



*Huntington Jewish Center*

*Ben Messing*

Ben Messing, a senior at Harborfields High School, has called the Huntington Jewish Center a second home since he was two. As a regular attendee of Shabbat services, he has become very familiar with both the prayer service and the congregation. Every now and then you may find him participating in the service by chanting Torah, leading the 3rd-6th graders in Junior Congregation, or even delivering a USY speech to a bar/bat mitzvah. Outside of services, he has enjoyed synagogue theatre productions, supporting the Celebrate Israel Parade, and making sandwiches for the homeless through JNN. Ben deepened his Jewish education by attending Ivry Prozdor Hebrew High School.

USY has had a special place in Ben's heart ever since he first attended METNY Encampment six years ago. He has attended many divisional, regional, and chapter events, making friends and fond memories along the way. He served as president of the HJC chapter, and is currently head of religious affairs.

At school, Ben is a founding member of the robotics club, and has worked hard as president to lead the team to becoming one of the top on Long Island. As an aspiring mechanical engineer, he passionately completed a research project about self-driving cars. Ben plays the violin in the orchestra, bass drum in the marching band, and guitar at home. He also volunteers with the honor society, as well as the music honor society.

Ben would like to congratulate Bruce Fleiss on his well-deserved honor. He also wants to thank the Men's Club of Huntington Jewish Center for all they do for the synagogue, and for this special honor.