There are two
Gifts we should
Give our children;
One is roots, and
The other is wings
ABBEE KAPE (SOBOL/KAPE)
I was surprised to learn that my great great grandparents had seven kids.

ADI SHAPIRA (ALFI/SHAPIRA)
In Romania my paternal grandfather and grandmother did not get permission for my father to move to Israel.

AELAN ROSNER (FUNG/ROSNER)
My maternal grandmother had 11 siblings.

ASHLEE HIVES (BROMLEY/HIVES)
My grandma had to be strong growing up and earn money for her family.

AVA SLYKHUIS (WAISMAN/SLYKHUIS)
One of the most interesting facts I learned is that one day, my maternal grandfather, a Holocaust survivor, became friends with a French boy named Jacques Mydlarski. Just before my grandfather was about to leave for Canada, his friend invited him over to meet his family. The two of them got along very well, and they invited him back for a second visit. The next time, a Polish relative of his friend’s mother was also there. She overheard my grandfather mentioning the name of his hometown, and she came out of the kitchen, wiping a dish. She asked him what his father’s name was. As soon as he replied, she dropped the dish and ran to him, hugged him, and started speaking to my grandfather in Yiddish. She was his father’s sister, his aunt. He had found a whole other family that he was related to, and did not know about before.

AVIV DAVID (AVIRAM/DAVID)
The most interesting fact I discovered was that my family’s real last name is Sigawi. They changed their name to David when they moved to Canada/America.

BEN SUSSMAN (ZADKA/SUSSMAN)
BENJY KRAFT (SATOV/KRAFT)
I learned that maternal grandmother escaped the Holocaust with her parents. They hid in Siberia until they moved to Canada.

EMMA GREENSITE (LEWIS/GREENSEITE)
I learned that my maternal great grandfather (Israel Panfel) changed his name to Ivor Lewis.

ERYN VAIDA (LIPSON/VAIDA)
I learned that my great, great grandparents are from many places. For example someone in my family was from Egypt, another was from United Kingdom, and many other countries.

ETHAN DOCTOR (FRIEDMAN/DOCTOR)
What I have learned is that my family on my mother’s side is from Canada.

EVAN ARIEL (ARIEL/ROTHSTEIN)
The most interesting fact that I learned is that my great grandfather jumped out of a train to escape the concentration camp. He also pushed his wife off the train and saved her life. They sought refuge in the forest.

HADAR YANAI
The most interesting fact I learned during the project was that my great grandmother was married at the age of 17.

ILANA GUEZ (GRANOT/GUEZ)
I heard the story of how my maternal grandfather faced the Syrian army during Israel's Six Day War. This story, and many others from my family, remind me that I am grateful to be Jewish.

ILANA WELCH (JAIVEN/WELCH)
My great grandmother got married 6 months after she met her spouse when she was only 20 years old.
INDY LAYTON (GORDON/LAYTON)
I learned that my great uncle Samek lost all his toes to frostbite and yet still needed to go on a 7-month journey, mostly by foot. During the entire journey, he was in excruciating pain.

ISAAC BIEGEL EVANS (KESTENBAUM/BIEGEL/EVANS)
My great grandfather, Jacob Kestenbaum, a furrier in New York, saved hundreds of Jews during World War II by falsely sponsoring them to work at his family’s business. He has been recognized by the Jewish Heritage Museum in New York for his brave and daring efforts.

ISAAC LIEDEMANN (FRIEDMAN/LIEDEMANN)
I discovered my grandfather asked my grandmother to marry her two weeks after they met!

ISABEL WISEMAN (BARCESSAT/WISEMAN)
I found out that my maternal great-grandfather was a soldier in the Russian army and won lots of awards.

IZZY FREEDMAN (CARR/FREEDMAN)
I learned that my great grandpa went into the war with black hair and came out of the war with grey hair.

JACK TRITT (CHARK/TRITT)
I learned that my great grandfather was one of the best lawyers in Canada during his day. He was a King’s Council, meaning he was a lawyer when a British king was in power!

JACOB MERKUR (MERKUR/KIRSCH)
I learned that my great grandfather, Donald Kirsch, had a line of motors called “Maverick” and he copyrighted the name. Ford wanted to use the name Maverick for one of their cars. Ford bought the rights of the name for that car line.

JASI LAYTON (GORDON/LAYTON)
I learned that my great grandpa, Gunther Layton, was arrested on Kristallnacht on September 11, 1938, and was released by his spouse, Charlotte, because they got tickets to Malaysia. When he was there, he got a job in a hotel for 10 months.
JAYDEN MILLER (RAGOSIN/MILLER)
I discovered that some of my family was from Russia and Ukraine. I thought all of my family was born in Canada.

JONAH EZEKIEL (PERLMAN/EZEKIEL)
I discovered that I am related to a great rabbi of Haifa.

