



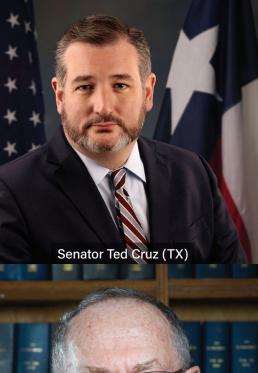


Fleur Hassan-Nahoum, Dep. Mayor, Jerusalem





Josh Washington, Dir., Israel Black Solidarity





Harvard Law Professor Alan Dershowitz





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# EXCITING UPDATES ON ZOA LEADERSHIP

## Renowned Civil Rights/Constitutional Lawyer David Schoen New National Chair of ZOA

## Morton Klein Re-Elected ZOA National President

he ZOA is honored and delighted to congratulate prominent civil rights and constitutional lawyer David Schoen, Esq. on his election as the incoming ZOA Chairman; ZOA President Morton A. Klein on his re-election as ZOA National President; and ZOA's newly elected officers: Vice Chairpersons Michael Orbach and Paul Tartell, M.D.; Secretary Sheryl Silver; Treasurer Brian Grodman; Assistant Treasurer Bart Blatstein; and our twenty Vice Presidents; as well as ZOA's re-elected National Board members. The election took place on October 3, 2021.

#### Mr. Schoen stated:

It is a great honor to have been elected to serve as the Chairman of the Board of the Zionist Organization of America. I very much look forward to working with the Board, the officers, the indefatigable National President Morton Klein, and the talented and dedicated ZOA staff. With energy and resolve, I will do all I can to support the extraordinary work of this most venerable and storied organization, drawing on its past accomplishments and helping to carry forward its mission as a leading advocate for Israel and the Jewish people and against the growing scourge of antisemitism and irrational Israel-hatred.

ZOA President Morton Klein said:

I congratulate all the ZOA officers and National Board members on their election. They are all exemplary Zionists and activists.

I especially want to congratulate our fabulous new Chair, David Schoen. David's commitment to Zionism knows no bounds. His life revolves around family, Judaism, Israel, and the law. His dynamism, energy, knowledge, intellect, relationships in the legal, Jewish, political and Israel worlds, and his great work ethic will help propel ZOA to new heights. All of us at the ZOA are proud that David Schoen has chosen ZOA to be his Jewish activist home.

Mr. Schoen co-founded the ZOA Center for Law & Justice (CLJ), directed by Susan Tuchman, Esq., which does vital work defending and protecting the civil rights of Jewish and pro-Israel students who are harassed or discriminated against on college campuses. He has always been an ardent supporter of the CLJ's work, including serving as counsel of record on the two amicus briefs that the ZOA submitted to the U.S. Supreme Court in the Zivotofsky case, which sought to uphold and enforce a federal law that gave American citizens born in Jerusalem the right to list "Israel" as their birthplace on their passports. Mr. Schoen was also a guest of the Israeli Foreign Ministry in connection with advocacy programs there.

Mr. Schoen stated, "I will do all I can to support the extraordinary work of this most venerable and storied organization."

The ZOA is proud of Mr. Schoen's groundbreaking legal work combatting the Palestinian Authority/PLO's efforts to avoid liability for their role in the murder of innocent Jews and Americans. Mr. Schoen uncovered the operations of the Palestinian Authority/PLO "pay-to-slay" program, and the role of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), a U.S.-designated terrorist group, on the PLO Executive Committee. Mr. Schoen also helped moderate a United Nations panel on the glorification of terrorism. His experience combatting PA/ PLO/PFLP terrorism will be of enormous value to the ZOA, which shares this goal.

Mr. Schoen is a cum laude graduate of Boston College Law School and obtained his master of laws degree from Columbia Law School. He is a member of various boards, including the ACLU of Alabama, and is the recipient of numerous awards, including the prestigious National Pro Bono Publico Award from the American Bar Association (ABA), and the American Friends of Migdal Ohr Tower of Light Award. The statement accompanying Mr. Schoen's ABA award included a quote from federal judges that "Mr. Schoen's litigation has been responsible for effecting more positive change in public institutions in the South, including jails, prisons, foster care, education, indigent defense, etc., than the work of any other lawyer of this era."

Mr. Schoen is representing the Democratic Party of the U.S. in a lawsuit brought against it. He represented a Socialist Party candidate for president in 2020, to strike down an unconstitutional ballot access law in Washington, D.C. He also represented the Libertarian Party, and other small parties and independent parties and candidates, with the goal of assuring full and open access to oppor-

tunities across the country, for all points of view.

In addition, Mr. Schoen is noted for successfully defending former President Donald Trump at President Trump's Senate impeachment trial. He regularly litigates First Amendment cases, police misconduct cases, and death penalty cases. He has represented the indigent and the powerless, including successfully challenging Alabama's foster care system.

Harvard Law Professor Alan Dershowitz said, "David Schoen is a hero, who has stood for civil rights and liberties, and whose work has transformed the South. He is a do-gooder."

The ZOA and Morton Klein warmly thank outgoing ZOA Chairman Mark Levenson, Esq. for his dedicated service and hard work during Mr. Levenson's term as Chair. The ZOA especially thanks Mr. Levenson for his leadership (along with ZOA Director of Research & Special Projects and co-counsel Liz Berney, Esq.) in helping to bring about ZOA's success in the 2020 World Zionist Congress elections, which moved the World Zionist Congress to the right-of-center for the first time in decades, and for effectively representing ZOA at the American Zionist Movement, notably successfully fighting extremist left wing Jewish groups hostile to Israel. Mr. Levenson stated:

It was my honor and privilege to have served as Chair of the ZOA for the past three years. I will miss working daily with my valued ZOA colleagues throughout the whole organization. Congratulations to David Schoen as he takes the mantle of leadership in a chain that goes back to 1897.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Morton A. Klein National President, Zionist Organization of America

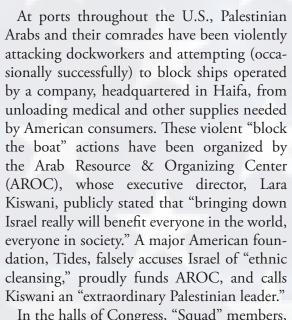
## The Scourge of Jew-Hatred and Israel-Hatred

hese are frightening times for American Jews. There is a tsunami of virulent antisemitism, from all sides. Most of this flood of hatred is coming from the left, from Marxist groups such as the Black Lives Matter (BLM) organizations and the Islamists, and under the guise of anti-Zionism. Gone is the temporary respite from Jew-hatred that American Jews experienced after the world recoiled from the horrors of the Holocaust.

On our college campuses, hate groups such as Students for Justice in Palestine scream for Intifadas (terror wars against Jews), call for Jews to be removed from campus, place mock "eviction notices" on Jewish students' doors, violently shut down pro-Israel activities and speakers, and turn student government meetings into Israel-bashing sessions.

On the streets of New York and other major cities, Nation of Islam and BLM followers openly assault innocent Jews. "No bail" laws allow the perpetrators out of jail days later to attack again. In Los Angeles last year, a BLM official and Louis Farrakhan follower incited a Kristallnacht-style pogrom, in which synagogues, Jewish schools, and Jewish businesses were burnt, looted and defaced, while BLM rioters chanted "F\_\_\_ the police and kill the Jews" and "F\_\_ Jews."





In the halls of Congress, "Squad" members, led by Rashida Tlaib, Ilhan Omar, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Cori Bush, regularly spout ugly libels maligning the Jewish state and American supporters of Israel. Much of this defamation – such as Tlaib's false accusations that Israel denies water to Palestinians – is reminiscent of the medieval "Jews are poisoning the wells" libels that led to centuries of pogroms. Yet when anyone objects to the Squad's relentless antisemitism, the Squad absurdly accuses the objectors of "Islamophobia," or "targeting black and brown women," or failing to be "partners in justice."

In the Biden administration, there are officials in key positions who have shocking records of antisemitism and anti-Zionism. Hady Amr – who wrote "I was inspired by the Palestinian intifada," falsely accused Israel of "ethnic cleansing," and took the side of Hamas – is Deputy Assistant Secretary for Israeli-Palestinian Affairs. Anti-Israel BDS activist Sarah Margon – who was

also the former deputy director of a major Israel-bashing NGO, the so-called "Human Rights Watch" – is the nominee for Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor. Uzra Zeya – who has a long record of denouncing the "Israel lobby" and its use of "secret money" to control American politicians – is now Under Secretary of State for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights. And Maher Bitar – now a member of the National Security Council – had regular training sessions on "How to Demonize Israel."

In our own backyard, left wing, anti-Israel "Jewish" groups, such as J Street, New Israel Fund (NIF), IfNotNow, T'ruah, Bend the Arc and the like, campaign for the Biden administration to adopt anti-Israel policies. And they accuse the ZOA of "racism" for standing up against Black and Islamist antisemitism.

In each of these situations, the Zionist Organization of America has been at the forefront. We've been calling out the antisemites from all sides – including BLM organizations. We've protested for better police protection, and demanded that perpetrators be brought to justice. We've demanded an end to "no bail" laws. We've been combating campus antisemitism via legal action and via our campus professionals. We've demanded that law enforcement act to stop the unlawful, violent "block the boat" actions, and opposed hiring the Tides Foundation chairman as president of a major university. We've proclaimed these truths on TV and radio shows like Mark Levin and Dennis Prager, and Newsmax and Fox shows, as well as in our op-eds and press releases and letters.

We've repeatedly demanded that antisemitic

In our own backyard, left wing, anti-Israel "Jewish" groups, such as J Street, New Israel Fund, IfNotNow, T'ruah, Bend the Arc and the like, campaign for the Biden administration to adopt anti-Israel policies.

Squad members be removed from their congressional committees, and pointed out that they've been setting the tone for the entire country – that antisemitism is acceptable. We've set up a "Biden Appointments Watch" website and called for the rejection of dangerous nominations. We've pointed out the moral bankruptcy of J Street and NIF, and countered their anti-Israel policy prescriptions.

We wish that more organizations were doing the work the ZOA is doing, and that there were dozens of ZOA-type groups working together against the threats that American Jewry faces. But too often, the ZOA has stood up alone, or with small allies, while most major Jewish groups remained silent or even helped the Jew-haters and Israel-haters.

On one such recent occasion, distinguished British author and journalist Melanie Phillips recognized our efforts, writing: "Once again, it's only the Zionist Organization of America that has called out a reality that most American Jews find too difficult to acknowledge."

This trend was already apparent in 2019, when pro-Jewish activists Charles Jacobs and Avi Goldwasser decried America's failed Jewish leadership, but exempted the ZOA. They wrote: "It's hard to ignore the simple fact that Jewish leaders have failed to stop or even slow down the accelerating epidemic of Jew-hatred in America. Part of the reason for their failure is that many mainstream Jewish leaders, with a few exceptions, most significantly Morton Klein of the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA), have failed to fully understand the new threats we face. Like failed generals fighting the last war, they

focused on Nazis and the political right – and ignored the changed battlefield for as long as they could. They deliberately, out of political consideration, minimized the assaults coming from 'progressives' and Islamists."

There has been an unfortunate tendency of most major Jewish groups to hide their heads in the sand. Many of these Jewish groups ignore outright attacks on the Jewish community – such as the pogrom in Los Angeles, and the numerous physical attacks on Jews in Brooklyn.

Mainstream groups often refuse even to acknowledge the antisemitism coming from the Left or from BLM. For instance, absurdly, the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) recently said that "a BDS resolution alone would not count as antisemitism," but "might" - might! - count as antisemitism if Jewish students were excluded from the debate on the resolution. How in the world can a resolution *not* be antisemitic when it singles out Jews living in the world's only Jewish state to boycott them? Anti-Jewish boycotts have been quintessential antisemitism for centuries. Anti-Jewish boycotts were the first antisemitic action taken by the Nazis. Theodor Herzl decried the scourge of anti-Jewish boycotts in the 1890s. Indeed, every one of the numerous modern-day BDS resolutions we've looked at and combatted has been antisemitic.

Too often, the ZOA has stood up alone, or with small allies, while most major Jewish groups remained silent or even helped the Jew-haters and Israel-haters.



Archeological excavations in the City of David demonstrate the Jewish people's ancient connection to Jerusalem

Like no other Jewish organization, the ZOA fights Jew-hatred and Israelhatred by promoting the facts about issues that are used to wrongly condemn

Like no other Jewish organization, the ZOA fights Jew-hatred and Israel-hatred by promoting the facts about issues that are used to wrongly condemn Israel. We make a point, whenever these and other issues come up, to tell the truth and dispel the lies:

**Occupation:** Israel has given away all of Gaza and 40% of Judea and Samaria which is where 98% of the Palestinian Arabs live. They run their own lives, except for security. They have their own schools, media, police, parliament and businesses. There is no real occupation.

**Jerusalem:** Jerusalem is mentioned 700 times in the Jewish holy books. It is never mentioned in the Muslim Koran. The majority of people living in Jerusalem since the mid-1800's have been Jews. Jerusalem has never been the capital of any country except Israel. The only Arab to have visited Jerusalem when the Arabs controlled it from 1948-67 was King Hussein of Jordan. Jerusalem is not that holy to Muslims.

**Communities in Judea and Samaria:** Jews are not settlers or interlopers in Judea and Samaria – the heartland of Israel and the Jewish people – and the communities there are not settlements. There has not been a single new Jewish community built in Judea and Samaria since Oslo began in 1993.

**Palestinian Arab statehood:** The Palestinian Arabs were offered a state in 1937, 1948, 2000, 2001 and 2008. They turned down a state each time, because that would have required accepting a Jewish state and ending their demand that millions of Arabs be allowed to move into Israel. The Arabs' goal is not a state. It's Israel's destruction.

The truth about the Palestinian Arab regime: The Palestinian Authority pays Arabs a generous lifetime pension to murder Jews and Americans. It honors terrorists by naming schools, streets, sports teams and tournaments, and children's camps after Jew-killers. It promotes hatred and violence against Jews in its schools, media, speeches, and sermons in mosques. It has not held elections since 2005. The Palestinian Authority is an antisemitic terrorist dictatorship.

We need to strongly promote these powerful truths for as long as the Palestinian Arabs continue to promote Jew-hating and Israel-hating propaganda lies.

Despite all of this, we cannot be discouraged and cannot despair. The ZOA and our legion of supporters will fight, with all our hearts and souls, for the Jewish people and the Jewish state. We must simply continue and redouble our efforts, and remember: "In every generation they rise up against us to destroy us. And the Holy One, blessed be He, rescues us from their hands."

Israel.

## LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN



**David I. Schoen, Esq.**Chairman of the Board

t is a great honor to write for the first time as the new Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Zionist Organization of America. I write with the hope that with G-d's help, I will be able, in some way, to bring something of value to the organization

and to its vitally important mission. I am incredibly excited about beginning the journey.

