

Campus Pitch 2021

Winners Bio

Shattering Glass Ceilings

Karen Shalev

Karen Shalev studies Visual and Performing Arts and Communication at Worcester State University. The granddaughter of Holocaust survivors who found refuge in Israel, Karen is inspired by her family's stories of resilience to fight antisemitism and misinformation about Israel. On campus, she co-founded and serves as President of Chabad on Campus, is a StandWithUs Emerson Fellow, and serves as a Presidential Student Ambassador and Senate Parliamentarian.



Jewish Forum for Dialogue

Sruli Fruchter

Sruli Fruchter is a junior at Yeshiva University studying International and Global Affairs with the intention of pursuing a career in international law in Israel. He is a Ronald S. Lauder fellow and the co-founder and co-director of the Jewish Forum for Dialogue think tank. Sruli loves Torah study and the Jewish People, and he is passionate about Jewish philosophy, Mideast affairs, and law.



Deborah Coopersmith

Deborah Coopersmith grew up in the Syrian Jewish community in Brooklyn, New York. She studied in Yeshivah of Flatbush for high school, spent a formative year learning in Midreshet Lindenbaum and is currently a senior at Yeshiva University. Deborah is majoring in history and minoring in biology. She is on the YU Women's Soccer Team, Haircuts4Hope Board and the co-founder and co-director of the Jewish Forum for Dialogue think tank. She is also a Nachshon Fellow. Through her school, extracurricular and camp experiences, she strengthened and developed her Jewish identity, connection to the Land of Israel and passion to research the Holocaust.



Peace in our Schools

Lika Torikashvili

Lika Torikashvili is from Tbilisi, Georgia. Currently she is completing her BA in Conflict Resolution and Psychology at Bennington College. Lika holds a bilingual International Baccalaureate Diploma from UWC Atlantic College.



She is the founder of Paint the World, an international global youth movement which promotes community service and volunteerism amongst young people around the world. In 2018 Lika was nominated by the Georgian Government to represent the Youth of Georgia at the United Nations and was the youngest UN Youth Delegate of Georgia.

In 2019 Lika co-founded iPEACE, an organization which focuses on facilitating the implementation of SDG16 and YPS Agenda. Lika is a Fellow of the World Jewish Congress, where she works on eradication of antisemitism and facilitation interfaith dialogue. In 2020, Lika and the UN Youth Delegate of Afghanistan, Ramiz Bakhtiar founded the UNYD Alumni Network, together with former and current UN Youth representatives from different countries and generations. The mission of the Network is to advance and facilitate meaningful participation of young people at all levels of decision making and policy development.

Lika currently works at the President's office of Bennington College.

About Campus Pitch

The Campus Pitch Competition, a project of the World Jewish Congress & Consulate General of Israel in New York, calls on Jewish students from across the globe to propose new and innovative ideas that positively impact the Jewish and pro-Israel community on their university campuses. The competition, having now completed its 6th annual competition, has reached tens of thousands of students through strong campaign, events, and programs, some of which continue even until today. Learn more: www.campuspitch.org