



IDA CROWN JEWISH ACADEMY

Upcoming Events

- **Monday, January 24** - Second Semester Begins
- **Tuesday, January 25** - Last Ladies Aces Home Game of the season (Girls JV Plays Josephinum Academy at 5:30; Girls Varsity Plays Josephinum at 7pm) Home games are live-streamed on the **Zaidy Robert Berezin, z"l Court Cam**
- **Friday-Saturday, March 18-19** - Senior Shabbaton

To Review ICJA's COVID protocols (updated Dec. 30, 2021) -[Click here](#)

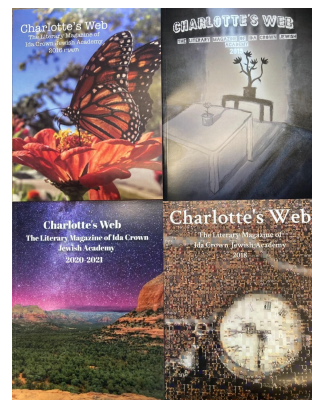
ICJA Literary Magazine Charlotte's Web Wins #1!

ICJA's award-winning literary magazine, Charlotte's Web, has been named a top literary magazine in the country.

Charlotte's Web, the Literary Magazine of ICJA, placed first in our category in the American Scholastic Press Association's annual contest to honor student writing and art.

"Entrants were grouped according to school enrollment and category. Along with the win, we received feedback from judges who complimented our magazine's theme, strength of prose writing, and creativity of poetry. Congratulations to last year's editors and contributors!"

- Mrs. Marsha Arons, faculty advisor to Charlotte's Web



Yasher koach to faculty advisor Mrs. Marsha Arons, to 2020-2021 editors Shira David and Dahlia Matanky (both ICJA class of 2021), and to all the staff and contributors, past and present.

To submit work for the 2021-2021 edition of Charlotte's Web, click [here](#).

Tu B'Shevat Inspiration

Rabbi Simcha Willig shared a message about resilience and renewal on Tu Be'Shevat.

On Tu B'Shevat morning, Monday, January 17,

ICJA students heard from Rabbi Simcha Willig from Frisch School in New Jersey. He explained that just as trees go through seasons of renewal, so do we.

"No matter what you go through in your life, the lesson of the tree is a new season is going to come... There will be other seasons (in life) and change will come."

- Rabbi Willig



Above left: students in Mrs. Wainkrantz's Seniors Bible class listening to Rabbi Willig

Above right: students in Rabbi Fliegelman's Freshman Talmud class listening to the talk



Left: Seniors Tamira Halpert, Hannah Rothner, and Talia Jacobs, waiting for Rabbi Willig's talk to begin

Observing Martin Luther King Day

Students learned about Martin Luther King Jr.'s continuing legacy on Martin Luther King Day.

To mark Martin Luther King Day on Monday, students heard from Rev. Roger Cheeks, Senior Director of Outreach for the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews, who shared his personal story, discussed Dr. King, and offered advice to ICJA students.

"I would suggest that you follow your passions and skills and gifts... Make a difference in other people's lives." - Rev. Cheeks



Pictured Above: students in Mrs. Arons's Juniors Honors English class listening to Rev. Cheeks



Pictured Right: students in Ms. Goldstein's AP English Literature and Composition class



Mrs. Gottlieb's Sophomore Chemistry Class

Mr. Newman returned to ICJA as a substitute this week as students did a project on the Periodic Table.

In Mrs. Gottlieb's Sophomore Chemistry class this week, students were describing the trends in the periodic table, based on where an element appears.

Their substitute teacher was a familiar face: Mr. Newman, who taught biology at ICJA from 1972 until he retired in 2020.



Pictured above left: Mr. Newman. Above right: Sophomores Shayna Weinstein, Joseph Shapiro and Gabriella Zipperstein.

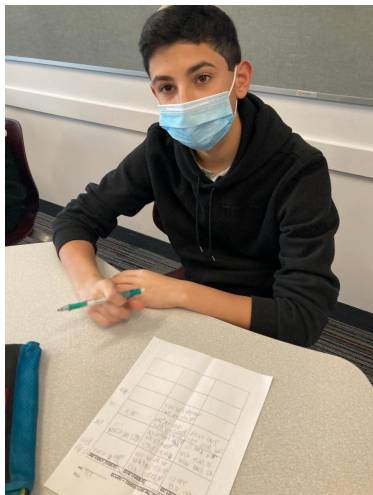
Mrs. Marmel's Freshmen Boys Honors Hebrew

What would you pack in a time capsule?

