

CBD Bar/Bat Mitzvah Guide

Congregation Beth David of Narragansett

Basic Guidelines

At the start of the sixth-grade year of Congregation Beth David (CBD) Hebrew School there will be a meeting with the parent(s), student, Rabbi Adler and Education Director to review the Bar/Bat Mitzvah process and procedures. This Guide will be reviewed and signed together. Preparedness for the Bar/Bat Mitzvah Service will be discussed with a review of timetables and guides to this life cycle event.

The family must be a CBD member in good standing at the time of this signing of the contract and remain so through the completion of the membership year in which the Bar/Bat Mitzvah Service occurs. The student must be Jewish, meaning at least one of the student's biological parents are Jewish, or if at least one biological parent is not Jewish, then the student has converted prior to the Bar/Bat Mitzvah Service.

Students are required to attend and participate in CBD Friday night and Saturday morning Shabbat Services during the year prior to becoming a Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Participation in Shabbat Services prepares the student and makes the student proficient and comfortable with the service. It is important that students and families foster the connection between classroom learning and services and prayer. Familiarity with CBD services will be reviewed by Rabbi Adler and the Head Teacher and individual conversations will take place as needed.

Date/Time Of Bar/Bat Mitzvah

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Service may be observed almost any time of year when the Torah is read. Traditionally, B'nei Mitzvah have been scheduled for Saturday mornings. Other options are available; please contact Rabbi Adler.

The date of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah will be approved by Rabbi Adler, with the advice of the Chairperson of the Ritual Committee.

Preparation and Study

In addition to CBD Hebrew School attendance and Bar/Bat Mitzvah lessons with Rabbi Adler, private tutoring is available at an additional cost. A five-minute speech explaining the importance of the day, including the Bar/Bat Mitzvah's Torah and Haftarah themes, will be prepared and delivered by the student. A Community Service project for the Bar/Bat Mitzvah student is required.

Enhancements to the Service

There are several enhancements that the family may consider:

Tallit purchase by the family for the Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

Parent(s) prayer or remarks after the Torah Service.

Tallit (prayer shawl) transfer through family generations.

Torah transfer through family generations.

Honors (Aliyot) of English readings, Ark openings to honor family members/guests.

Special Kippot (skull caps) may be ordered by the family for the Service.

A program may be printed as a guide to the Service with explanations and listing of names of family participants (examples provided upon request).

Food, Flowers, And Photography

There shall be no taking of photographs by any person during any CBD service. Photographs may be taken before or after services in a manner and under circumstances that do not interfere with services or preparation for services.

The family may wish to sponsor an Oneg Shabbat (dessert refreshments) after Friday evening Services and Kiddush (light meal) after Shabbat morning Services. All food brought into the synagogue must be Kosher. No food may be prepared at home. Dairy food may be prepared in the Synagogue kitchen. Kosher wine and candy are suggested. A large ceremonial Challah for Shabbat Morning may be ordered. Bakery lists will be provided.

Bimah (Ark) flowers and other deliveries should be scheduled for Friday afternoon before sunset. Please make arrangements with the Chairperson of the Ritual Committee or their designee for deliveries.

Arrangements for the Oneg and/or Kiddush are to be made through the Chairperson of the Ritual Committee.

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Contract

Parents(s) and Bar/Bat Mitzvah child must complete and sign the contract that is attached to this Guide. It sets forth the understanding and responsibilities of all parties. Return the signed Guide and Contract documents to the Chairperson of the Ritual Committee with a copy to the Chair's designee listed below.

For Additional Information, Please Contact:

Rabbi Ethan Adler (401) 946-2604 eadler@cox.net

Rabbi Sol Goodman, Ed. Dir. (401) 837-3064 rabbisol1@aol.com

Marion Myers, Ritual Designee dotcalm@cox.net

Congregation Beth David of Narragansett

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Contract

In accordance with the stipulations determined by the Board of Directors of Congregation Beth David [CBD] for sponsoring a Bar/Bat Mitzvah ceremony, and as reflected in the CBD Bar/Bat Mitzvah Guide, this contract describes the mutual understanding and agreement between the Bat/Bar Mitzvah candidate, her/his family and CBD.

NAME OF BAT/BAR MTIZVAH CANDIDATE: _____

NAME OF PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S): _____

We, the individuals referenced above:

1. Confirm that we have read, understand and agree to the Guideline provisions specified in the CBD Bar/Bat Mitzvah Guide bearing the same revision date as this contract.
2. Agree to pay the fees associated with CBD sponsoring the Bar/Bat Mitzvah ceremony for the above-named candidate. Please note: a fee of \$200.00 for CBD costs related to this event is charged. That fee is due at the time that the Bat/Bar Mitzvah is scheduled.

Signature of Bat/Bar Mitzvah Candidate

Date:

Signature of Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

Date

Signature of CBD Board Representative

Date

Please mail completed form to:

Congregation Beth David
P.O. Box 3299
Narragansett, R.I. 02882
Attention: Marion Myers, Ritual Committee Designee