



Lorraine & Jack N. Friedman

Commission for

JEWISH

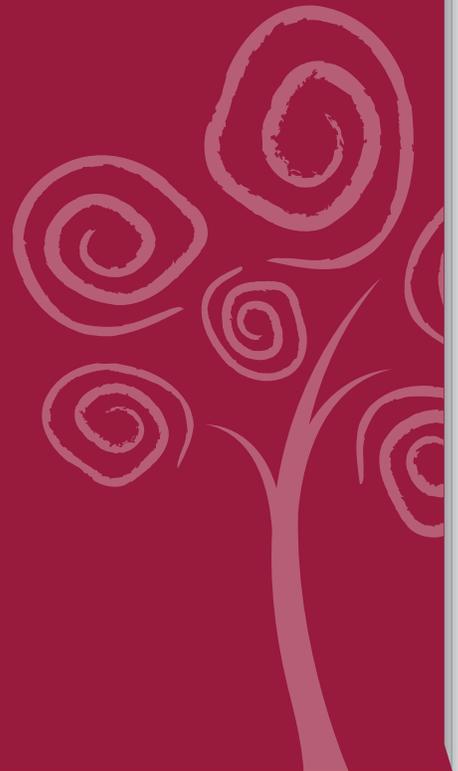
EDUCATION

of the Palm Beaches

Connect. Learn. Grow.

# CJE'S RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

Open and Enjoy!



ANNUAL REPORT 2017

# Our Chefs

Published by the **Lorraine and Jack N. Friedman Commission for Jewish Education**  
www.cjepb.org

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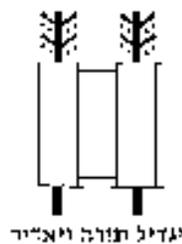
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Original logo circa 1991

# Appetizers



Page 6



Page 7



Page 8



Page 9



Page 10



Page 11

# Featured at Our Table

## 2016-2017 Committee List

### Administrative

#### **Budget and Finance Committee**

Chair: Howard S. Levy  
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Irwin Shipper, Michael Winer  
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Michael Winer

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#### **Strategic Planning Committee**

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### Development

#### **Development Committee**

Co-Chairs: Belinda Agar, Hope Silverman  
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Irwin Shipper, Alan L. Shulman, Michael Winer  
Staff: Dr. Penny Beers, Autumn Mella, Arielle Nakdimon

#### **Life & Legacy Endowment Committee**

(Silver to Gold Endowment Committee)  
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Ellen Rampell, Debbie Shapiro, Irwin Shipper,  
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Staff: Dr. Penny Beers, Autumn Mella,  
Arielle Nakdimon, Jeanne Shepherd

### Adult Education

#### **Conversations with Jewish Women Writers Committee**

Chair: Dania Kier Schwartz

Co-Chairs: Belinda Agar, Nina Botel, Sherrie Scott  
Lay Members: Leslie Adams, Mindi Belsky,  
Phyllis Garner, Ellen Goldenson, Phyllis Hoffman,  
Sandi Rosen, Suzan Sankel, Carla Schwartz, Adele  
Shamban, Dr. Elizabeth S. Shulman, Marlene Silver,  
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Debbie Shapiro, Dr. Elizabeth S. Shulman,  
Marlene Silver, Esther Szmukler, Caren Treiser,  
Arleen Wayte, Belle Winston, Sandy Zeoli  
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#### **Jewish Family Life Committee**

Chair: Debbie Shapiro  
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Lisa Seymour, N. Deborah Stapler  
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### Professional Development & School Services

#### **Early Childhood Educators Council**

Co-Chairs: Paula Deakter, Bobbi Sadow  
Dini Ciment, Sharon Feinberg, Tammy Kaiser,  
Veronica Maravankin, Amy Nelson, Amy Stevens,  
Sandy Wilensky  
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Orly Jacobs, Iris Koller, Cantor Jenn Duretz Peled,  
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Wilma Turk

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Janis Rosen, Holly Sloan, Marcia Weinstein,  
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Lynne Lieberman, Bebe Novick-Brodigan