In Mrs. Marmel's Freshman Boys' Honors Hebrew, students took turns presenting about items they would pack in a time capsule. All the presentations - as well as the notes their classmates took - were entirely in Hebrew.

Ami Weiss included a face mask against Covid-19 in his time capsule (hoping Covid would be over the future), as well as a snow shovel (because global warming might make snow rare), a pen, and smartphone.

Avi Meyer included included lace-up shoes (since automatically lacing shoes might become popular one day), polar bears (which might become extinct), cars, and cash.



Top left: video of Coby Engel's presentation. Top right: video of Elisha Shpayher's presentation. Photo above left: Toby Burstyn taking notes.

Mrs. Marmel's Freshman Girls Hebrew

Discussing a real-life situation in Hebrew

Students in Mrs. Marmel's Freshman girls Hebrew class practiced having Hebrew

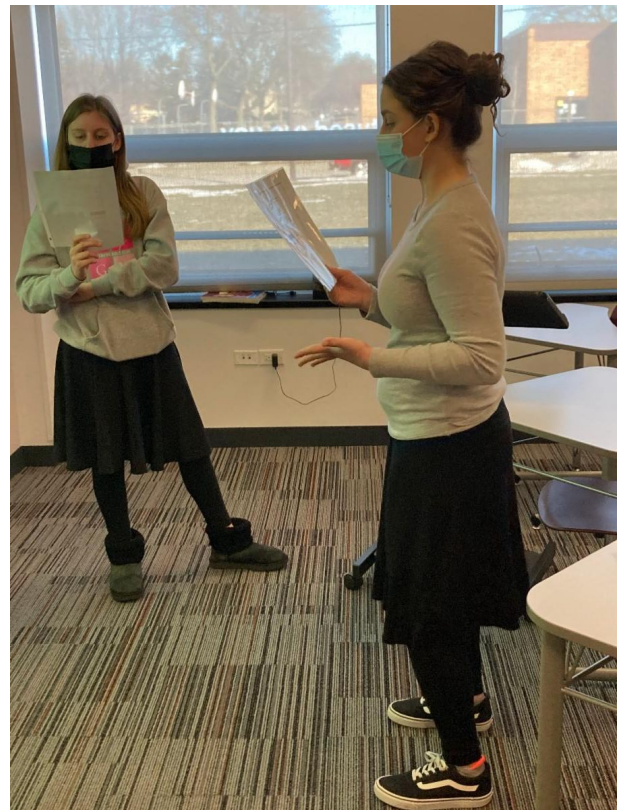
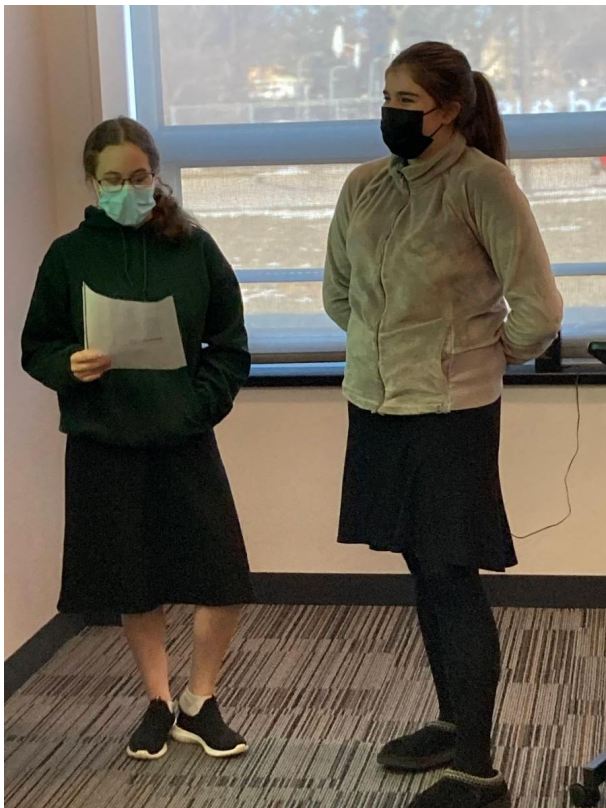
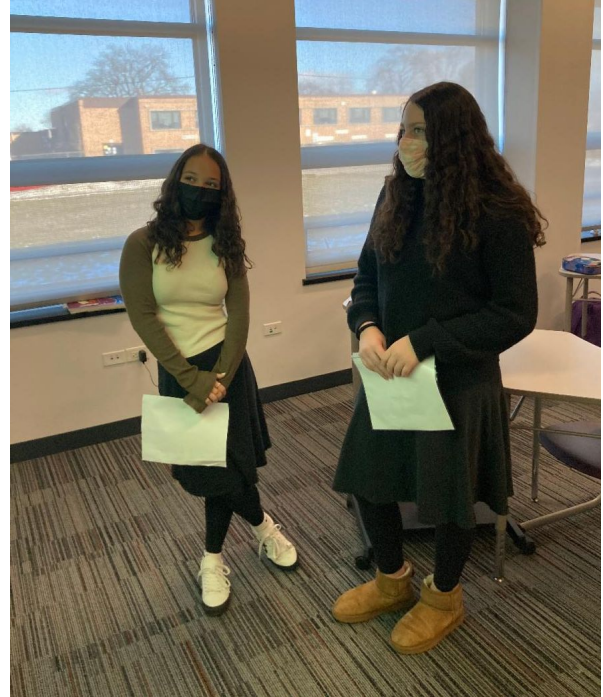
conversations this week.

