

# MYC Candidates 2018



## **Rachel Aziz**

Hi my name is Rachel Aziz and I'm running for MYC because I appreciate all the efforts of the MYC to bring everyone together. They show us why we are, and aspire to continue being, a caring, unified community with a strong value system. I think my input and my ideas could be a great help to better the committee even further.



## **Yasmine Aziz**

Hi! My name is Yasmine Aziz.

As a member of this community, having the opportunity to offer new, innovative ideas on behalf of the youth, would be such a privilege for me! I have always considered myself as a creative event planner and enjoy bringing people together as a team. My work ethic, motivation, and open mind has always pushed me to aim for improvement in all aspects of my life, and that is exactly what I would bring forward if elected for this upcoming term. The board has always aimed towards offering us all a home, and I feel as though I would be a great addition in growing and expanding our home.



## **Ariel Basalely**

Hi, my name is Ariel Basalely, the son of Sabrina & David Basalely. Earlier this year, I was recruited by members of the current MYC board to help plan out the MYC Summer Retreat. I left those meetings feeling extremely accomplished by engaging with other members of our community on how to make the most popular MYC event an even bigger success than it was the previous year. Being involved reminded me how important it is for our generation to maintain community strength and to recognize what a blessing it is to be a part of the Mashadi Community. If elected, I plan to help create and plan memorable social events to build relationships and strengthen the bond of our community through the youth.



## **Ilan Bassali**

I'm in my final year at NYU Schack Institute of Real Estate where I'm pursuing a BA in Real Estate. Over the past year, I have volunteered in planning some of the major events run by MYC. It was through participating in these committees that I realized I have an earnest passion for community service, event planning, and unity building. It is not by chance that I have cultivated such passions. Growing up, I watched my grandfather, Dr. Yossef Bassali Z"L, the first doctor of the Mashadi Community, serve our community with generosity and expertise. My family members were also pivotal in introducing many new events and programs to cultivate a love for Israel and Zionism within the community. Through these selfless mentors, I learned the importance of giving back to the community. I'm an avid biker, kayaker, and traveler. I'm fluent in Hebrew and Farsi, and look forward to using my language skills and personable demeanor to promote successful communication across all community members.



**Charlotte Bassalian**

Hi my name is Charlotte Bassalian and I'm excited to be running for MYC. I'm currently a senior at Yeshiva University (Stern College for Women), majoring in Psychology. After graduation, I plan to use my talents and efforts to give back to the global community and heal a fractured world. I'm blessed to have been ingrained moral values and a Jewish education, and I would love to bring that passion to the MYC board. I believe our community does so much for us and helps us grow into respectful and strong members of this world. I would love the opportunity to give back to this community that has given us so much. We are the future. We set the precedent of improving the community and making sure it prospers for many years to come. If I get elected, I will work hard to get youth more involved and I hope to organize more events to bring us closer together. With Hashem by our side, nothing is impossible.



**Brandon Benilevi**

It has been a pleasure serving on the MYC for the past two years! Please support me in being elected for one more term.



**Michael Chafian**

Hi, my name is Michael Chafian. I am running for the MYC board this term after serving on the previous board for the past 2 years. In that time, we accomplished a great deal and I feel that experience can only help the next board move forward and build on our positive momentum.



**Benjamin Davoodzadeh**

Hi, my name is Ben Davoodzadeh, son of Robert and Ziva Davoodzadeh. To be part of the MYC Committee and give back to the community that has played such an integral part in my life would be an incredible honor. I could not be more proud to be a part of such a tight knit community that looks out for one another through the thick and thin. Although we have come a very long way over the years, there is still a great deal of progress to be made to move the youth in our community toward a brighter future. I am extremely motivated not only to come in and reinforce the positive direction that the previous term of board members has taken the youth, but to bring new, innovative, and fresh ideas to the table such as:

- Planning and executing more routine youth events
- Working on new tools to better adjust us to the digital age
- Creating more outlets for the youth to get involved and make their voices heard

If given the opportunity, I would put my best foot forward and make it my priority to carry out new ideas that will strengthen our common values.



