

*We are*

# Associated

associatedhebrewschools.com

**NEW APPROACHES  
TO LEARNING AT  
ASSOCIATED**

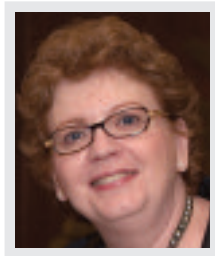
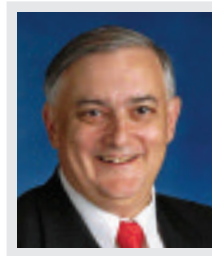
**THE CUTLERS:  
A TALE OF TWO BROTHERS**

Cashman & Greisman join the Associated team



We have updated the design of our long-standing publication to better reflect what and who we are. We hope that as a result of our new look, you will take a fresh look at what's happening at Associated.

# Welcome to *We are* Associated



Dr. Mark Smiley '72, Director of Education | Sally Zigler, President

## Associated today

is a modern centre of educational excellence incorporating the best thought and practice into an inspiring Jewish environment.

What truly distinguishes Associated is our unwavering commitment to excellence in all its facets. Academically, our students use technology to acquire insight, to collaborate with others, to communicate ideas and to create unique approaches to problems. **In both Judaic and General Studies we integrate an array of techniques, technologies and disciplines to create meaningful 21<sup>st</sup> century learning experiences.**

In a modern, tradition-based Jewish day school, excellence is demonstrated in our ability to bring Jewish practice to life on a foundation of formal study. **We are equally committed to allow students to experience Judaism and be inspired to incorporate Torah values into their lives.**

Excellence is both reflected in and

created by our educational leadership. We are unrelenting in acquiring the highest calibre of educational leaders and in supporting the development of our current faculty and administration.

**Associated is not just a community school, but a school community where students and faculty understand their responsibility to each other and to the broader world.**

We are guided by the belief that there is a place for every Jewish child at Associated. **Our school is a vibrant expression of Jewish unity with students from diverse backgrounds learning side by side.**

Equally, our uncompromising commitment to the academic success of every student is an expression of excellence. Our Centre for Diverse Learning continues to be a leader in meeting individual needs.

All of this wouldn't be possible without the support of a number of visionary families and all those who

contribute to Associated. We salute the Koschitzkys who, in partnership with UJA Federation, have provided monumental support for Associated and other schools in our community. In addition, we are so fortunate to have the Daniels, Friebergs, Gersteins, Kamins, Weinbaums and Weisfelds and as part of the Associated family of supporters.

Our parents and particularly the Parent Teacher Council are important guarantors of excellence. The PTC provides generous financial and critical human resources that supports so much of what we accomplish. Our parents drive change through their unrelenting commitment to have their children receive the best possible education.

Every year we see scores of outstanding young people graduate from Associated and join the legions of our alumni who continue to make a difference in so many ways.

**We look forward to witnessing the impact of our continuing commitment to excellence.**

### *We are Associated*

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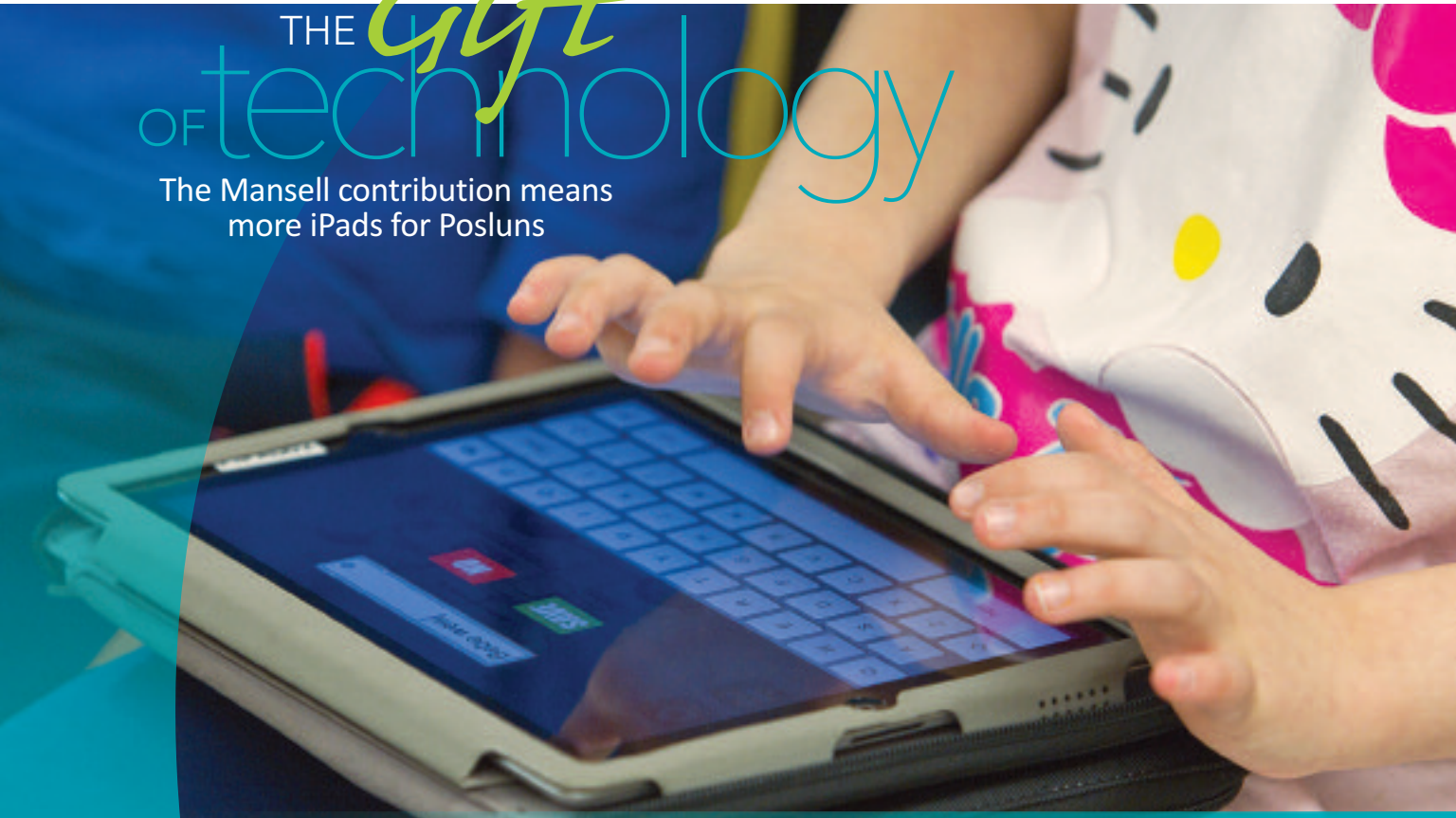
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**JEWISH EDUCATION** is a cause about which they feel very strongly and they chose to send their three school-aged children to Associated because of the “excellent Judaic and secular programs.” According to Naomi ’89, by supporting Jewish Day Schools, “one helps to ensure that they achieve the highest level of academic excellence.”