The ZOA has such a rich and vibrant history. It counts among its leaders, members, and constituents great luminaries in the fight for the rights of the Jewish people and against those who would deny those rights.

In 1894, the great Hebrew poet, Chaim Nachman Bialik, wrote a poem, reflecting the deep yearning for the opportunity to build the Jewish homeland in Eretz Yisrael, heightened by the despair of living every day, stranded in the diaspora, with the dream still seeming so distant:

Not my hands formed you, O ears of corn, Not my hands fostered your growth; Not I have spent my strength here, Not I will enjoy your harvest.

Three years later, in 1897, the ZOA was launched. One of the ZOA's primary goals, to which it has remained true each and every day since its formation, is, of course, the meaningful fulfillment of the dream at the heart of Bialik's poem: the continued opportunity for the Jewish people to be able to build this homeland and live in peace and security anywhere in the Land of Israel, with Jerusalem as its eternal capital.

Today's ZOA, under the leadership of Mort Klein, stands as a singular, vibrant, and powerful voice for the Jewish people. In a world in which false moral equivalence often replaces truth in a narrative, facts are cast aside in favor of fiction, and political expediency is favored over principle as a matter of policy, the ZOA stands firm in advocating for the Jewish people based exclusively on the truth, the facts, and on principle. And when the message is put forward by Mort Klein, these powerful weapons are delivered with passion and the power of persuasion, born of a boundless love for the Jewish people and the Land of Israel.

The ZOA is also propelled in its mission by a staff that is filled with talented, dedicated, committed women and men who share a personal stake in the ZOA's success each and every day, knowing that their work has a direct impact on how widely and meaningfully the ZOA's critically important message will be heard. I had the privilege of meeting, albeit virtually, with the entire staff the day after I became Chairman. Their energy, excitement, and eagerness to contribute to the ZOA mission resonated right through my computer screen and I could tell immediately that with a staff like this, the ZOA is on track to move forward from strength to strength.

The ZOA's Center for Law and Justice, led by Susan Tuchman, is a brilliant, powerful part of the organization, standing as a hallmark of the vigilance with which the ZOA monitors the plague of antisemitism and attacks on the Jewish people on campus, in the workplace, and in the exercise of constitutionally protected rights. The Center for Law and Justice is ever ready to expose and forcefully fight back against any such attacks at the highest level of competence and with the greatest sense of professionalism.

## Today's ZOA, under the leadership of Mort Klein, is organization on the most vitally important issues of the

The ZOA's Government Relations Department, led by Dan Pollak, actively engages with members of Congress each and every day. Under Dan's leadership, Government Relations makes and maintains vitally important connections to gain legislative support for the ZOA's most meaningful initiatives and to keep the ZOA timely advised of every significant development that could possibly affect the issues at the heart of the ZOA mission.

ZOA Campus, led by Jonathan Ginsburg, is a vibrant operation that brings the ZOA's message to over 100 college campuses around the country, providing programming, appearances by ZOA President Mort Klein, and educational resources designed to accurately and powerfully counter BDS and other antisemitic rhetoric. It is, of course, vitally important to arm Jewish students and others on campus with the true facts surrounding Israel-related issues and other current issues of particular interest to Jewish students, so that they can combat the attacks they regularly face and affirmatively advocate for the State of Israel and spread the ZOA message among these future leaders of the Jewish people. ZOA Campus is extraordinarily successful and continues to grow every year.

Our members are, of course, the heart and soul of the ZOA. ZOA President Mort Klein and our Directors are their voice and the servants of their interests. The members' interests are at the heart of every decision on every initiative the ZOA puts forward. Our Board of Directors is comprised of the most dedicated and effusively pro-Israel advocates of any Jewish advocacy organization that can be found anywhere. Our members are the best promoters of the ZOA's goals and the greatest force to facilitate the clear, powerful, and vitally important message Mort delivers around the world for the benefit of the Jewish people. Without the support of our dedicated members, of course there could be no ZOA.

I say without hesitation or qualification that today's ZOA, under the leadership of Mort Klein, is the single most important American Jewish advocacy organization on the most vitally important issues of the day directly and profoundly affecting the Jewish people. The ZOA serves the American people through education, accountability, and action. True to its name and its raison d'etre, in serving the American people, the ZOA serves the cause of Zionism and in serving the cause of Zionism, it serves the American people and vital American interests around the world.

Today's ZOA fights for our rights on every front and with great vigilance and impact. The ZOA is at the forefront, with Mort's clarion call leading the charge, on issues as critically important as promoting the rights of Jews to live and make their homes in all of the Land of Israel, challenging false presentations of "facts" concerning Israel and the regular attacks against the Jewish State, while educating all who are willing to listen to the true facts. The ZOA fights every day on every front against existential threats posed by dangerous, misguided policies that empower enemies of Israel whose agenda is the destruction of the Jewish State. The ZOA has led landmark initiatives in our government to seek justice for the victims of terrorism, to recognize Israel's lawful sovereignty over the Golan Heights, to move the U.S. embassy to Israel's capital

# the single most important American Jewish advocacy day directly and profoundly affecting the Jewish people.

city, Jerusalem, and many other steps to support Israel's right to exist and to live peacefully and securely. The ZOA today and its Center for Law and Justice lead the fight against campus antisemitism by exposing it where it exists, by demanding government intervention to protect innocent students, and by enforcing accountability.

Every person who cares deeply about Israel's living and breathing role as the homeland of the Jewish people, who wants to have a voice to speak out against and demand action against antisemitism, and who wants to have an ever-vigilant advocate for the rights of the Jewish people should make the ZOA your Jewish advocacy home.

Every era presents special challenges for the Jewish people. In the days following the Oslo Accords, Mort Klein and the ZOA stood alone in documenting and exposing the daily violations by the PLO and others, at a time when other groups and political figures desperately wanted to overlook them in the naïve hope that they were aberrations, or simply to cover for a political agenda that was willing to sacrifice Israel. As with every one of its initiatives, the ZOA supported its assertions with demonstrable facts and spoke the truth, no matter who refused to listen. Through the ZOA's efforts alone, others were finally compelled to come to the truth.

Today, the Jewish people face a new malevolent threat from the Hate Squad in our Congress. They spew vicious antisemitic rhetoric that grows worse and worse and they portray themselves as "progressives." There is nothing progressive about their virulent antisemitism and hatred of everything to do with the State of Israel. It is regressive policy at its worst – a base, core hatred based on religion and nationality that hearkens back to a much darker day in the world's history and that must never be permitted to be accepted behavior.

The ZOA today is the singular voice speaking out clearly against this hatred and the Hate Squad's unmistakable efforts to abandon our greatest ally in the world and the only democracy in the Middle East, the State of Israel. Indeed, as you know, this group of haters recently put forward an initiative to bar funds earmarked exclusively for the defensive measures that the Iron Dome enables, favoring terrorists over the State of Israel. But once again, the ZOA was there and remains at the forefront of the battle to expose these haters and their antisemitism, posing as anti-Israel rhetoric, for exactly what they are and for what their message is. They and their message are antithetical to the inclusiveness America stands for. We have seen recently just how dangerous they and their message are, as we have had to watch them fuel violent physical and verbal attacks on Jews throughout the country. The ZOA singularly is standing up to it and will never be intimidated or silenced.

Mort Klein and the ZOA use facts, evidence, and the truth as the most forceful tools for the Jewish people and it is an honor to be a part of that effort. I would encourage anyone and everyone who cares about these issues to join with Mort and the ZOA to make this powerful advocate ever more powerful in using its strength for the protection of the Jewish people and the State of Israel and the vitally important American interests in both. It truly is an honor and privilege to be a part of the Zionist Organization of America.

## What past participants say about the ZOA Leadership Mission to Israel:

"I have been to Israel many times, but never had my life changed in the way it was by the ZOA mission to Israel last year."

"No matter how many times you've been to Israel, this trip trumps all! We went to areas you could never visit as a regular tourist, making it a once-in-a-lifetime experience. An uplifting and inspiring month squeezed into one week!"

"A behind the scenes, in depth look at Israel. Memorable not just because of the places we visited, but because of the people we met. So many 'lives' we were honored to touch which span the complexities of our beautiful Homeland."

"Fabulous! What an experience! We laughed, ate and stayed at a luxury Five-Star hotel. But, most importantly, we learned."



**ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA** 

LEADERSHIP MISSION

# ISRAEL 2022

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27 - MONDAY, MARCH 7

(OPTION FOR SHORTER MISSION FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 3)



For more information, please contact Howard Katzoff: hkatzoff@zoa.org | (212) 481-1500 ext. 212



# Gave the Date

## ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

## 2021 VIRTUAL SUPERSTAR GALA

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19 • 7:00 PM EST



PM NAFTALI BENNETT

PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL

MYRON ZIMMERMAN AWARD FOR

DISTINGUISHED STATESMANSHIP



SECY MIKE POMPEO

FMR. SECRETARY OF STATE

DR. MIRIAM & SHELDON ADELSON

DEFENDER OF ISRAEL AWARD



DR. MIRIAM ADELSON

GLOBAL PHILANTHROPIST
PHYSICIAN, RENOWNED
DRUG ADDICTION EXPERT

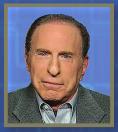
FOUNDER, DR. MIRI & SHELDON G. ADELSON MEDICAL SCHOOL, ARIEL, ISRAEL



GLORIA KAYLIE

PHILANTHROPIST, THE HARVEY & GLORIA KAYLIE FOUNDATION

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AWARD FOR
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ZOA NATIONAL

VICE PRESIDENT
DISTINGUISHED HIGHTECH BUSINESSMAN,
ENTREPRENEUR



MYRON ZIMMERMAN

ZOA NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

DISTINGUISHED REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER



RUBIN MARGULES

ZIONIST ACTIVIST

JUSTICE LOUIS D.
BRANDEIS AWARD



LISA DAFTARI

DISTINGUISHED POLITICAL ANALYST

APPEARING ON WASH POST, PBS, FOX, ETC.



KLEIN

ZOA NATIONAL PRESIDENT

DR. ROBERT SHILLMAN LECTURE

**EMCEE** 

FOR MORE INFORMATION, EMAIL GALA@ZOA.ORG, OR CALL (212) 481-1500 EXT. 223.

## **ZOA PEOPLE**



"I am a Mort Klein Zionist. Mort speaks the truth while other Jewish leaders cower before our enemies and ignore their antisemitism."

- Ros Barron

## Profile: Dr. Rosaline Barron

ithin seconds of speaking with ZOA National Board member Rosaline Barron, M.D., it's obvious that she is someone who is passionately dedicated to protecting Israel and the rights and interests of the Jewish people. As Ros puts it, "Every day, I ask myself: 'What have I done for Israel today? Not tomorrow. Today!"

Ros' Zionist spirit was instilled in her by her parents, both of whom survived the Holocaust. Her mother, Lenke Zam, was only a teenager when she managed to survive Auschwitz and a death march. (Ros' grandmother was murdered in Auschwitz.) Her father, Shlomo Zam, was a partisan during World War II. He escaped the Jewish ghetto and spent several years of the war living in the forest. "My father and his family were among the few survivors of his town, Olyka in Ukraine. They were hidden by a Ukrainian police chief who has been recognized by Yad Vashem as a Righteous Among the Nations," Ros said.

Born in Boston, Massachusetts, Ros grew up in nearby Chelsea – coincidentally on the same street as her husband Alan, although they did not know each other as children. Ros' parents were "fervent Zionists," she says, recalling that her father would sit at the kitchen table and explain why it was so important for their family, as Jews, to support Israel.

Ros believes that children of Holocaust survivors have a unique understanding of the precariousness of Jewish survival and of the importance of standing up for Israel. "In 1944, there was no one to defend us," she explained. "Today, there is! Who could imagine that four years after my grandmother burned in Auschwitz, and my mother was a slave, and my father lived in a hole in the ground, that the State of Israel would be reborn? Jews came home!"

Ros graduated from Harvard University and obtained her medical degree from Johns Hopkins University. Until her recent retirement, she was a practicing gastroenterologist in the Boston area. Her husband Alan practiced internal medicine at Mount Auburn Hospital in Cambridge for over 40 years. He died in May 2020.

Ros and Alan dedicated many of their 37 years together to supporting Israel and those who keep it safe. Their "big mission," Ros says, was Friends of the Israel Defense Forces (FIDF). After several trips to Israel, where they visited military bases and met so many soldiers who were risking their lives to defend the Jewish state, Ros and Alan looked for a way to express their deep gratitude for the soldiers' service. "How do you thank the first Jewish army in 2,000 years? With an education," Ros explained. She and Alan began by sponsoring one FIDF scholarship. That one scholarship, over time, grew to more and more. All in all, Ros and Alan funded 60 years of scholarships. "This became my husband's legacy," Ros proudly said. Ros served on the FIDF's national board, and still serves as vice chair of the New England FIDF.



Ros describes the ZOA as "fearless. It stands up in a way that makes a difference."

Ros' mantra is "What have I done for Israel today?" She lives her life by that mantra, including by making sure that she plants a tree in Israel every day.

Especially since she was so involved in Jewish causes and in defending Israel, Ros knew about the ZOA. But it was not until she heard a presentation by Rabbi Jonina Pritzker – the-then executive director of the ZOA's New England region – that she knew she had found an organization that truly spoke to her. Rabbi Pritzker was an "unbridled Zionist and I loved everything she said," Ros explained. That inspired Ros to attend other ZOA programs in the Boston area. She herself hosted a ZOA parlor meeting, which featured Dan Pollak, the ZOA's Director of Government Relations.

As she got more involved in the ZOA, Ros' appreciation of the organization's uniqueness continued to grow. "Unlike other organizations, ZOA explains our history, especially our recent history, and why we as Jews have rights to the Land of Israel," she said.



Ros Barron with Dan Pollak, ZOA's Director of Government Relations, in Hebron during the 2020 ZOA Leadership Mission to Israel

In 2019, Ros attended the ZOA's Capitol Hill Advocacy Mission in Washington, D.C. and was invigorated by it. In 2020, she was one of approximately 30 participants on the ZOA Leadership Mission to Israel, hosted by ZOA National President Morton Klein and his wife, Rita. Ros had been to Israel numerous times before; she and Alan had honeymooned there. But the ZOA mission was one of a kind. "On the ZOA mission, we went to Hebron where Abraham bought the first parcel of land 3,800 years ago to bury Sarah, where David ruled as king 3,000 years ago. We went to Sderot where Hamas had bombed a playground the day before." The mission intensified Ros' commitment to the ZOA. She is determined to join the next ZOA mission to Israel and has "already put my kids on notice that I'll be going."



Ros Barron with her grandson, Caleb Ackerman

Ros describes the ZOA as "fearless. It stands up in a way that makes a difference." She noted the ZOA's work to protect the right of Jewish students to be free from harassment and discrimination under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act – a right, she said, that has been protected for other targeted groups, but not always for Jews.

