

BJEP

Jewish Camp all year-round, for Grades K-7



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A welcoming, innovative, and independent Jewish Sunday school program

Learn about our learning journey:
Remote from Fall 2020, and eventually back
on the Brandeis University campus

Thank you! We are so grateful to collaborate in many ways with Brandeis University, Combined Jewish Philanthropies (CJP), Gateways, Beantown Jewish Gardens, PJ Library, Jewish Families & Children's Services, the Waltham Cultural Council, and many more organizations.

Learn more: www.bjep.org

Engage:   @BJEP1

Meet Community Director Rabbi Myra Meskin, director@bjep.com, 781-386-7278



Revised August 2020

Rabbi Myra's Desk: Welcome to BJEP!



Thank you for taking the time to learn about how BJEP's program will build your child's Jewish identity, and provide the necessary tools to help guide your family on your Jewish journey.

When I attended BJEP's first-ever *virtual* Town Hall, soon after joining as BJEP's Community Director, I was overwhelmed by the warmth in this community's welcome, and of the possibilities to lead at this critical moment. A little bit about me: I have a background in experiential Jewish education, and I plan to use those skills, along with my training as a Rabbi, to build BJEP into a stronger learning environment for our children, and a meaningful community for our families. Together with the Board and our wonderful Brandeis college-aged teachers, I am deeply invested in providing you with an innovative, high quality, and fun BJEP experience.

I want to acknowledge that the events of the past months have been a difficult time, and each of us has been affected in different ways. What is heartening though, is that the BJEP community has already had to adapt to new models of learning just to finish out the last school year. While the pandemic may have forced the pace of adoption, the option for remote learning presents a path forward for hybrid learning that will outlast these unprecedented times. On snow days we can easily transition to our remote learning model for BJEP@home, and we can continue to open ourselves to new opportunities - like we did this Spring, offering a guided virtual museum tour live from Tel Aviv - that we would never have pursued otherwise.

Following the trend of other local programs like ours, our current plan for Fall 2020 is to maintain remote learning, provide our Brandeis student teachers with new training in engagement on virtual learning platforms, and leverage innovative remote learning tools. As well, we are taking this time to update our curriculum, enhance our Hebrew instruction methodology, and think creatively about community and adult programming. As we begin our 53rd year, we will look for opportunities to gather in safe, outdoor spaces, and we will continue to monitor Brandeis guidelines for when our organization can return to campus.

Our Jewish community - its support through difficult times, and its capacity for filling our lives with meaning - is ongoing, and has survived more difficult trials than this. Our task is to rise to the challenge, and to continue investing in future generations of the Jewish people, by renewing our dedication to our children's growing Jewish identities. Check out [this link](#) from BJEP's virtual Town Hall to hear about [my personal history](#) and vision for BJEP, as well as some of our new program offerings for the 2020-21 academic year.

May this be a year where we are able to see our values brought to life through the beauty and joy of community. I am here to talk with you about the BJEP program, and should you choose to join our community officially, I look forward to hearing how I can support you as your community Rabbi. Please get in touch to say hello.

Warmly,
Rabbi Myra

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Rabbi Myra Meskin
Community Director, BJEP
director@bjep.com | <http://bjep.org/>
pronouns: she/her/hers



BJEP Board / Welcome

Welcome to BJEP, and thank you in advance for considering entrusting us with the Jewish education of your child(ren) and making us your family's future 'Sunday morning home.'

We believe that a Jewish education matters more than ever these days, helping our students navigate a complicated and changing world. Our program builds a Jewish identity for our kids, showcases our culture and reflects our Jewish values, morals and social responsibility. When you consider why BJEP, note that:

- BJEP is an inclusive, welcoming community that offers flexibility for our families;
- BJEP's passionate Brandeis college-age teachers deliver engaging lessons, model Jewish values, and bring their energy and excitement to their classrooms.
- Our children enjoy experiential learning through an engaging curriculum that offers hands on activities for our younger students and electives starting from grade 3, such as sports, cooking, music, art, theater, and debate.
- BJEP is time-efficient, meeting just once a week in a central location at Brandeis University, and for now, with BJEP@Home, our remote learning offering.
- BJEP is cost-effective, especially compared with other membership-based education programs.
- BJEP is not just for kids. Parents, family members and caregivers can learn during BJEP hours too, with family education and adult programs, such as Parenting Through a Jewish Lens.

