

# Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation

## The Wassermann-Streit Y'DIYAH Memorial Fund

### Application Form

#### **Eligibility**

The Y'DIYAH (Hebrew for "learning") Memorial Fund will support quality non-doctrinaire materials and projects that serve to educate about the heritage, history, customs and culture of traditional Judaism through music, arts, literature, theater, etc. Preference will be given to material and programs that most closely fulfill the goals of the Fund and reach out to the broadest community.

Individuals, educational institutions, cultural and entertainment venues, community centers, libraries and other not-for-profit organizations, principally in Berkshire, Columbia, NW Litchfield, and NE Dutchess Counties, may apply. The Fund would like to reach out in particular to those of high school age or older.

Note: Funding to individuals will require a fiscal sponsor. Please contact [programs@berkshiretaconic.org](mailto:programs@berkshiretaconic.org) to discuss.

Please note that requests for retroactive funding will not be considered.

Previous grants have been awarded for:

The purchase of books, videos and CD's in schools and public libraries; a multi-media presentation of Klezmer; an illustrated lecture by a popular cartoonist on the historic use of current printing techniques in the Jewish media; high school and college student concerts; student research, journals and writings on pertinent subject material; a synagogue-based interfaith program; a field trip to a Jewish educational facility by an interfaith group; a school project to interview, compile and publish history on the town's Jewish residents, staged reading, theatrical performances and other excellent projects. All requests that fulfill the Fund's goals, limited only by ingenuity and imagination, will be fully considered.

The Committee of The Y'DIYAH Memorial Fund has compiled a limited list of resource material and will attempt to keep it current for the convenience of applicants. It is by no means determinant but endeavors to suggest ideas that encompass the criteria of the Fund. Please contact Berkshire Taconic if you would like to have a copy sent to you.

Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation does not support organizations which in their constitution, by-laws, or practice, discriminate against a person or group on the basis of age, race, national origin, ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation, political affiliation or religious belief.

#### **Awards**

Grants up to \$500 will be awarded twice a year. At the discretion of the Y'DIYAH Memorial Fund Committee, occasionally a grant of up to \$1,000 may be awarded.

#### **Deadline and Notification**

Grants will be reviewed twice a year. Completed applications must be received at Berkshire Taconic's office **by 5 pm on either November 1<sup>st</sup> or April 1<sup>st</sup>**.

Applicants will be informed of the Foundation's decision within six weeks of the deadline dates.

## Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation

800 NORTH MAIN STREET, PO BOX 400, SHEFFIELD, MA 01257-0400

T: 413.229.0370 F: 413.229.0329 [info@berkshiretaconic.org](mailto:info@berkshiretaconic.org) [www.berkshiretaconic.org](http://www.berkshiretaconic.org)

## To apply

Complete the attached application form and send it to Berkshire Taconic along with:

- A one page letter outlining the project, its purpose and relationship to the Y'DIYAH Memorial Fund
- A budget outlining the expenses of the project

## Notification

Applicants will be informed of Berkshire Taconic's decision within two months of the deadline date.

## Review Process

Applications will be reviewed by the Y'Diyah Advisory Committee. Their recommendations will be reviewed by Berkshire Taconic's board of directors.

## Review Criteria

Created in memory of the founder's maternal family, in order to:

- Facilitate knowledge and understanding of the history, culture and practice of traditional Judaism, with the broadest-based community in mind.
- Correct misconceptions and bias
- Encourage learning
- Encourage tolerance

## Questions

Please contact [programs@berkshiretaconic.org](mailto:programs@berkshiretaconic.org).

## Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation

Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation builds stronger communities and improves the quality of life for all residents in the region it serves: Berkshire County, MA; Columbia County and northeast Dutchess County, NY; and northwest Litchfield County, CT. Founded in 1987, Berkshire Taconic currently has over 500 funds and manages more than \$86 million in assets. Each year, it distributes more than \$7 million through grants and scholarships, helping thousands of donors achieve their philanthropic goal and hundreds of nonprofits carry on their good work.

## Mission Statement

*"The greatest evil is ignorance—the greatest good is knowledge." Socrates*

Gisele and Paul Streit's granddaughter founded the Y'DIYAH (Hebrew for *learning*) Memorial Fund, in 1999, in order to promote learning about Judaism, in the hope that it may add to one's understanding, promote critical thinking, sound judgment and tolerance.

## Would you like to help?

Contributions are invited to the Y'DIYAH Memorial Fund. Contributions may be made either to build the endowment or to be added to the amount for granting this year. Donations are fully tax-deductible. Please make your check payable to Y'DIYAH Memorial Fund and send it to Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation. For gifts of stock or to make a credit card donation, please call the Foundation at 413.229.0370.

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# Wassermann-Streit Y'DIYAH Memorial Fund

## Grant Application

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Please read the accompanying brochure before filling out this form.

1. Name of Grant Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Name of Project: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Itemize Request, With Cost:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. What other funding sources are available to you? If your request does not receive full funding, do you wish it to be considered for partial funding? Please bear in mind that this fund is to be considered a resource for items that are outside of an organization's annual budget.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. If your request is for a public event, please indicate the number of participants hoped for and what outreach you plan to do to make people aware of the event.

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QUESTIONS 9, 10, 11 - Please use separate page(s). Essay form is preferred.

9. How does your request meet the Y'DIYAH vision?
10. What are your goals in relation to this request?
11. How will you determine that these goals have been met?
12. Please add any further information you wish.
13. If you are applying as an individual, please submit one or more letters of personal reference so that we may learn something about your background.

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