# THE *Gift* OF technology

The Mansell contribution means more iPads for Posluns



As parents with young children at the Posluns campus, the Mansells approached staff at the school and expressed interest in supporting Associated in a way that would be meaningful for them and for the school. The generous gift that resulted has enhanced the technology program by providing the funds needed to buy additional iPads for the classroom. The Mansells saw donating iPads to Associated as “an opportunity to help move the school forward.” The positive impact of their gift was evident in the way that students in Grade 4 used the iPads in science class to research how

sound travels and Grade 5 students used a specific app to reinforce their learning in French.

**Choosing to support Associated was a natural progression for the Mansells after seeing the positive educational and social experiences that their children were having at Associated.** The school is a “very important part of our lives and we wanted to support Associated in a meaningful way,” said Naomi. In addition to financial support, Naomi has made a commitment of her time to the school, having recently accepted a position on the school’s Board of Directors.

The Mansells hope that other parents will follow in their footsteps by supporting the school’s growth. **They want parents to be aware that tuition covers the cost of educating their children but a gift to the school allows for important educational enhancements and makes Associated financially accessible to more children.**

**Associated is very grateful for the Mansell family gift. With their help and the help of other parents, Associated will be able to continually enhance the quality of the educational experiences for our students.**



The Mansell Family:  
(L to R) Naomi, Leah, Caleb,  
Hannah, Isaac and David



# Cedarvale

HARPER ULMER

makes a menorah as part of a fabulous first year at Associated Cedarvale

Year  
**One**

*Toronto's Cedarvale neighbourhood, is seeing a resurgence of young Jewish families, particularly west of Stathearn Road, all the way down to St. Clair Avenue. And **Associated is playing a part in that.***

# Cedarvale

## *A Great Success*

**This past school year, Associated Cedarvale** was launched. Housed at Beth Sholom Synagogue, it brought to the community the Mini-Mensch program that has been so successful at Associated's Kamin branch in Thornhill. The Cedarvale initiative was designed to meet the needs of young families looking for the combination of high quality educational programming and convenient schedules for their toddler children.



"Our enrollment numbers have increased for next year," said Leah Levy, coordinator of the Cedarvale early years program, referring to the expanding classes, which include Mini-Mensch & Me — a parent/caregiver and tot class, Mini-Mensch and Beyond — a drop off program for toddlers — and a nursery.

"We are getting some current Posluns families but, for the most part, it is young families with their eldest child just entering pre-school," added Leah Levy. And, according to Levy, it is a perfect introduction for young children to the school environment. "It offers a nice teacher-to-student ratio so students get ample attention with qualified teachers," Levy said.

**Evidence of the success of the program** is best exemplified by the experience of families who participated in the program's first year.

**“It definitely didn't feel like an inaugural year,”**

said Stephanie Ulmer, whose two year old daughter Harper began the program last year and is returning for a second year. Harper's younger sister, Poppy, is starting at Associated Cedarvale as well, a decision that Ulmer had no difficulty making.

"Everything was so well organized and properly scheduled," explained Ulmer, "and the staff was so helpful and easy to work with." The flexibility in the choice of length of day was another selling feature for Ulmer. "Harper is a very active child and she needed more, so options of both days and length of days was key," she said. The school not only offers half day and full day programs but it also accommodates the working family with the option of before and after care.

The educational component of the program impressed Ulmer as well.

**“Harper absorbed so much about the [Jewish] Holidays. She also knows her ABCs, can count and identify shapes,”** Ulmer explained.

