President

Sylvie Miller



My name is Sylvie Miller, I'm a junior at Barnard/JTS and I want to serve as your next Hillel President. Since my first Shabbat dinner on campus, Hillel has been a home away from home. By the end of my first year, I had joined the First Year Leadership Fellowship, Aryeh, and TAMID, and become a Koach regular. For the past two years, I have served as the director of engagement for Aryeh, and currently serve as the Junior Class President at JTS. Through these experiences, I have gained teamwork skills and how to embrace challenging moments. Rather than serving on the board of one particular club, I want to give back to the entire Hillel community and empower students to make Hillel theirs. I will promote religious pluralism, community engagement and support for existing and new groups within Hillel. With these goals, I hope to make Hillel a community where students will feel comfortable spending time regardless of their involvement or religious practice.

1) RELIGIOUS PLURALISM

As Hillel President, I will work with all four major religious communities and students who don't identify with any of these groups to make sure their needs are met. I will create opportunities for different religious leaders to get to know each other in formal and informal settings. As someone who did not grow up observant, I know what it feels like to feel completely lost in a religious setting. By publicizing and provide alternatives to traditional services on major holidays and festivals like Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Passover, I will ensure there are a variety of options are available for those who want to celebrate holidays regardless of their religious background. These will range from meditation on Rosh Hashanah to alternative seders on Passover and beyond.

2) COMMUNAL ENGAGEMENT

Along with religious events, events to engage students otherwise are extremely important. Events like Hillel Formal and Super Bowl Parties are great events for the whole community to come together, but having three or four large communal events is not sufficient. I will create new opportunities for the community to come together such as movie nights, latke baking competitions, and group SoulCycle rides. By working with groups and individuals to create large scale community-wide events, I will create spaces for everyone to come together even if someone is not involved in any particular Hillel club or religious group. This will bring people who are involved in different clubs and religious groups together.

3) SUPPORT FOR EXISTING AND NEW GROUPS IN HILLEL

There are over twenty groups in Hillel, and each group has its specific goals and members. I will ensure a direct line of communication and transparency between group leaders and E-board to guarantee each group has access to all of the resources they need and the support that Eboard and Hillel staff can provide. I will also work to foster relationships between different club leaders, so that all leaders feel comfortable reaching out to other leaders and planning events together. Ensuring that new clubs get the support and access to Eboard and Hillel staff that they need is essential to making sure these clubs survive and flourish. By connecting new group leaders to those with experience, I will foster intergroup relations, making new group leaders and members feel welcomed and supported in the Hillel community.

Noa Shapiro

Hi Everyone!

I'm Noa Shapiro and I'd be honored to serve as 2018-2019 Hillel President.

I'm really proud to be a part of Hillel's vibrant, complex community, and I believe firmly in its potential. I've held many formal and informal leadership positions in Hillel:



- As Vice President of Engagement on E-board last year, my focus was making the Hillel community more inclusive. I helped plan and implement programming like Mega Shabbat, the Super Bowl party, CBS, and the Holocaust Remembrance Day event.
- As VPE, I created an ongoing initiative, The Community Project, which strengthens community by fostering relationships between Hillel groups through funding for students to host Shabbat meals.
- I helped found, and later became President of, theLounge, an engagement initiative which provides an open, secular space in Hillel.
- I deepened my passion for engagement as a PNEI.
- I loved being a part of the Jewish Life Orientation team.
- I regularly attend Koach Shabbat services and events.

Through these experiences, I've gained an understanding of our community's strengths, gaps, and intricacies. I understand how E-board can work effectively, having been a key part of it. We've achieved a great deal, but there is more we can do. I'm excited to bring my experience, drive, creativity and love of Hillel to the role of President.

The cohesiveness of our community is critical, now more than ever. We have an obligation—but also an opportunity—to deploy our collective strength to influence the University community.

As I see it, it is the President's responsibility to empower Hillel's group leaders, engage more students, strengthen internal community, and positively represent Hillel on campus. To do this, I will focus on:

1. <u>Internal community</u>

It is essential to strengthen ties between members and groups across Hillel. Only this will unify our community.

