



REPORT ON PHILANTHROPY 2018–2019



Our Vision

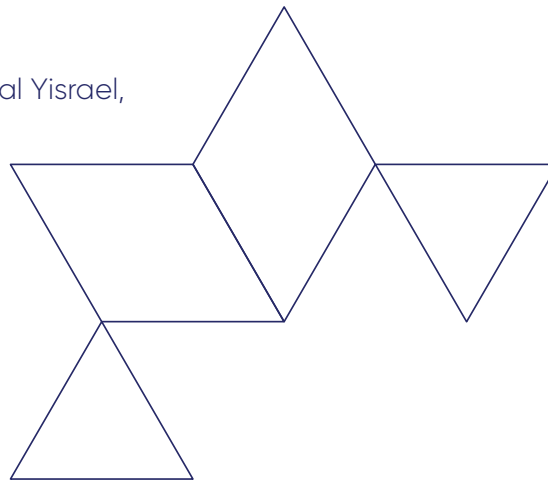
San Diego Jewish Academy is shaping the foundation of future thinkers, creators, and community leaders by blending modern education with greater purpose and meaning.

Our Mission

Our mission is to further Academic Excellence, Social Responsibility, and Active Jewish Living.

Our Values

Menschlichkeit, Torah, Avodah,
Gemilut Hasadim/Tzedakah, Klal Yisrael,
Ahavat Adonai, Israel



Challenging
Minds

Inspiring
Purpose

Exploring
Possibilities

2018-2019 SDJA Leadership

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Heidi Gantwerk

Lee Goodman

Ben Handler

Daniela Jinich

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Sonia Mandelbaum

Eddy Podolsky

Rabbi Yael Ridberg, **PRESIDENT**

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Laura Vainer

Daniel Varon

Caryn Viterbi





2018–2019 Report on Philanthropy

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A Special Message From Our Leadership



Dear Friends,

Forty years of anything doesn't just happen. Building, sustaining, growing something for forty years is a labor of love. San Diego Jewish Academy is exactly that for all of us who have been, and are, a part of this journey.

And what a journey it's been! Over multiple campuses, helmed by so many dedicated and talented lay and professional leaders, amid countless celebrations, innovations, and special moments of achievements, SDJA has created an indelible legacy here in San Diego—and beyond.

Nothing is more representative of our values, our spirit, than the ceremony we hold every year on the last day of school. As a community, we join together as students literally rise up to the next step. We are there to celebrate, to support all that those students have accomplished and all that we hope they will.

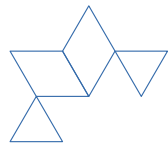
Our graduates go into the world as leaders and changemakers for good. They embody Jewish values—caring for others, living in community, keeping traditions alive while also taking risks, and charting a path for a better world.

We are a community committed to each other and to helping every single student and family find their path to success, to meaning, and to a purpose-filled life. In one way or another, all of us are part of this special story.

Thank you for being part of this journey. SDJA is poised to go from strength to strength because of those who did the heavy lifting before us, and those who we know will do so in the future. But in the present, we say *"todah rabah,"* "thank you," for all you do today.

Here's to another 40 years and more!


CHAIM HELLER
HEAD OF SCHOOL





As I reflect on my years as board president, I am heartened by what our community has created, expanded, and impacted—as a family. This thriving community premised on Jewish values is a result of the labor of love it is for all of us. Over the last few years, through the efforts of all involved in the *Our Family is One* Campaign, we have lived out the midrashic teaching in Deuteronomy Rabbah 1:21 that “a community is too heavy to carry alone.” SDJA has been elevated to unprecedented heights and the future is unfolding before us. Every day our students learn and play in the mix of friends and supportive teachers, they engage in experiential learning in our garden, critical thinking in the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurial Thinking, and thoughtful wrestling with Jewish values, ethics, rituals, and traditions.

It is a profound privilege to be a part of this remarkable story that is SDJA. Our growth and the impact we’ve had on families is because SDJA delivers an excellent general and Jewish education, and we embody Jewish values. At 40 years, we can say that SDJA truly does connect one generation to another. Our legacy has been built year after year, offering a singular, pluralistic Jewish day school experience that has influenced the lives of our students, their families and our community. *Mazal tov* on 40 years and may we go from strength to greater strength!

