

Voices of Orot - Monthly Newsletter

Av Newsletter, 5785



Dear Orot Friends,

This Tu B'Av: A Celebration of Unity and Hope

Tu B'Av, the 15th of Av, once marked one of the happiest days in the Jewish calendar—a day of love, renewal, and connection. In today's challenging times, as we work to rebuild and strengthen our communities, the spirit of Tu B'Av feels especially meaningful. At Orot Israel College, we see Tu B'Av not just as a day of personal relationships, but as a celebration of collective purpose—educating, healing, and uniting the next generation. May this Tu B'Av bring light, comfort, and hope to all of Am Yisrael, and may we continue building a future rooted in Torah, compassion, and resilience—together.





Over the past few weeks, three moving graduation ceremonies were held at our Elkana Campus.

The halls were filled with joy, pride, and heartfelt emotion, as hundreds of our students proudly received the degrees they worked so diligently to earn.

From late-night studying to tireless dedication in the classroom, their efforts have truly paid off — and now, they step forward into the world of education and impact with confidence and purpose.

We were proud to celebrate graduates from:

Bachelor's Degree Programs Master's Degree Programs Our Exclusive Haredi Program

Mazal tov to all our graduates!

We can't wait to see how you shape the future.

Meet Our Graduate- Sapir

What degree did you receive?

I received a teaching degree in Early Childhood Education with a specialization in Special Education.

Where are you currently working?

I am a kindergarten teacher and the director of a state religious ASD, special educationkindergarten (which I opened during my internship year).



What do you hope to achieve in the future?

I hope to continue educating students, helping to advance and teach children in the special educatio sector. I also hope to continue developing and expanding the field of religious state education within special education. I feel a sense of mission and a pioneering spirit in leading a special education kindergarten with a religious character and values. In addition, I hope to continue developing academically. In my eyes, when it comes to education, the sky is the limit.

Do you have a special memory from your time at Orot? Something you can share? The special bond with the lecturers and our department head. We had a unique cohort in early childhood education. For three years, we went from class to class together as a specialized track. I learned a lot from my professors— both in terms of content and as educational role models.

I mainly remember the lawns, the student lounge, and the resource center. It's hard to put into words the atmosphere of the college — on the one hand, it's aesthetically beautiful, and on the other, it shows thoughtful care for the students, with learning spaces spread throughout the campus.

What advice would you give to young people who want to follow in your footsteps? Come with a sense of mission and with dreams — but along with those feelings, make sure you stay grounded and connected to the reality of the field.

Dream of making progress and bringing new ideas, but at the same time, be attentive to the environment and the needs of your students.

*Above all, there will be hard moments — but even when it's hard, don't give up. Remember that this is a mission, that God is always with us, and that in the end, everything will turn out for the best.

"We Have Wings of Spirit": An Inspirational Women's Evening on Zoom Filled with Depth, Faith, and Hope



Last Thursday, on the 5th of Av, women gathered virtually for a powerful and uplifting Zoom event titled "We Have Wings of Spirit." The evening offered a rare blend of emotional depth, unwavering faith, and genuine inspiration.

Throughout the program, participants heard from remarkable women who shared their personal journeys of resilience, growth, and rebuilding in the face of life's greatest challenges.

Speakers included Lali Deri, Racheli Hominer, Efrat Mor, Shuli Mualem, and Rabbanit Dr. Chana Katan—each one offering a unique voice of strength and vision.

The event left many feeling empowered and spiritually renewed, reminding us all of the quiet strength that lies within and the power of faith to carry us forward.

Click here to watch Dr. Katan's video

Building Our Open-Air Classroom

Outdoor Learning Takes Root at Orot. We're excited to share a vision that's been growing — quite literally — on our campus. We're in the process of renovating our outdoor lawn and transforming it into a vibrant open-air classroom and study space where students can learn, connect, and thrive in nature.



Imagine Torah learning under the sky, chavrutot studying in the shade, and group discussions surrounded by greenery. This space is designed to encourage deep thinking, meaningful connection, and spiritual growth — all set within the natural beauty of our campus.

Alongside this, we are also renovating several of our indoor classrooms to enhance the learning environment across campus. We're pleased to share that our dance studio renovation is already complete and is now in active use — a beautiful and inspiring space for movement, expression, and creativity.

The outdoor learning space is coming together nicely, and we look forward to watching this dream take shape in the coming months. We're excited to keep you updated as we continue to invest in spaces that support learning, growth, and inspiration — both indoors and out.

How Well Do You Know Orot? Take the Challenge!

Question

In what year was Orot Israel College of Education founded?

<u>1956</u> 1978

2003

Riddle:

Which Orot Israel degree am I?

I shape young minds before they read, Where play and songs are all they need. In tiny chairs and circle time, I plant the roots for kids to climb.

Click here to send us your answer

Trizes for winners! Answers will be shared in next month's newsletter.



Visiting Israel for the Holidays?

We'd love to welcome you to Orot! Come tour our campus, meet our students, and experience the heart of our community.

Click here to email us to schedule your visit



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