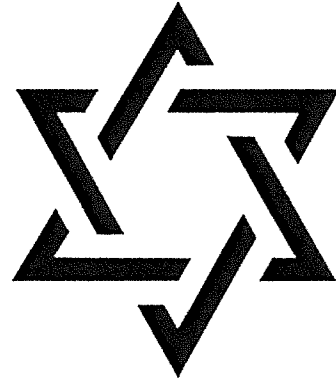




**TBE  
7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE  
ALIYAH  
CEREMONY**



**MAY 25, 2017**

**29 IYAR, 5777**



*(Cover Design by Jake Rosner and Jeremy Young)*



## Program

Welcome:	Jeremy Young
Song: Hashkiveinu/One Day	Grade 7 Students
Remarks:	Rabbi Hammerman
Reflections:	Grade 7 students
Presentation of Class Gift:	Grade 7 Students
Presentation of Certificates & Gifts:	Lisa Gittelman Udi and Sheryl Young
Blessing on Completion of 7th Grade:	Grade 7 Graduates
Special Remarks & Closing Blessing:	Rabbi Hammerman

## Welcome

Welcome to the Aliyah Ceremony of the Temple Beth El 7th Grade Class of 2017 and 5777!

We chose to march into our graduation ceremony to the music "Hamilton Hanukkah" by the Maccabeats. Many of us love the Broadway show "Hamilton." This song is a parody based on "Hamilton" that mentions Hanukkah, other Jewish holidays, and stories. We feel that this music is a really cool blend of 21st Century culture and traditional Judaism. Since this is the way we hope to incorporate Judaism into our lives, we thought that it would be perfect for us to use as our "walk on" song this evening.

We have also chosen to sing the Hashkiveinu prayer mash up with *One Day*, by Matisyahu as our opening song this evening. This prayer and song also represent a way to blend modern and traditional; and singing or listening to it has come to mean "Temple Beth El" to us. The song can be found on page 3.

## HASHKIVEINU

Hashkiveinu Adonai Eloheinu l'shalom  
V'hamideinu malkeinu l'chayim.

2x

## הַשְׁכִּיבֵנוּ

הַשְׁכִּיבֵנוּ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ לְשָׁלוֹם  
וְהַעֲמִידֵנוּ מַלְכֵנוּ לְחַיִּים

### One Day By Matisyahu

Sometimes I lay  
Under the moon  
And thank god I'm breathin'  
Then I pray  
Don't take me soon  
'Cause I am here for a reason  
Sometimes in my tears I drown  
But I never let it get me down  
So when negativity surrounds  
I know some day it'll all turn around  
Because  
All my life I've been waiting for  
I've been praying for  
For the people to say  
That we don't wanna fight no more  
There'll be no more wars  
And our children will play  
One day x6

## Reflections

**Mollie Herz, Emily Goodman, Julia Marrinan**

**Mollie:** Where to start? Let's start from the very beginning, a very good place to start.

In Kindergarten I met a lot of people. The first day I walked into my class with style. I felt so cool. In Kindergarten I learned about all the holidays and felt so proud. Next was first grade with Mr. Bahar. We started learning our Jewish values and Hebrew vowels and we played some fun games. In second grade we danced and sang, and that was how we learned. Everything was a song with a little dance. Mrs. Bahar was so special to all of us and I wouldn't be here without her.

**Emily:** Hebrew School at TBE has been a blast. Even though I started here in third grade, the memories we have made as a class over the past few years I can never forget. In third grade I did not know what to expect, but I couldn't believe the amount of Hebrew that I learned with Mrs. Shapiro. She made it so easy and fun to learn how to read words and prayers. I also enjoyed meeting everyone at the temple who welcomed me with open arms. In fourth grade our class had so much fun with Mrs. Kapchan. We couldn't stop laughing when she would tell us to stop pronouncing her name wrong. I think that my class would agree that one of our favorite memories was when we read from the "You Be the Judge" book the story about someone forcing a rabbi to eat pork. We were so lucky to have Mrs. Kapchan in fifth grade too. This came with even more "You Be the Judge" stories. I always looked forward to class. I will always cherish these memories and teachers, and will always remember the amazing teachers and students and friends. I will always be reminded of our fun memories at the temple.

