



Town Hall



Welcome to our guests from WASC!

Elisa Ragus - WASC Visiting Committee Chair

Lev Stark - Executive Director, Valley Torah High School

Cecelie Wizenfeld, Principal, Director of Education,
Kehillat Mogen David Spivak Educational Center



Color War Recap!

Caption Contest Winners!

1st: **When God's not enough** – Jack Metzger, Shalhevet junior

2nd: **Yes, I told you already. It's for Elijah, I promise.** – Jeremy Mittman, Los Angeles

3rd: **Oy vey. You're carding me? Gevalt!** – Dr. Josh Sharfman, Los Angeles

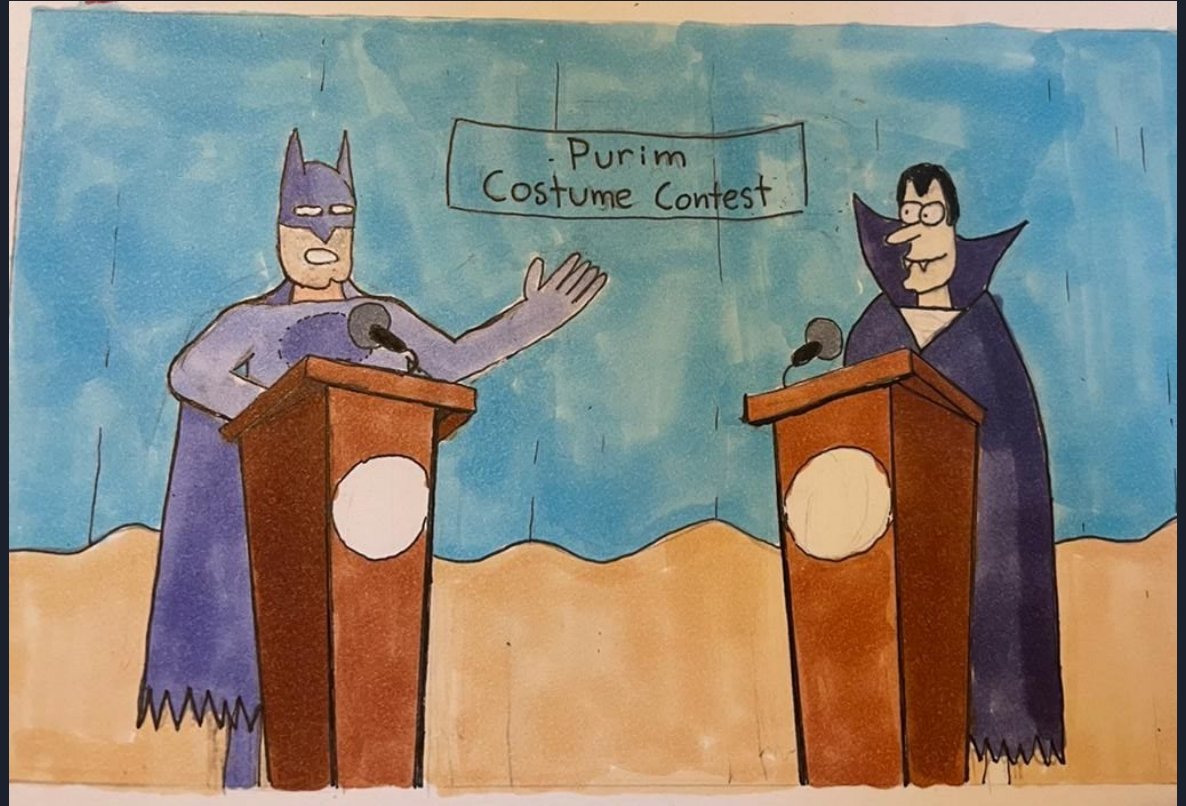
Honorable Mention: **Keep them coming so I don't have to put on my mask.** – Sophie Melamed, Los Angeles



New Contest!

