

**PICK YOUR PROJECT.  
FIND YOUR CONNECTION.**

# **PROJECT CONNECT**

**THE TEMPLE'S YOUTH PROGRAMS  
FOR 4th THROUGH 12th GRADERS**



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## A LETTER FROM THE PROJECT CONNECT TEAM

Welcome to Youth Central at The Temple! The Education Team and our Project Connect Leadership are so thrilled to bring you this guide to The Temple's youth programming. The Temple is so much more than our religious and spiritual home; it is our social home as well. Our youth programs and social justice projects strive to create and build upon pre-existing bonds through fun and engaging ways.

No matter the event, our programs bring teens together to provide a Jewish experience outside the classroom. As the Torah teaches us, we must pass our values, beliefs, and passions on to the next generation, *dor l'dor*. The Temple's Project Connect initiative allows teens to learn from and spend time with other teens and our incredible clergy, staff, and chaperones.

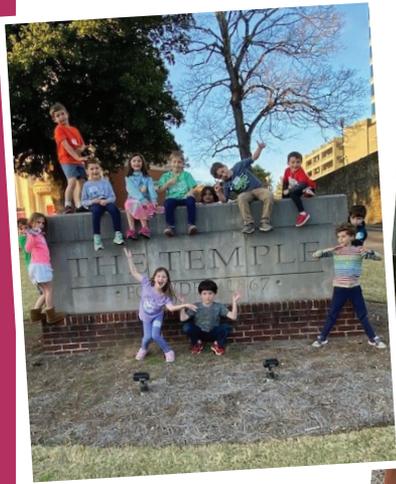
We can't wait for you to pick your project and find your connection!

# 45 CLUB

The 45 Club is The Temple's youngest youth group for all 4th and 5th graders.

45 Club promotes friendship and fun through engaging programming and Jewish values. Activities vary from sports to performing arts and cooking to STEM programs. This is youth group, your way!

**August 28**  
**November 6**  
**February 26**  
**April 23**





## PROJECT 67

Project 67 is the 6th & 7th grade youth group at The Temple. All 6th & 7th graders are invited to join. We aim to create an inclusive community for our middle school students that caters to their needs of socialization and engagement.

**August 28**  
**November 6**  
**December 4**  
**January 26**  
**February 26**  
**April 23**

## PROJECT EIGHT

Project Eight is the 8th grade youth group at The Temple for the fall. All 8th graders are invited to join. Beginning in December, eighth graders are invited to join our events with Project Connect, our high school youth group including Project Merry Mitzvah.

**August 21**  
**November 6**

## URJ Camp Coleman

In the beautiful North Georgia mountains, Camp Coleman is home to over 900 campers every summer. At Camp Coleman, campers learn about themselves and their Jewish heritage while participating in a wide variety of exciting activities.

## URJ 6 Points Academy

The URJ also has a series of camps where students choose their majors and minors during their time at camp as well as other electives and Judaic programming. All of these camps are housed on boarding school campuses around the country.



## The Temple is also proud to support over 150 of our youth who attend these camps:

- Camp Barney Meditz
- Ramah Darom
- Camp Judea
- Blue Star
- In the City Camp
- MJCCA Day Camp



## Overnight Camp Scholarships Available

We encourage you to reach out to your Jewish summer camp to ask about their scholarship program. Many camps provide matching financial aid for students who apply to multiple donors. The Temple and Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta offer scholarships and grants for Jewish overnight camping. More information can be found at:

[www.atlantajewishcamp.org/resources](http://www.atlantajewishcamp.org/resources)

Questions? Contact Elizabeth at [efoster@the-temple.org](mailto:efoster@the-temple.org).



## Shir Harmony

Children in third through fifth grade are invited to participate in our youth performance group directed by **Cantor Tracey Scher and Jordan Wilensky, Music & Tefilah Specialist.**

Sheer Harmony practices are held during the Sunday Program on select Sundays and this group will perform throughout the year.

To sign up your child, please contact Marjorie Vaughn at [mvaughn@the-temple.org](mailto:mvaughn@the-temple.org).

## 4TH GRADE SHUL-IN AT THE TEMPLE

### February 4-5, 2023

Fourth grades will make The Temple their second home at this yearly event. During the overnight, students participate in an arts and crafts project, a scavenger hunt, make your own cupcakes, and more.



