



Alumni News - Fall 2020

Find out what your fellow JDS Alumni are up to!

Be inspired, laugh, connect. We want to stay in touch with you and offer a way for you to stay connected with each other. Now, think back to your times at JDS and share an update or a memory with your fellow JDS alumni community.



Behind My Mask: Mask Selfie Project

Current JDS students represented the pieces of their identity they choose to show to the world (outside of the mask), and those they prefer to keep more private (inside of the mask).

Share Your Story!





Gillian ('08) and Davey Friedman ('04)

We are always delighted to hear from our alums. We recently heard from Gillian Friedman, who shared updates with us about herself and her brother, Davey.

After JDS, the Friedman siblings attended Roosevelt High School and then Whitman College, from which they graduated Phi Beta Kappa with highest honors.

Gillian, 26, shares that she was recently awarded the David Carr fellowship at *The New York Times*, where she works as a reporter on the business desk. Before that, she was an investigative reporter for the *Deseret News* in Salt Lake City. Prior to that she worked as an analyst at Goldman Sachs.

Davey, 31, completed a masters in Middle East Studies from Tel Aviv University and then returned to Seattle as one of the first employees on the West Coast at WeWork, where he spent six years, became head of sales for the Northwest, and met his now-fiancé, Jooli Hong. He is currently at UC Berkeley completing a masters in real estate development.

The Friedmans credit JDS' educational rigor with providing not only a strong foundation for their Jewish life but also for the success on their career paths as well. The siblings have all remained active in their Jewish communities, working as Bar Mitzvah tutors and lay leaders in their local synagogues, making a particular difference in cities with small Jewish populations, including Salt Lake City, Utah and Walla Walla, Washington.

[Reconnect with Gillian](#)
[Reconnect with Davey](#)



Danielle ('09) and Juliette ('11) Levy

Danielle shares:

I'm currently working at CBS News, where I've been on and off since my internship in 2016. After graduating from Northwestern University in 2017, I traveled for a few months, spent a few months camping around the Seattle area and then moved to Brooklyn with my cat Zelda. At CBS, I work in the documentary development unit as the coordinating producer on a new 6-part series. Since the pandemic, I've produced four CBS News Specials: "Bravery and Hope" (on Montefiore Health Center in the Bronx and their handling of the COVID pandemic - I was on site at the hospital for about a week), "Justice for All" (about George Floyd's death and the public response), "John Lewis: Celebrating a Hero" (an Oprah/Tyler Perry-produced tribute to the late congressman), and "The Power of August" (about key moments from the month of August throughout the history of Black America). I've received an Emmy Award and RTDNA Murrow Award for "39 Days," about the activism that emerged after the Marjorie Stoneman Douglas shooting, and a Gracie Award for the Gayle King interview with R. Kelly.

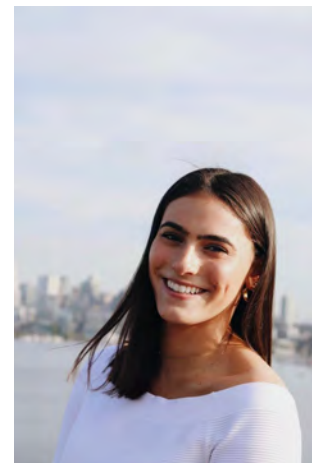
And from Juliette:

Right now I am interning at The Marine Mammal Center in the Monterey Bay region where I rescue stranded seals and sea lions. In addition, I also work as a marine naturalist with Sea Goddess Whale Watching, where I lead nature focused boat tours with an emphasis on seeing whales, as well as other marine life. In addition to working with marine mammals, I recently graduated from Santa Clara University with a B.A. in Environmental Studies and Theatre Arts. During college, I had the opportunity to study abroad in Tanzania where I studied wildlife management and wildlife ecology. I was very fortunate to also spend two summers during college on a small marine research boat off the southern coast of Portugal, where I researched and surveyed several species of native dolphins. Throughout college I also focused largely on theatre, in which I acted in several plays per year, and eventually ended up writing nearly two dozen plays, two of which were produced by my university as staged readings. I feel very fulfilled in my decision to study two very different fields of study!

