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Sarit Sandler, Douglas Anderson School of the Arts, Third Recipient of Hilda Specter Morgenstern Merit Scholarship

Silver Spring, Maryland—March 31, 2015

Sarit Sandler, a senior at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts in Jacksonville, FL, is the third recipient of the Hilda Specter Morgenstern Merit Scholarship. The Scholarship offers an outstanding young undergraduate woman a \$2,500 stipend towards study in Israel. This is the third year the Scholarship was awarded.

Miss Sandler, from Jacksonville, FL, was among more than 25 applicants who applied for the Scholarship. The Scholarship honors the memory of Mrs. Hilda Specter Morgenstern, who dedicated her life to serving the Jewish community. Mrs. Morgenstern was actively involved in many of the communities she lived in; she and her husband, Mr. Arthur Morgenstern, gave generously to many charities during their lifetimes.

Miss Sandler is choosing to use her Scholarship towards study abroad at the Israel Experience at Bar-Ilan University in Ramat-Gan, Israel. The Israel Experience at Bar Ilan University allows students to spend the year after high school in Israel strengthening their Jewish identity. At Israel XP, students will experience stimulating university courses for college credit, have Jewish learning and growth, trips across the Land of Israel, and a vibrant group of unforgettable rabbis, teachers and friends. It's a multi-faceted experience that combines university learning with Jewish growth, seeing the land of Israel, and connecting with role models.

When awarded the Scholarship, Miss Sandler commented, "I'm so incredibly grateful and humbled to be given this special scholarship in honor of Mrs. Hilda Specter Morgenstern. She was an American Jewish woman who worked tirelessly and gave generously to Jewish causes in the communities she lived; I truly aspire to be like her one day. My study in Israel will shape my identity as a Jewish woman who is interested in public policy because I believe there are so many issues in our world that need to be brought to the public's attention. As a filmmaker, I can give voice to those who cannot always be heard. Israel is a great stepping-stone for an advocate, humanitarian, artist and creator. I will draw inspiration for future film work and network with those around me. As a young Jewish woman who is interested in government and public policy I'm ambitious and ready to make a difference."

The Advisory Board, made up of Mrs. Morgenstern's three daughters, was impressed by Miss Sandler's dedication and passion to her studies and her community service. She was awarded the Scholarship by a unanimous vote.

"Sarit Sandler is a bright, ambitious young woman who shows a strong interest in investing in the public good. That's exactly the kind of woman we had in mind to honor when we created the Scholarship," said Ahava Leibtag, Administrative Officer of the Scholarship. "She also brings creativity and passion toward telling the story of the Jewish people using multimedia—something our modern time so desperately needs."

The Advisory Board also felt her recommendation and essay personified a strong Jewish woman who will become a great leader on behalf of her people.

Applications for the next cycle of Scholarship will be available online next spring.

About the Hilda Specter Morgenstern Merit Scholarship:

THE HILDA SPECTER MORGENSTERN MERIT SCHOLARSHIP IS AWARDED ONCE A YEAR TO AN AMERICAN JEWISH UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT WHO WILL SPEND AT LEAST ONE SEMESTER STUDYING IN ISRAEL. THE SCHOLARSHIP IS IN HONOR OF MRS. MORGENSTERN, WHO WAS AN ADVOCATE OF JEWISH COMMUNAL WORK AND HAD A STRONG INTEREST IN PUBLIC POLICY. FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE WWW.MORGENSTERNSCHOLARSHIP.ORG.

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