**Julia:** Even though I have only been coming to Hebrew School here for two years, it feels like so much longer. Coming in during sixth grade, I wasn't sure what to expect because I had never been here before and everyone had already known each other for a while. But it was different from what I thought. I can clearly remember Sophie running up to me and saying "We're downstairs again!" as if I had been there the year before. As the year went by, I got to know everyone better and found myself feeling like I belonged. From rare art projects, to games of Connect Four, Hebrew Baseball, and Apples to Apples, I had lots of fun and made new memories. Instead of friends, we became family.

## Sophie Blomberg and Charlie Schwartz

Good evening everyone!! Our class has been looking forward to this year with Mrs. Hammerman for many reasons. First off, we are talking about Mrs. Hammerman here. If you don't know her that well, then I will tell you a little about her. She is the most fun, energetic, sweet, and happiest person we have ever met. Her smile lights up every room she is in. I know for sure that our class looks forward to seeing her every day.

Secondly, we have had the most fun activities this year. Starting off the year, we had our mock bris and baby naming. We decided to have twins. The girl was named Arielle Shayna. We chose this because her Hebrew name means loving princess. We wanted our little girl to be both beautiful and strong, inside and out. We named our baby boy Leo Evan. We chose this because his Hebrew name means lion tree. We wanted him to be as powerful as a lion, and as strong as a tree. This was a really fun activity and experience to be a part of.

Another amazing activity that we had was the sleepover at the Hammermans. You might think that sleepovers are a little babyish but this one was crazy! The day school students joined with our seventh grade class, which was fun because I don't get to see them that often. We played games, ate ice cream sundaes, and stayed up all night. We then woke up the next morning and had bagels and hot chocolate at the temple, because our class always loves to eat! This was one of my favorite activities of the year because we were always busy doing something.

Another activity that our class really enjoyed was watching the movie "The Devil's Arithmetic". This great movie was about a teenage girl who traveled back in time and experienced the Holocaust. This was hard to watch because some scenes were graphic and it was hard to see what the Jews went through. We really recommend this movie for kids our age so they can really understand what happened.

The last big activity of the year was the mock wedding. Our class spent weeks learning about Jewish wedding customs and traditions. Then we got creative and made all the props for this day. Emily and Danny were the perfect bride and groom. Rabbi Hammerman and Rabbi Jeremy did a fantastic job, and the wedding cake afterward was great.

All of these activities made this year the best year. Every year our class gets closer and closer. By now, we call each other family. Going to each other's bar and bat mitzvahs, and celebrating together, is truly special. Even though we are technically saying goodbye today, I am looking forward to celebrating my bat mitzvah next weekend, and a few more down the road. I will never forget the M&Ms, pretzels, and veggie sticks that our class loved to eat this year. My years here at Hebrew School have taught me what it means to be Jewish. All the traditions that we have learned about are really important and have touched our lives. We want to thank everyone for coming and celebrating this very special day. Thanks!!

## Jeremy Young

So, here I am reading this speech. First of all, I never really wanted to write a speech, but my brother and sister did so now I have to write one better than theirs. Also, my mom wanted me to and on this day as I am writing this, it is Mother's Day, so I kind of had to.

Even though I started Hebrew School in Kindergarten, the earliest I can remember is when I was in second grade. In second grade my teacher was Mrs. Bahar. During this grade, I learned a lot about history. Mrs. Bahar told a lot of great stories that always made me so excited every Sunday.

The next grade was third. My teacher was Mrs. Shapiro. During this grade I finally was able to learn how to read Hebrew. This was REALLY exciting because now I was able to read a completely different language.

One of my favorite teachers was Mrs. Kapchan. I had her during fourth and fifth grades. Mrs. Kapchan was so funny and creative. She could always come up with some great and fun activities for us to play and learn, and she always had great jokes and would tell us amusing stories about what was wrong in her life.

My sixth grade teacher was Morah Hochman. I learned SOOOO much in sixth grade. Morah Hochman was THE BEST at telling Jewish history stories and never left out a single thing. My Hebrew reading abilities skyrocketed too.

