

## FOUNDATIONS



### Providing Clarity. Igniting Passion. Inspiring Action.

The Foundations curriculum was developed to guide young women in developing their own personal identity rooted in *Torah* and *shmiras hamitzvos*. Foundations equips young women to realize their unique potential as *Torah* Jews. In 2021, thirty girls' high schools are utilizing the Foundations curriculum.

Schools using the the Foundations curriculum span a broad ideological and cultural spectrum. Schools range from Valley Torah Girls in Los Angeles to Bais Shifra Miriam in Monsey and from HAFTR in Lawrence to Vien in Borough Park. This year's summer teacher training included schools from the *Sephardic* community, Lakewood and Las Vegas.

A critical element of the project's success is the mandatory week-long teacher training. This intense instruction and coaching training has created a community of teachers skilled in transmitting sensitive and nuanced lessons, steeped in *ahavas yisroel*, who share a deeply charged passion to bring our students closer to *Hashem* and His *Torah*.

Training and support continues throughout the academic year ensuring the correct implementation of the program.

*For more information about the Foundations curriculum, please contact Chana Noa Gelbfish at [cngelbfish@gmail.com](mailto:cngelbfish@gmail.com).*

## PARTICIPATING HIGH SCHOOLS

Atara Girls HS, Cincinnati, OH

Ateres Bnos Ita of Las Vegas, Las Vegas, NV

Bais Yaakov of Baltimore, Baltimore, MD

Bais Shifra Miriam, Monsey, NY

Bais Yaakov of Chicago, Chicago, IL

Bais Yaakov D'Khal Adas Yereim, Brooklyn, NY

Bais Yaakov HS, Brooklyn, NY

Bais Yaakov of Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA

Bais Yaakov of Ramapo, Ramapo, NY

Bais Yaakov Shiras Miriam, Monsey, NY

Bais Yaakov Twin Cities, Minneapolis, MN

Bet Yaakov Ateret Torah, Brooklyn, NY

Bnos Bais Yaakov HS, Lakewood, NJ

Bnos Yakov Pupa Girls HS, Brooklyn, NY

Bnos Yisroel Girls School of Viznitz, Monsey, NY

Chedvas Bais Yaakov HS, Lakewood, NJ

Hanna Sacks Bais Yaakov, Chicago, IL

Hebrew Academy of Five Towns and Rockaways (HAFTR), Cedarhurst, NY

Kosloff Torah Academy HS For Girls, Bala Cynwyd, PA

Maayanos Seminary of Canada, Toronto, ON

Machon Sara HS, Far Rockaway, NY

New England Academy of Torah Girls HS, Providence, RI

Oros Bais Yaakov, Lakewood, NJ

Shulamith HS for Girls, Cedarhurst, NY

Temima, The Richard and Jean Katz HS for Girls, Atlanta, GA

Tichon Meir Moshe, Far Rockaway, NY

Torah Girls Academy of Texas, Houston, TX

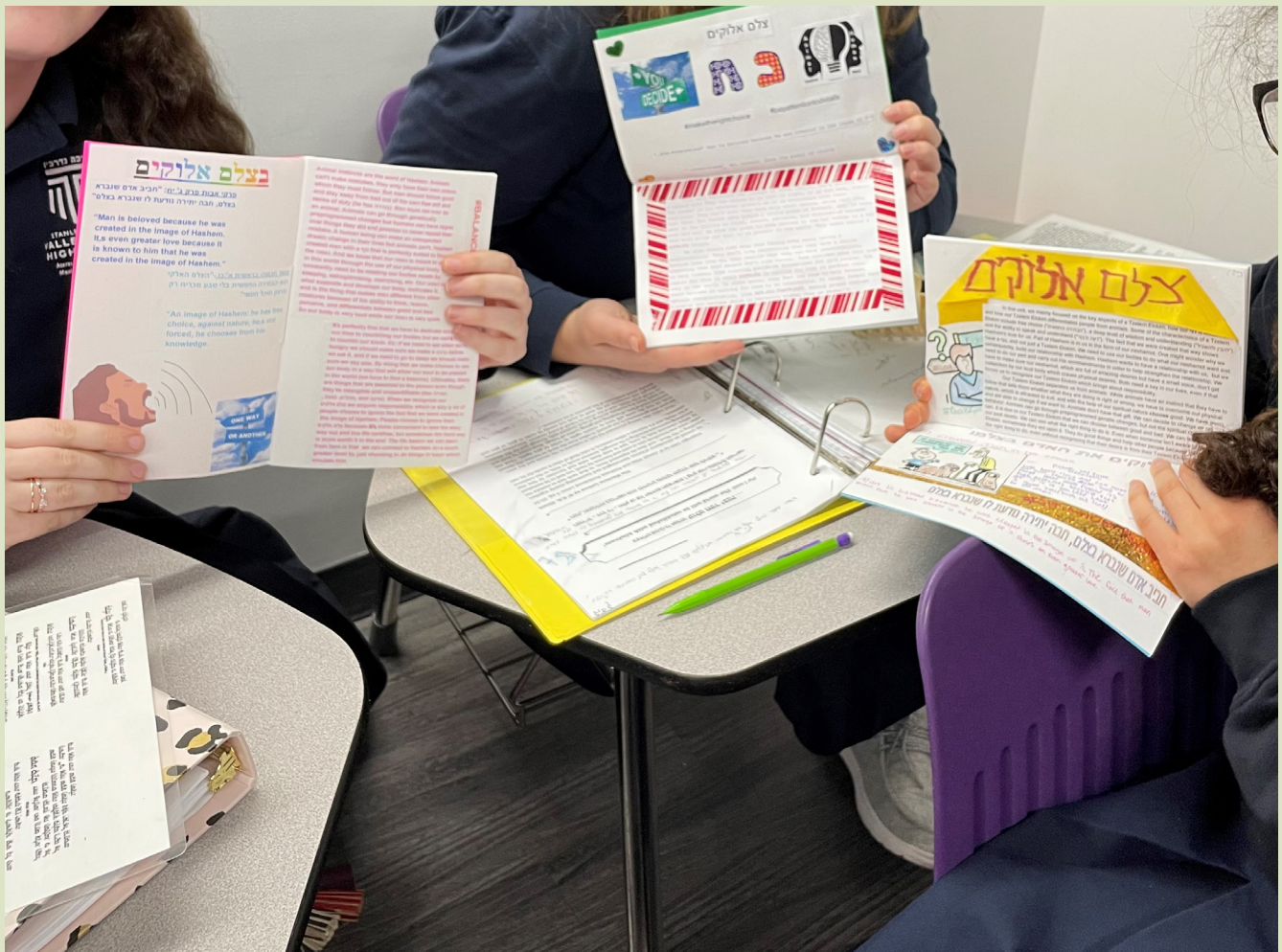
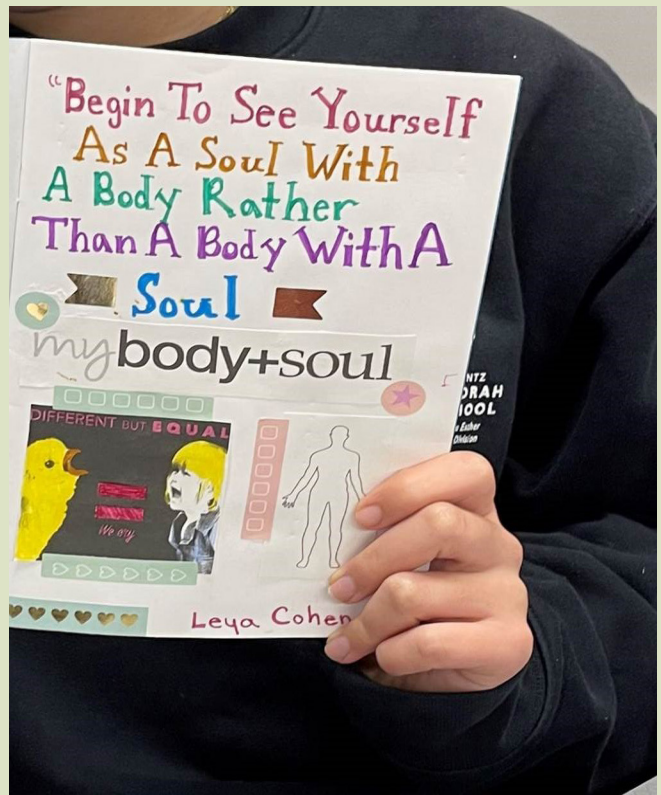
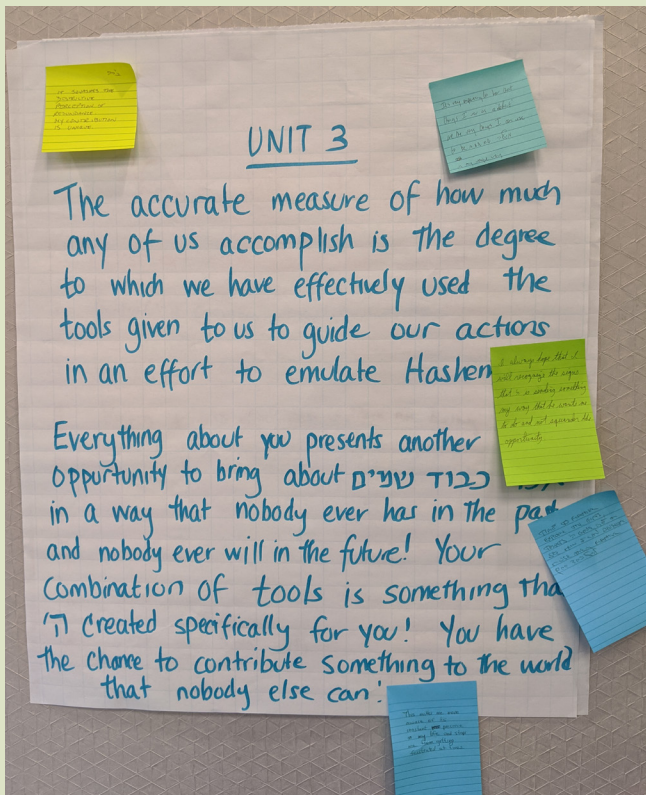
Valley Torah Girls HS, Valley Village, CA