### **David Dilamani**

My name is David Dilamani, son of Dalia and William Dilamani. Don't be fooled by the spelling of my name, it is pronounced Duh-veed, not Day-vid (just call me dove...like the soap). One reason why I think I am qualified is because Nathan Kashizadeh and Mark Nassimian told me I would do a great job as a board member. I was President/member of the student senate in high school and organized many events during that year. Being a part of this year's Shabbat Project team has inspired me to be more involved with the youth committee. The Shabbat Project slogan, "stop doing, start being," has convinced me to become a supporting board member on the MYC. If elected, I plan to give back to the community what it has given me and more.



### **Daniel Dilamani**

My name is Daniel Dilamani, son of Edward and Rina Dilamani. I have learned to love and value the uniqueness and importance of our community. I think that everyone should try to give back and contribute in any way possible. I look forward to the opportunity of serving our youth, and to help them prosper in the pathway of Torah and success.



### **Ariella Ebrani**

Hi, I'm Ariella Ebrani. This past term, I was secretary of the MYC board. Aside from that, I was one of the few female members. I have poured my heart, time and energy into our community. In addition to being part of MYC, I have worked in the children's classes during Shabbat services and taught at Talmud Torah. However, MYC is a completely different way to give back to our community. I have seen events and programs that I've planned affect my friends directly. Most importantly, everything I plan I strive to make it as enjoyable as possible. Whether it's Learn It Up, the Israel Day Parade, the Purim party, the getaway, the Living Room or smaller events, there are things that the board members and I have done solely to make it more enjoyable for the people attending. I can't wait to continue with my involvement and making the community the best it can be!



### **Tomer Enayatian**

Hello I'm Tomer Enayatian. Before I speak about who I am, I should thank all the Rabbanim, gabbayim and the members on all the various boards that work tirelessly to ensure the best for our community. To this day, the community is extremely dear to me and it has been from a very young age. The unity that we all share together is beautiful, and this is why I believe we are all very blessed. The reason I am running for the MYC is not for honor or fame, it's to make positive decisions for each and every person that joins our Kanissa and events.



### **Valentina Ghalandar**

Hi everyone! My name is Valentina Ghalandar and I am a current Junior studying at Stern College for Women. When I received my nomination for the Mashadi Youth Committee, I was thrilled to get the opportunity to be more involved and give back to our community. Since before I could remember, I have been coming to Kanissa and attending MYC events. From the New Year's party to retreats and Shabbatons, all of the MYC programs I have attended, have created memories that I will carry with me forever with my closest friends. These events push me to branch out, and I owe MYC to cultivating some of my closest friendships. I can't completely describe in words how much MYC means to me, but all I know for certain is that the connections I've created with community members are invaluable. If I were given the honor of being elected, I will love to hear what the community wants from MYC and I will push to make these goals a reality. I would like to see more events both in Kanissa and out, because I believe that our community extends beyond the bounds of our synagogue. I believe that I will be qualified and capable to take on this role because of my service at OHEL, a special needs home. From my experience volunteering, I have learned the true importance of communicating ideas to others and organizing events for the benefit of a group. I know that I can understand what people need and want. I would like to thank the current board for all that you have done for us and I wish much luck to all the other candidates!



### **Raphael Gorjian**

Hello, my name is Raphael Gorjian. I want to thank my peers for nominating me to run for the MYC board; it brings me great honor to have this opportunity to serve my community. At the age of 18 years old I endured on a journey outside of Great Neck and spent two years studying in a yeshiva in Israel. After that, I was extremely blessed to continue traveling and working with my father. As a result, I spent many years learning how to live outside of my comfort zone, and most importantly, I have seen how important it is to have a strong community behind you. If I get elected, my goal would be to bring a new perspective to the board, by finding new ways to enrich our programs and events. Previous boards have put us on the right track, but there is always more that we can do. I look forward to serving my community the best way I can, and to help enhance every day life for the youth of this incredible community.



### **Kevin Hakimi**

Looking forward to serving the community.



### **Nick Hakimi**

My name is Nick Hakimi, 3rd child of Massoud and Guita. I went to the very prestigious Queens College. Now I am working as a mortgage broker. I have a great love for this community and I think I could really be of help on the board. I'm very persistent and goal oriented. If elected, I would do my very best to serve our community.



