



4210 Howard Avenue, Kensington, MD 20895 [www.hiddurmitzvah.org](http://www.hiddurmitzvah.org) 1.800.962.1545

**MEDIA ADVISORY**  
**DENVER YOUNGSTER, WASHINGTON ARTIST CREATING**  
**CANDLESTICKS WITH A MESSAGE**

*World-Renowned Artist Gary Rosenthal to Help 12-Year-Old Make Candle Holders  
to Be Sent to Ukraine for Rosh Hashanah*

**WHO:** Sarah Rockford (Denver, Colorado) and her mother, Renee  
Gary Rosenthal (Washington, D.C.), an internationally renowned artist  
Artists from The Gary Rosenthal Studio

**WHAT:** Sarah Rockford, 12, is working with artist Gary Rosenthal on a unique community-based activity in which she will donate 30 one-of-a-kind candlesticks to Jewish communities in Ukraine, near the area where her grandfather, a Holocaust survivor, was born.

As part of her Bat Mitzvah, Rockford's synagogue requires her to perform a project to support the Jewish community. She is fulfilling her commitment through The Hiddur Mitzvah Project, a program developed and funded by The Gary Rosenthal Collection to provide invaluable lessons about community building and arts enrichment.

Sarah and her mother will complete the project with Rosenthal and other artists from his studio. Last month in Denver, Sarah and her friends finished the first phase of the process, a mosaic featuring many different colored pieces of glass. Now, the mosaic will be fired, cut and crafted into candlesticks.

**WHEN:** Friday, July 15 at 10 a.m.

**WHERE:** Gary Rosenthal Collection Studio  
4210 Howard Avenue, Kensington, Maryland

**WHY:** The Hebrew word *mitzvah* literally means commandment, but in Jewish tradition, it also has come to mean blessing or good deed. *Hiddur* means to make beautiful. Thus, *hiddur mitzvah* can be interpreted to mean making commandments and their fulfillment beautiful while doing good.

The Gary Rosenthal Collection's Hiddur Mitzvah Project is based on the concept that all Jewish ritual pieces required in *mitzvot* should be as aesthetically pleasing as possible to glorify G-d and his commandments. More than 75 synagogue and religious groups in 22 states have participated in the program since its inception in fall 2003.

**About The Gary Rosenthal Collection**

Gary Rosenthal has been sculpting in welded metals for almost 30 years. Together with a team of talented craftspeople, he creates one of the most popular and unique lines of Judaic art in the country: The Gary Rosenthal Collection. Combining copper, brass, and steel with brilliant fused glass, the collection has a contemporary style rooted in tradition.

Work from The Gary Rosenthal Collection ([www.collectgaryrosenthal.com](http://www.collectgaryrosenthal.com)) has been presented to Presidents from Jimmy Carter to George W. Bush and can be found throughout the world in many fine galleries, private collections, and museum shops, including the American Craft Museum, the B'nai B'rith Museum, the Smithsonian's Renwick Gallery, the Corning Museum of Glass, and The Jewish Museum.

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**For more information:**

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