The subject of their Hebrew language dialogue was something many students could relate to: they discussed how much they wished they could afford to travel to America to watch Beyonce perform live.

Pictured right: Nina Ripstein and Dana Kalutsky

Pictured below right: Eliana Ebert and Sarah levitt

Pictured below: Rivka Weinstein and Ariela Bielak



Dr. Brown's Honors Seniors English

Acting out a key scene from *Remains of the Day*

This week, seniors in Dr. Brown's Honors English class finished reading *The Remains of the Day* by Kazuo Ishiguro - and then discussed and acted out a key scene near the end.

Pictured left: Gavriel Engel and Jonathan



Thomas act out a scene from the book.

Pictured below: students discussing the book in class



Ms. Kelly's Art Classes

Advanced art students learned how to use a pottery wheel.

This week, students in Ms. Kelly's Advanced Art class learned how to use a pottery wheel.

Appearing in video below left: Sophomores Gabriella Zipperstein and Taly Benzaquen

Appearing in video below right: Junior Michal Bechhofer



In General Art, students synthesized different artistic styles and

elements to draw portraits.



In General Art this week, students worked on creating portraits.

Students experimented with symmetry, and incorporated diverse artistic styles in their pictures, drawing on different artists and techniques.

Pictured left: Sophomores Moshe Wiesenberg and Evan Comrov

Pictured below left: Sophomores Leah Zelden and Ilana Schwartz

Pictured below right: Sophomores Leah Zelden, Ilana Schwartz, and Rotem Lavi



ICJA Chess Tournament

The Student-Led ICJA Chess Tournament is underway.

This week, ICJA's student-led chess tournament got underway with over twenty participants. Games are being played online both during and after school.

The tournament reflects the popularity of chess at ICJA, and allows students to challenge themselves and play new opponents..

Pictured right: a non-tournament game played by tournament participants: Juniors Ori Wasserman, Ilan Blumenthal and Adam Schwartz



This Week's Learning Dedications

This week's sponsors included:

Monday, the 15th of Shevat, January 17, 2022, by the Lennon and Meisel Families, in loving memory of David Lennon, z"l

Tuesday, the 18th of Shevat, January 20, 2022, by David and Laura Allswang and Family, Shari and Azi Feifel and Family, and Elliot and Leah Allswang and Family, in loving memory of Marilyn Allswang Eisenberg, z"l, to commemorate her 5th yahrzeit on the 20th of Shevat

For more information or to sponsor a day of learning, please contact our Director of Development, Deva Zwelling, at (773) 973-1450 ext. 115, or dzwelling@icja.org.

ICJA Wrestling Intra-Squad Match

With the wrestling season disrupted by Covid, ICJA's wrestling team held an inter-squad match this week.



On Wednesday, January 19, ICJA's wrestling team held its own wrestling match, allowing wrestlers more match time. Junior Sam Gurvich led the winning White Team. Junior Menachem Reed led the 2nd-place Blue Team.