# Featured at Our Table

## 2016-2017 Board of Directors

### Officers

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*First Vice President*

Ellen Rampell  
*Administrative Vice President*

Belinda Agar  
*Development Vice President*

Dr. Stephen Sussman  
*Professional Education Vice President*

Debbie Shapiro\*  
*Programming Vice President*

Howard S. Levy  
*Treasurer*

Alan L. Shulman\*  
*Immediate Past President*

### At Large

Richard Rosenblatt  
Dania Kier Schwartz  
Michael Winer

### Board of Directors

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Sara Chavkin  
Hope Dunkel  
Neil Efron  
Linda Fayne  
Vivienne Felberman Ivry  
Bowie Jacobson\*  
Lisa Lickstein  
Martin A. List  
Rabbi Stephen H. Pinsky  
Suzan Sankel

Dr. Elizabeth S. Shulman\*  
Marlene Silver  
Hope Silverman  
Joel H. Yudenfreund

### Agency Representatives

Rabbi Andrew L. Rosenkranz  
*Board of Rabbis*

Cantor Danielle Bensimhon  
*Cantorial Clergy*

Cantor Beth Pennamacoor  
*Educators' Council*



## 2017-2018 Board of Directors

### Officers

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Debbie Shapiro\*  
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Dr. Stephen Sussman  
*Administrative Vice Chair*

Dr. Elizabeth S. Shulman  
*Development Vice Chair*

Irwin Shipper  
*Secretary*

Howard S. Levy  
*Treasurer*

Cynn timer S. List  
*Immediate Past Board Chair*

### Directors

Belinda Agar  
Sara Chavkin  
Lisa Lickstein  
Martin A. List  
Rabbi Stephen H. Pinsky  
Marvin Rosen  
Richard Rosenblatt

Suzan Sankel  
Dania Kier Schwartz  
Marlene Silver  
Hope Silverman  
Sydelle Sonkin  
Michael Winer

