

# Annual Report

## 2018 - 2019



BUILDERS OF JEWISH  
EDUCATION

# At the threshold of a new year



Gil Graff

In this annual report, you will find stories of impact in multiple aspects of BJE's work, from the professional development of educators, to multi-generational experiential learning, to meeting the needs of diverse learners, to board development, educational transformation initiatives and more. One of the (happy) challenges of BJE is that its mission is expressed in such a variety of high-impact activities that it is difficult to succinctly convey the "story" that is BJE. Among our goals in the new year is improved communications – stay tuned!

Several individuals who made a significant mark on Jewish education in our community passed away during the past year; we remember them in these pages. William James observed that "the great use of life is to spend it for something that outlasts it." Jewish education is an ongoing project, and those who advance it leave an enduring legacy.

Each Rosh Hashanah, Jews begin the new year with an affirmation of the importance of community. The High Holiday liturgy frames both our reflections on the past year and our hopes for the new year in the plural; we recognize a shared, collective destiny. Thank you for your partnership in building the Jewish present and future through education. May the new year truly be a *shannah tovah*, a year of goodness.

With best wishes in 2019-2020 (5780),

Gil Graff, Executive Director

Mark S. Berns, President



Mark S. Berns

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## BJE 2018-2019 Board of Directors

Herb Abrams <sup>z"l</sup> * Michael Adler Kathi Barnhard Susan Baum Mark S. Berns Ralph Bijou Mayer Brenner Max Candiotty* Ellen Cervantes Rhea Coskey* Cheryl Davidson Sharon De Mayo Keren Dunn Dr. Bruce Ellman Janet Farber* Herb Glaser* Dr. Mark Goldenberg Ilana Goldschein Dr. Rachael Gordon Marjorie Gross	Dr. Simona Heumann Eileen Horowitz Chuck Hurewitz* Miriam Istrin Mark Lainer* Lisa Lainer-Fagan Jill Lasker Aaron Leibovic Amy Leibowitz Dr. Elaine Lindheim Linda Goldenberg Mayman* Adrian Miller Sheilah Miller Donna S. Nadel* Dorit Naftalin Nelson David Nimmer Alan Petlak Mel Plutsky Linda Resnick Nurit Robin	Marc Rohatiner* Craig Rutenberg Jay Sanders Nancy R. Schulman Liz Rosman Schwartz Steve Shapiro Bonnie Smigel-Derin Bennett L. Spiegel Marci Barnhard Spitzer Dr. Alan M. Spiwak* Sheila Baran Spiwak Jay Stein Susan Jacoby Stern Tammy Temkin Sam Yebri Parham Zar
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\*BJE past Chairs and Presidents  
z"l of blessed memory

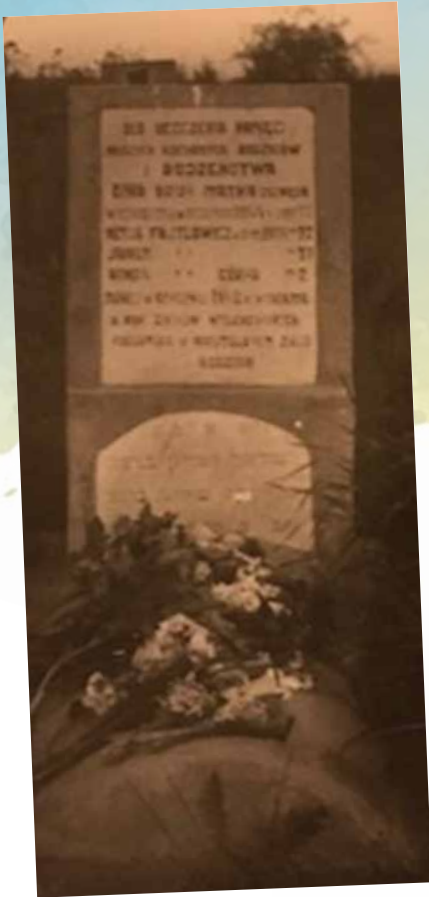
## BJE 2018-2019 staff

Lauren Adelson Maya Aharon Chen Bain Candace Brand Rachel Dubowe Gil Graff Miriam Prum Hess Rachel Kaplan Jaclyn Lafer David Lewis	Phil Liff-Grieff Monise Neumann Marie Perez Michelle Porjes Deborah Reissman Jim Rogozen Blythe Roque Liat Vorobiev Millie Wexler Betty Winn
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## BJE 2018-2019 Advisory Board

George Caplan Claudine Douglas Bonnie Duboff Faith Gershbock Todd Gindy Betty R. Hamburger Ellen L. Jacobs	Stacy Reznikoff Kent Jill Lefferman Wesley Lester <sup>z"l</sup> Louis G. Miller Karmi Monsher Carole Oken Sandra Radoff-Bernstein	Norman Saiger Jo Mintz Seligman Rabbi Avrohom Stulberger Ben Tysch Tami Weiser Mel Wynn Barbara Yaroslavsky <sup>z"l</sup>
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# ENGAGING THE NEXT GENERATION: 2019 BJE March of the Living



Gravesite of Izrael Bruk,  
Lodz Cemetery, 1957

In April, BJE March of the Living (MOTL) sent one of its largest delegations ever on the annual international trip. The group was nearly 300 strong, including 217 high school students, six survivors, 25 volunteer educators and staff, and 51 adult March of the Living participants. For one student and her grandparents - participants in BJE's adult MOTL - the trip included a special and very personal side trip. Jordyn Glucksman and her grandparents, Carlin and John Glucksman, were honored to share their experience.

