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## 45 Amazing Alumni To Celebrate 45 Years Of Exceptional

## Epstein Education - #45at45

This year, The Epstein School is turning 45 years old. To celebrate this, we are highlighting 45 amazing alumni. Our school has thousands of wonderful and talented alumni and we love to share their successes!

## 45 at 45 - The Countdown Begins!

Throughout this year, we will recognize 5 alumni each month until we reach a total of 45.

## #1

**Cheryl (Bodner) Yagoda** (Class of 1984)- Together with her husband, Phil, Cheryl Yagoda founded the non-profit lan's Friend's Foundation in 2006 after their 13-year-old son, Ian, was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor at the age of 2. The Foundation, which recently hosted its 10th annual Evening of Inspiration this past year, has raised more than \$10 million to fund 17 ground-breaking research projects at 10 world-renowned U.S. institutions, including Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, which houses the Ian's Friends Foundation Brain Tumor Biorepository. Cheryl is a current parent with a child at Epstein and parent of two Epstein Alumnae.



#### #2

Jeremy Levison (Class of 1995)- Jeremy is the founder and CEO of BURN Studios. He was introduced to hot yoga while in college and then tried out indoor cycle classes and quickly became a regular. One day the instructor didn't show up and he ended up teaching the class. Jeremy then became a certified fitness instructor and knew that this was a passion in which he wanted to pursue a career. At the time, he was working full-time for his family business, but he always had an entrepreneurial spirit and a desire to go out on his own. When the opportunity presented itself to combine his passion with being a business owner and his love of fitness, it was a no brainer. Jeremy opened BURN Studios in Brookhaven in 2015, offering not just cycle classes, but also yoga and boxing. His second location opened in Buckhead in February of 2018 and a third location is on its way "in town." Jeremy is also a current parent with a child at Epstein!



#### #3

Jennifer Gerson (Class of 1998)- Jennifer is a freelance journalist and regular contributor to Cosmopolitan, Yahoo, Mic, Teen Vogue, Allure, Marie Claire, The Guardian and other national publications, where she reports primarily on health policy, reproductive rights, and sexual violence. After attending Walton High School, earning a BA in English from Tufts University, and attending Columbia University as a visiting student studying trauma theory, she began her career in journalism as the assistant to the editor-in-chief of ELLE. She then went on to become one of the founding editors of Jezebel.com and the founding style editor of RalphLauren.com. She was awarded the 2015 Maggie Award for her reporting on topics pertaining to reproductive and sexual health and reproductive rights for Yahoo Health, which included several investigative pieces on the organization that



produced the "sting" videos targeting and falsely representing the work of Planned Parenthood. She has interviewed cabinet members, sitting senators, survivors of sexual assault, abortion providers, activists, scientists, researchers and parents. However, her favorite job description is mom to her three-year old daughter, Arden.

#### #4

**Marc Powell** (Class of 2006)- Marc is a PhD candidate in the Biomedical Engineering Program at Brown University. Marc is developing new devices that allow for high-resolution and distributed intergration of cortical regions with wireless electronics. He received a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering with highest honors from the Georgia Institute of Technology. After his PhD, Marc intends to start a company with the goal of continuing the development of the



prototypes he has initiated, along with the rigorous safety testing required to ensure it is suitable for clinical translation. Marc recently received a graduate award in Brain Science. This award is supported by the Daniel Cooper Graduate Fellowship Fund and the Charles A. Dana Graduate Fellowship Fund.

#### #5

Jared Rakusin (Class of 2013)- Jared was recently featured in the 18 under 18 edition of the Atlanta Jewish Times. Jared is extremely articulate and a talented storyteller. Along with his many accomplishments and talents, he also has a sharp wit that will keep you laughing and on your toes. Jared was one of the most talented participants in this year's American Jewish Committee's Leaders for Tomorrow cohort. At North Springs Charter High School, Jared is involved with Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), Jewish Culture Club, Model United Nations, Golf team, Computer Science Club and much more.



## Portrait Of A Graduate

Today's Epstein students, like <u>these 2018</u> <u>Duke TIP qualifiers</u>, are fortunate to continue to receive a high-quality Epstein education. We prepare our students for success in high school, college and beyond. This is <u>evidenced by the caliber of the colleges our</u> <u>alumni attend</u> and the fact that our recent graduating classes have had a 100% acceptance rate to Atlanta's premier private



high schools, public school magnets and honors programs. Many enter high school with advanced standing in mathematics and foreign language as well as eligibility for honors classes. Epstein graduates are lauded by high school administrators and faculty as academic stars, peer leaders and successful student athletes. Learn more about our graduates and how they develop through strong academics, Jewish values and a nurturing environment.





## Do You Have An Exciting Story/Accomplishment To Share?

**We Want To Hear From You!** We are very proud of our alumni and enjoy sharing alumni success stories with our community. If you have any personal news (marriage, baby, engagement etc) or a story you would like to share, please let us know and <u>update your</u> <u>information</u>. Or, perhaps you or an alumnus you know is deserving of being nominated for the Alumni Hall of Fame or Alumni Spotlight. If so, please fill out the appropriate nomination form (<u>Alumni Hall of Fame</u> or <u>Alumni Spotlight</u>) and send to Alumni Relations Coordinator <u>Marni Bekerman</u> or 404-250-5649. And, don't forget to join our <u>alumni association on Facebook</u>.



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