*The Ulmers shared their enthusiasm with their friends and several have elected to send their own children to Cedarvale this year.*

**“This year Associated Cedarvale proved successful in many ways,**

shared Lisa Kobrin, curriculum specialist who is supporting and helping to direct the Cedarvale campus.

"Some of our achievements included seeing the students bonding and forming lasting friendships, new parents joining the community and participating in many of our programs. From my perspective, establishing Cedarvale, was inspirational and highly motivating and I look forward to many more years of involvement with the program," said Kobrin.

# TEKES ALEINU:

According to Mordechai Cohen, former Principal of Judaic Studies at Associated's Danilack Middle School, there is a prevailing aspect to the culture at Middle School experience, which is an important part of the learning. The goal is to imbue a sense of responsibility in every student so that when they graduate they have a broadened social and moral consciousness.



## Social Justice comes of age at Middle School

The idea took form two years ago, as part of an initiative called *Hineni* meaning “here I am” from the biblical verse in which G-d called upon Abraham and his reply (*Hineni*) indicated his devout faith in G-d. The purpose of the initiative was to encourage social action and responsibility among students who were Bar/Bat Mitzvah aged and to remind them of their responsibility in their new roles as adults to stand up, confront social injustice and care for others. The students also participated in a monthly *tekes* (ceremony) where morning *tefillah* was recited as a group, and families of those celebrating a Bar/Bat Mitzvah in a given month were also invited to attend.

This past year, the program was entitled *Aleinu* which means “upon us” and references a prayer, chanted daily which also announces an acceptance of responsibility, similar to Abraham’s declaration.

“The initiative which spanned the whole year culminated with a *Chagigah* (celebration) and it was an opportunity for students to demonstrate their commitment to helping others by setting up booths to raise money for causes of their choice,” explained Danilack Middle School General Studies Principal, Dr. Brenda Dzaldov.

“Anyone could set up a table as long as they had a teacher sponsor,” explained Dzaldov. This encouraged student-teacher interaction, which made it an all-encompassing experience for school. “The student response



*Students and teachers provided information and raised money for their adopted causes.*

was incredible and the teacher involvement was great which allowed for wonderful bonding,” Dzaldov added.

The charities selected by students were a true cross section of the community, some Jewish and some not. Twenty-one charities received a portion of the almost \$1000 raised in school from mostly loose change. The students wrote letters to their charity and most received a personalized response.

**“The experience encouraged students to step up and apply the teachings of tikkun olam in an intimate and hands on way,”** explained Cohen.

Examples of the charities that students selected include; I am a Girl — a charity that encourages girls in developing countries, Pennies for Alzheimer, Eco-Team, Cancer research, and many more.

Students were motivated to research their charity of choice and the entire process exposed all students to the impact of charities and charitable work taking place in our world. It was, for some, a starting point and, for others, a continuation of volunteerism and fundraising with which they’d already been involved. Regardless, it was a tremendous collective effort, and a great hands-on lesson bringing the principles of social justice and action to life.

# Danilack Welcomes Rabbi Rafi Cashman



**This fall**, Associated welcomes **Rabbi Rafi Cashman** as the new principal of Judaic Studies at the Danilack Middle School. Cashman, a Toronto native, is thrilled to be joining the middle school, an opportunity he calls “exciting and new” after seven years as a teacher, and three as the head of Rabbinic studies at TanenbaumCHAT (Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto), Wallenberg Campus.

**“Associated has steadfastly maintained the high academic standards of its Judaic Studies program and the accompanying levels of growth and educational professionalism provide an exciting environment in which to continue my career.”**

“I am deeply committed to seeing Jewish community day schools thrive, especially those, like Associated, that truly represent the breadth of the Toronto Jewish community.”

Cashman is equally impressed with the school’s diversity, something he came to appreciate through his own higher learning experience. “As a Wexner Fellow (during my graduate studies at the University of Toronto) I was part of a very pluralistic Jewish community. It was an environment where I and other Fellows joined for short immersive experiences, and where I attained a deeper understanding of others’ Jewish practice,” Cashman said. The prestigious Wexner Fellowship Program promotes Jewish communal leadership development and accepts only a select group of fellows each year.

Cashman’s earliest learning began at Bialik Hebrew Day School and then TanenbaumCHAT, where he graduated in 1993. He studied at the University of Toronto, and then made aliya in 1998. His choice to do this was motivated by, “the vibrancy and diversity of Jewish life in Israel,” he said. As much as he savoured his experience living in Israel, he moved back to Toronto for family reasons. But his interest in learning did not wane. He received his Rabbinic ordination (Smicha) in 2005, completed a Masters in Education from Yeshiva University’s Azrieli School of Education and Administration in 2009, and he will be completing his PhD in Education from UofT (OISE), in the coming months.

As Cashman begins his tenure, he is looking forward to exploring new opportunities for the *tefillah* program as well as further developing informal programming in Judaic Studies and integrated programming with General Studies. His broader goals include creating a relevant and engaging Jewish experience that has a long term and positive impact. In addition, he hopes to develop meaningful and relevant connections between the school and the breadth of Toronto’s Jewish community.

