

2019 BRONFMAN FELLOWS



Ross Armon
Jenkintown, PA

Ross Armon is a member of Adath Jeshurun in Elkins Park, PA and is a junior at Abington Senior High School. Armon is the sports editor of his

school's newspaper, The Abingtonian, and the setter on the varsity volleyball team. Ross founded Abington High School's Jewish Student Union and is a member of the Future Business Leaders of America club that competes both regionally and nationally. In his free time, he enjoys watching the Phillies and Sixers.

School Democrats and serves as Director of Legislative Advocacy and Expansion for Youth Decide, a student-led not-for-profit that prevents teen substance abuse. He was selected by the New York State Department of Education as one of two State delegates to the 2019 United States Senate Youth Program. Abe writes "Honestly Abe," a regular column in his community's newspaper, and is an avid delegate at Model United Nations conferences. He is interested in public policy, history, international affairs, and neuroscience and in his free time, enjoys playing the saxophone, discussing politics, kayaking, hiking, traveling, and walking his favorite dog, Maxie.



Abe Baker-Butler
Rye Brook, NY

Abe Baker-Butler is a junior at Blind Brook High School in Rye Brook, NY. He was appointed by the Westchester County Executive to the

Westchester Youth Board, of which he now serves as Vice President, and advises on social and educational programming for youth. In the wake of the Parkland shooting in 2018, he co-founded the Westchester Student Coalition Against Gun Violence. Abe serves as the advocacy chair for J-Teen Leadership, an organization promoting Jewish teen social action to repair the world, as well as a youth representative for the United Jewish Appeal Westchester Advisory Council. This year, he has also participated in the American Jewish Committee's Leaders for Tomorrow program. Abe is also the founder of the Rye Brook High



Julian Bertet
Studio City, CA

Julian Bertet attends North Hollywood High School's Highly Gifted Magnet. He is the President of the Model United Nations Team and the Jewish Student Union.

In March of 2019, Julian organized an anti-Semitism awareness assembly at his school along with a movement to encourage students to speak out against anti-Semitism, called the Blue Ribbons Campaign. The year before, he held a joint assembly with the school's Black Student Union to promote unity and solidarity between Jewish and Black students. In Model United Nations, Julian has won Best Delegate Awards from McKennaMUN VI and BruinMUN 2018. As President of the Model United Nations Team, Julian's leadership helped the team win its first delegation award, the Outstanding Small Delegation Award from the UCLA 2018

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BruinMUN Conference. He has also been a member of the Los Angeles Children's Chorus for the past eight years. His passion for choral singing has provided him opportunities to perform with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, LA Opera, and LA Master Chorale at the Walt Disney Concert Hall, the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, and the Hollywood Bowl. He is looking forward to the experience and is excited to develop his knowledge of Jewish texts and regional politics.



Eli Buchdahl
New York, NY

Eli Buchdahl is a student at the Abraham Joshua Heschel School, a pluralistic Jewish day school in Manhattan. One of only a few Reform Jews at his school, he values traditional Jewish text study but always connects it with his Reform ideology. He is a leader in Heschel's Student Government and captain of its Mock Trial team; he also competes for his school's Varsity Baseball and Basketball teams, the latter of which won the Yeshiva League Championship this year. Outside of school, Eli has played piano seriously since he was five years old, focusing on a classical repertoire, and he has been learning Korean every day since last summer on Duolingo. He is a proud member of Central Synagogue.



Samantha Deutsch
Wyndmoor, PA

Samantha Deutsch is a junior at Germantown Friends School, a Quaker school located in Philadelphia. She is a member of Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel. At school, she is the leader of the Jewish Affinity Club, grade representative on Student Council, and a member of Model United Nations club. She is also a Penn Young Scholar, and takes courses at the University of Pennsylvania her during junior and senior year. An avid lover of theatre and film, Sammi has earned awards from international film festivals for her work, and has performed in eight productions at America's oldest theatre, the Walnut Street Theatre. She also enjoys film production, and spent a month interning at HBO's Documentary and Family department in Manhattan. Sammi currently studies Arabic, Hebrew and Spanish. She hopes to learn German next. She is a Yale Young Global Scholar, and looks forward to studying law and diplomacy in college.