Carlin's father, Barry Bruk, was born in Lodz, Poland in 1924, the youngest of seven children. Their tiny family apartment in the Baluty area stood at

the center of the Lodz Ghetto starting in 1940. Barry did everything he could to help sustain his parents and siblings. Despite this, his beloved father succumbed to starvation in 1942. Only 17 years old, Barry carried his father's body to the Lodz Cemetery, where he set markers for others to find.

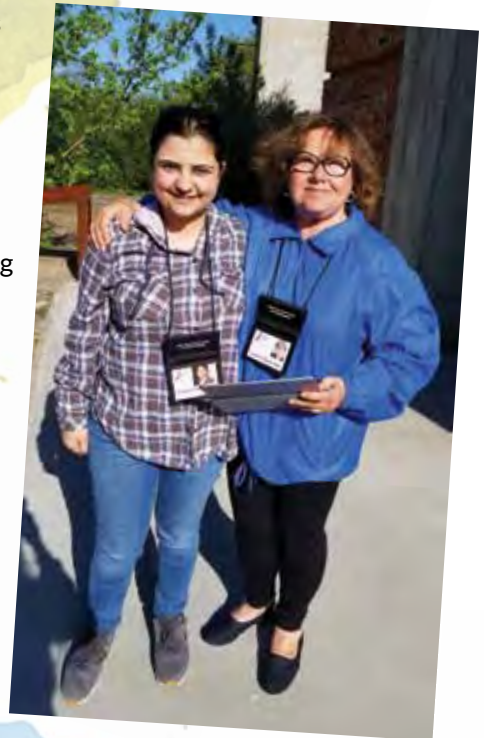
More than 75 years later, Barry's great granddaughter, Jordyn, her grandparents Carlin and John, and Jordyn's entire BJE March of the Living bus, made a special trip to the Lodz Cemetery to visit the gravesite of her great great grandfather, Izrael Bruk.

*"Being with Jordyn became even more special given the decision to include all the participants from her bus,"* recounted Carlin. *"We shared a tiny fraction of our family history with this special group. And then my soul filled to capacity by having the youngsters, the leaders and a survivor share in reciting Kaddish for my grandfather and for my father who had recently died. This was the first time in the 77 years since Izrael Bruk's burial that a minyan was present to recite his name and honor God for the gift of life bestowed on his descendants. That John and I were able to share even a short time with the teens through our participation with the BJE adult March of the Living, was an incomparable gift we'll always cherish."*

Jordyn was equally moved. *"Going to the site where my great great grandfather was buried was an emotional experience. I'm grateful for the chance to have had this experience with the support of my BJE MOTL family."*

Maya Aharon, BJE Director of Teen Experiential Education Programs, also reflected on this remarkable opportunity. *"BJE March of the Living is about stories. How extraordinary it*

*was to stand with Carlin and Jordyn at Carlin's grandfather's grave in the Lodz Cemetery, hearing her tell stories about his life."*



Jordyn Glucksman with her grandmother Carlin Glucksman in Lodz, Poland.

For information about the teen BJE March of the Living, please go to: <https://www.bjela.org/bjeMOTL> or contact Liat Vorobiev at 323.761.8635 or [lvorobiev@bjela.org](mailto:lvorobiev@bjela.org). Registration closes each year in September.

Registration for the 2021 adult BJE March of the Living, guided in Poland by Dr. Michael Berenbaum, will open Fall 2019.

For information go to [www.bjela.org](http://www.bjela.org) or contact Miriam Prum Hess at 323.761.8334 or [mprumhess@bjela.org](mailto:mprumhess@bjela.org).

# BJE 2018-19 Program Highlights

## Reshet LA

Over the past year, BJE's Reshet-LA has been working with educators, administrators, and lay leaders in 11 part-time religious schools to engage them in transforming their schools. The program, funded in part by the Jewish Federation, is designed to stimulate and support innovation in religious schools in greater Los Angeles through workshops, mentoring, and networking guided by BJE professionals.

*Ramat Zion Religious School Director, Julia Levine, said, "There has been a lot of talk of innovating and updating our Religious School, but there was no clear blueprint for where to start or how to proceed. Being part of Reshet LA provided a starting point for thinking about taking my Religious School to the next level." Ramat Zion has been working with teachers to adopt Project-Based Learning, and engage students in new and innovative ways.*

Part-time Religious School Educators were honored through Lainer Distinguished Educator Awards and Smotrich Family Foundation Awards: Lainer Awards - Tracie Waco of Wilshire Boulevard Temple; Marcy Stieglitz of Temple Beth Am; and Julie Blair of Temple Ramat Zion & Valley Outreach Synagogue. Smotrich Awards - Danielle Stein of Temple Ramat Zion; Marissa Deutsch of Temple Menorah.

