

Innovative Program Awards Application 2014 - 2015

**Sponsored by the Commission on Jewish Education & Leadership
of the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford**

**Please take identifying information off of all pages except the cover sheet.
Applications must be typed and submitted on this form by email to [Carrie Berman](mailto:Carrie.Berman@jewishhartford.org)**

Purpose

The purpose of the Innovative Program Award is to recognize and honor an innovative program (a unit of study within a year long curriculum) which took place between September, 2014 and April, 2015 in the Greater Hartford Jewish community.

Eligibility

All Jewish educators who teach in the area served by the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford, and whose school is a CJEL affiliate member in good standing, are invited to submit programs for the Innovative Program Award.

Selection Process

One program will be chosen in each of the following four (4) categories: Early Childhood, Congregation School, Day School and High School. The winner will be selected by the Excellence in Jewish Education Committee of CJEL. Identities of those applying for the award will not be revealed to the selection committee.

The Awards

Teachers will be recognized at the Annual Meeting of the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford on June 18, 2015.

Application Process

Applications must be typed in the PDF and submitted by email and are due ***no later than Sunday, April 20th, 2015.*** Please use the attached form for your program description (limit 500 words). Include copies of materials needed to replicate the program. For questions, please contact [Carrie Berman](mailto:Carrie.Berman@jewishhartford.org) at (860) 727-6137.

On this page only, please give the following information:

Name of teachers - Robin Rosenthal and Nancy Fichman

School where program was implemented - Emanuel Synagogue

For what category are you nominating this program? Congregational School
(Early Childhood, Congregation School, Day School and High School)

Submitted by - Robin Rosenthal and Nancy Fichman

Please return completed form and attachments to:

Carrie Berman
cberman@jewishhartford.org
Commission on Jewish Education & Leadership



Innovative Program Awards Application 2014 - 2015

**Sponsored by the Commission on Jewish Education & Leadership
of the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford**

***Please take identifying information off of all pages except the cover sheet.
Applications must be typed and submitted on this form by email to [Carrie Berman](#)***

Please describe your innovative program including the following points:

Name of Program: The Passover Skeptic

For what category does this program qualify? (Early Childhood, Congregation School, Day School, High School) Congregational School

Who were the participants? Students and their families in grades K-7

Goal(s): To have the students and their families learn additional facts about Passover.

Learning Objectives:

Have the students challenge their learning of information centered on the Holiday of Passover under the Category of the "Contrary Child" from the Seder. Not only will the students understand this topic and they can then determine their path of learning through easy or hard challenging questions as they negotiate the game board (see attached pictures).

Outcomes: What did you accomplish as a result of this program? (For example, what Jewish ideas, skills, behaviors, values or identity did you enhance or develop in your students?)

a. What did you see as immediate outcomes?

The students liked to challenge each other in determining the correct answers to the questions presented at each level- either easy or hard. The students also loved challenging their families through the easy or hard question pathways.

b. What do you envision for longterm outcomes and ripple effects as a result of this program?

The families were open to additional learning about Passover and then the future family discussions at the seder were enhanced and discussions enriched. The students were able to begin additional learning through the texts of the Torah and Haggadah.

Description of Program – emphasize what is innovative about this program for your school. How is it different than what has been done in the past?

Innovative Program Awards Application 2014 - 2015

**Sponsored by the Commission on Jewish Education & Leadership
of the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford**

Please take identifying information off of all pages except the cover sheet.
Applications must be typed and submitted on this form by email to [Carrie Berman](#)

(Limit 250 words)

This program involved the learning between the students and their peers, students of inter-grades, siblings and even families (parents and guardians). The students and other participants were able to learn where the questions for the game were created and learned their answers to progress through the game. The learning sources came from the Torah texts, commentaries and the Haggadah.

Please submit materials needed to replicate this program.

How did you evaluate the effectiveness of this program? What elements were shown by the evaluation to have made it successful?

We were able to determine the students' learning by their progression through the game board and by the family discussions held as the families were progressing in the game. A number of the families, as they progressed through the board asked where the information was located in the parashot in the Chumash for additional learning and family discussions.

Comments from principal:

Why is this program worthy of an award? What is innovative about it for your school? How did this program benefit your school?

This program grew out of a multi-week class on Pesach that the two teachers attended. This was a creative way of sharing their knowledge and demonstrating the concept from the Hagaddah and Torah texts, that the more one studies about and discusses Pesach the more one is to be praised.

It also demonstrated a way of involving skeptical and possibly disaffected seder guests. This workshop was part of a large program that used the concept of the 4 children to demonstrate that there are many ways in to the seder and the Passover story. The game that was developed will be available for re-use in subsequent years.

Innovative Program Awards Application 2014 - 2015
Sponsored by the Commission on Jewish Education & Leadership
of the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford

Please take identifying information off of all pages except the cover sheet.
Applications must be typed and submitted on this form by email to Carrie Berman