- *Internal connections* regular meetings between religious group leaders to ensure continuous communication
- Regular social events that are welcoming to everyone
- *Individualized support* for each Hillel group's unique needs

2. External presence

We will strengthen Hillel's presence by building upon relationships with influential constituencies.

- Campus presence
- Reinforcing relationships with student councils across the University: SGA, CCSC, ESC, GSSC
- Cultivating relationships with University administration
- Interfaith connections deepening relationships with CU religious groups
- *Morningside Heights* giving back through a Hillel Community Service Day, so that our neighbors know who we are and what we stand for

3. <u>Visibility, accessibility, accountability</u>

To maximize community members' commitment and enthusiasm, E-board must be visible, accessible, and accountable.

- Weekly E-board 'office hours' E-board will be in Cafe Nana to hear what's on your minds
- Town halls open meetings to hear feedback and address community concerns

The conversation begins with these questions: What in our community needs fixing? What is our community lacking? How, together, can we grow?

Though I'm across the pond this semester at Cambridge, I'd love to hear your ideas. Reach out to me at nss2160@barnard.edu or Facebook message me! I'm excited to represent you and work together in the coming year.

Vice President of Programming

Kara Fleishhacker



Hello! My name is Kara Fleishhacker and I am a sophomore at Barnard College studying religion.

I want to serve as Vice President of
Programming to give back to a
community that has been integral to my
college experience. Hillel has helped me
make friends, taken me to Israel,
provided countless educational
opportunities, and given me a
community where I can be my authentic

Jewish self.

Within Hillel I am on Programming Council, am involved with Kesher, and have participated in the seminar Judaism and Educating Our Future. Programming council specifically has prepared me for this role because I have been able to observe the current VP Programming and learn more about the inner workings of Hillel and how to execute programs in an efficient and enjoyable way. I have contributed ideas for events, like highlighting the importance of making CBS special through the menu and decorations, and I designed a piece of merchandise for an event. I also have been a counselor at a Jewish summer camp for the past two summers, so I have experience creating fun, Jewish programs for a large amount of people.

If elected, my main goal is to create programs that are exciting and inclusive to the whole community. Some of my more specific goals are:

 Making CBS inclusive and special. I recognize the value religious groups hold in their respective Shabbat dinners, so my goal is to make CBS special through themes, decorations, and food options that differ from Kraft Shabbat. I also would continue to

- develop the new CBS groups oneg initiative and other after-dinner community wide programs so CBS can be more integrated into regular Friday night traditions.
- Helping coordinate intergroup programs and helping people get involved with
 Hillel-wide programming. Intergroup programming is important, fun, and helps
 people bond, so I would work with the VPG to help groups plan programs together. I
 also would want to continue programming council and meet with community members
 about programs.
- Continuing bonding events that emphasize meeting new people post-Welcome Weekend, as well as developing new community wide events. Bonding does not have to stop after Welcome Weekend, so I would work to create events that emphasize meeting and bonding with others like a group scavenger hunt, dodgeball tournament and "speed dating". I would also have more relaxed bonding initiatives throughout the year like meet and greets and starting events with icebreakers. I know people also enjoy less structured events, so on top of continuing events like the Super Bowl Party, I want to create more events of this nature like an Oscar Party, Spa Night, and talent show.

Hillel provides so many opportunities for us to strengthen our bonds to Judaism and each other, and I want to make programming something that helps everyone strengthen their bonds. If you have any questions or want to hear any more of my ideas, please feel free to reach out to me at kkf2108@barnard.edu.

Sarah Senkfor



My name is Sarah Senkfor and I am running for VP of Programming! I'm a current junior at Barnard majoring in Psychology and minoring in Political Science. I spend most of my time either in Hillel, conducting research up at Columbia's medical campus or training to be an EMT. I like to be outside, meet new people and have fun!

Since coming to Barnard, I have both participated in and led the First Year Leadership Fellowship, been a Peer Network Engagement Intern (PNEI), coordinated Hillel's Habitat for Humanity alternative spring break trip, and definitely been a dedicated Kraft inhabitant. I have enjoyed every moment of my time serving the greater Hillel community, and I would like to continue

improving our wonderful community as your VP of Programing.

