Shalom Class of 2022,

My name is Jonathan Trattner and I'm the Programming Vice President for Hillel. I'm writing to invite you to join me at MazalWake, a pre-orientation program for first-year Jewish Students. It is my pleasure to reach out to each of you and tell you a little bit about our program!

I offered to chair MazalWake this year because it got my college experience off on the right foot. As an incoming freshman, MazalWake was a great way for me to get to know the campus and make friends before school started. I especially appreciated the opportunity to hang out with upperclassmen and get their advice on everything from professors and classes to clubs and Greek life.

Here are some of the highlights:

- **Early move-in time (avoid the crowds!)** Arguably the best part of MazalWake is being able to move into your dorm room early. Getting first dibs on your bed, and getting to unpack before mayhem begins, makes signing up for MazalWake a no-brainer.
- **Meet your surrogate Jewish mother, Director of Jewish Life, Dr. Gail Bretan!** MazalWake begins with a bagel brunch that Gail hosts for MazalWake participants — and their parents — where we all get to ask questions and get the lay of the land. What better way to kick off the freshman 15 than with bagels, lox, and cream cheese!
- **Feast upon the largest and most delicious milkshake in Winston-Salem!** I kid you not, this milkshake is larger than a Torah!
- **Have a night on the town!** Remember, what happens downtown stays downtown!
- **Go bowling with your new MazalWake friends!** Matzoh Balls or Bowling balls? That is the question...
- **Explore the CHAI-lights of campus life with upperclassmen!** Including, but not limited to, where to get the best kugel (just kidding, there's no kugel in Winston-Salem...)
- **Hang out with other first-year Wake Forest students (who are attending other pre-orientations, such as Wilderness to Wake or Worldwide Wake) during our annual Humans vs. Zombies game!** It's a great way to meet new friends (and sharpen your zombie-survival skills)!
- **Take a nap!** After an eventful afternoon, we all deserve a mini-Shabbat to unwind and relax!
- **Meet me, an NJB!** My mom asked me to include this — I promise I only speak Hebrew occasionally!
MazalWake is a life changing experience that allows students and parents alike to feel welcomed into the Wake Forest, and Jewish, community. Get your freshman year off on the right foot by signing up for MazalWake. Here’s the link: http://wfu.cvent.com/events/mazal-wake/event-summary-06f723056d9348e4afa35e119d4b7cfb.aspx.

Please feel free to contact me at tratjd17@wfu.edu if you have any questions.

I look forward to meeting you soon!

L'Shalom,

Jonathan Trattner
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