Sam Fine
Leawood, KS

Sam Fine is a junior at Blue Valley High School. There, he participates in debate and business clubs, and has won numerous awards. He won first place at BPA's state competition in Banking and Finance and Personal Financial Management, and finished in the top 20 in Personal Financial Literacy at DECA's National Leadership Conference. He also has won first place in PFL at DECA's state competition for two years in a row. At school, Sam is also involved in Youth Court and honor societies for math, science, Spanish, and

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English, and he is an officer in Investment Club. Outside of school, Sam is the senior patrol leader of Troop 10 and is very involved at his synagogue, Beth Torah. He is a teacher's aide for Sunday school and as the co-president of Beth Torah's youth group. He participates in NFTY, which has drawn him closer to his Jewish roots and has given him Jewish friends from around the region. He is interested in economics, politics, and philosophy, and he plans to pursue a career in engineering.



Elinadav Frank
Bronx, NY

Elinadav (Davi) Frank is currently a junior at SAR High School, a Modern Orthodox yeshiva day school located in Riverdale, New York. There he enjoys studying Tanach, Gemara, Arabic, History, Mathematics, and Jewish Philosophy. A passionate vegan and advocate for animal rights, Davi is the founder of SAR's Club for Animal Rights and Education (CARE) and leader of the Environmental Club. Davi has been an avid drummer for 7 years and loves performing as a member of Riverdale Rising Stars, a teen theater group at his local YM-YWHA. Davi is a passionate Modern Orthodox Jew who leads the student-run minyan at SAR and learns in an optional chaburah with his principal after school multiple times a week. Davi is excited to expand his horizons through The Bronfman Fellowship.



Eliana Goldin
Atlanta, GA

Eliana Goldin has been attending Atlanta Jewish Academy, a Modern Orthodox school where she is a junior, since first grade. Eliana is a dedicated athlete, playing volleyball, basketball and soccer most years throughout middle and high school. She started her school's Model UN program and serves as class representative for Student Council, but Eliana's passion lies with Palette, the student news magazine for which she will serve as co-Editor-in-Chief her senior year. Equally passionate about Israel, Eliana has spent the past two summers volunteering at Shalva, a Jerusalem-based organization that works with kids with disabilities and kids from difficult homes, and attending Camp Amichai along the northern coast of Israel. During the school year, Eliana teaches at a Jewish interfaith Sunday School, leads Shabbat youth programming at her synagogue, and coaches for a girls' youth basketball league. Eliana enjoys reading and playing piano, ukulele, and air guitar, and she is excited to join the Bronfman community.



Judah Guggenheim
Silver Spring, MD

Judah Guggenheim is an 11th grade student at Berman Hebrew Academy in the suburbs of Washington, DC, where he takes a double curriculum in Judaic and secular classes. Judah enjoys being involved at Berman, and he is a junior captain of Berman's Model UN and Mock Trial teams as well as a co-head of the Israel Action Committee. Judah is the founding

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captain of the school's debate team and participates in national math competitions including the AMCs and Yale MMATHs. His love of Jewish learning has led him to participate in the national Chidon HaTanch bible competition and in the Yeshiva University High School Bekiut Talmud program. Recently, Judah has also had the opportunity to coach the middle school Chidon HaTanach and middle school math teams for regional and national competitions. Outside of school, Judah participates in the JCRC of Greater Washington's Student to Student program, a high school peer education program that facilitates discussions in public and private schools in an effort to put a human face to Judaism. He is active in his community as a regional leader of Bnei Akiva, a religious Zionist youth movement, and as a Bal Koreh at the Kemp Mill Synagogue teen minyan. By the end of high school, Judah hopes to have lained the entire Torah. He also blows shofar on the High Holidays and reads Megilat Esther on Purim for patients at local hospitals. For the last three years, Judah has run the Jerusalem half marathon on behalf of Shalva, the Association for Mentally and Physically Challenged Children in Israel. Judah has also volunteered on a Congressional campaign, completed an engineering program sponsored by the U.S. Army, and interned for a professor of Jewish studies.