## 5TH GRADE TRIP TO CAMP COLEMAN

### March 25, 2023

Students participate in sports, art projects, skits, mixers, several elements on the ropes course, make s'mores, and celebrate Shabbat with Temple friends.



## 6TH/7TH GRADE TRIP TO TENNESSEE

### September 16-17, 2022

Travel with Temple clergy, staff, and your Gesher Peer Leaders to Whitwell and Chattanooga, TN to the Paperclips Holocaust exhibit, Shabbat with friends, and a ziplining adventure through the hills of Chattanooga.

## 8TH/9TH GRADE TRIP TO NEW ORLEANS January 13-16, 2023

Travel with Temple clergy, staff, and your peer leaders to New Orleans for a social action, social and Jewish heritage trip.



## 10TH GRADE TRIP TO NEW YORK CITY October 21-23, 2022

Take a weekend trip to New York with your teachers and clergy. On this trip, confirmation students explore Judaism in the largest Jewish community in America.



## TEEN ISRAEL TRIP June 2023

Rising Juniors are invited to join Rabbi Rau on our yearly Teen Israel trip. On this trip, teens visit Jerusalem and the Old City, climb Masada, hike, rappel, kayak, snorkel, and participate in an archaeological dig.

## JUNIOR/SENIOR CLASS TRIP - WASHINGTON, DC February 10-13, 2023

Juniors and Seniors are invited to take a weekend trip to DC with Rabbi Berg and Elizabeth Foster. On this trip, teens participate in the Religious Action Center's L'Taken Seminar and visit our nation's capital.

# PROJECT CONNECT: HIGH SCHOOL

## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Project Connect! The Education Team, in partnership with our Project Connect Teen Leadership, has worked to create Project Connect, an umbrella group that connects teens (9th-12th grade) to their various interests. There are numerous opportunities, some existing and some new, to involve teens in ways that appeal to them. Teens may belong to as many Projects as they wish. Projects are led by teens who are responsible for scheduling and implementing events from beginning to end. The leaders of each project join together to create our Project Connect Teen Board.

**This year our teen board is chaired by Matan Berg & Ryan Carter.**

FOLLOW PROJECT CONNECT  
ON INSTAGRAM  
@PROJECTCONNECT\_TEMPLE



## PROJECT CONNECT (SOCIAL)

We empower our teens to help us plan, recruit, and host social events for their peers. Teens who would like to help plan events are invited to join the Project Connect Planning Committee. We will help with everything needed to have a successful event including registration and supervision.

**Chairs:** Gavin Citron, Lilly Margolis, Simon Taylor

## PROJECT JUSTICE

Project Justice is for teens wanting to engage in social justice and advocacy. This group participates in multiple advocacy events (tzedeck) ranging from gun violence prevention to equal rights and more. In addition, teens engage through hands-on social action projects (mitzvot).

**Chairs:** Matthew Colon, Abby Hyken, Daniel Sommerfeld, Natalie Spear

## PROJECT SHIR

This group of high school musicians and singers, directed by Cantor Scher and Jordan Wilensky, our Music & Tefilah Specialist, come together to provide unique musical experiences for our Temple community throughout the year. Teens can chose to sing, play an instrument, or song lead for our congregation.

**Chairs:** Coming Soon!

## PROJECT MERRY MITZVAH

Project Merry Mitzvah is our teen-led social action project for the Zabam Paradies Center for Homeless Couples. Teens are needed to help fundraise, plan, and implement both the meal and shopping experience for the residents.

**Junior Chairs:** Daniel Ratner, Sarah Zedd

**Senior Chairs:** Henry Banner, Chase Herbert

**Kickoff Meeting for all of our High School Programs:  
August 21 at Noon  
Lunch will be served.**

Additional programs will be planned by the teens.  
Dates and details will be sent out via email.



## PROJECT TOLERANCE

Created and performed by teen actors, Project Tolerance is designed to raise the consciousness of its audiences through an original play which takes on contemporary societal ills while also educating about the Holocaust. Using the Holocaust as an extreme example of the consequences of racism, the Project Tolerance performance includes contemporary scenarios which tackle discrimination, bullying, apathy and intolerance. These social issues are dramatized in a compelling theatrical style which stimulates middle and high school students to think, discuss and perhaps even act on what they have seen. By witnessing other teenagers dealing head-on with issues of bigotry, discrimination, anti-semitism, homophobia, exclusion of people with learning needs or disabilities, and fear of the “other,” they are inspired to consider their own views on these subjects and to take stock of their personal values and behaviors.

