

WELCOME TO DOUBLE CHAI

Double Chai is Temple Beth David's popular program for teens. Double Chai is innovative, offers students flexibility, and a great way to stay connected with Jewish friends at Temple Beth David. We are excited to have you join this journey! We want you to be present, bring questions, engage with learning, voice your opinions, and enjoy time with friends.

PLEASE BE IN TOUCH WITH US IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS.

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Elements of Double Chai

We want Double Chai to offer a meaningful sense of community for teens at TBD. Here are new things to look for this year:

- ❖ Double Chai is open to 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th graders, with a special continuing education track for 11th and 12th graders called *Lishma*. From bar/bat mitzvah age through high school, Double Chai is where TBD teens meet weekly!
- ❖ 8th and 9th graders have all elective classes
- ❖ 7th grade has one required core course in the first hour and one elective in the second hour. The first half of the year core will focus on Ethics for Our Time/Hebrew; the second half of the year will be Holocaust Studies through the special curriculum, "*Facing History and Ourselves*." This is an important year as students prepare to become Bar/Bat Mitzvah and get ready to enter their young adult years and take on more responsibility.
- ❖ Students help shape Double Chai by sharing input as to courses offered
- ❖ December Wild Card Wednesdays. A "grab-bag" of fun one-shot class offerings. Something different each Wednesday during the month of December.
- ❖ More field trips
- ❖ 11th and 12th graders will have a chance to continue to see their friends at Double Chai with a new track called *Lishma* (learning for its own sake). 11th and 12th graders can sign up for electives, will have special sessions with the rabbis based on student interest, and a field trip to a local college campus and Hillel.

The Program:

- ❖ Students earn a minimum of 108 points between 8th-10th grade in order to be part of Confirmation (an average of 36 points per year). Students accumulating 126 credits will receive a special honor.
- ❖ You should aim for a minimum of 20 points per year, but there is no limit to the number of points you can earn.
- ❖ Double Chai meets on **Wednesdays** starting with dinner and social time at **5:30 p.m.** followed by two class sessions between **6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.** On **Sundays** Double Chai offers TELEM, a service learning program for 8th - 12th graders that meets between 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (and 11:30-1:00 p.m. when it meets at TBD). TELEM partners with Newbridge On the Charles as teens engage with elderly residents. A late morning snack is provided. **Madrachim may participate in TELEM and be dismissed at 10:45 a.m. in time for the beginning of the TELEM session.**
- ❖ Participation is encouraged. You must attend 75% of the class or activity in order to get credit (Plus when you don't attend your friends miss you!)
- ❖ 10th grade is the Confirmation year. Confirmation is a unique rite of passage and course of study for 10th graders. Confirmation students will have their own opportunities to study with the rabbis throughout the year. In the spring trimester, Confirmation students will have a core course with the rabbis in order to prepare for the Confirmation service. Students will be encouraged to consider their relationship with Judaism, ask important questions about personal belief, and prepare a service that affirms and confirms their connection to the Jewish tradition.
- ❖ We hope to see as many teens as possible on Wednesday evenings and encourage 8th - 12th graders to participate in TELEM. **It looks great on a college application!**
- ❖ There are a variety of classes and activities to choose from. Many meet for one hour and last for eight weeks. Some classes are shorter or longer and some are spread out over the year. Consider the topic, the day, and time the class meets, and choose what works for your schedule.
- ❖ New electives will be offered each trimester. Class choices will be sent out a before the next trimester so students can sign up for what interests them.

Lots of Ways to Participate and Get Points

Beyond class on Wednesday or Sunday mornings there are lots of other ways to earn point, such as:

Be a Madrich/a (20 points) All religious school Sundays, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. and/or Hebrew classes on Tuesday or Wednesdays. You may choose Double Chai points or to get paid.

Teen Travel - California Adventure, February 21-25, 2018 (tentative)
(6 points)

Torah Reader (1 point/service)

Volunteer to read Torah at the High Holiday services or a Shabbat service.

Oneg/Usher Volunteer (1 point, maximum 5 per year)

Help to set up and clean up for the Oneg Shabbat on Friday evening. Help to usher for a Friday evening service (must be accompanied by an adult).

NFTY-NE Summer Leadership Training Institute, December Institute, Kallah, and Conclavettes (4 points)

Beyond Temple Beth David youth group, there is a whole world of Jewish teens! Join new and old friends at Camp Eisner in Great Barrington and connect with teens from across New England. It is a great way to be inspired, learn, and enjoy being in a terrific teens community. Discover your Judaism while having great fun.

Dates to be determined. Check the NFTY-NE website for more information. **9th-12th graders (limit 8 points total in all years).**

NAWDTY Events (1 point)

Dates to be announced

Watch for a variety of interesting youth group events for **9th-12th graders**. Sometimes **8th graders** will be invited to participate **(limit 2 points per year)**.

J-NAWDTY (Jr. Youth Group) Events (1 point)

Dates to be announced. Watch for a variety of interesting junior youth group events for **7th and 8th graders**.

Contact Hannah Cohn for youth group information - nawdty@gmail.com

Mitzvah Project (1 -4 points depending on project)

You may choose to do your own mitzvah project with guidance from Rabbi Micah. Requirements will be determined on an individual basis **(limit 4 points per year)**.

Independent Study (2 points)

If you have an idea for a research project, speak to Rabbi Micah for approval (limit 6 points total in all years).