Last but definitely not least is 7<sup>th</sup> grade with Mrs. Hammerman. She is the nicest and most energetic teacher I've ever had whether in Hebrew School or grade school. She is the friendliest person in the world. She helps me learn anything I put my mind to and I'm so very fortunate to have her as my teacher. And Mrs. Hammerman I just want you to know that all of my success this year in my Jewish life has been thanks to you.

As you can see, I've had a pretty amazing time at TBE Hebrew School and I just wanted everyone here to know that this all came from this school. And I've never been happier to be a Jew.

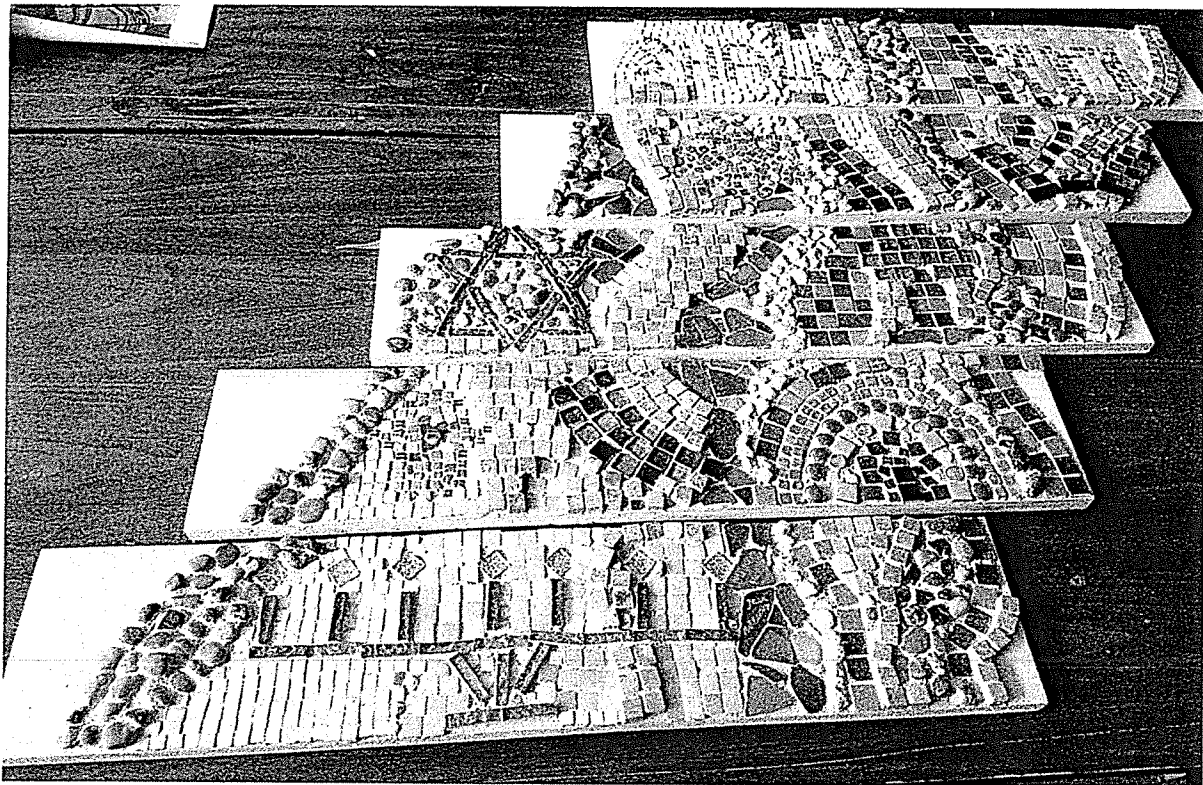
## Our Class Gift

Our class gift is a mosaic art piece that depicts traditional Jewish symbols.

Mosaic making is an ancient art. The oldest mosaics can be found in Mesopotamia, and they date back to the third millennium B.C.E. In ancient Greece, mosaics made of pebbles appeared in the fifth century B.C.E. and those from cut stone became prevalent in the third century B.C.E.

