

Shalom,

Thank you for your interest in our *Gesher* program for high school seniors. This letter will introduce you to the *Gesher* program. We urge you to read carefully about this wonderful leadership opportunity.

So, what is *Gesher*?

Gesher is an eight-week residential program where you will truly learn what it means to be a counselor. You will work as a counselor Monday-Friday in Gan Alonim, our day camp. With this hands-on experience, you are receiving advanced counseling training, as well as building your skills, both of which will put you on the right track toward greater leadership opportunities at Camp Alonim. By the summer of 2011, you will be prepared to be a residential counselor with better pay, greater skills, and the ability to transmit a wonderful camp experience to your campers.

Gesher is also fun! There are two *Gesher* mentors whose job it is to plan social activities and special events just for you and to offer you guidance and friendship. In addition, *Gesher* participants are part of the Alonim staff. Each evening you can attend staff programming, or spend quality time with the rest of your group, forming the bonds and creating the memories that make camp such a special place. Don't forget, Gan Alonim campers go home every day! When they leave, you have the evening to unwind with your friends. You will have ample time off when you are permitted to leave camp (every Saturday night from the end of *Havdallah* until Sunday at 9pm.) You are part of Shabbat each and every week. You will live in your own area of camp. Each of these things is designed so you can grow both as a counselor and as a person. You are a part of the Alonim staff, and yet the *Gesher* group still maintains its own identity, allowing you to make new friends and deepen existing friendships.

***Gesher* is not for everyone. It is for young leaders who believe that transforming the lives of children within the greater Alonim community is important. It is for high school seniors who are ready to take on serious responsibility and leadership. It is for the person that is ready to be on staff at Camp Alonim.**

Our *Gesher* participants will be carefully selected based upon their potential for leadership and growth, personal interview, and recommendations. The program includes all housing and meals, training sessions, and special teachers at no additional cost to the participant.

The *Gesher* program will start on June 16th and end on August 15th.

The following pages are the application for the *Gesher* Program for summer 2010. The program is selective and the number of participants is limited. Applications are due **January 22, 2010**. Please complete the application in full including the essay question and send to the camp office at:

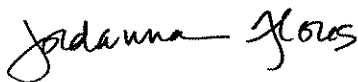
**1101 Peppertree Lane
Brandeis, CA 93064
Attn: Aki**

Upon acceptance, you will be asked to sign the *Gesher* contract, a copy of which follows this letter. This copy of the contract is for your review only and there is no need to return it with your application. **Please read the contract carefully prior to beginning the application process for the *Gesher* program. Every applicant will be expected to comply with all of the terms and conditions of the program. There is no need for you to return the copy of the contract at this time.**

If you have any questions about the program or the application process, please call Akiko Yonekawa, our Assistant Director, at (805) 582-4450.

I hope you choose to take on this exciting challenge!

L'Shalom,



Jordanna Flores
Director of Camp Alonim



Akiko Yonekawa
Assistant Director of Camp Alonim



2009 CAMP ALONIM *GESHER* CONTRACT



Please read through the *Gesher* contract thoroughly. There is no need to return this contract at this time.

Terms:

- a. There is no charge for the *Gesher* program. *Gesher* interns will serve as counselors in the Gan Alonim program. *Gesher* interns will receive staff leadership training, participate in Judaic and social programming, and will receive room and board.
- b. The *Gesher* Program begins on June 16, the first day of staff orientation and ends on August 15, the last day of third session for Camp Alonim. All *Gesher* interns are expected to attend staff orientation in full.
- c. *Gesher* interns will receive time off every Saturday night after *Havdallah* until Sunday at 9:00 pm. *Gesher* interns must leave camp during this time.

I understand that *Gesher* interns may not accept tips. All tipping is prohibited by camp policy.

I understand that *Gesher* interns are responsible for carrying out, in a manner satisfactory to the Director, such duties and responsibilities as will be assigned. Furthermore, *Gesher* interns are to give full cooperation and loyal support to the camp, its traditions, and its rules and regulations.

I agree to adhere to the Camp Alonim Internet Policy, as stated in the Staff Handbook, and understand Camp Alonim may review content on publicly accessible websites and/or web pages created and/or posted by *Gesher* interns, and that all content created and/or posted could be grounds for my being dismissed from the *Gesher* program.