*Cashman is married to Risa and they have three daughters; Ora, 10, Shevi, 7 and Simi who is under a year old.*





Tamar  
Begun

# THE *Spirit* OF Associated

## TAMAR BEGUN '13 IS NO ORDINARY GRADUATE

Her nails have been perfectly manicured and painted a soft cotton candy pink. Her hair is long and dark. Her teeth are wired with shiny braces. She meets the physical description of most 14 year old girls but when talking with Tamar Begun, a 2013 grade eight graduate of the Danilack Middle School, it is evident that she is no ordinary girl.

"Tamar is so compassionate and humble. These are two qualities that are not found in every young teenager," shared Elizabeth Segal, Vice Principal at Danilack, who worked closely with Tamar during her years at the middle school.

*"Tamar has an understanding of empathy beyond her years and she demonstrated this, in particular, in the mentor program, in which she mentored two grade six students. She was an inspiration and true friend to those that were new to the middle school. It is quite befitting that for this, and other reasons, Tamar was awarded the Student Spirit Award,"* Segal added.

When speaking directly with Tamar, she was quick to credit everyone but herself.

"I spent 10 years of my life here at Associated and I'm going to take the friendships with me as well as the leadership and mentor skills," she said.

Her involvement in school activities – which ranged from student council class representative to tour guide for grade five students – was so intense that she hardly recalls sitting down for lunch this past school year.

"I was too busy at meetings," Tamar recalled.

Between the full extra-curricular schedule, studying for and writing exams, and forming many new friendships, Tamar feels well equipped for TanenbaumCHAT, where she is attending high school.

"Tamar was that one student who could shape the mood of an entire group. If she walked into a room, the room lit up. *She has that magical effect on people.* She was also a key part of any activity planning. Her excitement is what made the activities successful," said Segal.

**As Tamar bids farewell to AHS, she leaves a tremendous legacy for which she can be very proud and upon which she can build as a high school student. Her career goal, though not yet solidified, is to have the opportunity to work with others and be a guide to those who may require assistance. Her years spent at Associated (Posluns and Danilack) certainly prepared her well.**

Until 2011, **Aaron Clarfield** had never visited Israel and his only Jewish experience, up to then, came from his formal education at Associated, from where he graduated in 2000. He didn't fully appreciate the lasting impact of his education at Associated until he participated on Birthright Israel, where he experienced both the religious and cultural highlights of the Jewish state.

"Associated gave me a sense of who I am as a Jew but unfortunately it was the extent of my Jewish education and affiliation," Clarfield explained.

"The Birthright experience reinvigorated me back into Judaism," he shared.

"Israel helped put my educational experience at Associated into perspective and inspired me to embrace the act of *tikkun olam* (repairing of the world)," he added.

Aaron  
Clarfield  
'00

# Re-igniting the Spark

Birthright **inspires** an Associated Graduate

"**Associated** did give me a sense of who I am as a Jew but it was my *only* Jewish learning," Clarfield explained. "The Birthright experience reinvigorated me back into Judaism," he shared. "Israel helped put it all into perspective and inspired me to embrace the act of *tikkun olam* (repairing of the world)," he added.

**The** Birthright experience was the catalyst that pushed Clarfield into more community engagement and he now volunteers with numerous Jewish and non-denominational charities, while running his own company that does custom-design audio-visual installations.

**During** his inaugural trip to Israel, Clarfield recalled that visits to numerous historical sites reignited memories of his days as an Associated student, such as *tanach* lessons, and just being situated in the Jewish homeland elicited memories of his Associated teachers' personal accounts shared with him and his peers.

"**I** saw a penny lying on the ground and it immediately brought back a memory of a teacher, *Mar* (Mr. in Hebrew) Bienenstock, who told stories of his terrible experience in Poland before the *Shoah* and how pennies were thrown at him by anti-semitic neighbours," Clarfield recalled. "I had long forgotten about that until I was walking the streets of Jerusalem."

**The** simplest item in such a spiritual place like Israel made this memory surface for Clarfield. The trip's overall impact was what inspired him to apply to be a *Madrich* for future Birthright trips. Since his first visit in 2011, Clarfield has since chaperoned two trips and plans to lead more.

"**On** my first trip I decided that I wanted to be a *Madrich* and now they [Birthright] can't get rid of me," he recalled. "I was amazed at how much the experience can transform a person and saw the enormous positive impact it was having on my generation and I wanted to play a greater part in that," Clarfield shared.



“ We still sing the songs from the productions we performed during our years at Associated, both brothers recalled with laughter. But they also remember a seriousness and appreciation for Jewish learning.

ADAM graduated in 1996 and Chaim in 1998 (as well as their eldest sister, Naomi, who graduated in 1992). They admit that the experiences they had at Associated, both social and educational, definitely impacted the direction of their careers. Adam now serves as Rabbi at Toronto’s Beth Tzedec Congregation and Chaim is the Director of Finance and Operations at the Baycrest Foundation. “I wouldn’t be who I am if I didn’t attend Jewish Day School and Associated in particular,” Adam declared. He credits his strong Hebrew language skills as well as his appreciation and exposure to detailed and original Judaic text to his years as a student at both the Neptune and Finch branches.

CHAIM, who attended just the Finch campus from JK to grade 8, was extremely influenced by his teachers. “I remember a teacher, Mr. Bienenstock, who wanted to immerse us in Jewish culture,” he recalled. “He actually prepared *cholent* in class, let it sit overnight, and served it to us the next day. He also got married that same year and showed us his wedding video so we could get a sense of a Jewish wedding ceremony since most of us had not been to one yet,” Chaim continued.



