

# *Live from...the Givah CD Project*

## *Camp Ramah in California*

### VISION

One of the primary modes of Jewish expression is music. Throughout time Jews have been able to express their commitment to Jewish values and Jewish living through music, in a joyous, artistic way that links people together. The combination of melody and lyric allows people to commit to community, God, repair of the world, Shabbat and Israel, amongst a variety of other ideals.

Camp Ramah in California combines Jewish living with recreational activities in a way that highlights Jewish musical expression as one of many potential mediums. Campers and staff come alive and affirm their commitment to Judaism through song. All who participate in Jewish song benefit, be they artists or audience.

The *Live From...the Givah CD Project* engages in Jewish practice those campers and staff who demonstrate a strong inclination towards musical expression. Young artists have the opportunity to learn Jewish and/or Israeli music, grow their skills as musicians or vocalists and contribute to the strength of our community by sharing their talent with others. Everyone in the Ramah community benefits from the CD itself, which contains melodies for liturgy and Shabbat meals used across the world in Conservative settings, along with Israeli rock songs. Listening to the CD increases the ability of campers and staff to be active, practicing Jews capable of leadership responsibility during their time spent at Ramah, throughout college and into the families they will build as adults.

### OBJECTIVES

Campers and staff who participate in the CD project as artists:

- Learn Jewish and Israeli music that reflects the values articulated in the Mission Statement of Camp Ramah in California
- Master technical skills in singing, playing an instrument, blending and recording
- Perform their work in front of a live audience
- Work as part of a team of artists in a supportive, collaborative manner
- Participate in a culminating project by recording their work in a lasting manner
- Educate others on the songs recorded and their messages

Campers and staff who make up the audience during performances and who receive the CD are:

- Being treated to great showmanship by the performers and enjoying the fruits of their labor
- Expanding their knowledge of Jewish and Israeli music by hearing and learning music central to the Conservative movement
- Learning new melodies for liturgy and Shabbat meals



*A Journey for a Lifetime*

- Receiving a keepsake from the summer that extends the Ramah experience into their year-round lives

In short, the ***Live from...the Givah CD Project*** fills all campers and staff with a sense of pride in the Ramah community and their Jewish identity, as well as increasing their knowledge of Jewish and Israeli music.

## **PROJECT STATUS**

Camp Ramah in California has experienced great success thus far with music projects. Over the past twelve years a total of six CDs have been produced: *Beyond the Hills* (1998), *V'abanta* (2003) and *Live from...the Givah v1 to 5* (2006 – 2010). Each of these projects has been met with applause and appreciation as artists perform during the summer and when Ramah'niks listen to the CD. Since its inception, the *Live from ... the Givah* project has specifically enhanced the scope of singing for Ramah'niks. At the end of the summer campers and staff eagerly await the release of the CD and when by the time they return the next summer, they have learned many of the songs recorded.

To continue the impact of the *Live from ... the Givah* project for the next three years requires **a total of \$45,000 in funding**. Families committed to the project can help sponsor it with annual contributions as follows:

- ***Producers* - \$5,000**
- ***Engineers* - \$2,500**
- ***Fans* - \$1,000**