*\*Past Board Chair*

# Featured at Our Table

## Agency Volunteers

Jordyn Bergman

Kyra Bergman

Noam Bernstein

Matthew Berris

Rebecca Berris

June Black

Maya Bon Giorno

Jordyn Chatoff

Livia Chaykin

Liz Cohn

Cheryl Dubbrin

Elaine Fleisher

Allison Glassman

Susan Goldstein

Adir Gottesman

Rabbi Janie Grackin

Marci Hartman

Nitza Hartung

Lindsay Hirsch

Roberta Kloper

Laurie Koen

Debbie Koristz

Lisa Kramer

Peggy Kroll

Roslyn Leopold

Leslie Mandell

Sara LeRoy

Sarit Levy

Marcy Marcus

Iris Milstein

Randee Moskowitz

Steve Olitsky

Joy-Anne Parker

Marvin Rosen

Sandra Rosen

Rabbi Erica Rosenkranz

Gregory Sandberg

Nicole Schneider

Sydney Schneider

Lisa Seymour

Hana Siegelstein

Shayne Silver

Denise Silverman

David Simon

Lexi Simon

Leslee Simon

N. Deborah Stapler

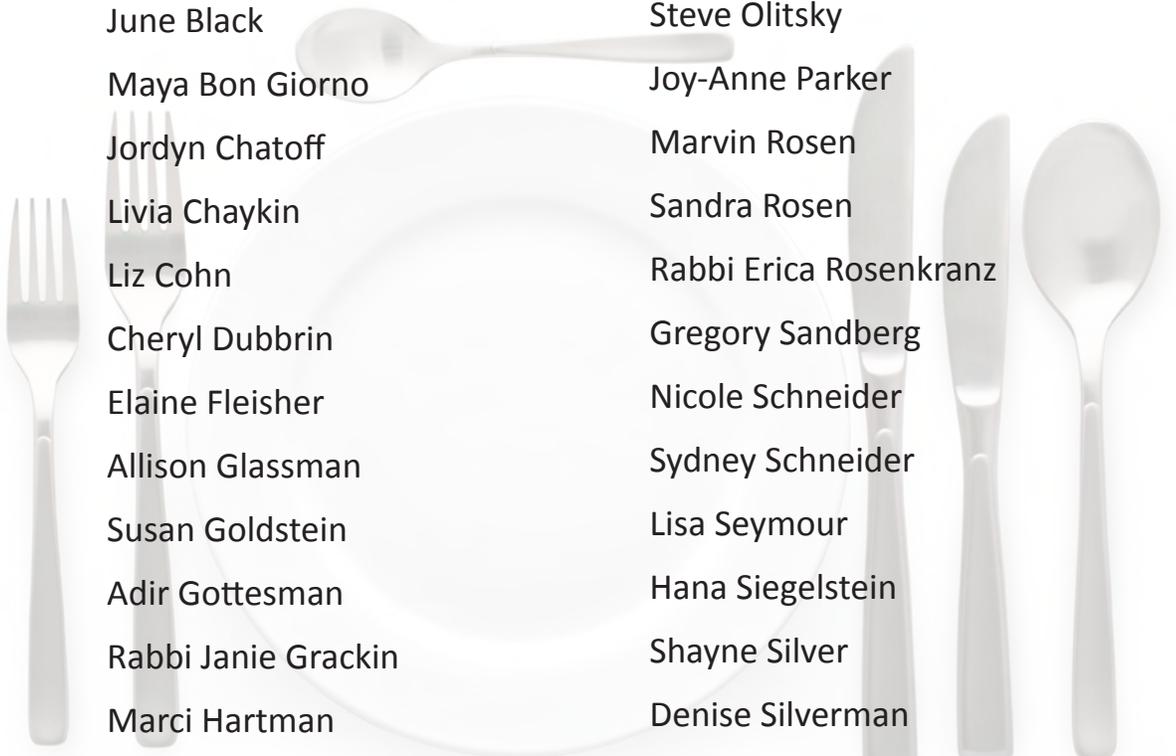
Carolyn Strum

Emily Teck

Beth Wayne

Marion Westfal

Sandy Zeoli



# Entrée

## Special Needs Education



Learning by Doing

The J.N. Somers Yad Hebrew School for Children with Special Needs began serving our community in 2001 and has been holding regular Sunday classes since then. A highly-trained faculty and a 1:1 ratio of adult and teen volunteers to students makes Yad the ideal place for Jewish children with disabilities to learn about their heritage.

### 2016-2017 highlights:

- Relocated Yad classes to Temple Torat Emet and continued inclusion programming with its religious school.
- Collaborated with the Bat Gurion Chapter of Hadassah for Yad's Annual Intergenerational Hanukkah program with residents at MorseLife.
- Celebrated the Bat Mitzvah of Yad graduate-turned-program-volunteer Joy-Anne Parker.
- Advanced students' knowledge of synagogue rituals and prayers.
- Expanded technology integration in Hebrew language development using iPads.
- Shared curriculum and lessons between Yad students and "Wings of Krembo" students in the "school twinning" program with our sister region TZAHAR (Tzfat, Hatzor Haglilit and Rosh Pina), in Israel.
- Incorporated a therapy dog into weekly classes.



Volunteers Paired with Each Student

# Entrée

## Professional Development and School Services



### Hands-On Learning for Educators

The Friedman CJE's Professional Development & School Services department has set the table for all local educators at its Café Lilmod (Lilmod is Hebrew for "to learn"). CJE created this program to encourage ongoing teacher development. In the Greater Palm Beaches hundreds of teachers, principals and lay leaders at synagogues, Jewish preschools, religious schools and the Arthur I. Meyer Jewish Academy participate in Café Lilmod, ultimately, impacting 2,500 students each year.