"With their regular season schedule depleted by COVID, the Aces savored the opportunity to compete under real match conditions." - Wrestling coach Doug Klein

"Both sides battled with utmost effort and sportsmanship. I could not be more proud of ICJA for taking the win." - Junior Sam Gurvich

"Ida Crown is the number one high school wrestling team in all of Jewish Chicago, and tonight's match was evidence of this fact." - Junior Menachem Reed



Lady Aces

The Lady Aces have been enjoying a successful season.

"The Lady Aces have been playing their best basketball of the season since winter break." - ICJA Coach Zach Appel

This week, on Tuesday January 18, the Ladies Aces defeated North Shore Country Day. It was an exciting, close game throughout. With one minute left in the game, the Aces were down six points. Senior Yolie Starck hit a big 3 pointer with 23 seconds left in the game to make it 44-43.

With 8 seconds left in the game, Senior Shiri Kolom got fouled and hit 2 free throws, bringing the Aces ahead 45-44 and winning the game.

The Aces are currently 8-2 in the season with two more games left before the conference tournament February 3-4.

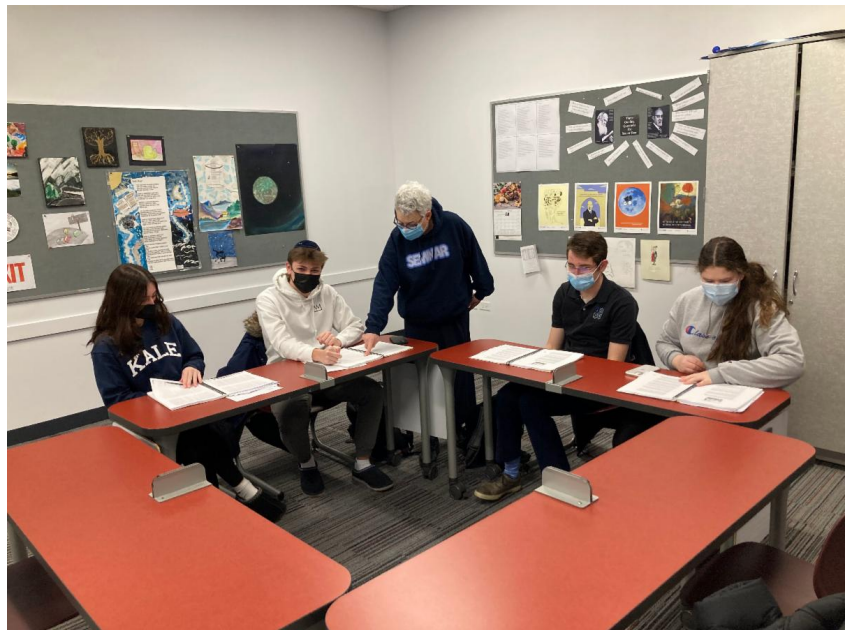


ICJA Spotlight: English Seminar with Ms. Goldstein

English Seminar allows students to study great works of literature in-depth, Sophomore, Junior, and Senior years.

ICJA's English Seminar program is an optional, intensive, three-year elective, allowing students to develop literary skills outside of regular English classes.

Beginning in Sophomore year, students can elect to take English Seminar. A three-year commitment, the classes meet outside of regular class time on Fridays, either during lunch (for Sophomores and Seniors) or at 7:20am (for Juniors).



This week, we caught up with Mrs. Sheri Goldstein, who teaches all three years of English Seminar, to ask her about this unique program. (Pictured above, Juniors Gabrielle Rosenzweig, Hersch Linzer, Gideon Miller and Hadassah Bernstein: some of the program's current Juniors at a recent Friday morning seminar.)

How did you begin teaching English Seminar?

I began teaching here in 1986 and I took over teaching the Seminars from (former ICJA English teacher) Charlotte Rosenwald when she retired.

She created this program to offer a challenge to students who love literature and rhetoric. She taught me how to use the Socratic Method, but the selections are my own. My goal is to develop close reading skills paying particular attention to rhetorical devices such as punctuation, repetition, and imagery.

What do students read each

The Sophomore curriculum focuses on fiction and nonfiction dedicated to the human spirit. We begin with Fairy Tales , primarily Hans Christian Andersen and the Brothers Grimm, to see the lessons that adults pass on to their children. Then we read *The Little Prince*, *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly*, *Angela's Ashes*, *The Golem and the Jinny*, *Brave New World*, *Flowers for Algernon*, *Between the World and Me*, and *Midsummer's Night Dream*. This year's sophomores show keen intellect asking pertinent questions about man's fate.

