

# CHAI SCHOOL @ BI

Chai School is a Jewish supplementary high school program developed for Jewish students in Grades 8-12.

Chai School provides an opportunity for its students to engage in active and thoughtful study of Jewish sources by means of interactive and collaborative discussion and debate. Our learning is not about finding answers, but about identifying the questions and participating in the learning process in partnership with classmates and teachers. Chai School learning goes beyond the classroom through its tikkun olam/social action component.

## MONDAYS

5:30 - 6:15 - Period 1

6:15 - 6:45 - Dinner (included with tuition)

6:45 - 7:30 - Period 2

## CALENDAR

Sept. 12, 19	Feb. 6, 13, 27
Oct. 3, 24, 31	March 6, 27
Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28	April 3, 17, 24
Dec. 5, 12	May 1, 8, 15, 29
Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30	June 5

## TUITION: \$400

Congregation Beth Israel  
989 W. 28th Avenue  
Vancouver, BC V5Z 0E8

# COURSES

## JEWISH "MEDIUM-GUYS" THROUGHOUT HISTORY

Over the past few years, **Rabbi David Bluman**, Director of Youth Engagement at Congregation Beth Israel, has taught courses on Jewish villains and Jewish heroes, but has not yet taught a course on notable Jews that are neither bad nor good, but somewhere in between. We will decide as a class, whether or not the individuals we are studying should be considered villains or heroes. We will study the lives of Pinchas, Reish Lakish, Jonathan Pollard, Michael Milken, and more! *This course was requested by last year's students.*

## TIKKUN OLAM IN THEORY & IN PRACTICE:

Students will study the traditional Jewish texts explaining the origins of the ethical commandments and then bring the commandments to life on community service field trips that will educate the students about Jewish and non-Jewish agencies in Greater Vancouver which work to solve the problems of the community.

## JEWISH COOKING

Back by popular demand! Join **Lissa Weinberger** once a month to learn how to make interesting Jewish foods from around the world. We all know about challah and chicken soup. But have you ever had *knaiffeh* or *hkaha* (Persian crispy rice)?

## SPECIAL 3 PART SERIES

Join the BI's own **Dr. Jay Eldelman** for three special classes this year. First, explore the history, meaning(s), and place of Hanukkah in the Jewish imagination in "How Hanukkah Explains Everything!" Is Hanukkah a major festival or a minor holiday? Find out why the answer is both and neither. Then, we take a fresh look at some of the most important chapters of the Jewish past in "Jewish History - New Understandings," and consider how should we interpret the Jewish past in the 21st century? Finally, in "Ma Nishtana - Passover Kashrut and the Jewish Spirit" we'll explore Passover food traditions and look at why "Kosher for Passover" may be the three most important words in Judaism.

## DISCOVERING JEWISHNESS THROUGH THE ARTS: A HANDS-ON SERIES

Join **Dr. Dan Viragh** for a whirlwind tour of some of the best Jewish rock music, poetry and art out there! Find the Jewish references in Leonard Cohen's songs, and read some awesome Jewish poetry by Irving Layton and Lou Reed. Then, examine some of the best known Jewish artists: Chagall, Modigliani, Soutine, and Ephraim Lillien. In each of the sessions, we will begin by experiencing the poetry, music and art on its own terms. Then, we will learn a bit about the context that these artists worked in. And finally, we will create our own art, in their style!

Dr. Viragh is a poet, singer, composer and teacher. He grew up in Montreal and went to McGill and Berkeley. He just finished his fifth poetry book, entitled "The Womb," as well as an classical oratorio for Rosh HaShanah.

## BIBLE CONNECTIONS

Join **Rabbi Adam Stein**, Associate Rabbi of Congregation Beth Israel, as we explore fascinating connections between the three parts of the Hebrew Bible: Torah, Prophets (Neviim), and Writings (Ketuvim). Though we focus mainly on the Torah in the Jewish community because of the weekly Torah readings, there are so many powerful passages in other sections of the Tanakh that many of us have never explored. We will act like "rabbis" as we draw connections between these passages and some from the Torah.

## JEWISH CANADIAN CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Over three classes, **Rachael Segal** will continue to focus her class on current events through a Jewish lens. In her class, we will discuss hot topics in the news, mainly political issues, and their relevance to the Jewish community. We will also focus on the principle of "community engagement" and talk about how we can contribute civically in our community.