#### 2016-2017 highlights:

- *Partnered with Sefaria, A Living Library of Jewish Texts, to train local teachers in the newest online platform of Jewish hypertext featuring Torah, Tanakh, Mishna, Talmud, Commentaries, prayer and more.*
- *Hosted community wide scholar-in-residence, Rabbi Jeffrey Schein, Ph.D., presenting, Text Me: When Ancient Jewish Wisdom Meets Contemporary Technology. Rabbis, Jewish communal professionals, adult learners, students and families, and teachers participated.*
- *Connected and collaborated with Israel Educators' Exchange (School Twinning Program) to create meaningful, shared learning opportunities between 35 classrooms in the Greater Palm Beaches and our sister region TZAHAR (Tzfat, Hatzor Haglilit, and Rosh Pina), Israel.*
- *Presented professional development opportunities for teachers and principals at Arthur I. Meyer Jewish Academy, synagogue schools and preschools. These included Jewish food education in CJE's 24th Summer Institute, project based learning with High Tech High, a professional development conference focused on Teaching Israel for Today and the 21st annual conference for early childhood educators: Planting the Seeds of Intention.*
- *Immersed early childhood drama educational consultant Lorraine Arcus in two preschools throughout the school year in order to increase preschool engagement with Jewish study.*
- *Helped synagogue schools integrate technology into their curriculum. Teachers and students created projects such as: a Jewish history digital timeline, a digital Haggadah, a holiday website, a virtual Tu B'shevat scavenger hunt and a Purim "shpiel" video.*

# Entrée

## Adult Learning • The Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning



Exploring Fascinating Aspects of Jewish History

The Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning is a sophisticated and interactive course taught locally by Friedman CJE's Melton-trained instructors. The classes are developed by an international team of experts at the Hebrew University's Melton Centre for Jewish Education. It offers a pluralistic and accessible course of Jewish study without exams or homework where the only requirement for students is a passion for learning.

### 2016-2017 highlights:

- *Celebrated the 6th anniversary of the Melton School with many classes at maximum capacity.*
- *Expanded Jewish knowledge for more than 100 adult students who attended six weekly classes in Boynton Beach, Palm Beach, West Palm Beach and Palm Beach Gardens.*
- *Explored topics of study including: history of the Arab-Israeli conflict, comprehensive exploration of the book of Genesis, examination of Jewish identity in a time of dramatic political, social change and Jewish culture and identity in America, as well as the history, rituals, ethics and purposes of living a Jewish life.*



Lifelong Learning

# Entrée

## Adult Learning • *Conversations with Jewish Women Writers*



Intimate Gatherings  
of Women

The Friedman CJE's *Conversations with Jewish Women Writers* is an innovative, thought-provoking and intimate book & author series that brings together groups of women with Jewish female authors. In partnership with Hadassah-Brandeis Institute, *Conversations* explores Jewish and gender issues and serves as the original model for similar programs in dozens of Jewish communities across the country and in Canada.

### 2016-2017 highlights:

- Celebrated the 15th anniversary of *Conversations*.
- Enrolled more than 120 participants for sessions in Palm Beach and Palm Beach Gardens.
- Reported more than 400 participants since the program's inception in 2002.



Exploring Jewish  
and Gender Issues

# Entrée

## Jewish Family Life Department



### Connecting Families to Jewish Experiences

The Jewish Family Life (JFL) Department at the Friedman CJE provides “**three Cs**” in our community. The department offers **concierge** services help to connect families to Jewish life and learning opportunities in the Greater Palm Beaches. It provides expert **consultation** services to community partners in Jewish family life education, family engagement programming, professional teacher development and outreach.

Through **collaborations** with community partners, CJE identifies the needs of local families and works together to fulfill those needs with family outreach, engagement programs, curriculum enhancement & in-home experiences, and implementation of this community’s PJ Library® and PJ Our Way™ programs.

#### 2016-2017 highlights:

- *Launched PJ Our Way in fall 2016 - the next chapter of PJ Library. PJ Our Way is free for children 9 through 12 years old. As of spring 2017, more than 200 local children are going online to choose their own Jewish-themed chapter book each month.*
- *Successfully planned and implemented our first collaborative PJ Our Way program with the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County as part of the community celebration of Israel Days. This program provided a PJ Library story time for young children as well as Israel-themed activities for tweens (children 9 through 12 years old) related to the PJ Our Way book “The Storyteller’s Beads.”*
- *Planned and implemented more than 20 successful family engagement programs with community partners. These included a Tot Shabbat featuring internationally-known PJ Library musician Rick Recht at Temple Beth Torah, and two PJ Library family Shabbat dinner programs at the Mandel JCC in Boynton Beach.*
- *Convened more than 30 local Jewish professionals for an informative luncheon celebrating nine years working together to engage families raising Jewish children and looking toward future endeavors.*
- *Enhanced in-home Jewish experiences four times each year for approximately 1,200 local families with family tree and traveler’s prayer luggage tag kits, a book for parents and recipe cards provided by PJ Library.*

# Entrée

## Development Department



The Friedman CJE's development department seeks financial support to sustain and grow CJE's programs and to ensure that quality Jewish education will be readily available in the Greater Palm Beaches, now and in the future.

