



THE ELECTRONIC EDUCATOR-
A weekly update of information for you and your school!
A service of the NJ Region USCJ Dept. of Education
Michelle Rich, Director of Education and Youth Activities
Nita Polay Levin, Field Worker
Lisa Harris Glass, Executive Director

In this Week's Issue:

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Deadline Extended to TUESDAY, JUNE 2!

Due to the large volume of calls asking for an extension, we are happy to oblige! So there's still time to register for...

NJ REGION USCJ
CONFERENCE ON SYNAGOGUE EDUCATION

For religious school teachers & principals, preschool teachers & directors, cantors, rabbis, school boards, and synagogue lay people who have an interest in bettering Jewish education in their synagogue

WORKSHOPS:

- * **WORKSHOPS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS with CARYN BRUCKHEIMER**
- * **SUZI ADELSON WAINER on MULTIPLE INTELLIGENCES and HOW TO ASK QUESTIONS THAT CHALLENGE**
- * **RABBI ROBERT ABRAMSON, National Director of Education, speaking with school committee chairs and VPs about their role**
- * **LISA HARRIS GLASS, Executive Director, NJ Region USCJ, on navigating through these difficult economic times**
- * **TEACHING PRAYER THE "4MAT" WAY using Siddur Sim Shalom with ALEX WEINBERG, author of Siddur Sim Shalom, Remix 2.0**
- * **The QUALITY HEBREW HIGH with RABBI RON ISAACS, creator and director of one of the best in the region!**
- * **DR. SHOSHANA SILBERMAN, presenting techniques from her new book, ACTIVE JEWISH LEARNING**

AND:

*** BEHRMAN HOUSE PUBLISHERS will join us with their display and consultation w/ TERRY KAYE**

Wednesday, June 10, 2009
Cong. Neve Shalom, Metuchen, 9:30 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.

**Please make check of \$54/participant to NJ Region USCJ
Cost includes 3 workshops, consultations and a dairy box lunch
If you have not received your brochure and registration form,
please call the office *right away!* (732) 738 - 4301**

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL AND PRESCHOOL DIRECTORS!

We are still taking requests for a fall Mini-Course for your school!

**We are now taking requests for the FALL SEMESTER of our MINI-COURSES. To arrange for a workshop, or to ask for topics and instructors, contact Nita Polay Levin at (732) 738 – 4301
Mon, 9 – 5, Tues 10 – 2:30, Thurs, 1 – 5 or Levin@USCJ.org**

New Directors Institute

Knowing how to run a school isn't intuitive, even for thoroughly well-educated and intuitive teachers. The Nat'l [education department](#) invites new directors of religious schools, along with directors who have been in place for up to two years, to NYC for the 10th Annual [New Directors Institute](#)

Tues., June 23, to Thurs., June 25

For a brochure and registration form, contact Nita Polay Levin, NJ Region USCJ Education Field Worker, at Levin@USCJ.org or (732) 738 – 4301

JEA GOES TO WASHINGTON!

Shalom, Chaverim,

Several of you have been asking for the dates for the JEA conference in 2010. Although some of you may have already received this information, I didn't want to miss anyone. Save the date for this Capital Event: the Jewish Educators Assembly conference to take place January 24-27 in Our Nation's Capital.

The Jewish Educators Assembly is THE professional organization for Jewish educators. It is a wonderful forum for networking, program sharing, learning and friendship. If you are not yet a member of JEA and want to have this strong professional presence supporting your work, you can download more information at the site www.jewisheducators.org or contact me for more information.

Hope to see you in DC!

Pricing will be BELOW last year's cost of \$1325 double occupancy / \$1600 single occupancy.



Kids who care about Israel
are more likely to stay Jewish.
Are your students connected?

Introducing **Yisrael Sheli** My Israel: People and Places



Materials that enable real connection to the real Israel.
Available this summer.



Torah Aura Productions:
Making success in Jewish education an achievable reality.

Ready for a new way to bring the people and places of Israel into your third-grade classroom?

Introducing *Yisrael Sheli*, a revolutionary new Israel text from Torah Aura Productions.

Yisrael Sheli lets you tell your students two different stories about Israel. The first is the story of the people who created the State of Israel. The second is the story of the places in the Land of Israel. As we tour the land of Israel, we learn about the stories that created Israel.

What's it like to travel Israel with the people who built her? Ben Gurion leads the tour at Sde Boker, his kibbutz. Rachel (the Poetess) reads her poems on the shores of the Kinneret. Joshua leads us across the Jordan river, and Josephus tells the story of Masada. In the cobblestone streets of Tzfat, Isaac Luria gives a lesson on mysticism, while Ilan Ramon points our eyes to the stars from his balcony in Beersheva. This is the Israel trip you and your students have always dreamed of!

Yisrael Sheli brings Israel alive by fusing the adventure of a visit to the Jewish homeland with the adventures of those who shaped Israel, the people and the place. The book is filled with discussion questions and activities that make it exciting and easy to teach.

And because a great book can only be the beginning of quality Israel education, the *Yisrael Sheli Teacher's Guide* is a compendium of top-notch programs and ideas for experiential, out-of-the-box activities. This is a book that's meant to be the foundation for exciting Israel learning.

Yisrael Sheli will begin shipping in July. But right now you can check out sample chapters and pre-order by [clicking here](#).

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Behrman House

May 2009

Dear Friend:

Want the latest news from Behrman House? The Open Lion is on its way to you via regular postal service, but meanwhile here is a link to the electronic version. Just click on <http://www.behrmanhouse.com/educators/open-lion> and enjoy.

Please feel free to forward this link to your staff, or to anyone else in your community who might be interested in it.

Terry Kaye
terry@behrmanhouse.com
800-221-2755, ext. 216

Preschool Corner:

I'd like to alert you to a curriculum resource from Behrman House, a sort-of Jewish weekly reader for early childhood, called

Jewish and Me

I wrote the teacher's guide, which will be out this summer, because I believe there are many developmentally appropriate ways to use this type of resource to add another angle to the Jewish/holiday curriculum.

B'Shalom,
Maxine Segal Handelman,
USCJ Consultant on Early Childhood

There is a new early childhood product from Behrman House— *Jewish and Me*. Designed to engage all of the senses and reinforce key developmental skills, the 16 booklets in the series cover all of the Jewish holidays, with activities to complete in class and ways to bring the learning home. Students and their families will love the companion website www.behrmanhouse.com/jam, where they can learn holiday blessings, sing songs, find recipes, and read holiday stories.

Behrman House is offering a free set of the materials to you. Simply fill out the information on [this page](#) (<http://www.behrmanhouse.com/jewish-and-me-signup>) and Behrman House will send you a free copy of *Jewish and Me* right away.

Directors: Not a member of the listserv? Contact
ECDir@USCJ.ORG

For your teachers: contact <http://uscj.org/archives/ecteach.html>

Click on “Join or leave the list (or change settings)” and fill in your information from there.

Why re-invent the wheel? Get in on this exciting exchange of ideas & find solutions to your issues!

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COMBING THROUGH MY FILES:

Opening the School year—activities for your first faculty meeting, first school board meeting, setting up the rooms, etc.