To me, community is a crucial aspect of Hillel. A community is strengthened by programming that is engaging to all of Hillel's members. I have spoken to many people on campus, have listened to concerns and have compiled a list of programing ideas that can bring people together to help people feel welcome and become more involved.

- I would like to start a new initiative where members can sign up to be paired with random other Hillel go-ers for a coffee-date or meal in a dining hall on campus.
- Collaborate with different groups to create additional social justice programming, an amazing opportunity that I feel is lacking among the Hillel community.
- Programming Council: I hope to continue this wonderful initiative that Jenna Bergmann started and advertise it to gain a greater participant base. I be able to provide more leadership opportunities by creating committees within the council.
- Shabbat improvements: Expand CBS to include lunch opportunities, where peers can come together once a month to enjoy Shabbat lunch.
- Seudah Shlishit, a small and informal dinner, takes place in Hillel every Saturday afternoon/early evening. Currently, it is comprised of mostly the Yavneh community, along with some people from Lalekhet and Koach, but I would like to expand this to feel

more welcoming to all Hillel go-ers. I would make it more inclusive by working with other religious leaders to advertise it more, provide translated and transliterated song sheets, and have themed meals.

• Fun Social Programs! The best way to bring people together is through more inclusive activities similar to: laser tag, paint nights and sports in the park.

I am passionate about creating community among people with diverse backgrounds, and feel that exciting and accessible programming is the best way to accomplish that mission. I want to be your next Vice President of Programming because programming is the first step in strengthening our community.

I am available 24/7 for any questions, comments, or just to say "Hi" on Facebook, in person or my email is sas2362@barnard.edu!

Vice President of Engagement

Tova Finkelstein

My story

Hi everyone! My name is Tova Finkelstein and I am a sophomore studying Biology at Barnard. I am excited to be running for Vice President of Engagement.



When I first came to Barnard, I was initially overwhelmed by all of the opportunities available to me. During Jewish Life Orientation, I was introduced to a community that was welcoming and made me feel at home. I quickly became involved in the Kraft Shabbat Committee and First Year Leadership Fellowship and was lucky enough to go on Birthright, all in my first year. I was also fortunate enough to serve as one of the Jewish Life Orientation leaders this past year. Through these experiences at Hillel I have learned so much about our diverse community and have truly found my home on campus.

One of the biggest challenges with engagement is realizing that while there is so much that Hillel does and that we reach an extraordinary amount of people, there are still those we are not yet reaching. In order to

improve engagement, I want to *broaden* the programs that work and *build* programs that can enhance our engagement.

My Vision

Broaden

- Kraft Shabbat
- Work one on one with the Kraft Shabbat team to continue to grow the program and introduce the concept of themed dinners.

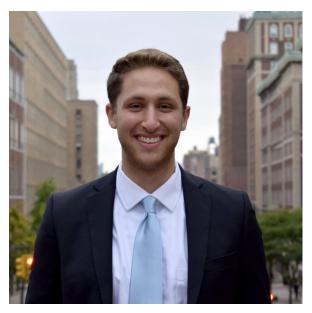
- · TAP
- Promote the TAP program within the Hillel community and beyond and help grow their engagement programs.
- · Hillel Big/Little
- o Market this program and plan specific events during the first semester to allow for bigs and littles to really bond and thereby create a real mentorship program within Hillel.
- The BIG events (MEGA Shabbat, Welcome Weekend, etc)
- Create an even more welcoming environment for all people to attend and enjoy our events and especially promote interaction between the different groups at Hillel, both religious and social

Build

- · Engagement committee
- Form a diversely comprised committee that meets every other week to discuss programs that can be implemented to engage people and plan events for each of the classes.
- · Monthly excursion events
- Create a monthly event for the community to explore NYC and/or just host a casual day (ex. Picnic in Riverside, Homecoming with Hillel, The MET).

