

Dear Parents of Vav (6th Grade) Students,

We are pleased to announce the Vav Class will hold our annual Heritage Fair this year at Temple Emanu-El on **March 18th @ 5:20 P.M.** For this project, each student will be asked to select, research, and write a story about an heirloom in your family, which they will then display and discuss at the Fair. Please help your child choose their heirloom before class on February 25th and send a picture of the heirloom to Adam: Schwartzbard@tecloster.org or Shelby: effron@tecloster.org

We are asking that the final heirloom story be sent to us by March 4, 2025.

We are providing each student with an heirloom questionnaire that can be used as a guide and help them become familiar with the story behind your family heirloom: information such as who first owned the item, how was it acquired and used, and why it holds importance to your family. We will also provide examples from successful past projects to help you get a better idea of how to complete the story. The goal is for your child to learn more about your family history and, together with other Vav class students, write about and present these heirlooms for all to see our own slice of Jewish history, like a 40 minute living museum.

Heirlooms may or may not be Judaica-related. Perhaps there is a poignant story attached to your heirloom; some examples from over the years: Shabbat candlestick holders menorah, mezuzah, siddur, tallit, wimple or tefillin. Perhaps your family treasures an heirloom watch, an ancestor's army medal, a special plate or utensil, a book written by an older family-member, a photograph, or a piece of jewelry or music or book.

In order to keep things simple for you, here is a **timeline** of what we need in order to ensure a great Heritage Fair:

- **Early February:** Students explore Heritage Fair Project in class with their teacher.
- **By February 25th :** Submit via email the heirloom chosen with a good photograph of the heirloom.
- **Week of March 4:** Submit all Heirloom stories via e-mail (use questionnaire to assist in research)
- **March 18: Heritage Fair:** all students should have their heirloom with them to display and speak about during the Heritage Fair. (You may bring the heirloom in earlier, and we will keep them safely secured in the Religious School office.) Students come at regular time and families join later for the Heritage Fair.

We are excited about this project! The Fair is slated for March 18th from 5:20 – 6:00 p.m. & you and your entire extended families will be invited. Following the Heritage Fair, each student will be given a Heritage Fair book, which will have the entire grades projects for your family to keep and enjoy. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are looking forward to an amazing Heritage Fair.

Adam Schwartzbard

