

Youth Visions

Teachers Love Hebrew High, Too

The faculty at Hebrew High is an amazing group of educators who share their love of Judaism with Charlotte's Jewish teens every Wednesday night. Despite teenage angst, secular school pressure, and raging hormones, these special people impart Jewish knowledge and strengthen the teens' Jewish identities, thus ensuring a strong Jewish future for our community.

What motivates already busy

community members to take the time to share their Wednesdays with our students? Here is the answer in the teachers' own words:

* Andrew Bernstein – "What makes me come back every year is how the young men and women in class become so passionate about the most interesting subjects. Every year is a new challenge as we find that one thing that gets the class excited."



Hebrew High teachers get ready for the new academic year.

* Rabbi Judy Schindler – "I love spending time with our students. I love teaching them, learning from them, and enjoying their perspectives on life and Judaism. Even though we come together at the end of our days, we leave refreshed."

* Nancy Good – "I am excited to work with the kids. As a mother of teenagers, I recognize that this is a time in their lives when they need guidance and independence. I hope to foster their respect for authority and their love of Jewish song."

* Lisa Nagel – "I love being part of the experience of giving the students the opportunity to explore our heritage and traditions by recreating Jewish foods."

* Tair Guidice – "Teaching is a two-way street. I love to share my love of Israel and Judaism with the students."

* Andy Harkavy – "I love teaching and learning from the teens, and seeing them transition and grow as youth. I also like giving them a break in the week to have a safe space to be themselves."

* Cantor Mary Thomas – "I love helping the kids make the transition from Bar/Bat Mitzvah to



Debby Block tells the Hebrew High teachers about the resources at the Levine-Sklut Library



Andy Harkavy at the Hebrew High teachers' orientation.

confirmation, from standing alone on the bima to standing as a community, accepting Torah as young adults. It is a great pleasure to share in each student's journey toward a sophisticated, nuanced, Jewish identity."

* Sara Bryan – "As an alumna of Hebrew High, I know firsthand just how significant and rewarding Wednesday nights can be when you fill them with Jewish learning and Jewish community. I cherish the opportunity to pass on the light of Jewish learning to the torch bearers of the future of Judaism. Plus, the kids are awesome and funny!"

* Donna DeGroot – "I enjoy the dramatic flair that you find with this age students. It means a lot to me when students come back as seniors and ask for help with their Senior Exit Project because they have decided to study more about Israel."

* Amy Montoni – "I love being Jewish, I love Judaism, I love Israel and I love bringing this enthusiasm to kids of all ages. Particularly with teenagers, when they are near the age of skepticism, to grab them before we lose them is exciting."

It is not too late to have your teens join this dynamic group of Jewish educators, as they guide the students towards becoming adult Jewish leaders. Please call Roz at 704-944-6782 or email rcooper@shalomcharlotte.org for more information. ✨

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Ohavim BBG

Ohavim is back with another amazing year in BBYO. These next couple of weeks we are going to be recruiting new MITS for our chapter. Also we have a great new addition to our chapter which is our new advisor, Sarah Abadi. So far we have had a game night program and Women vs. Food program. We have so many more fun and exciting programs yet to come. Also we have some new fundraiser ideas that were are going to do this year such as a bake sale, a pizza fundraiser, and a Tzedakah box. Our advisors and board members are working hard to make this the best year that we can have. ✨



Ohavim BBG at Great Wolf Lodge.

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