

BEHIND THE BASH

making your mitzvah memorable

what they're wearing

Shine like a star when the spotlight's on you in these stylish party fashions from K Girl/Kenzie Kids. Molly (left) in a gold taffeta dress with bubble skirt. Katherine (right) in a stunning blue custom-made party dress. Andrew is ready for his big day in a Hickey Freeman navy blue blazer, shirt and tie. Heidi Hope Photography.



so cool, it's hot!

Event designer Tasha Bracken of SD Events created a modern, ultra-cool winter wonderland for Emily's January bat mitzvah in Boston. Snowflakes were everywhere but warm pink and purple lighting took the chill off by transforming the ballroom and highlighting the wintry white décor. Linens and chairs from Be Our Guest. Brian Phillips Photography.



blisstrend

hip happenings

Photo booths are popular for a bar and bat mitzvah—"It's a fun activity that creates lasting memories," shares Jalene Buckner of **Top Notch Events**. Buckner also suggests these other fun trends:

The **Retro Event** is also making a comeback and for kids today that means 70s and 80s-themed events complete with caricature artists that were popular back then. It's a bit of fun and something that the kids can take home with them.

Virtual Activities are a great way to keep the kids entertained and having a good time. Giant video screens let kids have fun playing Rock Band® or Guitar Hero® and depending on the budget, live entertainment is even better.

Some families are opting for a more traditional gathering that includes a **ceremony in Israel** and then a more low-key affair back in the U.S. for close friends and family.

Right: Bat mitzvah by **Top Notch Events**.



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Ceremony Preparation

A bar/bat mitzvah...a day of spiritual celebration, laughter, and youth! Sandra Freedman has over 20 years of experience presiding over, and tutoring students, in preparation for their Bar and Bat Mitzvah ceremonies.

"The year leading up to the event is a time of moral education" shares Freedman. She helps them study Hebrew, learn to chant from the Torah, and memorize a body of prayers that will be incorporated into their ceremony.

"The year of preparation is the journey and the bar or bat mitzvah is the destination. A life cycle event," states Freedman and she delights in the fact that each child's spiritual accomplishment is the cheerful heart of the festivity itself.