

EDGAR M. BRONFMAN YOUTH FELLOWSHIPS IN ISRAEL  
A PROGRAM OF THE SAMUEL BRONFMAN FOUNDATION, INC.

Contact: Richard Cohen Associates  
(212) 758-6969

For Immediate Release

**BRONFMAN YOUTH FELLOWSHIPS NOW ACCEPTING  
APPLICATIONS FOR 1991 SUMMER PROGRAM IN ISRAEL**

The Edgar M. Bronfman Youth Fellowships in Israel -- a program that sends 25 outstanding high-school students to Israel for five weeks each summer for study, dialogue and travel -- is now accepting applications for 1991.

The Fellowships cover all expenses, including roundtrip transportation between New York and Israel, room and board, travel in Israel and incidentals, and are awarded solely on the basis of merit.

The program seeks "young people with proven qualities of leadership intellect and character, capable of playing key roles in the future on behalf of the Jewish community," according to Edgar M. Bronfman, who conceived the idea for the Fellowships.

Its purpose, he said, is to afford the Fellows an opportunity "to return home with a new understanding of the myriad issues facing the Jewish people and the Jewish state, and a new appreciation of the importance of Jewish unity."

In Israel, the Fellows will be led by a team of educators and counselors who themselves come from a broad range of Jewish backgrounds. The program will begin on July 7 with a two-day orientation seminar in New York. The group will return home August 14.

**How to Apply**

High school students in the United States and Canada who will be seniors in September 1991 may obtain application forms and detailed information by writing or calling the Edgar M. Bronfman Youth Fellowships in Israel, 17 Wilbur Street, Albany, NY 12202; telephone (518) 465-6575.

Completed applications must be postmarked no later than February 1, 1991. The names of

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the 1991 Fellowship recipients will be announced on March 25.

The five-week stay in Israel is spent in intensive study, travel and discussion. The Fellows meet and take part in seminars with some of Israel's most penetrating political and cultural figures, debating and searching for insights in an atmosphere of open dialogue. Jewish life is explored against a background of Israel's land, culture and customs.

Rabbi Avi Weinstein, Orthodox chaplain at Harvard University, is director of educational programs of the Bronfman Fellowships.

According to Rabbi Weinstein, "The Bronfman Fellows are specially selected from widely differing backgrounds, so that we may examine questions of Jewish identity and Jewish unity not only as a theoretical matter but also as a living reality."

Upon their return to the United States, the Fellows participate in follow-up seminars that enable them to "rekindle friendships, evaluate what they have learned and exchange ideas on how to apply the program's lessons in the years ahead," Rabbi Weinstein said. He continued:

"We hope to help the Fellows keep alive the lines of communication opened in Israel to each other, to the Jewish state and to the Jewish people in all its diversity as they recognize that there is a common Jewish agenda that transcends their differences."

#### **Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Brandeis and Boston U.**

In addition to Rabbi Weinstein, the adult staff accompanying the Fellows in Israel will include scholars-in-residence and counselors representing the Conservative, Orthodox and Reform movements. Current faculty members include Rabbi Michael Paley, director of the Earl Hall Center for Religious Activities at Columbia University; Rabbi Ruth Sohn, associate director of the Hillel Foundation at Boston University; Rabbi James Ponet, chaplain at Yale University and director of its Hillel Foundation, and Dr. Joseph Reimer, professor of Jewish education at Brandeis University.

The Edgar M. Bronfman Youth Fellowships in Israel is a program of the Samuel Bronfman Foundation, of which Edgar M. Bronfman is chairman. The Foundation is named for Edgar Bronfman's late father.

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