RABBI Yael RIDBERG
IMMEDIATE PAST BOARD PRESIDENT

People always seem surprised that I would take on the role of board president after all three of my kids graduated, and my response is always the same: having seen personally what SDJA has done for my family, I am inspired to do everything I can to ensure that SDJA goes from strength to strength at this critical point in our history.

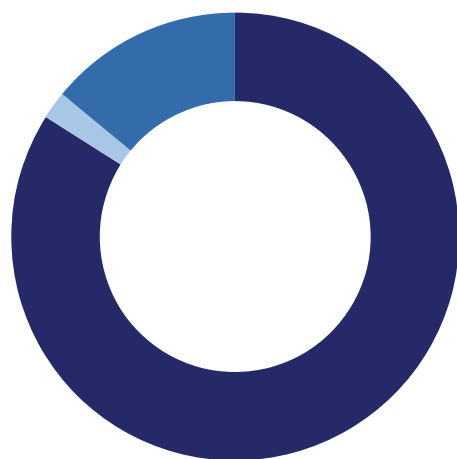
I believe that SDJA, as a pluralistic community day school, is already one of San Diego’s most important Jewish institutions, and that its centrality will only grow as new generations search for meaningful connections to Jewish life and community for their children and their families. We are key to a vibrant, thriving Jewish community because we are a welcoming and valuable place for Jews from all walks of life.

As we begin our fortieth year, I feel enormous gratitude to the families who, so many years ago, began the work of creating this school and this family. And today, the *Our Family is One* Campaign has built an incredible foundation to propel us into bright future, with outstanding academics, a campus without equal in San Diego, and a caring, connected community that nurtures every child in an atmosphere steeped in Jewish history, tradition and values.

HEIDI GANTWERK
CURRENT BOARD PRESIDENT

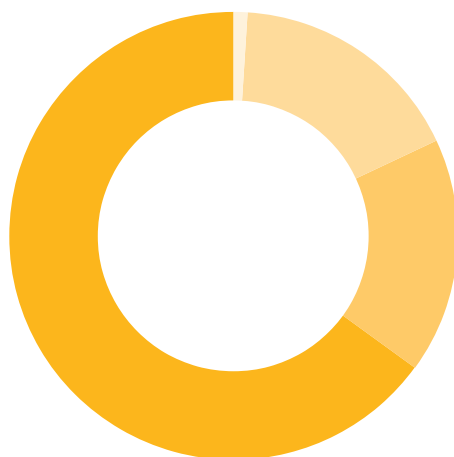
Financial Overview / 2018-19

Revenue



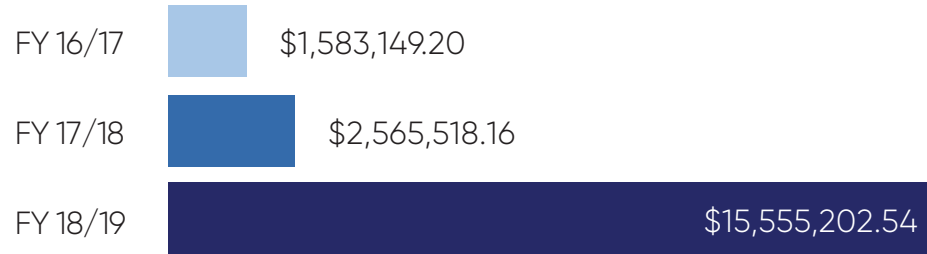
84%	Tuition + Student Fees: \$13,784,055
14%	Cash Gifts + Contributions: \$2,337,914
2%	Other Income: \$324,626