Eden Kohane
Newton, MA

Eden Kohane is a junior at Gann Academy, a pluralistic Jewish high school in Waltham, MA. She has found great value

in hearing many different viewpoints from her peers and teachers, who come from a wide variety of Jewish backgrounds. She has also grown up strongly influenced by her modern orthodox Jewish community, attending Beth El

synagogue Newton, and Maimonides School in Brookline from grades K-8. The blend of orthodox and pluralistic influences in Eden's life have helped broaden her view of Judaism, and better understand her own beliefs. Eden is extremely passionate about supporting Israel and is an ambassador to the Boston Media Room, a program that teaches high school students how to effectively support Israel through various social media platforms. Eden also has a very strong interest in International Relations, which has led her to participate in Model UN, and attend many conferences. This past summer she was also an intern at the Harvard Global Health Institute, where she was able to learn from leaders in the global health field about issues such as health care quality and pandemic preparedness.



Emmett Levy
Brooklyn, NY

Emmett Levy is a junior at Hunter College High School in New York City. He is a member of his school's indoor track and field team and has been running cross country since 7th grade. Emmett loves comedy and has acted in his school's student-run play festival three years in a row. He is also interested in music and art; earlier this year, he had one of his pieces shown at a gallery in midtown. During the past two summers, he spent 30 days hiking the Long Trail of Vermont and more recently, he studied abroad in Estonia, on a program run by the State Department, where he lived with a host family and studied advanced Russian for two months. Although he is not a regular at his synagogue, Emmett is passionate about Judaism and is excited to learn more about his own Jewish identity. He is also eager to meet and learn from a diverse group of fellows who he can share this experience with.

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Rachel Leykin
Denville, NJ

Rachel Leykin, a junior from Morris Knolls High School, is a member of the International Baccalaureate program and National Honor Society. Additionally, Rachel is heavily involved in volunteering at JetLAG

Eastern European music festival, which features klezmer and other folk and rock music. Fluent in both French and Russian, Rachel is looking to learn Hebrew as well. She attended Sunday school in Madison at the Chabad of South-East Morris County and continues to volunteer with the Chabad organization in her free time. In college, Rachel is looking to study science and math.



Tal Mars
Bexley, OH

Tal Mars is a rising senior at Bexley High School. She serves as a reporter and columnist for the school newspaper ("The Torch") writing everything from a movie

review of "Bohemian Rhapsody" to an in-depth story on academic peer pressure. She attended Brandeis University's Genesis Precollege Program where she studied World Religions and Social Entrepreneurship. She participates in the Wexner Service Corps, a service-learning program for Jewish teens from Columbus and is an alumna of the Central Ohio Leadership Academy. She attended the Columbus Jewish Day School and went to Emma Kaufmann Camp for five summers. She has been involved in BBYO and works as a teacher's assistant at Temple Israel's religious school. In 2018 she

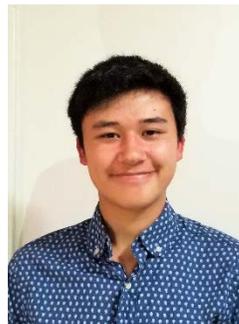
spent a week in Oregon hiking a section of the Pacific Crest Trail and is in training to solo hike the entire Appalachian Trail starting next April.



