



THE ELECTRONIC EDUCATOR-
A weekly update of information for you and your school!
A service of the NJ Region USCJ Dept. of Education
Michelle Rich, Director of Education and Youth Activities
Nita Polay Levin, Field Worker
Lisa Harris Glass, Executive Director

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NJ REGION USCJ CONFERENCE ON SYNAGOGUE EDUCATION

*For religious school teachers & principals, preschool teachers & directors,
cantors, rabbis, school boards, and
synagogue lay people who have an interest in bettering Jewish education in their synagogue*

WORKSHOPS:

- * **The QUALITY HEBREW HIGH with RABBI RON ISAACS,
creator and director of one of the best in the region!**
- * **WORKSHOPS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS with CARYN BRUCKHEIMER**
- * **TEACHING PRAYER THE "4MAT" WAY using Siddur Sim Shalom with
ALEX WEINBERG, author of Siddur Sim Shalom, Remix 2.0**
- * **SUZI ADELSON WAINER on MULTIPLE INTELLIGENCES and HOW TO ASK QUESTIONS THAT
CHALLENGE**
- * **RABBI ROBERT ABRAMSON, National Director of Education, speaking with school committee
chairs and VPs about their role**
- * **LISA HARRIS GLASS, Executive Director, NJ Region USCJ, on navigating through these
difficult economic times**
- * **DR. SHOSHANA SILBERMAN, presenting techniques from her new book,
ACTIVE JEWISH LEARNING**

AND:

- * **BEHRMAN HOUSE PUBLISHERS will join us with their display and
consultation w/ TERRY KAYE**

Wednesday, June 10, 2009

Cong. Neve Shalom, Metuchen, 9:30 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.

Registration deadline is May 27

Please make check of \$54/participant to NJ Region USCJ

Cost includes 3 workshops, consultations and a dairy box lunch

*If you have not received your brochure and registration form,
please call the office **right away!** (732) 738 - 4301*

CALLING ALL RELIGIOUS SCHOOL AND PRESCHOOL DIRECTORS!

We are now taking requests for the FALL SEMESTER of our MINI-COURSES. To arrange for a workshop, or to ask for topics and instructors, contact Nita Polay Levin at (732) 738 - 4301

Mondays, 9 - 5, Tuesdays 10 - 2:30, Thursdays, 1 - 5

Or at Levin@USCJ.org

ALSO:

If you would like a packet of ideas for new teachers, contact Nita. Don't forget that we offer consultation free of charge to both new and seasoned teachers, talk with school boards, help you design a curriculum, and wade through the sea of textbooks!

JNF AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

Shalom, Chaverim.

Please note the deadline for application is May 13--just received in my e-mail 30 seconds ago. For more information contact Michelle Wachtel directly mwachtel@jnf.org

Apply to become a JNF Ambassador for Israel Education

JNF Ambassadors is a program designed to engage volunteers and provide schools with a direct and meaningful link to Israel and Jewish National Fund. Two volunteers from every school will be chosen as a JNF Ambassador, one administrator and one parent or teacher. JNF offers a stipend for Ambassadors to attend the Teva Seminar on Jewish Environmental Education on June 1-4 in Cold Spring, NY, where we will also provide training on all of our Israel education materials. [Click here to learn more and to apply to be a JNF Ambassador School.](#) Application deadline is Wednesday, May 13. Questions? Contact Michelle Wachtel at 703-888-2235 or mwachtel@jnf.org.

Susan E. Wyner

United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

North American Consultant for Synagogue Education

wyner@uscj.org

440-473-3165

Babaganewz

**Celebrate Tel Aviv & 100
Value of the Month: *Hatmadah*/Perseverance**

In This Issue

[Tel Aviv @ 100](#)

[May Lessons](#)

[Lag Ba'Omer](#)

Looking for classroom resources on Lag Ba'Omer? Download three [Lag Ba'Omer Mini-Lessons!](#)

Quick Links

[BabagaNewz.com](#)

[Check out games](#)
[Send an e-card](#)

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Join Our Mailing List!

May 6, 2009/ 12 Iyar 5769

The value for **Iyar/May** is ***hatmadah* (perseverance)**, which is anchored in hope and having a purpose and vision in life. View our [new monthly materials](#) for lesson plans to teach this value. Note the column entitled Jewish Values Connections to help you connect your teaching to other Jewish values, such as [taking care of the body](#) and [hope](#).

Happy 100th Birthday, Tel Aviv!

This lesson invites students to participate in a **Tel Aviv Birthday Celebration**. Used with the **brand new BabagaNewz.com Tel Aviv poster**, this lesson plan is designed to familiarize students with vibrant Tel Aviv. Working in small groups, students will get to know different aspects of Tel Aviv by rotating through a series of stations.