Because most juniors take U. S. History, I decided that I would teach American essays by great writers to enhance their study of history. We look at The Declaration of Independence rhetorically showing Jefferson's persuasive expertise. We also read essays by Sherman Alexie, Candy-Stanton, Frederick Douglass, Dr. Martin Luther King, E.B. White, James Baldwin, Joan Didion, Neil Postman, and Maya Angelou.

Seniors focus on great world essays reading Aristotle, Orwell, Camus, Wiesel, and Shakespeare, with the class culminating with each senior picking their own essays to teach to the class. Their choices always impress me with the range of topics from science to politics to literature, and they have completely integrated the Socratic a method into their methodology.

What are some of your favorite memories from English Seminar?

Each class develops its own gestalt, with some classes as small as four while others have had 20. One year students bought sweatshirts saying "Feminar" and this year's seniors opted for sweatshirts saying "Seminar" instead.

Each class sacrifices sleep getting to school by 7:20 a.m. every Friday morning, and our discussions spark new ideas and comradery.

Watch Home Games on the Zaidy Robert Berezin z"l Court Cam

Watch home games live-streamed on ICJA's Zaidy Robert Berezin, z"l Court Cam

The **Zaidy Robert Berezin, z"l Court Cam**, generously donated by the Schwartz family, allows ICJA fans to live-stream home games.

Upcoming Home Games include:

- Tuesday, January 25 - Girls Varsity Basketball play Josephinum Academy at 7pm
- Tuesday, January 25 - Girls JV Basketball play Josephinum Academy at 5:30pm
- Thursday, January 27 - Wrestling vs Aurora Central Catholic at 6:15pm

Upcoming Away Games:

- Tuesday, January 25 - Boys JV Basketball play Roycemore at 6pm
- Tuesday, January 25 - Boys Varsity Basketball play Wolcott College Prep at 6:30pm
- Wednesday, January 26 - Boys JV Basketball plays Cristo Rey at 5:30pm
- Wednesday, January 16 - Boys Varsity Basketball plays Cristo Rey at 7pm

- Wednesday, January 26 - Wrestling CPC Championship at Hope Academy, 5pm

ICJA in the News: ICJA's Building Keeps us Safe during the Pandemic

Building industry journal Facilities Maintenance Decisions highlights ICJA's unique building design and air filtration systems.

Our campus' forward-thinking design, **flexible spaces** and **"massive" air filtration systems** enable us to operate safely during the pandemic, according to the industry journal *Facility Maintenance Decisions*.

"The Ida Crown campus was designed before COVID-19 made its mark. But its planned flexibility helped the school endure some of the most uncertain moments of the pandemic. From reopening to in-person learning before most other schools could, to fueling its unique educational values, flexibility was exactly what Ida Crown needed."

To read the full article, click [here](#).

School Events and Annoucements



**SUBMIT YOUR
WORK TO
CHARLOTTE'S WEB**

**POETRY, PROSE, ESSAYS, PHOTOGRAPHY
AND MORE**

USE THE FOLLOWING LINK:
[HTTPS://ICJA.US/CHARLOTTEWEB202](https://icja.us/charlottesweb202)

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Contact Mrs . Arons, Sarah Friedman, or Hannah Stein with questions

See the "Discover ICJA" Video Here

**Enjoy the "Discover ICJA" video -
& share it to help people learn more about our school.**



Introducing ICJA Bar Association for Alumni

Introducing ICJA Bar Association: a way for ICJA alumni who are lawyers to form informal connections.



The image shows a flyer for the ICJA Bar Association. At the top is the ICJA logo, which consists of four blue squares arranged in a 2x2 grid. The top-left square contains the letter 'I', the top-right contains 'C', the bottom-left contains 'J', and the bottom-right contains 'A'. Below the logo, the text 'Ida Crown Jewish Academy' is written in a small, blue, sans-serif font. Below this, the words 'ICJA BAR ASSOCIATION' are written in a bold, orange, sans-serif font. The main body of the flyer is white and contains the following text in a black, serif font: 'Ida Crown Bar Association is an informal group comprised of attorneys who attended Ida Crown Jewish Academy to foster community and facilitate referral opportunities.' Below this, in a smaller, orange, sans-serif font, is the text: 'To join the ICJA Bar Association, please contact Howard Rosenberg, Esq. (ICJA '91) hrosenberg@ksrlaw.com'. At the very bottom, in a small, black, sans-serif font, is the text: 'FOR QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS, YOU CAN ALSO CONTACT DR. YVETTE MILLER, ICJA DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS, AT YMILLER@ICJA.ORG'. The background of the flyer is a blurred image of a person's hands holding a book.

