## NINTH GRADE PROGRAM

## Philanthropy

Pursing justice by understanding events in our community and how they affect us, the ninth graders shift their attention in this direction at the very start of the year. Together, these students have the responsibility of determining how to allocate and grant funds on behalf of Temple Isaiah. Understanding Jewish texts, their roots, and levels of tzedakah. The ninth graders research local nonprofit organizations, comparing and contrasting, debating as a class. Students complete the year awarding funds to these different non-profits in pursuit of justice. Out ninth grade students will start to look at their own ability to become community changers by being involved in our Arts in Activisim program. With the power of public service, students learn what's involved with creating and producing a Public service announcement (PSA).

## PAST RECIPIENTS OF NINTH GRADE GRANTS:

## 2015-2016 (Total Grants \$3,500)

#### **Topic: The Environment**

- American Jewish World Service
- Food and Water Watch

## 2014-2015 (Total Grants \$3,500) Topic: Teen Issues

- American Jewish World Service
- Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles
- Jewish World Watch
- Ocean Park Community
  Center's Sojourn Services

## 2013-2014 (Total Grants \$4,500) Topic: Abuse

- American Jewish World Service
- Saban Community Clinic
- The Trevor Project
- United Friends of the Children

## 2012-2013 (Total Grants \$4,750)

#### **Topic: Health Care**

- The Trevor Project
- Jewish World Watch
- Planned Parenthood
- Wounded Warrior Project

# ROAD MAP FOR NINTH GRADE

## Philanthropy Board



## "Bein adam l'atzmo" - Self

## **Question:**

- How does pursuing justice affect me and my Jewish identity?
- How do the events in my community affect me?

## Action:

- Acting on my responsibility to repair the world
- Identifying the problems that are present in the world
- Choosing the issues that affect me and require my attention



## "Bein adam l'chavero" - Community

## **Question:**

• What are the different ways to pursue justice in our world?

## Action:

- Relating Jewish texts to our actions
- Maimonides' Levels of Tzedakah
- Researching and interviewing LA non-profit organizations
- Comparing and contrasting giving time and giving money
- Debating as a class where to donate the philanthropy board's money



## "Bein adam l'Makom" - God

## **Question:**

• What is holy about pursuing justice?

## **Action:**

- Understanding that all people are created B'tzelem Elohim (in God's image)
- Engaging in text study to discover roots of tikkun olam (Repairing the World)