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Schechter School Office Hours (Winter):

Monday- Thursday
8am -4pm

Friday
8am- 2:30pm

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For Your Calendar:

December 10
**Wine, Cheese, Cookies,
and BOOKS!**

December 11
7th Grade to NYC
9/11 Memorial and
Jewish Heritage
Museum

Shabbat Shalom
Parashat Vayeishev
Candle lighting 4:02 pm

December 8 , 2017
20 Kislev, 5778

Exciting Zachs Family Challenge for FOSS donations!

**DOUBLE
YOUR IMPACT!**

**Announcing the Zachs Family Foundation
Matching Challenge:**
*Dollar-for-dollar match for new and increased giving
to the annual campaign and all gifts to Schechter's
endowment. Match ends at the end of the calendar year.*

Contact Sherri Pliskin, Development Officer
spliskin@ssds-hartford.org | 860-561-0700

Solomon
Schechter
Day School
of Greater Hartford

[Donate Now!](#)

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A Message from Nancy

"When asked to share an important lesson from the biblical

December 12

First Hannukah Candle

December 15

EC RELISH

December 25

**Winter Break
School CLOSED**

January 2

Classes resume

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Quick Links

[Solomon Schechter
Website](#)

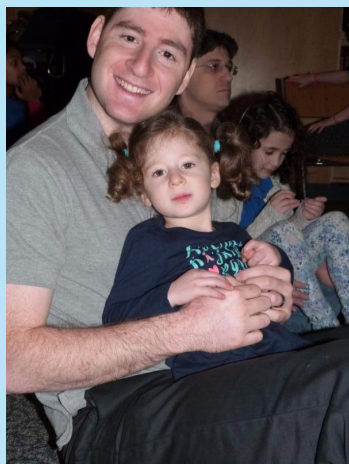
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Join Our List

Would you like a grandparent, relative, or friend to receive the Schechter newsletter? Email ASobel@ssds-hartford.org and include the name, email address, and relationship to Schechter and we will add them to our list!



**RELISH is Rockin'!!
Pics from
December 1st**



account of Creation, adults often answer, 'It's a children's story!'

But, if you ask an eighth grader at The Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Hartford, she might answer you, speaking in God's voice: 'I tried to create a world with imperfections, that throughout time would evolve, creating more imperfections, while fixing some. That is why I started the world incomplete because with completion there is no evolution.' Such a reflection is the result of an intentional, collaborative journey that our faculty is taking in order to guide our students to connect, engage, and contribute to sacred conversations."



This is the opening paragraph of an article that I was asked to write for eJewish Philanthropy, chronicling the journey that we began several years ago as we re-imagined and re-envisioned our students' learning and engagement. The results have been breath-taking! Please click on the link to read the full story of our journey.

Click [HERE](#) for the Full Article

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Follow Schechter on Twitter & Facebook!!!

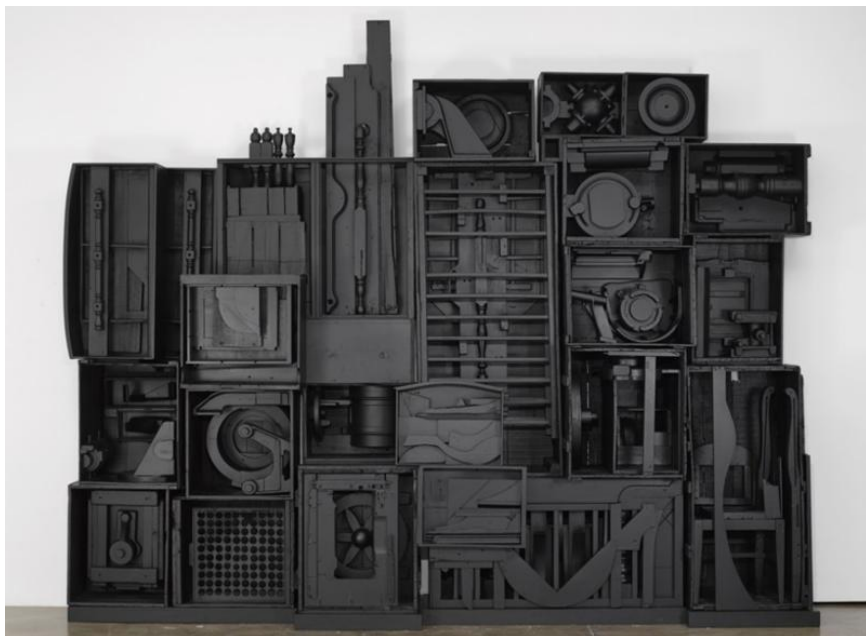
To keep up with all the happenings at SSDS,
Follow us on Twitter [HERE](#) and on Facebook [HERE](#)

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Makerspace would LOVE your extra stuff!

