



# Gesher Gan Internship Program

June 15 - August 15, 2021

We are delighted to invite you to apply for the Gesher Gan 2021 program. Gesher Gan is open to entering 12th graders. It is a challenging eight-and-a-half week leadership program that offers participants the opportunity to develop skills as interns at Gan Alonim Day Camp. In addition to their responsibilities at Gan Alonim Day Camp, the Gesher Gan Program will be expanded to include a week-long Kavanah Intensive that will enrich the participants' summer through a new experience that teaches a comprehensive knowledge and appreciation of the land of Brandeis-Bardin, its environmental space, and its operation. The Kavanah Intensive will also provide participants with new opportunities in advanced team building, nature/camping skills, and much more.

Prior Alonim experience is helpful but not necessary, and we welcome applications from a variety of individuals. While there will be positions available in Gesher Gan 2021 for current 11th Graders, we are also excited to offer spaces in the CIT 2021 program for those that think that a CIT experience would be a better fit for them. The Gesher Gan program, a day camp internship experience, may not be the right experience for everyone, some applicants may not be accepted into the program. For those interested in a more typical CIT experience we encourage you to apply for the CIT 2021 Program by emailing Jacob at [jraizman@aju.edu](mailto:jraizman@aju.edu). If you or your parents/guardians are not prepared to accept the possibility that you may not be selected for this program, please do not apply.

Gesher Gan is not just “another year at camp.” Gesher Gan requires a great amount of commitment from participants. It is animated by the philosophy of learning through experience. Participants spend weekdays with campers, receiving ongoing practical training and guidance. All Gesher Gan Interns will be guided and supported by the Gan Alonim Day Camp Administration, as well as by experienced staff members serving as Gesher Gan Mentors. Participants focusing in specialty areas will also work closely with the Alonim staff members who head up those areas for camp. All Gesher Gan Interns will have time regularly set aside for training, collaborating, program development and execution, and reflecting. Just as the Camp Alonim staff is “One Staff,” with people performing a variety of roles that each require caring for kids and leading activities, all Gesher Gan Interns will work together as one Gesher cohort to help create the Gan Alonim Day Camp experience.

Below are various potential Gan Alonim Day Camp internship positions for which you may apply:

Art	Music/Songleading
Counselor	Performing Arts
Dance	Ropes
Horses	Sports
Lifeguard/Pool	Teva

When you apply, you will have opportunities to select all of the potential positions that interest you and to indicate if you have any preferences.

All Gesher Gan Interns live together in a separate area of camp. In the evenings and on weekends, the group enjoys recreational activities, cultural programs, and leadership training. On a rotating weekly basis, Gesher Gan Interns will participate in the new Kavanah Intensive for one week in lieu of their daily responsibilities at Gan Alonim Day Camp. In past summers, approximately once a week, all Gesher Gan Interns traveled together out of camp for outings – due to precautions surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, we will likely not be able to leave campus for outings for Summer 2021. Therefore, we will work innovatively to create memorable experiences for Gesher Gan participants within camp in lieu of physically leaving camp. Shabbat is spent with the Alonim community in a shared experience of joyous celebration, rest, and renewal.

Gesher Gan Interns typically receive one day off each week, except for the first week (orientation) and the last week of the summer. For time off, Gesher Gan Interns leave camp Saturday night shortly after Havdalah and return Sunday evening after dinner. *During Summer 2021, due to COVID-19 safety precautions, Gesher Gan Interns may need to remain at camp for some of their days off – while they will still receive time off from their specific responsibilities, it is possible they may need to remain at camp for this time off.* When interns are able to leave camp for designated time off, we recognize that making arrangements for these times can create anxiety for some Gesher Gan Interns whose families do not live locally. For 2021, we will solicit volunteer host families and make that information available to all Gesher Gan Interns prior to the summer. Although it is the responsibility of each Gesher Gan Intern (not Camp Alonim) to make his/her own time-off arrangements in consultation with his/her own parents/guardians, we will also check in with each Gesher Gan Intern each week regarding the status of his/her plans for the upcoming weekend, and the Gesher Gan Mentors will be present when each Gesher Gan Intern signs out each Saturday evening. We are fortunate that an increasing number of families from other geographic areas are choosing Camp Alonim as their “home away from home,” and we are committed to doing our part to support all Alonimers.

**In order to support the programmatic expansion of Gesher Gan, ongoing activities and leadership training throughout the summer, there will be a \$1,395 fee to participate in Gesher Gan. Room, board, programming, and supplies including the end-of-summer t-shirt are provided.** Upon successful completion of the program, Gesher Gan Interns receive 300 hours of community service credit.

Gesher Gan Interns are expected to participate for the entire length of the program. The only exception is for individuals whose academic schedules overlap with the program dates -- if this applies to you, you must inform us when you apply. Other than that, requests to miss part of the program are evaluated on a case-by-case basis and are usually not granted – especially given the situation surrounding COVID-19. Any such requests must be made *at the time of application to the program* by emailing [jraizman@aju.edu](mailto:jraizman@aju.edu).

**As a reminder:** There is still much uncertainty regarding what Summer 2021 will specifically look like given the current global pandemic. The year-round Alonim team is working hard to ensure a safe and fun Summer 2021 for campers, participants, and staff. It is likely that Summer 2021 will look very different from past summers at Camp Alonim and there may be additional restrictions and additional responsibilities placed on each individual on site. It is our intention to regularly be in touch as we know more information regarding the specifics of what the Summer 2021 experience will look like

We hope you will consider applying for Gesher Gan 2021. To apply, [click here](https://campalonim.wufoo.com/forms/gesher-gan-2021-application/) or go to <https://campalonim.wufoo.com/forms/gesher-gan-2021-application/>

**Applications must be submitted online by the end of the day on Sunday, February 21, 2021 to be considered.** After we receive your application, you will be instructed on how to set up an online Zoom Conference interview. Decisions regarding the Gesher Gan program will be emailed to applicants around the end of March.

Finally, please keep in mind that Gesher Gan is a very specific program: a day camp internship experience. Your participation or lack thereof in Gesher Gan will have no bearing on either your existing connection with your Alonim community or your future ability to be considered for jobs at camp. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Jacob at 877-2-ALONIM (877-225-6646) or [jraizman@aju.edu](mailto:jraizman@aju.edu).

L'shalom,

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Camp Director

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