

Hebrew Academy News

Enrollment Activities Are In "Full Swing" for '87-'88

By Ruth Goldberg
and Phyllis Schultz

The N.C. Hebrew Academy held two "open school" gatherings for prospective parents of 1987-88 kindergarten and first grade. After touring the classrooms and seeing the children's work on display, the parents heard presentations by each of the teachers who described her philosophy of education, her goals for the children, as well as the curricula she taught.

Berta Straz, Administrator, gave an overview of the secular and Judaic programs offered at the Hebrew Academy kindergarten through sixth grade. Then she introduced the teachers.

Lynne Tarleton

Lynn Tarleton's many years of elementary teaching experience make her a valuable asset of the Academy's teaching staff. She has conscientiously applied her post-graduate training in reading education to her teaching of the Academy's kindergarten and first grade students, helping them to experience the pride of authorship of their own works. Mrs. Tarleton is respected by her colleagues throughout the area for her expertise; she has conducted in-service training seminars for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Public Schools. Of her own educational philosophy, Mrs. Tarleton states, "I believe that children should be active participants in their own learning and that the teacher should be a facilitator in the child's learning. I strive to implement — in



Tarleton

a risk-free environment — a program for young children that provides many opportunities for choices with responsibility and matches the developmental stages of the child. I try to assure that my program encourages the use of problem-solving skills and creative expression in art, movement and dramatics. In addition to focusing on all four language processes (listening, speaking, reading and writing), the program also utilizes manipulative objects and allows ample time for play, a vital activity for the young child. I am committed to finding ways to help each child develop a positive self-image."

Helen Bronson

Helen Bronson brings to the Hebrew Academy the benefit of many years of elementary teaching experience in the Miami, Florida public schools. As the mother of six children, she also brings a highly developed sense of how to approach the needs of the individual child. Of her own approach to education, Mrs. Bronson states, "Education is a nurturing profession. As did Froebel, I believe that the teacher should strive to be a model for the student. Mutual respect and concern for others should pervade the atmosphere of the classroom. The dignity of the student should be such that a child feels comfortable in his relationships with his teacher and peers. As I begin each day, I remind myself that 'a good teacher should give children a lifelong love of learning.'"



Bronson

Berta Straz

Berta Straz provides the younger Academy students with their initial contact in an academic setting with the Hebrew language and with Judaic studies. Her students learn to read and write Hebrew and to engage in simple conversations. They learn the historic background and the traditions of Jewish holiday observance, as well as experiencing the joy of celebrating these events through dance, drama and song. Bible stories also come alive through her creative use of the arts and her encouragement of her students' self-expression.



Straz

Mrs. Straz states, "I attempt to teach the basic religious principles in a very relaxed and positive learning environment. Judaism has so much spirit to offer; I believe that the concepts stay alive with the children. The most important goal of all is to help the children start to understand what their Jewish identity is all about."

Ziva London

The Academy is most fortunate to have had Ziva London on the faculty for the past six years. A native speaker of Hebrew, she not only provides an excellent conversational Hebrew program for the upper grades, but she also gives the students an extensive background in Torah,



London

history and the works of the prophets and scholars. Her approach to teaching Judaic ethics to events in the daily lives of her students, so that they may use the teachings of the fathers to create a framework for their own decision making. Mrs. London also teaches her students the academic skill of researching the literature on a subject to arrive at an answer to a problem. By the sixth grade, Academy students can read and understand Torah passages and prayers in Hebrew, as well as conduct grammatically correct basic conversations in modern dialect.

Following the teachers'

presentations, a question period took place. Parents of current and former students, as well alumna, Kim Schrader, shared some positive experiences about the education and personal growth one gains at the Hebrew Academy. Of particular interest was the fact that former students make a smooth transition from the Academy to the larger schools in the community.

For further information, please call Berta Straz, 366-5007, or Ruth Goldberg, Recruitment Chair, 366-8903. Other members of the recruitment committee who can help are: Marlene Fuerstman, Sandra Levine, Roberta Malickson and Amalia Warshenbrot.

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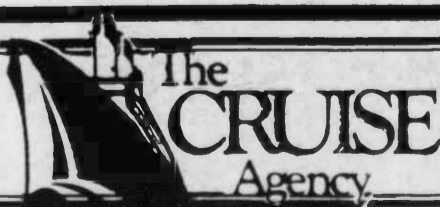
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