

# STAFF BIOS: TALMIDIM



## Unit Head



### Marlie Thompson

I just graduated from the University of Alabama with a BA in Interdisciplinary Studies, focusing on Sociology and Social Justice, with a minor in Public Policy. This fall, I'll be continuing my education at the University of Colorado Denver pursuing a MA in Sociology. During the year, I work in harm reduction, public policy, and youth organizing. This will be my 15th summer at camp and my 5th summer as a staff member! I will be a unit head this summer, but before I've been an olim and garin counselor, and the staff care coordinator. My favorite things to do at camp are making friendship bracelets, trying new crafts, and swimming in the pool!

## Counselors



### Amit Arutyunyan

I'm 22 years old and from Israel. This is my first summer at Jacobs Camp, and everyone has told me how awesome HSJ is, so I can't wait to see for myself! I'm excited to meet my campers and have a blast with them! During the year, I love to travel, and my most recent trip was to South America.



### Noam Avrahami

I'm Noam, living in Kfar Tavor. Since I ended my military service, I'm excited to spend the summer at Jacobs Camp. I will be teaching mountain biking at camp, so everyone better get ready to explore the camp grounds by bike! We will have a great time and improve our biking skills!

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## Sylvie Bella Brown

Hi Y'all, I'm Sylvie Bella from Atlanta. I'll attend the University of Kansas and will major in special education and political science on a pre-law track. During the year, I play tennis and am also active in Jewish life. I love volunteering in various youth organizations, including BBYO and Friendship Circle, during my free time.



## Hadar Carmon

My name is Hadar Carmon. I live in Israel, in a yeshuve (similar to small town) called Adi located in the northern district of Israel, not far from Haifa. I finished my army service about a year ago and since then I have been working as a substitute teacher in an elementary school, took a few courses and traveled. My role in camp is counselor and specialist in dancing. It is my first summer in camp and I am very excited. In the summer, I worked for a few months with people with special needs.



## Charlie Finger

Hi! I'm Charlie and I'll be a cabin counselor for my first summer at Jacob's camp. I'm from New Orleans during the year and I'll be attending the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa come this fall. I'm super excited to come work at camp and get involved in such an awesome community. I like math, engineering, and physics and I plan to study aerospace engineering for my bachelors degree. I've done lots of work with kids at my job teaching hebrew and sunday school for my synagogue. In fact, I expect to spot a couple of my students at camp this summer!

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## Mikel Garcia

My name is Mikel! During the year, I study Computer Science Engineering. I've worked at a different summer camp before, but I'm really excited to be at Jacobs Camp. Everyone has been so welcoming. I really look forward to meeting my campers and making sure they have an amazing summer experience and make tons of new friends.



## Roni Kariv

My name is Roni and I'm from Israel! It's my 2nd year in camp and I'm so excited. I've been traveling in South America and stopped my traveling to go back to camp. In camp, I'm a counselor and an adventure specialist :) I can't wait to see all the kids and staff again!!



## Alexander Leif

Hi, my name is Alex Leif and I am from Houston, Texas. I currently am an incoming sophomore at Indiana University studying finance. This will be my 11th summer at camp and my second on staff. I enjoy going to the gym and anything and everything sports. I cannot wait to have the best summer yet with my campers.



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## Eilon Paz

Hey! I'm Eilon, a 20 year old from southern Israel! I've just concluded my military service in the IDF as Commanding officer. Now, I'm excited about serving as a counselor at Jacobs Camp! I'll be part of the Adventure Team, and I know that I can make a big impact in my campers' lives by teaching them to work together and learn new skills on the ropes course!



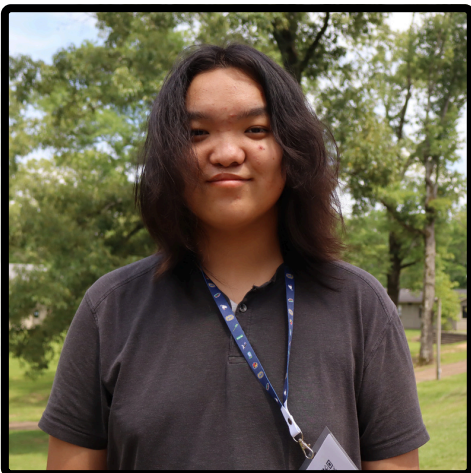
## Nadav Schlesinger

My name is Nadav Schlesinger. I'm 25 years old from Israel. I'm passionate about chess, piano, philosophy, books, comic books, sci-fi and fantasy. Since 2023, I've been on reserve duty, and I'll start University in October at Tel-Aviv University. I will major in computer science-psychology and minor in brain science. I look forward to meeting my campers and teaching them new things. I've heard Shabbat at camp is really special, so I'm excited about that as well! After the army, I worked with people with special needs, and in school I was in the youth movement.



## Henry Vo

Hi, my name is Henry! I am from Lake Charles, Louisiana. I study political science at LSU. I also frequently compete in Super Smash Bros Melee tournaments in Louisiana. I will be working as a camp counselor, and this will be my first year working at Jacobs Camp.



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## Amit Weingarten

My name is Amit Weingarten and I am from Tel Aviv in Israel. I am so excited to be back at Jacobs Camp for my second Summer! I love doing art at camp, and I think that I can help the campers develop their individual style when we work together in the Art Room.



## Ellie Zurik

Hi, my name is Ellie and I am from New Orleans, Louisiana. I just graduated from Isidore Newman School, and next year will be attending Washington University in St. Louis where I will be studying art history and education. I was also the NFTY southern regional president this past year and spend a lot of my free time teaching my amazing second graders at Sunday school and babysitting. This is also my second year on staff and twelfth year at camp!

## Sarah Zimmerman



Hi, my name is Sarah Zimmerman and I'm from Pensacola, Florida! I just finished my freshman year at Florida State University, where I am a nursing major. I'm so excited to be a counselor this summer! I have grown up going to Jacobs Camp and feel lucky to be able to call this place home. This will be my 11th summer coming back, and I can't wait to create the most special memories!