## Project Enable

BJE continues to work with schools to offer individualized support for children with varied mild to moderate learning



**Jewish Educator Award Ceremony (l to r) Dr. Gil Graff, BJE Executive Director; Lowell Milken, Chairman and Co-Founder Milken Family Foundation. Jewish Educator Award Winners: Rabbi Shimon Abramczik, YULA Boys High School; Florette Benhamou, Harkham Hillel Hebrew Academy; Fanny Koyman, Heschel Day School; Patty Tanner, Wise School. Richard Sandler, Executive Vice President Milken Family Foundation**

needs. Through a Cutting Edge Grant from the Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles, BJE established this resource offering affordable and easily accessible specialized services to enable students needing additional support in Jewish elementary schools to thrive. It also provides professional development workshops for schools to support the clinical and educational work being done to accommodate diverse learning styles.

Currently students are receiving support in the areas of reading and writing, math, executive functioning and social skills. A recent survey of teachers, administrators and parents, conducted by an external evaluator, revealed that the program has a very high rate of approval across all constituencies.

## Lainer Fellows

Seventeen college students from Hillel 818 and UCLA Hillel participated in this year's BJE Lainer Fellows program funded by the Lainer Israel Interns Endowment Fund and Ellie and Mark Lainer. The Lainer Fellows program is open to college juniors and seniors with an interest in Jewish organizational life.

Fellows attend a series of leadership development workshops, meet and network with professionals in the field, are assigned a mentor, and receive support to enroll in an Israel-based educational experience. Workshops are open to other Hillel students and over 60 participated in BJE staff-led workshops.

*Lainer Fellow, Shayda Gowhari, shared her enthusiasm for the program, particularly the benefits of the mentoring experience. "I was very lost as to what I wanted to do career-wise but Zach, my mentor who works at Milken Community High School, helped guide me and form a path. I'm beyond grateful for this fellowship and everything that Zach has taught me."*

## Leading Together

BJE's Leading Together cohort, comprised of 14 schools, completed an 18 month program focused on school board leadership development. With support from the Diane P. and Guilford Glazer Philanthropies, the program brought heads of school together with their board chairs and other top leaders for a series of workshops addressing the role of professional and volunteer leadership in schools, and best practices for successful collaboration.

*Shara Peters, Head of School at Adat Ari El Labowe Family Day School, said: "I love the collegiality that Leading Together builds among the board leaders who attend, and the stronger connections they also build among the professionals. The cohort nature of the program also allows for a cross-pollination of ideas among board members from schools that normally wouldn't have the opportunity to connect. It was more than worth every minute!"*

## The First 36

The Simms/Mann Institute graduated the third cohort of The First 36 Project, a program in partnership with BJE and the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles. The 13 participating educators, from nine different schools, spent 18 months learning about “the whole child” during the first critical three years of life, with the aim of nurturing resilient children. The cohort members heard from top neuroscientists, studied cutting-edge research, and engaged with peers in the field. The program is helping schools across the region elevate the level of expertise of their parenting educators. A fourth cohort, comprised of 14 Parent & Me leaders and Early

Childhood directors from 11 schools, has already begun.

*I feel truly honored and blessed to be part of the First 36 Project. Through this program, I have been able to enhance the quality and impact of my Mommy and Me class. As the new series is approaching, I feel so much more confident in the professional structure of the class, and in the content that I will be sharing.” Chana Herzog, Gan Israel – Tarzana, Cohort 3 participant.*

## BJE Bebe Feuerstein Simon Early childhood institute

This year’s Institute brought together 300 educators from across the Los Angeles area. The keynote speaker,

author and learning activist Jonathan Mooney, tackled the topic of reframing learning differences to enhance inclusivity and engagement of children who might otherwise struggle in traditional settings.

The program included presentation of Lainer Distinguished Educator Awards and the Smotrich Family Foundation Award - recognizing an outstanding early career educator. This year’s Lainer Award winners were: Yehudis Greenberg, Palisades Jewish Early Childhood Center; Mona Raoufpour, Pressman Academy ECC; and Ronit Sherf, Sinai Akiba Academy ECC. The Smotrich Family Foundation Award of Merit went to Jessica Wysocki, The Levy Family ECC of Sephardic Temple Tifereth Israel.

# BJE’S Hebrew Language Program continues to grow

In 2018, BJE expanded its program for LA-area Hebrew language educators, with the generous support of Judy and Lou Miller. This initiative includes opportunities for professional development and learning best practices from experts in the field as well as fellow educators, with the goal of strengthening the teaching and learning of Hebrew.

BJE provided subsidies for 35 teachers to attend the annual National Hebrew Teachers Conference, for two intense days of learning and to bring that learning back to our community.

BJE also engaged seasoned Hebrew language educator, Miri Avraham, to coordinate a community of practice (CoP) among Hebrew educators. Close to 70 educators from throughout the community attended a series of workshops featuring scholars in the area of Second Language Acquisition.



