

The CKA Lion of Judah

Achievement Program



Program Description:

The Lion of Judah is an incentive-based Jewish literacy program. The program awards a patch as a “Sign of Honor” (אות כבוד, *Oht Kavod*) to students for demonstrating mastery of select topics of Jewish knowledge.

The Lion of Judah achievement program is designed for 3rd through 7th grades and the Signs of Honor may be earned in any order. Teachers may opt to focus on award mastery as a class project, but individual students may also work on earning awards through independent study. The program is self-paced, and there is no set time for completion of the program.

The rabbi of another designated adult משגיח *mashgiach* (supervisor) will interview the candidate for the award of each *oht*. Awards will be made on the fourth Wednesday of every month during Hebrew School Assembly.

Once earned, the Signs of Honor are mounted on an *atarah*, a sash worn during Hebrew School services. Prior to B’nai Mitzvah, students will convert the sash into a wimple suitable for binding the *sefer Torah* during their ritual.

Program Concept: Geoffrey Dennis, Michael Fripp, Peta Silansky

Artist/Designer: Steve Erwin

Oht Kavod #1: Tzohar / צֹהַר / Window of Light



The first *oht kavod* is named for the window that Noah built into the ark to help guide him (Gen. 6.16). The design is modeled on the Congregation Kol Ami stained glass star, a window designed and made by congregants of Kol Ami. This *tzohar* lets in brilliant, prismatic light that symbolizes the light of Torah that is ready to guide every Jewish life. The significance of the communally built window reminds us of the hands-on role required of every Jew in building a Jewish life.

[Designers and builders of the original *tzohar* include Don and Helena Dossey, Fran Feigert, Judy Feldman, Allan Litt, Kathy Silver, Michael and Ellen Schwarz.]

This *oht* is awarded as the student begins the Lion of Judah program. This badge is to be mounted at the center, or neck, of the *Atarah*.

Three Elements of Mastery:

- 1) What is the Hebrew term for the six-pointed star? The six-pointed star is known as a *Magen David* or the Star of David.
- 2) What does the phrase *Kol Ami* mean? Kol Ami is Hebrew for **voice of my people**.
- 3) Be able to recite the *sh'ma*.

שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְיָ אֶחָד
בְּרוּךְ שֵׁם כְּבוֹד מַלְכוּתוֹ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד

*Sh'ma Yis'ra'eil Adonai Elobeinu Adonai echad.
Barukh sheim k'vod malkhuto l'olam va'ed*

Hear, Israel, Adonai is our God, Adonai is One.
Blessed be the Name of God's glorious kingdom forever and ever.