

Hebrew Academy News



School Year Ends with Graduation Ceremony on Shavuot

By Berta Straz

It was with a great deal of pride and joy, that our school held its Graduation Ceremony on June 2, 1987. The three graduates who completed the 6th grade at the Academy and were acknowledged that morning were: Elissa Cohen, Sloane Muller and Florie Straz. These three young ladies have been together for many years now and have been extremely loyal, devoted, dedicated as well as very giving of themselves to this institution.



Berta Straz, administrator, preparing to present graduates with their certificates and awards. (L to R): Florie Straz, Sloane Muller, Elissa Cohen.

We all know that one's early years are crucial in shaping personalities and laying the foundation for each child's value system. We also know that these critical and exciting years comprise a period of special sensitivity when the right kind of experiences have a lasting impact on later years and behaviors, such as social, academic and religious. Our three graduates Elissa, Sloane and Florie have not only learned and experienced what life in general has to offer but the very essence of what our people have carried on throughout the many generations of their survival. They have learned the basic course of study and what Judaism really is.

relayed many messages about their future to come. Cantor George Ackerman also spoke a few words about how exciting a graduation can be and offered his tribute to the three graduates. Ziva London and Helen Bronson, our two main teachers at the Academy, with whom these young ladies have had much contact, also offered very personal and loving wishes to the girls. Being that it was Shavuot, we were not only able to celebrate this "simchah", but also were able to rejoice in the yom-tov! Diplomas were handed out and certificates of achievements were also given to each individual candidate.

At this "Siyum" (graduation), Rabbi Marc Wilson spoke to the graduates and

- The Graduation Speeches -

By Sloane Muller



Through all the years that I've been here, I have seen and felt the loving kindness everybody shows toward each other. The covenant between man and God to serve both our Creator and our fellow man has been kept at our Academy.

We have the traditional studies of Judaism, holidays, history and grammar. Everyone goes at their own speed and everyone does very intense work with Ziva, our wonderful Hebrew teacher. We learn of different cultures, customs and laws, but the faith is Judaism.

Our secular studies include English, mathematics, history, science, reading, spelling, gym and art, along with a lovely teacher, teaching them, Mrs. Bronson. Our Judaic studies include history, grammar, Jewish holidays and folklore.

I started here in kindergarten and have been very happy for all of these seven years. My dedication to Judaism grows stronger year by year, and my love for Israel will always be in my heart because of my education here.

This school has enriched my life, far more than any other school could ever do, and I will remember the Hebrew Academy throughout my life.

By Elissa Cohen



I have been in the N.C. Hebrew Academy for about five years. And I have had many enjoyable times here, which I will long remember.

The Hebrew and Judaic studies have given me a real Jewish background, something I can pass down to my children and their children. I want to thank all the teachers that I have had, especially Helen Bronson and Ziva London. Their teaching has inspired me to become a teacher. Mrs. Bronson has given me so much in secular studies and also helped me in hard times. Her wisdom and experience in teaching and fine guidance will always remain in my heart. Ziva's love for Israel and Judaism has certainly reflected on my life and made me proud of who I am. Her insight in the Talmud has broadened my feelings for Judaism. Lynne Tarleton, who is now teaching my little sister, Amy, was also my math teacher for a short period of time and helped me develop good basic skills.

I am looking forward to watching the Hebrew Academy grow. I hope other Jewish children in Charlotte will have the same opportunity that I have enjoyed.

By Florie Straz



"If You Will It, It Is No Dream".....(Herzl)

In this school this sentence has come true in many different ways. One version that has come true for me is: "If You Will It, It Is No Dream"...

This dream has really come true for me. If I had never come to the N.C. Hebrew Academy, I wouldn't have been able to fulfill this wonderful dream. In this school you learn about Jewish people and also American people. You definitely learn more than in a regular school. Instead of just secular studies you also learn about Judaism, and it's fun to learn another language and culture.

It brings you one step closer to God and it makes you feel proud of who you are, and what you do!! This is one part of my life that I will never forget... The school that made me feel proud of who I am and what I do. Thank you for making my dream come true!

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