



## MACHON LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

At URJ 6 Points Sci-Tech Academy, we create experiences that allow our campers and now teens to grow through scientific inquiry, Jewish discovery, leadership and fun. Machon means “Foundation” as well as “Institute,” giving our teens the opportunity to gain the necessary skills to become camp leaders who can facilitate, teach, and be effective staff members.

Machon is for teens entering 12<sup>th</sup> grade and is designed to offer a fun summer-camp experience while teaching life lessons about leadership, personal responsibility, science and technology, and Jewish values. The program’s goals are to create opportunities for personal and professional growth, provide hands on experience in leadership and S.T.E.M. skill building, offer a meaningful transition from “camper” to “camp leader”, to have a positive and rewarding summer, give back to the 6 Points Sci-Tech community, and impact camp and the future of STEM in a meaningful way. The Machon program’s focus will be in three main areas: leadership, innovation, and training.

### ELEMENTS OF THE MACHON PROGRAM

- **Jewish Leadership:** Machonikim will meet with staff and educational faculty to explore essential questions in Judaism and wrestle with the connections that can be found between science and Judaism. Teens will also gain a deeper understanding of social issues in science and technology, and our commitment as Jews to Tikkun Olam, repairing the world.
- **Training in teaching skills:** Machonikim will learn to assist in workshops and chugim and learn how to plan for them, and/or lead large group activities. They will work hands-on with our counselors, instructors, and leadership team who will support and mentor them through this process.
- **Learning from Jewish and scientific innovators:** Each summer we have leadership staff, faculty, and special guests who bring a wealth of knowledge in science, Judaism and innovation to our community. Machonikim will have special opportunities to meet with these leaders and learn about their unique knowledge-base and skillsets. These guests along with our staff will help guide our teens to understand the opportunities in STEM, as they think about their next steps beyond their high school years. As part of the program, teens will also be guided to think about how to use their camp experience to demonstrate skills on a college resume or application.
- **Training in counselor skills—** Machonikim (participants in the Machon program) will participate in programming to develop skills to become great counselors. Training is designed to support Machonikim as they transition from camper to staff member. Topics will include: Homesickness, camper inclusion, how to identify and prevent bullying, development of camper listening skills, health and safety, and how to lead Jewish programming.
- **Hands on counselor experience and opportunities to build relationships and serve as role models for younger campers.**
- **Machonikim will accompany campers on our unique trip day experiences, and will also participate in their own trip experience as a group. Machonikim will also have some fun off-camp outings which may include visits to the beach or other local attractions.**
- **Social Activities:** Many times throughout the summer, Machonikim will participate in social activities (free time, evening programs, etc.)
- **Machonikim who stay for the 3<sup>rd</sup> session will have the amazing experience of creating and facilitating the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Theme Day of 3<sup>rd</sup> session for all of camp, in partnership with the Program Director and Machon Program Director!**



## 2020 MACHON APPLICATION INFORMATION & FORMS

Dates of Program: June 28-July 26, 2020 (option to extend to 8/9/2020)

The above dates are over camp's first and second session, beginning just prior to first session. Participants have the option to stay for 3<sup>rd</sup> session through August 9<sup>th</sup>, to have an opportunity to be a counselor-assistant for the remainder of the summer. Machonikim who stay for the 3<sup>rd</sup> session will have the amazing experience of creating and facilitating the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Theme Day of 3<sup>rd</sup> session for all of camp, in partnership with the Program Director and Machon Program Director! There is no additional tuition for staying for session 3. You'll let us know on your application if you plan to stay for Session 3, and any changes to this must be made by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Participants must be entering 12<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall of 2020.

Application Deadline: Friday, Jan 10, 2020

Video Interviews: Rolling basis as applications (including essays and references) are completed

Notification: By Feb 15<sup>th</sup>

Cost: \$4,750

Deposit: \$500 deposit is authorized upon submitting the application and will be charged upon acceptance into the program. The deposit is refundable if the application is withdrawn BEFORE the interview OR if the applicant is not accepted.

Balance: The credit card on file in your camp CampInTouch account will be charged according to the payment schedule you select at the end of the application. All balances must be paid in full by April 1, 2020.

The 2020 Machon Application consists of several parts (PLEASE ENSURE ALL COMPONENTS ARE COMPLETED):

- Online application (submitted through CampInTouch)
- Personal Essays (uploaded to CampInTouch)
- Signed Program Brit (Agreement) (uploaded to CampInTouch)
- Signed Background Questionnaire (uploaded to CampInTouch)
- 3 References (submitted via the online link you provide via email to your references)



## MACHON 2020 ONLINE APPLICATION

Before starting the online application, make sure you have...