Expenses



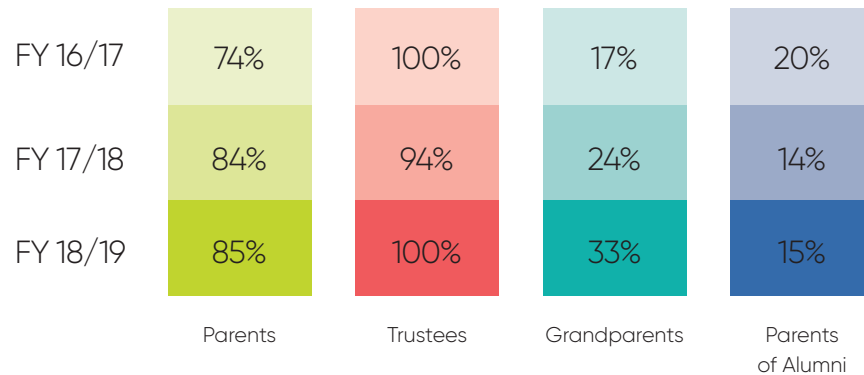
65%	Educational Program Expenses: \$10,423,847
17%	Tuition Assistance + Discounts: \$3,048,989
17%	Facilities + Administration: \$2,842,407
1%	Reserves for Future Use: \$131,352

Total Support



*15M raised to support the *Our Family is One* Campaign

Donor Participation



395

Total Donors

99

First-Time Donors

42%

Increase in
Donor Upgrades



Years of Impact

San Diego Jewish Academy has been a pillar in our community for 40 years. From its humble beginnings as a small elementary school in San Carlos serving 94 students, to today – a 52-acre campus in Carmel Valley serving nearly 600 preschool through 12th grade students – SDJA has made profound impacts on its community and on the lives of hundreds of its students.

Throughout SDJA's history of growth and transformation, our school has always remained committed to the same crucial mission: ensuring our students have access to a world-class education, and inspiring them to be socially responsible citizens rooted in Jewish values. Our alumni are innovators, advocates, and change-makers passionate about the world and those around them. This impact – SDJA's 40-year

legacy – is only possible because of the leaders who made it so. Here's to each of you – our founders, past Board Presidents, long-time faculty and staff, and community members. Thank you all for your many years of leadership, partnership and support that has led us to this incredible milestone in our history.

Finally, thank you to each and every one of you who supported the *Our Family Is One* Campaign. With your gift, you have not only safeguarded SDJA's legacy, but have become our champions now paving the way for our next 40 years.

Gratefully,

RACHELLE B. JAGOLINZER
DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT

Because of your partnership and dedication to SDJA's mission...

100 new students

SDJA welcomed over 100 new students for the 2019/20 academic year.

600 total students

SDJA currently has the highest enrollment in a decade with nearly 600 total students.

80% + 80%

80% of our alumni are currently involved in their local Jewish communities, with over 80% currently holding a leadership position of some kind.

Third kindergarten class

For the first time in several years, SDJA has opened a third kindergarten class.

Blue Ribbon Award

SDJA's Golda Meir Lower School received the prestigious 2018 National Blue Ribbon Award, and was the only Jewish school in the country to receive this distinction this year.

Breaking ground this year

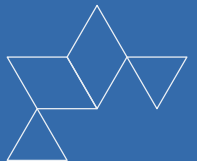
SDJA will be breaking ground on a state-of-the-art Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurial Thinking this year, which will provide more opportunities in technological innovation and entrepreneurialism for our students.

5% increase in student percentile ranks

The average student percentile rank for grades 1-5 rose by 5% in just one year thanks to the substantial increases in professional development for our faculty.

Dozens of new programs

SDJA's Jewish life program has grown substantially with dozens of new programs added for students, parents and the greater community.

