



Educational Institute Oholei Torah - Oholei Menachem is the premier yeshiva for the worldwide Chabad-Lubavitch Movement, drawing students from around the world and providing from among its graduates a vast majority of the Chabad emissaries. With the teachings of the Lubavitcher Rebbe as an integral part of the curriculum, Oholei Torah's educational standards are among the highest to be found and have led to phenomenal growth. Founded in 1956 with four students, Oholei Torah has grown into an all-inclusive center of education for over 1600 students of all ages.

Oholei Torah Announces Major Gift for New Dormitory Building

Rabbi Joseph Rosenfeld, Executive Director of Oholei Torah, has announced a most generous donation by Mr. and Mrs. David Slager. The funds will be used for the renovation of the Talmudical Seminary's Dormitory Building.

The Slagers have been closely following the recent progress and plans for this project. The dormitory building, located at 645 Eastern Parkway and attached to the western side of the Eastern Parkway Campus, was built as a 24-unit apartment building in 1910. It is not being utilized in all of its 24,000 square feet, due to constraints of the original construction layout. Even with ongoing upkeep and renovations, the building falls far short of providing the proper comfort and safety for the 200 dormitory students who come from all over the world to study in the Talmudical Seminary of Oholei Torah, which is accredited as an Institute of Higher Learning in the College Department, Washington, DC.

Initial plans are to gut the entire building, leaving just the outside walls, excavate the basement, to build a modern, comfortable

Mikvah, and add two complete floors to expand the primary divisions of the school. The plans also call for refinishing the façade in the same look as the newer buildings in the campus.

An advisory building committee has been



formed, comprised of community members who are giving of their time to ensure that the quality and workmanship will be of the highest standards. Committee members Rabbi Yitzchak M. Kramer, Rabbi Sholom Rosenfeld, Dovid Sputz, Avrohom Lokshin,

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Oholei Torah Announces Honorees for its 55th Annual Dinner

A most impressive list of Wall Street investors, attorneys, and professionals from across America will be joining in support of Educational Institute Oholei Torah at the

upcoming 55th Annual Dinner, on February 21, 2010 / 7 Adar 5770.

This group of outstanding individuals has made a commitment to Oholei Torah, with appreciation to its education and its impact on the wider community.



● Mr. Simon Jacobson and Yerachmeal Jacobson tour Oholei Torah before the Dinner

Rabbi Sholom Rosenfeld, Director, hopes that the dinner will mark the beginning of new friendships which will bring about positive and productive results for many future years to come.

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The Rebbe Writes to Oholei Torah

“...We need not look too far to realize that one of the most deplorable areas of neglect in recent years, reaching crisis proportions, is that of the Torah education of Jewish children and youth.

This should alarm everyone concerned about the future of Jewish youth, which is intimately connected with the future of the Jewish people.

At the same time – in accordance with the well-known saying that “an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure” – it is even more important to ensure right from the start that Jewish children do not go astray and become estranged. This is accomplished by enabling them to receive a Torah-true education in schools that should not have to struggle with financial problems.

This brings us to the vitally important Oholei Torah School, where students receive a Torah education on its highest and holiest level, permeated with love of G-d, love of His Torah and love of their fellow Jews...

— Rosh Chodesh Iyar 5734 (1974)

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Oholei Torah Receives 4th Grant from US Government's Homeland Security

In these uncertain times, Oholei Torah stresses the security and safety of our students as a priority. Over the past three years Rabbi Sholom Rosenfeld, Director of Oholei Torah, has been working diligently on implementing new security measures in the school's campuses. "Security is an issue that needs to be a top priority on all levels of our school administration and staff members," says Rosenfeld. "We thank the Homeland



Mr. Steve Tierney visiting with the students of Oholei Torah

Security Program for the resources to help us achieve these goals, without further taxing the parents or community for these critical funds."

Mr. Steve Tierney from the New York State Office of Homeland

Security recently visited the school and discussed the current security measures and implementing new ones.

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Yanki Sufirin, Yankel Pinson, Moti Pinson, Mendel Lerman, Ari Chitrik and Yitzchok Rivkin will all contribute their expertise and experience to the project.