I understand that the Camp will not be responsible for any injury suffered by the *Gesher* intern unless the injury is sustained in the direct performance of camp duties. Responsibility of injuries sustained at other times will remain with me or my parent/guardian.

I understand that when it is deemed necessary for the *Gesher* intern's health, the Camp reserves the right to have intern hospitalized or to use outside medical or dental aid, in which case all such expenses shall be paid by the *Gesher* intern's parent or guardian except as noted above.

I understand that Camp Alonim policy prohibits the possession, use or distribution of drugs, drug paraphernalia, cigarettes or alcohol at any time on the camp premises during the camp season. Being under the influence of drugs or alcohol while on camp grounds is also prohibited. Firearms as well are prohibited. Failure to comply with this policy is basis for immediate dismissal.

I understand that the *Gesher* intern is expected to respect community property as well as the property of others. The *Gesher* intern will be charged for any damage and/or vandalism to Camp Alonim and its environs. Theft or the use/possession of stolen property may result in dismissal from the program.

I understand that the *Gesher* intern is expected to conduct him/herself with the utmost honesty, integrity, enthusiasm, and respect for the Alonim community. Therefore: lying, cheating and deceitful behavior (e.g., absences without appropriate permission) are violations of program standards and may result in dismissal from the program.

I understand that Camp Alonim is in a dry, desert-like terrain and therefore, items such as candles, lighters and matches are strictly prohibited.

I understand that *Gesher* interns are expected to dress in a manner appropriate for both the physical terrain of camp and for the status attained as a day camp counselor. A *Gesher* intern may not wear clothing with vulgar or sexual depictions or clothing deemed sexually provocative (e.g., backless and sheer tops, bare midriffs, pants worn below the hips, extremely short shorts, etc.)

I understand that sexual activity is forbidden at camp and is grounds for dismissal from the program. *Gesher* interns may not be in the living area of the opposite gender without the express permission of their mentors.

I understand that *Gesher* interns are expected to speak and act in a mature and dignified manner. Harassment (physical, verbal or emotional), profanities and sexually explicit language and behavior will result in disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by the *Gesher* mentors and the Director. Furthermore, I agree to adhere to the Camp Alonim sexual harassment policy as stated in the staff handbook.

I understand that *Gesher* interns are expected to conduct themselves according to camp rules at all times during the program, including off-ground field trips. Failure to comply with camp rules as set forth by this agreement and by the camp staff while on a field trip may result in a *Gesher* intern's dismissal from the program.

I understand that Camp Alonim's philosophy is to enhance the Jewish cultural identity of its campers and as such participation in discussions, music and dance sessions, and other programs is of the utmost importance.

I understand that Camp Alonim reserves the right, and signing this contract grants Camp Alonim the authority, to search any *Gesher* intern's possessions if there is cause or any suspicion of violation of camp rules. Anything confiscated in a search may not be returned to the family.

I understand that this contract is valid pending the completion and submittal of the Health and Release Form. These forms, along with the signed contract are due no later than May 10th, 2010.

I understand that the *Gesher* program lasts for a full eight weeks. A *Gesher* intern may not leave the premises unless there is an emergency, it is between Saturday and Sunday evenings or the interns are on a program-led field trip. **Any request to miss any part of the program must be submitted in writing and approved by the Director of Camp Alonim prior to June 1, 2010.**

Parent/Guardian:

_____ (I), (We), the undersigned parent of a minor, do hereby authorize the Director of Camp Alonim or an authorized representative, as agent(s) for the undersigned to consent to any x-ray examination, anesthetic, medical or surgical diagnosis or treatment and hospital care which is deemed advisable by, and is to be rendered under the general or special supervision of any physician and surgeon licensed under, the provisions of the California Medical Practice Act and the medical staff of a licensed hospital, whether such examination, diagnosis or treatment is rendered at the office of said physician or at such hospital. It is understood that this authorization is given in advance of any specific examination, diagnosis, treatment or hospital care being required, and is given to provide authority and power on the part of our above-named agent(s) to give specific consent to any and all such examinations, diagnoses, treatment or hospital care which the aforementioned physician in the exercise of his/her best judgment may deem advisable. This authorization is given pursuant to the provisions of Section 69.10 of the Civil Code of California. (I), (We), hereby authorize any hospital which has provided treatment to the above-named minor pursuant to the provisions of Section 69.10 of the Civil Code of California to surrender physical custody of such minor to (my) (our) above-named agent(s) upon the completion of treatment. This authorization is given pursuant to section 1283 of the Health and Safety Code of California. These authorizations shall remain effective until December 31st of this year or the date the camper returns home.