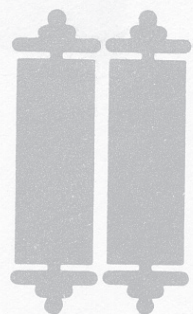


A Visual History of San Diego Jewish Academy

1979 – 2019



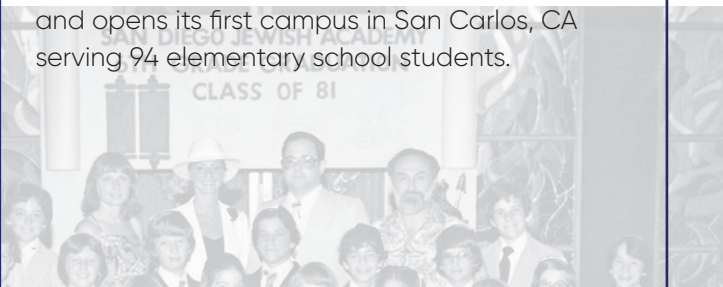




SAN DIEGO JEWISH ACADEMY

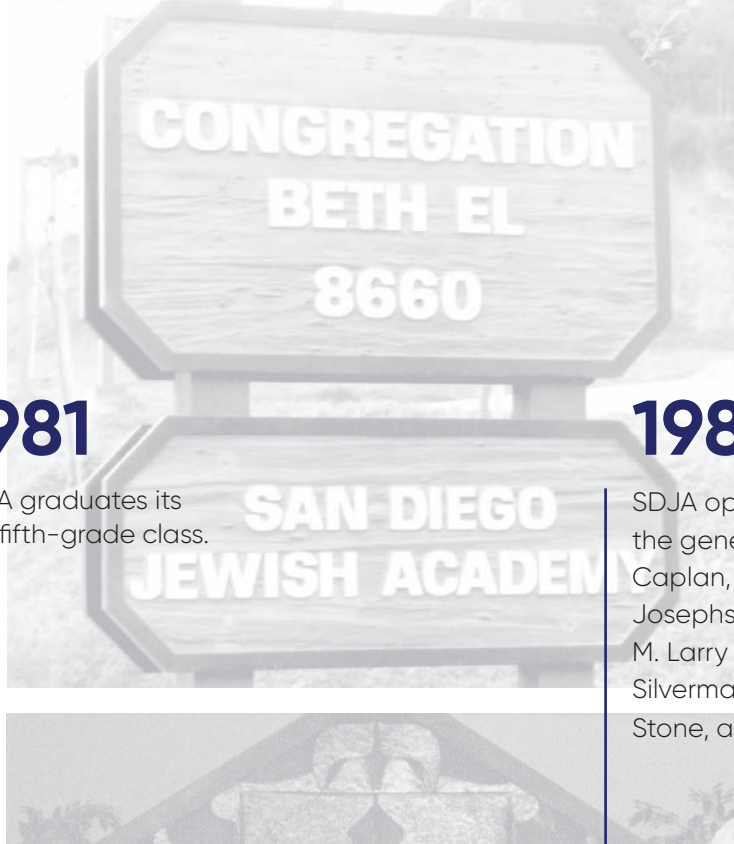
6600 Charles Mountain Boulevard
San Diego, CA 92119

Due to the dedication and commitment of Charles and Randi Wax, SDJA is founded and opens its first campus in San Carlos, CA serving 94 elementary school students.



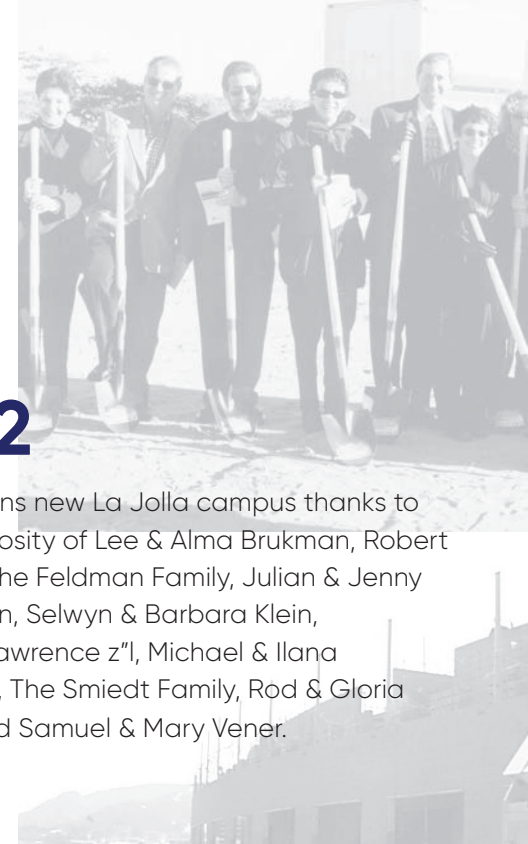
1981

SDJA graduates its first fifth-grade class.