- A parent nearby who knows your family's CamplnTouch login and can verify/provide necessary contact information
- A list of school and extra-curricular activities, experience working with children, previous/current employers, and special abilities, skills and talents for the "Machon Supplement" section of the online application
- The names of 3 references (see details on page 5)

Log into your family's CamplnTouch account by visiting the camp's "Register Now!" page of the website. Enter a parent's email address and password. Close out the instructions and select 2020 from the "Season" dropdown menu. Either choose the appropriate existing camper or select "Another Child" if the applicant's name is not on the list.

The Machon applicant can enter most of the information, and a parent should verify/enter any contact and other information that is already listed or required. [Teens must enter their own email address when prompted in the application so we can be directly in touch with them as well as their parents throughout the process.] At the end of the application, a parent or guardian must be available to complete the Financial Information and sign the Terms and Conditions.

### Applicant should...

- Complete all sections of the "Machon Supplement"
- Print and sign required forms (*Program Responsibilities Form and Questionnaire*)
- Saved signed forms as separate PDFs and upload them to the "Forms & Documents" page of the family's CamplnTouch account
- Write the essays and upload the saved PDF to the "Forms & Documents" page of the family's CamplnTouch account
  - Email the Machon Reference Link to all 3 references:  
<https://6pointsscitech.org/summer-staff/machon-cit-program/machon-reference-form/>

### Parent should...

- Log into CamplnTouch
- Choose Season 2020 and select the teen's name or enter it as a new camper
- Review and/or update all camper and contact information that is pre-populated and enter all that is not.
- Complete the Financial Information and sign the Terms and Conditions at the end of the application
- Sign the required forms (*Program Responsibilities Form and Questionnaire*)

Parents will receive an automated confirmation upon submitting the application. From that point onward, we will be in contact with parents and applicants via email about the status of the application. All interviews will be conducted via video on a rolling basis as complete applications are received (including essays and references). Applicants will receive detailed information about scheduling those interviews in shortly after the application deadline.



## MACHON BACKGROUND QUESTIONNAIRE

*Please print, sign, save as a separate PDF, and upload to the "Machon 2020: Upload Machon Questionnaire" document on the "Forms & Documents" page of your CampInTouch account by January 10, 2020.*

1. Have you ever been charged with or convicted of a misdemeanor?  Yes  No
2. Have you ever been charged with or convicted of a felony?  Yes  No
3. Have you ever been charged with or found guilty of committing an act of physical, sexual or any other type of child abuse?  Yes  No

If you answered yes to any of the above, please provide details (use separate sheet if needed):

I authorize the URJ and/or its agents to conduct an independent background investigation. I further authorize the URJ and/or its agents to request or receive any conformation including criminal, motor vehicle reports, past employment, education and/or reference from any persons, schools or previous employers.

The above statements on this form are true. I understand that if accepted to the Machon program they will become part of my personal file and that any miss-statement of fact on this and other application forms might be cause for immediate expulsion from the program.

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_



## MACHON APPLICATION ESSAYS

*Save your essays in a single PDF document, including your name and page number in the header. Upload the file to the "Machon 2020: Upload Essays" document on the "Forms & Documents" page of your family's CampInTouch account. Recommended length of essays are approximately 250 to 300 words.*

### Required Essays:

1. Describe a conflict you had, how you resolved it, and what you learned from it.
2. How do you view Judaism and science and/or tech as related to one another?
3. What special skill or talent do you have that you'd like to share with camp, and how would you share it with camp as a whole and individual campers?

### Choose ONE of the Following Essays:

1. Describe an experience you have had working with children. How do you think this experience will help you within the camp environment?
2. What Jewish values are most important to you and why?
3. What experience(s) do you think had the greatest impact on your Jewish identity?

Essays may be uploaded at any time up through midnight on Jan 10, 2020.

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## MACHON REFERENCES

Your Machon application requires references from three adults. Of the three, one must be from a Jewish professional (Rabbi, Cantor, Educator, Youth Group Advisor, Religious School Teacher, *etc.*); the other two must be from another adult (who is not your parent or guardian!) who knows you well. This could be an academic or school-based professional (Teacher, Guidance Counselor, Administrator, Club Advisor, Sports or Robotics Coach, *etc.*), an employer who can provide a character or employment reference, or an old family friend who has had the opportunity to see you grow over the years. It's important to know that for academic or school-based references, we are not asking for any information regarding grades. Your application to the Machon program should be focused on your character, integrity, growth, potential, and level of responsibility. We encourage you to get references from very different people who have seen you "in action" in many different ways and settings so we have a well-rounded picture what you are like in your out-of-camp community. If you have any questions regarding references, please contact our office.

Please email this link to your references:

<https://6pointsscitech.org/summer-staff/machon-cit-program/machon-reference-form/>

References may be submitted at any time up through midnight on Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020.