

B'NEI MITZVAH HONORS FORM

B'NEI MITZVAH DATE: _____

ENGLISH NAME: _____ **HEBREW NAME:** _____

The B'nei Mitzvah ceremony is a rite of passage, important not only to the B'nei Mitzvah, but to the entire family. Therefore, we are eager to provide many opportunities for family members to participate in the Shabbat morning service, while preserving the uniqueness of the B'nei Mitzvah student.

A. ALIYOT & TORAH HONORS- The highest honor that can be given is to be called to the Torah for an *aliyah*. The Torah service includes either three or seven *aliyot*. Here an *aliyah* refers to the person reciting the blessings before and after the chanting. (Please refer to page 16 in the handbook for more details and information.) Please provide both the English and Hebrew names of those you are honoring, no more than three people per *aliyah* if possible. One of the rabbis will be happy to assist with Hebrew names. **A Hebrew name consists of the person's name ben/bat/b'nei name(s) of the Jewish parent(s).** Sample Hebrew Name: Channah bat Shmuel v'Leah. While parents/guardians, grandparents, and close relatives are customarily given the honor of an *aliyah*, other family members and close friends may also be included. Please remind those coming up for *aliyot* to prepare well the Hebrew and chanting of the blessings to give honor to the Torah. Non-Jewish spouses are welcome to accompany Jewish spouses to be present for the honor without reciting the Hebrew blessing. Consult with the rabbis for any special circumstances or questions.

1. This first *aliyah* (blessing) is assigned by the clergy.

2. **Name and Relationship to B'nei Mitzvah**

English _____

English _____

Hebrew _____

Hebrew _____

3. **Name and Relationship to B'nei Mitzvah**

English _____

English _____

Hebrew _____

Hebrew _____

4. **Name and Relationship to B'nei Mitzvah**

English _____

English _____

Hebrew _____

Hebrew _____

5. **Name and Relationship to B'nei Mitzvah**

English _____

English _____

Hebrew _____

Hebrew _____

6. **Name of Parent(s)/Guardians(s)**

English _____

English _____

Hebrew _____

Hebrew _____

7. **Name of B'nei Mitzvah**

English _____

Hebrew _____

HAGBAH (Raising up Torah) _____ (Name & Relationship to B'nei Mitzvah)
(this person must practice lifting the Torah before the service)

G'LILAH (Dressing Torah) _____ (Name & Relationship to B'nei Mitzvah)

(continued on back)

B. OTHER HONORS: Please remember that you do not have to find different people for each honor. You can choose to use the same people or select others who will be attending. Due to the height of the ark, participants must be at least about seven years of age to open and close the ark doors. **They do not have to be Jewish. You may select only two people for beginning of Torah service and two for end of service (a total of no more than four people.)**

OPENING/CLOSING ARK _____,
(as we take out the Torah) (include names **and** relationship to B'nei Mitzvah)

OPENING/CLOSING ARK _____,
(as we put the Torah away) (include names **and** relationship to B'nei Mitzvah)

Shabbat morning kiddush cup distributors _____ and _____. At conclusion of service, they will pass out cups of juice and wine as guests enter social hall.

C. TORAH PASSING (optional): The Torah is symbolically passed from generation to generation down the line of your student's Jewish ancestry. Jewish grandparents are called forward along with the parents/guardians of the B'nei Mitzvah. If one parent/guardian of the B'nei Mitzvah is not Jewish, that parent's/guardian's role in the Torah passing should be discussed with the Rabbi. Please list those who will be included in the Torah passing starting with the eldest generation:

D. GRANDPARENTS: Please list here the names of all grandparents who will be in attendance at the service.

E. SIBLINGS are encouraged to say the short *kiddush* and *motzi* to begin the Shabbat morning *kiddush* after the service in Margolis Hall. Please list the names and ages of siblings who will participate:

F. SPECIAL MEMORIALS: Your student's presence is bound up in your family's past. Because those who came before your student are so deeply connected to the occasion of B'nei Mitzvah, we invite you to honor the memory of all loved ones during our *kaddish* prayer. Please list those close family members whose names you would like read prior to the saying of the mourner's *kaddish*.

G. COMMENTS OR CONCERNS: We know that every family has their own particular needs and concerns surrounding the B'nei Mitzvah. The Rabbi(s) encourage you to speak directly with them in creating an uplifting and memorable Shabbat service for your student, your family, and the entire congregation. Please do not hesitate to note any concerns here or to contact the Rabbi(s) directly to address your specific needs.

H. SHABBAT EVENING CANDLE BLESSING PARTICIPANTS:

Reader - _____
(Reader/Blessor must be B'nei Mitzvah Age)

Lighter - _____
(Lighter may be any age; does not need to be Jewish)