As a parent cooperative, BJEP's families choose a role based on your interests, skills, or where you see a good fit to help the school run smoothly. Examples of roles include: bringing joy to students while running a booth at the Purim Carnival, greeting families and guests at our High Holiday family services, managing content on our website and in social media for outreach, fostering community with parents and, joining the Board to implement BJEP's strategic vision.

We are thrilled to welcome Rabbi Myra Meskin as our new Community Director this year! We look forward to having Rabbi Myra guide, teach, inspire and bring joy to our children and families for years to come. Find Rabbi Myra's blog post on [What does Jewish community do for me](#) on our website. The values that Rabbi Myra articulates in her piece are the values we strive to instill at BJEP, and that Brandeis University student teacher, [Alex Friedman](#), shared with his 7th grade class: *'I'll tell you why I'm here. I'm here for you. This 'being Jewish' thing, it's permanent when almost nothing else ever is.'*

BJEP is a special place to learn and grow, and each family adds to our unique character and culture. We sincerely hope you choose to become a part of our vibrant, diverse, and welcoming community.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions: bjepboard@bjep.com. We look forward to speaking with you and, hopefully, to speaking with you @Home and eventually back on the BJEP quad in our corner of the Brandeis campus.

Warmly,

BJEP Board of Directors: Jodi, Aly, Dana, Louis, Karen, Rachel and BJEP's Advisory Council

BJEP Calendar 2020-2021 / Grades K – 7th grade

Last revised August 23, 2020, subject to adjustments

	Student Classroom Learning (*Parent Zoom Lounge w/Board Member)	Grade-based Family Programs Parents to receive email invitation closer to date with more details	Community-wide Events Details to RSVP and more details available closer to date noted.
Sept	13*	Sept 13: Opening Day / All-parent meeting	Sept 13: All Grades & Family Opening Day Zoom “Circle” - Parents invited to opening all-school session. Sept 19: Rosh Hashanah Family Services @ 2:30 pm on Zoom, RSVP here Sept 28: Yom Kippur Family Services @ 2:30 pm on Zoom, RSVP here
Oct	4*, 18, 25 25: Board mtg	Oct 25: Grade 1/2 theme: Gratitude	Oct 4: Sukkot Celebration , in partnership with Beantown Jewish Gardens
Nov	1, 8, 15, 22	Nov 1: Grade 3 theme: Resilience (plus getting the most out of BJEP Electives) Nov 15: Grade 4 theme – Joy in Music Nov 22: Grades 5,6,7 – B’Nei Mitzvah Conversation, Information Session and to learn about BJEP’s B’Nei Mitzvah program	Nov 8: All Parent virtual Talk & Tour of our Brandeis home, e.g., the Brandeis quad, Brandeis Rose Art Museum.
Dec	6, 13* 6: Board meeting	Dec 13: Grade 1 & New Family Consecration	Dec 13: Family Hanukkah Party
Jan	17*, 24, 31 31: Board meeting	Jan 31: Grade 6 theme: What is a Legacy Fair, and how to support my Child in preparation for April?	Jan 17: Tikkun Olam/Repairing the World hands on learning day (MLK weekend) Jan 24: All parent virtual visit and guest speaker discussing a Brandeis sculpture, e.g., Rapaport’s bronze sculpture of Job.
Feb	7, 28	Feb 6: Grades 4 – 7: Havdalah invitation for ALL family (Sat @Zoom)	Feb 28: Purim Family Fun Day Program & Carnival
Mar	7, 14, 21* 14: Board meeting	Mar 7: Grade 5 theme: Prayer and prep for our Hillel Friday night chavurah	Mar 21: Community Chocolate Seder
Apr	11*, 25	April 23: Grade 5, 6, 7 – Invitation to attend Brandeis Hillel Friday Night Service	Apr 11: Legacy Fair and Community Showcase
May	2*	May 2: Grade 7 – Graduation & Mitzvot	May 2: Graduation & End of Year Celebration

