

TALIT



NATION

@ the BUREAU

HANDBOOK

5770
2009 - 2010

the  bureau
of jewish education

1 Federation Way • Suite 205 • Irvine • California • 949.435.3450 • www.bjeoc.org

TALIT Nation

@ the Bureau



Our flagship program includes a series of three 9th-12th grade weekend retreats at the American Jewish University Brandeis-Bardin Campus in the rolling hills of Simi Valley.

TALIT Nation @ the Bureau is comprised of:

- ◆ An opening day orientation - 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm
 - September 13 @ Temple Beth Shalom - 2625 N Tustin Ave, Santa Ana, CA 92705
- ◆ A series of (3) 9th-12th grade retreats @ American Jewish University Brandeis-Bardin Campus, which focus on:
 - 9th Grade: Teva/Nature
 - 10th Grade: Israel
 - 11th & 12th Grade: Leadership

Retreat Dates:

 - October 23 - 25, 2009
 - January 29 - 31, 2010
 - April 30 - May 2, 2010
- ◆ 3 camp-prep Sundays designed to enable teens to create their own programs for upcoming retreats - 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm
 - October 18 @ Temple Israel LB - 3538 E 3rd St, Long Beach, CA 90814
 - January 24 @ Temple Beth El – 2A Liberty, Aliso Viejo, CA 92656
 - April 25 @ Temple Shir Ha-Ma'alot - 3652 Michelson Dr, Irvine, CA 92612
- ◆ Siyyum - graduation event - 8:00 pm to 9:30 pm
 - May 15 @ Temple Bat Yahm - 1011 Camelback St, Newport Beach, CA 92660

LEADERSHIP

@ TALIT Nation



Through our ground-breaking leadership training, participants will become the next generation of Jewish leaders, role models and philanthropists.

Opportunities for Leadership @ TALIT Nation include:

- ◆ **TALIT Nation CIT Program** - All 11th & 12th graders enrolled in TALIT Nation @ the Bureau participate in our leadership program on our weekend retreats, gaining hands-on training to serve in Jewish leadership roles. CIT fees cover staffing an additional 3rd-8th grade Shabbaton, March 12-14, 2010.

Shabbaton Prep Sunday for CIT's

- March 7, 2010 @ JCC OC - 1 Federation Way, Irvine, CA 92603
In the Bureau Office Conference Room, Suite 205

- ◆ **Mifgash Program** – Building strong ties to Israel is a central Bureau goal. TALIT Nation teens will have a chance to interact and welcome 10 Israeli teens for two weeks. These Jerusalem teens will be hosted by our 12th Grade TALIT students and will spend a weekend at camp with them on our 3rd-8th Grade Community Shabbaton as well as attending our third Jewbilation event. This is a great opportunity to learn what teenage life is like right now in Israel while making lifelong friends from the Holy Land.

- March 9 - 22, 2010

- ◆ **Young Philanthropists** - This 3-part program, offered in partnership with the Jewish Community Foundation, allows teens to learn about philanthropy through hands-on experience, decision making, discussions and field trips. In addition, all participants earn 12 community service hours

- ◆ **TALIT Student Government (TAC)** - TALIT Nation is a peer-driven teen community and TAC is its primary student leadership group. This student-driven organization works with the professional staff and the members of TALIT Nation to determine both the long-term visions and goals of TALIT Nation as well as the creation of programs to be implemented on TALIT Nation retreats and Jewbilation events.

TRIPS

@ TALIT Nation



At its core, TALIT Nation aspires to help our teens grow into prideful Jews. This is accomplished by creating experiences outside the classroom and in the world.