*The Millers are thrilled to see all the progress made this year. “BJE is helping these passionate teachers receive the support and tools to engage and inspire their students to become more proficient in Hebrew. This goes to the heart of ensuring quality Jewish education for the next generation. We are incredibly proud to support this program.”*

# BUILDING THE FUTURE: BJE March of the Living Educator Endowments



Sydney & Selma V. Daye<sup>z1</sup>

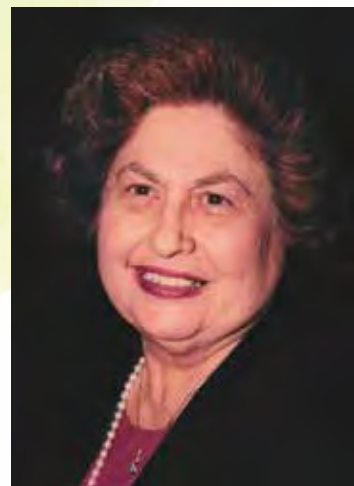
The capacity of BJE to ensure the long-term future of programs and services benefits significantly from endowment resources.

During the past year, Sandy and Mayer Brenner established the **Selma V. & Sydney Daye Endowment**, in memory of Sandy's parents, to support a

**BJE March of the Living (MOTL) Holocaust Educator.** As Sandy shared, although her mother's family left Europe before suffering the worst of the Nazi regime, for many years no one in the family wanted to discuss the Holocaust or their own experiences. For Sandy and Mayer – who went on BJE's adult MOTL trip at the same time as their daughter Yonina participated in the BJE MOTL – helping to ensure that future students have the same learning opportunity as they did felt like a compelling way to honor her parents.

*"We've always been involved in Jewish schools and Jewish education, our whole family on both sides,"* said Sandy. *"My mother left Europe in 1938, along with her parents and siblings, just before Kristallnacht, but the impact of the Nazis on her personal story and on Jewish life was deep in my mother's being. My parents came to Los Angeles from Detroit in 1945 and joined Sinai Temple. That was the beginning of their active involvement in Jewish life here. I felt like I should continue their legacy of involvement. The idea that we can help history live on in the next generation through education by supporting a BJE March of the Living historian just made sense to us."*

BJE has named a position of **BJE March of the Living Educator in memory of Greta Bayer**, recognizing her generosity in creating a \$1 million endowment at BJE through her estate. Raised in Vienna, Greta and her family left Europe when she was 16, immediately following Kristallnacht. She wound up in Miami, where she earned a degree in history at the University of Miami. Shortly thereafter, she moved to Los Angeles, where she earned a M.A. in history at USC. She was a teacher for many years, and an active philanthropist, most often for Jewish causes. She was a longtime member of Beth Jacob Congregation in Beverly Hills, where she served as Sisterhood president.



Greta Bayer<sup>z1</sup>

Greta's nephew, Ted Stux, recalled, *"Greta always talked about the perils of assimilation and the importance of staying Jewish. All of us – her niece and nephews – attended Hebrew day school. We didn't want to disappoint Greta! When it came time for her estate to be distributed, she had three main priorities: her synagogue, the Los Angeles Jewish Home, and Jewish education. The bequest to BJE was her biggest by far. She felt that this was an endowment that would make the greatest impact on future generations."* Funds from the endowment will help support programs and scholarships in Greta Bayer's name in perpetuity.

BJE's endowment resources enable the agency to continue to meet current and emerging Jewish educational needs, support innovation, and meet emergency situations.

## IN MEMORIAM

*We recall with abiding appreciation, BJE supporters who passed away this year.  
Their memories are an enduring blessing.*

Herb Abrams  
Greta Bayer  
Dr. Leila Bronner  
Barry Bruk  
Lazer Cohen

Claire Cohon  
Selma V. Daye  
Jake Farber  
Bob Geminder  
Richard Gershbock

Dorothy Greenstein  
Wesley Lester  
Jack Nagel  
Sam Praw  
Phil Silverman

Rená Slomovic  
Sol Teichman  
Larry Weinberg  
Dr. Irving White  
Barbara Yaroslavsky

# LOOKING BACK

## BJE DONOR Leadership Thank you Event

As BJE's campaign year drew to a close, BJE gathered Donor Society and Board members on May 21, 2019 for an evening dedicated to thanking them for their support in enabling BJE to meet its fundraising goal. The thank you event was generously hosted by Judy and Lou Miller.

Esteemed Israeli writer and journalist Yossi Klein Halevi discussed the new edition of his book "Letters to My Palestinian Neighbor," which speaks to the meaningful conversations he believes Israelis and Palestinians must have if peace is going to be achieved. The event was at full capacity, with 80 people in attendance.



*Israeli Author Yossi Klein Halevi*



*Marc Rohatiner, chair, BJE Board Member, Education and Engagement Committee*



*Judy and Lou Miller, hosts*

*Thank You*

## BJE'S 2019 GALA CELEBRATION: From Education to Action

BJE was proud to honor three L.A. Jewish community leaders who demonstrate both professional and personal commitment to Jewish education and to translating that education into action.

Dr. Michael Berenbaum is a Holocaust historian and academic who played a key role in the creation of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and has led numerous BJE March of the Living trips for adults. David Nimmer is an international expert on copyright law, an active leader in the Jewish community, and an officer of the BJE board.



