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Paving the Way for Success – Leo Baeck High School Scholarships

Background

Since its small beginnings in 1938, as a kindergarden for children fleeing Europe, the Leo Baeck Education Center, one of Israel's finest institutions of academic excellence, social justice and Progressive Jewish values, has been committed to strengthening Israeli society through the education of all its children.

Commitment

No young person with the potential and motivation to study within Leo Baeck's pluralistic, inclusive environment will be denied a place. In spite of budget constraints, 81 of Leo Baeck's 1,100 high school students today receive full or partial scholarships. All scholarship recipients must commit to a community responsibility project within the school, Community Center or Ohel Avraham Synagogue.

Target Population

Qualifying youth ages 15-18, whose families live on or below the poverty line.



Leo Baeck Scholarship Student Profiles

Jonathan F. age 16

Jonathan's family made aliyah from Belgium two years ago. Soon after arriving, his father was diagnosed with brain cancer, leaving his mother with no choice but to stay at home to care for him. Popular, highly motivated and a gifted student in Leo Baeck's Integrated New Immigrants class, is also a student at the Haifa University "ETGAR" program for the gifted, where he is studying for his B.A in Computer Science and Math. The family is in extreme financial distress and is dependent on government welfare.

Michael Z. age 17

Michael's family made aliyah from Russia 15 years ago. When he was 5, he and his sister witnessed their father murder their mother. With their father in prison, the children have been raised by their grandparents who find it hard to cope. Michael's sister, a Leo Baeck Scholarship graduate, suffers from severe mental disorders and is unable to function. A shy, introverted teenager, Michael receives free after-school tuition to help him keep up with his studies. We believe that a Leo Baeck education is the key to Michael's future.

Amit I. age 17

Amit's father is in prison, his mother is dying of cancer and he suffers from Celiac Disease. His life is a constant struggle; academic success and ambition for the future, are what propel him on. In addition to his scholarship Leo Baeck is providing Amit with special assistance to pay for his gluten-free diet.

Million H. age 17

Born in Ethiopia, charismatic Million, whose father is a Leo Baeck Scholarship graduate, is in her senior year at Leo Baeck. Leo Baeck Million is an academic and social success and a leader in community service and social activism. She provides after-school homework support for our Ethiopian Elementary School Scholarship children, loves her role as a Leo Baeck Ambassador, and was chosen last year to address the Knesset on educational discrimination against the Ethiopian community.



Leo Baeck High School Scholarship – One Year	NIS	\$=3.7 NIS	£=5.7 NIS	€=5 NIS
Full Scholarship	6,518	1,761	1,144	1,303
Dworkin 3 day Student Camp	465	125	81	93
School books and equipment	1,000	270	175	200
Total	7,983	2,156	1,400	1,596