

**Peninsula Temple Beth El Education Programs**  
**REGISTRATION PACKET**  
**2010-2011 / 5771**

וְשִׁנַּנְתֶּם לְבָנֵיכֶם

*V'shinantam l'vanecha*

"And you shall teach them to your children..." ~ Deuteronomy 6:7

PTBE offers positive, engaging, and enduring educational experiences for students of all ages. The values we teach reflect a deep appreciation for Jewish tradition and encourage active interpretation and creative forms of religious expression. *Embarking on a Jewish education is a life-long journey.* Our goal is for students to gain the necessary tools to enable them to continue to study, question, and participate actively in Jewish life.

Our educational theme for this year is - "***La'asok b'divrei Torah: Soaking Ourselves in Torah***". Together, we will immerse ourselves in studying and living Torah. We will add our voices in the age old Jewish conversation of how to apply the values and wisdom of our texts to our lives today.

This year we are excited to offer an alternative educational experience for our K-6 families called GESHER (Bridge). We now offer a choice between the Sunday classroom program and the new GESHER program designed to engage the whole family in Jewish study during a combination of Shabbat and Sunday experiences. (See the enclosed brochure for more information.)

**We welcome YOU to PTBE's Education Programs for the 2010-2011 school year!**

Rabbi Karen Citrin, Director of K-6 Education Programs

Rabbi Micah Citrin, Director of 7-12 Teen Education Programs

**This is your registration packet:**

**Please take a moment to read through this packet of materials (some pages are double-sided including this one!)** Following enrollment, a complete calendar and other information will be mailed to you during the summer. If you have any questions about programs or the registration process, we are happy to provide you with additional information.

Included you will find information about our programs, a Student Enrollment form, a Family Tuition form, a Volunteer page, and our *Brit Kavod: Covenant of Respect*. Please note that **grades 4-6** have options for Hebrew days. Preference will be given to students with forms completed by the due date. In order to register your child, the following items are due to the Education Office by **June 4<sup>th</sup>** with 50% installment (registration received after this date will incur a **late fee** of \$100). NOTE: All of the items below must be fully completed for your registration to be processed:

- Student Enrollment and Emergency Form (**one per student**)
  - Be sure to **fill out the front and back** and SIGN the bottom
  - A **photograph** of your child must be attached
- Tuition Form (**one per family**)
  - For Grades K-6, indicate Sunday program or the new GESHER option.
  - Check/Credit Card information for **half** of your tuition (the remainder is due **by August 15**).
- Volunteer Form (optional)

## PTBE Education Programs Schedule – At a Glance

GRADE	DAY/TIME
<b>PreK (Age 4 + parent/s)</b>	Gesher Katan (“Little Bridge”) 1 <sup>st</sup> Friday night of the month
<b>K – 6</b>	<b>Option 1:</b> Sunday Program Sundays 9:00-11:15 am
	<b>Option 2:</b> GESHER Family Program 1 <sup>st</sup> Friday of the month 6:30-7:30 pm + dinner 2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month 9:30am-noon 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Sundays 10:45-12:45
<b>4 – 5 (Hebrew)</b>	Tuesdays 3:45-5:45 pm <b>OR</b> Wednesdays 3:45-5:45 pm
<b>6 (Small Group Hebrew Tutorials)</b>	<b>Options: (Choose one)</b> 1) Sundays 9:30-10:30 ( <i>Gesher only</i> ) 2) Tuesdays 3:45-4:45; 3) Tuesdays 4:45-5:45 4) Wednesdays 3:45-4:45; 5) Wednesdays 4:45-5:45 6) Thursdays 4:30-5:30
<b>7 – 10</b>	Wednesdays 6:00-8:30 PM (includes dinner)
<b>11 – 12</b>	Every Other Wednesday 6:00-8:30 PM (includes dinner)

