



# MAN OF THE YEAR & YOUTH OF THE YEAR EVENT



## KYLE GOLDSTEIN

CONGREGATION BETH EL, CHERRY HILL, NJ

### FAMILY

Father: Sebastian Goldstein; Mother: Katherine Goldstein; Brother: Blake Goldstein (13)

### SCHOOL ATTENDING / GRADE

Eastern Camden County Regional High School - 12th Grade

### SCHOOL HONORS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS

South Jersey Chess Team Tournament Champion (10th & 11th); National Merit Scholar Commending Qualifier (11th); AP Scholar Award (11th); American Civics Club Vice President (12th); Varsity Chess Captain (12th); The Voyager (Newspaper) Co-Entertainment Editor (10th); National Honor Society (11th & 12th); Spanish Honor Society (10th-12th); Rho Kappa History Honor Society (11th & 12th)

### RELIGIOUS SCHOOL EDUCATION

Beth El Religious School (K-6th); Beth El & Temple Beth Sholom Keshet Program (7th-10th); Beth El Junior College (11th-12th)

### SYNAGOGUE HONORS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Beth El Jewish Confirmation (2022); Madrichim Award (2023)

### BAR MITZVAH PROJECT

Lego Mezuzah Project; Raised over \$1000 for the "Spread the Magic Foundation," a non-profit that generates awareness and funds for pediatric cancer. Built and sold mezuzahs made out of Lego bricks. Each mezuzah was designed with unique characters and color patterns. Aside from a fundraising project, the Lego mezuzahs promoted the Jewish tradition of affixing the Shema to home doorposts by making it fun, decorative, and engaging for young children.

### HOBBIES/INTERESTS/SPORTS

Chess (Playing for 15 years, Playing for Eastern 10th-12th); Tennis (Playing for 10 years, Playing for Eastern 9th-12th); Bowling (Playing for Eastern 9th-12th); Additional hobbies/interests: Strategic Games, Telling Jokes, Debate

### SUMMER CAMP EXPERIENCE/ACCOMPLISHMENTS

JCC Camps at Medford Camper (2010-2019); Staff (2021-); Head Counselor (2023-); Counselor of the Year (2023)

### REASON FOR AWARD by Rabbi Marshall

I have known Kyle for the past eight years, since he was in fifth grade. I find it admirable that Kyle during his high school career, in addition to being an active participant in a variety of clubs such as the Chess team, The Voyager School Newspaper, Math Club, Jewish Students Union, Bowling and Tennis team in his public school, still found time to attend an intensive academic religious studies program that comprised of subjects such as Hebrew Language, Bible, History, Comparative Religion and many more. Kyle not only continued his studies through Confirmation (10th Grade), but elected to continue his Jewish education at Congregation Beth El Junior College for two additional years during his eleventh and twelfth grade years. Throughout High School, Kyle still found time to give back to his synagogue community by volunteering and working as a Religious School teaching assistant in the second grade taking initiative and leading by example.

As a teaching assistant Kyle assists the teacher and students on Sunday mornings and Wednesday afternoons in the classroom. Kyle not only assists the teacher and students, but he creates and implements lessons. Kyle is a leader who never waits to be told what to do, rather he takes initiative by observing what is needed by both the teacher and students.

In addition, Kyle volunteered his time to assist in the High Holy Day youth programming as well this year. Kyle has also spent the past three years working as a camp counselor for second grade students.

What makes Kyle stand out from others is his ability to integrate his love of making a difference in other's lives, and his devotion to his Jewish heritage while maintaining his studies and other extracurricular activities. It shows that Kyle not only possesses great organizational skills, but also knows where his priorities lie. Kyle not only develops wonderful relationships with his students, but with his supervisors as well. Kyle is kind, respectful, and a wonderful role model for all. I can list all of Kyle's impressive qualities, but what I believe is most important to highlight is his character. Kyle is a wonderful human being who cares about expanding his knowledge and interests and helping others to do as well.