



*Midway Jewish Center*

*Lara Goodman*

*Jeremy Kohler*

Lara Goodman has been a member of Midway Jewish Center, Syosset for the past 13 years. She lives in Plainview with her parents Michele and Barry Goodman and her sister Sophie and brother Ben. Lara currently serves as the Membership/Kadima Vice President of the Midway Jewish Center Chapter of United Synagogue Youth. She has helped to create innovative events for Kadima and USY as well as staff Kadima events. In addition, Lara is active in USY Regional, International, and Divisional conventions, USY Wheels, USY Eastern Europe and Israel Pilgrimage, Kinnusim as well as USY Encampment. Lara has served as the co-chair for the Regional USY Encampment 2016. She is a member of the Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel Honor Society for her commitment to educating her region about women's empowerment within prayer. She has also been a student volunteer/Madricha for the past 3 years in the Midway Jewish Center Religious School. Lara has been the 2017 recipient of the Robert A. Belfer Merit Award as well as the 2017 Cantor Dubinsky Foundation award.

Lara is a senior at Plainview Old Bethpage John F. Kennedy High School where she is a member of the National Honor Society and serves as the Education Secretary for Model UN. Lara is an active member of both the String Orchestra and the Symphonic Orchestra. Lara also conducts cognitive psychology research in the area of symbol to sound recognition to mitigate the disorder of dyslexia. Lara has submitted her research to The Regeneron Student Talent Search as well as presented at the 2018 Long Island Psychology Fair.

Within the community, Lara has been a Girl Scout for 13 years and holds the titles of Ambassador Girl Scout and Association Delegate for the Long Island Region. Lara is currently a candidate for her Gold Award which is the highest award in the Girl Scout organization. For her Gold award project, Lara conducted research to assess the emotional needs of the siblings of children with disabilities and created a web based counseling workshop manual.

Lara is very invested in "Tikkun Olam" and hopes to study Social Policy, Political Science, and Women and Gender Studies with the aspiration of becoming an Education Policy Legislator.

Jeremy Kohler is a student at the Schechter School of Long Island, where he has gained a love for both secular and Judaic studies. There, he is a member of the cross country team and acts in the school musicals. At Midway Jewish Center, Jeremy is an active participant in USY, serving as the Religion/Education Vice President and, later, as President. He is a frequent gabbi and, on the High Holidays, he leads shacharit and blows shofar.

He loves the Young Judaea camps, attending Sprout Lake and Tel Yehudah since 7th grade. This past summer, he worked at Sprout Lake as a counselor.

Jeremy is also devoted to his internship at U.S. Congressman Tom Suozzi's district office.

He is excited to be attending the Joint Program between Columbia University and the Jewish Theological Seminary in the coming years.

He is very grateful for this honor