



JQ INTERNATIONAL PRESENTS

PERSIAN PRIDE: LEADERS OF TOMORROW

THURSDAY MARCH 31 | 6:30 PM - 7:45PM PT

LGBTQ+ Persians of faith communities represent a triple minority often raised in a conservative environment resistant to change. JQ produces some of the only programming in the world specifically designed for the LGBTQ+ and ally Persian community at large.

Tonight's program will involve storytelling and open panel discussion focusing on the stories and experiences of those under 30 in our Persian/ Iranian community. We'll have a chance to learn how Persian and Iranian LGBTQ+ young adults are connecting with one another, and creating opportunities to make our spaces more inclusive. Through this panel and following Q&A, we are raising awareness and advocating for full equality in the Persian community, and hope to share some of the more positive, hopeful, and productive stories about LGBTQ+ acceptance, inclusion, and equality.

This program is a partnership with NuRoots, an initiative of The Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles.

NuRoots
An Initiative of

JQ
PERSIAN PRIDE



PERSIAN PRIDE

PANEL PROGRAM

6:30 - 6:35 pm: Logging & Settling In

6:35 - 6:45 pm: Opening & Welcome

6:45 - 7:25 pm: Stories & Panel

7:25 - 7:40 pm: Audience Q & A

7:40 - 7:45 pm: Closing Announcements

ABOUT PERSIAN PRIDE AT JQ

JQ's Persian Pride Programming is one of the only programs in the world specifically designed to support the Persian community at large on the subjects of LGBTQ+ identity, inclusion, and equality. This groundbreaking work positively affects communal growth and cultivates identity, camaraderie, and support through a culturally-sensitive lens. The Persian Pride Fellowship experience provides LGBTQ+ and ally Iranians with advocacy training, activist resources, and tangible tools customized to help them move equality forward, addressing the unique needs of this vibrant community.

MEET THE PANELISTS



Yosef Nemanpour (he/him)

Yosef Nemanpour is a proud member of the Persian Jewish community in Los Angeles. He received his BA in Jewish Studies from UCLA and is currently studying at the Zelikow School of Hebrew Union College getting his Master's in Jewish Nonprofit Management ('21). Yosef is also a Nachshon Project Graduate Fellow of The Legacy Heritage Foundation. Currently, at JQ International, Yosef is the Graduate Development Intern working closely with Shana Gee-Cohen on Development and Fundraising, and he is very excited to expand the reach and impact of JQ International's crucial and life-saving work.



Eli Shavalian (he/him)

Born and raised in LA, Eli moved east to attend Yeshiva University in NY where he majored in Psychology and double-minored in Spanish and Theater. After graduating, he stumbled upon his new passion for higher education and began working in Undergraduate Admission at his alma mater where that passion was able to grow. After a total of four years in Undergraduate Admission (at YU and USC in LA), Eli moved to the high school side of the admission process, working in college counseling at Shalhevet High School. This coming fall, he will join Milken Community School as their incoming Director of College Counseling & Academic Planning. In his free time, Eli loves bike riding, volunteering with organizations like 30 Years After and JQ International, and debating how many students are enrolled at Hogwarts at any given time.



Sophie Bahari (she/hers)

Sophie is from Orange County, California, and went to UCI for her undergraduate degree. She is now currently getting her Doctorate in Audiology at Purdue University in Indiana. She absolutely loves her community and spends her time creating art, rock climbing, skating, reading and gardening. She's a certified Persian Jewish lesbian, and in her personal opinion "Gays are the coolest people on the block—let's be friends!"



Ocean Delrooz (he/they)

Ocean Delrooz (he/they) is a Persian queer and trans creative marketing professional living in Los Angeles, California. He has a passion and love for activism for the LGBTQIA+ community. His main goals are to connect the dots of his cultural background and his queer identity to drive change in the world that celebrates the sacredness of gender expansion and queerness.