### Notes:

- ❖ 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade students attend **two days** a week.
- ❖ 6<sup>th</sup> Grade students in **Sunday Program** have an additional family Shabbat component (1 Friday night and 1 Saturday morning during the year).
- ❖ **To celebrate becoming *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* at PTBE**, students must complete at least 4 years of our Education Programs or the equivalent elsewhere. For questions regarding *B’nai Mitzvah*, please contact Cantorial Soloist Elana Jagoda.  
*All students who become bar/bat mitzvah are expected to continue at least through Confirmation.*

### Save these Dates for the Beginning of the School Year:

Sunday, September 26 – First Day of Sunday School (Grades K-6)  
 Tuesday, September 28 – 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday Hebrew (Grades 4-5)  
 Wednesday, September 29 – 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday Hebrew (Grades 4-5)  
 Friday, October 1 – First GESHER Program (Grades K-6)  
 Wednesday, October 6 - 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday evening Teen Program (Grades 7-12)

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade *B’nai Mitzvah* Retreat** (for 7<sup>th</sup> gr. students and parent/s): October 22-24 at Walden West

**Confirmation Retreat:** October 22-24 at Walden West

**K-6 Family Retreat:** Spring Date TBD

*And you shall teach them to your children. - Torah*

## OVERVIEW OF K-6 EDUCATION PROGRAMS

*Our education programs engage students and families in Jewish learning and living. From a young age, we aim to create a warm and caring environment where children develop a positive Jewish identity and feel at home in the synagogue and Jewish community. Students are encouraged to question and reflect, to listen and share.*

All students learn and experience four core curricular elements: Torah, Tzedakah, Hebrew, and Holidays. Throughout the grades, we seek to impart the stories and values from Torah study, the commitment to Tzedakah (righteous deeds), the experience of Hebrew language, prayer and culture, and the joy of celebrating sacred days in the Jewish calendar. Classroom learning is enhanced by experiences in Jewish music, art, Israeli dance, and T'filah (prayer) and social opportunities for students to build and maintain friendships. Parents are encouraged to learn alongside their children at different times during the year. Additionally, PTBE is excited to offer our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual **K-6 Family Retreat!**

This year, we offer K-6 families a **choice** between the Sunday classroom program and the new GESHHER (Bridge) family program, an alternative education model designed to integrate study and experience during a combination of Shabbat and Sunday sessions. Please see the **enclosed brochure** for more information about the new GESHHER program. GESHHER also includes special preK and day school options.

**Sunday School** meets: Sundays 9:00-11:15am.

**GESHHER program** meets: 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month 6:30-7:30pm + Shabbat dinner, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month 9:30am-noon, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month 10:45am-12:45pm.

**Kindergarten - 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade:** Integrated Judaic and Hebrew foundation. Students learn Jewish symbols, stories, heroes, holidays, Torah, *mitzvot* (holy actions), God talk, the Land of Israel, Hebrew *alef-bet* (letters) and basic Hebrew words.

**4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Judaic themes and topics include Torah study with midrash (commentaries), Prophets and Writings, Jewish values and virtues, being partners with God, lifecycles, and Jewish history.

Students begin formal **Hebrew study** during mid-week Hebrew classes. The Hebrew program focuses on developing Hebrew vocabulary and prayer reading skills. Students learn the prayers of the Shabbat service as they prepare to become *bar/bat mitzvah*. All 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders attend Hebrew on Tuesday OR Wednesday 3:45-5:45pm. 6<sup>th</sup> graders participate in a weekly one hour small group Hebrew tutorial. Students are expected to practice Hebrew reading at home.

All 6<sup>th</sup> grade students and families participate in several Shabbat experiences during the year.

*Children and families are encouraged to attend our Education Programs regularly and participate actively in our temple community.*

The whole world is a narrow bridge and the most important part is not to be afraid.