_____ I understand that my personal health and accident policies will serve as my child's primary coverage (proof of insurance required). All non-accident health care requirements will be at the parent or guardian's own expense. A copy of insurance settlements must be submitted with all claims for reimbursement.

_____ It is mutually understood that Camp Alonim and American Jewish University accept no responsibility for loss or damage to any *Gesher* intern's property incurred during the session or while in transit. I take full responsibility for my son's/my daughter's property.

_____ I authorize Camp Alonim and American Jewish University to take my child out of camp for a field trip or activity as part of the *Gesher* program or in case of an emergency.

_____ AJU and Camp Alonim have permission to e-mail any member of my family, including my children.

_____ Camp Alonim and American Jewish University may use any photograph or likeness of my child in any published material related to American Jewish University.

_____ I understand that *Gesher* interns are subject to reviews of their performance throughout the summer. I understand that any *Gesher* intern who is not performing his/her job to our satisfaction may not be permitted to continue in the program.

I have read and fully understand this contract, its terms and its conditions. I accept and agree to the requirements as stated above. I further agree to devote myself without reservation to the purposes and objectives of Camp Alonim.

CAMP ALONIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Jadanna Flores

CAMP ALONIM ASSISTANT DIRECTOR:

Abraham Yehoshua



GESHER APPLICATION



FULL NAME _____
Date of Birth _____ Age (June '10) _____ T-shirt size _____

HOME ADDRESS _____
Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

HOME PHONE # _____ CELL PHONE # _____

APPLICANT'S E-MAIL (Please write VERY clearly) _____

HIGH SCHOOL _____
Name _____ Grade _____

SYNAGOGUE AFFILIATION (If any) _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME _____ PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME _____

DAYTIME PHONE _____ DAYTIME PHONE _____

CELL PHONE # _____ CELL PHONE# _____

PARENT E-MAIL _____ PARENT E-MAIL _____
(REQUIRED)

APPLICANT LIVES WITH: () Both Parents () Father () Mother () Other: _____
Relationship

IF YOUR FAMILY HAS BEEN AFFILIATED WITH THE BRANDEIS-BARDIN INSTITUTE, PLEASE INDICATE:

WERE YOU A CAMPER AT CAMP ALONIM? _____ IF "YES", GIVE YEAR(S) _____

ESSAY QUESTION

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTION WITH AT LEAST ONE PARAGRAPH, BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE PAGE. PLEASE RESPOND TO THE FOLLOWING ON A SEPARATE PIECE OF PAPER. (THIS RESPONSE MUST BE TYPEWRITTEN)

Describe a leadership experience you have had in your life. What impact did it have on you and what did you learn from it?

REFERENCES: PLEASE LIST TWO INDIVIDUALS i.e.; TEACHER, SCHOOL COUNSELOR, RABBI, EMPLOYER, OR YOUTH GROUP ADVISOR WHO ARE ABLE TO COMMENT ON YOUR LEADERSHIP ABILITY AND POTENTIAL.

1)	_____	_____
	Name	Position/Organization
	_____	_____
	E-mail address	Phone
2)	_____	_____
	Name	Position/Organization
	_____	_____
	E-mail address	Phone

I/WE understand that acceptance into this eight week leadership/training internship is subject to a hiring process.

_____	_____	_____
Applicant's Signature	Signature of Parent or Guardian	Date

Application to the *Gesher* Program is due on **January 20th, 2010**
1101 Peppertree Lane
Brandeis, CA 93064
Attn: Leadership Programs

THE RULES OF THE BRANDEIS-BARDIN CAMPUS FOR ACCEPTANCE AND PARTICIPATION IN OUR PROGRAMS ARE THE SAME FOR EVERYONE WITHOUT REGARD TO RACE, COLOR, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, RELIGION OR NATIONAL ORIGIN.