



### Mission Statement

As the central source for teen involvement, The Teen Education Department at the Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island offers area teens opportunities to continue their Jewish education through a variety of innovative and quality youth programs, blending academic and experiential approaches, all designed to explore and foster Jewish positive Jewish identity and train future community leaders.

**Timeless Jerusalem** continues to meet online in our virtual classroom Wednesday evenings. It is NEVER too late to join. Create an Avatar and jump into the action. Email [sweinberger@bjeri.org](mailto:sweinberger@bjeri.org) to get in on the fun.

Intergenerational learning coming this winter! **Meet at Tamarisk Assisted Living** Residence. Discuss topics including Ageism and issues that effect elders and youth. What does it mean to be Jewish? Why does it matter? Why should I care? For more information about this exciting program email [sweinberger@bjeri.org](mailto:sweinberger@bjeri.org)

Coming January 10<sup>th</sup>! Midrasha **Service Learning Day!** To volunteer for the student planning committee email [sweinberger@bjeri.org](mailto:sweinberger@bjeri.org)

## Harry Elkin **MIDRASHA** Community High School

### Course Descriptions

### Spring 2010 / 5770

### Sunday Classes

*When selecting classes, please note that all classes meet for an entire semester (11 class sessions),*

#### SAT Prep

**Grade Level: 11-12**

**Cindy Kaplan**

Cindy Kaplan of Kaplan Tutoring Services will provide semi-private SAT test prep sessions that will review reading, writing and math concepts with special emphasis on strategies for approaching each topic. Students will get extensive practice and critique of two essays, as well as two 4-hour sessions for full-length practice tests outside of class time. Students participating in the SAT prep class must also be enrolled in at least one Midrasha class. Max 3 students per period. (This class has a fee of \$675, in addition to the Midrasha tuition, which is payable directly to Cindy Kaplan. For more info please call 401-595-9350 or email [cckaplan@kaplantutor.com](mailto:cckaplan@kaplantutor.com))

## First Period Classes 9:30 AM – 10:15 AM

Full Semester (11 sessions from January 24 – May 2)

### Talmud

**Grade Level: 9-12**

Stories about the personal lives of the rabbis are not what people usually think of when they talk about Talmud. But in the Seventh Chapter of Bava Metzia, such stories are in abundance. There are surprises on every page! First Semester students will encounter new personalities and new stories; new students will easily be able to join in the lessons. Each story is a new experience in fantasy, morals, and the tradition of transmitting Torah from generation to generation. *Ta Sh'ma!* Come and Learn!

### Rabbinics

**Rabbi Wayne Franklin**

### Koffee with the Kollel: Hot Topics

**Grade Level: 8-12**

In the world today, teens are faced with many difficult and challenging choices. The way that you make decisions may not only change your life, but also the lives of those around you. Jewish teachings can help us form responses to the challenges of our time. Explore the Jewish perspectives of many hot topics, which may include how to treat our bodies, abortion, body piercing, violence, smoking and drinking, and more. This class is sponsored by the Providence Community Kollel.

### Ethics/Thought

**Rabbi Jonathan Beck**

### Conversational Hebrew

**Grade Level: 8-12**

Using a variety of activities, this class will help you learn and maintain a modest level of Hebrew. For students with greater Hebrew knowledge, please see the 3<sup>rd</sup> period class.

### Hebrew

**Eran Hornick**

### Jews on the Tube

**Grade Level: 8-12**

How many Jews are on TV? How are their characters portrayed? What do these programs teach us about stereotypes? How does this impact the views of non-Jews toward Jews? Is media a tool or a weapon for Jews? Watch some of these television shows and discuss.

### Arts & Culture

**Aaron Guttin**

### Comparative Religions

**Grade Level: 10-12**

Survey the basic elements and historical developments of world religions. After establishing a common definition of the purpose of religion and ways to study religion, students will study Buddhism, Taoism, Hinduism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Discuss the religions of the world and their mutual relations. Look at the universality of religion and the frequent recurrence of certain patterns of religious experience in widely separated ethnological and social groups.

### Bible

**Aaron Higashi**

### The Forgotten Refugees

**Grade Level: 10-12**

Did you know that in the 20<sup>th</sup> century Baghdad was 40% Jewish? Did you know that a Jewish Lawyer wrote the Egyptian constitution? Did you know that before 1948 Jewish life flourished in Arab lands? The Palestinians are not the only refugees in the Middle East. The history of the North African and Middle Eastern Jews is necessary background to understanding the politics of the region today.

### Israel

**Janice Kaidan**

### Medical Ethics

**Grade Level: 8-12**

Spectacular advances in medical science have created moral and legal issues never before imagined! Jewish ethics, with regard to medicine has been discussed extensively for several millennia. Every topic in modern life has been dealt with in the Jewish sources. Come dig into this complex topic. This class is a continuation from 1<sup>st</sup> semester, but new students are welcomed!