Chaim

Adam

## A TALE OF TWO BROTHERS

When the Cutler brothers, Adam '96 and Chaim '98, get together and revisit memories of their years spent at Associated, **big smiles emerge.**

The brothers' love for Israel also began at Associated. They remember celebrating the Jewish state at assemblies, welcoming Israeli visitors and *schlichim* (emissaries), as well as watching history unfold with their classmates at such milestone moments as the signing of the Oslo peace treaty.

Nearly two decades since they graduated, Adam and Chaim are still connected in some way to their alma matter. Adam has participated in *Rosh Chodesh* celebrations at various Associated campuses, while Chaim relishes the presence of the Posluns youth choir – Jazz for Juniors – who perform with the 'Spirited Seniors' for the residents at Baycrest.

**It's clear that Associated has left an indelible mark on both brothers.**

“He who causes others to do good is greater than the doer.”

– BAVA BATRA

For generations, *tzedakah* has been a pillar of the Jewish community. The rabbis of classical Judaism praised *tzedakah*, calling it “equal in value to all other commandments combined.” Perhaps *tzedakah* is viewed so highly because it encapsulates so many integral Jewish values: loving your neighbour, respecting others, repairing the world and performing righteous acts. When you ask someone for *tzedakah*, you give her the opportunity to perform a mitzvah that she may not have done on her own. You, the asker, the motivator are inspiring the giver to perform a righteous act and, in that way, helping her change the world.

It is for these reasons that I believe the work I do professionally in Advancement (also known as Development) is actually a holy task. Asking is a privilege. If you believe in your cause, then you need to believe that raising funds for your cause is an honour and a privilege. And I do!

I have been blessed with a strong Jewish education from Associated Hebrew Schools and TanenbaumCHAT that has, and continues to,

influence my life. I am not only a proud Associated alumna, having just celebrated the 30th anniversary of my graduation, but a proud Associated alumni parent as well. This history, along with my professional background as an educator and administrator, partnered with my experience in Development over the last 10 years, made this new position as Director of Institutional Advancement at Associated such a perfect fit. It was like coming home!

**I am passionate about Jewish education and believe that supporting Jewish education directly impacts the next generation of Jews and ensures Jewish continuity in our community and beyond. I hope to share this passion with the Associated community and encourage people to provide support in ways that are personally meaningful, whether that is technology, special needs or tuition assistance, and work with them to find ways to have the greatest impact on Associated.**

*Elysa*



Welcoming  
**Elysa**  
Greisman  
'82

**We are pleased to** announce that **Elysa Greisman** has joined Associated as its Director of Institutional Advancement. In this role, Elysa will take a leadership role in “advancing” the school’s strategic plan including building relationships, development, special events and communications.

As both an experienced development professional and a skilled educator, Elysa is uniquely qualified for this position. She was the Director of Development at The Leo Baeck Day School for seven years. Elysa was also an educator and administrator in Jewish schools for 15 years including five years as the Head of School at the Paul Penna Downtown Jewish Day School. She holds an M.Ed. from OISE/University of Toronto as well as a B.Ed. and a B.A. in Psychology from York University. Elysa has a strong connection to Associated as a graduate, a parent of a graduate and a former teacher at the school. She has also served as a consultant to communal organizations and spent seven years living and teaching in Israel.

**We are proud to welcome Elysa and are certain that she will have an extremely positive impact on the future of Associated.**

*Elysa is married to Isaac Schneider and together they have four children – Elad, Matthew, Edan '12 and Rebecca*

DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

**I look forward to meeting you —  
parents, grandparents, alumni, students, colleagues,  
volunteers, donors and community members, and  
working together to support the future of Associated.**

# To Israel *and Beyond*



## Jordana

Having just completed high school at TanenbaumCHAT, I wanted to explore options before deciding on my future higher learning. I was accepted to Nativ in Israel, a college leadership program that runs from September to May. What I learned at Associated, particularly the emphasis on *ahavat yisrael*, certainly played a part in my desire to study in Israel. For the first half of the year, I will be studying at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem (and earning academic credits) and for the remainder I will be volunteering as a community service worker in a development town, city or youth village. So I will really get the best of both worlds: I will maintain my academic path and also have the chance to do something truly hands on and in a place that I thoroughly love. This will be my third and longest time in Israel. With the help of an Associated scholarship, I am able to have this amazing experience.

**Jordana Satok '09**



## Associated supports its alumni even after they have graduated

.....  
**Each year, Associated provides scholarships to alumni who are pursuing post high school Judaic Studies education in Israel. These scholarships, which are made possible through the generosity of Associated supporters, often have great impact on the lives of recipients and the communities in which they work and live. We are proud to present the stories of two scholarship recipients — one starting her educational journey in Israel and one who has clearly established himself as a community leader.**



## Daniel

I received a teacher training scholarship from Associated during my first year of study in Israel, 2000-2001. While it seems like so many years, degrees, and jobs ago, the scholarship has had a lasting impact on my professional life and community involvement. The funds helped me spend a year immersed in Hebrew and Jewish text; learning Torah, Gemara, and Jewish thought. Equally important, the scholarship sent a clear message that my school and community were investing in me as a Jewish educator, supporting what can often be a lonely path, and encouraging me to pursue leadership in the Jewish community.