When I'm not working with marine mammals or acting in a play, I like to hang out with my amazing dog, who I aptly named "Buoy".

Reconnect with Danielle

Reconnect with Juliette



Arielle ('00), Eli ('05) and Maya ('15) Sulkin

Arielle Sulkin and Adam Atkins were married in 2014 and moved back to Seattle from NYC in 2017. While in New York, Ari worked for Sam Edelman Women's Shoe brand for 3 years. Adam is director of business development at a SF based firm KWh Analytics. They are the proud parents of Levi (2) and Stella (2 months).

From Eli: I graduated Seattle University in 2014 and wrote my honors thesis about the Iran Deal and AIPAC. I spent the following year working as a paralegal at the New York County (Manhattan) District Attorney's office, where I assisted in the prosecution of crimes ranging from petty theft to homicides. After a year at the DA's office, I attended American University as a JD/MBA student and joined the Business Law review. I also joined the Intellectual Property Clinic which represents entrepreneurs and nonprofits on a range of issues. Additionally, I was Vice President of the Blockchain and Cryptocurrency Law society which seeks to educate fellow students on the applicability of blockchain in a variety of industries and the potential legal implications. After graduating American, I decided to apply for a Masters in Tax Law (LLM) at New York University (which brings us to present day).

Ultimately, I consider myself a lifelong learner and am curious about a variety of things. Unfortunately, as a result, I can't tell you what my future plans are. However, I think I'd be the first Jewish kid whose parents would not be happy if I told them I'd like to go to medical school...

Maya is a sophomore at Barnard College of Columbia University studying Political Science with a minor in Science and Public Policy. She is currently

living in New York, and is writing for the Columbia Daily Spectator, interning for Morning Brew, and holds a marketing position for The Israel Summit. In Maya's own words, "JDS gave me a foundation that has allowed me to meaningfully engage in Jewish causes both on campus and outside of school. I am thankful for the values JDS instilled in me, as well as a community I still consider to be important in my life, even after five years."

Reconnect with Ari

Reconnect with Eli

Reconnect with Maya



Brielle Bush ('15)

"Hi! My name is Brielle Bush and I am currently a teaching intern at JDS. I am in my Sophomore year at the University of Washington. I live on campus and am really involved with my sorority, Alpha Xi Delta. I am active with UW Jewish life and hold a position at Chabad. I will be applying to the Informatics major this winter. I joined the User Design Club and am learning about various software and prototyping apps. In my teaching internship, I work with the elementary grades. I assist the teachers and work one-on-one with students. I also teach at Kavana Cooperative doing weekly Hebrew school and monthly holiday classes. Working at JDS is truly a blast from the past. I am now colleagues with my old teachers, and work with kids who were preschoolers when I graduated. It's so cool! Most of all, I miss my classmates and the good times we shared on campus."

Connect with Brielle

JDS Milestones

Rabbi Avi ('02) and Erin Fine recently welcomed baby Maya Lucy into the world. Mazel tov!

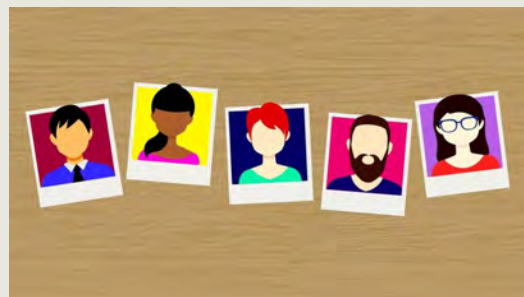


Tell us what you're up to!

Internships at JDS

Looking for a space to make a difference and give back to your community? Look no further! Apply your education, experience, and problem-solving skills at JDS as a Teaching intern.

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[Read letter from Talya Gillman](#)

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