

TEENS

AT BETH MEYER SYNAGOGUE

USY

CONNECT WITH
FRIENDS

HIGH
SCHOOL

JEWISH
LEARNING
NEVER ENDS

MADRIKHIM

SUPPORTING OUR
SCHOOL COMMUNITY

FALL 2023



There is a place for you here

Whether you are new to our community or have been here since preschool, *there is a place for you here.*

Whether you have Jewish friends at your high school or this is your main outlet for Jewish community, *there is a place for you here.*

Whether you are interested in Jewish education or joining a social community, *there is a place for you here.*

Find your place in these pages and connect with us!

Detailed information is shared throughout the year through monthly newsletters, Beth Meyer weekly emails, our WhatsApp group, and shared Google calendars.

Need help getting started? Email either Cathy or Kim.

Cathy Kaplan

Director of the Religious School & Family Programs

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Kim Wicksel

Youth Advisor

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OUR USY GROUP

Beth Meyer Synagogue offers youth programming opportunities outside of the classroom environment for high school students through United Synagogue Youth (USY). USY is a national organization, hosted through United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. USY's mission is to empower



Jewish youth to develop friendships, leadership skills, and a sense of belonging to the Jewish people. Our USY group meets 1-2 times each month with religious, social, and community activities.

USY EVENTS THIS FALL

Welcome Back KabShab

Friday, Aug. 25 @ 6:30 p.m.

USY families are invited to join us for *Kabbalat Shabbat* followed by *Shabbat* Dinner. After the meal, USY families will gather in the *Beit Am* to learn about plans for the 2023-2024 school year.

Wet 'n Wild and Labor Day Lock-in

Sunday, Sept. 3 through Monday, Sept. 4

We start with a trip to Wet 'n Wild, followed by a Lock-In at Beth Meyer.

Apples & Honey Prep Party

Sunday, Sept. 10 @ 12:15 p.m.

Come help make apples and honey gift bags to share with congregants at *Rosh Hashanah* and raise money for USY's *Tikkun Olam* fund.

Sukkah Build

Sunday, Sept. 24, 10-1 p.m.

We'll gather at a family's home to help build a *sukkah* in preparation for *Sukkot*.

Shabbat Dinners

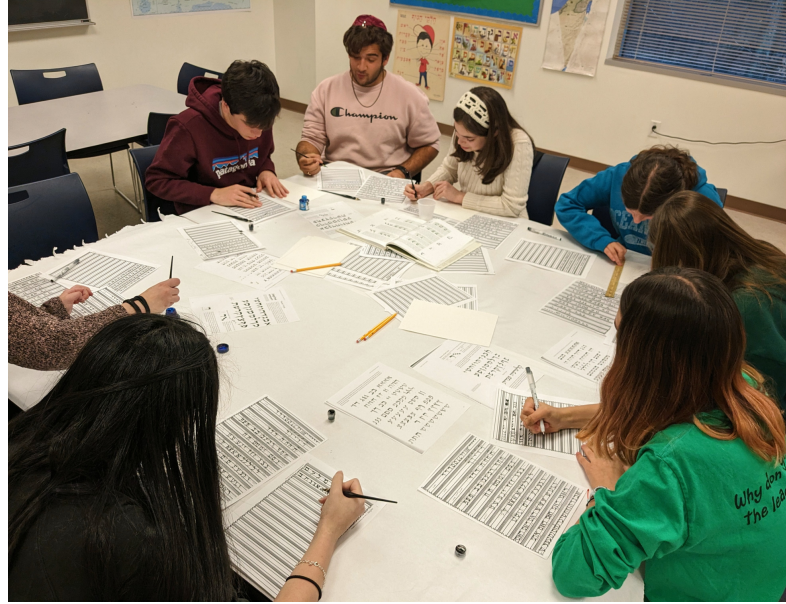
Oct. 13, Nov. 3, Dec. 8,
Jan. 5, Feb. 2, Mar. 1,
Apr. 5, May 3, Jun. 7

These monthly dinners are usually hosted in family homes. Let us know if you would like to host!