*(l to r) Dr. Michael Berenbaum, Adrian Miller, Betty Winn, Sheila Leibovic, Susan Fink, David Nimmer*

Betty Winn has been a leader in secular and Jewish education for decades and previously served as director of the BJE Center for Excellence in Early Childhood and Day School Education.

BJE's January 17, 2019 gala drew a sell-out crowd of more than 500 people representing the diverse spectrum of Jewish life in Los Angeles, and generated proceeds of over \$400,000. The event was co-chaired by Susan Fink, Sheila Leibovic and Adrian Miller.

BJE thanks the honorees, co-chairs, working committee members, attendees, and everyone who helped make the 2019 BJE Gala a huge success.

LOOKING FORWARD

# bjē 2020 gala



**BJE's 2020 Gala on January 12 will celebrate honorees who each help spread the light of Jewish education to the next generation, and have a deep appreciation for the enrichment, joy and community these opportunities create.**

**We hope you will join us in honoring these amazing individuals.**

**For information go to: [www.bjela.org/gala](http://www.bjela.org/gala)**



## cheryl davidson

Cheryl Davidson's husband, Bill, likes to joke that she is the poster child for BJE programs.

Cheryl grew up at Adat Ari El, attending Hebrew school, being involved in USY, loving Shabbat services and Israeli dancing, and as a member of the synagogue choir. She participated in Havurat Noar and Ulpan, former BJE programs for high school students.

***"I wasn't one of those kids that hated Hebrew school. I was at my synagogue three to four days a week. I think my mother's car knew how to get there on its own! It was our other home."***

Cheryl recalls fondly the opportunities she had to be engaged in Jewish life through so many experiences and she is still friends today – decades later – with many of her friends from BJE and other Jewish youth programs.

After completing her education, she began a career in the financial services field, but Jewish engagement remained a priority. She continued to staff weekend retreats for BJE as a teacher and a songleader. Her philanthropic commitments grew as well, in several local and national organizations. But undoubtedly, Jewish education and BJE have remained a top priority. Cheryl is currently a member of the BJE Board of Directors.

***"If you don't have a Jewish education, if you don't understand what we're about, it's hard to be Jewish. To me, BJE is that critical place to start, the hub that is THE place to go, whether you're a Jewish educator, or a consumer, for the resources you need in the community."***





## Marlynn and Rabbi Elliot Dorff



**Marlynn and Rabbi Elliot Dorff** could rightly be considered Los Angeles' First Couple of Jewish education. Elliot, a Distinguished Professor at American Jewish University and a Visiting Professor at UCLA School of Law, is a leading voice on Jewish ethics, and is regularly called upon as such, both locally and nationally. He has served on three federal commissions -- on health care, on diminishing sexually transmitted diseases, and on research on human subjects -- and he currently is a member of the State of California's Ethics Advisory Panel on Stem Cell Research.

Marlynn's passion for Jewish education came as early as seven years old, when her grasp of Hebrew and zest for learning resulted in her placement

with students several years older. She worked part-time as a religious school teacher while raising their four children, and eventually earning graduate degrees in education and Judaic studies at the University of Judaism (now American Jewish University). Upon receiving her degrees, she served as the Judaic Studies Principal at Adat Ari El Day School, then worked for 16 years as BJE's Day School Specialist, and then, missing direct contact with children, chose to return to the classroom, teaching at Pressman Academy for twelve years.

As children, both were devoted summer campers, and their lives would intersect as young adults at a Camp Ramah training program.

All four of the Dorffs' children went to Jewish day school, Hebrew High, and Camp Ramah. Similarly, their grandchildren study at Jewish day schools, are involved in Jewish youth groups and spend summers at camp.

It makes perfect sense that these two lifelong lovers of learning would become educators.

***"I have loved teaching ever since first grade, when my teacher asked me to help a classmate with his reading," said Elliot. "I love the interaction with students and ideas. Even if it's the same book or topic that I've taught before, with a new audience it's an entirely new experience. It's the major reason I haven't retired. I can't think of something else I'd rather do."***

Adds Marlynn, ***"The first time I taught I was 19, a freshman in college. I stepped in for my mother, teaching Hebrew to 13 year olds, and it was one of the most wonderful experiences of my life. I think it's both altruistic and selfish, being a Jewish educator. Students gain something special, being part of the community, but we also can't have a community without engaging the next generation."***



## Craig Rutenberg



**Craig Rutenberg** grew up in the Midwest, where he attended public schools and Hebrew school at Beth El in Highland Park, IL. In 1996, Craig moved to Los Angeles to attend UCLA Law School. In 2005, he married Stephanie. Jewish education was strongly valued in both their families, but Craig's passion for Jewish education was truly sparked following the birth of their son Jonah (10) and daughter Sloane (2).

Craig is a partner at Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP, where his practice focuses on commercial litigation, particularly in the real estate and health care industries. He is currently the Chair of the Jewish Federation's Legal Division and a member of the Water Buffalo Club, which is dedicated to fostering the well-being of underserved, at-risk children in Los Angeles. Craig is a

Vice-President of BJE and chairs its Planning and Budget Committee. He was introduced to BJE through his work on behalf of the Jewish Federation in support of BJE's March of the Living (MOTL) student scholarship committee, where he was inspired by the program's impact on participating students. His relationship with wife Stephanie's grandmother, a survivor, further deepened his appreciation of the program.

