



## The Or Emet Jewish Cultural School

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Minneapolis, MN

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### A FRESH START

The winter of 2005-06 has been fairly gentle so far, but January is still January, and that always means decreased attendance at the JCS session. Even so, classes were interesting and the adult session saw active discussion. Spring is still far off, but in February we begin thinking about it! Preparation for events that will happen in the spring demands some attention—bar and bat mitzvoth, Passover, May Day—these are great times to look forward to. The JCS staff and education committee must look even further ahead, toward the 2006-07 school season. You have a voice in our future, and you are invited to send ideas for the JCS between now and Feb. 4, when the education committee will meet. Parents, join us at that meeting if possible, Sat., 2/4, 1:00pm at the home of Amy Stubenhaus, 1191 Ashland Ave., St. Paul.

#### January classes, Plans for February 5

**The Youth class** began their study of the Holocaust with a very animated discussion of history—how the Holocaust came about, the anti-Jewish laws, the basic ideology of the Nazi State etc. Next time teacher Mona plans to show them some video material, and probably the documentation on Anne Frank.

**The Middles class** made tzedaka boxes and discussed a variety of local charities. This collection is an ongoing class mitzvah. Visiting speaker Laura Melnick talked about her job of legal aid for the poor. The students studied Albert Einstein, and will learn about other Jewish humanists in coming months.

**Pre-schoolers** talked about Chanukah experiences and what they liked best about the holiday, read Chanukah stories, reviewed the Hebrew letters on the dreidl, did puzzles, played Jewish holiday dominoes, listened to music, decorated a Star of David, danced the hora, and colored Jewish symbols.

#### On-site coordinator Feb 5—Stefanie Moss

**Hospitality— the Melnick/Dahlager family**

**Adult Session – ‘Jews and the Labor movement,’ presenter Hy Berman, Professor Emeritus at the U of MN.**

#### Other Upcoming Events

January 20, 2006 Friday, 7:30, Mpls JCC Shabbat Service: Muriel Sterne (extended service) Program: My Life in Two Worlds – A talk by Ghana and Ewe tribe native with a Jewish connection. Presenter: Kojo Amegashie

**February 4, 1:00pm, home of Amy Stubenhaus, 1191 Ashland Ave., St. Paul, EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING.**

February 17, 7:30pm Mpls JCC. Shabbat service: Jo Devlin. Program: the Education of a Mensch: Thoughts on the ethical development of children by Linda Crawford, Executive Director of Origins, a non-profit educational organization fostering learning in schools and communities and understanding through the arts.

**Note: Linda served as an interim teacher in the JCS last year. Her presentation will be extremely relevant to all our parents, so we urge attendance at this Friday program.**