

# HOW CHAI MITZVAH WORKS

## Create-Your-Own Path

### PART ONE: Small-Group Conversation



#### GROUP LEARNING

Make a commitment to meet for 8 to 12 sessions, either in person or virtually, and choose a curriculum to spark text-based conversations. Choose from over 16 topics for teens, adults, and families.

### PART TWO: POP-portunities

Power Of Passion! Commit to action in each of these three areas.



#### SOCIAL ACTION

Is there some social cause you are passionate about? Make a commitment to make a difference this year.



#### SPIRITUALITY

Is there a ritual or spiritual practice that you are interested in taking on or deepening for the year? Make a commitment to bring it into your life.



#### STUDY

What are you interested in? Explore a new topic during your Chai Mitzvah year.

Learn more: [www.chaimitzvah.org](http://www.chaimitzvah.org)

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#### Chai Mitzvah Board of Directors (Generous Visionaries)

Scott Shay, President  
Alan Mendelson, Treasurer  
Harvey Arfa

#### Collaborative Partners (ever growing)

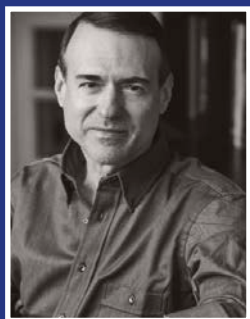
Aseret Global, ARJE, BBYO, B'nei Akiva, JNF, JFNA, JTeen, Limmud, NCSY, NFTY, The Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Hartford, Moishe House, The Mussar Institute, NewCAJE, URJ, USCJ, WRJ, Shutfat Inclusion Programs, Club Z, SSI, Alums for Campus Fairness, CUNY Hillels, The Grandparent-Grandchild Connection, The Jewish Grandparents Network

Chai Mitzvah is a 501c3, non-denominational program generously funded through grants and private donations.

# Grow Your Judaism



[www.chaimitzvah.org](http://www.chaimitzvah.org)



## Our Founder and Board Chair Scott A. Shay

is a leading businessman, thought leader, and author of several widely read books on profound issues facing the Jewish community. Scott is the Co-Founder and Chairman of Signature Bank, well known as one of the best banks in New York for private business owners.



Scott Shay has written two seminal books: *In Good Faith: Questioning Religion and Atheism*, and *Conspiracy U: A Case Study*. *In Good Faith* is a defense of monotheism, the importance of the Bible, and a contemporary discussion of the impact of modern-day idolatry. *Conspiracy U* examines anti-Zionist conspiracy theories from the left and the right coming out of academia and contemporary discourse.



Chai Mitzvah has created guides for discussion groups and book grants for participants.



BOOK GRANTS

## Build Community through Small Groups:

Chai Mitzvah is a great way to celebrate, commemorate, connect, and mark a special time in your life – a time to grow Jewishly and deepen connections. Here are some ways that **individuals** and **organizations** have used Chai Mitzvah:

1. To gather a group of friends together – like a **book group** in person or virtually
2. To bring **generations** together with our *Grandparents & Beyond* program
3. To meet new friends through Chai Mitzvah's **virtual community**
4. To **earn a stipend** (teens and young adults) for **Israel travel**
5. To participate in discussions of **contemporary issues** with Scott A. Shay's seminal books
6. To **celebrate** a special occasion, **mark** a milestone, or **dedicate** a year of study in memory of someone special in your life

*Add your own reasons – it is easy to implement, affordable, and fun!*

OUR PROGRAMS:



info@chaimitzvah.org  
860-206-8363  
www.chaimitzvah.org

## Get to Know the Chai Mitzvah Teen Program!

1. **Varied activities:** Texts to spark discussions, social action projects, and spirituality
2. **Flexible:** Great for different age groups and levels of Jewish knowledge
3. **Stipends:** Funds for pilot schools, and for eligible students for summer travel in Israel
4. **Support for educators:** Webinars and a **Chai Mitzvah** teen educators' Facebook group



*“It is the best high school program I have seen – meaningful yet easy to implement and very well received.”*

– Rabbi Judith Cohen-Rosenberg,  
Community Reform Temple, NY

Learn more:  
Nina Woldin  
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## Our participants ❤️ Chai Mitzvah! Here is what they're saying:

“Chai Mitzvah helped me create a closer network of Jewish friends.”  
Susan Glait – Bellville, Ontario

“This experience helped me get a more sophisticated notion of Jewish tradition.”  
Hugh Lifson – Mount Vernon, IA

“I feel deeply motivated to learn more and do more in my Jewish life.”  
Myrna Lawrence – Oak Park, IL

“Participants are learning, doing, connecting with each other and engaging in Jewish spiritual practice, tikkun olam, and communal life in ways that I could never have imagined. It is a Jewish educational game changer.”  
Rabbi Dan Goldblatt, Beth Chaim Congregation