Other Partnership Opportunities: [Family Table](#) food pantry and distribution (with Jewish Family & Children Services), Sunday morning optional Hebrew 30 min adult bootcamp & Torah study, and Parenting Through a Jewish Lens adult learning class (through Hebrew College) date(s) to be confirmed late September 2020. Learn about the [PJ Library](#) program that sends free award-winning books to your child at home.

BJEP Calendar 2020-2021 / Seedlings program only

Last revised 30 August 2020, subject to change

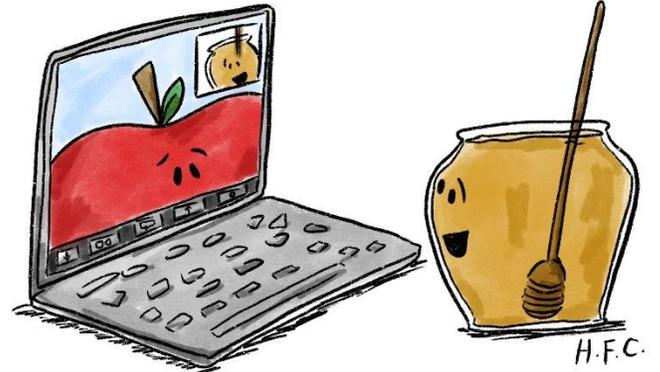
	Student Classroom Learning (*Parent Zoom Lounge w/Board Member)	<u>Parent Engagement in Seedlings Classroom</u>	<u>Community-wide Events</u> Details to RSVP available closer to date
September	13*	Sept 13: Seedlings Opening day	Sept 13: All Grades & Family Opening Day Zoom “Circle” - Parents invited to opening all-school session. Sept 19: Rosh Hashanah Family Services @ 2:30 pm on Zoom, RSVP here Sept 28: Yom Kippur Family Services @ 2:30 pm on Zoom, RSVP here
October	4*, 18, 25	Oct 4: Seedlings/Sukkot Oct 25: Board meeting	Oct 4: Sukkot Celebration , in partnership with Beantown Jewish Gardens
November	1, 8, 15, 22	Nov 8: Seedlings	Nov 8: All Parent virtual Talk & Tour of our Brandeis home, e.g., the Brandeis quad, Brandeis Rose Art Museum.
December	6, 13*	Dec 13: Seedlings Dec 6: Board meeting	Dec 13: Family Hanukkah Party
January	17*, 24, 31	Jan 31: Seedlings Jan 31: Board meeting	Jan 17: Tikkun Olam/Repairing the World hands on learning day (MLK weekend) Jan 24: All parent virtual visit and guest speaker discussing a Brandeis sculpture, e.g., Rapaport’s bronze sculpture of Job.
February	7, 28	Feb 28: Seedlings	Feb 28: Purim Family Fun Day Program & Carnival
March	7, 14, 21*	Mar 21: Seedlings Mar 14: Board meeting	Mar 21: Community Chocolate Seder
April	11*, 25	Apr 11: Seedlings	Apr 11: Legacy Fair and Community Showcase
May	2*	May 2: Grade 7 Graduation. Optional for Seedling families, welcome to attend!	May 2: Graduation & End of Year Celebration

Other Partnership Opportunities: [Family Table](#) food pantry and distribution (with Jewish Family & Children Services), Sunday morning optional Hebrew 30 min adult bootcamp & Torah study,, and Parenting Through a Jewish Lens adult learning class (through Hebrew College) date(s) to be confirmed late September 2020. Learn about the [PJ Library](#) program that sends free award-winning books to your child at home.