-Rabbi Nachman of Bratslav

## Wednesday Night 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Program

Wednesdays 6:00-8:30 PM

### *7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade ~ Ma'lot (Steppin' Up)*

*Ma'lot*, the PIBE 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade education program, engages middle school students in the process of stepping up to becoming *bnai mitzvah* and entering the young adult Jewish community. Students will enjoy being part of a close community of their peers that gathers each Wednesday evening for a meal, a core curricular class, and an elective. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade core curriculum includes Torah study, Torah chanting, and *mitzvot* - Jewish values and actions. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade core curriculum focuses on Jewish ethics and our relationship with the world around us. *Ma'lot* students then choose an elective such as conversational Hebrew, rituals and customs, Israeli society and culture, lessons of the Holocaust, and Modern Midrash. 7<sup>th</sup> grade students also engage in several *bnai mitzvah* family sessions with the clergy.

#### **Wednesday Night Highlights:**

- Dinner with friends
- Core curriculum by grade
- Electives

#### **Memorable Adventures:**

- 7<sup>th</sup> grade *Bnai Mitzvah* retreat (student + parent/s)
- 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> grade trip to Los Angeles

### *9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> ~ HaMerkaz (The Center)*

*HaMerkaz*, the PIBE high school program puts teens at the center. Wednesday evenings offer 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders a chance to step out of the stresses of school and social pressures, and step into a warm community of friends where each student is valued. *HaMerkaz* is a great place for teens to enjoy a good meal, socialize, and engage in stimulating discussion. At *HaMerkaz*, students explore the big questions about the meaning of life through a Jewish lens. Topics include spirituality and questions about God, text study, interpersonal relationships, identity formation, and many more. Students in *HaMerkaz* also have a chance to express themselves through art, dance, music, and cooking. Embedded within *HaMerkaz* is the 10<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation program, a unique opportunity for students to study with PIBE clergy and affirm their Judaism in a meaningful lifecycle moment, the Confirmation service.

#### **Wednesday Night Highlights:**

- Dinner with friends
- Exciting elective choices
- Grade level seminars:
  - ~ 9<sup>th</sup>: "Who am I? Exploring Jewish identity and spirituality"
  - ~ 10<sup>th</sup>: "Why am I Jewish? Confirming what I believe and what I do"
  - ~ 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup>: "Choosing My Jewish Path"

Student guided learning with the rabbis and special guest teachers (every other week)

#### **Memorable Adventures:**

- 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> grade trip to Los Angeles
- 10<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation Retreat
- 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> Experience (IBD)

**Peninsula Temple Beth El Education Programs**  
**BRIT KAVOD – A Covenant of Respect**  
**בְּרִית כָּבוֹד**

*Brit* means “covenant” and *Kavod* means “respect” or “honor.” Being part of our covenantal community means that we show *kavod* for each other, for this place, and for our programs.

PTBE recognizes that each person has a unique learning style and that we all experience education and Judaism differently. There are also core Jewish values that bind us together in one community. All parents, students and teachers will strive to uphold the following values of our *Brit*:

**1. KAVOD FOR OTHERS** – We expect every person to demonstrate self-respect and respect for other people.

*“V’ahavta l’reiacha kamocha – Love your fellow person as yourself.” (Leviticus 19:18)*

Each person is created “*B’tzelem Elohim*” (in God’s image) and we honor the holiness in each person with our words and our actions. We treat one another how we want to be treated.

**2. KAVOD FOR PLACE** – We expect every person to demonstrate respect for our Synagogue and grounds.

*“Ma tovu ohalecha Ya’akov mishk’notecha Yisrael – How beautiful are your tents, O Jacob, your dwelling places, O Israel.” (Numbers 24:5)*

Out of respect for our sacred space, we are responsible for caring for everyone and everything in and around our temple home. We are responsible for keeping each other safe.

**3. KAVOD FOR OUR PROGRAM** – We expect every person to be present and considerate and to contribute positively toward our learning environment.

*“Na’aseh v’nishma – We will do and we will hear.” (Exodus 24:7)*

It is a privilege to learn about our Jewish heritage. We have the responsibility to help ourselves and others to learn by listening, participating and following all instructions.

*In all these ways, we work together to demonstrate kavod for ourselves, for each other, for PTBE and for our community.*