### **Ashley Hakimian**

My name is Ashley Hakimian, daughter of Monica and Andre Hakimian. I am currently a student at Hunter College, studying to become an educator. For the past six years, I have watched my mother serve on the Sisterhood and admired all the efforts the team enforced to bring the community closer together. She has inspired me to explore my passion for this united community. As someone who strongly values family, friendships, kindness, and giving back to those in need, I truly believe that I can utilize my strengths in this position. It would be an honor and a pleasure to serve on the Mashadi Youth Committee and give back to this wonderful growing community.



### **Itai Hakimian**

- Son of Mojdeh (Sisterhood VP) & Allen Hakimian (Supervisory Council)
- Current Vice President of the Mashadi Youth Committee
- Attended North Shore Hebrew Academy HS and is graduating from Baruch College
- Studied abroad in Israel at Netiv Aryeh
- Former director of the Gym Minyan
- Current Gabbai of the Ohr Esther Youth Minyan
- Has a strong love and devotion for the State of Israel, its culture, and the IDF
- Wants to give back to the community and make sure that the youth move and grow in the pathway of Torah and Mashadi Jewish values.



### **Joshua Hakimian**

Hi guys, my name is Josh Hakimian. I graduated from Queens College with a degree in Accounting and Economics after having spent 3 years in Israel at Bar Ilan University. A little about myself - I speak five languages, love trying new restaurants, and I believe I'll make a great MYC member. As someone who deals with purchasing, payables, and expenses on a daily basis, I firmly believe I can make a difference in terms of the budget by making it stretch further and putting it to good use. Everyone in our community should have a voice and I want to hear what each and every one of you has to say in terms of what's going well and what needs improvement.



### **Limor Heskia**

My name is Limor Heskia, daughter of Morris and Mitra Heskia. I went to North Shore Hebrew Academy since childhood and graduated from Yeshiva University with a degree in Finance and minor in Information Systems. I am running for MYC because I believe we need proper representation from all age and social groups. If I am elected, I will work hard to unite us as a community. I plan to do so by increasing social events that are original, creative, and fun for everyone. MYC events should not just be any ordinary party but an amazing experience where you step aside from your everyday clique and meet new people and create new relationships/friendships. In addition, I believe as a community we need to give back more to those who are less fortunate and increase our interactions in the chesed world. This is important because Hashem has provided us with health, success, family, and a community to rely on during difficult times. Unfortunately, many people are not as blessed and are struggling in many aspects of their lives. By helping others we are thanking Hashem for everything he has done for us



### **Jon Ismaili**

After spending the past 2 years in Israel & serving in the IDF, I wish to contribute here in my own community that I have grown up in. I am running for MYC because I value what it means to be Mashadi and I know that I have a lot to offer. I have the experience to work in a team and to make things happen. I promise that I will work hard and listen to the voices of all our youth.



### **Elirom Kalatizadeh**

My name is Elirom Kalatizadeh and I am 23 years old. I'm grateful to HaShem for blessing me with my wonderful parents, Joseph and Soheila Kalatizadeh. I have graduated from Baruch College Zicklin School Of Business with a BBA in Real Estate Development & a minor in Psychology. I applaud the previous boards and would like to thank them for doing so much for us. One main point that i will try to improve if elected:

- Initiating events/activities to create more intimate environments strengthening and building more meaningful relationships between the youth of our community (AKA more marriages).

It is a great honor to be part of such an amazing community that has done so much for me. With the help of HaShem and your vote, I am determined to take this opportunity to help give back to the community in hopes to continue strengthening our unity.



### **Warren Kalaty**

Hi, my name is Warren Kalaty, son of Farshad and Tania Kalaty. During my past two years as an active MYC board member, I learned the value of hard work and team work in order to create a successful board that is as efficient and beneficial to our community's youth as possible. After two years on the board, I believe my work is not yet done and would be completely honored to give the community another two years of my dedication. We have a beautiful, strong, united community, and the only way to preserve it is through our youth. I am passionate about keeping our youth together and paving the way for future generations to come.



