

Thank You from Shira Friedman Romonosky
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As I finish up my last few weeks here at Temple Har Shalom, before heading off to graduate school, I appreciate all that I have learned from my position as Youth Engagement Coordinator and from the Congregation at large. I loved working with the students and trying to both define as well as mold what being Jewish to them today meant. It was inspiring to see youth still passionate about wanting to have Jewish friends, going to Jewish summer camp or wanting to be part of NFTY events at large. I also learned a lot about myself, congregational life, and planning and implementing events. I want to thank everyone here at Temple Har Shalom for all their help and support.

All youth groups had a great year. From local events, such as a Somerset Patriots Game, and opening day pool party at Camp Harmony, to larger events like Lauren Rachel Zeitel's Midnight Run in NYC and our annual *Shul-In*, we had great turnout and lots of excitement. The students enjoyed each other's company, and we even had a lot of students bring friends to events which broadened our network. The students experienced the social aspect of youth group as well as the importance of incorporating Judaism into events like doing *havdallah*, or going out to eat *chametz* in preparation for the Jewish holiday of Passover. It was a great balance between the two concepts. It was a wonderful year!

I also want to congratulate our fabulous HSTY board for next year; Sammi Scheiner, Justin Opell, Anna Baitel, Emma Koslow, Hannah Cohen, Brianna Moglianesi, Casey Green and Rebecca Baitel. Thank you all for stepping up into such important leadership positions and for the wonderful work you will do for HSTY next year! Wishing everyone a happy and safe summer! Looking forward to coming back to visit in the future.

Thanks again for everything.