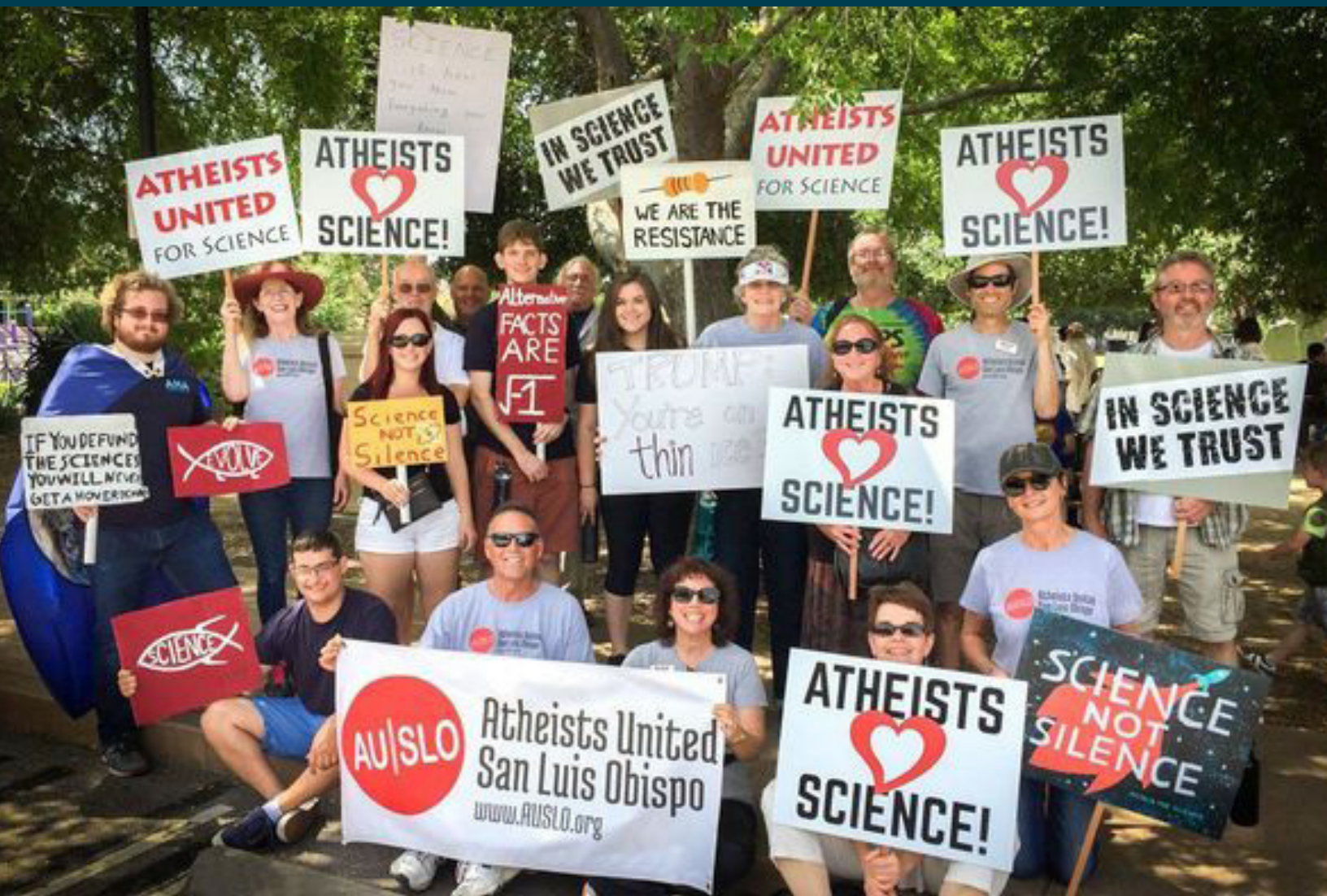


# NATIONAL AFFILIATION OPTIONS FOR LOCAL SECULAR COMMUNITIES



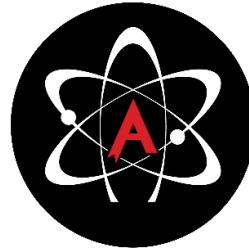
# ORGANIZATION DIRECTORY

None of the affiliation opportunities below are exclusive. While each organization has its own requirements for affiliation, your group can affiliate with as many of these organizations as you'd like. We encourage you to affiliate with as many as possible and take full advantage of the resources these organizations have to offer. This resource was compiled by the Secular Coalition for America.