Since receiving that scholarship, I've completed both undergraduate and graduate degrees in Jewish studies and education; held a variety of lay and professional leadership roles in formal and nonformal Jewish education, and am currently completing a doctorate in Jewish education.

**Daniel Held '96**

To find out how you can contribute to the lives of our alumni by contributing to a scholarship fund or establishing one of your own, please contact Elysa Greisman at [egreisman@ahschools.com](mailto:egreisman@ahschools.com) or by phone at 905-889-3998, ext. 541.

Marc Chagall  
Biblical Prophets  
Bubbi's chicken  
soup recipe  
**ALL PART  
OF NEW  
APPROACHES  
TO LEARNING  
AT ASSOCIATED**

Long gone are the traditional methods for teaching subjects like *Tanach* (bible), literacy or Hebrew language, as is evidenced by what is happening in the classrooms of so many teachers at Associated. At all four campuses, the faculty is using inventive and multi-disciplinary techniques to engage students and make learning more meaningful. Here are just a few examples.

*Students combine artistic ability and writing skills to make biblical accounts more meaningful.*



**Bina Erdman, a Kamin campus grade 4 and 5 Judaic studies teacher, has based her teaching method on the integration of technology wherever possible.**

"Students love this," commented Erdman. "This is what their generation is used to."

According to Erdman, the use of technology in the classroom requires the use of all five senses and this broadens the appeal since children learn in different ways.

Erdman put this into practice when she taught her grade 5 class about Samuel the Prophet. Instead of simply reading through the text, she had the class divide into groups with each group required to act out a segment of the text, record their skit and edit their segment with computer effects.

"It is much more interactive for the kids, more inclusive so they are part of the lesson," Erdman observed. **"The technology enhances their participation and brings the text to life,"** she added.

**Literacy initiatives at Posluns were augmented in two exciting ways this past year.**

First, a computer lab was added to the library. "The addition supports literacy skills and added a writing component to library visits," explained Elana Shapiro Davidson, General Studies Principal at Posluns. **"Students can now be exposed to print in more than just books,"** Davidson added.

This past year, Davidson also welcomed a Newspaper *Chug* (activity) to grade 3, 4 and 5 students where students put out three editions called the 'Posluns Preview'. The content was based on personal interests and some pieces were fiction but the overall aim was to involve the students in an interactive and skill building activity that enhanced their lingual, written and editing skills, as well as their use of technology.

**As a Judaic studies teacher at Kamin Noya Zaltzman's goal is to find new and interesting methods to engage her students.**

"I use art as a primary modality," she explained. "Art is a great thematic concept with a great expressive form."

**Zaltzman achieves this by teaching about famous artists as part of her *tanach* (bible) lessons.** The connection seems unlikely but Zaltzman's ability to synthesize the two into

**In the grade 4 Judaic studies class at the Posluns campus,**

several layers were added to class projects. This past year, the school-wide theme for learning was centered on "I have a story." Teachers saw the theme as a great opportunity to integrate the monumental biblical story of Exodus with students' own personal stories.

"Each student had to share their story behind a family recipe," explained Ora Shulman, Judaic Studies Principal. **Every student was asked to select a sacred family recipe, prepare it, photograph the end result and type out the recipe in Hebrew, including the use of sophisticated language for utensils and measurements.**

"One boy chose his late grandmother's chicken soup recipe and he commented that whenever it is made he always thinks of her," recalled Shulman. "Another student was so mindful of the law of bal tashchit (do not destroy/waste) that he sought out a recipe that would make use of blackened bananas, so they would not be wasted."

The personal connections were extremely touching. The recipes also reflected the diversity of the school. "It was a great way to expose the students to different foods," Shulman said. "There were foods common to Israeli, South African and Sephardi cooking, and even I was exposed to some great new recipes."



*Students in grade 4 cooked up their own stories as they learned the biblical exodus story.*

**At the Danilack Middle School, there was an unprecedented literacy project that took place over a period of one week at the end of January.**

What made it exceptional was its scope. Everyone in the school building – students, faculty and administration including the Director of Education, Dr. Mark Smiley – received a copy of a book entitled "Wonder" by author R.J. Palacio and was required to read it. The book presents the fictional story of a physically disfigured boy's integration into a mainstream school and explores his challenges as a bullying victim.

On the first morning of that week, during first period, every teacher read the first chapter to their class, regardless of what subject – Judaic or General studies – was to be taught following the reading.

The excitement went far and above anything Middle School General Principal Dr. Brenda Dzaldov could have envisioned.

"There were book talks organized at lunch time; some students created a reading challenge to see who could read the most pages in a set time; the photography club made sure to capture everyone reading all over the school. The book was so popular, many read it more than once even though the expectation was for everyone to read it through just one time," Dzaldov recalled.

On anti-bullying day, the students wore blue, as a tribute to the jacket cover of the book, in place of pink which had been the colour worn in past years. **The lesson of literacy took off in a variety of ways, far more inspiring and educational than anyone had imagined.**



one cohesive unit is remarkable. Equally impressive is the fact that she presents her lessons speaking only in Hebrew. Zaltzman introduced her students to Wassily Kandinsky and Marc Chagall – two artists who differed stylistically, yet were equally famous and were both Jewish. She shared their work with her class and then had her students draw scenes from the bible in the style of each.

