

# 2016-17 scholars.in.residence

As part of our effort to enrich the experiences of Cleveland's teens (after Bar Mitzvah – 12 Grade), @akiva is providing the "scholars.in.residence" initiative. Each year, @akiva brings different scholars to our teen community for up to a week's residency. During their visits the teens' scholars will work with various teen groups in the community: youth groups, youth group leadership, Madrichim, supplementary schools, day schools, community programs and teen educators.

## Zeev Ben-Shachar October 30 - November 3

Zeev Ben-Shachar is Jerusalem U's Director of Israel Education. He oversees curriculum development and is Senior Educator



for the JU Israel Gap Year Program. Zeev lectures widely at synagogues, youth movements, Jewish federations, college campuses and national and international conferences, in Israel and abroad, in English and Hebrew. He has a BA in Psychology from Harvard and a Masters in Middle Eastern Studies from Tel Aviv University. He was a soldier and commander in the IDF's Sayeret Givati Brigade.

## Matt Bar and the Bible Raps January 5 - 12

Matt Bar is founder and Executive Director of Bible Raps, a non-profit born from Matt's desire to engage his Hebrew School classes on a deeper and more contemporary level than the way they were being taught at the time. After being turned on to Torah learning while on a Livnot trip to Israel in 2006, Bar launched Bible Raps via his participation in the Presentense Institute during the summer of 2007. He continued to further his Jewish education during his 2008 year of study at The Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem. Their teaching materials are being used in countless classrooms and teachers are currently being trained to be certified "Bible Raps educators."



## Vadim Blumin February 2-10 (as part of Hagigat Ivrit)

Vadim Blumin is the Content and Training Specialist for Makom and an historian and activist in the fields of Jewish Education and Civil Society in Israel. Formerly, Vadim headed JAFI's Education Department in St. Petersburg, Russia. He is a Board Member of 'Be Free Israel' ('IsraelHofsheet'), a member of the Content Committee, Limmud-FSU, and one of the founders of the '1.5 Generation – Russian-speaking Israelis'. He lives in Ramat-Gan with Roman and their daughter, Danielle.



[Click to see images from the Scholars visits to Cleveland](#)