Less than a century later, mosaics reached Israel, where the art was practiced for more than 1,000 years. Pagan Greeks and Romans, Jews, Samaritans, Christians and Muslims, all of whom lived in Israel at various times throughout history, commissioned mosaics for private homes, public places and houses of worship.

Six ancient synagogue mosaics containing images of the signs of the zodiac have been discovered in Israel. Mosaic designs on the floors in ancient synagogues are witnesses to the Jewish way of life. In old Jewish synagogues, mosaic plates carrying names of different persons are frequently discovered. They are written in ancient Hebrew letters and they perpetuate, as is common today the names of donors to the synagogue. In recent years, there has been a revival of this art form in Israel.





**Mollie** made the word, "shalom," which means peace, hello, and goodbye. It reminds us of first saying "hello" to teach other every time we meet, as well as having peace and being friends. And today, this word is also about saying goodbye to Hebrew school and hello to a different part of our lives as Jews.

**Julia Marrinan** made a "chai," which means life because we have spent this year learning about Jewish life cycle rituals and ceremonies, and because we have been talking about our own Jewish lives.

**Jeremy** made a Tree of Life, another representation of the life cycle in Jewish tradition. The Tree of Life appeared in the Garden of Eden and represents Torah and Jewish wisdom. It is also a mystical symbol in Kabbalah.

**Danny** made the Shabbat candles to remind us of the importance of the Sabbath in Jewish tradition.

**Jake and Emily** both made Stars of David. The six sided star has come to represent Judaism universally and is the central image on the flag of Israel.

**Charlie** made a "Hamsa," an ancient Middle Eastern image symbolizing the Hand of God. It has become a popular symbol in Israel and for Jews throughout the Middle East. It is considered to be a protective sign. It brings its owner happiness, luck, health, and good fortune and wards off evil spirits.

**Sophie** made a rainbow. In the story of Noah's Ark, after the flood was over, God sent a rainbow as a "brit," a promise or covenant. This established a special relationship between God and the Jewish people. Every time we see a rainbow, we can remember this promise.

**Julia Giventer's** contribution is a shofar, or ram's horn. Today, we sound this horn during the month of Elul, on Rosh Hashanah and at the end of Yom Kippur to call us to this period of spiritual re-awakening every year. In ancient times, the shofar was used as a call to battle, to announce the new moon, the Sabbath, a death, and a new king, as well as for other special occasions.

## BLESSING UPON COMPLETION OF SEVENTH GRADE

Blessed are You, God, source of life, who gives us the ability to learn, interpret and teach others; even though our traditions are very old, there is always something new to be discovered. The process of learning never ends and we have just reached the beginning of a lifetime of discovery.

Praised are You, who helps us to gain wisdom.

### THE SHEHECHIYANU: A TRADITIONAL BLESSING RECOGNIZING SIGNIFICANT MOMENTS IN A JEWISH LIFE.

Baruch ata Adonai Eloheynu melech ha-olam      בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם.  
She-he-chey-a-nu v'kiy-e-ma-nu v'hi-gi-an-u laz-man ha-zeh.      שְׁהַחֵינּוּ וְקִיַּמְנוּ וְהִגִּיעֵנוּ לְזֶמַן הַזֶּה.

Blessed art Thou Adonai our God who has blessed us with life, sustained us,  
and enabled us to reach this moment in time.

#### Our Tallit

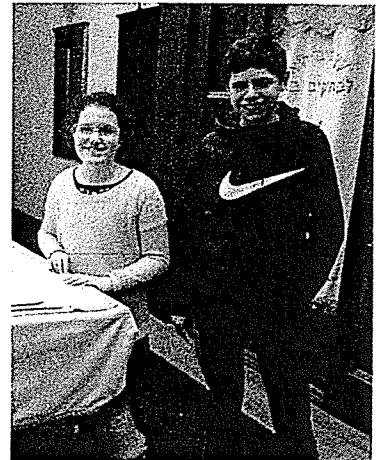
Our beautiful Tallit was created a number of years ago by the entire student body of our Religious School. Each student, given a 6 inch square of fabric with a Hebrew letter stenciled in the center, created a unique individual piece of art. We combined these small masterpieces to create a beautiful tapestry, which symbolizes our love for the Hebrew language and the unity of our school community.