So *Lech Lechah* – the story of G-d's request that Abraham leave his native land – was taught via text, accompanied by a visual element. This combination allowed for the study of visual art and artistic medium alongside the teachings of the *chumash*.

"Art created more motivation for the students," commented Zaltzman. "It added more feeling, thought and expression to the text because it was their own," she said.

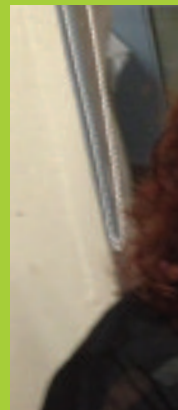


**Invention Convention** | The Grade 8 Invention Convention showcased many different projects – from a futuristic robot, to sports arenas, to arcade games and even appliances. The event was the culmination of two months of hard work. In addition to the amazing inventions, the Grade 8 French stories, social studies projects, and literacy projects were on hand for parents to see. Grade 8 art projects were displayed in the art room gallery and on the walls around the school.



**Ima Oy!** | Danilack's school play was based on the Broadway (and ABBA) hit *Mama Mia*. It was an opportunity for students to demonstrate their musical and theatrical abilities – and it was a huge success. Lunchtime concerts by cast members preceded the three performances at the Crescent School Theatre. The student performers aided by dedicated staff wowed audiences.

# 2012-13 Year! An Incredible



**2012-13 WAS FILLED WITH  
MEMORABLE AND MEANINGFUL MOMENTS  
FOR BOTH STUDENTS AND PARENTS.  
Here's just a glimpse.**

**Chagigat Hasiddur | Posluns** – An annual rite of passage for both grade 1 students and their parents is the *Chagigat HaSiddur*. Teachers and families who attended were delighted and proud to watch the children recite the *tefillot*, sing and demonstrate their fluency and



**Graduation** | June 25 marked a major milestone for 146 young men and women as they celebrated their graduation from Associated in the presence of family and friends. In his moving and inspirational comments, Dr. Mark Smiley pointed to Associated's dual educational mission. *"Jewish life requires educated Jews to consider life's ultimate purposes – like the Rambam, Rabbi Soloveitchick and others we need literacy and numeracy and secular knowledge as tools to answer the question what is life all about. We need our Torah, our history and our values to remember how we have reacted and acted in history. Torah values guide us in life."* We look forward to hearing about the future accomplishments of the class of 2013.



**Math Night** | Our third annual Kamin Math Night was a huge success! Students and their families were invited to explore and enjoy math through games and activities. This year's event was truly 21<sup>st</sup> century. In addition to the many math activities and problems, the students and parents were challenged by interactive SMARTBoard games, QR codes and online math challenges.





**Yom Ha'atzmaut** | Yom Ha'atzmaut on Atkinson Avenue is always special. Four Jewish day schools – Netivot, Leo Baeck, Zareinu and Associated – came together to parade up the street and then celebrate together in the Kamin lunchroom. Associated students created a black-light show highlighting immigration to Israel. Our first-ever Israeli Cultural Fashion Show featured teachers wearing traditional clothing from Jews in Ethiopia, Yemen, Morocco, Russia and more. Students from each of the other schools prepared lively and entertaining presentations.

**Lag B'Omer** | Kamin's Lag Ba'Omer Kumsitz, celebrated friendship, family and community with over 1,000 people who attended an evening to remember. There was great music, a barbeque, a bonfire, yummy treats and the most spectacular fireworks show ever! Most importantly, the children enjoyed themselves eating, dancing, playing sports and celebrating with their families.



enthusiasm. Students beamed with pride and were excited to get their own *siddurim* (prayer books), which included their own artwork. The children will have many opportunities to use these siddurim and continue to develop their connection to prayer at Associated.

**Pen Pal Skyping** | Last year, the Posluns campus raised money for Tali Geulim, a school in Jerusalem where many students come from troubled families and live in poverty. In addition to providing financial support, students in grade 4 and 5 also helped their Israeli peers learn English through a pen pal program. Toward the end of the year, the pen pals from Toronto finally got to meet the pen pals from Israel via Skype. Pen pals were called up pair by pair and were invited to ask each other questions. The result was an exciting and meaningful program.



**Mitzvah Corps** | Posluns Mitzvah Corps members participated in a project called, "Teaching Tolerance Through Toys," in which students created toys for the Zareinu Education Centre. Zareinu is a school and treatment centre for children with a wide range of physical and developmental challenges. Mitzvah Corps participants were divided into three groups. Each group learned about a child with special needs and then designed and created a toy to help that child with his/her unique situation.

**Snuggle Up and Read** | Cedarvale's first annual Snuggle Up and Read program was a huge success. Children, teachers and even parents came out in their pajamas to celebrate books and have some literary fun! Students were engaged in a variety of activities based on the book, *Little Pea* by Amy Krouse Rosenthal. As a finale to the afternoon, our special guest storyteller Cheryl Thornton told stories that were interactive, inspiring, and creative.

# Why we chose Associated

Associated welcomes hundreds of new families every year.  
Here is a glimpse at why two of those families chose Associated.



## Barry & Amy Glina

My husband Barry and I chose to send our daughter **Romi** to Associated at the Kamin campus for many reasons. Romi completed pre-nursery last year at Kamin's Bet Haya'eled.