Identifying herself as a "Mort Klein Zionist," Ros describes Mort as "the singular voice on the American stage that proudly recalls our Jewish history, fearlessly calls out Jew-hatred, stands up for Israel and steadfastly decries our enemies. Mort Klein speaks the truth while other Jewish leaders cower before our enemies ignoring their blatant antisemitism," Ros said. "His speeches are so powerful and so moving that I replay the recordings two or three times."

Ros' son lives in Boston and her two daughters live with their spouses and children in Spring-field, Massachusetts. They are a close family and Ros is a loving and dedicated mother and grandmother. But that doesn't at all dampen her deep and abiding commitment to the Jewish people, to Israel and to the ZOA.

Ros joined the ZOA National Board in May 2021. She is confident that there are plenty of people like her, who "want to be connected to a really pro-Jewish, pro-Israel organization like the ZOA." Ros is making it her "personal goal" to introduce people to the ZOA and get them involved in the organization. "In the U.S. today, there are a million Jews like me who love Israel, who believe Jewish lives matter, who believe that the one Jewish state on earth has a right to exist and a right to defend itself. I want to unite us under the umbrella of ZOA.

"I care about the survival of the Jewish people," Ros continued. "Through the millennia we have been blessed with great leaders: Joshua, David, Mordechai, Hillel, Rabbi Akiva, Judah Maccabee, Maimonides, Herzl, Jabotinsky, Mordechai Anielewicz, Ben Gurion, the Rebbe, Sharansky. Today Mort Klein is my leader. He is my voice! Am Yisrael Chai!

"American Jews need ZOA," Ros emphasized. "When many threads come together the rope is strong." We at the ZOA need Dr. Rosaline Barron. We are stronger and more effective with her indefatigable passion, commitment and support.

"In the U.S. today, there are a million Jews like me who love Israel, who believe Jewish lives matter, who believe that the one Jewish state on earth has a right to exist and a right to defend itself. I want to unite us under the umbrella of ZOA."

## GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

he ZOA's Government Relations Department is looking forward to returning to pre-COVID ways of operating. But a number of restrictions on our operations remain, due to both the pandemic and security restrictions in the wake of the January 6, 2021 riots in the Capitol. The House and Senate remain hotbeds of extreme partisanship, and that inevitably influences the priorities of the ZOA's legislative agenda. Republican support for Israel is nearly unanimous, and most of the Democrats in Congress continue to support Israel in general. It is impossible to ignore the real changes in the environment that are due to the most extreme anti-Israel elements in Congress, including the "Squad" and newly elected far-left members of Congress, for whom solidarity with Israel-haters is a requirement of their intersectional beliefs.

### ZOA Stands Alone Among Major Jewish Groups in Supporting Israeli PM Bennett's Opposition to a Palestinian Arab State

ZOA supports the Abraham Accords, but as Congress moved in committee to consider the Israel Normalization Act of 2021-a bill we were supporting to facilitate spreading the accord to other Arab countries—amendments by Senate Democrats fundamentally changed the bill. The amendments included language that the only solution to conflict in the region was by establishing a Palestinian Arab state, and language endorsing the resumption of U.S. aid to the Palestinian Authority (PA), without mentioning the Taylor Force Act which restricts that aid until the PA's "payto-slay" policy is ended. As a result, Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) objected to these changes and opposed the bill in both the committee and on the floor of the Senate. The bill was endorsed by AIPAC and other pro-Israel organizations because of the bipartisan support for the Abraham Accords and all the good they can do in the region. ZOA was proud to stand with Senator Cruz as a matter of principle, and our members should all understand why we would oppose an otherwise benign bill.

There is no greater danger to Israel than the establishment of a Palestinian Arab terror state in Gaza and Judea and Samaria. All the advantages of good relations with Israel's neighbors can be undone by sustained terrorism from

such an entity. To begin with, ZOA believes that the territory of Judea and Samaria belongs to the Jewish people. Even if this were not so, there is little doubt that despite promises of "demilitarization," the new state would quickly be densely populated with missiles, terrorist cells, and Iranian influence. ZOA is the only pro-Israel organization that will not compromise on this point. Any mention of establishing a Palestinian Arab state makes legislation completely unacceptable.

ZOA has been making real progress in opening the options for final resolution, including options that do not establish a Palestinian Arab terror state. There are a handful of members of the House and Senate who explicitly agree with ZOA on this point, but that number needs to grow. Members of Congress naturally love to tell their constituents legislation that they have a solution to every problem that is brought to their attention. The truth is that workable solutions to bring peace between Israel and her neighbors are messy and rely upon continued imperfect balances of interests and security needs. ZOA will continue, as a matter of principle, to oppose any mention of establishing a Palestinian Arab state.



Dan Pollak
Director,
Government
Relations

ZOA is the only pro-Israel organization that will not compromise on this point.
Any mention of establishing a Palestinian Arab state makes legislation completely unacceptable.



#### Avoiding Partisan Overreach While Advocating for Iron Dome Missiles

As the partisan divide worsens, there are special challenges for ZOA in Washington. We are a non-partisan organization, and many of our closest friends are Democratic lawmakers. While we have often agreed with GOP leadership on issues including Iran, and ending funding to the terrorist-supporting PA and to the corrupt United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), our allies in the GOP naturally want to highlight their differences with Democratic positions. One issue that arose following the May 2021 Gaza conflict was the resupply of Iron Dome missiles to Israel.

The Iron Dome system was a great success during the conflict. About 4,500 missiles were launched from Gaza during the conflict, and about 1,500 Iron Dome "Tamir" interceptor missiles were launched by Israel, with a 90% interception rate, saving many Israeli lives. The exact number of missiles Israel possesses is of course classified, but it is known that each missile costs about \$100,000. This means that an additional \$150 million was expended beyond the normal operating costs of the system. It is understandable that

pro-Israel advocates wanted to help Israel with the costs of saving so many lives, and in fact, President Biden supports restocking Israel's supply of missiles. The biggest Israel-haters in Congress, though, oppose any aid to Israel at all, and particularly any additional aid in the wake of the Gaza conflict.

This is the context for an exaggerated, and even false news story that emerged in June 2021, when some GOP leaders alleged that moderate Democratic Congress members were voting against the resupply of missiles to Israel. Specifically mentioned were Rep. Elaine Luria (D-VA) and Josh Gottheimer (D-NJ). In fact, that vote will be held at some point, and the pro-Israel Democratic Congress members will almost certainly support it. What actually occurred was that in the process of approving the annual military appropriations bill to Israel, an amendment was offered outside of normal procedures to allow the appropriations to be modified prematurely to immediately fund additional missiles to Israel. The amendment was defeated on a procedural vote, and then the Democrats who routinely voted to proceed with other business were castigated for not supporting the Iron Dome resupply. ZOA wisely refrained from making any public comment about this manufactured contretemps.

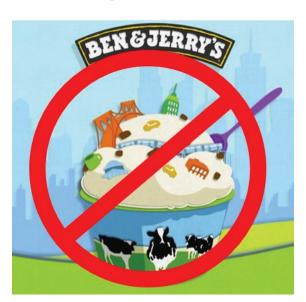


## BDS, Antisemitism, and Iran

The Government Relations Department continues to focus on ZOA's other legislative priorities, including fighting antisemitism and advocating for Jewish students who are being harassed on college campuses.

The Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) effort against Israel is intrinsically a scheme to destroy the Jewish state by alternative means. Much of the legislative activity against BDS is at the state level, where individual states have passed laws making it impossible for a business to contract with the state if they are boycotting Israel. Indeed, in the recent Ben and Jerry's ice cream episode, it was state BDS laws that were brought to bear on the company's blatantly antisemitic actions.

ZOA has been concentrating more than ever on the problem of antisemitism, particularly because antisemitism on the left and from the Black Lives Matter organization has been ignored by other Jewish organizations. There is still a major problem in Congress, with Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-MN) and Rashida Tlaib (D-MI) making unacceptable comments about Israel in a way that clearly crosses the line into antisemitism without consequences from their own party.



## ZOA is doing all we can to keep the focus on Iran and its malicious activities around the world.

Iran has not yet been stopped from working to produce nuclear weapons, and ZOA continues to push for congressional actions to make this more difficult. The Biden administration policy of returning to the JCPOA (i.e., the 2015 Iran deal) is a sure formula for future conflict and even nuclear disaster. ZOA is doing all we can to keep the focus on Iran and its malicious activities around the world. Nothing that happens in Lebanon, Syria or Gaza is independent of the very evil plans of the Iranian regime, which has also spread its malign activities to South America.

In addition to dealing with our elected officials and communicating ZOA's insights and reactions to the news of the day, ZOA's Government Relations Department interacts with other Jewish and Christian pro-Israel organizations. We also work closely with our ZOA regional directors. We participate in meetings, public forums and policy discussions with foreign policy and political professionals, and continue to engage in print and broadcast media opportunities to spread the word on ZOA's issues.



# SUPPORT OUR WORK – WITH FINANCIAL BENEFITS FOR ZOA AND FOR YOU!

Our work isn't done.
We need your support.
You can help us – and in return,
obtain financial benefits for yourself.

# Establish a ZOA CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY.

#### Here's how it works:

- Your gift to the ZOA is set aside in a reserve account and invested.
- Your donation is partially taxdeductible.
- You will receive a fixed stream of income for the rest of your life.
- A portion of the payments you receive may also be tax-free for a period of time, based on your age.
- The payments you receive offer you secure income, unaffected by fluctuating interest rates and uncertain financial markets.



The ZOA has a long and effective record of fighting antisemitism and Israel-bashing.

Like no other organization, we stand up strongly for the rights of the Jewish people and for a safe and secure Israel – on Capitol Hill, on campus, and in the courts.

Contact Michelle Klahr for more information:
Email mklahr@zoa.org.



## CENTER FOR LAW & JUSTICE



**Susan B. Tuchman, Esq.**Director, Center for Law and Justice

#### ZOA Fights Antisemitism in Fairfax County, VA Public Schools

Parents in Fairfax County, Virginia reached out to the ZOA for help after officials in the Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) failed to condemn and punish a school board member for using her school board position for personal and partisan gain, in violation of FCPS policies. In May 2021 – as Israel defended its people from thousands of rockets launched from Gaza by the terrorist group Hamas – the school board member used her official podium to make false and inflammatory accusations against Israel.

On her Facebook and Twitter pages - both of which trumpet her position on the school board and prominently bear the school board's logo - the school board member falsely accused Israel of "desecrating the Holy Land," "apartheid," and "colonization." She also accused Israel of killing Palestinians, omitting the important fact that Israel was acting defensively, as any country would if it were being bombarded by deadly rockets from a terrorist group deliberately targeting innocent civilians. The school board member's social media posts incited others to express their Jew- and Israel-hatred, dividing and harming the community she is obligated to protect.

Parents reported that FCPS's failure to

respond to the school board member's misconduct was part of a pattern of ignoring years of antisemitism in FCPS and showing insensitivity to Jewish concerns. For example, school officials tolerated "jokes" about money and the Holocaust and "Heil Hitler" salutes to Jewish students. They failed to accommodate Jewish students' religious observance of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, effectively penalizing students for observing these holy days. Teachers and students paid lip service to Holocaust education, and teachers implemented offensive and trivializing Holocaust education projects.

In its letter to FCPS officials, the ZOA recommended several remedial steps which, to date, have not been implemented. The ZOA is considering next steps to ensure that FCPS provides the safe and welcoming learning environment that Jewish students deserve and are entitled to under the law.

## ZOA Files Title VI Actions against Duke and CUNY Law School

The last ZOA Report related that Duke University entered into a resolution agreement with the U. S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR). The December 2019 agreement – triggered by the ZOA's complaint to OCR that Duke had co-sponsored an antisemitic and anti-Israel

On her Facebook and Twitter pages – both of which trumpet her position on the school board and prominently bear the school board's logo the school board member falsely accused Israel of "desecrating the Holy Land," "apartheid," and "colonization."

Duke officials recognized that the harasser posed a danger to Jews and pro-Israel students – urging students to "watch your backs" and advising them to seek a police escort to class – yet they turned a blind eye to the problem in violation of their own protocol and policies.

"academic" conference and used taxpayer money to do it – required the university to take several concrete steps under OCR's supervision.

Yet the problems at Duke continued. In March 2020, the ZOA filed another complaint against Duke under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, alleging that the university failed to effectively respond to antisemitic threats and harassment directed against Jewish and pro-Israel students, to the point that these students feared for their physical safety. University officials recognized that the harasser posed a danger to Jewish and pro-Israel students - urging students to "watch your backs" and advising them to seek a police escort to class - yet they turned a blind eye to the problem in violation of their own protocol and policies. As of this date, OCR is still evaluating the ZOA's complaint.

In October 2020, the ZOA filed a complaint against the City University of New York School of Law (CUNY Law), alleging that CUNY Law failed to respond appropriately and effectively to a hostile antisemitic environment in violation of Title VI. The complaint was triggered by a video posted on social media by a CUNY Law student. In the video, someone off camera says, "I hate your shirt, I'm gonna set it on fire. I'm serious." As the threat is made, a hand ignites a lighter and holds the flame close to a man wearing a sweatshirt bearing the emblem of the Israel Defense Forces.

The student's conduct violated numerous CUNY policies and might even violate New York criminal laws. Allies of this student claim that her video was all in jest. Joke or not, the video sent a frightening and dangerous message to Jews at CUNY and elsewhere—that if you express your Jewish identity by expressing

your support for Israel, then you risk being physically threatened and violently attacked.

Rather than condemn the student's conduct, the dean justified it as an exercise of the student's First Amendment rights. But there is no First Amendment right to threaten to light someone on fire because you do not like their views.

As of this writing, OCR is still evaluating the ZOA's complaint.



Duke University in Durham, NC

### ZOA Files Amicus Brief Supporting Fordham's Decision to Exclude SJP – and Fordham Prevails

In September 2020, the ZOA filed an amicus brief with the New York Supreme Court's Appellate Division, First Department, in support of Fordham University's decision to reject a Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) club at the university. SJP, an antisemitic and anti-Israel student group on hundreds of campuses across the U.S., is largely responsible for creating a hostile campus environment for Jewish and pro-Israel students.

After Fordham rejected an application for an SJP chapter in 2016, the student applicants filed suit in New York State Supreme Court, seeking to annul the university's decision and compel it to recognize an SJP chapter. The judge found in the students' favor, concluding that Fordham's decision was arbitrary and capricious.

After Fordham appealed, the ZOA submitted an amicus brief that documented SJP's long record of harassing and intimidating Jewish and pro-Israel students; and shutting down Jewish and pro-Israel events and programs with which it disagrees, in violation of students' legal rights. The ZOA also showed that SJP's conduct crosses the line into antisemitism, based on the definition of antisemitism widely used by the U.S. government and many countries around the world, creating potential liability for colleges and universities under Title VI.

