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Sid Jacobson JCC Adds Four to 2024-25 Board of Directors

Karlik Ascends to Vice President Following Successful Board Tenure

East Hills, N.Y. (Aug. 5, 2024) - [Sid Jacobson JCC](#) is proud to name four prominent individuals to its long-standing Board of Directors for 2024-25, along with the elevation of **Jordan Karlik** to Vice President, it was announced at the Board of Directors meeting in June.

Each with deep-rooted ties to the JCC, the four elected Board appointees are **Ofer Cohen**, **Aurily Sandler**, **Alyssa Schimel**, and **Andrea Stein**.

“All of these new leaders have an extensive history with our JCC through dedicated committee work and successfully engaging our community,” said Board President **Nancy Waldbaum**. “I look forward to working with them to further the JCC’s ability to enhance community life throughout Long Island.”

Ofer Cohen’s association with Sid Jacobson JCC began in 2010, when he first met his wife, Lauren, who grew up attending the JCC. An Israeli-American, Ofer supports the ongoing work of the Randie Waldbaum Malinsky Center for Israel and Sid Jacobson JCC’s Yellow Rose Society, which provides year-round programming for individuals with memory loss, early onset dementia and Alzheimer’s.

In 2004, Ofer made his way stateside, beginning a successful venture of purchasing live entertainment venues in New York City, including the iconic *Café Wha?* in Greenwich Village.

Aurily Sandler’s long background of involvement culminated in 2021, when she and her husband, Andrew, named the Sandler Family Kehilla Center to further support the JCC’s efforts of empowering individuals 5-21 years of age with neurodiverse abilities to reach their highest potential. In her private life, Aurily specializes as a certified life coach for young adults, in addition to volunteering with Sunrise on Wheels in their pediatric oncology unit.

Alyssa Schimel first attended the JCC’s Early Childhood Center growing up in East Hills, and now her three young children are part of the same nurturing environment. She has chaired

our Early Childhood Parent Association and the JCC's New Leadership division, and actively serves on the *"Eat.Bid.Laugh!"* Committee, organizing the JCC's largest fundraising event that generates critical dollars for scholarships, Camp Kehilla and a very special innovation fund for new projects that benefit the community.

With a career spanning over 15 years in television and media, Alyssa is now the Vice President of Communications and Marketing at Shondaland – a Los Angeles-based television production company partly renowned for launching television's longest-running primetime medical drama, *Grey's Anatomy*.

Since enrolling as a member of Sid Jacobson JCC in 2012, Andrea Stein has been extensively involved in various capacities. She has co-chaired our Friendship Circle Luncheon to help raise awareness and funds for the JCC's senior service programs, and coordinated the agency's recent charitable efforts to support Israel following the October 7th attacks. Additionally, Andrea volunteers at our Center for Community Engagement, which acts as a food distribution center for Island Harvest and a hub for social justice projects.

Andrea gave much of her professional career to Estée Lauder, where she was a publicist and event planner. Her husband, Hal, serves as Vice Chairman of Newmark, and two children, Aden and Ella, graduated from the JCC's Early Childhood Center and attended Camp Jacobson.

Jordan Karlik's ascension to Vice President of the Board follows a successful three-year term on the Board of Directors, and further involvement as co-chair of the JCC's New Leadership Committee. A path first blazed as an after-school student, Jordan later performed community service at the JCC and took on a role as a part-time employee, where he supported children's classes and contributed to Summer Streeters Day Camp.

Together with his wife, Elisabeth, Jordan now continues to support the JCC's future by helping to raise awareness for such fundraising initiatives as the Brick Campaign and Butterfly Wall.

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About Sid Jacobson JCC

Sid Jacobson JCC (sjcc.org) in East Hills provides a full range of cutting-edge recreational, health, fitness, educational, cultural arts, and social service programs. SJJCC promotes Jewish identity and provides a comprehensive program based on Jewish values, traditions, heritage, and culture, and is committed to enriching the lives of all individuals and families in its community. See community differently, "Like" the JCC on Facebook (facebook.com/sidjacobsonjcc).

Sid Jacobson JCC is a beneficiary agency of the UJA Federation of New York.