

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS AT WORK

Your donations made it possible for BJE to respond to the continuing, escalated need for services to support schools, educators, and families in the face of COVID-related challenges and adjustments. Changing needs required innovative approaches that were powered by your partnership and generous investment in BJE.

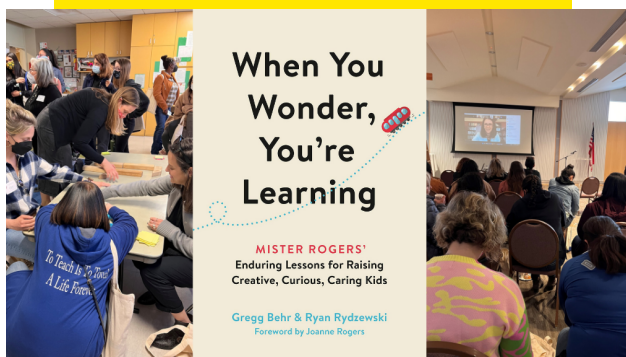


The Only U.S. Delegation to Participate in 2022 International March of the Living

BJE, which has long conducted the largest teen March of the Living program of any community in the United States, partnered with International March of Living to create a 10-day opportunity this Spring for 80 L.A. high school seniors to travel to Israel, where they engaged with Holocaust memory -- through visits to museums and interaction with survivors in-person and via Zoom -- and experienced Israel's Memorial Day and Independence Day. The BJE-led group of teens from 12 L.A. high schools was the only U.S. group to participate in this year's very powerful International March of the Living program.

Helping Educators and Students Flourish

With a focus on the wellbeing of students and educators in the many schools that BJE supports – early childhood, day school, and part-time Jewish education programs – BJE initiated a training program to help schools learn and incorporate Positive Education, the application of principles of positive psychology, neuroscience, and integrative health into their educational approach. Through a generous grant from the Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles, BJE was able to partner with the Center for Positive Education to train and certify a cohort of 15 lead educators (5 from early childhood centers, 5 from day schools, and 5 from part-time Jewish education programs) who will, with continuing BJE support, translate their learning into action at their respective schools. A second cohort will launch in the fall.



Encouraging Creativity & Caring Among Our Youngest Learners

More than 300 educators from 21 BJE-affiliated early childhood centers studied the tools for learning that most scientists consider essential, including curiosity, creativity, and collaboration at BJE's annual Bebe Feuerstein Simon Early Childhood Institute, hosted both virtually and in-person at four different early childhood centers across the region. The theme of this year's conference was based on the book *When You Wonder, You're Learning: Mister Rogers' Enduring Lessons for Raising Creative, Curious, Caring Kids*. The book's co-authors, Gregg Behr & Ryan Rydzewski, delivered an engaging keynote address.

Thank you for your participation and support!

Continued on Page 2

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Empowering Educators & Advancing Student Learning

BJE's professional development programs and communities of practice (for such groups as early childhood education directors, student support specialists, admissions directors, heads of school, principals of part-time Jewish education programs, teen educators and more) provide opportunities for mutual growth and skills enrichment with the aim of strengthening student learning. In the first six months of 2022, 36 sessions were held, involving educators from more than 75 BJE-affiliated schools. Topics explored ranged from "Developing Your Next School Innovation," to "CTRI Trauma-Informed Care Training," "Improving Communication Within Schools," and "Connecting the Dots Between Israel and Gen Z."



Connecting Families to Everything Jewish in L.A.

BJE's JKidLA website was visited by 9,500 users in the most recent six months, an 18% increase over the prior six-month period, continuing an upward trend. JKidLA marked 15 years of connecting families with schools, camps, youth programs, events, and services meeting the Jewish educational needs and interests of individual families through its online presence and personalized "Concierge" education consultation. This service is provided at no charge to users.

Securing Available Public Support on Behalf of Day Schools

Serving as the representative of 29 Jewish day schools in a consortium to access Title services, and working with its day school affiliates to access government funding for non-public schools to defray pandemic-related costs, BJE helped secure more than \$5 million in government funding to help students falling behind academically, provide professional development opportunities with the aim of advancing student learning, and offset COVID-occasioned school expenses.



BJE expresses its appreciation to the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles for grants awarded toward support of BJE March of the Living, JKidLA/Concierge, securing public funds, and professional development for teen educators as well as educators at day schools and in part-time Jewish education.