The Appellate Division found in Fordham's favor, concluding that Fordham followed its approval procedure and acted "in the exercise of its honest discretion." It was reasonable for Fordham to conclude that an SJP club would "work against, rather than enhance" the university's commitment to "open dialogue and mutual learning and understanding," the court stated.

The SJP applicants' motion for leave to appeal to the Court of Appeals was denied. Fordham stood strong and helped set a welcome precedent for other private colleges and universities. The ZOA was proud to support the university in this important legal battle.

Fordham stood strong and helped set a welcome precedent for other private colleges and universities. The ZOA was proud to support the university in this important legal battle.

## Led by ZOA, Over 30 Groups Urge University Leaders to Adopt Widely-Accepted IHRA Definition of Antisemitism

Spearheaded by the ZOA, a coalition of 31 organizations sent a letter to the leaders of almost 350 colleges and universities across the U.S., urging them to adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) working definition of antisemitism. The IHRA definition includes a core description of antisemitism as "a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews." Importantly, it also includes contemporary examples of antisemitism, including when anti-Israelism and anti-Zionism may be masking antisemitism.

Adoption of this excellent, widely-embraced definition is crucial, the ZOA's coalition letter



Setting a critical precedent, Fordham rejected an application for an SJP chapter at the university.

## Understanding how antisemitism is expressed today is the first step to effectively addressing it.

explained. Antisemitism has been at historically high levels in the past several years. Hatred and violence against Jews surged alarmingly in response to Israel's defensive operations against the terrorist group Hamas in May 2021.

The following groups co-signed the ZOA's letter: Alpha Epsilon Pi, American Values, Americans for Peace and Tolerance, B'nai B'rith International, Christians and Jews United for Israel, Christians' Israel Public Action Campaign, Club Z, CAMERA, Endowment for Middle East Truth, Fuel For Truth, Gross Family Center for the Study of Antisemitism and the Holocaust, Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America, Hillel at Florida International University, Institute of Black Solidarity with Israel, Israel365, Jewish Federation of Northern New Jersey, Jewish National Fund-USA, Latino Coalition for Israel, Lawfare Project, Louis D. Brandeis Center For Human Rights



Under Law, National Council of Young Israel, National Jewish Advocacy Center, Northeastern University Hillel, Orthodox Union, Proclaiming Justice to the Nations, Rutgers Hillel, Scholars for Peace in the Middle East, StandWithUs, StopAntisemitism.org, and Students Supporting Israel.

These groups are diverse in their views. But like the ZOA, they appreciate the importance of colleges and universities adopting the IHRA definition. Understanding how antisemitism is expressed today is the first step to effectively addressing it.

## Ongoing Educational Efforts

January 2021: Susan Tuchman, director of the ZOA's Center for Law and Justice, was the guest speaker at a webinar for ZOA's Campus Fellows, describing the ZOA's legal work to protect Jewish students, and providing Fellows with resources and information. During the question-and-answer period, ZOA Fellows shared their own campus experiences.

April 2021: Susan spoke at Students Supporting Israel's International Summit, a virtual conference for college students featuring speakers from around the world. The conference focused on the IHRA working definition of antisemitism. Susan's panel was entitled "Legal Questions Surrounding the Definition of Antisemitism."

May 2021: Coordinated by ZOA's Tri-State Campus Coordinator Marlene Artov, Susan was the featured speaker at a virtual program hosted by Students for Israel at NYU Law School. The group's president interviewed Susan about her career path and her ongoing civil rights work to protect Jewish and pro-Israel students. A question-and-answer period followed.



## VIRTUAL SUPERSTAR GALA

Sunday, December 27, 2020



AMB. DAVID FRIEDMAN



DR. MIRIAM ADELSON



AMB. GILAD ERDAN



DR. BRUNO WU



ICE CUBE



JON VOIGHT



DR. KIRON SKINNER



PROF. ALAN DERSHOWITZ



MORTON A.
KLEIN

uring the summer of 2020, when our office had already been closed for almost six months, we recognized that the prospect of hosting our usual in-person national dinner was unlikely. We decided to proceed with our first-ever ZOA 2020 Virtual Superstar Gala.

We combined our Virtual Gala with our endof-year fundraising campaign. We also decided, for the first time ever, to incorporate the ZOA's annual regional galas into our national Gala event. ZOA staff members rolled up their sleeves to achieve something that had never been attempted before.

Our national and regional staff mobilized to maximize the effectiveness of our fundraising. All ZOA contacts and constituents across the country were included in the effort, through email, social media, USPS mail, and especially telephone solicitations. All of our donors were given the opportunity to place ads in the Virtual Journal. There were both national and regional virtual journals.

The end-of year-campaign and the fundraising effort associated with the Virtual Gala were a huge success. We obtained a superb response

from both members of our Donor Societies and our general membership. Our supporters recognized that the ZOA is the only organization that is truly standing up for Israel and the Jewish people.

The Virtual Gala took place on December 27 with both national and regional honorees. It was hosted by then-ZOA Chairman Mark Levenson, Esq., with opening remarks by ZOA National President Morton A. Klein. The national honorees were David Friedman, U.S. Ambassador to Israel; Gilad Erdan, Israel's new Ambassador to the UN and the U.S.; and Dr. Kiron Skinner, former Director of Policy Planning at the U.S. Department of State, a Professor at Carnegie Mellon University, and a Fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University. Academy Award-winning actor Jon Voight and rapper/ actor/filmmaker/screenwriter/activist Ice Cube were guest speakers. There were also introductions by Harvard Law School Professor Emeritus Alan Dershowitz and by entertainment industry executive Jeff Kwatinetz.

#### Quotes From the Honorees

#### Ambassador David Friedman:

"The Award comes from one of the most vital organizations in the world in defending the rights of the Jewish state ... A strong, secure, and prosperous Israel is decidedly in the best interests of America ... Today, one must be pro-Zionist, and I am deeply honored to receive the Adelson Award from an organization that proudly stands for that principle: the ZOA."

#### Jon Voight:

"I love ZOA because you teach the truth to our precious children in our universities and to everyone you can reach ... I am proud of you!"

#### Ambassador Gilad Erdan:

"Israel's future looks brighter than ever ... Thank you for your unconditional and unwavering support ... You (ZOA) are a big part of what makes Israel a wonder."

#### Dr. Kiron Skinner:

"The Abraham Accords are leading the region to more diversity, and peopleto-people relations ... We in the State Department, while achieving peace in the Middle East, had a shared responsibility of ending antisemitism once and for all."

## ZOA's Regional "Zionists in the Spotlight"

### Greater Philadelphia



Allen L. Rothenberg, Esq.



Dom Giordano

## Florida



Dr. Craig Deligdish & Gila Bronner



Dr. Daniel & Staci Layish

#### Michigan



Dr. Herbert & Margo Gardner



Ronna Ross & Steve Schwartz z'l

#### **Pittsburgh**



Andrea Chester



Harold Marcus

The Virtual Superstar Gala was an enormous success, viewed by thousands across the country. The Virtual Gala Committee – comprised of Howard Katzoff, Alan Jay, Nancy Hollander, Jackie Shafer, and Natalie Lazaroff – thanks all of our honorees, participants, donors, and viewers for their continuing support and generosity.

## ZOA CAMPUS



Jonathan Ginsburg Managing Director, ZOA Campus

OA Campus has successfully adapted to the changing landscape over the past year due to the COVID-19 pandemic and continues to be the leading Zionist voice on American college campuses. The campus department has worked to further its mission of empowering Jewish and pro-Israel students by implementing new virtual and in-person programs that have engaged young advocates and enabled them to make a direct impact on their campus communities.

The spring 2021 semester proved to be a challenging yet successful term for the department, which resulted in various highlights on campus and many rewarding ZOA-led programs. Through its stalwart efforts to proudly stand up for Israel and fight antisemitism, often in the most difficult environments, ZOA Campus continues to be the preeminent campus organization that represents the values and spirit of Zionism.

### **ZOA Fellowship**

As the flagship program of the department, ZOA Campus hosted a class of over 35 student fellows from colleges and universities across the country. ZOA Campus Fellows hailed from campuses such as the University of Pennsylvania, UCLA, George Washington University, UC Davis, Northeastern University, the University of Connecticut, and many more. Through their fellowship responsibilities, ZOA Fellows successfully engaged a wide student audience via ZOA Campus-led events as well as educational collaboratives with Hillel chapters and other campus partner organizations. As part of the fellowship curriculum, ZOA Campus hosted a hybrid combination of virtual webinars and socially distanced in-person events that focused on developing the critical engagement skills needed to combat anti-Israel bias on college campuses and on social media.

### **Events and Programs**

By standing up for the most important issues relating to Israel's security and Jewish identity, ZOA Campus proudly featured events and programs with expert guest speakers that centered on the dangers of a nuclear Iran, the truth about Hamas terror, and Jewish rights throughout Judea and Samaria and in

our eternal capital, an undivided Jerusalem. ZOA Campus staff members additionally hosted advocacy training webinars for students designed to counter BDS proposals and debunk anti-Israel myths on campus. These programs also included staff-led community building sessions that allowed ZOA Fellows and students to connect to one another and foster a sense of camaraderie while strategizing and strengthening pro-Israel advocacy efforts on campus.

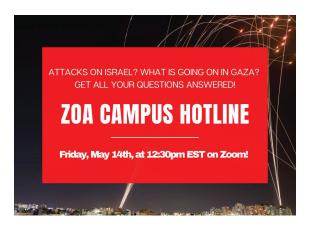
Among the many educational highlights, ZOA Campus was proud to host Joshua Washington, Executive Director of the Institute for Black Solidarity with Israel, for an in-depth webinar on African-American Zionism, the historic ties between the Black and Jewish communities, and existing contemporary issues. Additionally, ZOA hosted



engaging webinars on the "2021 Israel elections" with Likud delegate Eli Chanoch Berman; "Antisemitism on Campus" with Susan Tuchman, Director of ZOA's Center for Law & Justice; "Confronting Media Bias" with CAMERA's Aviva Rosenschein; and more.



ZOA Campus also engaged the wider campus community by offering many educational opportunities such as a ZOA Campus Book Club. In addition, ZOA Campus made sure to respond to current events and to continue our educational efforts by hosting a series of ZOA Campus Hotline initiatives during which we answered critical student questions about the most recent terror attacks on Israel from Hamas in Gaza.



#### Social Media

ZOA Campus has worked to expand and enhance its presence on numerous social media outlets. The department proudly hired Shoshana Munk as its new social media coor-

dinator, who has increased digital marketing efforts and grown our engagement across various platforms. The ZOA Campus presence on Instagram has taken off and resulted in greater outreach through interactive initiatives such as student-led Instastories.



ZOA Campus welcomes Shoshana Munk as its new social media coordinator!

ZOA Campus is utilizing social media to increase outreach and engagement with our Millennial and Generation Z demographic. Sharing current events, trends, and social movements through educational infographics is becoming increasingly popular across such platforms as Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, etc.

During Israel's May 2021 war with the Hamas terror government in Gaza, we kept our followers – students and the wider young Jewish community – informed with real-time "Israel update" campaigns and headlines. Posts and stories explained where rockets were landing, the necessity of the Israel Defense Forces' response, and the historical background of the conflict. These useful infographics, videos, and images of support could be shared easily and quickly. We also promoted other Jewish and Zionist activist accounts by continually sharing their content on our own stories to increase advocacy efforts and reach a wider audience.

This crucial form of digital activism continued through the recent surge in antisemitic and anti-Zionist incidents and attacks worldwide by negating stereotypes and misinformation and promoting solidarity in the Jewish virtual space.

#### Adoption of the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism

One of the biggest focuses for the campus department over the past academic year has been the push toward adopting the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) working definition of antisemitism by student governments on college campuses. In an era when antisemitism is fueled by anti-Israel hatred and hidden under the guise of anti-Zionism, the IHRA definition importantly defines how contemporary antisemitism is manifested. The double standards, delegitimization and demonization of the world's only Jewish state are the driving forces that are affecting the safety and well-being of Jewish students today.

Due to an increase in global antisemitism, it is as critical now as ever to ensure that the antisemitism that Jewish students are enduring is recognized and effectively combatted. ZOA Campus is proud to have worked with our incredible Fellows and student leaders who worked tirelessly to successfully pass student senate resolutions in support of the IHRA definition at the University of Texas-Austin, Northeastern University, UC Santa Barbara, and more. The campus department also partnered with Students Supporting Israel (SSI) for the inaugural IHRA Definition of Antisemitism Summit, a virtual program that brought together leading voices in the Jewish and pro-Israel community to discuss the importance of adopting the IHRA definition. ZOA proudly co-sponsored this important summit which featured the Director of ZOA's Center for Law and Justice, Susan Tuchman, as a leading legal panelist.

## Defeating BDS on Campus and Fighting Antisemitism

Despite the decentralization of campus life due to the COVID-19 pandemic, efforts by anti-Israel forces did not subside. They made numerous efforts to harm Jewish students through proposed BDS resolutions. ZOA Fellows and student activists within our campus network played pivotal roles in defeating BDS on numerous college campuses this year.

During the spring '21 semester alone, ZOA Fellows were responsible for major achievements on battleground campuses. At the University of California, Santa Barbara, our ZOA Campus Fellow helped lead the effort within the pro-Israel campus community to defeat a critical BDS resolution. By strengthening partnerships with non-Jewish student allies, ZOA Fellows built effective alliances that greatly increased support for Israel on campus. Students at UC Santa Barbara deserve special accolades for being the first school within the UC system to adopt the IHRA definition of antisemitism, while also officially rejecting BDS in the spring of 2021. In addition, ZOA students and Zionist activists helped defeat a BDS resolution at Arizona State University, and helped combat rising antisemitism on other campuses across the country.

Following a series of antisemitic incidents at the University of Connecticut during the spring of 2021, students in the Jewish community rallied to organize an on-campus demonstration. Our ZOA Fellow at UConn played a main role in mobilizing the wider community to organize this event and also led the effort to demand action from the administration.

**ZOA** Campus is proud to have worked with our incredible Fellows and student leaders who worked tirelessly to successfully pass student senate resolutions in support of the IHRA definition at the University of Texas-Austin, Northeastern University, UC Santa Barbara,

and more.

# At the University of California, Santa Barbara, our ZOA Campus Fellow helped lead the effort within the pro-Israel campus community to defeat a critical BDS resolution.

With the rise in anti-Israel-fueled antisemitism on college campuses and the existing incidents of traditional anti-Jewish hate, ZOA Campus has taken a zero tolerance approach toward helping and defending Jewish college students. Despite the increased hostility that young Zionist activists face on campus, ZOA has empowered countless students to proudly stand up for Jewish rights and Israel, both in the classroom and online in some of the most difficult forums. Through our work

with ZOA's Center for Law and Justice, we will continue to ensure that any university administration that neglects its duty to protect its Jewish student populace will be held accountable.

We are excited to continue our mission into the next generation of college students in order to inspire and educate young voices to become proud Zionists and to build increased support for the state of Israel.