### **David Karimzadeh**

I decided to run for the MYC board because I think it's my turn to make a change in the community. Growing up, the community has given me so much. From the different minyans that I got to be a gabbai in, to the Kanissa events that I made so many friends in, and the MYC events that I enjoyed so much, the community has made up a big part of my life. I believe that it is now time for me to give back to this amazing community that has inspired so much personal and interpersonal growth in me by helping others grow and enjoy it just as much as I have. I hope to become part of the team so that I can share my love for our community with so many others. I hope to do this by planning more events for people to get to know each other and make friends, more events for singles to meet, and more events for friends to enjoy together. I also hope to do this by planning chesed events everyone can take part in, as I believe that giving back is a crucial component of who we are as people and as a community. I believe that through this, you can all have the same love I do for our community and for each other. As an MYC board member, I hope to bring many events to the youth, that everyone can enjoy. Whether it be a Shabbat away, or a night in Great Neck, I think having events that everyone can enjoy would be very beneficial.



### **Michelle Karmely**

My name is Michelle Karmely, and I believe I would be a great candidate for the next MYC term. What's beautiful about our community is that we all have different perspectives and ways of thinking. I'm a team player, open-minded, and I love to work together with different types of people in order to create positive outcomes in our community. There is so much we can improve on to make our future better. I know that my work ethic, personality, and dedication can contribute tremendously to the committee and the community as a whole. If elected, I will make sure to add even more exciting events and opportunities with the key objective of strengthening our unity and core values.



### **Kevin Kashinejad**

Hi, my name is Kevin Kashinejad. I am the son of Barbie and Alen Kashinejad. I was born in December of 1998 and have been a dedicated member of our community since. I recently attended Netiv Arieh, a yeshivah in Jerusalem. Being of my young age, it will allow me to share new ideas to this board. I would like to be part of the MYC board because it will allow me to express my love toward our community.



### **Kevin Kashizadeh**

- Current MYC treasurer
- Cut out wasteful spending and inefficiencies making better use of MYC's funds
- Work at PWC, worlds largest public accounting firm
- Obtained my CPA license in September 2018
- Graduated from YU Business Honors in January 2016 Summa Cum Laude with a double major in Accounting and Finance



### **Nathan Kashizadeh**

Hi, I am the son of Simcha and Ariella Kashizadeh and am the current president of the MYC board. I have been involved in different leadership roles within the community since my early years of high school. I believe that the youth of today will define what the community of tomorrow will be, and it has become my passion and drive to give back to the community in any way I can. I would be honored to have the opportunity to give another 2 years of my hard work and dedication to the MYC.

2016-2018: MYC President

2014-2016: MYC Board Member

2011-2013: Head Director of Gym Minyan

2009-2011: Minyan Board Member



### **Rachel Levian**

Hi! My name is Rachel Levian and I'm in my last semester of college studying Psychology and Business. After graduating high school, I was blessed to have the most rewarding experience of my life taking half a gap year in Israel. While learning in a small Sephardic seminary in the Old City of Jerusalem, I was exposed to so many incredible opportunities for growth and chessed which left me inspired to try and bring a small ounce of that back to NY. I believe that there are limits to everything in life except one thing: kindness. Our community takes pride in its charitable achievements, however, I think we have so much potential to take it to the next level. For the past 5 years, I have been humbled by my experiences tutoring in Judaic Studies and Hebrew, and also volunteering with the Friendship Circle of Great Neck, an unbelievable organization for children and young adults with special needs. In addition, I work as a Community Habilitation counselor and worked as a sleep away camp counselor for OHEL Bais Ezra for two summers. I'm also currently Friendship Circle's Great Neck team captain for the upcoming Miami Marathon. I, along with 11 other Mashadis, will be running to raise funds, awareness, and spread love for these special children. My goal is to provide our community with as many opportunities as possible to constantly give, and in return, merit to see that we'll be the ones receiving.



### **Ryan LeVian**

Hi, my name is Ryan Levian and I currently attend Yeshiva University. While being in North Shore Hebrew Academy High School, I had the honor of being one of the head directors of the Gym Minyan along with Cody Hakimian and Michael Livi. I am 19 years old and I just had the great gift of spending a year at Yeshivat Netiv Aryeh, right beside the Kotel. After taking all that I learned while being away, I would now like to give back to the community. I believe that being united is one of the most important factors in keeping a community going. If I were to be elected, I would try to do all that I am capable of to not only keep the community together, but also make different programs and activities that would attract more community members to start attending Kanissa on Shabbats which would bring everyone closer together.



