

# Triple T (Tracks for Temple Teens) 7th-12th Graders

## Triple T, or Tracks for Temple Teens,

links our teens with others who share similar interests. By combining social connections, interest-based groupings and meaningful Jewish content, Triple T youth will remain connected to Judaism and to each other for many years to come. When 7th through 12th graders participate in Triple T, they learn about Jewish life by actively experiencing it.

### Check out:

#### **Future Coaches 3.0 in partnership with 6 Points Sports Academy.**

Redesigned with the input of this premier west coast sports camp, our program is designed for serious athletes to learn about and experience Judaism through sports. Led by top level coaches, students will learn coaching skills and implement this new knowledge with at-risk youth and in community-wide sports Olympics. Trips to college and professional sporting events/practices will offer opportunities to analyze coaching techniques.

**ART (Arts Rotation Track)** teens explore Judaism through arts rotations including painting, acting, photography, musical instruments and drawing. Teens work with musicians, actors and artists to develop their skills through a Jewish lens.

**Madrichim In Training (MITs)** are 8th graders ONLY preparing to become *Madrichim* (teaching assistants) in 9th grade by working in the classroom as teachers' assistants AND meeting twice a month to learn leadership and teaching skills. Building community among 8th graders is emphasized, and MITs assist *Madrichim* with programs at the 4-6th grade retreat in January. MITs must apply to and be enrolled in the MITs track and can receive community service credit for classroom work.

**T.K.N. Teens** dedicate their time to *Tikkun Olam*, repairing the community around them. Teens identify real concerns in the community and volunteer their time helping organizations that address these problems. Volunteer opportunities may consist of beach clean ups, gleaning fields for Food Forward, and walking dogs at local animal shelters. *T.K.N. Teens* decide where to volunteer their time. This track meets mostly offsite on the weekends for social action projects.

**Rosh Chodesh: It's a Girls Thing / Shevet Achim: The Brotherhood of Teens (7th graders ONLY)** Meeting separately, girls and boys enjoy time to decompress from the pressures of school and every day life. Spending time in a guy space, male teens explore what masculinity and being Jewish means to them as they navigate the choppy waters of middle school, new relationships, and physical changes. Separately, girls have a place to feel safe, articulate their deepest concerns, consider the impact of gender on their daily lives, have fun, and be 'real' with their peers. The faculty role models are specially trained to balance clowning and horseplay with deep discussions of what Judaism has to say about the ethical challenges of their everyday lives.

**SoMPTY (Spark of My People Temple Youth)**, our middle school youth group for 6th, 7th and 8th graders, is a taste of *NFTY*, our regional youth group program. *SoMPTYites* enjoy social events such as Glowzone laser tag, mini golf, and candy sushi making, hanging with other Jewish teens, and getting to know a *LoMPTY* big sibling. *SoMPTYites* must also be enrolled in another track.



**LoMPTY (Light of My People Temple Youth)**, our high school youth group for 9th to 12th graders, provides leadership development and social encounters with Jewish teens from all over Southern California. *LoMPTY* activities range from social action and community service events to weekend retreats to *LoMPTY Lounge Nights* in the Erica Crystal Patterson Youth Lounge.

**Madrichim** are 9th through 12th grade teaching assistants, who help teach and mentor younger students in *Kesher 3.0*, *Mishpacha*, or Hebrew language classrooms. Senior *Madrichim* (10th-12th graders) are paired with MITs (8th graders) and 9th grade *Madrichim* in our *Madrichim* buddy system to encourage connections and mentorship among the teens. *Madrichim* meet with Rabbi Paul and Rabbi Julia for additional leadership building sessions throughout the year. *Madrichim* will also learn resume writing and professional development skills, as well as Jewish aspects of leadership. *Madrichim* can receive community service credit for their work.

**Confirmation** is the culmination of a teen's involvement in the *Tracks for Temple Teens* program. In addition to participating in a *Triple T Track*, 11th and 12th graders go out for dinner once a month with Rabbi Paul or Rabbi Julia for discussions on contemporary topics. Those 12th graders who participate in a Track and come to the monthly *Confirmation* dinners with the Rabbis will be invited to participate in the culminating *Confirmation* service in May.



**Teens enrolled in Triple T automatically become SoMPTY or LoMPTY members. They also participate in an All Triple T Shabbat, Final Triple T Banquet, and Triple T Retreat (additional cost) and have the opportunity to travel together to experience Jewish California, and to a social justice seminar in Washington D.C.**

# Give your children a safe place to get through their teen years

*“I’m glad my parents pushed me to stay in Triple T. I feel valued, empowered and safe here. I’ve turned out to be a pretty good leader and I love the way the younger kids look up to me.”*  
(11th grader)

*“So many of my friends dropped out after Bar Mitzvah. I stayed in, learned how to be a coach, and I fulfilled all of my community service hours!”*  
(9th grader)

*“When I had nowhere else I could turn, I texted my rabbis. Though it was late at night, they answered, checked-in and talked me down.”*  
(12th grader)

*“Traveling to Jewish San Francisco and Washington D.C. with my rabbi created a bond that will last forever. Those experiences helped me figure out what the next steps toward my future should be.”*  
(10th grader)



אור עמי  
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LIGHT OF MY PEOPLE

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