

**Temple Israel of Great Neck and Taglit-Birthright Israel** invite you to apply for a free 10-day peer group trip to Israel to claim your *birthright*.



Taglit-Birthright Israel was established in 1999 to provide the gift of first-time, peer group, educational trips to Israel for young Jewish adults ages 18 to 26. Birthright Israel's mission is to strengthen participants' Jewish identities and connections to the land and people of Israel while reinforcing solidarity among world Jewry.

With the support of Temple Israel of Great Neck, Birthright Israel Foundation will help to send 33,000 young Jewish adults to Israel in 2011 on this trip of a lifetime, ensuring that the next generation discovers a profound connection to the Jewish community and to the land and people of Israel.

While trips vary by group and focus, each includes core thematic experiences such as visiting a Holocaust remembrance site, a Jewish historical site, a Zionist history museum, a State national site, an arts and culture event and the Western Wall. A fundamental component of every Birthright Israel experience is the *Mifgash* ("encounter"), in which a group of young Israeli university students and members of elite units of the Israel Defense Forces travel together with the Diaspora participants for five to ten days of the trip. The *Mifgash* program has demonstrated resounding success in enabling young Diaspora Jews and their Israeli peers to develop personal connections with one another.

**Registration for winter 2011-2012 trips begins on September 14, 2011. For more information or to register, please visit: [www.birthrightisrael.com](http://www.birthrightisrael.com).**

"Before I went on my trip, Israel was just another country on the map. After my Birthright Israel experience, the disconnect that I had once felt completely disappeared. I can honestly say that Israel is no longer just a country on the world map; it is a place in my heart, a part of me more than I ever thought possible. I will never forget the people I met and the friends I made there. This experience will live in my memory forever"

-J. Helft, Birthright Israel alumnus