Jacob Miller
Skokie, IL

Jacob Miller went to Hillel Torah North Suburban

Day School for his primary education and currently attends Ida Crown Jewish Academy. He has published several original physics research papers about particle physics in collaboration with other high school students and the Department of Energy. He participates in his school's mathletes team, last year placing first in the Jewish High School Math League, which includes over 1,000 participants. Miller is also politically active: He organized a walkout at his school to protest gun violence and lobbies his Congresswoman on AIPAC's legislative agenda. His school's Israel Advocacy club won AIPAC's Early Engagement Exemplar Award this past March and Miller spoke on a panel at AIPAC's Policy Conference. Miller is also the editor-in-chief of The Crown Prints, Ida Crown's official school newspaper, and is a varsity member of Ida Crown's cross country team. In 2016, when he was in eighth grade, he won the International Diaspora Bible Competition (Chidon HaTanach Hatfutzot).



Louis Pang
Los Angeles, CA

Louis Pang, a junior at North Hollywood High School Highly Gifted Magnet, is the captain of the varsity soccer team and the president of Litsemba, a club

responsible for fundraising for youth

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development in eSwatini, where Louis lived for five years. While he was there, he attended Waterford Kamhlaba, a United World Colleges international high school for five years. Additionally, he has won the California Mayor's Cyber Cup, contributes to his school's cybersecurity and robotics teams, and works at a local Vietnamese restaurant.



Simone Rothstein
Pittsburgh, PA

Simone Rothstein is a rising senior at The Ellis School in Pittsburgh. There she is part of the swim and tennis teams, and a representative for Student Diversity League, Student Council, Guild (a community service club), and Jewish Student Union. Simone is enthusiastic about social justice work, co-founding the local teen chapter of Sisterhood of Salaam Shalom, an organization that combats hate by catalyzing friendships between Muslim and Jewish teen girls. Simone is also a part of Bend the Arc Pittsburgh Teens, which works to take action against white-nationalism, gun-violence, and anti-semitism. With Bend the Arc Pittsburgh teens, she and her Sisterhood of Salaam Shalom co-founder spoke to a crowd of thousands about the violence that white-nationalism spawns. This speech was subsequently read aloud at a United Nations women's conference. Simone's other passions include learning about Judaism's rich culture, history, and texts. Simone attends Congregation Beth Shalom weekly, and occasionally leyns.



Josephine Schizer
New York, NY

Josephine Schizer is a junior at the Ramaz Upper School in Manhattan. She is passionate about STEM, co-founded Ramaz's engineering club, and is a captain of the Ramaz Science Olympiad team. An avid writer, she is a member of the Jewish Week's Fresh Ink for Teens editorial board, writes for her school newspaper, and writes blog posts on various platforms, including the Times of Israel and the JOFA Blog. Additionally, she has won awards as a member of the Ramaz Model Congress and debate teams and participates in the Witness Theater program. As a passionate advocate for expanding women's roles in Orthodox Judaism, she founded and organizes a monthly women's tefillah group at her synagogue, Congregation Ramath Orah. Josephine has eight anaphylactic food allergies and has been a member of the Food Allergy Research and Education (FARE) Teen Advisory Group for five years, working on various projects to benefit other teens with food allergies. Last summer, she split her time between Szarvas camp in Hungary, a pluralistic Jewish camp for kids and teenagers from all over Eastern Europe, and SHAPE, a biomedical engineering program at Columbia University's engineering school.



Samuel Shvets
Ithaca, NY

Sam Shvets is a junior at Ithaca High School. He is a member of Temple Beth El, where he is active in volunteering for the community. He is largely interested in Computer Science and Physics, though he also

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enjoys debate. Whenever possible, he works with the Sabuncu group at Cornell University on their biomedical analysis, focusing on convolutional neural networks. He is a member of Cascadilla Boat Club, a nonprofit rowing team, and has been rowing for their varsity team since early 2017. He hopes to learn more about the deep historical roots of an identity he has long been part of, but knew little about.



Arielle Silvan
New York, NY

Arielle Silvan is a junior at the Beacon school, a competitive public high school in Midtown Manhattan.

