Yuval School of Music and the Arts Irit Iffert, Yuval school of Music and Art, Jerusalem

"I wish I could learn in a Messianic Arts School" sounds like one of the wishes you make when you blow out your birthday candles. But that wish became a reality, and I'm pleased to present to you today, the Messianic School of the Arts called "Yuval".

As you hear about God's work in this school in Israel, and in God's chosen city of Jerusalem I want to encourage you today, because He brought it about in miraculous ways!

For years people in the body of Messiah have been hoping and praying for a messianic school of the arts where children and youth can develop their gifts, for His glory. It turns out that this dream has been ripening in the hearts of many people for some time. In the summer of 2010, it seemed that the time was right to begin working towards the reality, and praying to know what the Father in Heaven had in mind.

With a lot of excitement, I, along with Alex Atlas met with a number of pastors, and other musicians and artists and presented this vision. To our surprise they too had been praying and working towards such a vision. "Thank God" we thought, how God is faithful to bring us to the right people so we can work jointly and cooperate toward this vision. In the summer months we were busy putting together a teaching staff, a management staff, and a possible schedule that involves all the different classes and lessons. Eventually, Yuval was established by three supporting bodies. King of Kings Community in Jerusalem, and their "Pavilion", Jerusalem Assembly - Beit Geula, and HaChotam Publishing. They are the founders and creators of the school, and it is good to see the cooperation and commitment that each of these bodies has to the one single vision. In the early stages of meetings, the committee decided that Yuval should use the Pavilion facilities in the center of Jerusalem, and we are so thankful to God for this open door. Beit Geula and HaChotam support the main leaders, Alex Atlas and myself, and everyone contributes extras from time to time when needs arise.

In September, we held an open house where people could come and hear our vision and see first-hand what we were offering. We were surprised to see the Pavilion full of interested people and we were overjoyed to see that the timing was right to establish this school in Israel. The response was overwhelming! We then began the process of building a curriculum and finding financial support.

Praise God, throughout this first term that began in October 2010, we have served over 100 students at the Yuval School of the Arts! We offer instrumental and vocal lessons and classes in visual arts, dance, drama, video animation, and musical ensembles.

We are still on a steep growth curve, and we feel like we are "walking on water". But we are keeping our eyes steady on the Lord, who is faithful to see us through!

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