



# JYN QUARTERLY

AUGUST 2020 | ELUL 5780



## Covid-19 Response: Chesed Project Report

Over the last several months, JYN has jumped into high-gear with the Chessed Project. Our entire centre has been converted into a distribution room for supplies, groceries and daily necessities in response to the numerous requests for assistance from isolated or immuno-compromised individuals in the community. Special thanks to the close to 25 volunteers who have been helping round-the-clock to collect and distribute these essential services. We are here to help! Learn more at [jewishyouth.ca/chesed](https://www.jewishyouth.ca/chesed)

## Robbins Family Centre Building Update

We are truly humbled and appreciative of the countless inquiries we have received regarding our general well-being and the building progress, especially during the Covid-19 lockdown. So here is a summary, in a nutshell: Aside from a minor delay in March and April, we are fully on track and progressing at a steady pace. We regularly post updates on Instagram and Facebook, so check us out! For those of you passing by on Bathurst St., (but not driving) check out the first level of our parking lot already paved and watch for us coming out of the ground this week!! Super-exciting developments—stay tuned for more coming soon!



## JYN Academy

Classes will be resuming in person as usual this year for JYN Academy, with some modifications in accordance with Ontario Health Guidelines. All registered students will receive an email summary of health and safety regulations, and classes will be limited to 15 students per class. In addition, class instruction will be shortened to one and a half hours, supplemented with an online component.

As of now, the following classes have open registration. Once a class is full, we will open a wait list for possible additional time slots to be added as more students register.

- **Monday:** Grade 9  
HRE23 Bible Studies Course, 3:45-5:15PM
- **Tuesday:** Grade 10  
HZB3O Philosophy Course, 3:45-5:15PM
- **Wednesday:** Grade 11  
IDC4U Interdisciplinary Course, 3:45-5:15PM
- **Thursday:** Grade 12  
HZT4U Philosophy Course, 3:45-5:15PM

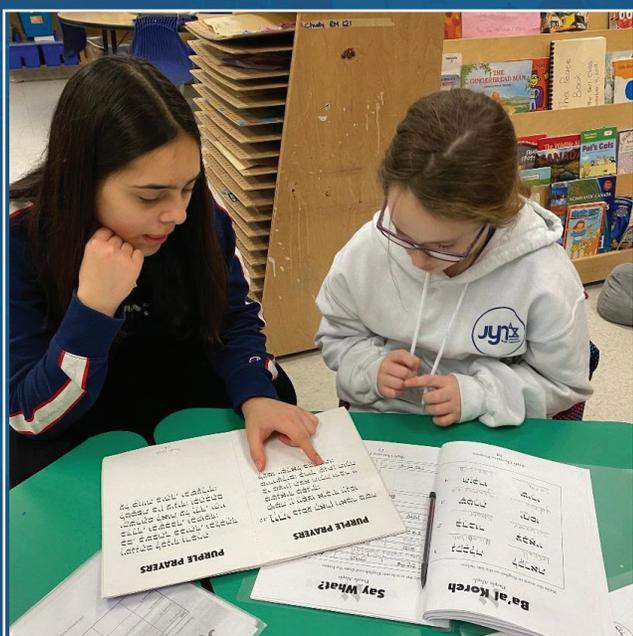
Registration is open at [jynacademy.com](http://jynacademy.com)

## JYN Connect

As JYN Connect is a program which thrives on close communication between a Mentor and Mentee, **regretfully it cannot run as in past years**. However, a survey has been sent out to Parents and Teens inquiring if they would be interested in an online-style program. As we explore this option, feel free to email Judy for more information. We will resume the regular program format as soon as it is safe to do so.  
[judy@jewishyouth.ca](mailto:judy@jewishyouth.ca)

## JYN Hebrew School

As the YRDSB has postponed permits for the use of community public schools till November 2nd, JYN Hebrew School will still be running under two options. We will hold small back-to-back classes on Sundays at the JYN Centre in the Summeridge Plaza with appropriate health guidelines and limited class size as well as create unique virtual classrooms on Zoom for groups of five children per one teacher with a virtually tailored program. Either way, the show goes on! Online Registration is now open.



## JYN Ambassadors

JYN Ambassadors function as official representatives of the Jewish Youth Network, introducing and guiding prospective students in JYN's various initiatives. Ambassadors are supervised by JYN Staff, and act as leaders and role models in their respective schools and communities to represent JYN as a fun, positive and dynamic extracurricular program. Ambassadors generally meet monthly over pizza to discuss new initiatives and tweak programming—now we meet over zoom. Stay tuned for our new program and event announcements!