ZOA Campus Fellowship flyers advertised at the TPUSA Student Action Summit Grand Young Party





**Marlene Artov** Director, YZOA

## Introducing: Young Zionists of America (YZOA)

The newest ZOA initiative is the Young Zionists of America (YZOA), a group that was created to expand our reach and engage post-university individuals from ages 22 to 40. YZOA's mission is to educate and empower young professionals across the country, and arm them with the necessary tools to stand up against antisemitism and stand up for the Jewish State of Israel.

YZOA recently held its kickoff event in New York City, where over 150 young professionals came out to show their support and love for Israel. We have already been successful in building a network of young professionals who can be strong activists in their workplaces and communities. In addition to our New York chapter, YZOA is looking forward to expanding its reach in the coming months, with future chapters in Florida, Georgia, and California.

Stay tuned for the launch of YZOA's learning series. Young professionals will be able to sign up for topic-based courses on current issues, as well as courses on historical topics about the Middle East and the Jewish people.

Those interested can engage with YZOA over social media, on both Facebook and Instagram. YZOA is constantly keeping the community updated with educational materials and current events. •

YZOA's successful kickoff event in New York City



## ISRAEL OFFICE

## Navigating Israel's Unpredictable Year

he past year has been a rollercoaster ride for the whole world. It has been especially turbulent in Israel. In addition to the COVID-19 pandemic, Israel continued to face great political instability that resulted in the formation of a new and controversial government. Israel also faced an unprecedented conflict. While we are already accustomed to conflicts with Hamas in Gaza, this time Israeli Arabs joined the violence and rioted in many of the mixed Jewish-Arab cities in Israel.

#### **Israel Faces COVID-19**

This past year will be remembered mostly for the pandemic that hit the entire world, including Israel. Israel took a very prudent approach to the pandemic, imposing significant regulations and limits regarding quarantining, travel, etc. Synagogues were closed for most of the year, children stayed home from school, Israel's borders were closed, and masks were mandatory in all places.

During this time, we at the ZOA took a proactive approach to adapt our activities to current events, while continuing to pursue our mission. One of the objectives of ZOA's Israel Office is to provide quality content to Americans in order to keep them engaged with Israel. During the pandemic, we sponsored a series of very successful webinars, including with high ranking officials such as MK Naftali Bennett (now Prime Minister), MK Nir Barkat and MK Sharren Haskel. In addition, we featured partner organizations such as Regavim, which addressed the illegal building by Palestinian Arabs in Area C, and Tatzpit, which addressed international intervention in Israel's sovereignty in Jerusalem.

One of the highlights was the four-week Judea and Samaria Mega Event we sponsored, an in-depth conference that the ZOA led with partners from the Yesha Council, My Israel and the Shilo Policy Forum. Over 1,000 people attended the conference, receiving valuable information in order to better defend

Israel. Our featured guests at the conference included President of Israel Reuven Rivlin, Ambassador Gilad Erdan and the then-Speaker of the Knesset MK Yariv Levin. All of our content is still available on ZOA's YouTube Channel.

Israel and America are both looking forward to the end of the pandemic when we can re-engage in person. Even then, we will continue to use this new and valuable virtual tool.

#### Israel's Security

While the year as a whole has been mostly positive in terms of Israel's security, "Operation Guardian of the Walls," in May 2021, was a significant response to the unprecedented attack on Israel. This latest conflict not only involved Gaza, Judea and Samaria, but also included Arab citizens of Israel, living in mixed Jewish-Arab cities, who were rioting against the Jews.

The rioters burned down synagogues, attacked Jewish homes, and removed Israeli flags from public spaces. These attacks were reminiscent of the riots and pogroms that occured in Israel before its establishment in 1948. They created widespread frustration in Israel as the population felt that the government was not applying its sovereignty properly.

Both the rioters and the Hamas terrorist organization used Jerusalem as an excuse.



Dan Illouz
ZOA
Representative
in Israel



Arab violence against innocent Israelis was wrongly blamed on Israel



ZOA Israel's Dan Illouz on reserve duty

They claimed that Israel raided the Al-Aqsa mosque located on the Temple Mount and that their riots and attacks were a response to the raid. This was a complete lie; Arabs initiated the violence on the Temple Mount, assembling rocks for days beforehand and orchestrating an attack on Israeli security forces.

Another excuse for the violence was the imminent eviction of a small number of Arab residents of properties in Shimon HaTzaddik, a neighborhood in the eastern part of Jerusalem. This was another fabricated excuse, as the Arab residents had been refusing to pay rent to the legal owners of the residences for several years. Every court that has considered this matter has concluded that the Arab residents should be evicted according to the law. Dan Illouz, ZOA's representative in Israel, visited Shimon HaTzaddik to support the right of Jews to own property and live in this neighborhood.

The real reason for the violence seems to be internal Palestinian Arab politics. The Palestinian Authority (PA) called for elections for the first time since 2006, but quickly went back on its word after polls showed that if elections were held, the PA would lose power to Hamas. Frustrated with the situation, Hamas wanted to increase its profile by becoming the "defender of Jerusalem" and probably relished the opportunity to recruit Arab citizens of Israel to its ranks. That is why Arab citizens in Israel were incited to riot and why a connection was made between the barrage of rockets and the landlord-tenant matter in the Shimon HaTzaddik neighborhood in Jerusalem.

On a military level, Israel did well. It completely controlled the airspace in Gaza and brought severe losses to Hamas. However, it unfortunately appears that Hamas was successful with its internal political goals.

ZOA Israel was on the frontlines from the very start of the conflict. As soon as the first rocket from Gaza fell on Jerusalem, we organized a webinar to update our supporters about the reasons for the conflict and to counter Hamas' false messaging. We continued to provide regular updates and used both social media and traditional media to defend Israel. ZOA Israel's Dan Illouz (pictured left) was drafted into reserve duty and defended Israel in uniform, on the frontlines in southern Israel.

The ZOA was the only American organization brave enough to criticize Lapid's remarks, even though other organizations surely understood the problematic nature of this speech.

#### Israel's Political Situation

In addition to dealing with COVID and the threats to its security, Israel endured significant political instability. The last election—the fourth in a row—ended with unclear results. After a long period of coalition-building negotiations, Naftali Bennett, who only received a seven-seat mandate, created a government that displaced Benjamin Netanyahu after he served the longest term as prime minister in Israeli history. Bennett leveraged his seven mandates, and the fact that the Left wanted to replace Netanyahu, to prevail and become prime minister.

The current coalition is a challenging one. Bennett was the CEO of the Yesha Council, a strong supporter of Judea and Samaria, and a friend of ZOA. However, parts of his coalition are very problematic. These include the far Left Meretz Party which supports Hague investigations against Israeli officials. They also include the Ra'am party, an Arab anti-Zionist party that has supported terrorism in the past and never retracted those positions.

This is a bad situation, especially in a year in which Israeli Arabs rioted. Of additional concern, Israel is dealing with the very pressing challenge of ongoing illegal building by Arabs in Area C and in the Negev desert. As ZOA's representative in Israel, Dan Illouz has met with every single right-leaning member of the Knesset to create strong relations that will enable the ZOA to promote its agenda in Israel.

We are also fighting the negative pronouncements of the current government. For example, in July 2021, Israeli Foreign Min-

ister Yair Lapid gave a speech falsely claiming that antisemitism is the same as other types of hatred. In fact, as history shows, antisemitism is unique, a hatred stronger and more dangerous than any other. In a letter to Lapid, ZOA Israel wrote, "As the Foreign Minister of the State of Israel, you delivered a speech that was completely contrary to the interests of the Jewish people. You harmed our ability to continue fighting antisemitism on campuses and at international forums."

ZOA Israel's letter to Lapid received wide media coverage and was featured in *Israel Hayom*, on Channel 20 and in *Arutz Sheva*. The ZOA was the only American organization brave enough to criticize Lapid's remarks, even though other organizations surely understood the problematic nature of this speech.

We continue to monitor the political situation in Israel, to ensure that the current government does not do damage on issues of importance to the ZOA.

## **ZOA Israel Is Thriving**

Despite the challenges of the past year, ZOA Israel has re-established a strong presence in Israel and we are thriving, maintaining and building strong connections to government officials and other NGOs and garnering a significant amount of media coverage.

ZOA Israel's voice is incredibly important. It helps Israeli decision-makers make the right decisions without fearing criticism from parts of American Jewry. It also gives a powerful voice of support for a strong and unapologetic Zionist perspective. Our goal is to expand ZOA Israel's presence in order to keep strengthening Israel.



Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett



Israeli Foreign Minister Yair Lapid

## DEVELOPMENT



Michelle Klahr
Director of Development

Trecently joined the ZOA as its National Director of Development. I am the proud mother of three girls and the child of Holocaust survivors. From the time I was a young child, my parents instilled in me a fierce love of Israel and the Jewish people. I have always known that the State of Israel ensures the Jewish people's continuous existence and that Jews will always have a place to call home.

I have never felt more passionately about any other organization as I do about the ZOA. There is no other organization that supports Israel as strongly and unequivocally as the ZOA does. In this political climate, ZOA is needed now more than ever to educate and advocate on behalf of Israel and the Jewish people. I am so proud to be part of this organization with its long-venerated history. I look forward to expanding our donor base and our work to unprecedented levels.

ZOA's greatest strength is its strong and tenacious voice. ZOA consistently addresses issues regarding the Arab-Israeli conflict that other organizations refuse to comment on. To name just a few examples, ZOA highlights Israel's right to defend itself and live within secure borders; ZOA supports Israel's right to Judea and Samaria; ZOA vocalizes and condemns Iran's threats to wipe the State of Israel off the map; and ZOA illustrates how BDS damages Israel and hurts Jewish students.

To combat the lies on TV, radio, newspapers and social media, and to expose the truth about Israel, we need your help and your support. ZOA trains college students on hundreds of campuses across the U.S. to stand up, fight back and tell the truth. ZOA also trains young professionals and tomorrow's leaders, and educates elected officials in Washington and Israel.

I hope to live in a world where ZOA is not needed. However, until that day comes, we must invest in pro-Israel advocacy to help fight against the rising assaults on Israel's legitimacy and the startling increase in antisemitic attacks around the world.

Our fundraising plan consists of five different facets: direct mail campaigns; email and social media solicitations; ZOA annual Galas; board member and major gift donations; and parlor meetings/public forums to attract new donors. We need to focus our efforts on expanding our donor base, increasing the amount of total donations and securing younger demographics. The key to the future lies in our youth. We must strive to get more of the younger generation involved as activists and supporters.

I have spent the first few months at the ZOA getting to know our board and our major donors. ZOA is so fortunate to have such a loyal and distinguished group of sup-

The key to the future lies in our youth. We must strive to get more of the younger generation involved as activists and supporters.

In the last few months, we have introduced ZOA National President Morton Klein to audiences in Atlanta via Zoom; to attendees at an antisemitism rally in Dallas; and to members of the West Orange, NJ community through a parlor meeting.

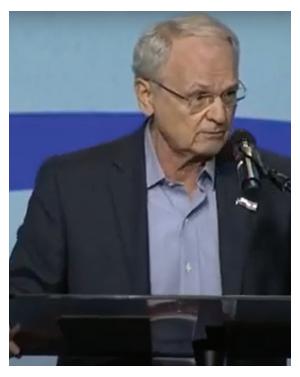
porters. My hope is to create strong connections with this esteemed group and guide them in their new role as ZOA brand ambassadors. They are the best people to spread the ZOA's message because of their deep connection to this organization as well as their access to wider networks. Through these efforts, we will bring in the capital ZOA needs to run the organization smoothly and efficiently.

In the last few months, we have introduced ZOA National President Morton Klein to audiences in Atlanta via Zoom; to attendees at an antisemitism rally in Dallas; and to members of the West Orange, NJ community through a parlor meeting where Mort addressed the upsurge in antisemitism and what we can do about it. All of these events were successful and introduced ZOA to new donors. We have many more events in the planning stages across the country, to grow our donor base and meet our fundraising goals.

Thank you for being part of the ZOA family. I encourage you to join one of our Donor Societies and introduce us to other like-minded people. Your donations can and will make a difference.



Mort and Rita Klein (left) with Andrea and Bryan Bier at a ZOA parlor meeting in NJ on July 14, 2021



Mort Klein addressing attendees at a rally against antisemitism in Dallas, TX



## **ZOA Donor Societies**

#### GENERAL SUBSCRIPTION (Under \$1,000)\*

- Subscription to ZOA's news releases, op-eds, event invitations and important communication on timely issues
- Spring and Fall issues of the comprehensive ZOA Report upon request
- Invitation to attend the Superstar ZOA Annual Gala and Capitol Hill Advocacy Mission

#### HERZL SOCIETY (\$1,000-\$2,499)\*

- Includes General Subscription benefits plus...
- Invitations to select, exclusive Herzl Society events (regionally and nationally)
- Privilege to invite two guests to Herzl Society events
- Invitations to select insider briefing calls
- Prominent ribbon indicating Herzl Society status at the Superstar ZOA Annual Gala, Capitol Hill Advocacy Mission and regional galas
- Recognition as Herzl Society member in the Spring ZOA Report

#### **MENACHEM BEGIN SOCIETY (\$2,500-\$4,999)\***

- · Includes Herzl Society benefits plus...
- Invitation to at least one additional exclusive program
- Invitation to an exclusive reception during the ZOA Annual Gala
- Prominent ribbon indicating Menachem Begin Society status at the Superstar ZOA Annual Gala, Capitol Hill Advocacy Mission and regional galas
- Recognition as Menachem Begin Society member in the Spring ZOA Report

#### **BRANDEIS SOCIETY (\$5,000-\$9,999)\***

- · Includes Menachem Begin Society benefits plus...
- Invitation to at least one <u>additional</u> exclusive program
- <u>Non-transferable</u> complimentary tickets to the Superstar ZOA Annual Gala
- Admission to exclusive VIP Reception at the Superstar ZOA Annual Gala
- Prominent ribbon indicating Brandeis Society status at the Superstar ZOA Annual Gala, Capitol Hill Advocacy Mission and regional galas
- Recognition as Brandeis Society member in the Spring ZOA Report

#### JABOTINSKY SOCIETY (\$10,000-\$24,999)\*

- · Includes Brandeis Society benefits plus...
- Personal phone call with ZOA National President Morton Klein
- Access to exclusive government / congressional events
- VIP reception with two guests at the Capitol Hill Advocacy Mission
- Prominent ribbon indicating Jabotinsky Society status at the Superstar ZOA Annual Gala, Capitol Hill Advocacy Mission and regional galas
- Recognition as Jabotinsky Society member in the Spring ZOA Report

#### NATIONAL LEADERSHIP SOCIETY (\$25,000+)

- · Includes Jabotinsky Society benefits plus...
- One complimentary table at the Superstar ZOA Annual Gala
- Telephone access to ZOA National President Mort Klein
- Ribbon indicating National Leadership Society status at the Superstar ZOA Annual Gala, Capitol Hill Advocacy Mission and regional galas
- Recognition as National Leadership Society member in the Spring ZOA Report

# **OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT**

In our 124-plus year history, the ZOA has never flagged in our commitment to Israel, to the eternal U.S.-Israel alliance and to the defense of the Jewish people. Not even a pandemic would silence our voice. Faced with the challenge of how to effectively promote Israel and Jewish advocacy during the pandemic – especially to you, our partners, and supporters – ZOA launched one of the most comprehensive, informative, stimulating and motivating online programs of the pandemic era: ZOOM With ZOA.

