



Yahadut Zmaneinu, Moreshet Ha'am

# YOZMA

AN ISRAELI JEWISH INITIATIVE IN MODI'IN



## ***Yom HaMishpacha* at the YOZMA-Tali school**

Family day is a relatively new holiday in the constantly evolving Israeli culture. Originally created as Mother's day - in honor of Henrietta Szold, the founder of Hadassah - in recent years, Mother's day evolved into the somewhat more politically correct "Family day."

Throughout Israel, the holiday is used as a way of honoring the family, and all its members. Kids make family oriented projects, traditional ethnic foods are prepared, and songs are sung. At the YOZMA-Tali school this year, the holiday was a multi-generational celebration, with grandparents (*sabim and savtot*), parents and children celebrating together.

Organized by the school's rabbi, **Rabbi Nir Barkin**, the students led the parents in song and prayer, and grandparents were invited to "solo" their own versions of the traditional *erev Shabbat* prayer, *Lecha dodi*. The parents and children applauded as ten different grandmothers and grandfathers sang melodies they remembered from their childhoods, from areas as diverse as Morocco, Lithuania, and South America. In addition to hearing the wonderful melodies sung by the grandparents, Rabbi Barkin also invited the head of the school's afternoon program Moran Levi-Shriker to translate simultaneously into sign language. It was truly moving and inspirational to see the children, parents and grandparents singing and signing *Lecha dodi* together.

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**YOZMA - Judaism of Our Time, Heritage of Our People**

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