I love the community that I have found at Hillel and I plan to involve even more people by serving as your Vice President of Engagement.

Jake Naimark



Hi there! My name is Jake Naimark, and I am running for Vice President of Engagement because I hope to expand our Hillel community's influence on Jewish life at Columbia, Barnard, and JTS.

Personally, I arrived on campus without any expectation that Hillel would play a role in my college experience. Two years later, I consider it to be my central community on campus — a testament to the tireless efforts of students and staff to promote a welcoming and versatile space for Jewish students.

The essential ingredient in Hillel's culture of engagement is community leaders' willingness to extend themselves beyond what is expected to create

inclusive spaces for as many students as possible. Hillel brightens the college experiences of countless students, whether it serves as an occasional respite from fast-paced campus life, or as a second home. Its culture of outreach inspired me to reignite my Jewish identity, and since then I have challenged myself to provide the same inspiration for other students.

During my two years of involvement at Hillel, I have taken on roles as a Jewish Life Orientation Leader, as a TAP intern, and as co-president of the Sustainability Committee, in memory of Hannah Weiss z"l. I also participate in weekly services with the Kesher and Koach communities, and never miss a Shabbat dinner in Kraft!

My experiences in various Hillel communities have allowed me to identify ways in which Hillel could further extend its capacity to reach Jewish students and ensure that they find a space suitable to their identity.

As Vice President of Engagement, I hope to focus on the following areas of improvement:

Accessibility: Hillel can promote not only Jewish religious life on campus, but Jewish life in general. It is important that our community offers low barrier events that welcome a variety of Jewish identities

- · Community Shabbat: A non-religious space for students to celebrate Judaism, and rest on Shabbat. Programming will include events like pot-lucks, board-game activities, and city excursions.
- · Re-introducing the fall camping trip: An autumn weekend excursion that connects students in one of the best ways possible enjoying the outdoors!
- · Good Deeds Day, both semesters: Promoting a spirit of service, connecting students to volunteer opportunities in NYC, encouraging acts of Tikkun Olam.

Visibility: Connecting with students who have not previously contemplated participation in Hillel

- · Hillel outside of Kraft: Consistently holding student-led events outside of the Kraft Center. Options include outdoor Havdalah, Shabbat picnics on the lawn, and Hillel class Olympics!
- · Class engagement representatives: Engagement representatives will create class-wide events that serve as low-barrier opportunities to welcome new Hillel participants, and to unify each class throughout its four years.

Inclusivity: Creating pluralist Jewish spaces that facilitate learning and increase confidence in the value of each Jewish identity.

- · Hillel-wide Suite Meals: One Friday each semester, students will enjoy suite Shabbat dinners with pluralistic communities, in order to encourage inter-community celebration.
- · *Mega Shabbat*: Filling only a portion of the seats at each table with sign-ups, allowing Hillel "regulars" to welcome new community members.

Vice President of Groups

Sami Frankel



Hi! My name is Sami Frankel, and I am running for Vice President of Groups. I study Urban Studies and Education at Columbia College, and I am currently abroad at Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Over the past three years (including this semester, from afar) Columbia/Barnard Hillel has come to feel like home. I have developed so much as a person and as a leader from my experiences in the building, and I am so grateful for the communities that have welcomed me and for the students and staff who continuously contribute to my sense of belonging in the building and on campus. I have spent time as a leader in both formal and informal ways during my time thus far at Hillel. During my first two years on campus, I served for two semesters as KOACH's Education Chair, participated in First Year Leadership Fellowship, helped coordinate post-dinner activities for MEGAShabbat 2016, and welcomed new students as a JeLIO leader.

More recently, I have dedicated myself to the self-designated role of "Active Participant." This more informal role has given me the opportunity to explore groups and meet people in Hillel that I might not otherwise have found. I have participated in events coordinated by all four religious groups. I am the proud number one fan of theLounge (really, I'm the first one there every week and haven't missed a performance since I've been on campus). I have learned about a variety of topics in J&Y seminars with so many different people. And even when I don't have a specific reason to be in Hillel, I spend most of my time in the building, usually on the third floor, working (and procrastinating) with the people around me.