The Tallit measures a little more than 9 by 15 feet. The Tallit, a gift to the congregation, is used at the seventh grade Aliyah (moving up) Ceremony, and on other special occasions.



### The Temple Beth El Graduating Class of 2017/5777

Sophie Blomberg  
Julia Giventer  
Emily Goodman  
Mollie Herz  
Julia Marrinan  
Jacob Rosner  
Charlie Schwartz  
Daniel Segal  
Jeremy Young

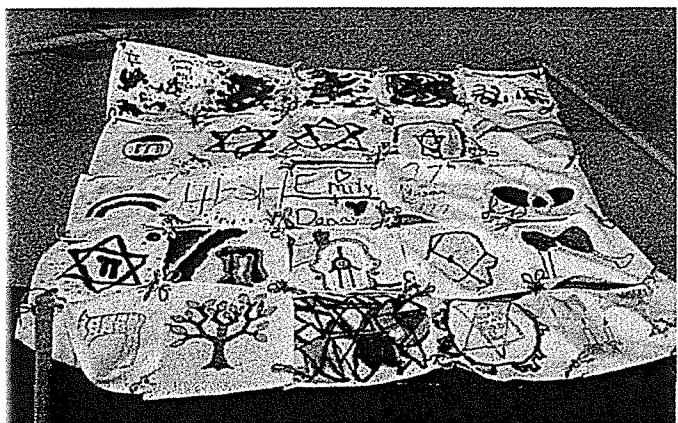
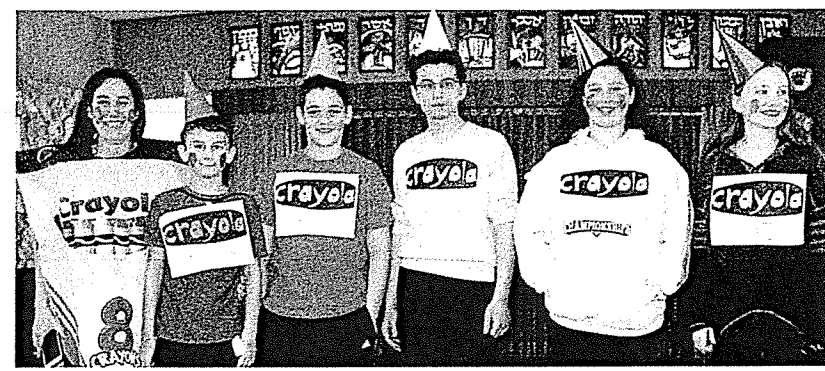
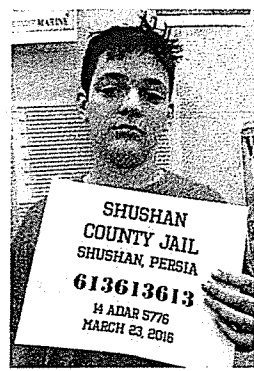
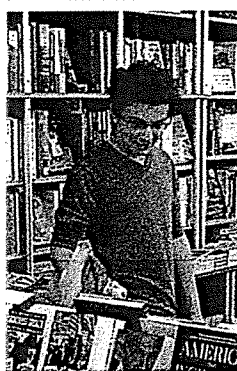