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# AMERICAN ATHEISTS



**AMERICAN  
ATHEISTS**  
atheists.org

## **Description:**

American Atheists is committed to developing and supporting its thriving network of atheist groups and activists in all 50 states. Since 1963, we have fought to protect the absolute separation of religion from government and raise the profile of atheists and atheism in our nation's public discourse.

## **Affiliation options for local groups and corresponding benefits:**

- Inclusion in a network of more than 200 affiliates nationwide
- Promotion of your group to potential new members and a national audience through social media, print, email, blog posts, and our affiliate map
- Direct access to staff who are solely dedicated to supporting local activists like you
- Collaboration with a passionate group of volunteers that serve as state/regional directors
- Hands-on leadership, activism, and media training
- Support drafting op-eds, press releases, and all other written communications
- Free activism materials, including protest signs, bumper stickers, and buttons
- Exclusive access to our new ACES Program and to activist toolkits on sex ed, invocations, and Bible distribution in public schools

## **What is the ACES Program?**

ACES brings together Activism, Community, Education, and Social to ensure the continued growth of your group. By hitting all of these areas, your group will address specific needs and goals for a non-religious community. As an affiliate, you are free to choose what programs and resources best match your group's needs.

## **Services for local groups regardless of affiliation:**

American Atheists Legal Center, American Atheists Magazine, educational resources, Charles E. Stevens American Atheist Library and Archives, and speakers' bureau.

## **What makes this organization unique:**

An emphasis on local activism, heightened visibility for your group, the support of affiliate-dedicated staff and state/regional directors, hands-on training, exclusive access to activist materials and toolkits

## **Point of Contact:**

Sam McGuire, [smcguire@atheists.org](mailto:smcguire@atheists.org), 908-276-7300 x312

# AMERICAN ETHICAL UNION

## Description

The American Ethical Union creates, nurtures, and inspires ethical humanist communities to foster a world that is democratic, compassionate, just, and sustainable. Our groups are called Societies and often use “ethical,” “ethical culture,” or “ethical humanism” in their names.



American  
Ethical Union

Inspiring Ethical Communities

They hold Sunday talks (that include music and discussion), social events, children’s programs, activism, and classes.

## Affiliation options for local groups and corresponding benefits:

Our Societies receive access to our Visiting Leaders Bureau, private Resources Website, special webinars, staff support, network of other groups, and representation on national level.

## Services for local groups regardless of affiliation:

Public resources on AEU website include some talk recordings, info sheets on Ethical Action, and monthly newsletters.

## What your organization does that is unique:

From our beginnings in 1876, Ethical Societies have organized as nontheistic congregations around three core ideas: people ought to be treated as ends in themselves and not merely as means to ends, what one does is more important than what one believes, and through our relationships with one another we realize the potential for good as we work to encourage a society that is compassionate and just.

## Point of contact:

Law’nence (L) Miller, Administrative Director, 212-873-6500, [lmiller@aeu.org](mailto:lmiller@aeu.org)

# AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION

## Description

The American Humanist Association advocates progressive values and equality for humanists, atheists, freethinkers, and the non-religious across the country. Humanism is a philosophy of life that, without theism or other supernatural beliefs, affirms the ability and responsibility of human beings to lead personal lives of ethical fulfillment that aspire to the greater good of humanity.



## Affiliation options for local groups and corresponding benefits:

There are two options: Chapter or Affiliate. Affiliates of the AHA are fully independent local organizations who agree with the mission of the AHA and are willing to work with the AHA. Affiliates receive benefits from the AHA, with a minimal amount of commitment.

Chapters are in substantial agreement with the AHA's policies, goals and mission. Being a part of the structure of the AHA, Chapters receive preference when it comes to the allocation of resources. The AHA and its Chapters work together, which allows for a clear sense of identification and a chance for unity of action, all toward the goal of advancing Humanism. Chapters are eligible for tax exempt status, annual grants and access to local press contacts.

## Services for local groups regardless of affiliation:

Free tabling materials, speakers bureau, quarterly webinars by the Center for Education, website listing, and access to AHA staff for organizing, PR, and fundraising assistance.

## What makes this organization unique:

We strive to offer an ethical, inclusive approach to various issues from the secular point of view. Palatable for those unfamiliar with atheism, agnosticism, etc.