These experiences include:

- ◆ **TIES** - a 4 week summer Israel adventure
 - June 27 to July 25, 2010
- ◆ **Panim el Panim** - a 3-day social action advocacy trip to the state's capitol with training before and during the trip to prepare students to lobby members of the California General Assembly and the Governor on key issues
 - January 17, to January 19, 2010
- ◆ **Pico-Robertson Overnight Shabbat**: a traditional Shabbat immersion experience
 - Date TBD

(Registration info for all trips @ TALIT Nation will be sent separately)

TALIT Nation

@ the Bureau Policies



THESE GUIDELINES APPLY TO ALL TALIT NATION PROGRAMS

Code of Conduct

Disciplinary Policy for all TALIT Nation @ the Bureau programs. In order to ensure the safety and well-being of all our students, the staff of the Bureau will enforce the following policies:

- Any student who is deemed to be a danger to him/herself, to others or to the program will not be permitted to participate in TALIT Nation Programs.
- Possession of any illegal or unlawful item will result in immediate dismissal from the program. These items include but are not limited to: alcohol, tobacco products, drugs, drug paraphernalia and weapons.
- On weekend camp retreats, students will be dismissed from the program for entering a cabin of the opposite gender at any time.
- Students may also be dismissed for leaving their cabins after “lights out” or for indecent exposure.
- The Bureau reserves the right to inspect any property brought to a TALIT Nation program, including but not limited to purses, luggage, duffle bags, shopping bags and clothing (whether it is being worn at the time or not) at any time, with or without prior notice.
- If a disciplinary action has been taken against a student in school, camp or the community, the student’s parent/guardian is required to schedule a consultation with the Director of TALIT Nation @ the Bureau in order for the student to enroll or to continue (if it occurs mid-year) in a TALIT Nation program.
- If a student has been diagnosed with a medical or psychological problem that could result in his/her being a danger to him/herself, others or the Program, the director must approve his/her participation and may require certain conditions (i.e. doctor’s note, on-going therapy, etc.)
- If the Bureau learns of an undisclosed disciplinary action or problem diagnosis, the student may be immediately dismissed from all TALIT Nation programs.

Immediate dismissal means that a parent/guardian will be called to pick up their child immediately, regardless of the time of day or the location of the program.

Behavioral Standards

The goals for Bureau programs include promoting Jewish friendships and values as well as sharing significant Jewish learning experiences. Therefore, the Bureau insists that all members of our community treat one another with *kavod* (respect) and *hesed* (kindness). Participation in TALIT is contingent upon the appropriate and cooperative behavior of each student. We believe that every student has the right to learn. Therefore any behavior that interferes with the teaching and learning of others is unacceptable. This includes blatant disrespect or rudeness towards others, the use of profanity and threatening behavior. Disruptive or inappropriate behavior will lead to immediate dismissal from the program. **Every participant in Bureau programs is held to the CODE OF CONDUCT printed in the TALIT Nation application.**

Dress

In accordance with Jewish values we ask that TALITniks dress modestly so that all may feel comfortable participating. Students should not wear clothing that reveals midriffs, has plunging necklines or allows undergarments to be visible. T-shirts bearing inappropriate language, messages, and/or graphics are not allowed. Please make sure skirts and shorts lengths are appropriate in length.

Electronic Devices at Sunday Sessions

MP3 players, i-pods, and cell phones are very disruptive. Please leave them at home or put them away in a pocket, purse, or backpack. It is your responsibility to protect your own personal belongings. The Bureau of Jewish Education is not responsible for any lost, stolen or broken electronic devices.

Food

Please do not bring any food with you. We provide a snack during our Sunday sessions and the food is very plentiful at camp. Due to both kosher restrictions by participants and facilities as well as allergies, we ask that you abide by this request.

Leaving Early from TALIT Nation @ the Bureau Programs

We understand that conflicts arise. If it is necessary for you to leave early on Sundays, you must have a current signed "Early Dismissal Parent Permission" form on file. You must sign out (at the nametag table) before leaving.

Medical, psychological, and behavioral issues

We must be informed of any medical, psychological or behavioral issues of program participants. We work as partners with teens and parents and if we do not have complete information, we can neither ensure your physical and emotional safety, nor that of the rest of our participants. If there are any prior medical, psychological, or behavioral issues that we have not been informed of, you may be asked to leave the TALIT Nation program and may not be able to return for the rest of the year.

TALIT Nation

@ CAMP



RSVP E-mail

You will receive an RSVP e-mail approximately 1 month before the weekend.

You must reply to the email promptly to ensure a space on the bus and in a cabin.

(Knowing who is able to attend is crucial for the planning of meals, all our activities, bunking arrangements, and program group assignments. If there is another camper with whom you have a significant problem sharing a cabin, please alert the office.)