On the next page you will find a list of some of the 100-plus online programs we made available to you. You can read about some of them in our ZOA regional directors' reports, and you can have some fun challenging yourselves to see how many Zoom With ZOA guests you can identify (see the front cover of this report).

We have hosted members of both chambers of the U.S. Congress, MKs from Israel, ambassadors, governors, mayors, military experts, political experts, renowned journalists and authors, university campus professionals, Israeli tour guides and more.

Our goal in our virtual programming has been to fulfill our mission: to present the truth and facts about the legal, historical, and biblical rights for the Jewish State of Israel to exist and thrive in peaceful security on the land promised by G-d, the United Nations and according to international law; and to be the homeland of all Jewish people and to protect all Jews from the threat of the growing scourge of antisemitism. Since we could not come to you live and in person, we did the next best thing. And rest assured, even when we transition to pre-pandemic normal, ZOOM With ZOA is here to stay!

Hopefully we will be headed in the direction of resuming life as it was and as it should be.

Across the country our ZOA regional offices will soon begin to fill their calendars with local events: community outreach programs, speaking engagements, parlor meetings, and more. You will have already read about our upcoming Virtual Superstar Gala, scheduled for Sunday, December 19, 2021, and that we are in the formative stages of scheduling our next ZOA Leadership Mission to Israel in February 2022. We are likewise hopeful that in the spring of 2022 we will once again be able to run our highly effective Capitol Hill Advocacy Mission to Washington, D.C.

At the outset of the pandemic, the ZOA, like many other companies and organizations, made the difficult but necessary decision to streamline our operation. With the brightening horizon, we are already planning for strategic expansion and growth. Over the next several months, we will be exploring the feasibility and advantages of opening new regional ZOA offices around the country, adding new staff, and taking on new challenges that such expansion facilitates. We will be building out a bigger, more effective platform from which to broadcast our Zionist message.

ZOA will continue to fight for Israel. ZOA will continue to fight antisemitism. ZOA will continue to give voice to the truth.

We will come to your community. We will continue to bring you quality online programming. We will fearlessly and loudly continue to promote pro-Zionist, pro-Israel, pro-Jewish positions that others will not.

The crux and essence of ZOA's success is you, our supporters. You are the megaphone through which our message is amplified. The more supporters we have, the louder our voice and the more effective our advocacy. Effective advocacy requires funding: ZOA needs your financial support to be effective. Our only



**Alan D. Jay**Director, Outreach & Engagement

Faced with the challenge of how to effectively promote Israel and Jewish advocacy during the pandemic, **ZOA** launched one of the most comprehensive, informative, stimulating and motivating online programs of the pandemic era: ZOOM With ZOA.

#### A Sample of ZOOM With ZOA Webinars Hosted in 2020-2021

"The IDF: The Most Moral Army in the World," featuring Colonel (res.) Richard Kemp, Former Commander of British Forces

"Stopping The Lies - What To Know and How To Respond to Human Rights Watch On Israel," featuring **Lawrence Muscant**, Senior Vice President, Foundation for the Defense of Democracies

"From Iran to the ICC: Threats to the U.S. and Israel," featuring **Cong. Lee Zeldin (R-NY)**, Member of the United States Congress

"ZOA Exclusive: Israel Current Events Q&A," featuring **Aaron Klein**, Strategic Advisor to PM Benjamin Netanyahu

"ZOA Exclusive: The Nir Barkat Plan for Sovereignty in English," featuring **Nir Barkat**, Member of the Knesset (Likud) and former Mayor of Jerusalem

"Israel Update: Understanding the Shimon HaTzadik Rental/Eviction Dispute," featuring **Avi Bell**, Law Professor, University of San Diego School of Law & Bar Ilan University's Faculty of Law; Senior Fellow, Kohelet Policy Forum

"The Jewish Historical Connection to Jerusalem," featuring **Daniel Ehrlich**, VP & Educational Director at Keshet Educational Journeys

"Israel Political Update: Why Is This Election Different Than All Other Elections?" featuring **Adv. Dan Illouz**, ZOA's Representative in Israel

"Israel's Rights to Judea/Samaria and the Dangers of a Palestinian State," featuring **Naftali Bennett**, Prime Minister of Israel

"Illegal, EU Backed, Palestinian Building in Area C," featuring **Naomi Kahn**, Director International Division Regavim

"Fighting Anti Semitism: What Can We Do?" featuring **Elan Carr**, former U.S. State Department's Special Envoy for Monitoring and Combatting Antisemitism

ZOA Book Club: "To Heal the World?: How the Jewish Left Corrupts Judaism and Endangers Israel," featuring **Jonathan Neumann** 

"(Virtual Tour) Jewish Artisanship in Judea & Samaria: A Study of Biblical Jewish Artisanship Still in Use Today," featuring **Eliana Passentin**, Professional Tour Guide

"Iran: Snapback & Reimposition of Sanctions," featuring **Richard Goldberg**, Senior Advisor, Foundation for Defense of Democracies

ZOA Book Club: "Fight House: Rivalries in the White House From Truman to Trump," featuring **Tevi Troy**, Best-Selling Author and Former White House Advisor

"The Failure of Jewish Leadership Today," featuring **Dr. Charles Jacobs**, President of Americans for Peace and Tolerance

ZOA Book Club: "See No Evil," featuring **Joel Pollak,** Senior Editor-at-Large, In-house Counsel at *Breitbart News* 

"Yes to Sovereignty. No to a Palestinian Arab State," featuring **Nadia Matar** & **Yehudit Katsover**, Co-Chairs of the Sovereignty Movement

"Cultural Director by Day, Terrorist by Night," featuring **Amotz Eyal**, Founder and CEO of TPS & **Lt. Col. Baruch Yedid**, Head of TPS's Arab Desk

"Implications of the Historic UAE/Israel Peace Agreement," featuring **Ambassador Ron Dermer**, Israeli Ambassador to the United States

"Whose Land?' Documentary Panel Discussion," featuring Colonel (res.) Richard Kemp, Hugh Kitson, Director and Producer of "Whose Land" & Andrew Tucker, The Hague Initiative for International Cooperation

"A Shared Struggle What Changed?" featuring **Joshua Washington**, Director of the Institute of Black Solidarity With Israel

ZOA Book Club: "Israel: The Will to Prevail," featuring **Ambassador Danny Danon** 

"A Conversation With Ted Cruz," featuring **Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX)** 

ZOA Book Club: "The Fight for Jerusalem: Radical Islam, The West, and The Future of the Holy City," featuring **Ambassador Dore Gold** 

"My Journey From an Ethiopian Village to Israeli Diplomacy," featuring **Kasa Bainesay-Harbor**, Deputy Consul General of Israel in Miami

"Mega Event: Defending Sovereignty," featuring **Yifa Segal** & **MK Sharren Haskel** 

"Meet Ron DeSantis, Govorner of the State of Florida," featuring **Gov. Ron DeSantis** 

"Making the Terrorists Pay: How Attorney Steven Perles Gets It Done," featuring **Steven Perles, Esq.** 

"What the Arab World is Saying About the Israel-UAE Deal and the Lebanon Explosion," featuring **Dr. Mordechai Kedar**, Israeli scholar of Arab culture and Islam

ZOA Book Club: "Guilt By Accusation," featuring **Alan Dershowitz**, Professor Emeritus at Harvard Law School

During each webinar, prominent guest speakers present their topic for 20 - 30 minutes, followed by a Q&A session. ZOA webinars provide an incredibly valuable experience, as guest speakers are experts and leaders in a wide variety of fields, and share their personal experiences. Q&A sessions are moderated by ZOA regional directors, department heads, Board members, or President Mort Klein.



Missed a meeting? You can view previous ZOOM With ZOA webinars on our Youtube channel!

https://www.youtube.com/ZOAnational

We have hosted members of both chambers of the United States Congress, MKs from Israel, ambassadors, governors, mayors, military experts, political experts, renowned journalists and authors, university campus professionals, Israeli tour guides and more.

source of funding is donations from you – those who share our values and who are blessed with the capability to financially support our work.

We are proud of our ZOA Donor Society Program (see page 38). Knowing how much you are helping to secure Israel's safety and security and knowing that your contribution is helping ZOA fight antisemitism, you will be proud to be a ZOA Donor Society member. Give or pledge \$1,000, \$2,500, \$5,000. If you are exceedingly blessed, give more. Israel needs you. The Jewish people need you. ZOA needs you and your financial support.

ZOA will continue to do everything in our power, pull out all the stops and deploy our full resources, to support the sovereignty and security of the Jewish State of Israel and fearlessly confront and combat growing antisemitism.

Wishing all of you good health and looking forward to seeing many of you soon. I am always available at ajay@zoa.org and you can always call me at 212-481-1500 x230. If I'm not in the office, your call will be forwarded to my mobile phone.

## **ZOA Regional Executive Directors**



Sharona Whisler Florida



Steve Feldman Greater Philadelphia



Stuart Pavilack Pittsburgh



Kobi Erez Michigan

When the salutatorian of Western High School in Davie delivered a graduation speech in June 2021 that contained lies about Israel and crossed the line into antisemitism, ZOA Florida took action.

## **FLORIDA**

## Fighting Antisemitism in Public Schools

The shocking revelation that a public school principal in Palm Beach County, William Latson, refused to say that the Holocaust happened, made international headlines. Even more shocking was the incredible amount of activism that was needed to convince the Palm Beach County School Board to do the right thing and fire him.

In October 2020, ZOA Florida sprang into action, collaborating with the Gross Family Center for the Study of Antisemitism and the Holocaust, and others. ZOA Florida's Executive Director, Sharona Whisler, wrote what was described in the *Jewish Press* as "a scathing piece on the Board's decision" to rehire Latson after firing him; Sharona's op-ed was published in the *Miami Herald*. In addition, ZOA Florida issued an Action Alert, providing the public with information about how to protest the school board's decision to reinstate Latson. The school board received a barrage of over 1,300 public comments – an unprecedented number. ZOA Florida board member, Professor Richard Cravatts, delivered ZOA's statement at the school board meeting, and Yael Hamaoui, a graduating senior at a Palm Beach public school and daughter of ZOA Florida board member Allen Hamaoui, also spoke at the meeting in support of Latson's firing.

In approximately June 2021, after Florida House Bill (HB) 1213 (addressing educational instruction of historical events), was passed, the Florida Department of Education (DOE) developed standards for Holocaust education to be followed by every public school in the state. But the definition of antisemitism set forth in the draft standards differed from the definition incorporated in FL Statute 1000.05(7), which is referenced in HB 1213. ZOA Florida arranged a meeting with DOE Chancellor Jacob Oliva and Deputy Chief of Staff for Governor DeSantis, Alex Kelly, to alert them to this discrepancy. As a result of ZOA Florida's outreach, the definition of antisemitism was corrected.

When the salutatorian of Western High School in Davie delivered a graduation speech in June 2021 that contained lies about Israel and crossed the line into antisemitism, ZOA Florida issued an Action Alert, demanding that the superintendent and Broward County School Board condemn the speech and publicly apologize for school officials' decision to permit it. ZOA Florida followed up with a letter, co-signed by 1,000 Broward County residents, calling on the superintendent and school board to repair the damage caused by their mishandling of the graduation speech. Sharona Whisler, along with Holocaust educator and Broward County public school parent, Stacey Nowack, spoke before the Broward County School Board, recommending remedial steps for the school board to take.



Palm Beach High School Senior Yael Hamaoui addresses the School board



Sharona Whisler speaks at Broward County School Board Meeting

## ZOA Florida Honors Board Members as "Zionists in the Spotlight"

ZOA Florida board members Dr. Craig Deligdish and Gila Bronner and Dr. Daniel and Staci Layish were recognized as "Zionists in the Spotlight" and honored at the ZOA Virtual Superstar Gala in December 2020. These individuals have been committed to Jewish and Zionist causes for their entire lives and we are grateful for their inspiration and support.

## ZOA Webinars with Governor DeSantis and Others

A highlight among our virtual webinars during the COVID-19 pandemic was the ZOA Florida Donor Society event featuring Florida Governor Ron DeSantis and ZOA National President Morton Klein. Moderated by Sharona Whisler, the May 2021 webinar commemorated the two-year anniversary of the Governor's education and trade mission to Israel.

Other fascinating webinars featured bestselling authors and experts in their field: Edwin Black on "The Farhud: Roots of the Arab-Nazi Alliance in the Holocaust" (May 2020); Alex Ryvchin on "Zionism: Matching Knowledge with Passion" (November 2020); Tevi Troy on "Fight House: Rivalries in the White House From Truman to Trump" (October 2020); Steven Perles, Esq. on "Making the Terrorists Pay" (September 2020); Deputy Consul General in Miami Kasa Harbor on "My Journey From an Ethiopian Village to Israeli Diplomacy" (March 2021); and Lawrence Muscant on "Stopping The Lies: What To Know and How To Respond to 'Human Rights Watch' on Israel" (May 2021).

## ZOA Florida Leads Community Activism During Hamas Rockets and Rise in Antisemitic Attacks

In May 2021, ZOA Florida proudly took the lead in organizing the largest Miami-area rally in support of Israel, with help from Florida Board members Paul Kruss and Eytan Laor and volunteers Aeden O'Connor and Nadav Alkoby. Held in Aventura and attracting 20 partnering organizations and over 700 people, the rally featured such speakers as Interim Consul General in Miami Revital Malca, Rabbi Eliot Pearlson of Temple Menorah and Rabbi Weinstock of the Young Israel of Hollywood. Pastor Mario Bramnick of the Latino Coalition for Israel, as well as local mayors from the surrounding area, also addressed the crowd. Federal lawmakers on both sides of the aisle delivered prerecorded speeches. Congressman Ted Deutch spoke at the rally in person, identifying himself as a proud Zionist.

Representing the ZOA, Florida Board member, Dr. Dan Layish, delivered a passionate speech at another well-attended pro-Israel rally in Orlando.



ZOA Florida Board member Paul Kruss interviewed by Spanish Media at ZOA's pro-Israel rally



More than 700 people attended the ZOA-led rally for Israel

In May 2021, Morton Klein and Sharona Whisler addressed the online World Prayer Network, reaching thousands of pastors all over the world. Mort spoke about Israel's current challenges and provided insights into the Biden administration and the Knesset. Sharona provided an overview of ZOA's work, accomplishments, and resources.