## Point of contact:

Emily Newman, Education Coordinator, [enewman@americanhumanist.org](mailto:enewman@americanhumanist.org)

# BLACK NONBELIEVERS

## Description

Black Nonbelievers is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that provides an informative, caring, festive and friendly environment. We connect with other Blacks and allies who are living free of religion and other beliefs and might otherwise be shunned by family and friends. Instead of accepting dogma, we determine truth and morality through reason and evidence.



## Affiliation options for local groups and corresponding benefits:

Custom logo with Black Nonbelievers branding, tabling supplies, Meetup fee coverage, access to other BN organizers, assistance with group development, sponsorship/subsidies to trainings and leadership events, connections to other local and national secular groups and resources.

## Services for local groups regardless of affiliation:

Black Nonbelievers tabling materials upon request, speaker and organizer recommendations.

## What your organization does that is unique:

An emphasis on organizing in-person meetings.

## Point of contact:

Mandisa Thomas, [mandisa@blacknonbelievers.org](mailto:mandisa@blacknonbelievers.org)

# CAMP QUEST

## **Description**

Camp Quest, Inc. is an educational non-profit association that supports a growing network of independently operated Camp Quest affiliates. Our secular, co-ed summer camps offer week-long residential programs for children aged 8-17 and day camps for children aged 4-8, with locations in 13 states. Camp Quest provides an educational adventure shaped by fun, friends and freethought, featuring science, natural wonder and humanist values.



## **Affiliation options for local groups and corresponding benefits:**

Local groups are invited to start a Camp Quest in their community. We can assist your group in engaging families with children and teens, while providing a valuable community service. Groups that wish to start a camp receive guidance on how to start, promote, and run a week-long program -- Everything you need to help children in your area access a fun, secular summer camp!

## **Services for local groups regardless of affiliation:**

Camp Quest staff and volunteers are available to speak to your group about our camps, with both in-person and remote presentations. We provide year-round volunteer opportunities for adults to contribute in a positive way to sharing secular values with the next generation. Groups can gain additional exposure to families and support Camp Quest through sponsorships, grants, and direct financial assistance for low-income children through camperships. Brochures are available by request. We also offer webinars for secular parents, youth workers, and educators.

## **What makes this organization unique:**

Camp Quest is the only association of secular camps in the US and abroad, with locations in 13 states, and international partners in the UK and Switzerland. Since our founding in 1996, we have provided exceptional summer programs focused on building community for children from atheist, agnostic, humanist, and other freethinking families. We advocate for secular and humanist values in all areas of youth development and education.

## **Point of Contact:**

Kim Newton, Executive Director, [kim.newton@campquest.org](mailto:kim.newton@campquest.org), (540) 324-9088

# CENTER FOR INQUIRY

## Description

CFI On Campus promotes and defends reason, science, and freedom of inquiry in education. We are committed to the enhancement of freethought, skepticism, secularism, humanism, philosophical naturalism, rationalism, and atheism on college and high school campuses throughout North America and around the world.



**CENTER  
FOR  
INQUIRY**  
*On Campus Affiliate*

## Affiliation options for local groups and corresponding benefits:

1. Access to the speakers bureau and help with booking speakers.
2. Promotional materials including Skeptical Inquirer and Free Inquiry magazine, stickers, bookmarks, books, brochures, and other periodicals.
3. Exposure on our website and in featured articles on the CFI On Campus blog and in other publications.
4. We can send your event and group information out in emails to the CFI groups and contacts near your campus in order to attract more guests/members.
5. Groups can apply for grants to help cover the cost of events.
6. Downloadables on the website to help with specific campaigns, awareness projects, activism, and organizing.
7. Subscription to Skeptical Inquirer or Free Inquiry at a special student rate of \$19.96
8. Discounted admission to Center for Inquiry conferences.
9. Invitation to apply for CFI internships.
10. Plus, we have staff here that can help you with all areas of campus organizing. We know that it can be hard to establish a structure, to plan successful events, to attract new members, and to keep your group alive over the summer. Just send us an email if you ever have questions.
11. You will be listed on our map of local groups (<https://centerforinquiry.org/groups/>)

## Point of contact:

Melissa Myers, Field Organizer/Program Director, [mmyers@CenterforInquiry.org](mailto:mmyers@CenterforInquiry.org), (716) 686-4869 x421



# CONGRESS OF SECUJAH SECULAR ORGANIZATIONS (CSJO)

## **Description**

CSJO stresses the historic, cultural, and ethical aspects of Jewishness. We focus on community building that instills an identity relevant to contemporary life and devoted to justice, peace and community responsibility. We are an international umbrella organization made up of local groups and individual members.