### **Ilana Levy**

Hi! My name is Ilana Levy and I will be graduating this spring from Stern college with a bachelors degree in Biology. I am thankful for being part of an amazing community that truly cares to unify and strengthen the youth. With that, I want to give back to the community that has given so much for us. I have spent the past few years learning about, and taking part in, different chessed events throughout the community such as clothing drives, Tomchei Shabbat packaging, Masbia soup kitchen, Bikur cholim visits, Charity night play for Israel, and the annual Ohel carnival. Helping organize these events and seeing the impact it has on the community whether it's shaping us spiritually, giving us more meaning in our lives, strengthening our values and traditions, or bringing us closer as a whole, has meant so much to me. If elected on the board, I would use the opportunity to bring my fresh perspective, communication, event planning, and organization skills to the table and play a larger role in the creation and organization of MYC events! I am looking forward to the upcoming two year term that will leave a lifetime of impact on the current and future generation of the Mashadi youth!



### **Nicola Liuim**

Looking to give back to the community and battle fake news!



### **Adam Livi**

Hi, my name is Adam Livi, and I am currently a senior in Yeshiva University's honors program. Back in high school, I had the pleasure of running the Gym Minyan alongside David Hadjibay and Cody Hakimian. I also had the opportunity of being on MYC for the past two years. I have really enjoyed giving back to the community over the years, and I look forward to continuing to do so for the next MYC term.



### **Michael Livi**

My name is Michael Livi and I am 20 years old. I am the son of Mr. Herbert and Mrs. Monica Livi. I have been blessed to attend North Shore Hebrew Academy my entire life, graduating as Speaker of the Class in 2017. I was privileged to then study at Yeshivat Netiv Aryeh in Jerusalem for one year upon graduating High School. I am currently enrolled in the Honors Program at Yeshiva University Sy Syms School of Business, where, Be'ezrat Hashem, I plan to graduate with a degree in both Accounting and Finance. My service to our wonderful community officially began in the Gym Minyan, where, alongside Cody Hakimian and my cousin Ryan LeVian, I helped run a Minyan that catered to 150+ teens every week. However, for as long as I can remember, I have carefully observed my father, Mr. Herbert Livi, as he actively served on many community boards such as the Synagogue Board, Charity Committee and Supervisory Council, all while being a Gabbai in many Community Minyans. He is the best role model anyone can have, and Be'ezrat Hashem I can achieve half of what he has accomplished. Being part of the Mashadi Community is a huge blessing, and I believe the best way to give back is by being involved in community work. If elected, I plan to continue in the path of the current MYC, while also focusing on a few important ideas. First, I plan to add more Chessed (Community Service) opportunities for our Youth. To quote a modern Rabbi living in Jerusalem: "Every Jew must do Chessed." I strongly believe that doing Chessed causes one to be happier. Secondly, after spending a year in Israel, which concluded with being a chaperone for the MYC Discover Israel Trip, I have experienced Israel in ways where I pray that every Mashadi can experience. I plan to start a "Mashadi Birthright," where single college graduates/young professionals can experience some of the beauties Israel has to offer with other Mashadi young adults. This trip will be a fun and spiritual experience, that can also lead to more marriages within the Masahdi youth. Lastly, the main reason I am running for the Mashadi Youth Committee is because I care for the community and want to continue helping it flourish. It would be my honor to serve on the Mashadi Youth Committee.



### **Daniel Livian**

Hi, my name is Daniel Livian. I am honored to be a part of the Mashadi Community and hope to be on the MYC board this term. I believe that I would be a great part of the MYC, because I can talk to anyone in our community regardless of age or religious views. Our community has gone through big changes over our history and I feel that we can still do more. We need to bring more of the youth to MYC events and Kanisa. We have over 1,000 singles in our community of which at most 250 come to MYC events. A lot of our MYC events are good and I would like to make them great. People who know me, know that I don't give up until I feel that everything is running perfectly, so I will give the board everything I got.



### **Yael Livian**

Hi, my name is Yael Livian! Growing up, I have watched many of my family members serve on different boards within the community. It was always so important for each of them to be involved and give back to the community, and it's inspired me to do so myself. The MYC events, in addition to all the other work the board does, are so important in bringing the youth together and I believe my opinions and my attitude will be a great addition to an already outstanding board.