Project Tolerance is a free performance, made possible by the generous bequest of Ambassador William B. Schwartz, Jr. Donations are welcomed.



## PROJECT GESHER

We look forward to another successful year of Gesher for 7th, 8th and 9th grade students. Our middle school students meet with 11th & 12th grade peer leaders to discuss pertinent Jewish BIG QUESTIONS on Sunday mornings. In addition, the Gesher Peer Leaders travel with our students on their class trips to Tennessee, Florida, or New Orleans. Gesher leaders are trained by our clergy psychologists, and our education team, and lead weekly sessions with our teens. Applications to become a Gesher leader are released at the end of each school year and are followed by an interview with our clergy and education team. All Gesher Leaders are also required to be involved in Project Connect in additional ways.



## PROJECT MADRICHIM

Eleventh and twelfth grade students are encouraged to sign up to volunteer as teacher's aides in one of the lower elementary classrooms. Madrichim (literally "leaders" in Hebrew) assist teachers in all aspects of the curriculum. Eighth graders also serve as assistant madrichim on Sunday mornings as part of their curriculum. Volunteer hours and a gift are awarded at the end of the year for all juniors and seniors.

## PROJECT TZADIKIM

All 9th graders who have completed the madrichim program and 11th and 12th graders have the opportunity to be a part of Project Tzadikim. Tzadikim train with our learning specialist and BEC Team and are taught the skills and techniques to work with kids who learn differently. Volunteer hours and a gift are awarded at the end of the year for all juniors and seniors.



## BBYO

We know there are many ways to get involved in the Jewish community in Atlanta. The Temple is excited to partner with BBYO as an Intown hub for their chapters. This program is based out of the MJCCA including staffing and registration, but we will share information on events with you through our monthly Project Connect emails. Join over 1,000 teens in the Greater Atlanta Region by becoming a BBYO member online at [atlantajcc.org/bbyo](http://atlantajcc.org/bbyo). Once you are a member you will have the opportunity to attend their regional and local chapter events. They have two chapters (one BBG and one AZA) that operate Intown as well as nine other chapters all over Atlanta including Sandy Springs and Dunwoody.



## JUMPSPARK

JumpSpark connects Atlanta's Jewish teens to top-quality programming.

More programming will be announced as we move into the year, and here are some of their signature programs and opportunities are:

Strong Women Fellowship:

<https://jumpsparkatl.org/events/strong-women-fellowship/>

Atlanta Israel Gap Year Scholarship:

<https://jumpsparkatl.org/atlanta-israel-gap-year-scholarship/>



# JUMPSPARK<sup>☆</sup>

# TELL US WHAT YOU ARE INTERESTED IN!

#1 Child/Teen's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

- The 45 Club       Shir Harmony       Project 67       Project Eight  
 Project Connect    Project Justice    Project Shir  
 Project Madrichim                       Project Tzadikim  
 Grade Level Trip    Overnight Camp    BBYO                       JumpSpark  
 Project Tolerance    Project Merry Mitzvah

#2 Child/Teen's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

- The 45 Club       Shir Harmony       Project 67       Project Eight  
 Project Connect    Project Justice    Project Shir  
 Project Madrichim                       Project Tzadikim  
 Grade Level Trip    Overnight Camp    BBYO                       JumpSpark  
 Project Tolerance    Project Merry Mitzvah

#3 Child/Teen's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

- The 45 Club       Shir Harmony       Project 67       Project Eight  
 Project Connect    Project Justice    Project Shir  
 Project Madrichim                       Project Tzadikim  
 Grade Level Trip    Overnight Camp    BBYO                       JumpSpark  
 Project Tolerance    Project Merry Mitzvah

**Take a photo of this form and email it to:  
efoster@the-temple.org.**

**Mail completed form to:  
The Temple, Attn: Elizabeth Foster  
1589 Peachtree Street NE, Atlanta, GA 30309**





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at  **THE TEMPLE**

*Sparking Positive Jewish Identities.*

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