

JEWISH FEDERATION NEWS

P2G Mission to Israel - March 27-April 6, 2016 20 Year Celebration of Partnership2Gether

Be a part of a mission that will unite and inspire you to become part of a greater Jewish family – connect, bond, and experience Israel as a unified community.

The Charlotte Jewish Federation is proud to announce our Partnership2Gether mission to Israel and Hadera-Eiron as part of our 20th year celebration of Partnership2Gether (P2G). P2G is an international program of the Jewish Agency for Israel, which links communities in the Diaspora with specific regions and communities in Israel. The P2G mission will take place March 27 – April 4, 2016. Cost is \$2,000* land costs only (includes hotel, double occupancy). Optional three-day extension, April 4-7, celebrating the 20th anniversary of Partnership2Gether. Cost is an additional \$1,990 (includes hotel, double occupancy). Applications are available in the Federation office. Application deadline is November 13.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte Partnership To-

gether (P2G) has been connecting Charlotte with Hadera for the past several years. In addition to our Israeli community, Charlotte is part of an American Southeast Consortium which includes the following Southeastern cities: Nashville, Chattanooga, and Knoxville, TN; Charleston, SC; Fort Myers, Pinellas, and Jacksonville, FL; and Richmond, VA.

Participants will be able to create their own itineraries, choosing activities from four different tracks focusing on adventure, politics, security issues, history, and first-time experiences, as well as high tech arts, culture, and cuisine. The trip also includes a three-day optional extension with activities that celebrate the 20th anniversary of Partnership2Gether. Participants will have the opportunity to see the impact of over a dozen different partnerships in the north, south, and central regions of Israel, including Hadera-Eiron. This mission will provide a spe-

cial opportunity for our Charlotte Jewish community to share an Israel experience with our extended family in Israel as well as with our Southeast American family that will create new bonds of friendship and understanding in Israel and at home.

For more information please contact Tal Stein, Director of Community Relations and Israel Affairs at 704-944-6751 or tal.stein@jewishcharlotte.org. ✪

*includes \$500 subsidy from the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte



Community Trip to
ISRAEL 2016
Travel as a community • Personalize the Experience

DATES
March 27* - April 4, 2016
(option to extend through April 7)

COST
\$2,000** per person, double occupancy (Land only)
Extension: \$1,990 per person, double occupancy (Land only)

ACCOMMODATIONS
Dan Carmel Hotel, Haifa (2 nights)
Mamilla Hotel, Jerusalem (5 nights)

EXTENSION ACCOMMODATIONS
Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv (3 nights)

FOUR TRACKS TO CHOOSE FROM
Adventure Lovers
Politics and Security
History and First Timers
High Tech, Art and Culture

CONTACT
Tal Stein, 704.944.6751, tal.stein@jewishcharlotte.org

* Flights should be scheduled to depart Charlotte no later than March 27 to arrive in Israel in time to join the mission on the ground on March 28
**Includes a \$500 subsidy from the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte

Local Band Creates Cooperative CD with Israeli Musicians

Though they live half a world apart and have never met, members of the bands The Ruach and Alila are now musical partners, so to speak. The Ruach calls Charlotte home; Alila hails from Hadera - Eiron. Their music is nothing alike. The Ruach, a rock band whose musical influences include rock, rockabilly, country, and gospel, sets traditional Shabbat prayers to their original music. Alila calls its music "ethno-fusion," an instrumental combination of jazz, klezmer, and Middle Eastern stylings. Both bands are among the 16 contributors to Music2Gether, a new CD of original music by Jewish artists from communities in the Southeastern U.S. and the Hadera-Eiron region of Israel.

Music2Gether is a collaborative project developed through the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte's Partnership2Gether (P2G), a unique initiative of the Jewish Agency for Israel that seeks to strengthen connections

between Jewish communities around the world with specific cities and regions in Israel. The Hadera-Eiron region partners with ten Jewish Federations in the Southeast United States including Charlotte as well as the cities of Chattanooga, Knoxville, and Nashville, TN as well as Flagler and Volusia Counties, Lee and Charlotte Counties, Jacksonville, and Pinellas County, FL, Richmond VA and Charleston, SC.

P2G Projects such as Music2Gether generate ongoing relationships among the participating communities which strengthen Jewish identity, promote social involvement and interaction, and provide an avenue for the expression of care, commitment, and love between the participating communities.

The CD is the culmination of a project initiated last year by Nashville singer/songwriter/producer Russell Wolff and Israeli musician/producer, Ofer Ben-Zion. Wolff has worked with a

wide variety of musicians, from LL Cool J to Martina McBride, and he is a voting member of the Grammys. Ben-Zion is a well-known Israeli musician and producer, and owner of two music schools.

Produced in Israel, the CD has 16 songs: seven composed by Israelis and nine by U.S. songwriters. When asked how the songs were selected, Wolff responded, "We got an overwhelming number of excellent submissions. Selecting the music that fit best together for this collection – that was the hardest part."

Music2Gether (M2G) is an eclectic mix of music that includes folk, country, jazz, klezmer, hip-hop ... and The Ruach's hard hitting, full-on rock version of Shalom Aleichem, performed by current and past Ruach members including Jill Levinson, Nancy Good, Peter Levinson, Dan Ruda, and David Krusch. All of the artists showcased on the CD have donated their time and talent.

The Ruach was born out of Temple Israel, and performs there on the third Friday night of each month to lead Shabbat services and, once a year for "Rock Hashanah." When they aren't playing at Temple Israel, they are available to play for other congregations for their Friday night services or other events.

In talking about the band and why they play, The Ruach's lead guitarist, Peter Levinson said, "Our goal is to share the joys of Judaism through modern music and keep the religion relevant in today's world." He went on to say, "Our music is trans-denominational. It speaks to all Jews, no matter which part of the faith you affiliate with."

Despite the inevitable cultural variations, Ben-Zion said "music

is an international language. I believe that through its internationality, we can create a bridge that merges all those differences in to an amazing statement of unity which is so important for both our communities. This is a great project and I hope more will come in the future."

Kosher Cuts- our Music2Together CD is now being sold at the Federation office with a suggested donation of \$18. All proceeds go directly to Charlotte's Partnership Together Program. Please contact Tal

Stein, Director of community relations and Israel affairs at tal.stein@jewishcharlotte.org or 704-944-6751 for more information or to purchase a CD. ✪



Current performing members of the band RUACH are pictured: From Left to Right Dan Ruda, Nancy Good and Peter Levinson. Not Pictured: Aly Lerner, Dean Adelman, Franklin Kaunitz and Terry Wallach

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