Submit captions to BP


Or Elliot Serure!





Meme of
the Week



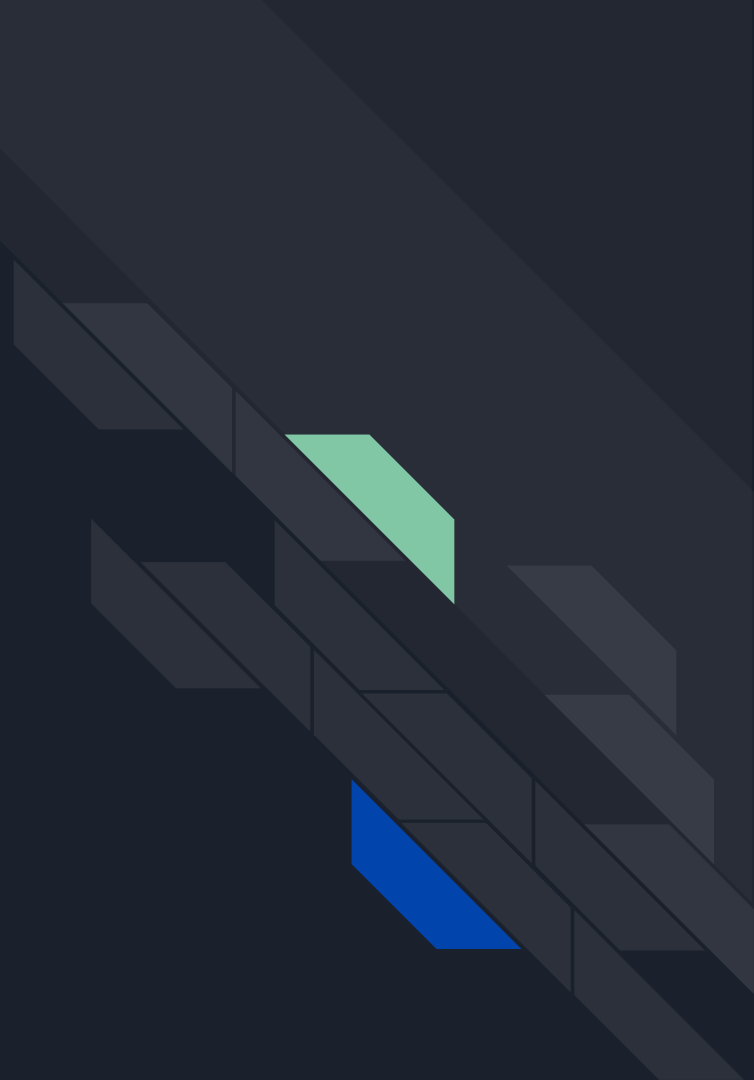


Outfit of the Week



And shoutout to moradian!

top 10 firehawk all time





Vort of the Week

וַיִּגַּשׁ אַבְרָהָם וַיֹּאמֶר הֲאַף תִּסְּפֶה צְדִיק עִם־רָשָׁע

Abraham came forward and said, "Will You sweep away the innocent along with the guilty?"