Students in Low Tech Makerspace would LOVE your help collecting miscellaneous items for their Louise Nevelson-inspired Assemblages! Students are working on building meaningful Three-Dimensional mixed media collages that repurpose old unused objects into new and meaningful artwork!

Ask your students what they need, what will inspire them. Please take a look around your house for items that can be donated and re-purposed into ART!



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The Warp Trio visits Schechter

On Monday, we had a day of music and learning throughout our entire school. The Warp Trio, a performing and teaching group based in New York City, came to share their music and their lessons with us.

The group's three members include Josh Henderson on violin, JY Young Lee on cello, and Mikael Darmanie on piano. These three musicians led each class through a performance and workshop that varied based on the ages of the students.





Every class (EC and Parparim, Rimonim, Gesher, and Rogow Middle School) had an individualized performance and workshop that worked with the different abilities in each classroom. The students developed skills involving improvisation and used their bodies to respond to different sounds. They built upon their new improvisational skills to make their own song stories.



Students also had the opportunity to develop their chamber music skills (watching, listening, and understanding different cues) with the xylophones and metallophones. Some even got the chance to play small solos using what we learned!



Middle school students had the unique opportunity to talk to professional musicians about their everyday lives, asking thoughtful questions about their schedules, what inspires their songwriting, the ins- and outs- of traveling, practicing their



instruments, and much more.



Throughout the day, our own Music Technology teacher, Jamie Debicella (also known as Schechter's resident tech genius and Relish guitarist) played along with the trio, demonstrating the true nature of improvisation to our students! Shay Bachar, a middle school Hebrew teacher, also performed with the trio during the MS performance. Warp Trio's lessons about improvisation, playing in an instrumental group, and experiencing music in a brand new way were inspiring to us all. A huge thank you to the PA for funding this nourishing experience!



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State Representatives Speak With Middle School About Bipartisanship

Rogow Middle School students were treated to first-hand experience in their civics and government curriculum when State Representatives Derek Slap, D-West Hartford, and William Petit, R-Plainville, came to Schechter to discuss the need for



bipartisanship in government.

"While we may hold different political views, as lawmakers, we must come together to find common ground and work together," Petit said. Representative Slap added, "Success in politics and governance depends on a lot of the same practices we teach our children - collaboration, mutual respect and compromise."

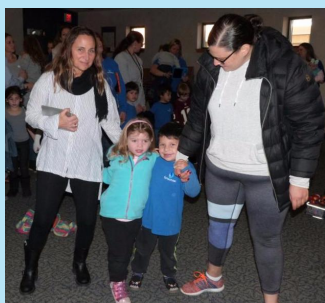


The middle schoolers were captivated by this conversation and asked thought-provoking questions of the representatives. Lilian asked, "How much financial support do the public schools receive?" Morissa wondered, "Did anyone regret supporting a bill?"

Our students showed their familiarity with current events; Noah asked the reps why Anthem and Hartford Hospital were having a dispute, and Brady inquired about the decision to build the Yard Goats stadium, observing that it probably was not a smart investment.



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MORE from the Warp Trio!



LATKES AND RELISH!

A community-wide Hanukkah celebration for all ages,
bringing the warmth of Schechter's Friday morning
Shabbat RELISH to the joy of Hanukkah.

Free and open to the public.



Bring your family and friends for
Singing, Storytelling, and Delicious Latkes

Sunday, December 17, 2017. 2:30-4 pm

At Solomon Schechter Day School

26 Buena Vista Road

West Hartford, CT 06107

Kindly RSVP: rsvp@ssds-hartford.org

Solomon Schechter Day School
of Greater Hartford



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Solomon Schechter Day School
of Greater Hartford

Featuring Scholastic Books, the Schechter PA brings you

AN EVENING OF WINE, CHEESE, COOKIES, & BOOKS

Enjoy an evening with your Schechter friends & family. This is a great opportunity to shop, with or without kids, while sipping wine and eating cheese. There will also be cookies for young and old!