Communications Prior to the Weekends

Call the Bureau of Jewish Education at 949-435-3450. The Bureau office is open 8:00 am – 5:00 pm Monday through Thursday and until 3:30 pm on Fridays.

Cancellations

We understand that emergencies come up, and in case of an emergency, you can let us know of a cancellation up until noon on Friday. Please take the time to let us know if you/your Talitnik will not be coming to camp.

Dismissal from School

If you encounter difficulty in obtaining an excused early dismissal, please see the following excerpt below from California State Law Education Code. If you need a letter verifying your attendance on the TALIT weekend, please call our office and we will provide one for you.

California education code #48205 provides for students to leave school for justifiable personal reasons, including, but not limited to:Attendance at religious retreats. A child should be allowed to complete all assignments and tests if missed during the excused absence that can be reasonably provided; and upon satisfactory completion, shall be given full credit therefore.

Busing

One of the important goals for students at the start of our weekend experience is their participation in ushering in Shabbat in an unhurried fashion. Sufficient time is needed for unpacking, creating a Shabbat environment, meeting with counselors, cabin mates, dressing for Shabbat, etc. The Friday afternoon bus schedule is designed to make this possible. Timely arrival at camp also guarantees that Shabbat services and dinner may be scheduled at reasonable hours. In order to ensure that we will avoid busy Friday afternoon traffic, the buses will leave promptly at the following times:

<u>Locations</u>	<u>Loading</u>	<u>Departure</u>
Temple Beth Sholom, Santa Ana	12:30 p.m.	1:00 p.m.
Samueli Jewish Campus, Irvine	12:45 p.m.	1:15 p.m.
Alpert JCC, Long Beach	1:30 p.m.	2:00 p.m.

The Bus waits for no one!

All buses will return between 3:00-3:30 p.m. on Sunday

Arriving Late or Leaving Early

Campers may only arrive late or leave early during a weekend in the cases of a major family occasion or if another community would suffer from their absence.

Special arrangements need to be made with Jeff Reinstein, Director of TALIT Nation – Retreats & Leadership Programs, prior to the weekend.

During the weekend: Each weekend, parents can call 949-435-3450 x 328 to confirm that the busses have arrived/departed to/from camp. An outgoing message will be left on voicemail Fridays after 4:00 pm upon arrival at camp and Sundays after 1:30 pm upon departure.

In case of an emergency only, during any TALIT Nation program, you may reach the staff at (714) 612-8800. This number for emergencies only, do not plan to use this phone for outgoing calls during the weekend.

Weather and Dress

Shabbat: Shabbat is a special time at camp; in order to make Shabbat different from the rest of the week, we ask that everyone dress in nice clothes for Friday night services. While we don't expect you to wear your High Holiday best, please remember that **t-shirts and shorts are not appropriate for Erev Shabbat.** While Shabbat itself continues through Havdalah on Saturday night, dress is more relaxed during the rest of the weekend. We also encourage you to bring your own kippah and talit for Shabbat services. Because we will be in the foothills, evenings can get cold. Please be sure to bring a jacket. Shorts and/or jeans will be suitable for daytime.

Remember to bring the following items:

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|----------------------------|------------------|----------------|----------|
| - Nice clothes for Shabbat | - Underwear | - Toiletries | - Pillow |
| - Sleeping clothes | - Jacket/Sweater | - Sturdy shoes | - Towel |
| - Musical instruments | - Kippah/Talit | - Long pants | |
| - Long sleeved shirts | - Flashlight | - Sleeping Bag | |

Electronic Devices on TALIT Nation Weekend Retreats

No electronics (with the exception of digital cameras) are allowed at camp or on the bus. Our weekends begin when you board the bus, and cell phones and other electronics are disruptive to the environment we are trying to create. **Cell phones with cameras are considered cell phones.** If anyone is found with a prohibited item, it will be taken away and a parent will need to pick it up from our office the following week. Cameras may not be used during Shabbat.