## **Affiliation options for local groups and corresponding benefits:**

We will assist with the creation and development of new groups, support existing groups and include individuals that have no group within a reasonable proximity. We offer direct support and speakers, connection to other like-minded groups and individuals, materials to develop holiday and life cycle events. We make available, to members, financial assistance for publicity, education and attendance at events.

## **Services for local groups regardless of affiliation:**

Our services are targeted to our members. However, we will consider nonmember requests on an individual basis.

## **What makes this organization unique:**

Our uniqueness is our ability to provide a sense of meaningful, nontheistic community to Jews and those who wish to identify with the Jewish people. We are able to incorporate Jewishness in all aspects of life without god.

## **Point of Contact:**

Terry Waslow, Executive Director, 267-625-CSJO (2756), [congress@csjo.org](mailto:congress@csjo.org)

# FOUNDATION BEYOND BELIEF

## Description

Foundation Beyond Belief (FBB) is a humanist charity that promotes secular volunteering and responsible charitable giving. Guided by the principles of secular humanism, our mission is to: Unite the humanist community in volunteering and charitable efforts and advocate for compassionate action throughout the world.

## Affiliation options for local groups and corresponding benefits:

All Beyond Belief Network (BBN) teams receive the following benefits:

- Access to closed Facebook group (for networking and ideas)
- Profile on FBB website (name, location, website)
- FBB newsletters
- Event promotion on FBB social media before service event with two weeks notice (as space allows)
- Vetting of potential volunteer beneficiaries if requested and available
- Personal FBB staff support in major charity initiatives as requested and available

## As teams report their service events they level up and become eligible for additional benefits:

- Bronze Level: 8 free shirts with the option for inclusion of team's logo
- Silver Level: Eligibility for grants for service projects up to \$250 and priority in promotion and vetting requests
- Gold Level: Eligibility for larger grants up to \$500, with larger grants considered for specific, appropriate, well-defined project development
- 12 additional t-shirts: Highest priority in promotion and vetting requests

## Services for local groups regardless of affiliation:

Directory of nontheist groups for individuals to connect with in their communities and guides for starting a new service group.

## What makes this organization unique:

We are the only organization guided by humanist principles and dedicated to service and charitable giving.

**Point of Contact:** Wendy Webber, [programs@foundationbeyondbelief.org](mailto:programs@foundationbeyondbelief.org)



# FREEDOM FROM RELIGION FOUNDATION

## **Description**

The purposes of the Freedom From Religion Foundation, Inc. are to promote the constitutional principle of separation of state and church, and to educate the public on matters relating to nontheism. Incorporated in 1978 in Wisconsin, the Foundation is a national membership association of approximately 32,000 freethinkers: atheists, agnostics and skeptics of any pedigree.

The logo for the Freedom From Religion Foundation is displayed on a dark teal rectangular background. The words "FREEDOM FROM RELIGION" are written in a light-colored, all-caps serif font. Below this, the word "foundation" is written in a smaller, light-colored, lowercase script font.

## **Affiliation options for local groups and corresponding benefits:**

FFRF provides annual rebates for each national member on the chapter membership roster. FFRF also provides expedited access to legal assistance with Establishment Clause violations, use of FFRF logos, annual grants for charitable work in their area, and partnership on local or regional advertising and billboards. Though chapters are not required to be registered as a 501(c)(3), FFRF will pay the IRS filing fee if the chapter pursues charitable organization status. As resources allow, FFRF will conduct outreach to members in the chapter's area, provide publicity for events, offer staff as speakers, and may partner on other projects proposed by chapters. Chapters must sign an affiliation agreement that provides details on requirements.

## **Services for local groups regardless of affiliation:**

Legal assistance and providing swag for any small group so long as the request is reasonable and comes from an individual FFRF member.

## **What makes this organization unique:**

FFRF and its ever-growing legal department act on countless state/church entanglements on behalf of its members and the public, ending hundreds of violations each year through education and persuasion, such as: Prayers and proselytizing in public schools and events, public funding for religious purposes and religious symbols on public property.

## **Point of Contact:**

For more information please go to our website [FFRF.org](http://FFRF.org) or call 800-335-4021.