Sunday December 10, 2017 6:30-8pm

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Solomon Schechter Day School
of Greater Hartford

Proudly Presents

Talent Show

SAVE THE DATE

When: Sunday, February 4 at 3 pm

Where: Schechter Auditorium

For questions, contact Bella Medvedovski
shnayder@hotmail.com

Showcasing the talented students of Solomon Schechter

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Check out Schechter Students
Alyssa (Gr. 7), Lily (Gr.5),
Zelia (Gr. 4) and Eliana (Gr. 4)
 in the production of Into the Woods Jr. !!!

MANDELL JCC YOUTH THEATER PRODUCTION

Herbert Gilman Theater

Director: Chris Mansfield | Musical Director: Vera Kushner | Choreographer: Jen Mansfield

Performance Dates: December 2, 7pm December 3, 2pm December 9, 7pm December 10, 2pm	Tickets and Information: \$11 Students/\$13 Adults Member Services Center 860-236-4571 www.mandelljcc.org	Thank You Mandell JCC Partner 	 Zachs Campus 335 Bloomfield Ave. West Hartford, CT 06117 860-236-4571 www.mandelljcc.org
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THIS SHABBAT!

Shabbat Club - Sat. December 9, 11:00am

Beth El dads, Jason Kay & Alan Tuvim, lead our elementary school aged kids in an interactive prayer service and Torah portion exploration. There's always fun, food, and friendship. Shabbat Club is the cool place to be! Future date: Jan. 20.

Shabbat Club

All 1st - 5th
Graders are invited



Mazel Tots - Sat. December 9, 11:00am

Celebrate Shabbat in a kid-centered, creative, crafty and totally cool way! Share meaningful experiences with prayers and Torah stories, and join us as Jewish traditions and stories come to life through play!

Coming Soon...



Shababa - Fri. Jan. 19, 5:45pm

Join Rabbi Garber for songs, dances, a Torah parade and more as we welcome Shabbat together. Open to all, from babies on up!

Mini-Minyan - Fri. Jan. 19, 5:45pm

Join Morah Barbara Checknoff in welcoming Shabbat through prayers and songs. Includes a Shabbat story! Geared at our Shababa "graduates" and parents are welcome.



If you have any questions contact Rabbi Garber, igarber@bethelwh.org.
To RSVP contact Wendy, 233-9696 or wberg@bethelwh.org.

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YOUNG ISRAEL SPEAKERS SERIES 5778

presents

RABBI JEREMY STERN

Shabbat Vayeshev • December 8-9, 2017

Friday Night Oneg

7:00 PM at the Brander home (6 Seneca Rd)
WHY CAN'T THE RABBIS JUST FIX IT?
RABBINIC WILL VS. HALACHIC WAY

Shabbat Morning Sermon

immediately following davening

HEARING THE CRY:
THE ROLE OF COMMUNITY IN
COMBATING ABUSE

Seudat Shlishit Shiur

immediately following Mincha

BREAKING THE CHAIN: A ROADMAP TO
RESOLVING THE AGUNAH CRISIS

Saturday Night

WEST HARTFORD PREMIERE



Screen the new hit comedic show about Orthodox Jews dating featuring the Halakhic Prenup followed by a discussion about practical opportunities to make a difference!

ORA אורה
FREEDOM AGUNOT. PREVENTING ABUSE.



RABBI JEREMY STERN serves as the Executive Director of the Organization for the Resolution of Agunot (ORA), an international nonprofit organization which advocates against the abuse of the get (Jewish divorce) process. Rabbi Stern received a B.A., a Master's in Jewish Education, and rabbinic ordination from Yeshiva University, and a Master's in Public Administration specializing in Nonprofit Administration from Baruch College. The staff at ORA has assisted in the resolution of over 250 contentious agunah cases since the organization's founding in 2002. Rabbi Stern has served as ORA's Executive Director since 2009 and lectures frequently on issues of domestic abuse, the interplay between the Jewish and American legal systems, and the role of the Jewish community in preventing and counteracting get-refusal.



Also upcoming as part of 5778 Speakers Series...

Yoetzel Halakha Nechama Price (Jan. 26-27)

Director of Graduate Program for Talmudic Studies
at Stern College for Women

Gavy Friedson

United Hatzalah International



Sponsorship opportunities are available, please contact
Rabbi Brander at rabbi@youngisraelwh.org for more information.

