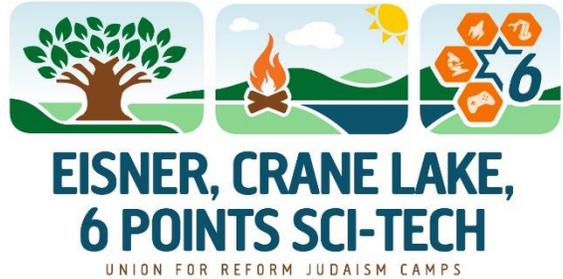


## 5780 CONSECRATION PROJECT

A gift to our Consecration Students from  
URJ Eisner and Crane Lake Camps and  
URJ 6 Points Sci-Tech Academy



Page 1: How the Program Works

Page 2: Sample letter to be mailed to families of children to be consecrated this year

Page 3: Sample blessing to be read on occasion of Consecration

### How the Program Works:

1. A week or two prior to Consecration, congregations will mail out their own edited version of the attached letter to the parents of their Consecration class. The letter can be personalized and put onto Temple letterhead.
2. The congregation will receive a PDF version of the 2019-2020 Consecration Gift Certificate to print and distribute to all the members of the Consecration class during the Consecration ceremony service. The certificates will need to be completed with the students' names.
3. The Rabbi will make a presentation from the pulpit at the Consecration service describing the benefits of a Jewish summer camp experience, the congregation's participation in the Consecration Gift Certificate program, and the fact that each student will receive the gift certificate. (See the attached sheet for some suggested phrasing.)

*This presentation is integral to the Consecration project itself. We are making a significant financial investment in this project, and we want the assembled congregation to understand the benefits of our summer program and the relationship between our camps and your congregation. The certificates can be handed to the students and their parents during or after the service, or they may be mailed to the students.*

4. When a camper registers for their first summer session at one of our camps through their entering 7th grade year, they will send us the certificate, and we will credit their account for \$200.00. If they have lost their certificate, the Rabbi or Educator will have to send us a letter confirming that the congregation participated in the Consecration Project and that the camper did, in fact, receive one of our certificates.

We hope that being a part of the program will increase the Jewish identity of your students, strengthen Reform Judaism, and build connections between your congregation and the URJ. If you have any questions about the program, please don't hesitate to call us.

**A DIGITAL COPY OF THIS FILE FOR PERSONALIZING & EDITING IS AVAILABLE AT  
WWW.URJNORTHEASTCAMPS.ORG/CONGREGATIONS**

[Temple Letterhead]

**URJ Eisner, Crane Lake and Sci-Tech Consecration Project**

Dear Families:

We are delighted to celebrate with you as your child begins his/her Jewish education at our congregation. You have made an important decision by bringing your child to a Reform Synagogue. The values of Torah, Judaism, Jewish commitment, support for Israel, and strengthening of Jewish life in America are values that we share with you.

Religious school and temple involvement are integral to our success, and we believe that an overnight Jewish summer camp program can significantly enhance a child's Jewish identity as well. Studies have shown that a good Jewish summer camp experience is a key factor in continued Jewish education and involvement.

In order to help the children of our congregation develop their Jewish identities as they move from childhood to young adulthood, the Union for Reform Judaism's Eisner Camp, Crane Lake Camp, and 6 Points Sci-Tech Academy are offering a \$200 gift certificate towards their first overnight summer at any of these camps. This gift certificate can be redeemed for any summer following their Consecration year up through when they are entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

These three incredible camps, located in the Berkshires (Eisner and Crane Lake) and just north of Boston (6 Points Sci-Tech) are all on the cutting edge of summer camping, combining fun, learning, and personal development in a safe and healthy environment. These programs are also an extension of our synagogue through our membership in the URJ. At these camps you will find quality staff and many Jewish professionals, including rabbis, cantors, educators, and youth directors, in residence at the camps during the summer. And as members of a Reform congregation, you already support these camps: Eisner Camp, Crane Lake Camp, and 6 Points Sci-Tech are your camps!

May this step of Consecration be just the first of many that your child will take in creating a strong foundation of Jewish living.

Mazal Tov and Congratulations,

Signature of Rabbi/Cantor

Signature of Educator/Youth Professional



## **URJ Eisner, Crane Lake, and 6 Points Sci-Tech Consecration Project**

### **Suggested phrasing to be included in clergy's remarks to the congregation on the occasion of Consecration**

#### **Option #1:**

On this occasion of consecration, you not only receive a Torah, but you are becoming Torah yourself. Being Torah means that you bring Torah to life, that you will live the values of Judaism as God's partner in our world. Being Torah means that you will explore your Jewish identity here at your synagogue home. Being Torah means that you will learn from your parents how to create a Jewish family. Being Torah means that you can learn how to weave Judaism into the fabric of your life at our Reform Jewish summer camps, Eisner Camp, Crane Lake Camp and 6 Points Sci-Tech. At this moment when you receive a Torah, you also become Torah. We at your synagogue home promise always to help you find the Torah inside of you, to help you discover yourself on your Jewish journey.

#### **Option #2:**

At this time of Consecration, our children dedicate themselves to a lifetime of studying and living Jewish values. Just as our children will explore their Jewish identities here in our synagogue home, so too will they come to understand what it means to live as a Jew outside of our sanctuary's walls. The religious nourishment our young people receive from their families will deeply instill life lessons of dedication and commitment to our ethics, rituals and values. The Jewish experiences we offer our children through our youth groups and our Reform Jewish summer camps, Eisner, Crane Lake and our newest camp, 6 Points Sci-Tech Academy, will teach them to weave our faith into the fabric of their lives. At this time of consecration, we as a congregation and a community pledge to provide our children every opportunity to grow into their most fulfilled Jewish selves.