At the invitation of Pastor Bramnick, Sharona attended the South Florida Legislative Breakfast in May 2021, and provided a briefing on the challenges that Israel and the Jewish people are facing. Two hundred Zionist pastors attended, as well as state legislators and Florida Lt. Gov. Jeanette Nuñez. Sharona emphasized Israel's right and obligation to defend its citizens without interference, and urged every Jewish and Christian group to speak out strongly against the imposition of U.S. pressure on Israel. She encouraged the pastors to urge their congregants to contact their lawmakers and express their opposition to reentering the 2015 Iran nuclear deal and to sending \$235 million of our tax dollars to the Palestinian Authority to reward murderers. Sharona also called for specific legislation against antisemitism here in the U.S., using the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance working definition of antisemitism.



ZOA's Sharona Whisler speaking at the pro-Israel rally



Sharona Whisler with Interim Israeli Consul General in Miami Revital Malca at the rally



Florida Lt. Gov. Jeanette Nuñez with Sharona Whisler at the South Florida Legislative Breakfast



(From left) Ariel Roman of the Israeli Consulate, Rabbi Eliot Pearlson, Israeli Consul General in Miami Revital Malca, U.S. Rep. Maria Elvira Salazar, and Sharona Whisler at the Jewish Leaders Roundtable

## Meeting with Freshman Congresswoman Salazar

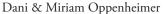
In May 2021, Sharona participated in a Jewish Community Leaders Roundtable that was arranged by U.S. Rep. Maria Elvira Salazar, to discuss issues facing Jewish communities. ZOA Florida was praised for its role in organizing the successful pro-Israel rally held the week before. Sharona urged the Congresswoman to vote for legislation that would prevent U.S. aid to Gaza from ending up in the hands of Hamas, and encouraged her to speak out against all manifestations of antisemitism, including when it relates to Israel.

#### **ZOA Florida Welcomes New Board Members**

ZOA Florida welcomes **Dani & Miriam Oppenheimer** to the Florida Board. They bring enthusiasm and know-how for expanding ZOA's reach in the Boca and Palm Beach areas, especially among people in their 30s and 40s.

We also welcome new Board member **Lauren Gross**, director of the Gross Family Center for the Study of Antisemitism and the Holocaust. Ms. Gross has worked with ZOA regarding Holocaust education in public schools, and the Gross Family Center has hosted Morton Klein multiple times as part of its winter speakers series.







Lauren Gross

To learn more about ZOA Florida, contact Sharona Whisler at swhisler@zoa.org.



## **GREATER PHILADELPHIA**

The latest major battle in the Arab war against the Jewish people: Hamas' May 2021 barrage of more than 4,000 rockets directed at Israeli civilians and a corresponding propaganda war against Israel, Zionism and Jewry. This led to physical attacks, and even an attack against the Israeli flag that hangs above Philadelphia's Benjamin Franklin Parkway. It was an intense period for us at Greater Philadelphia ZOA, with escalating anti-Jewish and anti-Israel activities throughout our region. Our efforts to stay abreast of these activities, and establish programs to encourage and lead both proactive and reactive advocacy, were at times challenging and dizzying.

Haters of Jews, Israel Targeting the Young

"Zionism looks a lot like racism and it is important for the adults in [young people's lives to name it and say it out loud." - children's librarian's message on Free Library of Philadelphia branch's Facebook page

Of all of the ongoing Jew-hatred and anti-Israel activities, particularly disturbing are those seeking to turn young people into haters of Jews, Zionism, and Israel. At a local high school with an active Muslim Students Association chapter, at least one student wore a Hamas scarf over his gown at graduation. A sharp-eyed teacher noticed it and informed us. Did the student become an admirer of the genocidal terrorist group at school? We aim to find out.

Meanwhile, after a tip about a troubling anti-Israel post on the Free Library of Philadelphia's website, we uncovered a variety of anti-Zionist/anti-Jewish/anti-Israel programming, activities, and resources that Library staff are engaging in and promoting. For example, a Library branch's official Facebook page featured the children's librarian reading aloud from the children's book entitled "Baba What Does My Name Mean? A Journey to Palestine." At one point, the librarian spread lies about Zionism and Israel, telling her audience: "When children and young people see and hear about what is happening to the Palestinian people today and for many decades, they will probably see and notice that Zionism looks a lot like racism and it is important as the adults in their lives to name it and say it out loud. We should be highlighting and showing that support for the Palestinian struggle is global and rooted especially with support among black and brown people, and as we're seeing right now people across the world are rising up to reject Israel's attempt to erase Palestinian people."

Also, a post on the Library system's blog noted: "We have compiled a list of resources for young people and their caregivers who want to learn more about what it means and feels like to be Palestinian today." Promoting another anti-Israel lie, the blog referred to one of the featured books as focusing on the "connected struggles for racial equity in the U.S. and Palestinian liberation from occupation."

We informed the Library's interim director about the Library's conduct and as of this writing, she has defended her institution and staff. We are working diligently to put an end to the anti-Jewish and anti-Israel incitement and ensure that the Library's programming promotes the facts about Israel, Zionism and the broader Middle East.

Our letter stated: "We and our members and supporters are gravely concerned about Unilever's decision to harm and delegitimize the Jewish state of Israel by aligning itself with the anti-Jewish boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) movement."

## The Scoop on Stopping a Boycott and Enforcing the Law

Greater Philadelphia ZOA and our sister region, ZOA Pittsburgh, sent a joint letter to Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf, Attorney General Josh Shapiro, and Treasurer Stacy Garrity, urging them to enforce the Commonwealth's anti-boycott law against Ben & Jerry's and its parent company, Unilever, after Ben & Jerry's announced that it was boycotting part of Israel. Our letter stated: "We and our members and supporters are gravely concerned about Unilever's decision to harm and delegitimize the Jewish state of Israel by aligning itself with the anti-Jewish boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) movement."



Pennsylvania's anti-BDS law, passed in 2016, provides: "Israel is America's dependable, democratic ally in the Middle East, an area of paramount strategic importance to the United States," and "It is in the interest of the United States and the Commonwealth to stand with Israel and other countries by promoting trade and commercial activities and to discourage policies that disregard that interest." The law prohibits contracts between Commonwealth departments and companies that participate in boycotts against Israel. Our

chapters want this law enforced against all of Unilever, since that corporation owns Ben & Jerry's and it failed to countermand the ice cream company's decision not to sell its products in what it falsely termed "occupied Palestinian territories." As of this writing, we are awaiting a response from Commonwealth officials.

## **Our Virtual Reality**

Our 2020 Gala was virtual – like everyone else's who decided to continue the tradition of having a Gala during the COVID pandemic. We held our yearly celebration in conjunction with ZOA National and ZOA's Detroit, Florida, and Pittsburgh regions. We honored Jewish communal leader and noted attorney Allen L. Rothenberg, and Dom Giordano, host of 1210 AM's "The Dom Giordano Show," with our new Zionist Spotlight Award.

During the pandemic Greater Philadelphia ZOA produced a number of "ZOOM With ZOA" webinars. Topics included: "Farrakhan and the Nation of Islam: Jew-Hatred, Inc.," "Pro-Israel Advocacy: How to Do It Strategically," "Why Do Christians Support Israel and Is That Support in Jeopardy?" "Are Attacks Against Israel and Zionism the New, Acceptable Antisemitism?" "As I First Saw Israel," and "Anti-Israel Media Bias: How to Spot It, What You Can Do About It." In addition, Executive Director Steve Feldman was a panelist on a ZOOM With ZOA event entitled "Anti-Israel Media Bias in America and Israel; Why Is It a Problem and What Can We Do About It?"

We also managed to have a virtual parlor meeting hosted by a Cherry Hill, NJ couple. The meeting focused on the startling increase in Jew-hatred and what we can do to combat it.

Greater Philadelphia **ZOA** and Pittsburgh ZOA joined forces to write to three Pennsylvania officials, urging them to enforce the Commonwealth's anti-boycott law against Ben & Jerry's and its parent company, Unilever, after Ben & Jerry's announced that it was boycotting part of Israel.

One event that was decidedly not virtual was a pro-Israel rally in May 2021. Greater Philadelphia ZOA was a co-sponsor of the rally in the heart of Philadelphia. Through the generosity of donor Jay Karp, we gave out 100 Israeli flags and 100 American flags to rally attendees to wave proudly during the upbeat event.

We are looking forward to resuming in-person parlor meetings, and events and meetings throughout the community. Among these will be a three-part firearms safety class.

## Media Spotlight

Steve Feldman was a guest multiple times on "The Dom Giordano Show," hosted by the dean of Philadelphia talk radio, Dom Giordano. In addition, Steve's op-eds were published by the Jewish Exponent, Jewish News Syndicate and American Thinker. His lettersto-the-editor were also published.

Steve, Board chairman Morton Gleit, and Board members Roy Kardon and Lynne



Lechter met with the new editor of the *Jewish Exponent*, Gabe Kahn, to introduce him to our organization and discuss the paper's coverage of Israel as well as local anti-Israel activities.

## A Flag Is Torn – Almost

In May 2021, video emerged of vandals trying to tear down a large Israeli flag that hangs over Benjamin Franklin Parkway in Center City Philadelphia. It is one of scores of national flags that adorn the boulevard. A vandal—videotaped by one of his accomplices—can be seen climbing the flagpole and trying to rip down the flag. When he was unable to do so, he climbed down, borrowed a lighter from another accomplice and attempted to set the flag on fire. Thankfully, it did not ignite. Greater Philadelphia ZOA took stills from the video and made a variation of a "Wanted" poster. We also contacted the police about the incident and spoke with a city official about protecting the flag.



Vandals trying to tear down an Israeli flag hanging over Benjamin Franklin Parkway



## **PITTSBURGH**

## ZOA Pittsburgh Proudly Participates in ZOA's First-Ever Virtual Gala

At the ZOA Virtual Superstar Gala 2020, ZOA Pittsburgh honored two dedicated Zionists: Harold Marcus and Andrea Chester.

While pursuing a degree in psychology at the University of Pittsburgh, Harold Marcus knew his life's work would be in the Jewish community. He was a member of Temple Sinai and taught religious school there for 45 years. In 2007, he received the Greenspoon-Steinhardt Award for Excellence in Jewish Education, which recognized him as one of the most outstanding Jewish educators in America.

Harold's passion for Israel and the Jewish people is evident to all who know him. Harold dedicated most of his professional life to working for the Development Corporation for Israel, more commonly known as Israel Bonds. He made his first trip to Israel in 2009 and upon his return said, "I cried every day and as we stood on the Mount overlooking the Jerusalem skyline, I bawled. I finally knew that I was home!" After 30 years as a sales representative in Pittsburgh for Israel Bonds, Harold moved to Philadelphia in 2011 to become the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Campaign for Israel Bonds. After a 40-year career, he is set to retire in November

2021. Overall, he has been responsible for over one billion dollars in sales of Israel bonds.

Andrea Chester's passions have led to her involvement in a plethora of organizations. She leads in her unassuming manner and gets things done. Andrea received a B.A. in sociology from the University of Pittsburgh, did graduate work in comparative literature at Indiana University in Bloomington, and earned a master's degree in education from the University of Pittsburgh.

Andrea has served in various capacities at ZOA Pittsburgh. She is on the local Board and is currently a vice president. She serves on various committees, including the Scholarship to Israel Program and its Tolerance Education Program. Andrea has represented ZOA Pittsburgh at ZOA National Conventions, as well as at ZOA's Capitol Hill Advocacy Missions. An educator who has taught English at the Community College of Allegheny County (CCAC) for over 20 years, Andrea also gives presentations on Israel as part of the CCAC Speakers Bureau. She lends her professional skills to ZOA, which have been invaluable in judging ZOA-sponsored student essay contests and evaluating various ZOA printed materials.

Andrea was awarded Pittsburgh's Ivan and Natalie Novick Community Leadership Award in 2016, which was named in memory of their lifetime of service to many organizations in the Pittsburgh Jewish community. Ivan was a past ZOA National President.

"As I finish my presidency of ZOA's Pittsburgh chapter, I wanted to end on a positive note. ZOA is thrilled that these young people had the opportunity to fulfill their dreams of a summer trip to our homeland, strengthening their connection with Klal Israel."

- Jeffrey L. Pollack, Esq.

## Pittsburgh's Scholarship to Israel Program

After its 2020 student trips to Israel were cancelled due to COVID, ZOA Pittsburgh was pleased to announce its 2021 Scholarship to Israel awardees: David Eydelman, Leora Goldberg, and Talia Itskowitz. They, as well as 2020 awardee Rachel Lessure, visited Israel in the summer of 2021 on structured study trips. Each student is a recipient of a \$1,000 ZOA scholarship.

ZOA Pittsburgh's Jeffrey L. Pollock, Esq. said, "Last year thousands of students had their trips to Eretz Yisrael cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As I finish my presidency of ZOA's Pittsburgh chapter, I wanted to end on a positive note. ZOA is thrilled that these young people had the opportunity to fulfill their dreams of a summer trip to our homeland, strengthening their connection with Klal Israel."

Founded in 1962, the Israel Scholarship Program is ZOA Pittsburgh's oldest running program. It was established with the belief that a trip to Israel would leave an indelible mark on Jewish teenagers. The program complements what the students learn in their synagogues and at home. The scholarships are made possible with funding from endowments established by Avraham and Patti Anouchi; Harold and Marla Scheinman; the late Thelma Esman; the late Bernard and Esther Klionsky; and the Novick family, in loving memory of the late Ivan and Natalie Novick. Student applications are evaluated based on their activities, both Jewish and secular, their volunteerism, and their essays entitled "What the State of Israel and Zionism Mean to Me."



## **David Eydelman**

David Eydelman was in Israel with the NCSY summer program. He wrote in his essay, "With the help of ZOA, I can finally see Israel firsthand and be a part of this community I have been watching from the sidelines. This could be a life-changing opportunity to strengthen that connection even further and learn even more about Israel." David's parents are Yakov and Svetlana Eydelman.

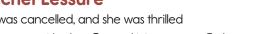


#### Rachel Lessure

Rachel's 2020 trip was cancelled, and she was thrilled to visit Israel this year with the Camp Livingston Gesher Program. In her essay, she wrote, "Zionism is the restoration of our homeland and rebuilding our Jewish home. Protecting and rediscovering our ancient history and the revival of the Hebrew language have been a part of rebuilding Zion. I want to experience and participate in the groundbreaking efforts of Zionism." Rachel is the daughter of Melissa and Harold Lessure.



Talia traveled to Israel on the NCSY GIVE (Girls Israel Volunteer Experience) program. In her essay, she wrote that when the Nazis came to her grandmother's hometown in Hungary, her grandmother "was hidden in the back of a wagon and narrowly escaped certain death. Zionism is one of the most fundamental parts of my family's history. I am here today because of my grandmother's resilience and her faith in the land of Israel." Talia is the daughter of Rina and Marc Itskowitz.



of Rachel Margolies and Ari Goldberg. She also went to Israel with the NCSY summer program.