### 2016-2017 highlights:

- Organized CJE's inaugural "Stay at Home Gala" as a major fundraising event for the 2016-2017 social season. The "non-event" allowed CJE to celebrate its 26th year in the community while conserving human and financial resources. "Stay at Home Gala" co-chairs and long-time CJE supporters, Hope Silverman and Debbie Shapiro, also co-chaired the agency's 25th anniversary gala in 2016. The initiative received substantial media coverage.
- Announced the Life & Legacy endowment campaign, a communal initiative that will secure CJE's role as a leader in Jewish education, and guarantee its future financial stability. Philanthropists in the Greater Palm Beaches help us ensure that all learners, regardless of ability or financial resources, will have access to quality Jewish education. Participation is an investment in Jewish continuity.

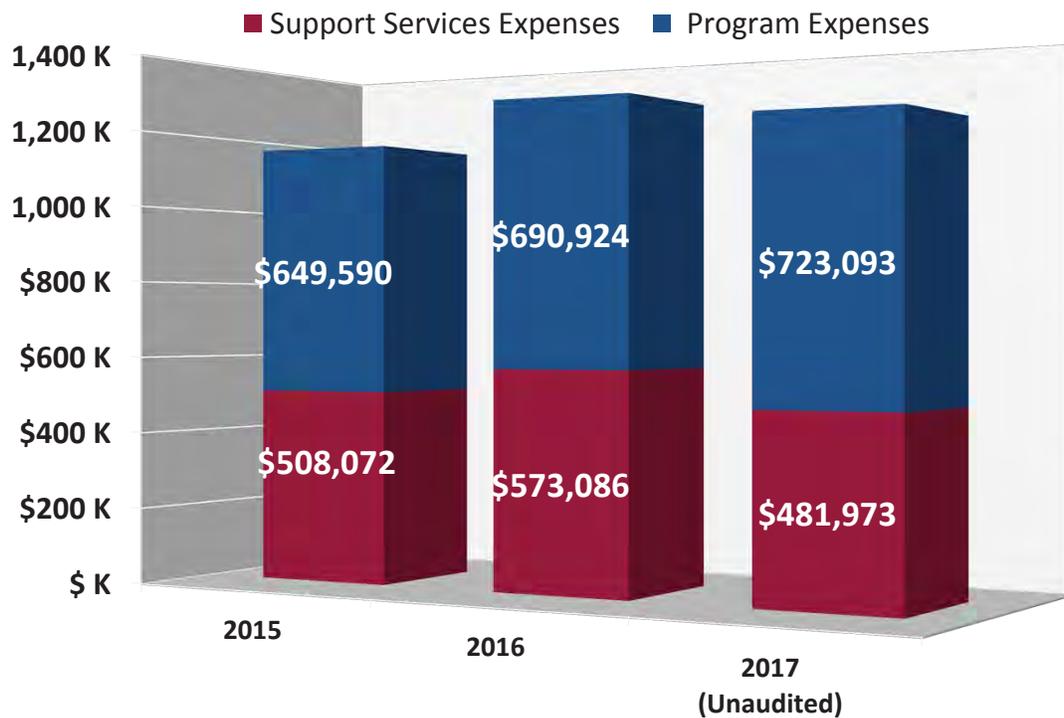


# Entrée

## Finance

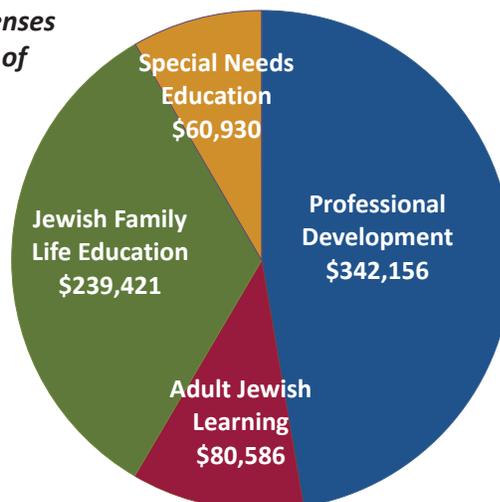
The Friedman Commission for Jewish Education is grateful to its supporters who enable the agency to enhance its services and programs.