I believe that the combination of these experiences and my sincere gratitude and appreciation for all that the Hillel community has to offer informs my perspective as a candidate for Vice President of Groups and encourages me to think critically and creatively about the responsibilities of this role.

As Vice President of Groups, in addition to meeting with group leaders about logistical details, my primary goal would be to facilitate conversations, connections, and collaborations among the many groups within Hillel. Some of my ideas to implement this goal are as follows:

- Merger Meals: bring together members of groups with shared missions, projects, or interests for meals to promote group integration and new relationships

- J&Y Brunch: finish off the semester with a brunch for all participants of J&Y seminars to share what they've learned
- Leadership Council Reform: diversify Leadership Council meetings by inviting group leaders from within our community to run leadership development sessions and activities for each other

Lastly, I believe that as a member of EBoard, and especially as Vice President of Groups, it is essential to represent the genuine interests of the people within our community. As such, I would love to hear from you! Please reach out (sjf2146@columbia.edu) with any thoughts and ideas you have!

Ilana Naim



Hi! My name is Ilana Naim, and I am running for Vice President of Groups. I am a sophomore at Barnard and JTS and am studying Political Science, Education Certification, and Modern Jewish Studies. I love working in collaborative environments and believe that maintaining strong relationships amongst groups is crucial to making Hillel a special place. Dialogue is key to assuring that all students feel comfortable and all groups have a place.

Judaism is an integral part of my life and grounds me as a person. Students and educators within this community have helped to transform my connection to Judaism. I treasure the fact that there

is a continuous vibrant and stimulating discussion; I am able to engage in intellectual activity in both the Jewish and secular realms. From participating in the first year fellowship, Judaism and Education, to going on I Engage, Hillel has provided me a plethora of amazing opportunities to grow Jewishly through thought and understanding, while simultaneously allowing me to make connections amongst students with diverse beliefs and practices.

This past winter break, I participated in the I Engage fellowship through Hillel and the Hartman Institute. I forged amazing friendships amongst students and heard from people across a vast political spectrum; we all listen to each other even if we didn't agree. Hillel is a unique place since it serves as both a religious and social community within campus and facilitates student growth, engagement, and understanding. I am eager to continue learning in this manner, and I intend to make Hillel an even more welcoming and cohesive place.

My Vision for VP of Groups:

1. **Forging Relationships**: Within the Jewish community, there are many groups, practices, and political beliefs. I want to help foster a collaborative environment where all students feel welcome to practice their Judaism and learn from each other. For example, I would like group leaders within the different Israel groups get together and discuss how they can better work together, understand, and respect each other. Through my experience as Coordinator and

Director of the Children's Program at the Chabad Israel Center, I have become a strong advocate and know how to mediate between peoples and groups.

- 2. **Cohesive/Welcoming Community**: My goal is to celebrate our diversity. I want to foster more dialogue amongst groups and make Hillel more inclusive, through, for example, having a Chessed project where teams consist of members of different communities. Another idea is having interdenominational Shabbat meals, where people eat with one another.
- 3. **Engagement**: Getting students more involved in groups is key. One of my ideas is having student mentors who reach out and check in with students across campus in the middle of the semester. I also want to work with interdenominational groups on being more welcoming to newcomers. Finally, Kraft Shabbat is a great way to allow for students to get together and expand their social circles, by having small tables where students are placed randomly.

If you have any questions, please contact me at <u>iln2102@barnard.edu</u>.

Treasurer

Andrew Adler



Hi Everyone,

My name is Andrew Adler, and I am a junior at JTS/Columbia majoring in Financial Economics and Jewish History. I am excited to be running for the position of Treasurer on the 2018-2019 Hillel E-board.

Over the past three years, Hillel has been a place I have spent a good amount of time in and have come to care a great deal about. From the first day I arrived on this campus, I have felt welcomed in this building by my fellow students, the staff, and everyone else who comes here to connect with Jewish life at Columbia/Barnard.