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YOUNG ISRAEL
SPEAKERS SERIES 5778

in conjunction with



ORA אורה
FREEDOM AGUNOT. PREVENTING ABUSE.

present

the West Hartford Premiere of
SOON BY YOU

Episode 5

featuring the Halakhic Prenup

Followed by a discussion lead by
Scholar-in-Residence
Rabbi Jeremy Stern
(Director of ORA)

THIS SATURDAY NIGHT • 12/9/17
7:30 PM @ YOUNG ISRAEL OF WEST
HARTFORD



Episode 5: The Wedding
Premiere Party & Screening

THE COMEDIC WEB SERIES
ABOUT ORTHODOX JEWS DATING IN NYC
TAKING THE JEWISH WORLD BY STORM

"This is hilarious! Jewish Romantic Comedy"

"Love it, every episode keeps getting better and better! Can't wait for the next one!"

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Come have a whole LATKE of fun
celebrating Chanukah with
Young Israel of West Hartford!

Kidz Club Chanukah Party!

Crafts, Interactive Games,
Laktes and Chanukah Treats

2nd night of Chanukah,
Wednesday, December 13,
from 4:30 – 6:00 PM

Grades K-6 · Parents are invited to stay

*Free and open to the public!
We hope to see you there!*



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“Light One Candle”

A Hanukkah Celebration for the Entire Congregation!



- **Tues. Dec. 12**
- **6:00 – 7:30 pm**
- FREE and open to ALL**

Join your *extended Emanuel Synagogue family* for the lighting of the first candle of the Chanukiah, Hanukkah Stories, Arts & Crafts and more! Please feel free to bring your own family Chanukiah to light along with us!

The evening will include:

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| • DINNER | courtesy of: Emanuel Connections |
| • LATKES | courtesy of: Brotherhood |
| • SUFGANIYOT | courtesy of: Adult Ed |
| • DREIDELS and GELT | courtesy of: Sisterhood |

For Tikkun Olam, we are accepting donations to support IsraAID's efforts in aiding survivors of the Yazidi genocide. IsraAID is Israel's largest nongovernmental, nonprofit, international, humanitarian organization.

Event location: The Emanuel Synagogue 160 Mohegan Drive, West Hartford, CT.

RSVP BY DECEMBER 10 TO: <http://evite.me/1fdWbwBqwP>

For more information contact David Bomzer (Emanuel VP), at tdbomzer@gmail.com

www.emanuelsynagogue.org

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JOIN HHNE & JTCONNECT FOR A **CHANUKAH MISHMAR CELEBRATION!**

Come for a night of light, learning and lots of latkes!

From battle elephants to self-driving cars, and everything in between, HHNE's Head of School Rabbi Jeremy Bruce will lead a guided exploration of big questions and moral dilemmas arising around the next-generation technologies of the 21st century.

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

7-8:30pm

300 Bloomfield Avenue
West Hartford CT

RSVP:
SKOGLUND@HHNE.ORG



This program is partially funded by the Alfred and Helen Wiesel Education Endowment Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Hartford.

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THE SIGEL HEBREW ACADEMY PTO

PRESENTS

ShLOCK ROCK

**A FREE JEWISH CONCERT FOR THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2017**

AT THE SIGEL HEBREW ACADEMY
53 GABB RD, BLOOMFIELD CT 06002
860.243.8333

**6:15PM - DOORS OPEN
6:30PM - COMMUNITY CANDLE LIGHTING
AND CHILDREN'S PERFORMANCE
7:00PM - CONCERT BEGINS**

**COME CELEBRATE CHANUKAH WITH US
LIGHT REFRESMENTS TO BE SERVED**

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE
53 GABB RD, BLOOMFIELD | WWW.SIGELACADEMY.ORG | 860.243.8333

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**Family Shabbat Service + Chanukah Dinner
December 15, 6pm**

Join Beth El Temple for a special family service just for Chanukah!
Latkes, dreidels, and more!

Beth El
Temple
Be
Community You
Can Believe In

Cost: \$12/adult, \$8/child (ages 3-12)
Reservations and payment online or to the Beth El office no later than 12/13 @ 12pm.