### **Naomi Livieim**

Hi, my name is Naomi Livieim, daughter of Betty and Khosrow Livieim. I am 23 years old and graduated magna cum laude from Queens College with a degree in psychology and business. I have been an advisor to the current MYC board for one year, as I was brought on to help plan the New Years Party 2018, and then to spearhead the SoulCycle charity event to benefit Tomchei Shabbat. Since then, I have been an active advisor and have been a key team member in planning almost every MYC event. Through my experience as an advisor, my passion and dedication to the community's youth has grown exponentially. If elected, I plan to work endlessly and give my all to our community that I love so much and feel blessed to be a part of. My goal is to create events and programs for the youth that will further unify us and instill common moral values in our community's youth.



### **David Lolai**

My name is David Lolai, son of Dalia and Sam. I am inexplicably grateful to have been brought up in the Mashadi community. The unity and generosity among our community members is unmatched. I, as well, would like to give back to my community, and it would be a privilege to serve our community by participating in MYC. I've always found that going to MYC events was great because it would bring me closer to the people whom I didn't know so well, as well as further strengthen my rapport with my existing community friends. I would love to participate in fostering further unity, connection, as well as spiritual growth within our community through imitating events for the youth. I am a firm believer and advocate of our community values, and I am excited to employ these values in creating a positive environment for our youth in which we can continue to grow and strive for a brighter future.



### **Daniel Namdar**

With honor, I am ecstatic to be taking part in the upcoming MYC election. I am a recent graduate of Baruch College, and I have now joined the family business practicing real estate development. When I'm not in the office, you can catch me anywhere from wake boarding on a quiet lake, to camping in the woods. Above all, I truly enjoy spending time with my family and friends. As life hits me with more and more responsibilities, I've understood the importance of family, friends, and most importantly, community. If elected I hope to do all in my power to excel the values of our community through judaic studies, social events, and the building of our future facilities.



### **Elliot Namdar**

My name is Elliot Namdar, son of Dani & Mashid. I am 24 years old and a full time jeweler. My family has always been actively involved in the community and they've always emphasized the gift of giving back to others. With my experience and energy, I look to give back to our community and improve the Mashadi Youth Committee in any way imaginable.



### **Mark Nassimian**

Hi, my name is Mark Nassimian and after many years of being mistaken as an MYC board member, I have decided to accept my nomination for the upcoming MYC. I was first targeted and “kidnapped” during the 2017 Camp Lavi Caroling Van, which consisted of the current board driving around (illegal passenger capacity) to convince people to sign up. After experiencing the passion of the MYC board, I decided I wanted to be more involved. Since then I have been a valuable volunteer to the current MYC board. Being a key member for over a year now, I know that I love being a team player and I want to continue giving back to our community. I have learned that not only is a diverse board an amazing board, but if elected I am confident that I would be a power player and an asset to our incredibly hard working youth committee. Not only would I be helpful at making and running events/programs, but I also plan to be the voice of our age to make sure everyone is involved and enjoying themselves.



### **Alexander Rahmani**

Hi all! I'm Alex Rahmani, son of Albert and Sabrina, and I'm running for a position on the MYC Board. I am super proud of the amazing community we have all built together, and for the next couple of years, I'm looking forward to making everyone's experience as the youth in our community better by bringing my unique perspective to the table. I want to bring us all together by organizing events that are accessible by all different groups within our youth, such as professional or personal development events, health and fitness events, and even culinary events (if you don't know me, I love to cook and share pics). I'm a really creative and hardworking guy, and I will always be available to chat, whether it's to organize an event that's more relevant to you, or to hear you out on an issue that you think is being over-looked. I look forward to serving you all and trying to make your experience as a young Mashadi as awesome and exciting as I know it can be!



### **Steve Shahverdi**

My name is Steve Shahverdi, son of Khosro and Dina Shahverdi. I graduated from Baruch college and now I work for JPMorgan Chase. I want to run for MYC because I want to make sure that everyone in our community feels comfortable coming to events and takes part in making our community even better than it already is. We have an obligation to the people who brought us here to ensure that the Mashadi community thrives and becomes a beacon of light and hope to everyone who seeks it. My experience includes being treasurer of Baruch College Hillel, starting the Israel club YOFI at Baruch College, and helping the MYC board for the past year to execute amazing events. My goal is to bring the experience and connections I've gained from being part of many Jewish organizations outside of MYC to the Mashadi community to help our community learn and grow.