In the following questions, please tell us about yourself, about the work (both paid/professional and unpaid/volunteer) you do, and why you want to attend this year's ROI Summit.

Note: If you are invited to participate in the 2018 ROI Summit, ROI/Schusterman may use information you include in this section on the ROI public website and in ROI printed materials (unless otherwise noted below). By including your answers below, you agree to such use. ROI also reserves the right to edit your submitted responses for length and style purposes.

We want to get to know you! Share a short biography of yourself in third person that will help us understand who you are, including a description of your innovative work. Please limit your response to approximately 250 words or less.

Michael Sharvit was born in 1983 in Tel Aviv and has been living there ever since. He is the eldest of four siblings and was raised in a modern-orthodox family with a strong connection with their Israeli-Jewish-Zionist identity. Michael was raised in a way that contributing to the state of Israel was one of the most important goals. Therefore, he has been serving in the army since the age of 19.

Before Michael drafted into the army, he was part of a pre-military course which prepared him for the coming period in the army. Michael drafted to the Armored Corps and started his army career as a soldier on the Golan Heights. After serving with high devotion Michael wanted to continue and climb up the ranks. Therefore, he chose to participate in the IDF officer's course in 2005 in order to become a platoon commander. In 2007 Michael continued his army career by participating in the prestigious company commander's course which he finished with great success.

In 2010 Michael started studying Industrial Engineering and Management for four years at the University of Ariel. After finishing his bachelor degree Michael returned to the Armored Corps as a deputy battalion commander. Nowadays Michael serves as a battalion commander in the Southern part of the country, near Eilat.

In his personal life Michael was one of the leaders that revived the synagogue “Hamachtarot”. Today the synagogue is known as a gathering place for Jewish people that wish to connect on a religious level.

Please present us with a brief biography in the third person (i.e., Justin is from Montreal, Canada). Tell us about yourself: Where were you born? Where did you grow up? What brought you to where you are now? (About 100 words.) Then, using the remaining 100+ words, let us know about the project, organization and/or community with which you are involved; its goals and activities; your specific role; and why you consider this work to be innovative. Feel free to add any other information you think is relevant. Please note: should you be accepted to the 2018 ROI Summit, this short biography will be printed in the Participant Profile book.

Tell us about an initiative/project you advanced. What drove you to make it happen and what was the impact? Please limit your response to approximately 180 words or less.

**"Happiness for a Child" (Simcha Lyeled) is an NGO that cares for children that need revalidation after car accidents, as a result of genetical diseases or after terrorist attacks.**

Michael volunteered at the NGO and led different projects. He was in charge of organizing a summer camp in the North. During the summer camp these children spend time together in a fun and educative way, but also to understand that they are not alone.

Besides that, Michael was in charge of a special trip for these children outside of Israel. He organized a trip to Holland in which many children and instructors participated. Besides sightseeing and travelling the country, the trip was a fulfillment of a dream for these children, that normally – and mainly because of their physical situation – don’t travel to other countries. I saw it as a great honor helping these children fulfilling their dreams.

The impact was:

1. Children in similar situations were able to be together and share their feelings.
2. Experiencing that by "giving" to others you "receive" so much more.
3. Giving people an equal chance and letting them believe that they are not so different from others.

What do you see as the three most pressing social change issues in Israel today?

1. Education – in order for a society to function in a healthy way, education is the main foundation stone in its success. Education should focus on teaching values from a young age in order to create adults that value one and another.

2. Employment rate / coexistence in Haredi and Arab populations – These two groups are caring the biggest potential for social and economic change in society. More and more people from both groups are participating in an active way in the modern Israeli society. We must continue to stimulate this and also focus on coexistence between these vastly different groups.

3. Equal opportunities – a society must provide to every individual the capability to change. Especially social and ethnic groups that have a weaker position in society should be stimulated and given the opportunity to change for the good.

Are you advancing any of these issues in some way? Please describe how you have been involved up until now and/or your plans for involvement in the future, if any? Please limit your response to approximately 180 words or less.

As an army commander for many years I have been involved in advancing all three of these issues. One of the most important task as an army commander is to educate your soldiers. The army teaches that equality – including equal opportunities – is one of its core values. Every single person should be able to succeed and grow as a soldier, but also a human being. Besides that, the army teaches that responsibility is the foundation for professionalism, new initiatives, creativity and more values that in the end lead to positive changes of individuals and of a society as a whole.

Besides that, the army provides opportunities for those that are in need of it. The army provides opportunities for those from lower social-economic parts of society in order for them to flourish and advance to meaningful position in the Israeli society.

What's the most meaningful failure (professional or personal) you've experienced? Why was it your most meaningful failure? ROI/Schusterman will NOT share/publicize any part of this response. Please limit your response to approximately 180 words or less.

During my role as a company commander I was responsible for exercises of the company as part of preserving the ability of my soldiers to fight and to be ready for a future war. During one of these exercises - which took place on the Golan Heights – I was responsible for marking the area of the exercise in order for the tanks to see a safe path through the fields.

I failed to mark the training area in a clear way – as is obligatory – and as a result of this one of my tanks got stuck in a deep hole in the field and almost capsized with the whole crew inside. Nobody got hurt, but I see this incident as one of my biggest failures as a commander, because I was responsible for preventing such a thing from happening.

Describe your relationship with Jewish life and/or Israel. You can choose to tell us a story, what you're grappling with, what challenges you, what you love, what inspires you, what you're questioning – or, you can go with some other angle. The floor is yours. Please limit your response to approximately 150 words or less.

I am a Jew, I am Israeli, and I am a Zionist.

My identity is shaped by these three things.

Israel is the home of the Jewish people and it will be forever.

My morality is a product of Jewish traditions.

The army is the place I feel responsible for and I want to make it better.

Through the army I protect the Israeli people and our homeland.

I was taught to strive for a model society and to play an active role in it.

I believe that today, more than ever in the Israeli history, because of the changes and the challenges in Israeli society, the army functions as the solid rock in a sea of instability by giving equal opportunities and equal treatment to people that need it. I am proud to play an active role in this organization and will continue doing so in the future.

We’d like to get to know you better, and think that a short video would be a good way to do this.

Please start your video with: “Hi/Hello/Hola (however you’d like to say hi!), my name is INSERT FULL NAME. I live in INSERT CITY, (STATE), COUNTRY.” Now, tell us something we don’t know about you (something that hasn’t come up in any of your written responses).

We’re not looking for anything fancy in your video; we encourage you to simply record a video selfie with your webcam or phone. Your video should be no more than 1 minute in total length, and we will be strict about only watching it until the 1-minute mark. - 160 words

Hi, Shalom:)

My name is Michael Sharvit,

I live in Tel-Aviv, Israel.

I would like to tell you,

Please provide at least one reference who you believe would recommend you for this program. Please note, this is to be answered by **you, and not your reference.**

**Why would this individual recommend that you attend the 2018 ROI Summit?**

**Please limit your response to 100 words.**

Matan can you please recommend? ☺