Oraynu in the News

Jewish culture, values, history come alive at Oraynu Children’s School
By Abigail Lapell

Central to the school’s philosophy is the value of Tikkun Olam, making the world a better place. Field trips and extracurricular outings immerse children and their families in Jewish cultural and community organizations, while older students take on special community service tzedakah projects like a Passover food drive and tree-planting for Tu B’Shvat.

Ultimately, according to Rabbi Levy, humanistic ethics are deeply embedded in Jewish literature and culture – historically, she said, “these are the values that have enabled us to survive as a people – family, community, learning, tzedakah and seeing ourselves as good citizens of the world.”

Through experiential learning within and beyond the classroom, Oraynu aims to bring those traditions to life in ways that speak directly to students and their families.

Classes take place Sundays from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., from September through May. Students in Grades 6 and 7 can take part in the school’s special two-year B’nai Mitzvot program, culminating in either a group ceremony or individual bar or bat mitzvah service.

New this year, the school also offers a caregiver-and-tot program, Oraynu-Tots, for preschoolers aged 18 months to four years. These groups include developmentally appropriate stories, art, music and movement activities.

For more information, visit www.oraynu.org/school or contact Principal Steve Shabes at (416)385-3910 or info@oraynu.org.