



ILAN GOTTFRIED

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Hi everyone!

My name is Ilan Gottfried and I'm really excited to be a ShinShin in Cleveland next year! Seeing as we're going to meet so soon, I thought I'd tell you guys a little bit about myself. I live in Netanya with my parents Yonete and Jonatan, my little sister Tali, and our dog Chill. Netanya is a coastal city in the center of Israel, a little bit north of Tel Aviv. I have lived in Netanya all my life and love it because of how full of life it is, there is always something going on, the food is amazing and I live very close to the beach

which gave me the option to learn how to surf which I enjoy a lot. My parents both made aliyah to Israel before I was born. My Mum from the United Kingdom and my Dad from Colombia. They were both in Jewish Zionist youth movements when they were growing up.

My younger sister Tali is one of my best friends. She's a few years younger than me and I love spending time with her playing games, watching films, listening to music, and just hanging around each other in general.



A very big part of my life is taking part in “Maccabi Ha-Tzair” youth movement. Maccabi is a worldwide Jewish-Zionist youth movement with over 50 branches all around the world.

I joined when I was ten years old. When I finished eighth grade I went on Maccabi’s madrichim (leaders) course and in the following years I was a madrich for children in fourth, sixth, and eighth grades. This past summer, I was a counselor at the course for madrichim and taught the next generation how to be leaders. I am now in charge of the madrichim that lead the eighth graders, who are the oldest participants before they become madrichim themselves. I have some additional roles in the movement, nationally. I am part of the national youth leadership forum for Maccabi. In this forum,

one representative from each branch represents their interests and helps shape the future of the movement.

I met lots of my best friends through the movement, especially my year group in my branch. We are a really close group of friends because we are a really small group of five, and during the last few years we really got to grow up together and to grow closer as friends. I also got to go on a delegation to England this winter to meet and conduct activities on Israel and Hanukkah in the Jewish primary schools. I believe that youth movements are very important and think that they are a type of informal education that everyone should have when they are young because they help shape one's personality, teach values, and help build confidence.

One of my favorite things about Maccabi is the Purim festival we throw every year called the "Purimon". We pick a theme and create a big event around it that the whole city is invited to come in costume to. We start working months in advance and build different carnival rides and make carnival games from mostly recycled materials. I look forward to it every year and have very fond memories of all the preparations for it over the years.

When I was younger, I did Karate for nine years, played Lacrosse for five, and surfed for two years.

At school, I study Robotics and Entrepreneurship-Economics. I love studying robotics very much and find that I get to express my creativity in all the things we get to do with it. I especially enjoy 3D modeling on the computer for my projects.

Other than the things I said earlier, I love listening to music, watching films, playing video games, camping, baking, cooking, reading and just being with my friends.

That's pretty much it for now,

Looking forward to meeting everyone!

Ilan

