




AGENCY FOR JEWISH LEARNING
GLIMCHER FELLOWS EDUCATORS' ISRAEL STUDY TOUR
JUNE 14 – 28, 2010

With Israel as the laboratory and her scholars as the teachers, the AJL has brought a new and dynamic level to the professional development of educators in schools. *Why is it important to send U.S. educators on Study Tours to Israel?* So that they are better prepared to teach students to understand, appreciate and manage the complex issues of a global society which is ever so more connected and affected by events from around the world.

Educators become more proficient in integrating various disciplines into their classrooms. Their heightened sensitivities afford them the ability to create more diverse dialogues, richer curriculum and ultimately wiser students who can answer the question, *“Why should I care about Israel or what happens in the Middle East?”*



“Traveling to Israel has meant everything to me. Not only did I learn tremendous amounts about a country and people I knew nothing about, I also learned a lot about myself. It is a trip that has changed my life, but only for the better... Israel is not what you think it is. Traveling to Israel has meant everything to me.”


~ LINDSAY LEVINE, COMMUNITY DAY SCHOOL

“As a Christian I found it quite powerful to travel the footsteps of the historical Jesus from the Mount of Olives to the Garden of Gethsemane and then to the Sea of Galilee.... The conversations that we initiated with passersby as well as the final days that we spent with our host families gave us far more knowledge about daily life in Israel than any of the historic sites that we visited.”

~ MATTHEW BACHNER, WINCHESTER THURSTON SCHOOL

GOALS OF THE GLIMCHER FELLOWS EDUCATORS' ISRAEL STUDY TOURS INCLUDE:

- **To enable participants to embark on an intellectual and physical journey into the core origins and elements of Western Civilization; its uniqueness, its growth and development over time and space.**
- **To attempt to grapple with the question of how human civilization developed and its connection to the Modern Western world.**
- **To examine the characteristics of general culture and Jewish culture, their cross-fertilization and interaction from the earliest time in Human history to the modern era.**
- **To empower those working with Jewish students to help transmit knowledge about Israel and to help their students to develop a more personal connection to Israel.**
- **To learn first-hand about the causes and ongoing affects of one of the world's most implacable conflicts.**
- **To compare and contrast the U.S. and Israeli Democratic systems of government together with our common values.**
- **To facilitate the ability of the educators to create techniques to bring back the knowledge and experience to their students in the classroom.**



“The beauty of this trip is that we got it all...uncovering the layers of history, the people we met and listened to uncovered layers of complexity. The Israel of the survivors of the holocaust, the young Arab women, the teachers introducing exciting new technologies, the vibrant tourist industry, the orphans, the multiple religions: these are just a few of the many ‘Israels’ that were uncovered.... By far the best way to learn is by being there and experiencing it first-hand. Thank you for the opportunity to learn and grow.”

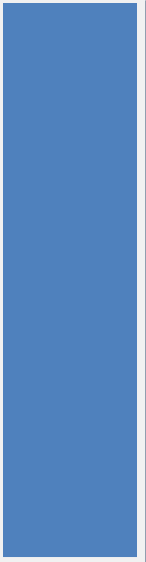
~ KAREN KAIGHIN & BARRY SHIELDS, THE ELLIS SCHOOL

HOW ARE THE GLIMCHER FELLOWS EDUCATORS' ISRAEL STUDY TOURS DESIGNED?

PRE-TRIP SEMINAR: Built into the program are preparatory seminars laying down the basic goals and framework for the trip, as well as a series of lectures to give the participants the background to grapple with the intellectual dimensions of the mission. These seminars are executed by the Israeli scholar who will be leading the subsequent trip.

ISRAEL TRIP: An intensive 14-day subsidized trip that will include lectures, touring, meeting with Israeli educators and home hospitality in Israeli homes. Each educator will have to utilize his/her time in Israel to prepare future lesson plans for Social Studies, History, Geography, Religion, etc., which will incorporate key ideas that they have brought back with them.

POST TRIP FOLLOW-UP SEMINAR: Hands-on workshops with the trip participants to enhance their ability to convey their knowledge and experiences in the classroom.



“Now that I have a firsthand knowledge and perception of Israel, along with a true love of the land, these understandings will permeate every aspect of my teaching. When I teach about the end of the Holocaust, the formation of the State of Israel and the immigration policy that welcomes every Jew, it will be with a much deeper understanding of what that really means.”

~ LISA SHARFSTEIN, BETH EL CONGREGATION

“If the intent of this trip was to have the participants gain a deeper understanding of this beautiful country, it was unequivocal success. I have spoken to dozens of people since my return and I have shared every detail imaginable.... It is my hope that I can inspire more teachers to see Israel from a different perspective. To aid in this endeavor, I would recommend sending more school leaders on this trip.”

~ BRENDAN HYLAND, NORTH ALLEGHENY INTERMEDIATE HIGH SCHOOL



***Major benefits from the AJL's Glimcher Fellows Educators' Israel Study Tours
are the experiences which prompt essential questions ~***

***This process helps teachers to recreate this valuable discovery process
in their students through art, music, or other experiential learning projects,
so that they might create inspired and insightful thought leaders.***

**For further information, contact Dr. Zipora Gur at the AJL,
412- 521- 1101 Ext. 3104 or via e- mail at tgur@ajlpittsburgh.org.**

**AGENCY FOR JEWISH LEARNING
2740 BEECHWOOD BOULEVARD
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15217**

**412- 521- 1101
WWW.AJLPITTSBURGH.ORG**

GLIMCHER FELLOWS EDUCATORS' ISRAEL STUDY TOUR

~ GEARED TO EDUCATORS WHO HAVE NEVER BEFORE VISITED ISRAEL ~

STUDY TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:



- Jerusalem
- Western Wall Tunnels
- Masada
- Tel Aviv
- Dead Sea
- Megiddo
- Tel Dan
- Druze Hospitality
- Sea of Galilee
- Safed ~ Jewish Mystical City
- Banias National Park
- Mt. of Olives

TOTAL COST PER PERSON: \$4,500.

FOR EDUCATORS IN JEWISH INSTITUTIONS: \$1,200 to be paid by the school and/or teacher.

FOR OTHER EDUCATORS: \$1,500 to be paid by the school and/or teacher.