## Shofar-on-the-Corner Project

Not able to go Shul this year for Rosh Hashana? Will you be missing the call of the Shofar? Not to worry! You will still be able to hear the Shofar's holy sounds and fulfill this most important mitzvah! We are currently preparing a platform that will enable you to find a qualified shofar-blower on a corner near you at a designated time, and in a safe and healthy manner. We will provide the link as soon as we're up and running—stay tuned! A Happy and Sweet New Year!

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Growing up as a Lubavitcher kid, hearing the Shofar on Rosh Hashanah was an absolute given, and clearly the most important component of this exalted holiday. Every Jew had to hear the Shofar, no matter their location or circumstance. So much so, that at the Rebbe's directive, young bochorim (yeshiva student) such as myself—armed with Shofar in hand — would make it a priority to seek out those who couldn't or didn't go to Shul to ensure they

would partake in this most primal yet extraordinary mitzvah. But we also understood that these Jews were the exception, not the rule.

Today's COVID climate has changed all that. No longer can it be taken for granted that Jews will summarily flock to Shul to hear the holy sounds that will carry their tefillot (prayers) heavenwards in a once-yearly ritual of awakening and acceptance of Hashem's Kingship. Over the last couple of weeks, I have been surveying countless teens and alumni and have heard the same unfortunate declaration time and time again. "Rabbi, I really feel bad to skip Shul this year, but there's nothing I can do about it. It's just not safe!"

Drawing on the strength and timeless directives of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, we learn to adapt and overcome. If the people can't go to Shul to hear Shofar on Rosh Hashana, we will bring the Shofar to them.

**shofaronthecorner.com** is an online platform that connects Jews with volunteer Shofar-blowers in their respective neighbourhoods to inform them of a designated corner / landmark and time that the Shofar will be blown, in a outdoor safe and socially distant manner. All they need to do is RSVP. No one needs to be put at risk. No one needs to be left out.

This platform can work anywhere in the world. It can be as small or large as we wish. Encourage your friends and neighbours to RSVP at [shofaronthecorner.com](http://shofaronthecorner.com) and let's ensure that this Rosh Hashanah, more than ever, every single Jew will hear the holy call of the Shofar. Shana Tova,

### **Rabbi Shmuli & Chani Nachlas**

JYN - Jewish Youth Network  
Thornhill, Ontario

This initiative is Dedicated by Denise & Eliezer Robbins in honour of Holocaust survivor Lea Hochman עמו"ש, who is the ultimate role model of emunah in the face of diversity. We wish you continued good health and Yiddishe Nachas.



## Youth Torah: Health. Protection. Unity.

In a community-wide effort to unite all Jewish people during these challenging times, JYN is proud to commission the writing of a Youth Torah! The Youth Torah is being written by the youth and other members of our community. This Torah represents the soul, the essence and the shlichut (mandate) of the Robbins Family Jewish Youth Centre. Please buy a letter in this special Torah for ONLY \$18. Our Rabbis teach that the communal writing of a Torah through each person's individual purchase of a letter brings unity, protection and healing to the Jewish people. Can there be a more opportune moment for this timely initiative? Be a part of this project and join together with JYN Youth and Alumni to earn the merit of protection by acquiring a letter— for yourself, your children or grandchildren, or in honour of a friend or loved one. [jewishyouth.ca/torah](http://jewishyouth.ca/torah)



## JYN 13th Gala and Benefit Evening - Reinvented!

This year, in a creative adaptation, rather than coming out to the annual Gala, WE ARE BRINGING THE GALA TO YOU! Stay tuned for our revised and exciting program sometime in November, offering a fabulous online auction, in-home delivery of beautiful gift baskets to our Donors, an online program and more! We are always in need and very appreciative of donated auction items and volunteers, so don't be shy!! Details to be forthcoming shortly. **For more information on how to donate/volunteer contact [judy@jewishyouth.ca](mailto:judy@jewishyouth.ca).**



# A NEW WAY TO GALA

## NOV. 17, 2020

An unforgettable evening of fun, food, and entertainment from the comfort of your home.



### SAVE the DATE!



Celebrating 13 years of inspiring Jewish Youth



### Mazal Tov - JYN Alumni

**Yoni Shoshan** on his marriage to **Alexandra Molson**  
**Julian Smith** on his marriage to **Calli Ryann**  
**Melissa Perez** on her marriage to **Mitch Ginsberg**

### Be in the Loop

Like and follow us on Instagram for the latest classes, events, outreach, updates & more...  
**@jewishyouthnetwork**