Manhattan architect firm Simon Fouladian has been hired to draw up the plans and oversee the construction. Mr. Fouladian has an extensive portfolio of projects including a dormitory building for New York University.

Rabbi Yitzchok M. Kramer, Administrator, is positive that this building project, the third major construction project in Oholei Torah

in just over 10 years, will add greatly to the comfort and general experience of the students who attend for the unique education found only in the Talmudical Seminary.

As the building campaign kicks off, Oholei Torah is accepting contributions towards dedications, and partnerships for the various parts of the building. To inquire about dedications please contact Rabbi Sholom Rosenfeld at 718-774-5050 ext. 2102.

Shabbos Junior Congregation - Reb Michael's Minyan enters its fourth year with a new Sefer Torah

On the days that a school is closed, it would be unusual to see hundreds of students running towards the building. This is not the case with Oholei Torah.

grown to be the ideal place for a child to daven, garnering much buzz in the community.



This can be attributed to its popular Junior Shabbos Congregation, called Reb Michael's Minyan, in memory of Rabbi Michael Teitelbaum - co-founder of Oholei Torah. Under the direction of Rabbi Velvel Karp, a 3rd grade teacher, the minyan has

In June of 2009, a Sefer Torah was completed, bringing the community together in celebration, dedicated in memory of Rabbi Michael Teitelbaum who passed away in 2007.



Mrs. Esther Teitelbaum with her son Rabbi Eliezer Teitelbaum with the new Sefer Torah

Oholei Torah PTA Holds Chinese Auction

It's known that mothers care for their children, providing warm food, clothing, and comfort that only a mother can give. But the mothers of Oholei Torah PTA provide so much more, becoming producers, designers, organizers and fundraisers - all for the grand inaugural Chinese Auction event in Oholei Torah. On Sunday evening, December 6, an overflow crowd of well over 1000 women were treated to a glamorous evening at Oholei Torah's Gutnick Ballroom. The room was transformed into a winter wonderland of prize displays, delectable food, and an atmosphere of friendship, support and unity among the delighted guests.



The dedicated committee of PTA mothers planned the event for months, creating a magnificent booklet of prizes, and coordinated an evening that everyone left looking forward to next year's event. The program continued in the building's upper hall, where the event was graciously chaired by Mrs. Tzirl Goldman. After an introduction from the Tmimim boys choir, Rabbi Nosson Blumes gave remarks and appreciation from the administration, followed by a beautiful video enumerating the PTA's many accomplishments. The main event was a deeply moving speech by Mrs. Leah Rubashkin, wife of Sholom Mordechai Rubashkin, who is currently experiencing great trials and tests. She inspired all the attendees with stories of her family's faith in G-d, even through these difficult times.



The evening was dedicated to the memory of Charlotte Ostrov, by her family and by David & Eda Schottenstein in the merit of the Rubashkin Family.



The winners of over 100 prizes were then announced, although everyone left feeling uplifted and like a winner. It is interesting to note that the Split the Pot raffle prize - which varies according to the amount of tickets purchased (winner receives half of the profit) - equaled exactly \$5770.00 - the numerical value of the current year on the Jewish calendar.

Thanks

Oholei Torah wishes to thank all the dedicated mothers of the PTA Auction Committee for their hard work and great results they produce for our students:

- Tzippy Dalfin
- Nechama B. Feldman
- Brachi Friedman
- Rochel Leah Jaffe
- Aida Junik
- Dina Kops
- Tzivia Lehrer
- Chani Markowitz
- Chani Neubort
- Devorie Piekarski
- Aidy Pinson
- Maggie Rogatsky
- Raizy Rutman

National Museum of American Jewish History Visits Oholei Torah Campus



Ivy Weingram, Museum curator for the famed National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia, visited Oholei Torah recently for a closer look at the original building, which was built in 1920 and housed the Brooklyn Jewish Center for many years.

