

Jacob Lawrence Sorrells

caucusing for the highly-esteemed position of

Grand Aleph Shaliach



Experience & Qualifications

Melech AZA #2461

- Aleph Kohen Godol Spring Term '11
- Aleph Godol Fall Term '10
- Aleph S'gan Spring Term '10
- Aleph Corresponding Mazkir Spring Term '09
- Aleph Haver-Sheli Fall Term '08
- Launched chapter Stand Up! Homelessness Campaign
- Chapter Convention '08, '09, '10

DC Council #54 & Northern Region East

- Aleph Shaliach '10-'11
- Kol Echad Youth (KEY) Special Needs Teen Program Founding Chairman '08-'09
- Parent-Teen Shabbat Coordinator
- Council Convention '08, '09, '10
- Regional Kallah '08, '09
- New Member Weekend '08
- Regional Leadership Training Institute '10
- Regional Convention '09, '10

International BBYO

- East Coast Kallah Head Coordinator '11
- International Kallah '10
- East Coast Kallah '10
- Chapter Leadership Training Conference 2 '09
- International Convention '09, '11
- B'nai Brith CLTC Scholarship Award
- Teen-to-Teen Direct Service Award

Other Experience

- President of Rockville High School Student Body '10-'11
- Founder and President of Young Changemakers Organization '10-'11
- Learn-Serve International Fellow & Graduate '09-'10
- Active Member of the Jewish Youth Philanthropy Institute
- Best Buddies Officer
- Varsity Swim Team '09-'11
- International Baccalaureate Candidate
- Finalist for Maryland State Student Member of the Board of Education

My Brother Alephs,

The responsibility for preserving our Jewish culture, our Jewish heritage, and the world in which we live will soon rest upon our shoulders.

I come to you with a passion and a commitment to instill in our members the drive and the collective means to shape our world and protect our Jewish identity. We have seven thousand faces, but as Jewish teens we have one vital purpose—to sustain our future—as Jews and as citizens of the world. This is my goal, I know it is yours as well. I believe I can lead us in this effort.

Fraternally submitted with undying love for Melech AZA #2461 and the International Order of the Aleph Zadik Aleph, I remain

Aleph Jacob Lawrence Sorrells

“Prayer is meaningless unless it is subversive, unless it seeks to overthrow and to ruin the pyramids of callousness, hatred, opportunism, falsehoods. The liturgical movement must become a revolutionary movement, seeking to overthrow the forces that continue to destroy the promise, the hope, the vision.”

- Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel

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Goals & Objectives

Stand Up

- Push every chapter to adopt a Stand Up cause
- Pioneer a BBYO online resource (similar to Program Bank), solely dedicated to aiding dynamic social action programming and Stand Up campaigns
- Emphasize teen action within our collective schools to expand efficacy
- Encourage chapter exploration of direct service initiatives that incorporate the rich variety of member interests
- Work with chairs and regions to ensure that all participate in a J-Serve project

Exploring Practices, Rituals, & Heritage

- Insist on a Kallah convention for every region
- Develop a core-set of exciting, ready to run Judaic programs to jump-start new chapter programming
- Create dedicated webpage forum on strategies for Judaic programming
- Utilize technology to create International culture of dialogue on Jewish issues
- Refine and revamp "Build A Prayer"
- Reevaluate AZA Shabbats so that they are fresh, engaging, and innovative

Speak Up for Israel

- Provide alternative experiences that help teens cultivate a connection and identification with Israel for those who are unable to attend Israel summer programs while still aggressively promoting the importance of a summer immersion in Israel
- Develop an in-depth Israel advocacy workshops for implementation at regional levels
- Avail members to diverse avenues of information and viewpoints of Israel issues
- Expand the utilization of partnerships with a variety of Israel advocacy organizations

Political Advocacy

- Strengthen BBYO's global recognition as a force for social change
- Form coalitions with other religious organizations to build foundations to stimulate pluralism (i.e. Muslim and Christian youth groups)
- Coordinate efforts with USY, NFTY, NCSY and other youth movements to amplify the Jewish teen voice
- Create a steady BBYO presence on Capitol Hill

Globalization

- Provide chapters and regions with the framework to effectively educate, connect with, and fundraise for worldwide Jewish teen communities
- Expand global teen involvement in BBYO experiences year-round to build more frequent bridges and a stronger interconnected, intertwined Jewish future

Summer Experiences

- Select qualified and motivated "outside the box" Impact coordinators
- Institute a strong evaluation system to enhance Impact programs in both service and social aspects
- Plan a Kallah that embodies BBYO's pluralistic values, enables teens to experience Judaism through a captivating new lense, and empowers teens to carry what they acquire throughout their lives



Implementation Strategies

Counterparts

- Initiate regular individual and conference calls
- Require monthly regional action plans
- Utilize Facebook group and emails for constant communication
- Develop periodic think tank forums
- Encourage and oversee production of regional programs and releases
- Form Sh'lichim groups to work on mutual projects and initiatives
- Maintain ongoing contact with counterparts beyond the United States

International Board & International Leadership

- Remain accessible to all members throughout the year
- Work with fellow board members on mutual projects; assist on non-Shaliach specific work
- Collaborate with fellow board members to devise cohesive approaches
- Keep every Aleph well-informed on all International priorities, initiatives, and day-to-day Shaliach related business through facebook, emails, and a weekly web blog