

Youth Visions

What BBYO Means to Me

My name is Gabby Catenazzo, I am a junior at Providence High School and I am the president of Chai Chaverim, one of the girl BBYO chapters here in Charlotte. I have grown up surrounded by the Charlotte Jewish Community so when I joined BBYO as a freshman I had a few Jewish friends my age but I didn't know a thing about the special family I was about to be welcomed into. Having a group of Jewish friends I get to see every week separate from the people at my school is unique and such a pleasure during the stressful school year. In BBYO I not only get to de-stress and have fun but do so while learning so much about myself, others, and what Judaism means to me. BBYO has shown me the importance of taking part in the Jewish community and how being part of a strong Jewish youth

movement is crucial to the future of our people.

At the first BBYO program with my chapter I looked at the president and thought to myself how smart and confident she was. I thought it would be so amazing if that could be me one day, but at the time I thought it never could be. But two short years later I decided to run for president of Chai Chaverim and now I have so much more confidence in my leadership ability because of the opportunities BBYO has provided me and the amazing leaders and friends I have gotten to look up to.

BBYO has taught me lifelong skills that will take me far in whatever I choose to do with my life. I have become a more genuine, open minded, and caring person because of this organization. I have also learned so much about who I am and what I stand for.

BBYO is an amazing movement that fosters individuality while simultaneously bringing people closer together.

From the New Member Convention to attending the Chapter Leadership Training Conference this summer and every Tuesday night program in between I could not thank BBYO enough for all the lifelong friendships, values, and experiences it has given me. ☆



BBG'ers learn to bake challah with Sophie Molinari.



Left to right: Lila Cohen, Joanna Moody, Allison-Leigh Rosenfeld, Alex Ketover



Left to right - Sklyer Selkin, Mylie Slomka, and Isabella Turteltaub

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Jeremy Ordan 704.609.9300
 Jeremy.Ordan@AllenTate.com

Matti Ordan-Reider 704.904.7250
 Matti.Ordan@AllenTate.com

TheOrdanReiderGroup.com

Hebrew High's Better 2Gether Hosts Guests from Black Ink Monks

Better 2Gether is a Hebrew High class that joins two generations together to explore their Jewish heritage, thanks to a generous grant from a prominent national organization. This session the group is focused on expressing identity through art, both spoken word and visual art.

To help the group of adults and teens, they have been listening to spoken word poetry, rap, and poetry slams that express identity or a Jewish value or ideal. The goal is for several smaller groups, made up of both adults and teens, to create a spoken word poem

about Jewish identity that will eventually be performed for all of Hebrew High.

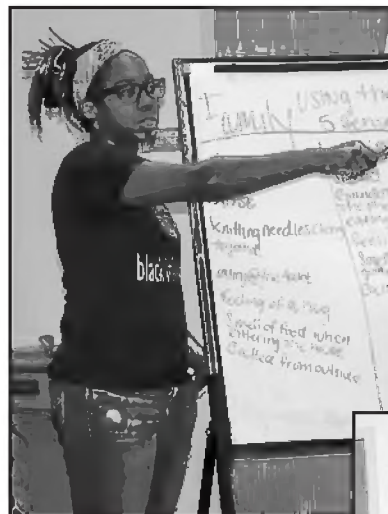
In November, the Black Ink Monks from Johnson C. Smith University, were guests at a class of both Better 2Gether and the Through the Jewish Lens art class. Dasha, Diashanna, and TJ introduced the class to different ways of expressing their emotions through their five senses and using classic figures of speech. The writing prompt was about family and everyone set about writing some lines.

When the writing portion was

finished, the Black Ink Monks entertained the class with performances of their own slam poems.

The class is now armed and ready to create and present their own poems.

The visual art aspect of the class will be realized with a field trip to the Mint Museum to see the current exhibit of Women in Abstract Expressionism. A disproportionate number of the women artists in this genre were Jewish and we hope to be able analyze their products and see where the common themes arise. ☆



Diashanna talks about descriptive use of language in creating poetry.



Harriet Weinstock and Lauren Mond work on their poem.



TJ performs his poem.



Samantha Baum, Aaron Hart, and Janice Bernstein.

Better Together

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- Strong attention to detail and accuracy
- Knowledge and understanding of Jewish practices, customs, and culture

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