# **Schechter Shavua**

June 3, 2019 ----- 29 lyar 5779

# Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Hartford

#SchechterPride in our Habonim Historians! Learn about how our Early Childhood students are helping to feed the hungry.... Parparim students lead morning prayers and receive siddurim.... Middle School students dive into digital sound editing!

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### **#SchechterPride in ...**

our **Habonim (grades 6-7) students**, who, under the guidance, compassion and commitment of Mrs. Simon, have taken part in the West Hartford collaborative project *Witness Stones*. Witness Stones draw their inspiration from *Stolpersteine*, stumble stones, placed throughout Europe in the last home a Jewish family, exterminated in the Holocaust, lived freely.



The Witness Stone project invites students to become scholars as they uncover and tell the story of people who were enslaved in West Hartford - people who were brutally owned and whose stories were never even recorded. Our Habonim class, along with Mrs. Simon, worked to better understand Simone and piece together what little is known about her life - even her name was in question.

On Wednesday, Habonim, along with students from Conard High School and Bristow Middle School, held a ceremony at the First Congregational Church, sharing the stories of three slaves named Simone, Chris, and Bristow. It was an incredibly moving morning as our students read a poem they wrote making an apology and a promise to Simone. They connected their learning about Simone to their Jewish learning and identity and to the story of Pesach, imploring us to never forget. We then followed African drummers to the cemetery to place the three stones.

Our Schechter students brought Simone dignity by sharing her story and, by doing so, privileged us with the opportunity to grow our own compassion. Thank you to Mrs. Simon for bringing this project to Schechter and thank you, Habonim, for bringing your whole selves to this hard history.



### Music Tech: Editing Techniques through Cross-Curricular Integration

Schechter's music tech class has taken the middle school by storm! The students are locked in and excited by the realization that they can create and record original compositions. Working to expand their understanding of digital media and recording, the students are currently creating compositions with a professionally recorded audio excerpt from Louis Lowry's "The



Giver," a book they read in Humanities class. While learning the industry concept of "Non-Destructive Editing," which allows sound designers and engineers to manipulate source recordings without losing any content or quality throughout the process, the students are designing and creating audio projects that include adding sound effects and background music to help tell Lowry's incredible story.

### Parparim Siddur Program

The **Parparim** came together with their families and friends to celebrate the joy they bring to learning part of the *shacharit teffilot*. The students entered the *Beit Tefillah* dancing and singing; they shared their personal reflections and connections to the different *brachot* that they had learned throughout the year. Each *tefillah* was marked by joyful dancing. It was so clear how the students came together as a learning community and a family, singing together and loving to dance with each other. Another highlight of the program, when each second year Parparim student receives their first siddur, was anticipated with so much excitement that even some of the



first year Parparim had a hard time falling asleep the night before - that is the power of multiage and community.

#### MORE Pics of Parparim's Siddur Presentation HERE

#### Shorashim and Dubonim Help Feed the Hungry

This week, **Shorashim** had a visit from Louisa from the Charter Oak Cultural Center in Hartford. The children in both Dubonim and Shorashim planted tomato, cucumber, and pepper plants several weeks ago and have been taking loving care of them for many weeks. Charter Oak Cultural Center will take these seedlings to be repotted into BOTS Pots around Hartford, which will both feed the hungry and be a source of employment for some people who are



homeless. For more about the BOTS Pots program that we are so proud to be a part of, click <u>HERE</u>.



You are Cordially Invited to the Solomon Schechter Day School Of Greater Hartford

# **Annual Meeting**

Thursday, June 6th At 7:00 p.m.

Solomon Schechter Beit Tefillah 26 Buena Vista Road West Hartford, CT 06119

Reception to follow

Please let us know you're coming! rsvp@ssds-hartford.org

Slate of Officers: President: Lauren Eisen Chairwomen of the Board: Sharon Kochen and Jessica Zachs Vice Presidents: Greg Patchen, Avinoam Patt, and Gayle Temkin Treasurer: Boris Levin Secretary: Jason Kay

Outgoing Board Members: John Kaufman and Erica Smith-Rapaport

**RSVP** for the Annual Meeting



**RSVP** for Graduation!

# ATTENTION PARENTS: A LITTLE LUNCH NOTE FROM THE KITCHEN...

There has been a change in the menu on **Wednesday**, **June 5**. The lunch will be Wacky Mac, not pasta bar. If this change will affect your child, please let us know which alternative lunch they would like to select instead. Thanks!

## **Calendar of Upcoming Events**

- May 28-June 4: Scholastic Book Fair!
- May 30: Parparim Siddur Presentation
- June 3: End of Year Picnic
- June 6: Parparim Field Trip to Magic Wings Butterfly Conservatory

- June 6: Schechter's Annual Meeting @ 7pm
- June 7: Drama Club Performance @ 11am
- June 10: Shavuot- SCHOOL CLOSED
- June 11: Choir Recital @ 7pm
- June 13: Noon Dismissal for Last Day of School
- June 13: Graduation! @ 7:30pm

Click here for More Dates!

Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Hartford Phone: 860.561.0700 | Fax: 860.561.2329 | <u>www.ssds-hartford.org</u>

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