1982

SDJA opens new La Jolla campus thanks to the generosity of Lee & Alma Brukman, Robert Caplan, The Feldman Family, Julian & Jenny Josephson, Selwyn & Barbara Klein, M. Larry Lawrence z"l, Michael & Ilana Silverman, The Smiedt Family, Rod & Gloria Stone, and Samuel & Mary Vener.



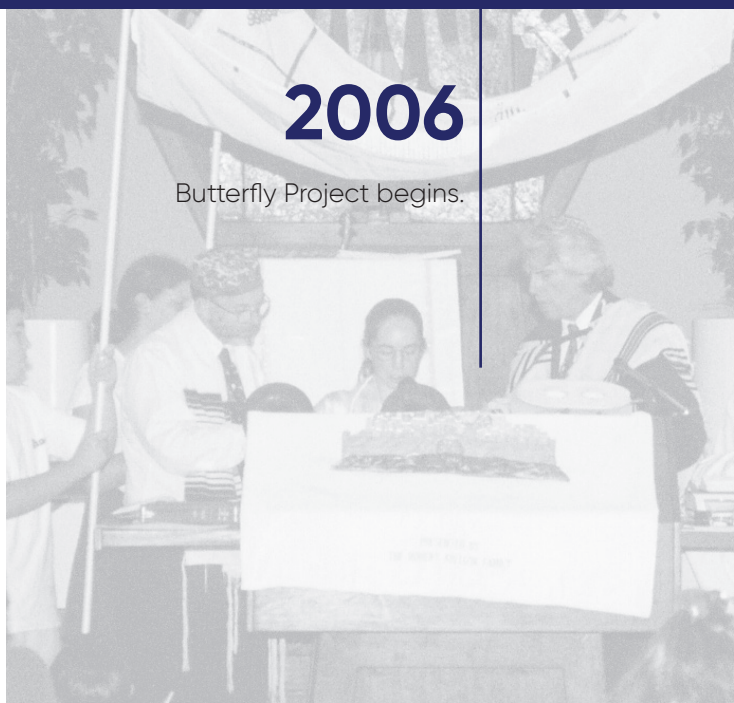
2003

SDJA graduates its first-ever high school senior class.



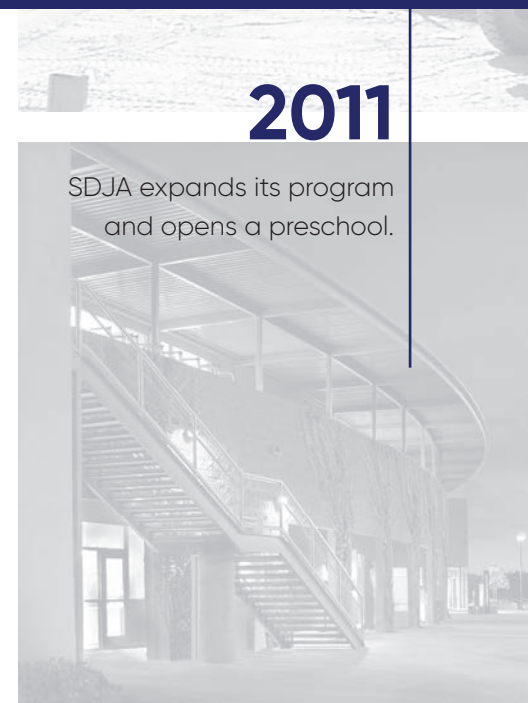
2006

Butterfly Project begins.



2011

SDJA expands its program and opens a preschool.



HEADS OF SCHOOL:

Michael Halzel	1979 – 1985
Robert Sherman	1985 – 1992
Michael Kessel	1992 – 1999
Larry Acheatel	1999 – 2012
Chaim Heller	2012 – 2020



1990

SDJA expands its program to middle school students.