We are proud Zionists and understand the importance of a strong Jewish curriculum. Associated offers just that. We love how it is a warm and comforting environment for our child. We live in Thornhill Woods, a thriving Jewish neighbourhood, and felt it was important that our daughter be immersed in a Jewish academic environment as well.

*“ The staff at Associated are extremely well qualified educationally and judaically, and they are exceptionally loving, which to us is so important. ”*

Romi learns so much about her ancestors and about the holidays, and loves being at school. We are very fortunate and proud to be part of the Associated family.

## Miriam & Josh Shuval

When Miriam and Josh '94 Shuval were exploring options for childcare for their 2 year old daughter **Nina**, flexibility and continuity were key.

“We needed something that would work with our needs as two working parents but we also wanted something familiar and reputable,” shared the Shuvals. What the Shuvals found was Associated's Cedarvale pre-school program.

“The program really takes into account the needs of working parents and the flexibility for both before and after care was critical to us since we elected not to hire a nanny for our daughter,” the Shuvals explained. It also meant that Nina would be following in her father's educational footsteps: Josh is a graduate of Associated.

*“ We chose the Cedarvale program because of its affiliation with such a strong institution that offers both tremendous educational value as well as incredible attention and care from its teachers, ”*  
the Shuvals said.

They are also pleased that the Cedarvale program offers an easy transition to the Posluns branch.





# A recipe for Success



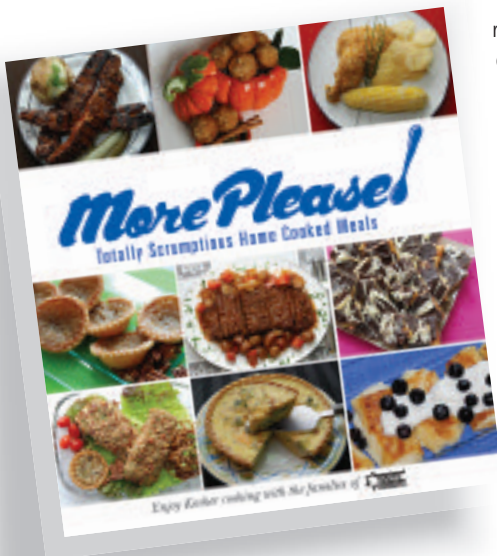
## More Please!

Totally Scrumptious Home Cooked Meals

**ASSOCIATED'S PARENT TEACHER COUNCIL** has cooked up a major success with their latest project. **More Please!** – *Totally Scrumptious Home Cooked Meals* is a hardcover cookbook containing over 400 delicious kosher recipes with beautiful colour photographs and suggested wine pairings.

The book was launched last March and almost 2,000 copies have already been sold. In addition, Susie Fishbein, author of the *Kosher by Design* series had this to say.

**"More Please!** will inspire you to jump right in and get cooking. This cookbook brings together a wonderful collection of familiar favorites as well as exotic offerings. From fresh and new, to tried and true, you will find the recipes enticing and easy to follow. There is something in here for all readers and all eaters."



The recipes in the cookbook represent Associated's diversity emanating from countries like South Africa, Israel, Brazil, Mexico, Czech, Russia and the Philippines.

All the proceeds from the book's sales will be used to enhance educational initiatives at Associated. In addition to being an essential addition to any kitchen, **More Please!** is a great gift idea.

**You can order copies by going to [morepleascookbook.com](http://morepleascookbook.com) or by email at [morepleascookbook@gmail.com](mailto:morepleascookbook@gmail.com)**



She's looking forward to the future...  
**and so are we.**

There is no greater guarantor of Jewish continuity than Jewish day school education. Associated is a proven day school leader, providing an outstanding Judaic and General Studies education to over 1600 children in our community.

**Your support for Kadima** – our Annual Campaign will enhance the excellence of our educational initiatives and enable us to make the Associated experience accessible to more children in our community.



**kadima**  
is moving forward to the future. Join us.  
**Make your gift to Kadima today!**

Contact Elysa Greisman  
at [egreisman@ahschools.com](mailto:egreisman@ahschools.com)  
or 905-889-3998, ext 541  
or go to [associatedhbrewschools.com](http://associatedhbrewschools.com)  
and donate online.



Proud to...

Learn

Achieve

Be Jewish

At Associated you will discover:

- An uncompromising commitment to educational excellence
- A vibrant link to our tradition, heritage and today's Jewish world
- An environment that is home to families from all backgrounds
- Innovative approaches to individualization, literacy, the environment and the arts



# Join Us for an Open House

Sunday, October 6 | 3:00 p.m.  
Associated Cedarvale  
1445 Eglinton Ave. W. (Beth Sholom Synagogue)

Sunday, October 20 | 10:00 a.m.  
Posluns Education Centre  
18 Neptune Dr. (Bathurst & Wilson)

Sunday, October 27 | 10:00 a.m.  
Kamin Education Centre  
300 Atkinson Ave. (Bathurst & Centre, Thornhill)

Register for an Open House  
Arrange a Personal Tour  
Get more information

Pearl Greenspan at  
pgreenspan@ahschools.com  
or 905-889-3998,  
ext. 337 or visit  
agreatschool.com

Discover more about  
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[www.ThisIsAssociated.com](http://www.ThisIsAssociated.com)

