

Direct From the Front Line of Kiruv in Brooklyn

These are emails received by Rav Fingerer and the BJX office from students

Shabbos at BJX

Please reserve shabbat dinner for me.

As an unaffiliated Jew, I never thought I'd be attending Shabbat services. Thank you for being a beacon of good in our Jewish community where you accept everyone in and never judge...your organization brought me back to learning more about my Jewish roots and introduced me to the beauty of Shabbat.

Ester

I am a secular Jew who doesn't keep Sabbath. One of the reasons I love BJX so much is the feeling of brotherhood and warmth that radiates from there. I remember when I first walked in the door I was greeted with a hearty "Welcome welcome!" I loved my first Shabbat....

Brandon

Hi,

Stephanie and I would like to again attend Shabbat services this Friday. We love the warm atmosphere :)

Henry

Hello, Can you please sign us up for the upcoming shabbaton with sleeping arrangements, we'd like to spend a whole Shabbat with BJX without breaking any rules. We finally have a chance to!

Sincerely,
Justin and Sarah

As you know, I am not an observant Jew. I'm embarrassed to say that my family always go to McDonalds. After the Shabbat at BJX, we were so inspired that we decided we had to eat in a real Kosher restaurant. It was an amazing Shabbat that I will have in my heart forever.

Josh

Feeling amazing after my first full Shabbat experience:)) I am so blessed to have kept the entire Shabbat surrounded by the most awesome, real, true, and proud authentic Jews! You are all amazing and I bless all of you for teaching me and inspiring me to feel the connection!!! feeling the light and I hope that all those that have helped and have inspired me and others should be blessed with only goodness and happiness always:) have an awesome weekend everyone!

Melanie

Shalom R. Fingerer,
It was so nice being back at BJX this Shabbos. The warm, welcoming, Holy atmosphere is truly something special.
Thank you,
Scott

Holidays

I've been an observant Jew for about 5 years now. I would be so bold as to say that it was the best davening I've ever experienced. I felt so close to Hashem as we all davened and sang together. No one was talking during davening and when everyone sang together it was unbelievable. I knew Hashem was hearing our Tefillos!

The Rabbis both delivered amazing lessons that were both moving and inspirational. My neshama was on fire at the end of the night and as I was enveloped in prayer I never once felt hungry.

Kol tov,
Jack

Hi BJX,

I wanted to express just how meaningful the Rosh Hashana prayers and special dinner was Firstly, the ballroom was beautifully set, the food was delish, and it was great to meet such a nice group of other Jews from the neighborhood. We had lively conversation at the table and had fun saying the blessings over each one of the symbolic foods. The Rabbi's class was thought-provoking and the overall atmosphere was warm and welcoming as always. For instance, as someone who does not attend synagogue regularly, the experience of being greeted at the shul door with a prayer book on the correct page alleviated any concerns. Thank you for putting together such a wonderful holiday experience.

Thank you,
Alyssa

Classes

While I like going to classes, there is something I like even more specifically about the BJX. You see, it's not just a place to participate in a class. It's a place more similar to the college experience of dropping into the Hillel or Chabad house on campus. It's like a Kosher Starbucks where you can spend time with other Jewish people, have great conversations, pick up a book to read, or catch a great class. This is truly a place you can call your own. We finally have a place that we can hang out with likeminded people almost any night of the week and be inspired.

Craig

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