ICJA BAR ASSOCIATION

Ida Crown Bar Association
is an informal group
comprised of attorneys
who attended Ida Crown
Jewish Academy to foster
community and facilitate
referral opportunities.

**To join the ICJA Bar Association,
please contact Howard
Rosenberg, Esq. (ICJA '91)
hrosenberg@ksrlaw.com**

FOR QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS, YOU CAN ALSO CONTACT DR. YVETTE
MILLER, ICJA DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS, AT YMILLER@ICJA.ORG

ICJA ISRAEL CONNECT: Connecting ICJA Alumni in Israel

The first ICJA Israel Connect directory is out.

Over Chanukah, ICJA gave its Class of '21 alumni a Chanukah gift: a brand-new directory that lists ICJA alumni who live in Israel and have graciously offered to open their homes to recent ICJA '21 grads who are currently spending a gap year in Israel this year.

Thank you to the many alumni who have reached out to us, offering to host.

The directory was sent out to the emails of '21 grads that we

have on file. If you have any questions or would like to update our contact information to help recent ICJA grads obtain a copy, please contact Dr. Yvette Miller, ICJA Director of Communications, at ymiller@icja.org.

We are still taking submissions from alumni who are willing to host, to include in future copies of this directory.

INTRODUCING ICJA ISRAEL CONNECT

CONNECTING
ICJA ALUMNI IN
ISRAEL



ICJA ISRAEL CONNECT is a new program that will help ICJA alumni who are spending a gap year in Israel find a home away from home.

We're looking for ICJA alumni who are living in Israel and are willing to open their homes to host Shabbat and yomtov meals for recent ICJA grads on their gap years.

If you're interested in signing up to host, please contact Yvette Miller, ICJA Director of Communications, at ymiller@icja.org.

Community Bulletins

There's still time to express yourself!

Enter the Pogrud Family Essay and Judaic Artwork Contests!

Deadline: Thursday, January 27, 2022

Use your creative skills to explore a Judaic topic via the written word or art.

- Eligible participants: 3rd – 12th grade students attending an ATT school
- Prize: \$50.00 check for each winner
- For essay / artwork rules and guidelines, , visit www.att.org → Student Programs or call ATT at 773-973-2828.

att The Associated Talmud Torahs
PROUDLY ANNOUNCES 2021-2022

POGRUND FAMILY Essay Contest

POGRUND FAMILY Judaic Artwork Contest

PRIZE \$50.00 check for each winner

GUIDELINES

- Eligibility: Students in grades 3-12 who attend an ATT school
- Maximum # of Entries: 1 Pogrud Family Judaic Artwork entry and 1 Pogrud Family Essay entry per student
- Written Essays may be submitted by:
MAIL: 3531 Madison Street, Skokie, IL 60076
EMAIL: pogrudfamilyessayart@att.org
ONLINE: Go to <https://www.att.org/essay-contest/>
- Artwork should be hand delivered to the ATT at 3531 Madison Street, Skokie, IL 60076

SEE CONTEST RULES:

- Pogrud Family Essay Rules: Visit <https://www.att.org/essay-contest/>
- Pogrud Family Judaic Artwork Rules: Visit <https://www.att.org/judaic-artwork-contest/>

For more information, visit <https://www.att.org> → Student Programs → Student Contests or call the ATT office: 773-973-2828

GOALS

- To encourage students to do research in their preferred Judaic area of interest for written essay or on what checked means to me for artwork
- To explain the relevance of Torah/checked to all aspects of life
- To allow students the opportunity of strengthening their commitment to Judaism through writing and/or art
- To provide a platform for students to express their creativity using writing, art

DEADLINE: THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 2022 BY 5:00 PM

FOR YOUR TEACHERS, FOR YOUR CHILDREN.

Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago The Associated Talmud Torahs is a partner with the Jewish United Fund in serving our community.

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Inspiring bnei and bnot Torah to thrive in the modern world

ICJA is an affiliate of the Associated Talmud Torahs and a partner with JUF in serving our community.



Ida Crown Jewish Academy

8233 Central Park Avenue
Skokie, Illinois 60076



www.icja.org