Ethiopian National Project የኢትዮጵያዉያን ብሔራዊ ፕሮጄክት הפרויקט הלאומי של עולי אתיופיה



# **Splash of a Summer at ENP**

#### Dear Partners and Friends,

ENP is thrilled to welcome home eight campers from four different English-speaking summer camps around the world!

ENP wishes to thank the generous supporters of the Bridges Spoken English program and the extraordinary Jewish summer camps and their donors who made it possible for our students to have a once in a lifetime experience, whether it be in the forests of Canada, the mountains of West Virginia, or right here on the beautiful beaches of Israel.

ENP recognizes that too few Ethiopian-Israeli youth are represented in teen delegations and other ambassadorial opportunities, with English proficiency being the primary obstacle. Thus was born ENP Bridges, providing year-long intensive spoken English instruction and then an accompanying effort to send as many Ethiopian-Israeli 9th graders to summer camp as possible. In 2022, 135 students had the opportunity to participate in Bridges, of whom eight were selected for summer camping.

ENP is lucky to be partnering with more and more camps and visionary donors so we can grant this opportunity to our students to represent ENP abroad as they share the spectacular story of Ethiopian Jewry by forging lasting friendships.

Our campers returned home with wonderful experiences of their summer activities, the people they met and the friends they made. We could not have chosen more suitable ambassadors to represent the Ethiopian National Project with pride. And we are certain lives of North American campers have been transformed as a direct result of their newfound friendships, while the future of each of ENP's campers is certain to be full of opportunity thanks to this empowering experience.

We hope all of our friends and partners had a wonderful summer and wish our students the best of luck in school this year.

Sincerely,

Roni Dessie Akale Director-General, ENP

#### **ENP and Jewish Summer Camping in North America**

"At every meal we pray, but it's not a regular prayer, it's special- pretty short and in the middle of the prayer we shout and stand on chairs. The first time I did it I felt very awkward, but the last time I did it, I cried. I cried because it was the last time I would be seeing everyone. And the last time that I would be at camp with people who entered my heart after such a short





time." Selam, YCC

ENP was thrilled to provide four Bridges participants with the opportunity to experience Jewish overnight summer camp in North America. Candidates were selected in recognition of their exceptional performance in the ENP Bridges Spoken English program, where students received two weekly hours of year-long supplementary after-school English instruction. Bridges is conducted nationwide for the duration of the entire school year and is an adjunct to the ENP SPACE program, in which ENP students receive four weekly hours of instruction in core subjects including Math, Hebrew and the sciences, along with myriad activities and a lunchtime meal. Through these



programs ENP offers both empowering and educational experiences: Bridges encourages the students to acquire community-building skills and increase self-confidence while utilizing their English skills.

Four students were selected to attend summer camp in North America: one student from the city of Karmiel attended the Emma Kaufmann Camp in West Virginia, while two students from Netanya and one student from Hadera travelled all the way to the Harry Bronfman Y Country Camp outside of Montreal. ENP was thrilled they had this unforgettable opportunity to experience the joy of Jewish camping.

ENP extends its deepest gratitude to the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh, their supporters and special donors, and to the Harry Bronfman Y Country Camp and its donors for enabling ENP participants to have a once-in-a-lifetime experience. This summer most certainly resulted in lasting friendships and a deeper appreciation of the beauty and diversity of Israel by all campers.





### Overnight Summer Camping in Israel: Kimama Galim and Kimama Hof

ENP was overjoyed to offer the opportunity to ENP Bridges participants to experience the glory of Kimama. Among Israel's most prestigious summer camps, Kimama Galim and Kimama Hof camps offered four ENP participants the chance to experience surfing workshops, dog training, cooking, Ninja training and myriad other fun activities. Bridges campers were selected in recognition of their hard work and excellence demonstrated throughout the school year. ENP is so proud to give the campers the opportunity to have new experiences, meet campers from Israel and around the world, while also utilizing their English skills they have acquired during the year. ENP is grateful to Kimama for the opportunity to participate in this exceptional experience in Israel.



More about Bridges!

## Camping Builds Leaders: More of ENP's Amazing Interns!

This summer, Ethiopian National Project hosted ten student interns from around the world, who came to Israel to volunteer their time and talents to make a difference. Many of these interns experienced summer camp when they were young, and for them it was their Jewish camping experiences that helped spur them on to make a difference in Israel.

ENP is thrilled to introduce readers to two more of ENP's summer interns:

Alana Goldman is from North Carolina, and is majoring in global studies and English at





**Ethan Myers** is from Norfolk Virginia, and is studying history at Virginia Tech. As a former Birthright and current MASA participant, at ENP he created an activity for such groups, when they visit Har Herzl, to learn about the sacrifice the Ethiopian Jewish community made to reach Israel, as they visit the Beta-Israel monument at Har Herzl. ENP hopes all groups will include this important part of Har Herzl in their itinerary.

Ethan also wrote an article for his local newspaper, featuring his experience at ENP, and what he has learned about the Beta-Israel community. His goal is to increase awareness and education, so that his community in the States may be better informed to support ENP's work. Finally, he is also strategizing how to increase awareness of ENP's work in college campuses in the US. UNC. Alana assisted ENP with the summer camping initiative. This summer ENP sent eight students to camp, so that they can build connections with other Jewish kids their age,



develop greater English skills, and most importantly, celebrate the hard work and dedication to study that they demonstrated throughout the school year.

To help with this effort, Alana first created a directory of camps and resources in the hope that ENP can broaden its connections and enable even more ENP participants to experience the unbelievable experiences that camp offers. She then moved on to creating kid-friendly presentations on the camps the kids were attending this summer, so that the students had the necessary information easily accessible to them, which would help them to feel prepared for camp and the overseas trip.

Want to make a huge impact on a child's life?

SPACE provides the holistic empowerment and support that will allow our students to thrive and prepare them for future success. Every gift counts!

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ENP is powered by the Jewish Federations of North America, the Government of Israel, representatives of Ethiopian Jewish Community Organizations, the Jewish Agency for Israel, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, and Keren Hayesod-UIA.

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