NOTE: For parents and students, please read entire document carefully, sign at the bottom, and return document to B'nai Mitzvah Coordinator, Kendell Pinkney, before the start of the B'nai Mitzvah 1 year. You can return document in person, or scan it and send via email at kendell@kolotchayeinu.org.

Kolot Chayeinu B'nai Mitzvah Covenant

The most important feature of Kolot Chayeinu is its community. As such, all hands are needed in order to make our community work. This document outlines an agreement for participation in Kolot Chayeinu's B'nai Mitzvah Program for students and their families. The purpose of the program is to provide families with a sustained way to engage with Jewish tradition as their students prepare to step into the rites and responsibilities of the broader Jewish Community. This agreement commences in the spring of a student's Kitah Hay (5th grade) year, and continues through the completion of the "What's Up" program (typically 8th grade).

Kolot Chayeinu will provide students/families with the following:

- A Bar/Bat Mitzvah date with approximately 12 months of preparation time between date assignment and the event.
- Connection to a Kolot-trained B'nai Mitzvah tutor starting approximately 12 months before student's Bar/Bat Mitzvah date. **It is the family's financial responsibility to compensate the tutor in a timely manner.**
- A date and time to meet privately with clergy regarding simkha details 6 weeks before student's Bar/Bat Mitzvah date.
- A Bar/Bat Mitzvah rehearsal approximately 9 days before student's Bar/Bat Mitzvah date.
- Access to other B'nai Mitzvah resources as needed.

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Candidates

In order to maintain a steady and productive understanding of their Torah portion and responsibilities for the service, each Bar/Bat Mitzvah Student Agrees to:

- Prepare for weekly lessons with a Bar/Bat Mitzvah Tutor.
- Participate in all three years of the B'nai Mitzvah Program: That is the weekly B'nai Mitzvah class for the first two years, which will then be replaced by a bi-weekly What's Up?! Class for final year.
- Attend monthly family classes.
- Attend a total of 12 services a year AND sign attendance sheet.
    - **7** of which **MUST** be a Kolot Morning Service, or Minkha Afternoon Service, or other Kolot Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

- **5** of which **MAY** be a combination of holiday services (e.g. Weekly Torah Study, Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur, Purim, Simkha Torah, etc.), external Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, or services at other synagogues.

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Parents

So that each parent understands the deeper meaning of shabbat services, how Kolot's B'nai Mitzvah program operates, in addition to having the opportunity to interact with the clergy, each parent/guardian agrees to:

- Serve as a parent volunteer for **AT LEAST** 3 Bar/Bat Mitzvahs during a given B'nai Mitzvah Season.
- Attend monthly family classes.
- Attend 2 seasonal meetings with Clergy, B'nai Mitzvah Staff, and other parents, where important B'nai Mitzvah Information will be covered.
- Check online attendance record to ensure that your student is on track with attendance.

If a student and/or family fails to meet the above outlined requirements without communicating with staff, or clergy regarding a legitimate issue, then a student's Bar/Bat Mitzvah date will be marked as tentative.

If after multiple warnings from staff and clergy, the student and/or family still has not made a concerted effort to fulfill their obligations by 6 months before the student becomes Bar/Bat Mitzvah, then Kolot reserves the right to cancel the student's Bar/Bat Mitzvah date. In the event of a cancellation, Kolot Chayeinu is not responsible for any financial liability or obligation that the family may incur in connection to the Bar/Bat Mitzvah date cancellation.

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Parent(s) / Guardian(s) Signature(s) Date

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Student Signature Date