High Holiday Family Services @BJEP's Jewish Sunday school



**Yom Kippur: September 28, 2020
(Monday) at 2:30 pm**



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

**Rosh Hashanah: September 19, 2020
(Saturday) at 2:30 pm**

Your invitation awaits to join the BJEP community's all welcoming, inclusive and joyful service for High Holiday Family Services, from the comfort and safety of your home. Participate in community, find meaning in the prayers, sing loudly, learn more and reflect on the year as a family. BJEP's Jewish Sunday School High Holiday family services integrate tradition and creativity, and we welcome all to join us.

Friends and family welcome to join us !

Rabbi Myra Meskin, BJEP Community Director, leads our community in prayer and music as we enter the Jewish New Year (5781).

Services run a little over an hour. While children of all ages are welcome, the experience will be most meaningful for children ages 4 and up.

Zoom details will be sent one hour before services, along with a link to the Siddur (prayer reference sheet) which will be shared on screen as well. On Rosh Hashanah, in lieu of a Kiddush on site, we invite our guests to welcome the New Year with a glass of wine or juice, apples and honey, challah and or food item of your choosing, immediately following the service.

RSVP/Per family ticket pricing: [link here](#)

Per family ticket Price: \$136 per BJEP family, BJEP alum, Brandeis community. All others \$180. Find the [PayPal](#) link on our donation page. Other Questions? please contact our Director at director@bjep.com.



BJEP 2020-2021 Tuition and Registration Checklist

Your child is considered registered at BJEP when you have:

1. Reviewed Tuition & Registration Policy and summary of [Calendar](#) (revised August 2020)
2. Completed the online [registration form](#).
3. Signed up for a [parent cooperative job](#) per student registered.
4. Completed or scheduled tuition payment(s).
5. Sent a family picture to info@bjep.com

Summary of Tuition and Program Fees**:

BJEP Seedlings (Pre K/K: 4 & 5 year olds): 8 Sessions Once per month between September and April	\$318
Grades 1-2	\$1,250
Grades 3-7, includes Electives and additional programming	\$1,650
Credit card payments added \$50 convenience fee per student	\$50
BJEP Strong & Chesed/Caring Community Fund	At Family discretion, during registration
Tickets for High Holiday Family Services (Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur).	\$136 per BJEP family, BJEP alum, and member of the Brandeis Community. \$180, all others.
New Family discount (code 'BJEP2020), by September 13, 2020	(\$200)
Sibling discount	(\$100) for additional child

Payment options available, inclusive of monthly payments via Smart Tuition. A non-refundable **and** non-transferable deposit of \$300 per child reserves a place in the class. No tuition refunds are granted after the third session of classes.

Parent Cooperative Jobs: As a parent cooperative, we rely on each family to help in a small way to run our program each year. Many hands make light work. Each parent is required to sign up for **at least one** BJEP parent cooperative job per student registered in order for payment to be accepted. We love - and are very grateful - when we see families take on more than one job and lend their talents in various ways. Serving on BJEP's Parent Board counts as a job, and we are always thrilled to welcome new board members. Please contact us with any job-related questions.

Madrichim Teen Program: BJEP Graduates are encouraged to continue as Madrichim in grades 8-12. Madrichim are an integral part of our classroom communities and are paid a stipend. They assist classroom teachers, support student learning and provide continuity for the BJEP community. They are required to attend all BJEP sessions and staff development trainings. See separate registration form to indicate interest in joining the Madrichim program.

Find more details about our BJEP Chesed Community Fund, Family referral incentive program, and more on the [BJEP Registration page](#).

**At BJEP we are committed to providing a quality Jewish education for any child – if cost is prohibitive for your family, please reach out to our Community Director, Rabbi Myra Meskin at director@bjep.com.