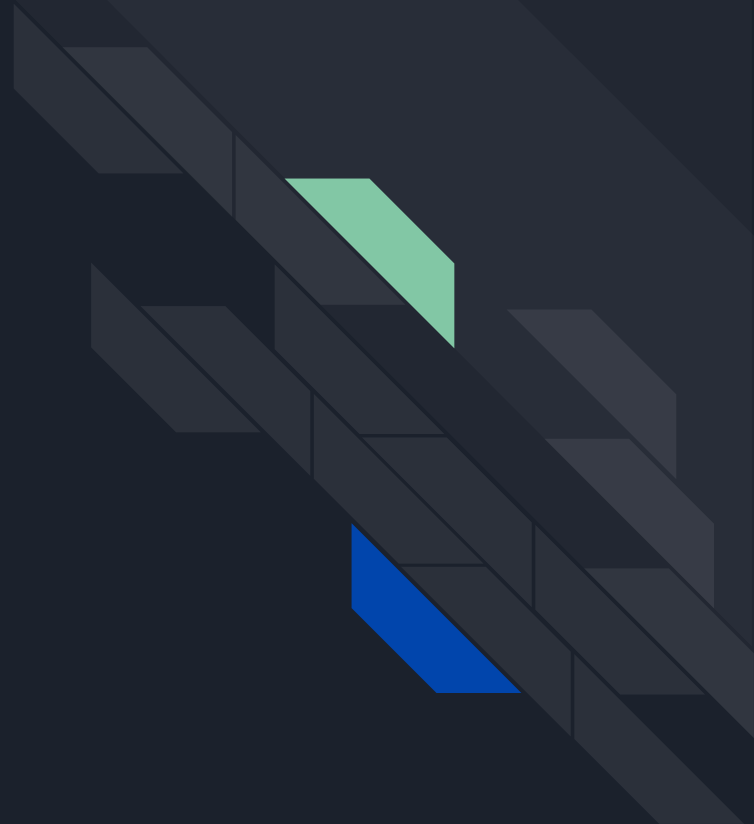
לֹא אֶשְׁחֵת בְּעַבּוֹר הָעֹשֶׂה

I will not destroy, for the sake of the ten.

בראשית י"ח

Ukraine

Duties as Americans, Jews, and Zionists





Initial Questions

- Do you feel connected to the conflict?
 - Through what? Jewish communities? Humanitarian causes?
- How have you learned about the issue? Do you feel knowledgeable?
- Is there anything you've learned in History that reminds you of the conflict?



History + Overview

1991 - Soviet Union collapsed and became Russia (what it is today)

1990s - Ukrainian independence from Soviet Union

2014 - After violence within Ukraine over their government, parliament installed a new interim government, which vows to join the EU

2014 - Russia annexes Crimea, a part of Ukraine

2019 - Current Ukrainian president elected, Volodymyr Zelenskyy (Jewish), who shows interest in the West and joining NATO

2021 - Russian presence on the Ukrainian border increases - up to 100,000 troops.

2022 - Talks of invasion grow, diplomatic efforts attempted,

- February 24th - Russian forces begin military-scale invasion of Ukraine, **the largest military operation in Europe since the end of WW2**



American Positions

- Isolationist – Before World War II, this was the main American position; it advocates for minimal involvement in international affairs—essentially, we should not get involved in the Ukraine conflict, or do so minimally if we must.
- Sanctions - Only use monetary and trade sanctions to attempt to discourage Russia with minimal involvement
- Aid – Sending aid, such as money, supplies, arms, or munitions to foreign countries, but not physical soldiers.
- Full-scale - Direct military involvement including vehicles, weapons, and most importantly, soldiers.
- Or something else!



As Americans...

- Do we have a moral obligation to help Ukraine? Why and how?
 - Money, arms, munition, soldiers, humanitarian aid, etc.
 - What about other countries?
- Should we still get involved in the conflict if it makes life harder at home?
 - Ex: gas prices rising, stock market affected



As Jews...

- Do you feel a stronger connection to this issue because of WW2?
- How should we respond to Putin's claim to "de-Nazify" Ukraine?
 - Is this claim especially alarming or just used for politics?
 - Why do you think Putin used this language? What does it mean/imply?
- Does the fact that the Ukrainian President is Jewish affect your view at all?
 - Does it become a priority?



As Zionists...

- Israel abstained from the first UN vote to condemn Russia; but a few days ago did condemn.
- What do you think about Israel's long unspoken neutrality in this conflict up until very recently?
- Helping Ukraine could hurt Israeli relations with Russia; should Israel do the "moral" thing or prioritize self-preservation?



Sources

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