

Around the Community



Apachi Rogers Park Partners with Associated Talmud Torahs of Chicago

Children need camp now more than ever. After a safe and memorable summer in 2020, Apachi Rogers Park Day Camp, located at Bernard Horwich JCC, is gearing up for another incredible summer. A variety of exciting activities all in a Torah-rich environment has long made summers at Apachi as enriching and meaningful as the school year for campers and counselors.

While many campers find their summer home at Apachi, others found theirs at The Nathan & Shirley Rothner ATT Summer Program where, through a range of electives, from cooking to robotics and beyond, campers discovered countless avenues to learn and grow. When looking for a new home and wanting to expand offerings to families, the J was the natural choice. JCC Chicago and Apachi Rogers Park are

excited to partner with ATT in welcoming campers to their new home.

“By joining forces, we’re able to provide an unmatched summer experience for campers in our community. With professionally trained, caring counselors and expansive campus facilities, it’s hard to choose a summer without Apachi,” says Camp Director, Matt Steinberg.

“Apachi is a place where campers make friends from schools all over the community. You’ll find counselors and camp staff who were campers themselves and who love to pass on their memories and traditions to the next generation of Apachi campers,” says Shuli Medow, Director of Camp Operations.

“We’re thrilled to bring a breadth of meaningful experiences to campers at Apachi Rogers Park,” says Shelley Stopek,

who has been facilitating The Nathan & Shirley Rothner ATT Summer Program for years along with partner, Susan Feuer. “We are particularly excited about adding the well-established Apachi swim and sports programs to the array of activities our campers can experience!”

Bernard Horwich JCC’s five-lane indoor pool provides the perfect venue for swim lessons and free swim fun. Campers as young as two years learn to swim from expert instructors, while older campers continue to build confidence through water sports and games. The J’s spacious, air-conditioned indoor activity spaces, full-size gymnasium and basketball court, and outdoor athletic fields and playgrounds set the stage for an active and social summer for campers age two through Counselors in Training entering high school.

“ATT is excited about this opportunity to expand the reach of our summer program together with JCC Chicago,” says Rabbi Mordechai Raizman, Chief Executive Officer of Associated Talmud Torahs of Chicago. “Nathan and Shirley Rothner were builders of our community and would take pride in communal organizations coming together for the benefit of the Jewish community.”

Now through February 28, [sign your child up for an incredible summer](#) at special winter pricing at [apachi.org](#)! Save up to \$200 per camper for eight weeks of memories that matter more than ever. Scholarship support is available for qualified families.

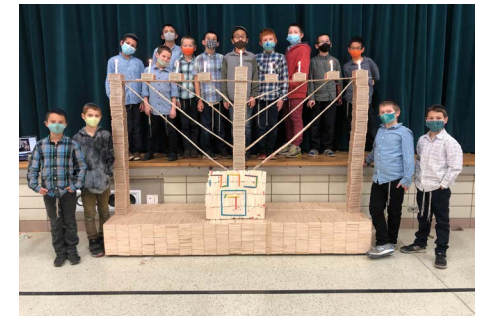
Why Make ONE Chanukah Party When Multiple Parties EVERY NIGHT!!

Every night of Chanukah, our customized Limo made its way around Chicago, making individual Chanukah Parties for our families. Each family was allotted their own time slot, where they invited parents and grandparents to a private Chanukah Party!



World’s Largest Popsicle Stick Menorah

The fourth grade class at the Seymour J. Abrams Cheder Lubavitch Chicago with their teacher, Rabbi Avraham Varnai, built a beautiful Menorah this year for Chanukah. It is made with over 11,000 popsicle sticks and 2 gallons of glue! The students were so proud to light their Menorah in front of the other classes in school in honor of the last day of Chanukah.



Orthodox Union’s Yachad Raises Record \$1.6 Million In 2020 Year-End Giving Day Campaign

More than 2,500 people came together to support the Orthodox Union’s (OU) Yachad, the leading organization for individuals with disabilities, in a late 2020 campaign to raise much-needed funds to increase services, programs and scholarships for individuals with disabilities. The group raised a grand total of \$1,614,239 within the 36-hour campaign.

The funds will go toward increasing daily virtual programming on Yachad on Demand, the group’s virtual platform; expanding clinical support services to families, including parent groups, sibling sup-

port for multiple age groups and “wellness check-ins” to Yachad participants; and increasing home delivery packages for individuals with disabilities isolating at home. Funds will also go towards providing access to digital devices for those who need them in order to connect to Yachad’s virtual programs; necessary support services to IVDU Schools students to facilitate their adjustment to virtual or hybrid educational models; and to scholarships for Yachad summer programs.

“As a result of COVID-19, many of our in-person programs and fundraisers were cancelled in order to protect the physical

safety of our members, supporters and friends,” said Yachad Associate Director Ken Saibel. “The secondary result, unfortunately, was that many of our members felt more isolated than ever and our services became all the more important to them and their families. We’re thrilled that our community came together in such a strong showing of support to ensure that none of our most vulnerable community members are left behind.”

“Yachad is a cornerstone program of the OU and plays a critical role in Jewish communities across the country by providing programming, services and Torah ed-

ucation to participants and their families. We are grateful that the community rallied around them to make sure that we can continue programming that is so important to Yachad members and their families,” said OU President Moishe Bane.

“From the moment physical programming shut down in March, Yachad’s team has been finding innovative ways to continue to provide safe services to their members, and it’s humbling to see the community support their efforts in such a robust fashion,” said OU Executive Vice President Rabbi Moshe Hauer.