JOSH NEMIROW (PRISMAN/NEMIROW)
I learned that my grandmother, Maureen Prisman, who had a diploma in medical technology, worked in the laboratory alongside Dr. Christiaan Barnard, who performed the world’s first successful heart transplant.

JUDD BERON (HIRSHBERG/BERON)
The most interesting fact I discovered about my family was that my maternal great grandfather owned a small town called Bandelierkop in South Africa.

JULIETTE SANDLER (SANDLER/HENDLER)
I found out that my maternal great-grandmother and great-grandfather owned a country hotel in Mooresburg, South Africa, and that it was very popular.

KALEV ADLER
I learned throughout this project that my Papa had 15 brothers and sisters. And that his house burnt down when he was 13 years old.

KEREN KATZ (TOLKIN/KATZ)
One of the coolest things I learned during the Roots & Wings process was that my great grand parents were first cousins and they knew that when they got married.

KYLA CHARACH (GOODMANSON/CHARACH)
One of the many very interesting things I learned in making my Roots And Wings project was that my grandfather met Marilyn Monroe!
LINDSAY HIRSCH (LOVE/HIRSCH)

The most interesting fact I discovered during my research is that before my great Baba went on the ship to Canada, they found out the ship had lice. When she found out, my great Baba threatened to throw herself overboard.

LOLA BELZBERG (SHEK/BELZBERG)

I learned that my maternal grandfather helped make parts for the Canadian Space Arm.

MAAOR ROZEN (BEN NISSIM/ROZEN)

My paternal great grandfather, Ariyeh, had transfer and immigration papers to go to Palestine from Russia. Once there, he got a passport and worked for the police force of Palestine.

MATTEA LEWIS (KRELL/LEWIS)

I will be the 5th generation in my family to have my Bat Mitzvah at Schara Tzedeck. My great, great, grandfather, David Davis, lived in Vancouver. My great grandparents, Dora Davis and Charles Davis, founded Schara Tzedeck around 1920. Then, Dora and Charles had Marylin, my grandmother, who married Robert Krell, a child survivor of the Holocaust from The Hague, who survived by hiding with a Christian family. My Mom, Shoshana, married my dad, Shawn, and in February, I will become a Bat Mitzvah at Schara Tzedeck, making me the fifth generation Davis/Krell/Lewis family member to do so.

MAX LASKIN (ISRAELS/LASKIN)

My family and I had no idea that my great uncle Dave was born in Toronto. We all thought that he was born in Edmonton, just like My dad’s mom, Shirley, was. I also learned this same great uncle once gambled with Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr., and John Wayne.

MAYA MCNAMARA (KEHAT/MCNAMARA)

The most interesting fact that I learned during the process of the “Roots & Wings” project was that when my great grandfather was shot during the Independence War, the bullet went through the right lung, between the esophagus and spine, behind the heart and came out the left lung. The bullet also broke four ribs on the way out. The doctors said that it was a miracle that he was even breathing.
MICAH SHIFF (VAN MESSEL/SHIFF)
I learned that my maternal grandfather was a Holocaust survivor.

MIKAL STEIN (GLUCK/STEIN)
I learned that my great-grandfather fought in World War II.

MOSELLE LEVY (LITSKY/LEVY)
I learned that my grandfather was kicked out of Egypt by the Arabs because he was Jewish.

NOAM GURALNICK (SHARIR/GURALNICK)
I learned that my maternal great-grandfather ate raw eggs from the chickens that his family had in his backyard.

OLIVER ABRO (WEEKS/ABRO)
I learned that my great grandfather changed his last name from Abramovitz to Abro, and that it was published in the local paper. I also learned that my great uncle and great grandpa were both in the army!

OLIVER MUNT (GLOTMAN/MUNT)
I learned that my grandfather’s engineering firm has engineered over 5000 buildings.

OPHIR GINI (BISHOURI/GINI)
The most interesting fact I discovered while working on Roots & Wings was that my grandpa fought in the Six Day War.

PALOMA DELISLE (KORBIN/DELISLE)
I learned that my bubbe, Heather, didn’t know she was Jewish until she was 14-15 years old.
PRIELLE LANIADO

My paternal grandfather’s elementary school was called Talmud Torah.

SOPHIE FISHMAN (KONKIN/FISHMAN)

When my grandmother moved houses when she was hiding during the Holocaust, there were six children who already lived there. The children did not know that she was Jewish and they thought she was the daughter of their aunt. She also wasn’t allowed to go outside because of the war.

VIDA SUSSMAN (ZADKA/SUSSMAN)

I found out that my maternal great grandfather was a spy. When he entered Canada he had to change his last name and lie about his age.

YISHAI ESTRIN

The most interesting fact I discovered during my research that was that my great grandparents nearly went on the Titanic.

YOEL SASKY (SALEM/SASKY)

I learned that my maternal great grandmother had her first child at age 14 in Argentina.

YOTAM GAL (YEHEZKEL/HOOLY)

The most interesting fact I learned was that I have a family member from Iraq.