Stephanie and Craig had recently enrolled their son at Brawerman Elementary School at Wilshire Boulevard Temple when Craig was invited to join the BJE board. He recalls thinking, ***"With a young child, the notion of ensuring the Jewish future had new meaning. What could be more instrumental to meeting that goal than ensuring the existence of a thriving Jewish education system. That's what really attracted me to BJE. 'Building' is an active word. It means the work is never done, and I find it very fitting, because we hope to have many generations of Jewish students. The reality is that I'm busy at work, and we have young children, and this is still important enough to me that I make the time. It is a privilege to do even a small part."***

# welcome to BJE's new officers and directors

## New officers:



**Marjorie Gross** (Vice-President), is a former department store executive who does consulting in the areas of retailing, advertising and market research. She has served on the boards of many local and national nonprofits, and in the capital campaigns of several schools and universities. She devotes much of her time to causes that celebrate and strengthen Jewish identity and education. In addition to BJE, she is active with the National Leadership Council of AJC and Birthright Israel. Marjorie is married to Robert, a physician, and between them they share four children, and four grandsons. She and Bob are longtime members of Stephen Wise Temple.



**David Nimmer** (Parliamentarian), is married, has five children and lives in Beverly Hills. A graduate of Stanford University and Yale Law School, he is a past president of B'nai David Judea and a past board member of Shalhevet High School. His professional field is copyright, about which he writes extensively. In addition to covering the secular angle, he has published articles of Jewish import on the subject, such as "Rabbi Banet's Charming Snake," *Hakirah* (2009), and "In the Shadow of the Emperor: The Hatam Sofer's Copyright Rulings," *Torah u-Madda Journal* (2010).



**Nancy Schulman** (Corresponding Secretary), has a B.A. in Business from Loyola Marymount University and a J.D. from Loyola Law School, and was a defense litigator for State Farm Insurance Companies for 15 years. She serves as BJE's Financial Resource Development chair, and has also served on the Nominating and Visibility Committees. She is currently on the Milken Community High School Board and has also served as a docent and on the Principal's Advisory Committee as well as on various committees at Valley Beth Shalom. Nancy and her husband Jay, residents of Encino, have two sons, Michael and Daniel.

## New directors:



**Ann Lieberman** grew up in the Las Vegas Jewish community and moved to Los Angeles in 1996 after she met her husband Scott. They live in the Valley and have three children who have attended Valley Beth Shalom Day School, Milken Community Schools and Camp Ramah. Ann has served on various committees at Valley Beth Shalom and Milken and currently serves on the Youth Commission Board of Valley Beth Shalom. She is a strong supporter of Jewish education and Israel causes. Family time is most important in Ann's daily life.



**Natalie Shooshani** moved to the United States in her early teen years because of the Iranian Revolution. Even though she never experienced anti-semitism as a child, she grew up very close to her grandparents and elders, and remembers hearing stories about their unfortunate encounters with anti-semitism. She is happily married to Steven Shooshani and they have three boys who attended Sinai Akiba and Milken High School. Natalie served on various committees at Sinai and led many events for the recruitment committee. She is currently on the board of Etta Israel Center. Natalie is a strong supporter of Israel, Jewish education, and a big advocate of BJE March of the Living.



**Karen Silver** has been practicing family law for more than 21 years. She earned her J.D. from Cardozo School of Law and her B.A. from University of Southern California. She has written family law articles for various publications, and has been named a "Super Lawyer" by Los Angeles Magazine's Southern California's Super Lawyers. Karen was raised in Los Angeles, and attended Heschel Day School. She and her husband Scott co-chaired the annual giving campaign for Brawerman Elementary School at Wilshire Boulevard Temple, where both their daughters attended, and Karen also served as the Parent Association President.

# Supporting Jewish Education: Honor Roll of Donors

Gifts of \$100+ received July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019

BJE gratefully acknowledges the essential support of the donors and organizations whose generosity enables BJE to provide ongoing services and programs to enhance quality, increase access, and encourage participation in Jewish education.

