

JEWISH FEDERATION NEWS

Teen Coalition Presents: The Macca-Blast

For the seventh night of Hanukkah, the "Teen Coalition" joined forces to create a very first Hanukkah program for all the teenagers in Charlotte. Could you imagine what happens when you take a group of 110 teens, put them in a small room, and then throw a lip-sync competition? One thing to be sure, this Hanukkah was even brighter than usual.

At first, 10 young leaders were selected from Hebrew High, the JCC, and the local youth movements (BBYO, Liberty, and Geshet). With the help and guidance of the youth professionals and directors, they came up with an extremely awesome program for their peers – a group lip-sync competition, followed by candle lighting ceremony and a doughnuts fest, Hanukkah style.

Upon their arrival to the event, the teens were randomly split into five groups; then they started with some fun ice-breakers to get to know one another.

It was wonderful to see the Jewish kids bonding so quickly. After they had become a team, the groups started working on their number for the competition. Choosing between contemporary pop songs (such as "Royals," "Wrecking Ball," "Call Me Maybe," etc.) was the easy part – coming up with a funny and interesting performance was the true challenge.

But just before they all got on the stage for their five minutes of glory, Dor Hollander, Charlotte's community Shaliach, briefly introduced the crowd to the amazing summer program to Israel – "Tikkun Olam." This program takes place every summer in our Partnership Region of Hadera, and it offers our teens a unique and special opportunity: to volunteer and to help others, to explore Israel's society and culture, and of course, to make friends for a lifetime – not only from Charlotte, but also from Israel and other Jewish communities in our partnership

consortium.

After the informative presentation, we shared a moment through a communal candle lighting ceremony – well, with an electric Hanukiyah. Subsequently, the groups started their performances one after the other. We saw five terrific and talented shows, however only one of them won the desired prize – picking their doughnuts first. Satisfied and joyful, we finished the evening with a big smile on our faces and some delicious doughnuts in our stomachs.

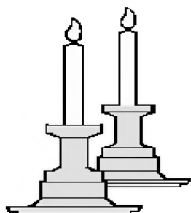
Special thanks to Roz Cooper, Ellen Goldstein, Jessie Cohen, Ariel Krusch, and Dara Gever for all of their help in making this night come true.

For more information about the teen exchange program to Israel, please contact Dor Hollander (Charlotte's community Shaliach at the Jewish Federation), Tal Stein (Director of Community Relations and Israel Affairs at the Jewish Federation), or Roz Cooper (Head of Hebrew High).✧



SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING FOR JANUARY 2014

Friday, January 3, 5:05 PM
Friday, January 10, 5:11 PM
Friday, January 17, 5:18 PM
Friday, January 24, 5:25 PM
Friday, January 31, 5:32 PM



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Published monthly except July
An affiliate of:



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