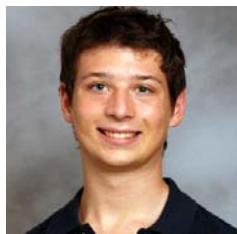


## York Prep's *Featured Volunteer*: Joshua Schoen



***"In fact, I feel inspired to stimulate change in everything I do...visiting Ivano-Frankovsk showed me the real meaning of the world community and my duty to serve it." --Joshua Schoen***

Joshua Schoen, Class of 2009, has been selected York's *Featured Volunteer* for his overall service experience, and particularly, for his work in the Ukraine. On a summer trip to the Ukrainian town of Ivano-Frankovsk, Joshua Schoen found the only remaining Jewish town synagogue in ruins. He initially started supporting the daily ritual activities of congregant hopefuls by providing prayer books and other Jewish artifacts, and soon thereafter initiated an actual mission to help preserve the Jewish identity of the only 600 Jews remaining in a city of 80,000.

Josh's determination to help address the Ukrainian synagogue's immediate financial and cultural difficulties resulted in his creation of the website: [SupportJewishUkraine.org](http://SupportJewishUkraine.org). After reaching out to the Federation of Jewish Communities of the CIS, Josh raised over \$10,000 for the people of Ivano-Frankovsk through this website, helping to reconstruct the synagogue's interior and reinstitute its education program. He has helped to preserve the last synagogue in Ivano-Frankovsk, a commendable achievement, indeed.

Josh's other service-oriented work includes presiding on York Prep's student council, interning with Evan Bayh, and serving as a student leader with the Model United Nations Club and Junior State of America.

We congratulate Josh!