At Beacon Arielle is the Head of Public Events in the school's student government where she leads the charge for city wide protests as well as community organizing among the student body. Arielle is also a leader in the school's Model Congress club and enjoys participating in fine arts and photography. Arielle's passion for social activism was cultivated during her years as a camper at Kinderland, a community founded by Jewish Labor activists, where she learned the values of justice and righteousness. In addition, Arielle is active in Brooklyn's Congregation Beth Elohim's youth group, serving as the Social Action Vice President. Through this body, Arielle has lobbied State Legislators on issues including gun reform. She spent last semester stargazing, growing her own food, and reading Thoreau at Maine Coast Semester at Chewonki. During her last two summers, Arielle has engaged with the URJ's (Union for Reform Judaism) Mitzvah Corps in Seattle and New Jersey doing hands on social action work. Most Saturdays she volunteers with the GO project as a teaching assistant for under-resourced New York City public school students.



Elitsa Sklar
Evanston, IL

Elitsa Reinglass Sklar, a junior at Rochelle Zell Jewish High School, completed her primary education at Solomon

Schechter Day School and Hillel Torah North Suburban Day School. Elitsa is a member of Skokie Valley Aguda Jacob Synagogue and Kol Sasson, a partnership minyan in which she regularly participates in the prayer service. Among her many activities are Vice President of Student Council, President of the Israel Club, a member of math team, and varsity basketball captain. Elitsa is a three-sport varsity athlete who has received all-conference awards for both varsity cross country and basketball and an all-tournament award at Rabbi Alexander S. Gross Hebrew Academy Basketball Tournament. Elitsa is a J.U.F. Write On for Israel Fellow and a 2019 recipient of The 18 under 18 J.U.F. award for her leadership in the greater Chicagoland Jewish community. Elitsa enjoys her Talmud and Bible classes at Rochelle Zell where she is able to explore thought-provoking questions in relationship to traditional and modern Jewish texts. She has continued her Jewish learning into the summers, spending her past two summers in New York learning Gemara at the Drisha Dr. Beth Samuels High School program.



Asher Smith
New York, NY

Asher Smith is currently a junior at Hunter College High School and a member of Park Avenue Synagogue. Asher and

his three younger siblings were born in and live in New York City. Asher is passionate about politics and public policy and engages with

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these subjects in his community and through his education. He has volunteered at the office of City Council Member Ben Kallos and was selected to participate in the Washington Seminar on Government in Action at Hunter. Asher serves as a leader in the Hunter theater community as president of the Theater Tech Education Club, student sound designer, and is currently producing a student-written and student-directed play festival.



Diana Somorjai
Hillsborough, CA

Diana Somorjai is a junior at Crystal Springs Uplands School in the Bay Area. Diana is in her third year of involvement with the North Peninsula Jewish Teen Foundation where she has been a board member, leadership council member, and alumni member. In addition, this year she served on the inaugural Jewish Teen Grant Initiative Board, which helped to disseminate microgrants to local organizations seeking to involve Bay Area teens in a variety of Jewish activities. She is the president of her school's French Club, has been the captain of her volleyball team for the past two years, and is a leader of Cardinal Education Scholars, a local organization seeking to better educate low-income students. This past year, she created and implemented a Civil Discourse activity at her school; this game seeks to improve conversations between people with divergent opinions. Very passionate about the French language and French culture, she received the certificate of honor from Lauréat National for French and was one of six students who received the certificate of Excellence in the French Language at the Middlebury Interactive Language School where she spent her past summer. Diana and her family are members of

Peninsula Temple Beth El and Peninsula Temple Sholom.