United Synagogue Youth (USY)

HIGH SCHOOL DETAILS

- Classes are open to all Jewish high school students (grades 9-12).*
- There are three sessions during the year. Each session meets once a week for four weeks.
- Classes are on Sundays from 12:20-1:10 p.m. and 1:10-2 p.m. Lunch is available at noon.
- Students should plan to attend all classes within a session.
- You may register for the whole year, but registration will also be shared as each new session approaches.
- We try not to limit numbers, but some classes are filled on a first-come-first-served basis. Get your requests in early!
- Students who work as *madrikhim* in our religious school must attend two sessions of high school and are expected to attend all classes within a session.
- Cost is \$60 per session for Beth Meyer members/ \$72 for non-members.



**8th grade students are invited to attend the Spring session of high school classes.*

FALL SESSION

10/29, 11/05, 11/12, 11/19

Perek Alef

***Ehad/Ahad* and the Oneness of Judaism and Islam**

We will explore the central tenets of Islam, focusing on the similarities (and differences) in practice and belief between modern Jews and Muslims around the world. Taught by Jim Doerfler.

Mahloket Matters: Take Two

Last year we started talking about constructive discourse when two parties just don't agree. We continue that conversation with practical skills to help navigate difficult situations. Last year's class is not a prerequisite; anyone may attend. Taught by Cathy Kaplan.

Registration for high school classes is at bethmeyer.org/form/high-school-registration-2023-2024

Registration for the Fall Session is requested by Thursday, Oct. 26.

Perek Bet

Duct-tape Tallit

Review the rules and customs for *tallitot* and then create your own design using duct tape! Taught by Shoshi Braman.

The Lamp of Darkness

Enjoy reading fantasy or historical fiction? We'll dive into a novel based in the time of the prophets, bringing all those weird stories in the *Tanakh* to life. Taught by Cathy Kaplan.

WINTER SESSION

1/21, 1/28, 2/04, 2/11

Perek Alef

Whiteness of a Different Color: Race, Eugenics and the Jews

Not so long ago, Jews, Italians, Greeks, and many other nationalities and ethnic groups were not considered “white”. Eugenics—genetic selection based on race—was a hot topic in the early part of the last century. How were we and how do we continue to be affected by racial perception? Taught by Deborah Goldstein.

Jewish Poetry Through History

An overview of Jewish poetry through history and what makes a poem and/or poet Jewish. Once the creative juices are flowing, we'll write our own! Taught by Will Brown.

Perek Bet

Jewitchery

Sigils, herbs, and mysticism, oh my: what some call “witchcraft,” others recognize as part of the ancestral traditions of many cultures—including Judaism. Come explore the intersections of Jewish and earth-based spiritual practices that have some calling themselves “Jewitches.” Taught by Allison Mitteer.

Jews as Social Activists

What does Judaism say about engagement in social justice? How can we use the wisdom of our history and texts to inform modern-day decisions? This class will help you with the language and skills you need to influence change in our society. Taught by Alana Davis.

SPRING SESSION

4/14, 4/21, 4/28, 5/05

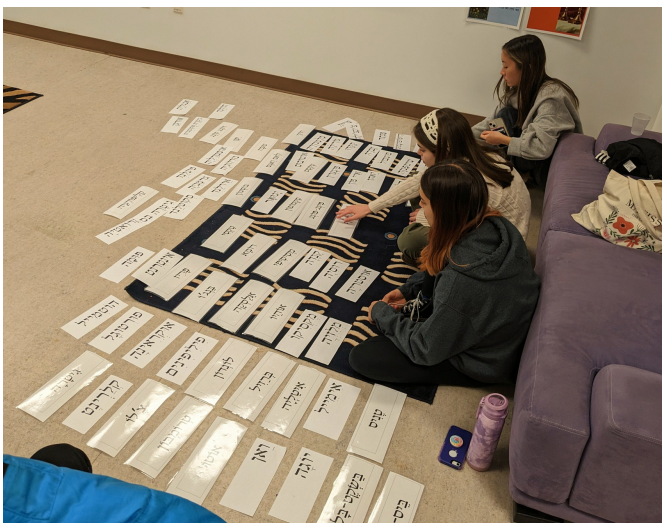
Perek Alef

No Jews = No Superheroes

Jews built the comic book industry from the ground up, and the influence of Jewish writers, artists, and editors continues to be felt to this day. But how did Jews come to have such a disproportionate influence on an industry most famous for lantern-jawed demigods clad in colorful tights? Taught by Deborah Goldstein.