Adult Education (points dependent on hours)

Attend one of the many adult education classes, including the Brotherhood Breakfast speaker programs, and classes taught by congregants and Rabbis.

**Fall Trimester Class Offerings
September 13 - November 29**

7th Grade Core (Required) Course: Torah Of Our Lives 6:00-6:50 p.m.

Ellen Frank

7th graders will grapple with questions of values, identity, and moral choices. They will encounter Jewish texts that relate to these questions as they search for answers. Students will also have a chance to continue to keep their Hebrew skills fresh.

Electives 6:00 - 6:50 p.m.

Kehilah: Communities That Matter Hannah Cohn (8th-12th) 8 POINTS

In an age when we seem endlessly connected through the internet, more and more teens express feeling lonely. Kehilah (community) is the remedy for loneliness. This course will explore the Jewish value of *Kehilah* (community), and consider what characterizes meaningful, positive community. You will also consider where you encounter community - school, synagogue, NAWDTY, online, camp. Join Hannah in learning about how to create vibrant Jewish teen community while building skills to facilitate games, discussions, and programs that you can use now and in the future.

If We Did Not Laugh We'd Cry: Jewish Comedy and Comedians Barry Mindes (8th-12th) 8 POINTS

Why are so many Jewish comedians? What makes Jews so funny? Come get a taste of the tradition of Jewish humor, its roots in the Jewish experience and society. Find out how Jews have used the power of laughter to cope with life. This class will combine clips from films, stand-up routines, and TV shows.

Electives 7:00 – 7:50 p.m.

Changing the World Through Art Hannah Cohn (7th – 12th) POINTS

Jewish art tries to reflect customs, traditions, values, and ethics. In this course, students will study and engage in a variety of Jewish art forms such as mezuzah making, silk painting, and more. The crafts will then be sold in the congregation with proceeds going to tzedakah such as Habitat for Humanity and Hurricane Harvey relief charities.

Fun With Food Barry Mindes (7th – 12th) 8 POINTS

Back by popular demand, come expand your Jewish culinary skills. Prepare a variety of foods for different holidays and occasions. Learn about the different Jewish cultures that gave rise to the recipes that you will prepare. This class will have a limit of 10 students. Those who are not placed in the class will have other opportunities to cook later in the year.

Anti-Semitism: What It Is and What We Can Do About It

Rabbis Citrin (7th-12th) 8 POINTS

In recent months, acts of Anti-Semitism have increased both in the Boston area and around the country. Join the rabbis for an in depth look at the roots of Anti-Semitism, how it has evolved, and what we can do to stop it. Knowledge is power in the fight against hate. What you know can make a difference in your school, your community, and beyond.

Sundays 11:00-1:00 p.m.

TELEM Charlie Strigler (8th – 12th) 24 Points

Jewish youth making a difference together! TELEM is an innovative program that integrates community service, learning, and reflection—and provides opportunities to effect real change. TELEM is about building relationships: people helping people. Now in our eighth year of community service and learning, we are engaging in our "Connecting Generations" track. This community service class will bring you together with your friends to volunteer with senior residents of a senior living facility. The volunteer work will be supplemented and enriched by study and discussion of Jewish texts related to the service project. Students will also spend time together planning and reflecting on their experiences

Brit Kavod - A Covenant of Respect

Brit means "covenant" and *Kavod* means "respect" or "honor." Being part of our covenantal community means that we show *kavod* for each other, for this place, and for our programs. Temple Beth David recognizes that each person has a unique learning style and that we experience education and Judaism differently. There are also core Jewish values that bind us together in one community. All parents, students and teachers will strive to uphold the following values of our *Brit*:

1. KAVOD FOR OTHERS - We expect every person to demonstrate self-respect and respect for other people.

*"V'ahavta l'reiacha kamocho - Love your fellow person as yourself."
(Leviticus 19:18)*

Each person is created "*B'tzelem Elohim*" (in God's image) and we honor the holiness in each person with our words and our actions. We treat one another how we want to be treated.

2. KAVOD FOR PLACE - We expect every person to demonstrate respect for our Synagogue and grounds.

"Ma tovu ohalecha Ya'akov mishk'notecha Yisrael - How beautiful are your tents, O Jacob, your dwelling places, O Israel." (Numbers 24:5)

Out of respect for our sacred space, we are responsible for caring for everyone and everything in and around our temple home. We are responsible for keeping each other safe.

3. KAVOD FOR OUR PROGRAM - We expect every person to be present and considerate and to contribute positively toward our learning environment.

"Na'aseh v'nishma - We will do and we will hear." (Exodus 24:7)

It is a privilege to learn about our Jewish heritage. We have the responsibility to help ourselves and others to learn by listening and following all instructions. We strengthen our educational experience when we attend regularly and participate actively in our temple community.

In all these ways, we work together to demonstrate kavod for ourselves, for each other, for TBD and for our community.

Key Dates (Don't forget these!)

- ❖ Sunday, September 10, 11:30 - 2:30 p.m. NAWDTY Car Wash Fundraiser
- ❖ Sunday, September 10, 9:30-11:30 a.m. first day of K-6th Religious School for Madrichim
- ❖ Wednesday, September 13, 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. first day of Double Chai
- ❖ Sunday, September 17, 11:30 - 1:00 p.m. first day of TELEM
- ❖ Tuesday, December 26 - Sunday, December 31 NFTY-NE December Institute
- ❖ Teen Travel - California Adventure, February 21-25, 2018 (tentative)
- ❖ Friday, May 18 - Confirmation Service