Yeshiva of Brooklyn Girls HS, Brooklyn, NY



Chana Noa Gelbfish (right), Foundations director, and Roizy Gobioff (left), Foundations teacher and mentor at summer training at CoJDS Cedarhurst office





## STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

"When you know you have a spiritual core and you're able to learn about it deeply, you really want to work on yourself."  
*10th grader, Valley Torah, Valley Village, CA*

"This program is making my daughter think and makes her feel so happy with who she is, both on her own and in our family, with a newfound confidence and pride."  
*Mother of a 10th grade student, Bais Shifra Miriam, Monsey, NY*

"This course gave me a new perspective about my purpose in this world and how to utilize the unique tools given to me to be mekadesh Shem Shamayim..."  
*11th grader, Bet Yakov Ateret Torah, Brooklyn, NY*

"...I am so grateful that I was born Jewish. Some people approach religion as all or nothing...Judaism does not require you to be perfect- it requires you to do your best to live by G-d's commandments and act in His image...G-d wants you to "walk with Him", and if you fall He will help you get back up."  
*11th Grader, HAFTR, Lawrence, NY*

"I find this program very effective. It is changing how I view myself and others. I am also gaining clarity on who I am and what I can accomplish. I think this is an essential learning program for growing teenagers like myself. I am finding the real me!"  
*10th Grader, Oros, Lakewood, NJ*

## TEACHER TESTIMONIALS

"It was the most eye-opening experience. It put words to concepts that I may have known previously, but I couldn't express as well. I now see examples of it everywhere in my life. I'm living it in a way I didn't before. The concepts come alive."  
*Rena Sorotzkin, Teacher, Social Worker, Brooklyn, NY*

"This program gave me the ability to unify and solidify many disparate concepts in Yiddishkeit into a beautiful cohesive mission. Especially in times when there are many skewed ideologies prevalent in the world around us, this course is a roadmap that keeps me on the right path reaching higher."  
*Roizy Gobioff, Teacher, Borough Park*

"I find that as a wife, mother, and member of society, teaching Foundations/Yesodos has made me more of a genuine person. I can focus more on what HKBH might want from me and worry much less about what others might think I should be doing."  
*Elisheva Samuels, Teacher, Monsey, NY (previously of Los Angeles, CA)*

"What I gained from Yesodos, one benefit – there have been many – a heightened awareness and appreciation of what I can learn from how other people use their tools and how we all depend on each other to accomplish."  
*Rebbitzen Marsha Gibber, Teacher, Providence, RI*

"The positive responses and clear internalization of the Foundations concepts are simply overwhelming. As a teacher and a Rebbitzen, this has been extremely satisfying. On a personal level as a Jewish woman, this has been life changing!"  
*Rebbitzen Sori Teitelbaum – Teacher, Lawrence, NY (pending Ramat Bet Shemesh, Israel)*