

בס"ד



FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE OF LOS ANGELES

PROGRAM GUIDE

2018-2019



A community for families of children with special needs providing social, educational, recreational & Judaic opportunities.

A place where teen volunteers are enriched and empowered to become tomorrow's leaders and advocates.



## **Mission**

The Friendship Circle's mission is (1) to provide Jewish children who have special needs with a full range of social, recreational, educational and Judaic experiences; (2) to provide their parents with respite and support; and (3) to enrich, inspire and motivate Jewish teenagers through sharing of themselves with others.

The Friendship Circle is made up of five parts: children, volunteers, parents, staff, and supporters. The true beauty of the Circle is how we all link together to form a seamless circle of friendship.

# Vision

The Friendship Circle envisions a world where people who have special needs and their families are accepted, included, and befriended so they can become successful members of society. To create that world, we aim to foster an environment where these children and families are given the support and love they need.

In addition to supporting families and children with special needs, The Friendship Circle endeavors to empower teens to take an active role in assisting and nurturing the wider Jewish community. Through our many programs, we hope to create a new generation of leaders to make the world a better place.

## 3 Questions

- Do you know a teenager who would like to be a volunteer?
- Do you know a family that can use extra help with a child who has special needs?
- Would you like to support the work of the Friendship Circle by making a financial contribution?

 [info@fcla.org](mailto:info@fcla.org)





## ▲ Friends at Home

Every week, teenage volunteers visit participating children in their homes, engaging in activities and developing close friendships. These teens are specially prepared for their valuable role as friend and mentor while parents enjoy a regular respite. These visits can be arranged to accommodate a wide variety of schedules. Please call our office to make arrangements.

**FOR**

**Children and young adults  
ages 3-30  
Volunteers 8th grade\***

*\* Friendship Circle requires that a parent or guardian be at home during these visits.*









**2 Fellowship Points**



**Mimi@fcla.org**

# ▲ Birthday Bash

The Friendship Circle invites all our special children to a grand Birthday Bash! Children with upcoming birthdays will receive an invitation to a party at the Friendship Circle. Volunteers join the celebrations and make it a day to remember. Party highlights include activities, refreshments, goody-bags and of course a birthday cake. It will be a party to remember!

-  **Children ages 4-20**  
**Volunteers 6th grade +**
-  **Sundays, September 16, October 7,**  
**February 3, March 17**
-  **11:15AM-12:15PM**
-  **Friendship Circle**
-  **2 Fellowship Points**
-  **[info@fcla.org](mailto:info@fcla.org)**

*Generously sponsored  
in memory of Dr. Max T. Weiss ob"m*



# Sunday Circle

Sunday Circle enables parents to leave children in the hands of qualified professionals and loving volunteers. Your child and their special friends spend 2 wonderful hours together enjoying music, art, sports and our state of the art inclusive playground.

 **Children ages 4-17**  
**Girl Volunteers 8th Grade +**

 **11:00am-1:00pm**  
*Volunteers arrive at 10:30am for Sunday Circle Breakfast and Orientation*

 **3 Fellowship Points**

 **[liba@fcla.org](mailto:liba@fcla.org)**

# TTYA

Torah Teens & Young Adults is a revolutionary new program that will provide Jewish teens and young adults with social interaction and life skills while cultivating a strong Jewish identity.

 **Young Adults 18+**  
**Girl Volunteers 9th Grade +**

 **3 Fellowship Points**

## **Sunday Circle / TTYA Calendar**

Oct 14	Dec 16	Feb 24	May 5
Oct 28	Jan 6	March 10	May 19
Nov 11	Jan 27	March 24	June 2
Nov 18	Feb 10	March 31	

## **Sunday Circle/TTYA Volunteer Workshop** *Mandatory*

 **Thursday, October 11**

 **7:00PM-8:00PM**

 **3 Fellowship Points**





# ▲ Hebrew School

Friendship Circle recognizes the need to provide a Jewish education for children who have special needs in Los Angeles. Our cutting edge Hebrew school offers a supportive, developmentally appropriate environment where Jewish kids who have special needs are able to learn about their heritage.

