

B'nai Mitzvah Information and Honors Sheet

Please print clearly and return the form five weeks before your service.

BM's Full English Name: _____

BM's Hebrew Name: _____

BM's Birthdate: _____

Parent's English Name: _____

Parent's English Name: _____

Grandparent(s) English Name(s) (LIVING ONLY):

Sibling(s) English Name(s)

Friday Night Erev Shabbat Honors:

We would love for your family to attend Erev Shabbat service on Friday evening. The BM's immediate family (BM, parents, siblings) have the opportunity to assist with three honors: 1.) lighting the Shabbat candles, 2.) opening the ark for Aleinu and 3.) holding the ritual objects for Kiddush and Motzi while leading alongside Michell Cox.

In addition, the BM has the opportunity to 1.) lead the *V'ahavta* alongside Michelle Cox and our rabbis.

Please list the names of the immediate family members who will be participating on Friday night here:

How many guests do you anticipate at services Shabbat evening (Friday):

How many guests do you anticipate at services Shabbat Morning (Saturday):

Are you throwing candy? (Circle one) YES NO

If a tallit will be presented, who will be presenting it?

Talit Presenter _____

Saturday Morning Shabbat Honors:

During our Shabbat morning BM service, friends and family of the BM are invited to participate in our service for a variety of honors. Each honor is explained below; you may use as many or as few of these honors as needed. Please notify anyone listed on this sheet to arrive by 9:30am for a brief service run-through to practice their part.

Please indicate below the English name(s) for all service honors. SEPARATE ALL NAMES WITH COMMAS. There are no maximum limits to our honors, but please try to keep group sizes reasonable. NOTE: Ark opening honors require at least 2 people.

Ark Openers 1 – Taking Out the Torah: Opening and closing the Ark when we take the Torah out of the Ark at the beginning of the Torah service. At this time, parents and grandparents of the BM will also be on the bimah.

Ark Openers 2 – Returning the Torah: Opening and closing the Ark when we return the Torah to the Ark at the end of our Torah service.

Ark Openers 3 – Prayer for Israel: Opening and closing the Ark for the **Prayer for Israel** (This is a great time for a larger group. Consider honoring your B’nai Jehudah Classmates).

Torah Undressers/Dressers: During the Shabbat morning service, the Torah scroll is undressed before the BM reads their portion and then dressed again afterwards. The Torah is dressed in cloth and silver ritual items. Kids are welcome to participate in this honor.

The **undressers** come to the bimah during the *hakafah* (walking with the scroll around the room), the rabbi does not call them by name. The **dressers** come up after the Torah reading when the rabbi calls them up by name, along with the person doing *hagbahah* (lifting the scroll).

Undressing the Torah:

Dressing the Torah:

Hagbahah (Lifting the Torah): After our BM reads from the Torah, it is traditional to lift the scroll so that all might see the words of Torah that have been read. This person should feel comfortable lifting approximately 20 pounds; it primarily requires balance. Our rabbis will help the person practice before the service. This person should be a Jewish adult over the age of 13.

Lifting the Torah (1 person): _____

Kiddush and Motzi (Blessing the Wine and Challah): At the conclusion of our service, these honors are invited to join the rabbis and Michelle Cox in helping to lead *Kiddush* (blessing over the wine) and *Motzi* (blessing over the challah). This is a lovely opportunity to invite the BM's entire *B'nai Mitzvah* class up to the bimah, including cousins and younger children.