# HUMANISTS INTERNATIONAL

## Description

We are the global representative body of the humanist movement, uniting a diversity of non-religious organizations and individuals. We work to build, support and represent the global humanist movement, defending human rights, particularly those of non-religious people, and promoting humanist values worldwide.



## Affiliation options for local groups and corresponding benefits:

Local groups can join HI as an Associate Member. We send Member communications to all Members with advance warning of our work and campaign actions. All Associate Members can attend our General Assembly alongside national organizations; we are a democratic movement and General Assembly is where the membership can propose motions, set policy, elect the Board, etc. For members in some regions and there is grant-funding available for capacity-building and humanist work. Organizations that join HI know they are supporting our work in advocacy on the international stage, helping to build the movement in some of the most difficult places to be a humanist, and working with individuals who are being persecuted for their activities. We work with members so that they can explain to their own individual membership how their support for HI has a positive impact on the world.

## Services for local groups regardless of affiliation:

Our campaigns and resources are open to all.

## What makes this organization unique:

We are the only worldwide democratic humanist umbrella organization, embracing all non-religious traditions, and in which every member organization can contribute to our democratic programme. We bring together humanists from around the world, we network them together for mutual benefit, and we represent this global movement at international institutions.

## Point of Contact:

Bob Churchill, Director of Communications and Campaigns, [bob@humanists.international](mailto:bob@humanists.international)

# MILITARY ASSOCIATION OF ATHEISTS AND FREETHINKERS

## **Description**

MAAF provides support today to atheists, humanists, and other nontheists serving in all branches of the military and throughout the world. MAAF also provides support to veterans especially as they interact with the VA medical and cemetery systems.



## **Affiliation options for local groups and corresponding benefits:**

MAAF provides options for reimbursement for volunteers and organizations for military themed events and outreach to the community to support the troops.

## **Services for local groups regardless of affiliation:**

Our community program is the MAAF Network at the MAAF website under the section 'Get Involved Locally' (<http://militaryatheists.org/network/>) and has options for civilian and student groups as well as military groups.

## **What makes this organization unique:**

We are by and for military personnel and veterans. We provide that unique service within the secular/humanist/atheist movement.

## **Point of Contact:**

For more information, go to [www.militaryatheists.org](http://www.militaryatheists.org), email [community@militaryatheists.org](mailto:community@militaryatheists.org), or call 202-656-MAAF (6223)

# RECOVERING FROM RELIGION

## Description

Recovering from Religion is a nonprofit dedicated to providing hope, healing, and support for those struggling with issues of doubt and nonbelief. We have a 24-hour telephone hotline and internet chat, with trained, compassionate agents standing by. We also have local support groups and an online community. We have cultivated an extensive collection of Resources, and our Secular Therapy Project is a vast database of professionally-vetted therapists.



## Affiliation options for local groups and corresponding benefits:

Our network of local support groups are staffed by an interested and trained leader, and serve as peer support and encouragement in their local community. RfR underwrites the cost of the Meetup established to promote the group. We have a leaders' channel in our communication format, where we offer continual training and support.

## Services for local groups regardless of affiliation:

Our telephone hotline and internet chat are available on the individual level 24/7. Pursuant to a phone call, an individual is invited to join our online Community, where they self-select the channels they wish to join. To date we have channels for: Baptist, Black Nonbelievers, Catholic, Christian, Coming Out, Finding Community, LGBTQ+, Jehovah's Witness, Military, Mormon, Muslim, 7th Day Adventist, Seeking Answers, and Spanish language.

## What makes this organization unique:

We are the only organization that has such an outward-facing mission, meeting people anywhere on the spectrum of doubt and nonbelief. Our organization is 100% volunteer.

**Point of contact:** Gayle Jordan, [gayle@recoveringfromreligion](mailto:gayle@recoveringfromreligion), 615.556.6224

# SECULAR COALITION FOR AMERICA

## Description

The Secular Coalition for America is a 501(c)(4) nonprofit advocacy organization dedicated to amplifying the diverse and growing voice of the nontheistic community in the United States. Our 19 voting coalition member organizations are established 501(c)(3) nonprofits who serve atheists,

agnostics, humanists, freethinkers and other nontheistic Americans. Our mission is to increase the visibility of and respect for nontheistic viewpoints in the United States, and to protect and strengthen the secular character of our government as the best guarantee of freedom for all.