### Ethics/Thought

**Elissa Felder**



## Second Period Classes 10:20 AM – 11:05 AM

Full Semester (11 sessions from January 24 – May 2)

### **March of the Living**

**Grade Level: 11-12**

Learn about the Holocaust and the modern history of Israel while preparing to be a participant on the March of the Living Program. This class is open to all 11th or 12th grade students, but required for students participating on the March of the Living.

**History**

**Claire Roche**

### **Who stole Your Neighbor's Cow?**

**Grade Level: 8-12**

Find out the answer to this and other riveting questions as you debate and bring to life exciting cases from Jewish texts! We'll debate reincarnation, creation ex nihilo (from nothing), fables that will make your head reel, and other thrilling cases that the Mishnah has to offer.

**Ethics/Thought**

**Eran Hornick**

### **The Walls Came Tumbling Down: The Babylonian Exile & the Destruction of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Temple**

**Grade Level: 8-12**

From exile to overthrow, this class will examine the history of the Jews from the Babylonian captivity to the destruction of the second temple. After the destruction of the first temple, the Jews were exiled to Babylonia where they maintained their national spirit and religious identity despite cultural pressures in a foreign land. The Babylonian Exile lasted 70 years. It had a profound impact on Jewish religion. The exiles held their own prayer services with petitions to God for a return to Zion and the rebuilding of the Temple. Sound familiar?

**Bible**

**Aaron Higashi**

### **What Would Your Father Say?**

**Grade Level: 8-12**

Ancient wisdom of the Sages with modern day application... your guide to personal development and personal excellence.

**Ethics/Thought**

**Elissa Felder**

### **Rock & Roll and Religion**

**Grade Level: 8-12**

Have you ever wondered why Barbara Streisand sings Christmas songs? Why is it that Matisyahu is the face of modern Jewish musicians when there are so many Jews in the industry? These questions and more will be answered while listening to contemporary Jewish and secular tunes and deciphering Judaic meanings and messages. Learn about modern Jews in music and a few surprises along the way!

**Arts and Culture**

**Aaron Guttin**

### **Strong Women/Strong Bodies**

**Grade Level: Girls 8-12**

Join this yoga strengthening class for girls only. Focus on becoming stronger and more flexible. Stretch your body, spirit and mind while learning about strong women from our Jewish tradition. While working on warrior pose, learn about Yael and Yehudit. While working on tree pose learn about Devorah. Develop a stronger view of yourself as you become acquainted with a chain of wonderful Jewish women.

**Bible /Hebrew**

**Janice Kaidan**



**Third Period Classes 11:30 AM – 12:15 PM**

**Full Semester (11 sessions from January 24 – May 2)**

**Kol Kesem Choir**

**Grade Level: 8-12**

Come add your voice to the hottest Jewish teen choir in New England! Sing music from various styles: Israeli rock, Jewish A Cappella and Hebrew classics. Perform in local and national concerts, including the International HaZamir Teen Choral Festival in New York. *This is a year-long class and requires an additional time commitment and materials fees including membership dues to HaZamir and travel expenses.*

**Arts & Culture**

**Cantor Brian J. Mayer**

**Clay Creations**

**Grade Level: 8-12**

Did you know that the first clay vessels were made 12,000 – 13,000 years ago? Get your hands dirty in this pottery class. Learn how to make Jewish ritual objects using the three clay techniques: pinch, coil and slab. Returning students may use the wheel. (12 spots available for hand building and 3 spots available for wheelwork). This class can be 1 hour for students who are willing and able to stay until 12:30. *A \$25 materials fee will be charged.* Priority will be given to students who have not taken this class before. (Please be honest when you fill out your registration form.)

**Arts & Culture**

**Shannon Boucher**

**Star Struck**

**Grade Level: 8-12**

People all around the world are drawn to delving into the mysterious. What's the Jewish viewpoint on esoteric topics such as astrology, reincarnation, angels, dreams and the like? This text and discussion based class on some of Judaism's more mystical concepts will answer some questions.

**Ethics/Thought**

**Janice Kaidan**

**The Jewish People's Court**

**Grade Level: 8-12**

Alongside Jewish ritual law is a body of Jewish civil and criminal law. How do the legal and ethical principles used in ancient times apply to life today? Court is in session. You be the judge!

**Rabbinics**

**Rabbi Seltzer**

**Intermediate Hebrew**

**Grade Level: 8-12**

This class will concentrate on oral conversation, writing original Hebrew compositions and reading Modern Hebrew media and literature. Improve your Hebrew, what ever your level.

**Hebrew**

**Eran Hornick**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's email \_\_\_\_\_

1st Period Choice 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Choice 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Choice 3 \_\_\_\_\_

2nd Period Choice 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Choice 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Choice 3 \_\_\_\_\_

3rd Period Choice 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Choice 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Choice 3 \_\_\_\_\_

