarding Judaism, sexuality, spirituality, and law.

**Where:** Isabella Freedman Jewish Retreat Center, Falls Village, CT

**When:** Friday, March 5, 2:00pm – Sunday, March 7, 2:30pm

**Cost:** \$225-475, [Financial aid](#) is available

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Press Release as follows...



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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**First Annual Men's Retreat on March 5-7 in Falls Village, Connecticut:  
Sex, Spirituality & Torah Study for Gay Jewish Men**

(New York), (NY), (Feb 11, 2010) -- Nehirim, a national organization that runs Jewish cultural and spiritual retreats for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) Jews, partners, and allies, will host over one hundred Jewish men at its first annual "Men's Retreat," March 5-7, 2010.

Presenters include Storahelling executive director Amichai Lau-Lavie, and Nehirim's Jay Michaelson, both of whom were named to the "Forward 50" list of the fifty most influential Jews in America. Lau-Lavie and Michaelson are joined by "Six Points" fellow Dan Fishback, adult film star Mike Dreyden, and others.

According to Michaelson, "Nehirim is a place to erase those false divisions between spirituality and sexuality, gayness and God. We see being queer and Jewish as a blessing, not a predicament."

Workshop titles include "My Spiritual Porn Star Journey," "You are God," "Exercises for Sexual Health" & "Transgender 101."

Founded in 2003, Nehirim is a pluralistic, independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and is supported by the Charles & Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation, the Walter and Elise Haas Fund, the Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Boston, and the Jewish Community Foundation of San Francisco, as well as a network of individual supporters. For more information, please visit our website [www.nehirim.org](http://www.nehirim.org).

**For questions or excerpt and interview requests, please contact:**

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