Kolot Chayeinu B’’M Covenant

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

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’’M 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 holistic Jewish education via B’’M weekly classes and Family Classes engaging students and families in tefillah/prayer learning, text study, and deep investigation of traditional, contemporary and personal Jewish identity and practice.
- A B’’M date with approximately 12 months of preparation time between date assignment and the event.
- Connection to a Kolot-trained B’’M tutor starting approximately 12 months before student’s B’’M date. **It is the family’s responsibility to make a financial arrangement with the tutor and to pay the tutor in a timely manner.**
- A date and time to meet privately with clergy regarding simkha details 6-8 weeks before student’s B’’M date.
- A B’’M rehearsal approximately 10 days before student’s B’’M date.
- Access to other B’’M resources as needed.

B’’M Candidates

In order to maintain a steady and productive understanding of their Torah portion and responsibilities for the service, each B’’M student agrees to:

- Prepare for weekly lessons with a B’’M tutor.
- Participate in all three years of the B’’M Program: the weekly B’’M class for the first two years, and the twice-monthly What’s Up?! Class in the final year.
- Attend monthly Family Classes.
- Attend a total of 12 services a year AND sign attendance sheet.
  - 7 services MUST be either a Kolot morning service, or an afternoon minkha service (Kabbalat Shabbat does not count in this required 7 services)
  - Remaining 5 services may be a combination of the following services:
    - Kolot’s Weekly Torah study (9am on Saturdays)
    - Kabbalat Shabbat Services
B’M Parents

So that each parent understands the deeper meaning of Shabbat services, how Kolot’s B’M 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 B’M during a given B’M Season.
- Participate in monthly Family Classes.
- Participate in seasonal meetings with Clergy, B’M staff, and other parents, where important information will be covered.
- Check online attendance record to ensure that your student is on track with attendance.
- Make a personally significant financial contribution to Kolot.

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 B’M 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 B’M, then Kolot reserves the right to cancel the student’s B’M 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 B’M date cancellation.

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

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Student Signature       Date

Please print your family name