The museum plans to unveil a new exhibit entitled “Only in America,” which will include scale models of key Jewish centers in America – one being a replica of the Brooklyn Jewish Center, currently the Oholei Torah campus. Rabbi Nossan Blumes, Oholei Torah’s Director of Development, works closely with members of the BJC, and was able to provide the museum research staff with many facts, articles and blueprints of the

original building. The exhibit will also include several original pieces from the school’s collection. In a letter to Oholei Torah, Mrs. Weingram wrote of her visit, “I so enjoyed getting a look at your classrooms and all the beautiful students who fill the building with life and activity.”

Rabbi Blumes will be representing Oholei Torah at the premiere viewing of the show in the fall of 2010.

NMAJH also selected 18 distinguished Jewish Americans to be featured in the “Only in America” Gallery, including the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson.

Oholei Torah Mourns the Loss of Mrs. Pearl Shapolsky



With a sad and heavy heart, Rabbi Joseph Rosenfeld, Executive Director of Oholei Torah, announces the passing of Mrs. Pearl Shapolsky and expresses condolences to

her daughter Toby, her son-in-law Noel and their grandchildren. Pearl, along with her husband, Harry J. Shapolsky, have been staunch supporters of Oholei Torah for almost 40 years, since Harry was the Journal Chairman in 1964. Rabbi Rosenfeld was the Shapolskys’ personal Rabbi and dear friend. Mrs. Shapolsky often visited Oholei Torah, and was like a beloved aunt to many of the students, and she constantly inquired about their well being.

In 2004 Pearl dedicated the Harry J. & Pearl Shapolsky Wing, which was just recently built in the Talmudical Seminary section of

the Eastern Parkway Campus. Pearl saw this as an opportunity to memorialize her husband’s memory with a gift that will reap everlasting benefits. Pearl always saw the future of the Jewish community in the students who learn in the Shapolsky Wing, as they will use their education to become part of the greater body of Chabad-Lubavitch emissaries, opening Jewish centers around the world.

A memorial dedication will take place at the upcoming Annual Dinner, and a future memorial event is planned with the participation of her friends and family.



Oholei Torah Updating Alumni Lists

Over the past 55 years since the founding of Oholei Torah, an estimated 3500 students have passed through our doors. Being the flagship school of the Chabad-Lubavitch community, our alumni can be found literally anywhere and everywhere on the globe.

In recent years, an alumni office has been established, and Oholei Torah has held reunions, sent mailings and collected archives of its students and alumni.

As Oholei Torah strives to reach out and stay connected with its past students, we have recently begun working on updating our lists, and plan to begin an e-mail newsletter dedicated to the alumni of Oholei Torah. We hope that an impressive list will be compiled and available for distribution at the upcoming Annual Dinner, which will give the guests insight into the major impact Oholei Torah students have had on Jewish life across the world, as a leading force in the Chabad community and as Shluchim.

We are calling on our alumni to send in pictures, lists and memorabilia to add to the school’s archive. Please contact Sarah at 718-778-3340 ext. 1134.

Seeing is Believing

Imagine if a Rabbi visited you at your office or home - with 1600 children in tow? It would take months of planning and preparation to pull off an event like that. That is why Oholei Torah's friends are encouraged to visit the school at their Brooklyn campus, to see first-hand what makes us so unique.



Recent visitors have included:

Rabbi Benjamin Z. Kreitman, former Rabbi of the Brooklyn Jewish Center and Rabbi Emeritus of the Board, together with his wife and family, as they celebrated the visit as a special and meaningful Father's Day gift.

Dr. Jeffery Borer, Chief of the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine at SUNY Downstate Medical Center, along with his wife Brondi. Dr. Borer will be leading the Brooklyn Jewish Center preservation campaign.

Mr. Michael Eisner, CEO of Eisner Media, who saw first-hand the importance and great achievements of the school.

Mr. David Slager, who visited with the Rosh Yeshiva and members of the administration to discuss the upcoming Dormitory Building project.

Mr. Bruce Weitzberg, an honoree at the upcoming Dinner, who will be dedicating a classroom in memory of his mother Adele Weitzberg.

Mr. David Junik, Executive Vice President/Partner in Greiner-Maltz Realty, who dedicated a classroom in memory of his father, Reb Berel Junik.