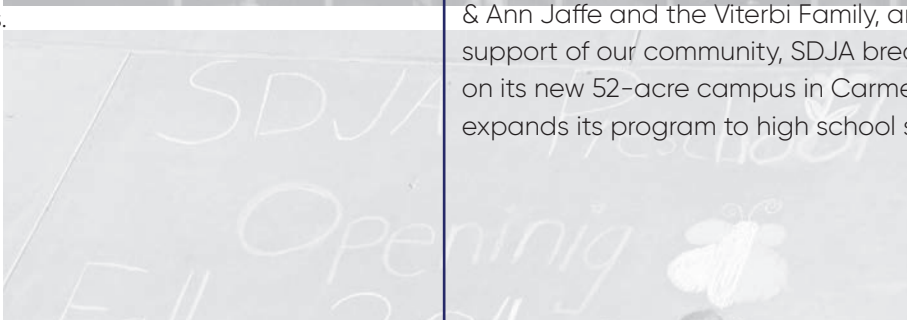
1999

Thanks to the incredible leadership of Richard & Ann Jaffe and the Viterbi Family, and with the support of our community, SDJA breaks ground on its new 52-acre campus in Carmel Valley and expands its program to high school students.



2000

Carmel Valley campus open its doors.



2016

SDJA celebrates its 36-year anniversary.

PAST BOARD PRESIDENTS:

Charles Wax	1979 – 1981
Allen Jay z"l	1981 – 1982
John Adler	1982 – 1983
Michael Silverman	1983 – 1984
Michael Schwartz	1984 – 1985
Natan Bacht	1984 – 1985
Ruben Rosenthal	1985 – 1986
Julian Josephson	1985 – 1987
Sharon Davidson	1986 – 1988
Norman Lurie	1986 – 1988
Avrille Copans	1987 – 1989
Mark Berger	1989 – 1991
Claire Ellman	1991 – 1993

2018

SDJA's Golda Meir Lower School is awarded the prestigious National Blue Ribbon Award.

Harold Krasner	1993 – 1995
Rhonda Fink	1995 – 1997
Ann Jaffe	1997 – 1999
Daniel Shinoff	1999 – 2001
Alan Viterbi	2001 – 2003
Renee Sherman	2003 – 2005
Leo Spiegel	2005 – 2007
Bev Pamensky	2007 – 2009
Roberto Jinich	2009 – 2011
Shari Schenk	2011 – 2013
Ingram Losner	2013 – 2015
Theresa Dupuis	2015 – 2017
Rabbi Yael Ridberg	2017 – 2019

2019

Today, SDJA serves nearly 600 preschool through 12th grade students and is the largest Jewish day school in San Diego.



Our Family is One Supporters

Thank you to all of our donors who made the *Our Family Is One* Campaign possible. SDJA's incredible growth and bright future is because of your leadership and support.

Guardians / \$2,000,000+

Anonymous
The Galicot Family
The Jaffe Family
Neil and Trish Shaw

Benefactors / \$499,999-\$250,000

Dan and Jaime Feder
David and Melissa Gilbert
Benjamin and Trisha Handler
The Josephson and Silberstein Family
The Klein Family
The Michan and Krongold Family
The Woolf and Grusd Family

Pillars / \$249,999-\$100,000

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Robert and Jessica Fink
Laura Galinson and Jodi Diamond
Dustin and Tara Gillman
Lee and Amy Goodman
Stuart and Lee Posnock
Elliot Scott and Lee Diamond Scott
Barry Simons

Leaders / \$99,999-\$50,000

Marsha Berkson
The Cohn Family
Avrille Copans
Brett and Carly Feuerstein
Chaim and Michal Heller
Gary Kornfeld and Theresa Dupuis
Gary and Cheryl Levitt
Carlos and Perla Shteremberg
The Smiedt Family
Simon and Laura Vainer
Charles and Randi Wax
Eric Weisman and
Susan Chortek-Weisman