I have had the privilege of serving on Yavneh Board '17 as VP of Shabbat/Festivals. During my time on board, I had the opportunity to work with the past two Hillel E-boards and have seen all the great work that they have done to help

build and strengthen this community. Being a member of E-board will enable me to help make Hillel feel like home for our fellow students at Columbia/Barnard.

What I want to accomplish:

- 1. By closely working with each group to assess goals and financial constraints, I hope to leverage the areas of overlap and seek to streamline the added costs and enable groups to leverage their financial power to use their budgets wisely. Having worked to plan an entire semester budget as VP of Shabbat/Chag, I have experience in planning and creatively working within a budget to bring programs to our constituents that are cost effective and fun
- 2. With my previous experience with finance, economic analysis and budgeting, I will be able to support the efforts of each group at Hillel, analyzing finances, programming and expenditures to help optimize the impact each group can achieve.
- 3. Serving on E-board will also enable me to welcome new students into our Hillel community, encouraging them to become involved and offering up the kinds of programs and services new students need to feel at home at Hillel.

I would also love to hear your ideas too! If you have any thoughts or concerns about Jewish Life on our campus please reach out, my email is aba2152@columbia.edu.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at Candidates Forum on April 15th at 7 PM!

Jonathan Kapilian



Hi! I'm Jonathan Kapilian, and I am running for Hillel E-Board Treasurer. I am a SEAS sophomore studying Biomedical Engineering and Music. I hope to have the honor of serving the Hillel community as Treasurer.

As Treasurer, I hope to connect students in the Hillel with funding resources and allow them to design their own events. With such a large and diverse community, we have a wealth of backgrounds and ideas. I think that as Treasurer, I can empower people to utilize their creativity.

Experience

I've had experience dealing with

finance at Columbia, both inside and outside the Hillel. In the past year, I have served as Treasurer of the Columbia Bach Society. Within the Hillel, I am an intern with TAP (The Actualization Project), a new program where students are given a budget to design their own programming. In addition to direct finance experience, I have served in numerous leadership roles throughout Hillel, as a Jewish Life Orientation leader, as Pizmon's On-Campus Coordinator, and as a lay leader for Kesher, Koach, and Lalekhet. The knowledge I have gained through my past leadership experiences will allow me to effectively serve the Hillel community as Treasurer.

Accessibility

I want every student in Hillel to have access to funding resources. My planned initiatives are:

- 1. Office Hours I plan to hold <u>weekly office hours in the Hillel</u> where anyone can sit down with me and talk about creating their own events and finding the funding options to do so. This will make it significantly easier for people in Hillel to discuss concerns, learn about opportunities, and get the funding necessary for their events.
- 2. Online Visibility As currently arranged, it is difficult to obtain information about funding programs such as Kraftstarters, The Community Project, or DIY Shabbat. I propose creating a centralized webpage

on the Hillel website with information about each program and how to apply. Increasing online visibility will allow all students to have access to information.

3. Semester Meetings – As Treasurer, I want to hold a semesterly meeting with all group leaders to talk about how they plan to spend their budget and what support I can give them. I <u>want group leaders to think big</u> about how they can use their allocation and other resources to design innovative programming.

Pluralism

As someone who is involved with many of Hillel's sub-communities, I can be receptive to the concerns of all the groups within Hillel. Through my meetings with group leaders, I plan to foster <u>collaboration</u> between Hillel groups and <u>between Hillel groups</u> and non-Hillel groups. I would love to build on the success of programs like the Prince of Egypt Movie Night, CBS, Super Bowl Celebration, and other <u>large pluralistic events</u>.

If you want to reach out with questions or concerns, please get in touch with me at jpk2149@columbia.edu. I'd love to hear from you!

Communications

Yona Benjamin

My name is Yona and I would be honored to be your next director of communications at CB-Hillel. I am sophomore in JTS/GS and I am so excited to have the chance to give back to the



community which has been integral to my first two years in here.

