



Montefiore



From the OFFICE OF THE DEAN

To Our Einstein Community:

Albert Einstein College of Medicine has a 70-year tradition of comradeship, compassion, empathy, and tolerance. Advancing social justice, diversity, equality, and inclusion is what we stand for. We want to be clear on our commitment to uphold these long-standing pillars of our Einstein community, especially during these unprecedented times.

Unfortunately, outbreaks of antisemitism, racism, Islamophobia, and prejudice have recently taken place on college campuses and elsewhere across the country. The Anti-Defamation League reported a 388% increase in harassment, vandalism, and assaults since October 7. The Council on American-Islamic Relations reported an uptick of 216% in bias incidents in the past six weeks.

Einstein has not been spared. In the last few weeks, for example, deeply disturbing antisemitic incidents have occurred. One of them includes defacing the Sholem Aleichem Cultural Center, which serves many Jewish and non-Jewish students and residents in the Bronx. Likewise, there have been reports of harassing social media messages toward our Muslim students.

Social media has become a popular vehicle for expression. However, we ask you to post responsibly and respectfully. We would like to remind you of [Einstein's current social media policy](#), and we expect you to adhere to it.

We are all under stress. In this current environment, your words and deeds can be easily misinterpreted. We encourage you to be gentle with yourself and practice kindness with each other.

Bias and discrimination of any kind have absolutely no place here or anywhere in the world. Einstein and our community are united in strongly rejecting and condemning this and any type of racially prejudiced behavior.

The office of diversity and inclusion has been working with student groups to create a safe space for expression. We invite you to a Unity Lunch on Monday November 27, from noon to 1 p.m., to discuss upcoming projects. We welcome your participation.

Please [RSVP here](#) by Monday, November 20, 2023.

Let us stand united and in solidarity to fight antisemitism, Islamophobia, and any racism in all its ugly and dangerous forms and never stop pursuing peace for our community and all of humanity.

Here are a few recommended resources:

Anti-Defamation League

<https://www.adl.org/what-we-do/fight-antisemitism>

<https://www.adl.org/resources/tools-and-strategies/resources-address-and-challenge-antisemitism>

<https://antisemitism.org>

Institute for Social Policy and Understanding

<https://www.ispu.org/countering-islamophobia/>

Muslim-Jewish Advisory Council

<https://www.muslimjewishadvocacy.org/>

In gratitude,

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