# HannahElyseSimpson

## Hannah@HannahSimpson.com · 201.349.6390 · New York, NY 10027

Extroverted, eloquent, outspoken activist with medical and engineering background
 Seeking new challenges in public service, writing, communication, human rights, and social justice
 Geographically flexible and prepared to be mobile as required

### **Experience**

#### LGBTQ Advocate, Educator, and Freelance Writer

2012 - Present

2008

- Freelance writer and influencer on trans identity for mainstream audiences published by The Guardian,
  HuffPost, Refinery29, The Advocate, NBC OUT, and others; profiled by NY Times: Women in the World
- o Featured in Refinery29 mini-documentary What Being Trans is Really Like, a go-to introductiory video
- Guest panelist and multiple-visit interviewee discussing gender identity politics and allyship in national headlines with Melissa Harris-Perry on MSNBC and on Fox (WNYW) News Good Day New York
- Public speaker and panelist sought out by military bases, colleges, high schools, fandom conventions, synagogues, churches, and community centers to teach personal and medical aspects of transitioning

## Israel Advocacy, Jewish Community Organizing, and Lay Leadership 2003 – Present

- o Panelist and Israel missions fellow with American Israel Public Affairs Committee and A Wider Bridge
- Led three 2015-2017 Birthright Israel delegations for groups of 40+ young adults, working as part of small staff teams managing pre-trip logistics, the 10-day experience itself, and post-trip engagement
- Team Leader, March 2016, NECHAMA: Jewish Response to Disaster in Wimberley, TX; supervised three sessions of college students on alternative spring break weeks to rebuild flood-damaged homes
- Organizing committee member, 2014-2015, Shir HaMaalot Brooklyn, a young adult lay-led community;
  leadership involvement in multiple additional congregations leading volunteers and event planning
- o Volunteer leader with Jewish Queer Youth, a non-profit that supports queer-identified teens and adults

# Volunteer, American Red Cross, Hurricane Harvey – Houston & Austin, TX Aug – Sept 2017

- Comforted evacuee families in shelters in English and Spanish; supervised kids with clowning, games
- o Built and taught use of cloud-based spreadsheets for staff scheduling, visualizing shelter occupancies

#### Statewide LGBTQ Organizer, NC Democratic Party - Raleigh & Charlotte, NC Aug - Nov 2016

- Built and managed community-based volunteer teams to register voters and maximize election turnout
- Represented the campaign at non-profits, community gatherings, and businesses to interact with voters, to build and bolster lasting relationships with the prospective administration and its candidates
- Field organizer responsible for suburban turfs; quickly promoted to constituency-based organizing role

#### **Volunteer Coordinator, Trans Lifeline** – Chicago, IL (Working Remotely) 2014 – 2015

o Managed and trained 100 volunteer operators for a listening hotline, wrote custom training materials

# Research Engineer, Graybiel Lab, Brandeis University – Waltham, MA 2009 – 2011

- Conducted non-invasive motor control and spatial perception research on volunteering participants, including supervision responsibilities over multi-day in-residence studies, as a full-time lab staff position
- Completed a year-long project to construct and manage a database of experimental results collected from a multi-night motion sickness study, programmed code to assist in analyzing and plotting datasets

#### **Education**

**Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine Doctoral Program** – New York, NY 1.5 Years completed o Emergency Medical Technician, *Hillsdale Volunteer Ambulance Service* – *Hillsdale*, NJ (2009)

## Boston University BS in Biomedical Engineering – Boston, MA

- 1.5 years of full-time engineering co-op and internship experience in medical device development and clinical research with three companies, including four months employed overseas in Caesarea, Israel
- Study Abroad Semester, Technische Universitaet Dresden, Germany (2005)