If you would like to visit to see our great accomplishments for yourself, please call Rabbi Nosson Blumes at 718-483-9000.

Oholei Torah Mourns the Loss of...

Pesha Leah Azoulay, a young woman tragically killed in a car accident. Her husband Mendy was a student of Oholei Torah.

Rabbi **Shamshon Charitonow**, father of Rabbi Sholom Charitonow, a devoted teacher in the Talmudical Seminary.

Chaya Mushka Gottlieb, former staff member in our primary division and the daughter of Rabbi Naftoli and Chana Rivkah Gottlieb, who has worked in the Oholei Torah financial office for many years.

Chaya Mushka Itkin, 3 years old, who passed away after a difficult illness. Chaya Mushka is the daughter of Yitzchok Itkin, an Oholei Torah alumnus, and granddaughter of Rabbi Nachman Schapiro, a Mashpia in the Talmudical Seminary.

Avrohom Dovid Liberow, a 9 year old boy tragically killed in a car accident. Dovid was a former student in Oholei Torah.

Shula Swerdlow, 4 years old, who was tragically killed in a car accident in Jerusalem, Israel. Shula's father, Yossi, is an Oholei Torah alumnus who currently directs the organization Chabad's Children of Chernobyl.

Rabbi **Yosef Tevel**, an outstanding member of the Crown Heights Community who was active in countless acts of kindness and true Ahavas Yisroel. Rabbi Tevel graduated from Oholei Torah in 1974, and all his children were students as well.

We wish the families that they should know only of simchas and happy occasions, and may Hashem bring the ultimate comfort with the revelation of Moshiach.

Please remember
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For further information
or for any comments
please contact our
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Oholei Torah Students Celebrate Pesach Seders in Over 100 Communities Around the World



As the holiday of Passover is quickly approaching, students of the Talmudical Seminary are making their plane reservations and planning their Pesach/spring break for this year. Rabbi Elchonon

Lesches, Dean of the Seminary, says that what's interesting is that many students, instead of enjoying the comforts of home and family, will be conducting public Passover Seders in over 100 communities around the world.

Whether in the Far East, Russia, or university campuses across America, students of Oholei Torah will be sharing the Torah and traditions they learn with others, who otherwise might not be celebrating a Seder at all.

Shabbos as the Core of the Week and Year in the High School Division

Shabbos is the core of the week, and in Oholei Torah High School a number of Shabbaton gatherings are held, which imbue the students with feelings of excitement, warmth and unity that are felt for a long time afterwards.



Most recently, the High School - Mesivta under the leadership of Rabbi Zushe Wilhelm, Dean,

went on a three-day excursion to the Adirondack Mountains and the New York State capital in Albany. Students who excelled in learning received an extra night out, giving them a four-night stay.

Traveling in a luxury bus, the weekend's full schedule included bowling, snow tubing, race car driving, barbecuing and more. The weekend gave 170 boys in the High School much to remember, especially the Shabbos gatherings at the Saratoga Springs Chabad House with the Rubin family, Shluchim to Albany. The boys were inspired by stories, personal encounters of their Shlichus, and uplifting songs.

One of the many highlights of the trip was a tour of the NYS Capitol and Legislative Chambers, where the students were presented with a special proclamation commemorating their trip, and included quotations from the Talmud, which the students are currently learning.

Many of the devoted staff joined the boys on the three-day trip, giving them a chance to interact and connect in a more informal atmosphere.



Alan Shawn Feinstein Food Drive – Increases your Contribution Towards our 2010 Passover Appeal

Philanthropist Alan Feinstein of Rhode Island will be giving one million dollars to fight hunger across the United States. All of the donations received for our 2010 Passover Campaign during the months of March and April will count towards the Feinstein Challenge. Mr. Feinstein will then make a matching contribution to Oholei Torah, thereby increasing the contributions.

Please help Oholei Torah's Passover Appeal increase our income this year through Mr. Feinstein's matching grant. The more money Oholei Torah can raise from March 1 - April 30, 2010, the more money Mr. Feinstein will give to Oholei Torah. For more information on this unique program, please contact Rabbi Blumes at 718-778-3340 ext. 1115.