Ambassadors / \$49,999-\$25,000

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David and Claire Eelman
Jonathan and Carol Goldwasser
Shira Ladelsky
Steven and Nicole Ludwig

Champions / \$24,999-\$10,000

Leonel Burrola and Innesa Zavulunova
Skip and Terri Carpowich

Raymond and Rhona Fink
Rabbi Philip Graubart and
Rabbi Susan Freeman
Katherine Green
Ricardo and Daniela Jinich
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Ingram Losner and Jane Willoughby
Navias Family Foundation
Rabbi Yael Ridberg and Mark Laska
Abraham and Ana Rothman
Eric Vann and Karin Zell
Richard and Nancie Vann
Jose and Sonia Zyman

Builders / \$9,999-\$5,000

David and Melody Abeles
Sergio and Ariela Berkstein
Jaime and Karen Breziner
Isaac Engel and Ruth Schwartz
Ira and Andrea Feinswog
John and Roberta Foss
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Christopher and Kelley King
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Rebecca Rakow-Penner
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Jeffrey and Jessica Pollak
Michael and Jill Quigley
Robert Shapiro and Jacqueline Saleh
Steve and Danielle Shulman
Daniel and Stacy Varon

Partners / \$4,999-\$1,000

Anonymous (3)
Noam and Heidi Arzt
Clarice Barrelet

Rebeca and Roberto Besquin
Shaun and Keri Copans
Paul and Julie Datnow
Joel and Barbi Dorfan
Shaun and Yael Edelstein
Cheryl Eisen
Paul Ellenbogen
Tsvi Estline
Judith Fisher
Julius and Perla Fox
Chock Gan and Su-Lin Low
Paula and Jose Garber
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Mark and Hanna Gleiberman
Joe and Joan Gross
Nadav and Gabrielle Hazan
Selwyn and Hilary Isakow
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Alice Kahn
Bernardo and Maya Kanarek
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Harold and Joy Krasner
Rabbi Martin and Anita Lawson
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Justin and Alison Mandelbaum
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Eduardo and Ilana Podolsky

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 Jami Datnow Rosenthal
 Sonny and Sue Ross
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 Jodi and Logan Smith
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 Sam and Sue Varon
 Daniel and Lee Weinstein
 Melissa Wells
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Friends / \$999 and under

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 Gary and Debbi Gillman
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 Kenneth and Joanne Gimbel
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 Edward and Lana Goldberg
 Stacey Goldblatt
 Ofir and Ayelet Gonen
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 Dolores Goodman
 Andrew and Denise Gordon
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 Uri and Hagar Hazan
 Aaron and Brianne Hewitson
 Danielle Heyde
 Christopher Hill and Polly Ronquillo
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 Barbara Jagolinzer
 Kathy Johnson
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 Javier and Hanu Kassel
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 Sharone Yedid
 Alex and Esti Yeshanov
 Darren and Beryl Youngleson
 Andrew and Nadene Zack
 Dan and Rachel z"l Zagursky
 Moshe and Bonnie Zakarin
 Howard and Linda Zell

Lion's Society

San Diego Jewish Academy's Lion's Society was established to recognize our generous donors and their annual contributions made during the 2018-19 year. All gift levels below are based on the annual portion of multi-year commitments, including *Our Family is One* Campaign pledge commitments.

MITZVAH CIRCLE

The *Mitzvah* Circle recognizes the Lion's Society members who made annual gifts of \$5K or more.

\$1M+

Anonymous
 The Jaffe Family
 Neil and Patricia Shaw

\$500,000+

The Galicot Family

\$250,000+

The Josephson and Silberstein Family

\$100,000+

Benjamin and Trisha Handler
 Stuart and Lee Posnock
 Elliot Scott and Lee Diamond Scott

\$50,000+

Marsha Berkson
 Elaine Chortek
 Dan and Jaime Feder
 David and Melissa Gilbert
 Lee and Amy Goodman
 The Woolf and Grusd Family
 The Klein Family