### Program and Support Services Expenses FY 2015, 2016 and 2017



### Program Expenses, 2016-17\*

Total program expenses of \$723,093 consist of the following:



\* Unaudited

# Entrée

## Public Relations

The Friedman Commission for Jewish Education has received significant media attention in the past year including coverage of CJE's innovative "Stay at Home Gala", the 15th anniversary of *Conversations with Jewish Women Writers*, the expansion of PJ Library® to include children through 8 years old, and the next chapter of PJ Library – PJ Our Way™, the Lilmod Ulelamed ("to learn and to teach") continuing education and grant program for teachers, the Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning, advice on navigating the challenges of interfaith families during Hanukkah and Christmas, and last spring's commencement of the J.N. Somers Yad Hebrew School for Children with Special Needs.

**During 2016-2017 in the Greater Palm Beaches, the following online and print media featured CJE:**

*Florida Weekly*

*Macaroni Kid*

*Palm Beach Daily News*

*Palm Beach Illustrated magazine*

*Palm Beach Parenting magazine*

*Palm Beach Post*

*Palm Beach Post Notables*

*Shalom South Florida*

*South Florida Parenting*

*Sun Sentinel*

*Sun Sentinel Society Scene*

*The Jewish Journal*

*The Jewish Voice*



# Featured Seasonings

## Seasonings from the Following Organizations Make CJE More Special

*Alpert Jewish Family and Children's Service  
(including Levine Jewish Residential and Family Services)*

*American Associates, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev*

*Anshei Chesed Congregation, Boynton Beach*

*Arthur I. Meyer Jewish Academy*

*Autism Speaks*

*B3/The Jewish Boomer Platform*

*B'nai Aviv Early Childhood Education Center*

*Center for Israel Education at Emory University*

*Chabad House of Northern Palm Beach Island*

*Chabad Lubavitch of Greater Boynton Beach*

*Chabad of Lake Worth*

*Chabad of West Boynton Beach*

*Dorot Bat Gurion Hadassah Chapter*

*Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning*

*Gardens Jewish Experience*

*Gold Coast Down Syndrome Organization*

*Gratz College*

*Hadassah-Brandeis Institute*

*Harold Grinspoon Foundation*

*Jack and Harriet Rosenfeld Foundation Program in Jewish Education at the University of Miami School of Education and Human Development*

*Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County  
(including: Israel & Global Initiatives, Jewish Teen Initiative, Mandel Center for Leadership, P2Gether, Synagogue Institute and Jewish Community Relations Council)*

*Mandel Jewish Community Centers  
(Palm Beach Gardens & Boynton Beach)*

*MorseLife (Including The Tradition of the Palm Beaches)*

*NewCAJE*

*Palm Beach Synagogue, Palm Beach*

*Temple B'nai Jacob, Wellington*

*Temple Beit HaYam, Stuart*

*Temple Beth Am, Jupiter*

*Temple Beth David, Palm Beach Gardens*

*Temple Beth El, West Palm Beach*

*Temple Beth El Israel, Port St. Lucie*

*Temple Beth Tikvah, Greenacres*

*Temple Beth Torah, Wellington*

*Temple Emanu-El, Palm Beach*

*Temple Israel, West Palm Beach*

*Temple Judea, Palm Beach Gardens*

*Temple Shaarei Shalom, Boynton Beach*

*Temple Torat Emet, Boynton Beach*

*The Chocolate Spectrum*

*Wings of Krembo*

# Our Connoisseurs

## Donors

### Benefactors

*\$50,000 and above*

Dorothy Adler • Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County  
Toby Wilk Fund for Adult Education