2626 Albany Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06117 • 860-233-9696 • www.bethelwesthartford.org

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Your urgent assistance is requested at our

MENORAH MYSTERY CHANUKAH PARTY

Saturday Night, December 16 at 7:30 PM
Young Israel of West Hartford
Food, Friends & lots of Fun • \$5/person

**RSVP TO JUANITA MOSS AT
JUANITA.MOSS@GMAIL.COM
VISIT WWW.YOUNGISRAELWH.ORG**



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Mini Minyan Chanukah Celebration

Open to the community
For families with children ages 0-5
Sponsored by Farmington Valley
Jewish Congregation, Emek Shalom
www.FVJC.org



Saturday, Dec 16

9:00 - 10:00am

at the Farmington Community
and Senior Center
321 New Britain Avenue, Unionville



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JTCCONNECT, USY & JR. USY PRESENT

HANUKKAH ON ICE!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17TH: 3:30PM - 7:00PM

**JOIN YOUR FRIENDS FROM THROUGHOUT
THE COMMUNITY FOR A HANUKKAH
CELEBRATION!**

**ICE SKATING... NEON PARTY... DINNER...
AND A LOT OF LATKES!**

Open to ALL teens in 8th-12th grade! Cost - \$35 includes ice skating, transportation, neon party and dinner.

Drop off at Veterans Memorial Ice Rink at 3:30pm!
Pickup at Beth El Temple at 7:00pm
"Rounding Transportation from FVJC in Simsbury!"

RSVP AT [TINYURL.COM/HANUKKAHONICE](http://tinyurl.com/hanukkahonice)

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CHANUKAH

blue
back
SQUARE

AT BLUE BACK

CHANUKAH ESSAY CONTEST*

Win a Samsung Galaxy
Tablet, FitBit or Drone!

*See back

Fire on Ice

Great
Chocolate
Chanukah
Gelt Drop

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17TH, 2017 – 4 PM

JOIN CONNECTICUT'S 10TH ANNUAL LARGEST CHANUKAH CELEBRATION

Live Carving of 8ft ICE Menorah

- 3-D Dreidel Printing
- Chanukah Nails Manicure
- Glow-in-the-Dark Face-Painting
- Free Raffle
- Arts and Crafts
- Doughnuts
- Food for Sale
- Heated Tent
- Great Chocolate Chanukah Gelt Drop
- Menorah Lighting Ceremony

Concert by

**ROGERS
PARK**

America's Only Hassidic
Folk Band

ROGERS
PARK



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YOU'RE INVITED!

Join Solomon Schechter Day School for Havdallah and Hockey featuring Jewish A Capella Group Six13!

All children will receive a special Havdallah gift!

Following Havdallah, we will attend the Hartford Wolfpack game at the XL Center

Cost:

5:30pm Havdallah with Six13 Hilton Hartford - Free!!

7:30pm Hockey game XL Center - Tickets \$10 each

For more information and to reserve your space today, please use this

link. <https://form.jotform.com/73314196353153>

Ticket orders and RSVP are due January 7

Due to space limitations, walk ins are not permitted.

Solomon Schechter Day School
of Greater Hartford



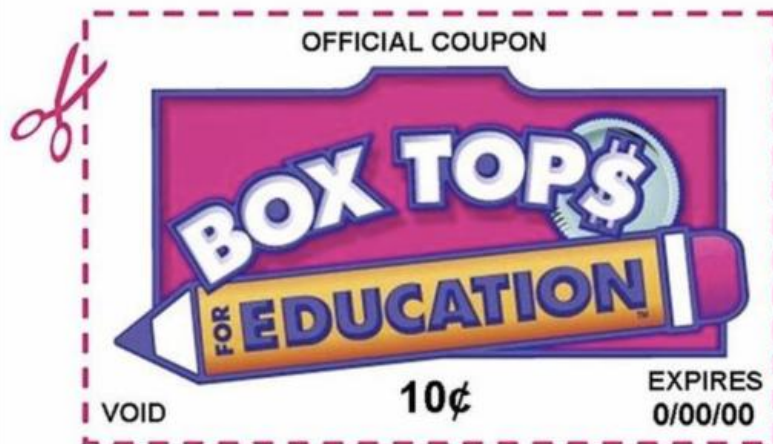
JANUARY 27, 2017

5:30PM • HILTON HOTEL, HARTFORD, CT



SPONSORED BY BBYO AND CAMP LAURELWOOD

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Let's get clipping!

Box Tops for Education is free money for our school!
There are many brands that you may purchase that
have this coupon on them...

Pillsbury

Kleenex

Ziploc

Betty Crocker

General Mills

Hefty

Box Tops will be collected the **First Friday of each month!** Drop them off in any of the collection bins you see around the school. Be sure to visit www.btfe.com to sign up for additional offers, support Solomon Schechter and even download the easy to use app!

Thanks for your support!

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Audrey Sobel and Rhiannon Van Bindsbergen, Co-Editors
Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Hartford