Volunteers are on hand to give individualized attention to the students. This is a Hebrew school your child will WANT to attend!

**FOR** Children ages 5-20  
Volunteers 8th grade +

 **Sundays**

 **9:00AM-11:00AM**

**Friendship Circle**

 **3 Fellowship Points**

 **[doonie@fcla.org](mailto:doonie@fcla.org)**



## Hebrew School Calendar

Sept 16	Dec 16	Feb 10	March 31
Oct 14	Dec 30	Feb 24	April 7
Oct 28	Jan 6	March 3	May 5
Nov 4	Jan 13	March 10	May 19
Nov 11	Jan 27	March 17	June 2
Nov 18	Feb 3	March 24	

## Hebrew School Workshop



Thursday, October 11



Girl Volunteers Workshop 7:00-8:00pm  
Boy Volunteers Workshop 7:30-8:30pm



5 Fellowship Points

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## Torah Circle

Torah Circle extends Jewish education into the weekday, with classes on Tuesdays. Torah Circle focuses on Hebrew reading and Jewish Life Skills to enable children with special needs to participate more at home and in the synagogue. Participants enjoy a warm, welcoming Jewish environment that builds a positive Jewish identity.

*\*Our afterschool program extends beyond our Sunday program*



For children 6-11 years old



Tuesdays 4:10pm- 5:30pm



Congregation Levi Yitzchak  
356 N La Brea

## Torah Circle Calendar

Oct 16	Nov 27	Feb 19	April 9
Oct 23	Jan 8	March 5	May 7
Oct 30	Jan 15	March 12	May 14
Nov 6	Jan 22	March 19	May 21
Nov 13	Feb 5	March 26	May 28
Nov 20	Feb 12	April 2	June 4

## Torah Circle Workshop



October 9, December 11, February 26,



## Camps

Join us for a fun-filled, memorable camp experience, featuring a wide variety of activities, games and sports, as well as daily field trips. Our dedicated volunteers pair up with the children for a week to remember.

 **Children & Teens 5-25 years old**  
**Volunteers 8th Grade +**

 [Racheli@fcla.org](mailto:Racheli@fcla.org)

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### Winter Camp

 **December 24-28**

 **9:30AM-3:30PM**  
*Friday early dismissal*

 **Friendship Circle**

 **6 Fellowship Points (per day)**

### Volunteer Workshop *Mandatory*

 **Sunday, December 23**

 **Girls: 10:00AM-12:00PM**  
**Boys: 10:30AM-12:00PM**

 **5 Fellowship Points (per workshop)**

## End of Summer Camp



August 5-9



9:30AM-3:30PM

*Friday early dismissal*



Friendship Circle



6 Fellowship Points (per day)

## Volunteer Workshop *Mandatory*



Sunday, August 4



Girls: 10:00AM-12:00PM

Boys: 10:30AM-12:00PM



5 Fellowship Points  
(per workshop)





# ▲ Holiday Programs

The Friendship Circle Holiday programs allow the entire family to celebrate together in a comfortable and lively setting. Volunteers are on hand to bring holiday cheer and ensure that the needs of each child are met. Innovative activities bring the warm and joyous feelings of the holidays to the children and their families.

**FOR** Children 2-25  
Volunteers 6th Grade +

**★** 4 Fellowship Points

**✉** [chanie@fcla.org](mailto:chanie@fcla.org)

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## Rosh Hashana Festival


**📅** Sunday, August 26

**🕒** 1:00PM-3:00PM

**📍** Friendship Circle





## Chanukah Bash

-  Sunday, December 2
-  1:00PM-3:00PM
-  Friendship Circle






## Tu B'Shvat Party

-  Sunday, January 20
-  1:00PM-3:00PM
-  Friendship Circle






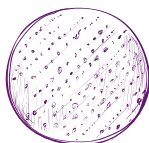
## Purim Celebration

-  Thursday, March 21
-  5:30PM-8:00PM
-  Friendship Circle



## Matzah Factory

-  Sunday, April 7
-  12:00-1:00PM
-  741 Gayley Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA









Sponsored by the Joy and Jerry Monkarsh Family Foundation



# Basketball Club





At Basketball Club, kids get to experience the thrill of the game firsthand - right from the court! Coached by a professional sports therapist, the children learn the rules of the game, develop teamwork and most of all have fun!

