

JCC Maccabi ArtsFest

Are you a creative person entering grades 8-12?

Would you like to meet other Jewish teens who share your interests?

If your answer is "yes" then you don't want to miss JCC Maccabi ArtsFest in the summer of 2009.

JCC Maccabi ArtsFest is designed to inspire Jewish teens through a dynamic combination of workshop, performance, exhibition, recognition of excellence, community service, social activities, and fun. Teens develop their individuality through the medium of artistic expression while strengthening their bonds to their Jewish heritage, community and Israel.

Join the Charlotte delegation as they travel to New Orleans (at the JCC and Tulane University), August 2-7.

History

Through JCC Association's efforts, the JCC Maccabi Games® have grown to the point where close to 6,000 teens from many different countries participate each summer. JCC Maccabi ArtsFest® was developed to build on this successful foundation and create an opportunity for Jewish teens, who have a strong interest in the arts, to meet. The program connects hundreds of Jewish teens with similar interests to each other, the arts, and their local Jewish Community Centers.

What is JCC Maccabi ArtsFest®?

To engage creative teens in an intensive Jewish-identity building experience, JCC Association initiated a spectacular five-day summer program for teens that was modeled after its successful JCC



Maccabi Games®. ArtsFest was designed to inspire creative teens through a combination of workshops, performances, exhibition, and social activities.

The week's highlights include:

- * Daily master classes, workshops and mentoring of works-in-progress with professional artists-in-residence
- * Instrumental and vocal ensemble performances with exceptional talent
- * Art exhibitions
- * Evening social activities



LJCC Fine Arts Coordinator Aree Pearlman with last year's participants Basha Oudmayer, Alice Goldstein, and Josh Kaplan.

- * Jewish learning and Israel awareness activities
- * Day of Caring and Sharing (community service) program
- * Talent Showcase which includes dance, theater, instrumental and vocal ensemble performances and art and photography exhibitions, open to the public
- * And more!

Top Ten Reasons to Get Involved:

1. Artistic expression is used to create an intensive Jewish-identity building experience for more than 175 Jewish teens (entering 8th to 12th grades).
2. Teens from JCC delegations throughout North America and around the world will bond during a five-day arts immersion program of workshops, performance, exhibition, community service and social activities-all taking place in New Orleans, Louisiana.
3. It's a great way to grow in a specific art specialty from a staff of inspiring master artists-in-residence.
4. Builds community through opportunities to volunteer which contributes to the success of ArtsFest and inspires future Jewish involvement.
5. Teens participate in a Jewish experience including social action, Israeli and Judaic cultural programs.

6. ArtsFest is full of fun social events and home hospitality.

7. ArtsFest allows artists to thrive in a non-competitive creative environment.

8. All artists participate in a collaborative talent showcase which includes performances and visual arts exhibitions.

9. ArtsFest is part of the JCC Maccabi Experience (i.e., JCC Maccabi Games® and JCC Maccabiah Israel)

10. To have fun!

To view highlights from ArtsFest 2008, go to www.jccmaccabiartsfest.org.

To go in 2009, contact Aree Pearlman, LJCC Fine Arts Director at 704-366-5007 or aree.pearlman@charlottejcc.org. ☆

Local Athlete Heads to Israeli Maccabiah

By Rebecca Raffler

This past September, I was chosen to represent the USA in Israel at the 2009 Maccabiah Games. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity that I am thrilled to be a part of. I am going to be playing on the Junior Girls Basketball team with eleven other girls from around the country, coached by Rick Slater from Long Island, New York. This will be my first time traveling to Israel and I can hardly wait to experience it with my family and friends. I have been playing basketball since I was eight years old and never dreamed that I would have the chance to compete in something as big and exciting as this. I played for the Carolina Comets, an AAU (travel) team, for the past six years and have been on my high school varsity basketball team since I was a freshman. I also had the opportunity to participate in the JCC Maccabi Games the past four years and had some truly memorable experiences. This gave me a taste about what Israel will be like, but on a much smaller scale. However none of these accom-



Rebecca Raffler's got game.

plishments were as exciting and made me prouder than making the Maccabiah team. The Maccabiah Games is the third largest international sporting events in the world. The idea of walking into a stadium with 950 other Jewish athletes from America is going to be one experience I know I will never forget. Meeting Jewish athletes from all over the world is also something I am looking forward to. The Jewish aspect of my life is very important to me and I cannot wait to learn about cultures from other countries.

However, for me to be able to travel to Israel this summer, I need to raise a certain amount of money for my Yachad Agreement. This states that all athletes who are to compete in the games must bring in the required money for the "Sponsor our Athletes" program. To help me do this, I organized a three-on-three basketball tournament at the end of February. Although the tournament is over, I am still accepting donations. For

more information, please contact Rebecca Raffler at 704-752-1471 or rraffler@carolina.rr.com. ☆

JCC Tributes

MUSLER MEMORIAL FUND FOR CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

In honor of Nancy and Bob Fink's 50th Anniversary from Paula Musler and Sol Levine, and Tanya and Jeff Musler

MINDY ELLEN LEVINE DAY CAMP ENDOWMENT FUND

In honor of Sandra Levine's birthday from Lynn and Paul Edelstein
In honor of Howard Levine's birthday from June and Jon Levine

DAVID SILVERMAN MEMORIAL BASKETBALL ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Harry Levine, grandfather of Stacey Selkin from Stacey and Ira Slomka

THE LJCC EQUIPMENT FUND

Wishing Harvey Barer a speedy recovery from Lynn and Paul Edelstein



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A member of the Charlotte Jewish Community for 39 years, Dr. Scott Menaker has become an active volunteer and leader in our community.

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- Past President-Levine JCC. Current board member for over 15 years
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