

# Schools

## Ani Maamin, I Believe, the CJDS Motto

Maimonides (RAMBAM) instituted Thirteen Principles of Faith as a foundation for Judaism. It is true that these principles are not very tangible and can seem a bit much for children. We at CJDS really believe that children have the capacity to understand faith and belief on a much deeper, sincere, and innocent level than we adults. That is why we chose Ani Maamin (I believe) as our motto for this year. Since we would not have the time to teach all thirteen, we chose the nine most accessible principles for our study. Each month, a poem was written to represent the concept of that specific principle. The poem was recited at assemblies, at morning announcements, and in class. The poems are very simple, but straightforward, but make it possible for children to connect and own it.

I know what I believe;  
I know that it is true.  
Hashem knows our thoughts,  
And sees each thing we do.  
He is the One who created us,  
Gave us each a beating heart.  
He understands our actions,  
And intentions from the start.  
I know what I believe;  
I know that it is true.  
Hashem gave us the Torah,  
A gift for every Jew.  
Moshe passed this wisdom down  
To the Jewish nation.  
The chain continues on and on  
With Jewish education.

For their yearbook page, our graduates wrote their own Ani Maamin poems as they internalized the message in its relevance in their own lives. We hope you enjoy them as much we did and see the lessons that they have learned from their time at CJDS. Some of the schools that our graduates are moving on to are Providence Day School, Piedmont IB Middle School, Charlotte Prep, South Middle.

### Yotam Berendt

I know what I believe  
I know that it is true  
I am a Jew that loves Hashem  
Who gave mitzvot to both me and you  
The connection is essential  
And I embrace it every day  
And in return he guides me  
Every step of the way



### Mitchell Berzack

I know what I believe  
I know that it is true  
I know that it is perfect  
And nobody is horrible, too  
Everyone is different  
You should be yourself everyday  
Everyone is wonderful  
And good in their own special way



### Joshua Bornstein

I know what I believe  
I know that it is true



I will always love Israel  
And the colors white and blue  
I am proud of Israel  
A real miracle, a neis  
I want to visit the Kotel  
The holy place

### Schneur Zalman Cohen

I know what I believe  
I know that it is true  
Hashem made me Jewish  
Just like every other Jew  
What makes us Jewish  
Do we really ever understand?  
It is the essence of who we are  
So we learn and follow Hashem's command



### Jenna Gamlin

I know what I believe  
I know that it is true  
Every person is helpful  
And is good at doing what they do  
Even if they think they are not  
I can always learn from them  
To see the value in all people  
I learned that from Hashem



### Benjamin Goldman

I know what I believe  
I know that it is true  
That everyone has setbacks  
Every person, every Jew  
Even though setbacks are harder to begin  
I meet them with courage, coming from within  
I've used this lesson to keep me growing  
And keep my Jewish education going



### Skylar Selkin

I know what I believe  
I know that it is true  
I know all about  
What the Jews went through  
It teaches me  
To do Tzedakah everyday  
It shows me  
The humble way



### Joshua Sorell

I know what I believe  
I know that it is true  
We all follow the Torah  
Including me and you  
We do what it says  
Even when it is tough  
It's attached to me  
I can never get enough



### Saul Vitner

I know what I believe  
I know that it is true  
That we are all united  
Each and every Jew  
Though we may be spread far



apart  
Like in Russia, Israel, and Spain  
Inside us we are Jewish  
Inside us, we're the same

### Kehos Weiss

I know what I believe  
I know that it is true  
Caring for others  
Is the right thing to do  
Even when it's hard or tough  
And you really want to crack  
Remember what Hashem taught you  
And it will be a snap ☆



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## Sifriyat Pijama B'America (SP-BA)



Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte  
and Levine-Sklut Judaic Library  
and Resource Center  
Invites you to our Hebrew  
Storytime, Activity & fun!

Sunday June 9, 2013  
4:00 PM

at Levine-Sklut Judaic Library and Resource Center  
5007 Providence Road  
Charlotte, NC 28226

For RSVP or for information  
contact Roni Amitai  
Community Shlichah  
[shaliach@jewishcharlotte.org](mailto:shaliach@jewishcharlotte.org)  
704-944-6784



The event is free.  
Please RSVP in advance.



For more information and to  
register online visit [www.SP-BA.org](http://www.SP-BA.org)