## FOUNDER

**\$1,000,000+**

Greta Bayer <sup>z"l</sup>

## PILLAR

**\$500,000-\$999,999**

The Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles

## SUSTAINER

**\$100,000-\$499,999**

Sandy & Mayer Brenner

Janet & Jake <sup>z"l</sup> Farber

Jerry and Jeanine Goldberg Trust\*

Jewish Community Foundation

Milken Family Foundation

Simha and Sara Lainer Day School Endowment Fund

## TRAILBLAZER

**\$50,000-\$99,999**

Bob and Nita Hirsch Family Foundation

Max & Anna Baran, Ben & Sarah Baran & Milton Baran Endowment Fund\*

Dr. Susan Plutsky & Mel Plutsky

Simha and Sara Lainer Family Foundation

## TRUSTEE

**\$25,000-\$49,999**

Anonymous

Diane P. & Guilford Glazer Fund\*

Erwin Rautenberg Foundation

J. Samuel Harwit <sup>z"l</sup> and Manya Harwit-Aviv <sup>z"l</sup>

Charitable Trust

Ellie & Mark Lainer\*

Judith & Louis G. Miller

Simha and Sara Lainer Fund for Jewish Education\*

The Sigi <sup>z"l</sup> and Marilyn Ziering Family

## BENEFACTOR

**\$10,000-\$24,999**

Barbara & Albert Algaze

In Loving Memory of Ben & Sarah Baran and Milton Baran

Penny & Mark Berns

Bertha, Erwin, & John Lustig Welfare Fund\*

Sandy & Max Candiotty

Claire <sup>z"l</sup> & Rabbi Baruch Cohon -

Louis & Dora Stollman Scholarship Fund

Elyssa & Gil Elbaz

Sharon & Herb Glaser

Carlin & John Glucksman

Robin & Gil Graff

Victor & Lisa Kohn

Lainer Israel Interns Endowment Fund

Roberta & Wesley <sup>z"l</sup> Lester

Mt. Sinai Memorial Parks and Mortuary

Marcia & David Nimmer

Nurit & Rich Robin

The Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Foundation

Nancy & Jay Schulman

Simms/Mann Family Foundation

Simha & Sara Lainer Fund for Jewish Education @ BJE

Betty & Ross Winn

Wolf, Rifkin, Shapiro, Schulman & Rabkin, LLP

## GUARDIAN

**\$5,000-\$9,999**

Anonymous

Abraham Joshua Heschel Day School

Dr. Brenda Fabe & Michael Adler

Susan & Michael Baum

Ariela & Ralph Bijou

Bolotin Fund\*

Ilanit & Daniel Brook

Barry Bruk <sup>z"l</sup>

Fannie P. Wienir Scholarship Endowment

for Jewish Studies\*

Field Family Fund

Jean & Dr. Jerry Friedman

Grant Gochin & Russell Lyon

Marjorie & Robert Gross MD

Vera Hart

Miriam Prum Hess & Mark L. Hess

Jacob Hillel Stern Memorial Fund\*

Lela & Dr. Norman Jacoby

Jay C. & Freya Miller Foundation

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*BJE acknowledges with appreciation the hundreds of donations received in amounts less than \$100, in support of 2018-2019 programs and services.*

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*BJE gratefully acknowledges the generosity of those who have made testamentary provisions to support the enduring mission of BJE:*

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*BJE is grateful to receive generous and continuing support from the legacies of:*

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To discuss Legacy or Endowment opportunities at BJE please contact Miriam Prum Hess, 323.761.8334 or mprumhess@bjela.org

*<sup>z"l</sup>: of blessed memory*



### BJE Acknowledges with Appreciation: Program funding from the Jewish Federation, in support of:

BJE March of the Living  
 California Association of Private School Organizations (CAPSO) dues (on behalf of schools)  
 Day School Capacity Building  
 The First 36 Project  
 JKidLA/Concierge Program  
 L.A. Jewish Teen Initiative Programs (BJE Impact; Professional Learning Community)\*  
 Reshet L.A.  
 Strengthening Jewish Day Schools through Leveraging Government Funding

*\*The LAJTI is co-funded by the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles and the Jim Joseph Foundation, with seed funding provided by the Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles.*

### Program funding gifts (\$10,000+) from foundations and individuals in support of:

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- Bertha, Erwin, & John Lustig Welfare Fund\*
- Max and Lillian Candiotti Scholarship Endowment Fund\*
- Milken Family Foundation
- Simha and Sara Lainer Day School Endowment Fund\*\*
- Simha and Sara Lainer Fund to Benefit BJE\*

#### Educator Awards

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- Simha and Sara Lainer Fund for Jewish Education @ BJE