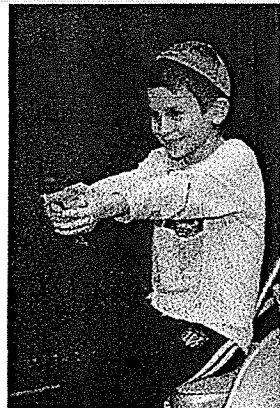
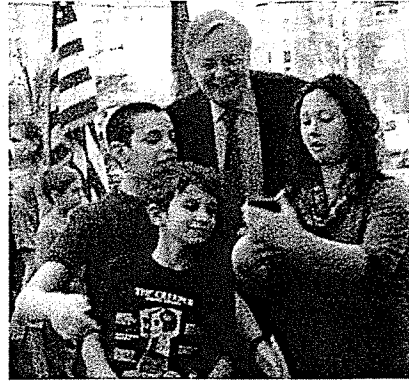
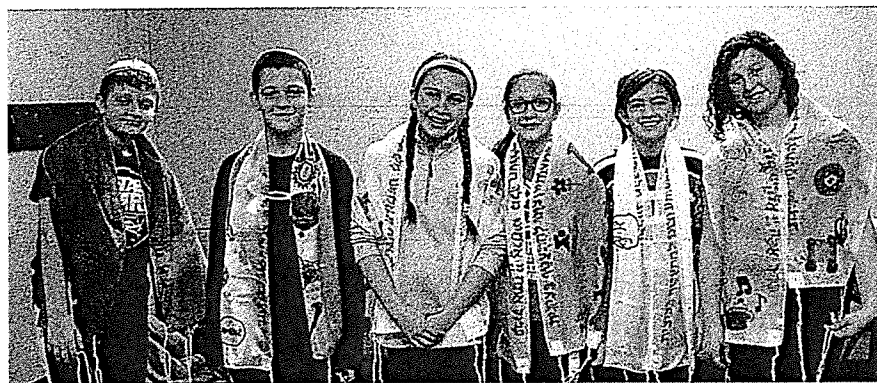
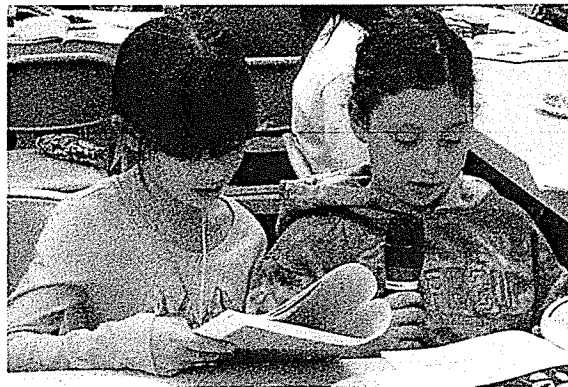
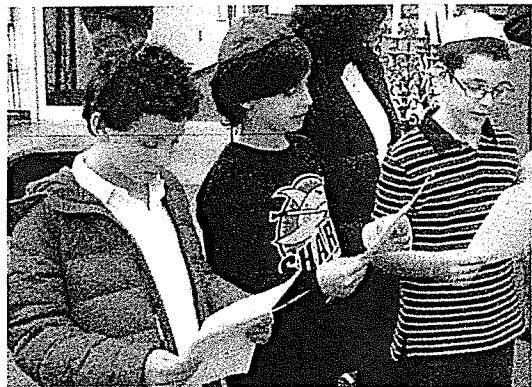
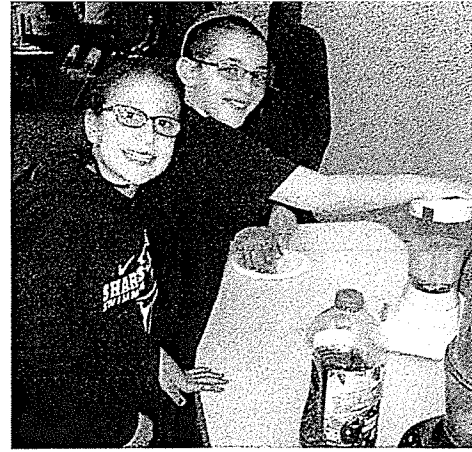
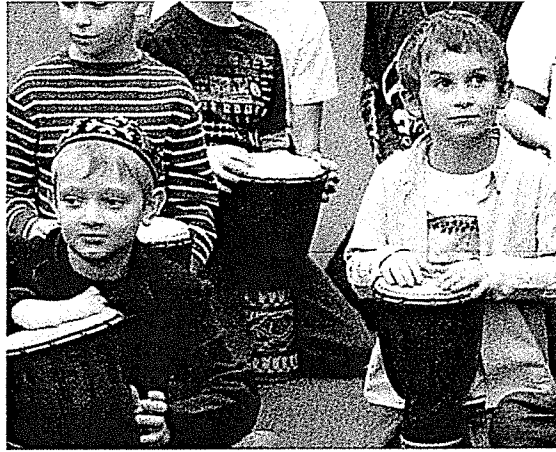














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