\$36,000+

Elliot and Diane Feuerstein
 Laura Galinson and Jodi Diamond

\$18,000+

Anonymous
 Michel and Samantha Cohen
 Brett and Carly Feuerstein
 Robert and Jessica Fink
 Dustin and Tara Gillman
 Gary Kornfeld and Theresa Dupuis
 The Michan and Krongold Family
 Barry Simons
 Charles and Randi Wax

\$10,000+

The Cohn Family
 Avrille Copans
 David and Claire Ellman
 Rabbi Philip Graubart and
 Rabbi Susan Freeman
 Katherine Green
 Chaim and Michal Heller
 Jewish Federation of SDC
 Gary and Cheryl Levitt
 Navias Family Foundation
 Abraham and Ana Rothman
 Carlos and Perla Shteremberg
 The Smiedt Family

Simon and Laura Vainer
 Eric Weisman and
 Susan Chortek-Weisman
 Jose and Sonia Zyman

\$5,000+

Anonymous
 David and Melody Abeles
 Isaac Engel and Ruth Schwartz
 Ira and Andrea Feinswog
 David-Alexandre and Kelly Gros
 Shira Ladelsky
 Andrei and Oxana Litvak
 Elias and Charlotte Mizrahi
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 Shapinko International Inc.
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 Mort Vogelzon z"l Endowment
 for the San Diego Community

Chai Circle

The *Chai* Circle recognizes the Lion's Society members who made annual gifts of \$1,800-\$4,999.

\$1,800+

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 Noam and Heidi Arzt
 Roberto and Rebeca Besquin
 Skip and Terri Carpowich
 Tsvi Estline
 Raymond and Rhona Fink
 Judith Fisher
 John and Roberta Foss
 Jose and Paula Garber
 Alice Kahn
 Bernardo and Maya Kanarek

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 Daniel and Stacy Varon
 Westside Veterinary Innovation, LLC
 Perri Wittgrove
 Enrique and Eva Zagursky

Tzedakah Circle

The *Tzedakah* Circle recognizes the Lion's Society members who made annual gifts of \$360-\$1,799.

\$1,000+

Anonymous
 Clarice Barrelet
 Paul and Julie Datnow
 Shaun and Yael Edelstein
 Paul Ellenbogen
 FIRST
 Julius and Perla Fox
 Chock Gan and Su-Lin Low
 Mauricio and Silvia Gerson
 Mark and Hanna Gleiberman
 Joe and Joan Gross
 Nadav and Gabrielle Hazan
 Selwyn and Hilary Isakow
 Charles and Rachelle Jagolinzer

Michael and Laura Jeser
 Ricardo and Daniela Jinich
 Sergio and Sonya Jinich
 Julian and Julia Kapchinskiy
 Christopher and Kelley King
 Rabbi Martin and Anita Lawson
 Saul Levine and Ann Garland
 Morris z"l and Zita Liebermensch
 Justin and Alison Mandelbaum
 Martin and Beverley Pamensky
 Gary and Sharon Pollak
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 Steve and Danielle Shulman
 Boris Simpser
 Logan and Jodi Smith
 Sam and Sue Varon
 John and Billie Jean Wirth
 Fanrong Zeng and Yuehua Li

\$500+

Larry and Janet Acheatel
 The Bank of America
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 Harvey and Anne Brenner
 Jaime and Karen Breziner
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 Joshua and Lyda Cohen

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SDJA's *Sabbim* Society recognizes our generous grandparents who made an annual gift of \$1,800 or more during the 2018/19 year.

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The L'Dor V'Dor Legacy Society recognizes donors who have created their legacy at SDJA with a planned gift. Because of their support, SDJA is able to ensure that generations of students have access to a Jewish education for many years to come.

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Theresa Dupuis, Laura Galinson, Beverley Pamensky

SDJA would like to thank and recognize our L'Dor V'Dor Legacy Committee, Theresa Dupuis, Laura Galinson, and Beverley Pamensky, for their incredible leadership and dedication to this critical effort.



Thank you to everyone
who attended our
2019 BLACK + WHITE SOIRÉE.

Because of your support, we
were able to reach our goal
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A very special "thank you" to our incredible campaign and event chairs,
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