



# DANIELLE MOSSINSON

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## 2023-24 CLEVELAND SHIN SHINIT

Hey everyone!

My name is Danielle Mossinson. I am 18 years old and I am so excited to be one of the 2023-2024 ShinShinim in Cleveland. I can't wait to meet all of you next year, but first let me tell you a bit about myself.

I live with my family in Gedera. Gedera is a town located at the south of Israel's center. My town has a special charm in it and I love how it has a great balance between a small, intimate place where you know most of the people but also a centered place that is only an hour bus ride from Tel Aviv. What I like the

most about Gedera is the history pieces that are a part of the view- there are a lot of old buildings, stores, and houses that were built before Israel was even declared as a country. As a kid I loved walking with my grandma who has lived here since she was born and hearing the stories she knows about each place. I also like the unique variety of food places in Gedera - we have a sushi restaurant, a shawarma place, a burger restaurant, and even a place that specializes in making knaffe (which is my personal favorite).



My parents' names are Ronen and Sigi. My dad, Ronen, is an engineer and also one of the funniest people I know. He is very caring, and is the first person I come to when I get home and want to tell someone about my day. He is also very smart, and is the one I go to when I have a question about math or politics or anything complicated because he always has an answer. My mom, Sigi, is a chemistry teacher and also very smart. For me, she is a role model in the way she is treating her students and works hard to help them, and she taught me how to work hard for things I care about. She is also very sensitive and loving. I always come to her when I need an advice or a hug. I also have an older brother; he is 22 years old and is now serving in the army. My brother is very smart, he is also a brilliant musician and

plays piano, saxophone, and flute. My brother and I are very different and it makes our relationship special, because we help each other see the world from a different view. And the last two members of my family are my dogs – Bucky and Cham. We adopted Bucky when I was in the 8th grade and adopted Cham three months ago. For us, our dogs are a meaningful part of our house and lives and I love them both so much.

Overall, if you asked me what the best way to describe my family is, I would say very humorous and caring, and I like how there isn't a single day we don't laugh together.

My family and I are a part of the Jewish reform community. I am very grateful I am a part of our community because I feel like it has been such a supportive environment for me to develop my own connection to Judaism. When I was 12 years old, I decided to read from the Torah at my Bat Mitzvah, and it was very challenging but also one of the best experiences I had. I also got to go to a reform Jewish summer camp named GUCI in Indiana when I was 13 years old which was such an interesting experience and that is when I decided that in the future, I would like to meet Jewish people from all over the world and get to know different Jewish communities.

For the last nine years, I have been a part of the Jewish reform youth group in Israel-Noar Telem. Noar Telem might be the thing I am most grateful for I discovered through my community. When I was younger, there was no group of Noar Telem in Gedera and we only joined the summer camp of the youth group once a year. But when we got older me and my friends decided to start a group ourselves and since then more children have joined Noar Telem which is so wonderful and very exciting. For me, Noar Telem and the people in it are like a second family that I love with my whole heart, and being a counselor in Noar Telem has become one of my favorite things to do, and something I am very proud of.

Speaking of things I like very much, theatre is one of my favorite hobbies. Since I was a little girl, I have liked acting and felt like it was a great way for me to gain confidence and be creative. When I got to high school, I chose to major theater. It was one of

the best choices I have made and since started studying theater I have watched and read a great number of plays and I still do. I also have a collection of brochures from plays I like hung on my door. This year I was also the director of one of the plays we presented at school. It was very challenging but I am very happy I chose to do it and it taught me so much, and in the end, the result was worth it all.

Another topic I am majoring in is chemistry. I am a very curious person and I always wonder why the world works the way that it does. Choosing chemistry was a great choice, because in every lesson I learned things that were so interesting to me.

As I said before, my brother is a great musician. I am probably as not as dedicated and trained as him, but I am also playing piano and ukulele and like to sing. It is such a great way for me to relax and express myself through music.

So, I hope you got to know me a little better, and I cannot wait to know you all as well next year – I'm sure it's going to be amazing! See you soon.

Danielle