Abigail Sylvor Greenberg
New York, NY

Abigail Sylvor Greenberg is a junior at The Brearley School, an all-girls, non-parochial independent school on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. Her Jewish education began in preschool and continued with a ten-year academic career at the Abraham Joshua Heschel School. There, she embraced the Jewish intellectual tradition, picked up a solid amount of conversational Hebrew, and cemented her complex but constant love of Israel. Throughout her life, she has attended Jewish, Zionist summer camps run by the youth movement Young Judaea. She identifies as post-denominational, and counts herself lucky to belong to Jewish communities that are similarly unaffiliated and/or pluralistic, including her synagogue, B'nai Jeshurun. She is currently serving in her second year as Vice President of B'nai Jeshurun's teen executive board, and she works as a peer facilitator for 2020 Visions, a teen civic engagement course taught with a Jewish lens by JCC Manhattan's Center for Social Responsibility. She is the editor-in-chief of her school's monthly newspaper, a founder and co-head of its Middle Eastern Culture and Current Affairs Club, a tri-season participant in her school's theater program (for which she does both acting and tech), and a member of the Model Congress team, on which she has earned multiple distinctions, including a Best Delegate gavel from the 2018 Princeton Model Congress. She represented her school at the 2017 Student Diversity Leadership Conference (SDLC) in Anaheim, CA, which convenes students from independent schools to discuss issues of equity, diversity, and inclusion. In

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December 2018, she and her fellow SDLC attendees organized and ran their school's first dedicated day of student-run diversity programming. The school has since pledged to build a diversity day into its yearly calendar. Abigail's own creative writing has received 60+ regional awards and nine national medals from the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. Her work has also been published or is forthcoming in The Noisy Island, The Daphne Review, YARN, and other publications.



Raya Treibicz
Toronto, ON
Canada

Raya Treibicz is a student at the University of

Toronto Schools (UTS), and recipient of the UTS War Memorial Scholarship for outstanding academics and contribution. Raya is an active member of Congregation Habonim, a liberal egalitarian synagogue. She sings in the choir and also performs in many events to raise funds and awareness for organizations committed to social causes and human rights, both within the Jewish community and beyond. Her commitment to public speaking and debate in French and English has led her to compete at the provincial, national and international levels, where she has excelled. Raya has also presented speeches at many venues, including Ted Talks. As a SHAD fellow, Raya participated in a unique enrichment and entrepreneurship program, committed to empowering change makers. She joined 50 other North American high school students for a month at the University of Waterloo. She also participated in the Global Youth Ambassadors Leadership Summit at the University of Illinois at Chicago, a week-long conference targeted to 25 participants worldwide with the aim of inspiring future leaders and innovators. As Raya values

the exploration of culture, she studies French, Mandarin and Spanish. Raya is fascinated with crafting jewelry, using ancient gemstones gathered from around the world. Her intrigue with design and antiquity has evolved into a venture where she creates commissioned jewelry and other crafts. She has also led workshops in jewelry making, most recently for Best Buddies, an international organization that creates opportunities for friendships with people with developmental and intellectual challenges. Raya spends part of every summer on a remote island in Georgian Bay, an Indigenous First Nations reserve. It's her time to escape into nature and the authenticity of a virtually untouched world. A time for canoeing, snorkelling, and chasing frogs! Raya creates opportunities to interact with her Ojibwa neighbours, especially through music and oral storytelling.



Jacob Unger
Newton, MA

Jacob Unger is a junior at Maimonides School, which he has attended since kindergarten. Jacob will be captain of Maimonides's Mock

Trial and Model United Nations teams next year. He will also continue editing and writing for the school newspaper. Jacob is active in the Newton chapter of B'nei Akiva and will lead the group as a "Mazkir" next year. Jacob experienced Israel last summer as a member of the Diller Teen Fellows and looks forward to participating in The Bronfman Fellowship this year.

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Molly Weiner
San Mateo, CA

Molly Weiner is a junior at Lick-Wilmerding High School in San Francisco, where she runs for the cross country and track teams and can usually be found painting in the art studio. A passionate writer, Molly is a member of her school's newspaper staff and a recipient of the Rising Voices Fellowship, a feminist writing program of the Jewish Women's Archive. Molly volunteers at Clinic by the Bay, a free medical clinic for the uninsured. Molly is a graduate of the Wornick Jewish Day School. She has spent a part of the past two summers as a camp counselor at First Step for Families in San Mateo, a transitional housing program for homeless families in her neighborhood. Last summer, Molly summited the Grand Teton in Wyoming. She attributes her love for the natural world in part to her California upbringing and her many summers at Camp Tawonga, a Jewish summer camp near Yosemite.