Why should you trust me with this position? I have proven that I am a committed and qualified member of this community. I served as a Jewish Life Orientation-leader this year as well as a JTS Orientation-leader. Further. I was co-director of the Hillel Big/Little program this year, one of the most successful years in the programs history. I think these achievements showcase my ability to work hard and gain results for Hillel and the people it serves. My other achievements include: founding with no institutional support a new prayer space at JTS, as well as successfully working as alumni relations representative and judicial board member for my fraternity. These successes prove that I am the right person for the job. I also think my ability to exist socially in diverse CU

communities exemplifies my skills of communication and expression

As director Director of communications I would....

- 1. **Diversify platforms** This year Hillel has done a great job of getting information out on multiple platforms, however, this is often just the same content being shared on facebook, instagram etc. While this may reach a wider audience we are not taking full advantage of the individuality of each platform. **I would work with student leaders to curate** material for these different platforms so that all the sides of our dynamic community can be showcased in different ways.
- 2. **Increase outreach** Communications directors should not just get one message out, or multiple messages with the same content. As Communications director I would cater information to individual communities within Columbia/Barnard so they can see how their individual needs are being met by Hillel. I would also make sure to learn how to

- serve their needs better. It is essential that Hillel and all students be aware of everything Hillel can possibly offer.
- 3. Communicate transparently with increased accountability and availability- As Communications director I would make myself available at well advertised times and by personal outreach to meet with individual students, collectives, and clubs to discuss how eboard as a whole, and myself could be doing our jobs better. This will be part of a concerted effort to make eboard activities more transparent. If elected, I want your input and I want it known when we can do things better. I will make myself available and also circulate summaries of relevant eboard activity more efficiently. I will act as a conduit for interaction between students and board members, as well as with Hillel employees and students. Many of us feel comfortable just walking into Hillel offices, but that is not the case for everyone, and we all deserve to be heard.

Shoshana Edelman

Hi! My name is Shoshana Edelman and I am a Junior at Barnard from studying neuroscience and computer science. I love hiking, baking, and doing handstands in unusual places. This semester I am studying abroad in Denmark and I can't wait to return to the Hillel community in the Fall!



CB Hillel has played an integral role in my Barnard experience. It has given me a space to celebrate my Judaism and challenged me to think critically about my beliefs and practices. I am constantly inspired by the passion and dedication of my peers and the commitment of the entire Hillel community towards making Barnard/ Columbia a comfortable and enjoyable place to be Jewish. Being abroad this semester has made me

appreciate the vibrancy of the CB Hillel community even more and has inspired me to want to serve on Eboard again.

I believe that my previous experience on both Hillel eboard and Barnard SGA makes me uniquely suited for the Communications position. As Vice President of Programming Sophomore year, I had the amazing opportunity to plan and execute Hillelwide programs such as CBS, Hillel Formal, and Mega Shabbat. One of the main challenges I faced was how to to get as many people as possible informed and excited about the numerous events and programs. If elected, I will develop new marketing strategies for events to increase attendance and make them accessible to all students. Additionally, last semester as I served as Representative for Academic Affairs on Barnard SGA. In this position I worked closely with Barnard administrators and student leaders to advocate for the needs of the student body. I will use this experience to improve communication both within Hillel and between Hillel and the broader Columbia/ Barnard community.

At Columbia/ Barnard we are lucky to have such an active and engaged Hillel. However, the abundance of groups, seminars, and programs can sometimes be overwhelming. As Communications Chair, I will provide easily accessible information to help students navigate the many opportunities at Hillel and find the Hillel experience that is best for them.

My main priorities are:

- 1. Enhancing visibility of Hillelwide events
- 2. Strengthening intergroup communication
- 3. Increasing transparency of eboard meetings
- 4. Streamlining communication between student leaders and Hillel employees.

To accomplish these goals, some ideas I have include:

- 1. Creative advertising campaigns for events on social media, flyers and email
- 2. Regularly updating the bulletin board on the second floor of Kraft with photos and information about upcoming events
- 3. Featuring less known Hillel subgroups and initiatives on the CB HIllel Facebook page and weekly email
 - 4. Posting weekly minutes of Eboard meetings on the Hillel website

I would love to hear from each and every one of you so please reach out to me if you have questions, ideas or just want to say hi!