



Dear Ramah Family and Friends,

Tu B'shvat has arrived - the holiday of the trees. We are reminded, of course, that for a tree to grow it requires a solid foundation. Fundamental to its growth is its being grounded in strong roots.

Over the past few months, Aviva and I interviewed more than 50 first-year staff applicants. One was more inspiring than the next. Most remarkable, perhaps, was the way they answered our standard question, "What is the mission of Ramah?" Here is what they had to say (and pay attention to the amazing consistency in their responses):

- "To provide meaningful, fun Jewish experiences for kids during the summer so that they can come to see that Judaism can be a part of your everyday life"
- "To create a Jewish community, a safe space to make a second home for kids"
- "To create community, friendships, and a foundation for kids' Judaism"
- "To allow children to find their Jewish identity and to find themselves"
- "To enable kids to see that they can continue to have a Jewish identity while having fun at summer camp"

These were some of the responses from young adults in Grade 12, who were in the middle of writing end-of-semester papers and filling out university applications! One after the other, they came in and spoke about how Ramah Canada was so instrumental in shaping their Jewish identity, about the many madrichim who had a profound impact on them, and about their desire to "give back" to the next generation of chanichim.

As we prepare for Tu B'shvat, we should take great pride in the fact that those who are about to serve on staff at Ramah for their first summer have solid roots, that they understand the Ramah mission and are poised for growing and developing as Jewish leaders.

Tu B'shvat Sameach and Shabbat Shalom!

Dr. Ron Polster
Director

PS - If you have not yet registered for this summer please do so as soon as possible, as we're beginning to wait list in certain grades.

Returning Families, [click here.](#)
New Families, [click here.](#)

If you have any questions or need help in registering, please contact Ally Leibtag,
Program Director, at 416-789-2193 x. or aily@campramah.com.

STAY IN TOUCH!