- [NEW: Lesson Plan](#)
- [NEW: Jewpardy! Tel Aviv Edition](#)
- [Virtual Israel](#)
- [Resources for Teaching Israel](#)
- [Israel Central](#)
- [Israel Jewpardy](#)
- [Israel@60 Jewpardy](#)

Iyar Lesson Plans

Aviva Bloom: Going the Distance

You asked for it and here it is--download this [full-color article](#) and distribute it to your students. They will be

[article](#) and distribute it to your students. They will be inspired by Aviva, a high school student who used perseverance to train for and complete a marathon. In this lesson, through a writing exercise and a game, students will reflect on a time in their lives when they had to persevere.

- [Printable Article](#)
- [Lesson Plan](#)

Hatikvah Study

The text of *Hatikvah* reflects the perseverance of the Jewish dream for a homeland. In this lesson, students will engage in an activity that requires perseverance and identify ways they demonstrate this value in their own lives and ways that it is exhibited in modern Jewish history.

- [Lesson plan](#)
- [Hatikvah lyrics](#)
- [Hatikvah homepage including a free song download](#)

Summer at the Fuchsberg Jerusalem Center

Wine and Cheese at Fuchsberg - All United Synagogue members who will be in Israel on Sunday, July 5, are invited to United Synagogue's [Fuchsberg Jerusalem Center](#) from 6 to 7 p.m. for a wine and cheese reception.

Summer at the Yeshiva - The [Conservative Yeshiva](#) at United Synagogue's [Fuchsberg Jerusalem Center](#) offers two three-week [sessions this summer](#), which include intensive Hebrew Ulpan and Talmud study. Sessions begin June 28 and July 19.

New Directors Institute

Knowing how to run a school isn't intuitive, even for thoroughly well-educated and intuitive teachers. The Nat'l [education department](#) invites new directors of religious schools, along with directors who have been in place for up to two years, to NYC for the 10th Annual [New Directors Institute](#)

Tues., June 23, to Thurs., June 24

For a brochure and registration form, contact Nita Polay Levin, NJ Region
USCJ Education Field Worker, at Levin@USCJ.org or (732) 738 - 4301

Using Art to Learn About the Holocaust

Tuesday, May 26th from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

We will look at various pieces of art, available online, created during the Holocaust and learn ways of incorporating these resources into the Holocaust education curriculum.

There is no fee for this seminar and a light breakfast will be served.

RSVPs are requested. Please RSVP to Emily Witty at witty@bjeny.org or call (646) 472-5361.

SUMMER INSTITUTE AT THE SIEGAL COLLEGE,
CLEVELAND

Here's your invitation to a unique conference for Jewish educators!

Moreh L'Morim: An Educator's Guide to Perplexing Times will be held at Siegal College in Cleveland from August 9-12.

The conference features outstanding national educators like Vicky Kelman and the staff of the Teva Center for Judaism and Ecology, as well as the full resources of Siegal College and the Cleveland Jewish community. Participants can choose intensive tracks of study or pick from a wide variety of workshops and discussions. Participants can also elect to join in a single day of Jewish learning and professional development. Evening cultural and recreational activities will be available, as well as ongoing opportunities to network with Jewish educators from communities across the country.

Visit our website <http://www.siegalcollege.edu/summerinstitute.php> for details and registration! Educators from Cleveland and our MAHAR partner communities (Akron, Canton, Youngstown and Pittsburgh) are eligible for discounted fees.

Contact conference coordinator Lisa Kollins directly with questions: summerinstitute@siegalcollege.edu or (216) 464-4050.

Preschool Corner:

DIRECTORS:

Our next call Listserv Chat with Preschool Directors will be **TOMORROW**, Wed., May 13, at 11am call-in information: 1-218-486-8700 (Midwest) Participant Access Code 84072

Guest: Kimberly Rubenfeld, Project Manager for *Hekhsher Tzedek*, the new ethical certification seal that will be introduced to the kosher food industry in the coming months, a joint project of the USCJ and the RA. Website: hekhshertzedk.org.

Please let me know right away if you will be able to join the call.

B'Shalom,
Max

Maxine Handelman
Consultant for Early Childhood Education
United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism
Handelman@USCJ.org
847-641-9963
Fax: 773-929-4387
www.uscj.org
I'd stop eating chocolate but I'm no quitter.

Directors: Not a member of the listserv? Contact
ECDir@USCJ.ORG

For your teachers: contact <http://uscj.org/archives/ecteach.html>

Click on "Join or leave the list (or change settings)" and fill in your information from there.

Why re-invent the wheel? Get in on this exciting exchange of ideas & find solutions to your issues!

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COMBING THROUGH MY FILES:

Several articles on religious school report cards

Articles on closing the school year & year's end procedures (repair form, teacher evaluations, etc.)

Activities for Shavuot

Lech Lecha: a short ceremony to recognize high school graduates at the end of the year (very little prep needed)

61 Things You Should Know About Israel
