

# The Gordon Gazette

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: LINDSAY GORDON

An interview with Lindsay Gordon, a senior in the School of Sport, Tourism, and Hospitality Management at Temple University, discussing her influencers, motivators, where she came from, and where she is going.

### **Where are you from originally?**

LG: I'm originally from Forest Hills, New York, within the borough of Queens. I like to think of it as the perfect medium between the hustle and bustle of the city and the sleepiness of the suburbs.

### **Why did you choose hospitality?**

LG: Growing up in New York City my friends and I would always go into Manhattan after school. It was one stop farther on the subway, and we felt like such grownups wandering this new territory. It never occurred to me that all the excitement, activities, and attractions, whether they were museums, street fairs, or performers, weren't solely for me. Eventually I realized that the goal of all of it was to attract visitors, and that people make careers out of doing so. I love how tourism can bring together people of different communities and backgrounds and introduce them to new cultures and experiences. What better way to learn about something than from the people who live it?

### **You seem to be passionate about your roots and being a "New Yorker," and it looks like it has influenced your future goals, did you always have that mentality?**

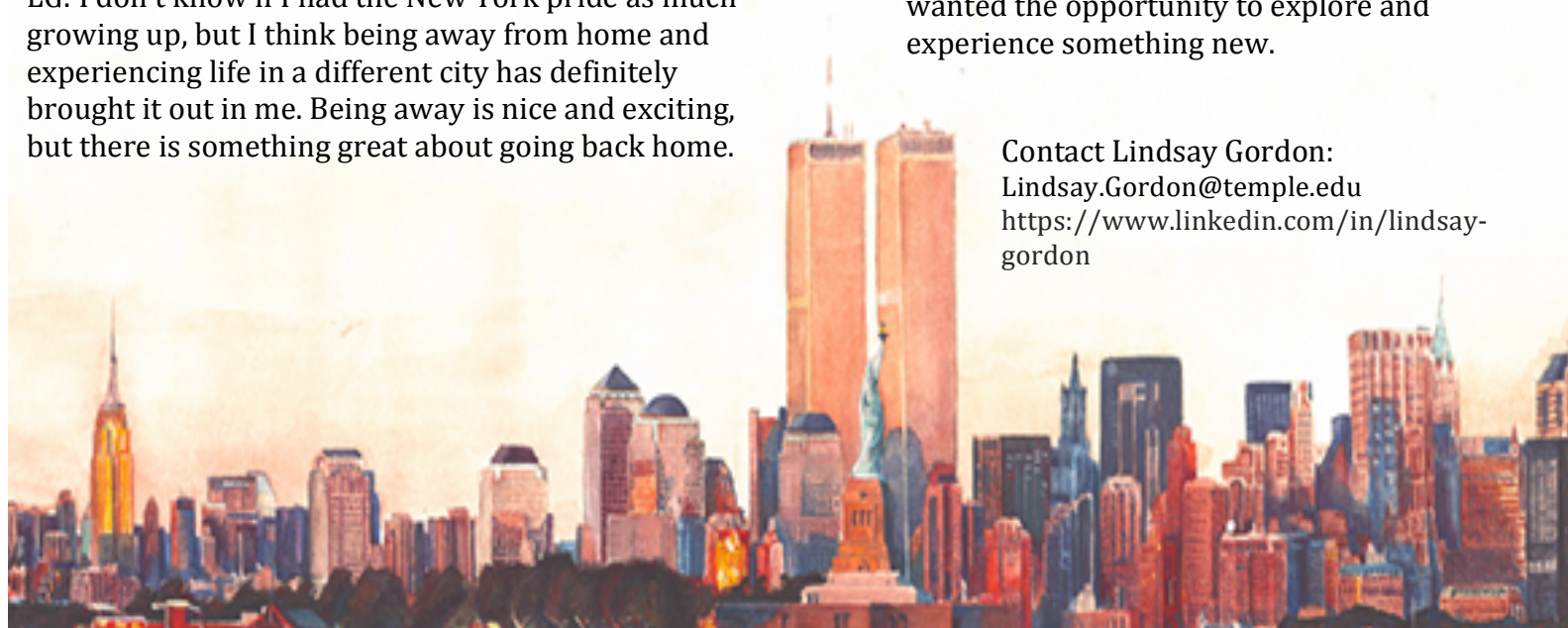
LG: I don't know if I had the New York pride as much growing up, but I think being away from home and experiencing life in a different city has definitely brought it out in me. Being away is nice and exciting, but there is something great about going back home.



### **What brought you to Temple, and Philadelphia as a whole?**

LG: After looking at universities in Upstate New York, I knew that the small town with one main street wouldn't cut it for me, and I decided I wanted to stay in a city. I also however knew that I didn't want to stay home. New York City has great universities but I wanted the experiences of being out on my own. Before coming to Temple, I had been to Philadelphia a couple of times, mostly for school trips and to see all the history. I knew there was so much more to it than what I had experienced so far and wanted the opportunity to explore and experience something new.

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## TRAVEL & LEISURE



With the intention of establishing a stronger personal connection and checking a destination off her bucket list, Lindsay, along with 40 other young Jewish adults traveled to Israel during the summer of 2016. While seeking to take advantage of the cultural experience placed in front of her, Lindsay's interest and studies in the field of tourism and hospitality added to her outlook of the experience. "It was interesting to see the similarities and differences between the cultures of the U.S. and Israel, as well as clear up misconceptions that I may have had before traveling there," Gordon says, adding "it made me reconsider the items I thought I 'needed' as well as evaluate what my experience would appear to be from an outsiders perspective. Would a non-Jewish person want to take this trip after hearing about my experiences?"



## FINDING MY NICHE

In the future I want to work with either a Community Based Organization or a Business Improvement District, in an effort to work towards responsible tourism growth and development. I think it's extremely important to balance the existing community with tourism and business expansion, so the culture and needs of the community don't get lost in the shuffle.

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