## Affiliation options for local groups and corresponding benefits:

The Secular Coalition for America does not have an affiliation program for individual community groups, however as a coalition, the organization facilitates cooperation among existing local groups through its management of the United Coalition of Reason. Existing local groups may affiliate with their local Coalition of Reason, or form one by joining other secular communities in their area. Learn more by contacting [coordinator@unitedcor.org](mailto:coordinator@unitedcor.org).

## Services for local groups regardless of affiliation:

Training and support for advocacy, lobbying, and generally building political clout and cultivating relationships with lawmakers. Participation in our grassroots programs, including voter registration (Secular America Votes), political party activism (Party Crashers), and building influence in your congressional district (Rapid Response Network). Through our United Coalition of Reason program, we also offer a centralized database of resources for individuals and group organizers on [www.unitedcor.org](http://www.unitedcor.org), grants, and facilitate regional training summits for local secular leaders.

## What makes this organization unique:

We are laser-focused on empowering secular Americans through lobbying, advocacy and mobilizing a secular voting bloc united by shared secular values.

## Point of contact:

Sarah Levin, Director of Governmental Affairs, [sarah@secular.org](mailto:sarah@secular.org)

# SECULAR STUDENT ALLIANCE

## Description

The Secular Student Alliance empowers secular students to proudly express their identity, build welcoming communities, promote secular values, and set a course for lifelong activism. We have over 300 student-led chapters on high school, college, and university campuses across the country, including Washington, D.C. and Puerto Rico.



## Affiliation options for local groups and corresponding benefits:

High school and college students can organize an SSA chapter on their campus by recruiting at least two leaders, a staff or faculty advisor, and becoming recognized as an official club on their campus, and agreeing to our statement of values. We provide direct one-on-one coaching and support through our team of campus organizers and our free resources include a wide range of tabling supplies, regular leadership training events, funding to do projects with your chapter or bring speakers to your campus, resource guides for a diversity of activities from service projects, educational events, social justice advocacy and separation of church and state activism.

## Services for local groups regardless of affiliation:

We will provide promotional brochures and other tabling supplies to organizations who would like to encourage students to join an SSA chapter or start a new one on their campus. We will meet with your organization to help you understand the needs and trends among younger millennials in the United States, help you connect with young atheists and humanists, and help you understand how you can partner with the SSA chapters in your community to increase your impact.

## What makes this organization unique:

We are the only secular organization in the United States dedicated to supporting secular high school and college students on campus.

## Point of Contact:

Ryan Bell, [organizer@secularstudents.org](mailto:organizer@secularstudents.org), (614) 441-9588 ext 111



# SOCIETY FOR HUMANISTIC JUDAISM

## Description

The Society for Humanistic Judaism is the congregational arm of the Humanistic Jewish movement in North America. The SHJ offers a meaningful opportunity for the celebration of cultural Judaism. It provides a pathway into the Jewish community for many unaffiliated Jews.

Jews for a Secular Democracy (JFASD) was created to counter the influence of religion on government policy. The initiative will galvanize the Jewish community to defend the separation of church and state.



**Society for  
Humanistic  
Judaism**  
[www.SHJ.org](http://www.SHJ.org)

## Affiliation options for local groups and corresponding benefits:

SHJ: Communities can affiliate as well as independent members.

JFASD: Any individuals can support the efforts by signing up for the newsletter, liking and following the page on FB and donating.

## Services for local groups regardless of affiliation:

SHJ: Access to materials and assistance from rabbinical leadership, educational materials, etc.

JFASD: Information on issues, talking points

## What makes this organization unique:

SHJ: Humanists who identify with Jewish history and culture, who prize their Jewish roots and want to participate in Jewish holidays and programs without reference to God or the supernatural.

JFASD: While there are excellent secular organizations fighting for the separation of church and state, and great Jewish organizations fighting for social justice, Jews for a Secular Democracy is uniquely focused on issues of religion-state separation from a Jewish perspective.

## Point of Contact:

Sheila Sebor, Volunteer Chair, Jews for a Secular Democracy, [ssebor@comcast.net](mailto:ssebor@comcast.net)

Richard Logan, President, Society for Humanistic Judaism, [docsafari@hotmail.com](mailto:docsafari@hotmail.com)

Paul Golin, Executive Director, Society for Humanistic Judaism, [paulgolin@shj.org](mailto:paulgolin@shj.org)