



Omri Keynan

keynanomri@gmail.com

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Hello Cleveland!

My name is Omri Keynan and I will be one of the shinshinim in Cleveland next year! I am so excited and can't wait to meet you, but before that I would like you to know some things about me.

I am 17 years old and I have lived around the world. I lived in Israel from 2000-2011, moved to Shanghai, China from 2011 until 2013, and then moved to Bogotá, Colombia until 2016. After that I came back to my favorite place, Israel. I went through this incredible adventure with my family - my mom Shirit, my dad Uri, and my two best friends, my sisters Danielle (21) and Romy (14). I live in a place called Kefar Neter, which is a 'Yishuv' very close to Beit Yehoshua, where I lived before I moved abroad. Two weeks before I arrive in Cleveland we are going to move back to Beit Yehoshua, so the family is very excited!

Slowly, my school years are coming to an end. I am not sure if I am sad or excited. I had a great time that brought along many challenges and I have very good friends that I am



going to miss! My High-Levels are Spanish and Computer Science and I enjoyed studying both.

Since I was a kid I grew up playing sports, so it is a big thing in my life. My favorite sport is rugby. I started playing rugby in Colombia where I studied in an English international school. I played for the school team and the cities team as a fly-half. When I moved to Israel I played for the national team and practiced in Kibbutz Yizrael. The kibbutz was founded by Jews from South Africa and that is why rugby is big there. Although I played a lot of rugby, I also like basketball. I played basketball in all three countries that I lived in, and funny enough my favorite team is none other than the Cavs! I hope they will win this year's Playoff. The biggest sport in the house is football. My father played a lot of football as a kid and also now as an adult, so I went along with it and played as well. All my house supports Arsenal, they are the best!



Traveling is a major thing in my family. We like to travel around Israel and get to know the country better, from Metula all the way to Eilat. We also like traveling around the world, and when we lived abroad we used it as an advantage so we traveled around Asia, South America, and more very interesting places.

I joined the "Ha'Ihud Ha'Haklai" in the 4th grade which is the youth movement in my area. All of my friends are involved and we got very important values from it! I am also a madrich (a person that is in charge of a group) in the program "Diller Teen Fellows". The program's main goal is to develop young Jewish leaders worldwide and connect them with their parallel cohort which also consists of young Jewish leaders. I flew to Buenos Aires, Argentina and met Jews from there!

I hope you learned a bit more about me and I cannot wait to learn about you and meet you!

Nitrae Bekarov (see you soon),

Omri Keynan