

## Central Synagogue—8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Programming

### *Program Options:*

#### **1. 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Jewish Leadership Institute**

##### Highlights:

- Tuesdays, 6:30-7:45pm
- 5 seminars (~6 weeks each), with select tracks culminating in a special event or trip in line with the theme of the course (schedule below)
- Students will learn from influential lay leadership within our congregation, explore how Jewish values have impacted these professionals' growth and success, and begin to develop their own role as Jewish leaders
- Access to all outside programming, service opportunities, and trips
- Special one-on-one time with our staff and clergy to match students with lay leadership opportunities
- Students are expected to attend 80% of classes

*\*Weekend trip (Civil Rights, RAC L'taken Trip to D.C) fees are not included in program cost. Please Note: Trips will take place if it is safe to travel.*

#### **2. 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Seminars**

##### Highlights:

- Tuesdays, 6:30-7:45pm
- Flexibility to enroll in 1-4 seminars (~6 weeks each), with select tracks culminating in a special event or trip in line with the theme of the course (schedule below)
- Program options to fit students' schedules
- Access to all outside programming and service opportunities
- Students are expected to attend all 6 sessions in each seminar they sign up for—excused absences allowed with notice and on a case-by-case basis

*\*Weekend trip (Civil Rights, RAC L'taken Trip to D.C) fees are not included in program cost. Please Note: Trips will take place if it is safe to travel.*

*NOTE: In our 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Seminars program, students may only register for a trip/special event if they are also enrolled in its corresponding seminar. (i.e. enrollment in Jewish American History gives access to the Study Trip in April.)*

## 2021-2022 (5782) Seminar Schedule

**Seminar 1, Sept 21 - Oct 26, 2021:**

**8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Grades:** Challenges and Choices (Ethics 2.0)

**Seminar 2, Nov 2 - Dec 14, 2021:**

**8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Grades:** Jewish Cooking

**Seminar 3, Jan 4 - Feb 15, 2022:**

**8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Grades:** American Jewish History

**Seminar 4, Mar 1 - Apr 12, 2022:**

**8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Grades:** Israeli Pop Culture

**Seminar 5, April 26 - May 24, 2022:**

**Leadership Institute Participants:** Jewish Leadership

Please Note: Students enrolled in the Leadership Institute will take each seminar one time.

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## Seminar Descriptions

### **1. Challenges and Choices (Ethics 2.0) (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Grades)**

Through an interactive and experiential values-based curriculum adapted from The Mussar Institute, students will gain a repertoire of practical ways to become their “best selves.” In this seminar, students will create a deeper connection with Judaism while also navigating life choices in thoughtful and productive ways.

Seminar Outline:

- Facilitated discussions and activities grounded in Jewish values, or *middot*
- We will address mental health stressors and ethical decision making, attending to the social and emotional needs of students
- Identify, study, and apply the practical implications of Jewish wisdom
- Focus on balancing inner qualities to support in management of stressful situations involving friends, school, family, social media, and more

## **2. Jewish Cooking (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Grades)**

Students will engage with Judaism's vibrant history, unique rituals, and diverse culture through a hands-on, interactive culinary experience.

Seminar Outline:

- Prepare, cook, and partake in a variety of traditional Jewish foods
- Analyze how food has become an important part of Jewish tradition and culture
- Trace traditional "Jewish" foods to their historical roots, identifying how they came to be associated with Judaism
- Identify and prepare foods associated with many of the major Jewish holidays

## **3. American Jewish History (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Grades)**

Students will study the history of the Jewish involvement in the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s. In this comprehensive seminar, students will identify prominent Jewish leaders and analyze the impact American Jewry had on this crucial time in our United States history.

Seminar Outline:

- Text-based and historical analysis into what Jewish tradition teaches us about caring for our neighbors
- Identify prominent Jewish leaders of the 1960s and list their contributions to the Civil Rights Movement, including helping to found and fund Historically Black Colleges and Universities, marching in protests, and drafting legislation
- Articulate the role of the American Jewish population in the Civil Rights Movement in the 1960s, as well as its continued impact on poignant social justice issues today
- Students in this seminar will have the opportunity to participate in the Etgar 36 Civil Rights Study Trip to Alabama in April

## **4. Jewish and Israeli Pop Culture (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Grades)**

Students will analyze how Judaism influences American and Israeli movies, television shows, art, and Jewish food in this interactive and hands-on seminar.

Seminar Outline:

- Study the role Judaism plays in movies and TV shows
- Analyze how and why Israeli television has reached a global audience
- Trace modern "Jewish" foods to their traditional roots, identifying how they came to be associated with Judaism
- Create Jewish ritual items and artwork by learning the history of Jewish art and artists in North America, Europe, and Israel

### **5. Jewish Leadership (Jewish Leadership Institute Participants)**

Students will learn from Jewish leaders across industries to better understand how their Judaism and Jewish values motivate leadership and success.

Seminar Outline:

- In-depth discussions with a variety of Jewish leaders from across industries who will share their experience and expertise
- Identify and curate individual leadership styles through strength-based activities
- Study influential Jewish leaders—past and present—and analyze their leadership styles
- Special sessions with Central clergy and staff to develop leadership roles and skills

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### **Program Costs**

**1 Seminar:** \$900

**2 Seminars:** \$1100

**3 Seminars:** \$1250

**4 Seminars:** \$1400

**8th/9th Jewish Leadership Institute (5 seminars):** \$1550