



Luria Academy Specialists 2014-2015

Primary

Paige Gottheim – Physical Education

Paige began practicing yoga over 10 years ago. In 2012 she received a 200-hour RYT certificate from Abhaya Yoga, an Anusara-inspired school in Brooklyn. Paige is currently pursuing a 500-hour certification, studying with Rebekah Nagy of the Yoga Sutra lineage.

Her classes combine breath-based movement with deep structural awareness in order to find optimum alignment. *Dhāraṇā* (steadfast concentration) is cultivated through sustained focus on the material body as well as the internal process. Paige hopes to empower her students by providing them with tools to ‘flex their focus’ in and out of class.

Dan Saks - Music

Multi-instrumentalist and vocalist Dan Saks has been an integral part of the US alternative Jewish music scene for the past ten years as the force behind the Sephardic rock band DeLeon, as a member of the Hanukkah rock super group the LeeVeas, and with the popular Jewish children's band the Macaroons. Each of these bands got their starts with the now defunct JDub Records Z"L. Saks recently returned from 3 years spent living in Mexico City during which time he founded the city's first Jewish Music Festival, Merkabá, and recorded DeLeon's 3rd LP, Tremor Fantasma. Saks has now relocated back to NYC where he continues to advance the mission of DeLeon and explore new ways of broadening the world of Jewish music.

Beyond his career as a performer, Saks spent seven years teaching music in NYC public schools with the Bronx Arts Ensemble and a year at Hannah Senesh Community Day School in Brooklyn.

Devorah Tradburks – Cooking and Gardening

A native of Canada, Devorah recently moved to Brooklyn after living in Israel for ten years. Upon completing her Bachelors in Jewish Thought at Hebrew University, Devorah studied nutrition and worked as a nutritionist in Tel Aviv. A passion for cooking creative fresh food led her to plan menus and cook for both restaurants and schools, and has allowed her to teach cooking with various wellness-promoting initiatives in underserved neighborhoods around the city. She is excited to teach at Luria, and to bring the values of holistic growth, Hebrew language, and integrated learning into the kitchen budding new garden!).

Elementary

Ari Kronen – Technology

Ari is currently in graduate school at Brooklyn College for History, and received his B.A. from Touro-Lander College of Arts & Sciences in the same subject (with a focus on Jewish history in the Middle East). Additionally, computers and technology have always been a great passion of his. Ari



has been employed as a Network Administrator and Support Technician for a small business, been involved in freelance computer repair and tutoring for a number of years, and, while studying in Israel, helped his yeshiva refurbish a cache of old computers and set up a computer room. While in Israel, Ari also served as a mentor for a developmentally disabled youth, as part of a big brother program for MASA. Ari chose to continue his formal education some years ago, switching career paths and seeking involvement in the world of education, as he believes helping people learn new things and broadening their intellectual horizons, especially in the case of children, is the most effective means of bettering our world.

Babette Marciano - Art Education

Babette Marciano, originally from Los Angeles is an established painter and educator. For the last eight years she has worked in New York City's public, private and charter schools. Babette has founded art departments and developed curricula for pre-k to adult learners. As a painter, Babette creates large scale portraits and has been featured in shows throughout NYC. Currently, Babette's prepping her latest collection, titled 'My Morocco', where she traces her Moroccan roots. Babette lives in Manhattan with her husband and two boys, and is excited to help grow the art department at Luria.

Ronny Reina (Coach Ronny) – Physical Education

Ronny Reina graduated from Queens College with a B.S. in Physical Education K-12. He was also a member of a Division II soccer team. Ronny has a New York State Initial Teacher Certification. Most recently, he worked as a class director/coach in a specialized sports program for children ages 1-12, where he taught fundamentals of basketball, floor hockey, volleyball, soccer, baseball, and flag football. At Hawthorne Country Day School he obtained some experience teaching autistic students. Prior to that, he was a soccer and tennis activity specialist at I.S. 61 Leonardo Da Vinci. Ronny has also coached competitive youth soccer teams.

Dan Saks - Music

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