-  **FOR Boys Ages 8-18  
Boy Volunteers 6th Grade +**
-  **Wednesdays**
-  **6:30PM-8:00PM**
-  **Pressman Academy  
1055 S. La Cienega Blvd**
-  **2 Fellowship Points**
-  **racheli@fcla.org**

## **Dates:**

Oct 17	Dec 12	Feb 13	April 10
Oct 24	Dec 19	Feb 20	May 1
Oct 31	Jan 16	Feb 27	May 8
Nov 7	Jan 23	March 13	May 15
Nov 14	Jan 30	March 27	June 5
Nov 28	Feb 6	April 3	

## **Volunteer Workshop - *Mandatory***

-  **Wednesdays October 10,  
January 9, March 6**
-  **6:30-8:00PM**
-  **Pressman Academy  
1055 S. La Cienega Blvd**
-  **3 Fellowship Points**









## ▲ Walk4 FriendshipLA

Join us for a fun-filled meaningful day as we help raise community awareness and crucial funds for Friendship Circle and children with special needs. Join us in promoting an inclusive community that welcomes and nurtures all children regardless of their abilities.

-  **Open to the entire community**
-  **Sunday, October 21**
-  **1:30PM-6:00PM**
-  **Shalhevet High School  
910 S. Fairfax Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90036**
-  **8 Fellowship Points**
-  **[gail@fcla.org](mailto:gail@fcla.org)**

# ▲ Let's Play!

Once a month, 'My Backyard', our state of the art inclusive playground, hosts an exciting event where children of all abilities can play side by side. Together, children enjoy a Judaic themed craft, friends and a variety of sensory and stimulating activities.

-  **Kids Ages 4-18**  
**Volunteers of visiting elementary school classes**
  -  **Tuesdays, October 30,**  
**November 27, December 4,**  
**January 15, February 5, March 5,**  
**April 9, May 7, June 4**
  -  **3:00PM-4:00PM**
  -  **Friendship Circle**
  -  **chanie@fcla.org**
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# ▲ Inclusion, Inclusion, Inclusion!!

On legal holidays when public school is out Inclusion is in! Friendship Circle now has inclusion opportunities in a variety of Jewish day schools. Call now to find out which opportunity is right for your child.

-  **Ages 5-14**
-  **Most Legal Holidays**
-  **Host Schools: Toras Emes**  
**and Maimonides Academy**
-  **chanie@fcla.org**





**MVP!**

# Mitzvah Volunteer Program

The Mitzvah Volunteer Program is a four week orientation program for boys and girls that teaches our volunteers how to interact with children who have special needs. Volunteers will learn about various disabilities, appropriate conduct when volunteering, the importance of giving back to the community and the huge impact they can make on others.

**FOR** Boys and Girls in 6th-8th Grade

**Thursdays**

SESSION #1:	SESSION #2:	SESSION #3:
October 25	January 10	March 7
November 1	January 17	March 14
November 8	January 31	March 28
November 15	February 7	April 4

**7:00-8:00pm**

## Volunteer Experience

Session #1: Sunday, November 18  
Session #2: Sunday, February 10  
Session #3: Sunday, April 7

**9:15am-11:00am**

**Friendship Circle**

**[chanie@fcla.org](mailto:chanie@fcla.org)**



## Spa for the Soul

Join us for an exclusive event for Friendship Circle moms to pamper the mind, body and soul.

-  **FOR Friendship Circle Moms**
-  **Wednesday, February 27**
-  **7:00PM-10:00PM**
-  **Friendship Circle**
-  **[miriam@fcla.org](mailto:miriam@fcla.org)**

## In the Know Workshops


Stimulating and informational workshops designed to help you advocate and plan for your child who has special needs. All workshops run in conjunction with our holiday programs so you can relax, enjoy and know your child is in good hands.