### Trustees of Jewish Education

*\$18,000 - \$49,999*

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J.N. Somers Fund for Special Needs Education • Barbara G. Kay  
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### Heritage

*\$3,600 - \$4,999*

Vivian Lieberman

### Chai Guardian of Jewish Education

*\$1,800 - \$3,599*

Dr. Penny and Mitchell Beers • Elinor Belfer • Lisa and Dr. David Lickstein  
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Hope and Gene Silverman • Richard Rosenblatt • Belle Winston

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*\$1,000 - \$1,799*

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# Our Connoisseurs

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\$200 - \$359

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Adele Konecky • Gloria Lipson • Zelda and Allen Mason • Carol Safran and Peter Eckstein

### Member

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Dr. Sheldon and Marjorie Konigsberg • Donna and Irving Kramer • Peggy Kroll  
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Kenneth A. Max • Autumn and Elvis Mella • Iris and Laurence Milstein • Jeff Moskovitz  
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Phyllis Snider • Dr. Jeri Sorosky • L. R. Steinberg • Dr. and Mrs. Abraham Szmukler • Harvey Tasch  
Adrienne Turk and Paul Bon Giorno • Melissa and Scott Wortman • Sandra and Stephen Zeoli

\*Of Blessed Memory

# Five Star Educators



Congratulations to our community educators who are the recipients of these prestigious awards!



**2017 Grinspoon Award for Excellence in Jewish Education in West Palm Beach**  
*Iris Milstein* is a middle school Hebrew language and Judaic studies teacher at the Arthur I. Meyer Jewish Academy, Palm Beach Gardens. This award is sponsored by the Friedman Commission for Jewish Education and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation to recognize local teachers who make a lasting impact on the lives of Jewish children, and contribute to excellence in Jewish education.



**2017 Hiddush Award for Innovations in Teaching & Learning**  
*Rhea Exizian* is a Pre-K teacher at The One School at Temple Beth Am, Jupiter. Hiddush is Hebrew for “innovation or renewal.” This award recognizes a high-impact teacher who initiates positive changes in the learning environment, and who uses innovative curriculum and teaching to transform the classroom and school.



**2017 Friedman CJE Lifetime Achievement in Jewish Education Award**  
*Maggie Kaufman* is a 2nd and 3rd grade religious school teacher at Temple Israel, West Palm Beach. This award honors a Jewish educator for his or her lifelong dedication and passion to Jewish education—still teaching and still learning.



## 2017 Café Lilmod Awards

We are proud to honor more than 60 teachers in Jewish schools throughout the Greater Palm Beaches with the Café Lilmod Award. Lilmod is Hebrew for “to learn.” Café Lilmod recognizes these educators for their continuing professional development education, implementation, and reflection on student outcomes throughout the school year.



# Dessert

## A Little Taste of Our Next Course

As we complete our *recipes for success* for the 2016-2017 season, our plans for the 2017-2018 season are well underway.

This summer, the Friedman Commission for Jewish Education is moving into the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County's new Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Building. The location of this building, in West Palm Beach, allows CJE to remain centrally located to students, families, educators, rabbis, volunteers and program participants with whom we work with each day.

CJE will continue to "champion" Jewish education in 2017-2018. We are planning an innovative and transformative year where we will increase our efforts to infuse the latest technology into all aspects of Jewish education in our community.

We look forward to continuing to enrich and strengthen Jewish life and education in the Greater Palm Beaches in our 27<sup>th</sup> year.



Find resources for Jewish family life, special needs education, professional development for educators and adult learning experiences at [www.cjepb.org](http://www.cjepb.org) or (561) 640-0700.



Follow the Friedman Commission for Jewish Education  
on Facebook at /FriedmanCJE



## Vision

A vibrant, engaged community energized by the beauty of Jewish life and learning.

## Mission

CJE enriches and strengthens Jewish life and education throughout the Greater Palm Beaches.

We're Moving This Summer!  
Our New Address is:  
One Harvard Circle, Suite 100  
West Palm Beach, FL 33409

4601 Community Drive | West Palm Beach, FL 33417

561.640.0700 | [www.cjepb.org](http://www.cjepb.org)

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OF PALM BEACH COUNTY  
BE JEWISH PALM BEACH