2 Jews, 3 Opinions

Any time you ask a group of Jews a question, you're bound to have an argument. We don't mind of course; it's tradition - just look at Talmud! So come prepared to take sides and tell us why you're right about everything from if Jews should have tattoos to whether latkes should go with applesauce or sour cream. Taught by Allison Mitteer.



Perek Bet

Jews & Sports: There's More to it Than Sandy Koufax

Learn about Jewish involvement in professional and Olympic sports, both in the US and Israel. We'll cover former and current players, managers, and broadcasters, and their impact on sports and Jewish community. Taught by Hirsch Fishman.

Hot Topics

Student-driven conversations about about what's happening in current events and how can we approach these issues with a Jewish lens. Taught by Ira Planer.



LEARN WITH OUR RABBIS

Join us during the year for special learning opportunities with Rabbi Eric and Rabbi Jenny. These conversations will address topics that speak to challenges faced by teens in daily life.

SUNDAY, OCT. 22
WITH RABBI JENNY

SUNDAY, FEB. 25
WITH RABBI ERIC



Lunch will be served at noon and the session will begin at 12:30 p.m. All teens are welcome, whether or not they are registered for high school classes. *Madrikhim* who work in the religious school are expected to attend. There is no cost for these sessions.

Study with Our Rabbis

WORK WITH US

Come work in our school as *madrikhim*! We use teens as classroom aides, office help, tech support and more!

What are the requirements?

- Be a member of Beth Meyer Synagogue
- Commit to working regularly at your assigned time-slot
- Attend at least two trimesters of the High School Program
- Attend *Madrikhim* leadership/training meetings throughout the year (times to be determined)

What is the salary?

The salary varies based on age and experience.

Am I guaranteed a position?

We will do our best to find positions for all who would like to work in our school.

How do I apply?

Use the tear out sheet at the end of this booklet or apply online at bethmeyer.org/form/madrichim-sign-up-form



GIVE BACK

Want to give back to our community in ways outside the classroom?

- Help with High Holy Days childcare.
- Attend *minyan* on Sunday mornings or Wednesday afternoons.
- Assist at Beth Meyer events.
- Join our team of *Torah* and *Haftarah* readers.
- Blow *shofar* during the fall holidays.
- Work with one of our committees (Garden, Social Action, Hesed). Cathy or Kim can help make a connection.



DID YOU KNOW?

Want to become a member of the Golden *Kippah* Club? Chant *Torah* or *Haftarah* (prophetic reading) five times after your *b-mitzvah*. The result? Your name goes on a plaque in the main lobby, you get recognized during services, and you get a Golden *Kippah*! Contact your b-mitzvah tutor or Cathy Kaplan to get started!





BMS TEENS



Beth Meyer High School Students: Grades 9 – 12

RETURN THIS FORM TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY AUG. 18

or complete the online form

bethmeyer.org/form/madrichim-sign-up-form.html

We hire Beth Meyer teens to work as classroom aides, Hebrew tutors and office assistants in our school.

Requirements:

- Be a member of Beth Meyer Synagogue
- Commit to working regularly at your assigned time-slot
- Enroll in at least 2 trimesters of the High School Program
- Attend *madrishim* leadership meetings throughout the year (times to be determined)
- Obtain working papers, if applicable, and complete tax forms

Return this form by Aug. 18 and commit to attend our school faculty meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 22.

Name: _____ Email address: _____

Cell phone: _____

Secular School: _____ 2023-2024 Grade: _____

Pronouns: _____

I am interested in working during the following time slots (please note: it is expected that you will arrive in time to be IN YOUR CLASSROOM and that you will remain to help until the students are all dismissed):

___ Sunday mornings, 9:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

___ Tuesday afternoons, 4–6:30 p.m.

___ Wednesday afternoons, 4-6:30 p.m.

___ *Shabbat* mornings, as needed



Beth Meyer Synagogue

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Connect with us:



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chat.whatsapp.com/JW8nv8XTWViFxlWt95MF7e