Food

All of the food at Brandeis-Bardin Institute is kosher. For Kashrut and health reasons and for keeping unwanted animals out of the cabins, **please do not bring any food to camp!** Outside food will be taken away upon arrival at camp. The camp food is very good and extremely plentiful. **If you have food allergies which need to be taken into consideration while planning camp meals, please contact Jeff Reinstein, Director of TALIT Nation @ the Bureau - Retreat and Leadership Programs, at least two weeks before the weekend so that he will have ample time to make sure your needs will be met.**

Accommodations

All cabins have beds/bunk beds and hold up to 14 campers. Each cabin is equipped with heaters, bathrooms, and showers. Each cabin is staffed with a senior counselor. Bunking requests will be met according to space limitations. We do our best to give each student at least one bunk request.

Shabbat Observance

Since TALIT Nation programs serve Jews of all denominations and we would like to make the greatest number of people feel comfortable, the Bureau Board has established an observance policy with the following guidelines: we have Friday night and Shabbat morning services and Havdalah on Saturday evening. We use a guitar in our services. We do not light fires, put out fires, cook, take pictures, write or watch videos during Shabbat.

Medication

Medicine must be properly labeled in the original container and we must have prior notification. If your child needs any medication during the weekend, we must have all the necessary details beforehand. You should have included this on the TALIT Nation application form, but if you left anything off, please let us know before the weekend. Campers are responsible for their own medications. For any special arrangements please call our office prior to the weekend.

DIRECTIONS TO CAMP

Directions to The Brandeis-Bardin Campus at American Jewish University

1101 Peppertree Lane

Simi Valley, CA 93063

Emergency Cell Phone Number: 714-612-8800

Directions:

- Take the 405 freeway OR the 5 freeway North to the 118 freeway West
 - Take the 118 freeway West (toward Simi Valley) to TAPO CANYON RD
 - Exit Tapo Canyon Road and turn LEFT.
 - Continue on Tapo Canyon Road past Cochran Street, Los Angeles Avenue, Royal Avenue, and Guardian Street to the front gates of Brandeis-Bardin Institute.
 - Follow the signs for BJEOC and Camp Alonim.
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- An alternative route from Orange County is to take Highway 57 North to the 210 West (left side exit).
 - Take 210 West to 118 West. Continue above directions.

TALIT Nation Calendar



TALIT NATION @ THE BUREAU

Sunday #1 - Opening Day	September 13, 2009	@ Temple Beth Sholom, S.A.
Sunday #2 - Weekend Prep #1	October 18, 2009	@ Temple Israel, LB
Weekend #1 (9-12 Grades)	October 23-25, 2009	
Sunday #3 - Weekend Prep #2	January 24, 2010	@ Temple Beth El, Aliso Viejo
Weekend #2 (9-12 Grades)	January 29-31, 2010	
MIFGASH	March 9-22, 2010	
Sunday #4 - Weekend Prep #3	April 25, 2010	@ Shir Ha Ma a'lot, Irvine
Weekend #3 (8-12 Grades)	April 30 - May 2, 2010	
Siyyum	May 15, 2010	@ Temple Bat Yahm, N.B.

TRIPS @ TALIT NATION

Sacramento Panim el Panim (10 th -12 th Grades)	January 17-19, 2010
TIES (10 th -12 th Grades)	June 27 - July 25, 2010
Pico-Robertson Traditional Overnight Shabbat	TBD

JEWBILATION @ TALIT NATION

Chanukah Bash	December 12, 2009	@ TVT, Irvine
Purim Spiel	February 20, 2010	@ JCC, Irvine
Ben Yehuda Street	March 20, 2010	@ JCC, Irvine
Siyyum & Grad Night (TALIT Members Only)	May 15, 2010	@ Temple Bat Yahm, N.B.

LEADERSHIP @ TALIT NATION

Interfaith Social Action Event	November 22, 2009	@ Garden Grove
Young Philanthropy	Nov. 1, 15 & Dec. 6, 2009	
CIT Prep for Shabbaton	March 7, 2010	@ Bureau Office

COMMUNITY SHABBATONS

3 rd -5 th Grades & 6 th -8 th Grades (with Mifgash)	March 12-14, 2010
8 th Grade <i>Taste of TALIT Nation</i> Weekend	April 30, 2010 - May 2, 2010