

Eileen's Welcome

The new school year is upon us and TCI has exciting news and plans to share with you! We recently found out that, for the second year in a row, TCI is included in *Slingshot*, a resource list of 50 of the most creative and effective organizations and leaders across the country. Created in 2005 by the Andrea and Charles Bronfman Foundation, the book is meant to be used by funders of all sizes and ages who want to support innovative Jewish organizations. We are thrilled to have received this honor.

Pack your bags: TCI is embarking on a new travel program! With the success of our pilot trip to New Orleans last March, we are expanding this stimulating experiential learning program which, we have found, amplifies school curricula and promotes Jewish exploration. We'll travel to New Orleans to support the community's redevelopment; before, during and post-trip, we'll explore Jewish perspectives on service. Joining us to date are students and a faculty member from Woodside Priory, CA; Trinity, NY; Ethical Culture Fieldston, NY; Kew Forest; NY; and Cambridge School of Weston, MA. In March we'll take our inaugural trip to Spain, where we'll focus on Jewish history with an emphasis on the cultural synthesis of Judeo and Islamic cultures in Medieval Spain. New York schools Dalton, Ethical Culture Fieldston, Hewitt, Packer Collegiate, and Riverdale Country will join us.

The TCI team believes that students grow in their sense of self when they have dual opportunities to strengthen ties to their culture and traditions, and to the entire school community. It's an important balance that TCI helps independent schools achieve through resources and programs to bolster the identity of independent schools' Jewish students and nurture school communities' appreciation for Jewish culture and traditions.

You'll hear more of our plans and programs in future months. In the meantime, you can help us make a difference. If your school is interested in learning more, email us through our website, www.TCIconline.org. Our work is made possible only by the generous contributions of donors. Please donate online through our website.