-  **Sundays, August 26,  
December 2, January 20**
-  **5:45-6:15pm**
-  **[chanie@fcla.org](mailto:chanie@fcla.org)**

# Mom's Torah & Tea

A delightful morning with brunch and inspiration amongst friends.

**FOR** Mothers of children who have special needs

 Wednesdays, November 14, February 6, March 27

 10:00-12:00PM

## Orientations

Volunteers are required to attend one orientation before beginning to volunteer at the Friendship Circle. Learn more about who we are, what we do and all of our volunteering opportunities. Choose the program that works best for you!

**Volunteers under 18 are required to attend with a parent.**

 Thursdays, July 19, August 23, October 4, November 1, December 13, January 31, February 21, March 28, May 2, June 20, July 25, August 22

 8:00PM-9:00PM

 Friendship Circle

 6 Fellowship Points

 [volunteer@fcla.org](mailto:volunteer@fcla.org)





## ▲ Volunteer Chanukah Bash

### Boy Volunteers



Wednesday, December 5



6:00PM-8:00PM

### Girl Volunteers



Tuesday, December 4



6:00PM-8:00PM



Location TBA



[volunteer@fcla.org](mailto:volunteer@fcla.org)

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## ▲ Volunteer Educational Workshops



Sundays, November 4,  
January 13, March 3



Girls Time: 7:00pm



Boys Time: 7:30pm



[volunteer@fcla.org](mailto:volunteer@fcla.org)

## Girls Torah & Tea

Nights out full of inspiration & stimulating conversations amongst friends.



Wednesdays, October 17, November 14,  
December 12, January 16, February 13, March  
13, April 10, May 8



8:00PM-9:00PM



Meshuga for Sushi,  
8948 W. Pico Blvd, 90035



2 Fellowship Points



chanie@fcla.org

## Boys Wings & Wisdom

Nights out full of inspiration & stimulating conversations amongst friends.



Thursdays, October 18, November 15,  
December 20, January 17, February 14,  
March 14, April 11, May 9



8:00PM-9:00PM



LA Burger Bar  
8581 W. Pico Blvd, 90035



2 Fellowship Points



volunteer@fcla.org

## The Garden Party

Volunteers and their parents are invited to an evening celebrating young leadership in recognition of their year of giving.



Tuesday, May 21, 6:30-9:30PM



TBA



# ▲ Fellowship Award

Friendship Circle Fellowship Awards are presented to all volunteers who demonstrate an extraordinary commitment to their special friends. Volunteers qualify for this prestigious honor by consistently volunteering and expanding their knowledge in the field of special education. Recipients receive a token scholarship and beautiful award.

## **Qualifications:**

- For Volunteers in grades 9-12
- Earn 60 Fellowship Points throughout the school year
- Attend a minimum of two Educational Workshops
- Log in your community service hours AT LEAST once a month. Points will not be issued if received after one month of volunteering.

## **How to:**

1. Register online at [fcla.org/loghours](http://fcla.org/loghours)
2. Download the app 'Track It Forward'
3. Log in your hours!

# List of Programs & Points

## POINTS PER DAY/EVENT

<b>Birthday Bash</b>	2 points
<b>Educational Workshops</b>	10 points
<b>Friends @ Home</b>	2 points
<b>Hebrew School</b>	3 points
<b>Holiday Celebrations</b>	4 points
<b>Sunday Circle/ TTYA</b>	3 points
<b>Volunteer Orientation</b>	6 points
<b>Walk4Friendship</b>	8 points
<b>Winter/ Summer Camp</b>	6 points
<b>Wings &amp; Wisdom/Torah &amp; Tea</b>	2 points
<b>HS/SC/Basketball Workshops</b>	3 points
<b>HS/Camp Workshops</b>	5 points
<b>Basketball Club</b>	2 points





1952 S. Robertson Blvd,  
Los Angeles, CA 90034

[www.fcla.org](http://www.fcla.org)

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