



program overview

UJA Women's Philanthropy is excited to present **UJA Lion Cub**: a program for young women celebrating their bat mitzvah. An extension of Lion of Judah, this program is designed to foster community and inspire the value of *tzedakah* and *tikkun olam* in the next generation of Jewish women.

The program is comprised of five sessions throughout the school year. Each session will provide a meaningful volunteer opportunity and social group activity for the Lion Cubs and the amazing Lions who nominated them—all designed to incorporate and inspire growth, education, and philanthropy.

Lion Cub 2025-2026 Program

Please note: all dates and details are subject to change.



BECOMING A BAT MITZVAH: EMBRACING JEWISH VALUES

Sunday, September 28, 2025

What does it truly mean to become a bat mitzvah? Lion Cubs will explore different perspectives on entering this new stage of life, gaining the confidence and inspiration to grow into the Jewish women they are becoming. In the opening session, LCs and their mothers will participate in a jewellery workshop, using creativity to explore symbolism, generosity, and self-expression—crafting something meaningful to carry forward as they begin shaping their Jewish identities.



SPREAD THE LIGHT: HELPING OTHERS FOR HANUKKAH

Thursday, November 19, 2025

This Hanukkah, LCs will discover the impact of generosity through participation in the JF&CS Drive for Dreidels, collecting toys for children in need. Together, they will reflect on the meaning of philanthropy and its ripple effect, guided by a representative from one of UJA's partner agencies who will share firsthand insights into the power of giving.

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BETTER TOGETHER: CUPS OF KINDNESS

Sunday, January 18, 2026

By offering a warm treat in exchange for donations, LCs will learn how a small gesture can make a big difference. Running a hot chocolate stand fundraiser, they will practice interpersonal skills, build confidence, and experience firsthand how kindness can foster connection and community support.



GIVING BACK: PACKING IT FORWARD

Sunday, March 22, 2026

Embodying the value of *tikkun olam* (repairing the world), Lion Cubs will join their mothers and/or the Lion who nominated them for a UJA Packing It Forward volunteer shift. This experience will highlight the many ways one can give back, empowering LCs to see themselves as young women who can create meaningful change.

WALK TOGETHER

Sunday, June 7, 2026

As a cohort, Lion Cubs and their moms will participate as a team at the 2026 UJA Walk with Israel.



INSPIRATIONAL MOMENTS: A JOURNEY OF GROWTH

June 2026 (date to be confirmed)

The Lion Cub program will culminate with a celebratory mother-daughter challah bake and graduation ceremony. Each Cub will share a brief personal reflection on their experience throughout the program, sharing how they have grown as a young Jewish woman and their aspirations for the future of the Jewish community.

Together with their cohort, each Lion Cub will be guided through a journey of self-discovery, exploration, and establishing their unique Jewish identity and purpose.

To register a future Lion Cub or if you have any questions, please contact Jasmine Banton at jbanton@ujafed.org.

Visit jewishtoronto.com/lion-cub to register a future Lion Cub.