#### The First 36 Project

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#### Lainer Fellows Program

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#### March of the Living

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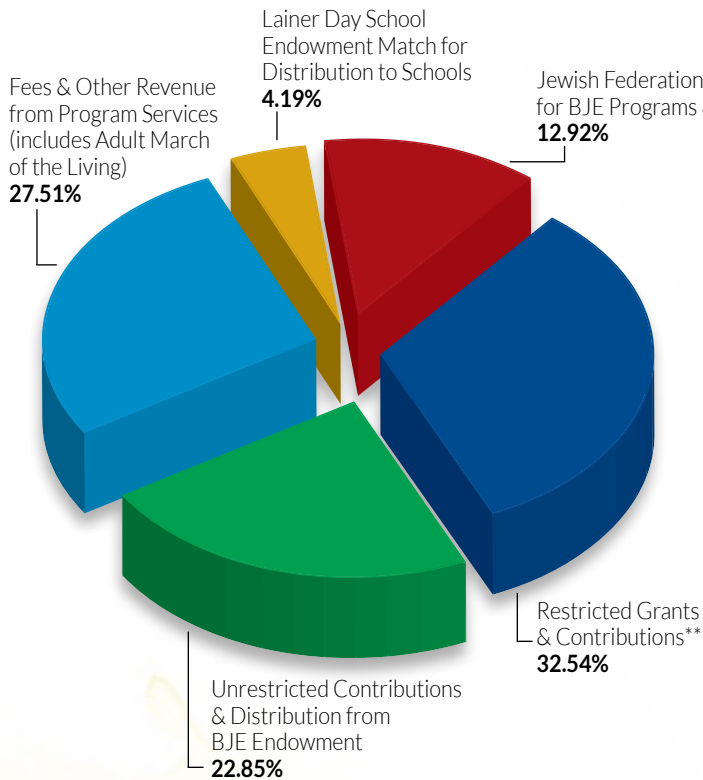
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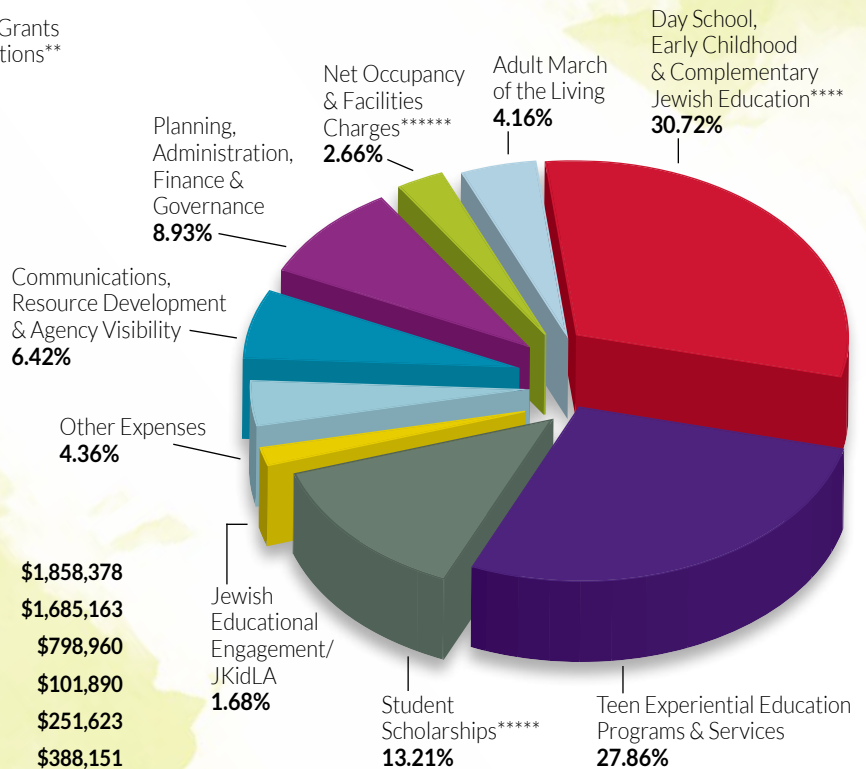
# FINANCIALS AT A GLANCE

## Fiscal Year 2018-2019 (unaudited)



### REVENUE

Jewish Federation Grants for BJE Programs & Services*	\$781,789
Restricted Grants & Contributions**	\$1,968,279
Unrestricted Contributions & Distribution from BJE Endowment	\$1,382,115
Fees & Other Revenue from Program Services (includes Adult March of the Living)	\$1,663,914
Lainer Day School Endowment Match for Distribution to Schools	\$253,182
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,049,279***</b>



### EXPENSES

Day School, Early Childhood & Complementary Jewish Education****	\$1,858,378
Teen Experiential Education Programs & Services	\$1,685,163
Student Scholarships*****	\$798,960
Jewish Educational Engagement/JKidLA	\$101,890
Adult March of the Living	\$251,623
Communications, Resource Development, & Agency Visibility	\$388,151
Planning, Administration, Finance & Governance	\$540,335
Net Occupancy & Facilities Charges *****	\$160,880
Other Expenses	\$263,899
Pension Amortization	\$191,964
Programs	\$71,935
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,049,279</b>

\* Includes \$610,00 in program grants, \$11,850 in support of collaborative project with Simms/Mann Institute, \$154,851 for L.A. Jewish Teen Initiative jointly funded by the Jewish Federation and Jim Joseph Foundation, and \$5,088 for CAPSO dues, on behalf of BJE-accredited Day Schools

\*\* Includes \$901,719 spend rate distribution to schools of funds deposited by schools as part of High School Affordability Initiative

\*\*\* Does not include contributions of \$1,104,860 to BJE Endowment

\*\*\*\* Does not include close to \$1,500,000 in services supporting student learning at BJE-represented Day Schools, accessed by BJE through the Every Student Succeeds Act

\*\*\*\*\* Does not include \$1,345,500 in financial assistance from The Jewish Federation in support of students at BJE-accredited Day Schools

\*\*\*\*\* Net occupancy charges paid to The Jewish Federation



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*Join us at these BJE events:*

**COMMUNITY EVENTS**

Day of Service Learning – 10/6/2019  
BJE Celebrates Shabbat – 12/6/2019

**DONOR EVENTS**

Fall Study Series – 11/6/2019 and 12/11/2019  
BJE Gala – 1/12/2020

## BJE officers 2018-2019

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Mark S. Berns  
President



Keren Dunn  
Vice President



Dr. Bruce Ellman  
Vice President



Adrian Miller  
Vice President



Liz Rosman Schwartz  
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Steve Shapiro  
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