#### Leora Goldberg

In her essay, Leora wrote, "I was born in Israel and left when I was one. Israel has a deep personal meaning to me, and I have longed to return. When Israel faces unfair scrutiny, I feel it is vital for me to go there so I can maintain the true and accurate image of Israel. I know how crucial it is for Israel to remain the home of the Jews." Leora is the daughter







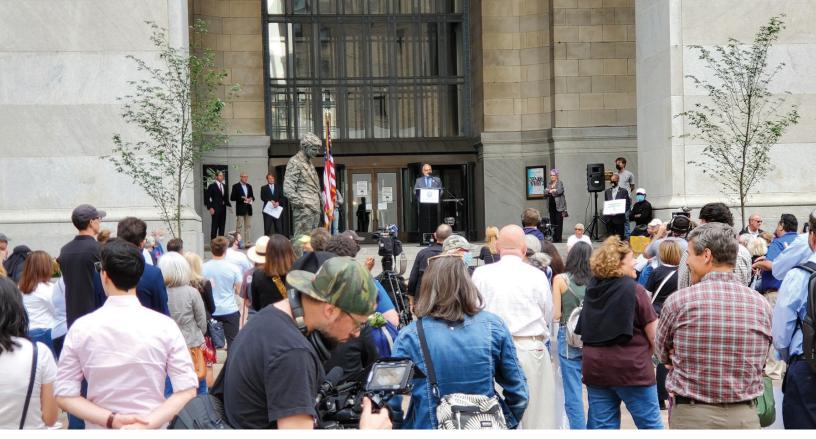


Solidarity With Israel Rally in Pittsburgh in May 2021

## Rally for Peace and Solidarity in Israel

ZOA Pittsburgh participated in and helped publicize this May 14, 2021 grassroots event, to support Israel's "Operation Guardian of the Walls," during which the Jewish state was forced to defend itself from Hamas as thousands of missiles were fired from Gaza into Israeli population centers. This event was also in response to an anti-Israel rally occurring across the street.

Israel supporters gathered in a section of Schenley Plaza, roped off with Israeli banners and flags, in a pre-Shabbat celebration. People sang and danced as Israeli music played. They ate challah and men prayed with tefillin. Reporters were present from secular and Jewish newspapers. Stuart Pavilack, ZOA Pittsburgh's Executive Director, was quoted in the Pittsburgh Jewish Chronicle, saying that "he was sick with worry and fear over the senseless bombing of Israel by Hamas and Islamic Jihad," and that he stands with "Prime Minister [Benjamin] Netanyahu and Defense Minister [Benny] Gantz when they said Israel was not preparing for a ceasefire. Israel must take as long as necessary and take out as much of the terrorist infrastructure as possible to protect its people."



More than 400 people attended the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh's Stand Against Antisemitism rally (Photo by David Rullo)

## **Stand Against Antisemitism**

ZOA Pittsburgh co-sponsored a June 1, 2021 rally—"Stand Against Antisemitism"— on the front steps of the iconic City/County Building in downtown Pittsburgh. The rally was held in response to the massive increase in antisemitism around the world and in the U.S., including attacks in Los Angeles, New York, Pittsburgh, and Florida. ZOA members wore black and gold T-shirts bearing the ZOA logo on the front.

The speakers at the rally included U.S. Rep. Conor Lamb, Mayor Bill Peduto, Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, and Rabbi Jeffrey Myers of Tree of Life Congregation. Fitzgerald said, "Pittsburgh is a special community, but we are less special when a group of people is targeted because of how they worship. Our community has no place for the hatred, antisemitism, the bigotry, and domestic terrorism that occurs against people because of their worship."

Mayor Peduto, a 2014 recipient of ZOA Pittsburgh's Lifetime Achievement Award, said, "It's unfortunate that this little part of the world is recognized as the scene of the

most horrific attack of antisemitism in the United States." He added, "Anti-Zionism is nothing more than antisemitism."

## **Ongoing Education**

In July 2020, Stuart Pavilack moderated a Zoom webinar featuring Channa Newman, Ph.D. and her attorney, James Lieber, Esq. Dr. Newman described the harassment and discrmination she faced at Point Park University where she has taught for 54 years. Two colleagues were promoting anti-Zionist and anti-Israel views, including accusing Israel of apartheid and ethnic cleansing, and they were advocates of the anti-Israel BDS movement. One of the professors tried to introduce a false and one-sided course entitled "Israel: A Settler State." Newman claims her colleagues and others retaliated against her because she did not acquiesce to their one-sided and hostile anti-Israel perspectives. She is seeking redress in court.

ZOA Pittsburgh Executive Director Stuart Pavilack can be contacted at Stuart.Pavilack@zoa.org.

"We are standing with our brothers and sisters in Israel, and we want to show our support and solidarity, that we are proud to be Jewish and have a strong connection to Israel." - Kobi Erez, ZOA Michigan Executive Director

## **MICHIGAN**

## **ZOA Michigan Co-Sponsors Rally Against Antisemitism**

Together with other Jewish communal groups, ZOA Michigan organized a rally on June 6, 2021, in West Bloomfield, to show support for Israel and unite against a rising tide of antisemitism. Over 200 people attended the rally.

"Before the Holocaust, there was not enough protest against antisemitism," Kobi Erez, the executive director of ZOA Michigan, said at the rally. "Jews were discriminated against. Their stores were boycotted. They were attacked in the streets. People, including some Jews, thought it would pass if they remained silent.

"We've seen a lot of hatred and a lot of violence against Jews all across the U.S. and in Europe," Kobi continued. "We see many signs of antisemitism and discrimination that are similar to what happened in Europe in the '30s, where Jews were attacked just because they were Jewish.

"We are standing with our brothers and sisters in Israel, and we want to show our support and solidarity, that we are proud to be Jewish and have a strong connection to Israel," Kobi said. "We believe America should stand beside Israel as well.

"It's important for us to show Americans that we are proud of Israel, that Israel is America's best friend and that we believe in the morality of what Israel is doing. We don't want to stay silent to antisemitism or to hatred, and we urge everybody to support Israel in words and actions, and to reach out to Congress and reach out to your neighbors and friends," Kobi added.

Also standing up for Israel and against antisemitism at the rally, ZOA Michigan President Sheldon Freilich said, "Since the 1930s, we have not seen this kind of hatred – Jews attacked on the streets and graffiti defacing buildings. I'm a child of Holocaust survivors, and I'm scared of what's going on in our United States of America. As Americans, we need to stand up and not accept this.

"Many antisemites view Israel today as a reason to attack Jews," Freilich added. "This is denounced by the internationally accepted definition of antisemitism.

"Write to Congressional leaders," Freilich urged. "Write to the White House. Write to the media. They need to take action against antisemitism."





Standing with Israel and against antisemitism

## ZOA Michigan Event: "How Foreign Funding Sways the Anti-Israel Agenda on College Campuses"

On May 4, 2021, ZOA Michigan held a virtual webinar featuring Dr. Charles Small, founder and director of the Institute for the Study of Global Antisemitism and Policy (ISGAP); Susan Tuchman, director of the ZOA's Center for Law and Justice; and Jonathan Ginsburg, managing director of ZOA Campus. Kobi Erez moderated the event.

Susan Tuchman and Jonathan Ginsburg discussed the rise of antisemitism on college campuses across North America and the actions that the ZOA is taking to combat this trend. Antisemitic incidents on college campuses rose to an all-time high in 2019-20.

For example, a Jewish student at the University of New Mexico was beaten up and subjected to antisemitic slurs while wearing a shirt that said "Just Jew It." At the University of Michigan, "F Israel" and red handprints were painted near the Hillel building. At the University of Southern California, a Jewish student resigned as vice president of the student government after she was harassed because of her pro-Israel stances. At Arizona State University, "Hitler Was Right" signs were repeatedly posted on the campus. At the University of Connecticut, there were numerous incidents of antisemitic graffiti and verbal insults.



## ISGAP

#### **Volume Two**

Examining Undocumented Foreign Funding of American Universities: Implications for Education and Rising Antisemitism

Charles Asher Small and Michael Bass
Institute for the Study of Global Antisemitism and Policy (ISGAP), New York

#### September 2020

Unreported funding

Qatar (estimated)

2,766,406,223

Total funding

\$8,724,420,438

#### **B.** Qatar Foundation Funding to US Colleges

Qatar's Education City in Doha was established by the Qatar Foundation in 1998. Since then, six US colleges have opened campuses there through contracts with the Qatar Foundation. These contracts have resulted in the remittance of billions of dollars to those colleges.

College	Campus established	Funding received (in \$)
Virginia and	1998	78,867,097
Commonwealth Cornell	2002	1,029,373,315
Carnegie Mellon	2004	591,571,726
Texas A&M	2003	505,598,021
Georgetown	2005	644,406,266
Northwestern	2005	514,986,235
	Total reported funding	3,364,502,660

While the above represents funding reported by these colleges to the DoED, an analysis of the annual reports of most of the colleges reveals a serious lack of consistency and completeness. The discrepancy has been estimated at close to \$2 billion, including the recent catch-up reporting by colleges following the DoED investigation.

This unreported funding, identified by ISGAP on the basis of Form 990 returns filed with the IRS and other available documentation, is obscured by the fact that the DoED does not reissue

Excerpt from ISGAP report on foreign funding of U.S. universities

Dr. Charles Small spoke about the role that foreign funding of universities plays in spreading an anti-Israel agenda and antisemitism on U.S. campuses. After investigating foreign funding at such prestigious universities as Georgetown University, Texas A&M, Cornell, Yale, Harvard, and Rutgers, the U.S. Department of Education found that these universities had failed to report billions of dollars of funding from the oilrich Gulf kingdom of Qatar. Between 1986 and 2018, Middle Eastern countries donated more than \$6.6 billion to U.S. universities. These universities reported less than \$3.6 billion to the federal government, instead of reporting the total donated as required by law. Of the roughly \$5 billion donated by Qatar to various institutions, less than \$2 billion was reported properly, according to federal records. These funds have a significant impact on universities, especially with regard

Between 1986 and 2018, Middle Eastern countries donated more than \$6.6 billion to U.S. universities. These universities reported less than \$3.6 billion to the federal government, instead of reporting the total donated as required by law.

to campus attitudes toward Israel, Dr. Small explained. He showed a correlation between the funding of universities by Qatar and the Gulf States and the active presence at those universities of groups such as Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP), which demonize Israel and help create a hostile antisemitic campus environment for Jewish students.

The ZOA will continue to invest its resources in fighting campus antisemitism and will take legal action when necessary to protect the safety and well-being of Jewish and pro-Israel students.

To encourage a strong Jewish presence in Judea and Samaria, ZOA Michigan has assisted young Jewish pioneers who have made it their life's mission to resettle in this region.

## ZOA Michigan Supports Jewish Pioneers in Judea and Samaria

Judea and Samaria are regions of Israel that are deeply connected to the Jewish people both historically and religiously. Most of the events of the Bible took place in these areas. Judea and Samaria are also an integral part of Israel for security reasons; without Judea and Samaria, Israel is as little as nine miles wide in some places.

To encourage a strong Jewish presence in Judea and Samaria, ZOA Michigan has assisted young Jewish pioneers who have made it their life's mission to resettle in this region. ZOA Michigan helped these pioneers purchase family unit caravans and even a flock of sheep, which allowed them to live on and work large tracts of land. This is extremely important, helping to ensure that the land stays within Israel's control and is not taken over illegally by the Palestinian Authority (PA).



An Israeli family communes with nature in the hills of Judea/Samaria



A Jewish pioneer embracing his roots in the hills of Judea/Samaria



A view of Judea/Samaria

The PA, together with the European Union and others, has spent hundreds of millions of dollars to illegally take control of Jewish land in Area C in Judea and Samaria. Illegal Arab building and land takeover have grown tremendously in the past ten years.

It is our responsibility to support and ensure

a continued legal Jewish presence throughout the Land of Israel, including in Judea and Samaria (pictured above).

For more information about ZOA Michigan, or to get more involved in our work, please contact Michigan Executive Director Kobi Erez at kobi@mizoa.org.



# Around the World, ZOA's President Educates and Advocates for Israel and the Jewish People

ere are just a few examples of how ZOA National President Morton Klein continues to educate the public about anti-Israel propaganda, antisemitism and other issues of importance to the Jewish people:

- Mort has appeared on numerous television shows and radio programs, including but not limited to Newsmax TV, the Mark Levin Show, the Dennis Prager Show, and America First with Sebastian Gorka.
- In June 2020, Mort was the sole guest on JBS-TV discussing the antisemitism and Israel-hatred of the Black Lives Matter organization.
- In April 2021, Mort spoke about Israel's legal land rights at a webinar co-sponsored by the ZOA, Canadians for Israel's Legal Rights, and Im Tirtzu.
- In May 2021, Mort addressed the online World Prayer Network, reaching thousands of pastors all over the world.
- Mort was the main speaker at rallies in Dallas and Philadelphia after Israel's May 2021 defensive war against Hamas in Gaza.
- In July 2021, Mort participated in a webinar about Iran with L.A. Israel Consul General Dr. Hillel Newman, moderated by Bryan Leib, Executive Director of Iranian Americans for Liberty.
- In July 2021, Mort spoke at the first Abraham Accords Policy Discussion held in partnership between the Hudson Institute and the Abraham Accords Peace Institute, in Washington, D.C.
- In September 2021, Mort spoke about the surge in antisemitism at the Sephardic Temple Tifereth Israel in Los Angeles, CA.
- In September 2021, Mort gave a major address on antisemitism and anti-Israel propaganda at the Our America Action Conference (chaired by former U.S. Rep. Allen West) in Dallas, TX.

- In December 2021, Mort will be speaking in Boynton Beach, Florida, at the invitation of the Gross Family Center for the Study of Antisemitism and the Holocaust.
- In January 2022, Mort will be participating in the three-day Zurich Strategic Dialogue in Zurich, Switzerland, at the invitation of the head of the Think Tank at the Center for Security Studies at ETH Zurich.
- In April 2022, Mort will be delivering several speeches at a Passover program at an Orlando, Florida hotel.
- Mort co-authored a chapter (with Liz Berney, Esq.) in a major book about former U.S. President Donald Trump and his administration and their impact on Israel and American Jewry, to be published by the University of Southern California and Purdue University Press.
- Mort has published numerous op-eds in the Jerusalem Post, Israel Hayom, Jewish Exponent, Jewish Journal, Israel National News, and the Jewish News Syndicate. He has been quoted numerous times in both the secular and Jewish media.

## Some of Mort Klein's TV Appearances This Year



National Report - May 28, 2021



Rob Schmitt Tonight - April 19, 2021



Spicer & Co. - January 13, 2021



Wake up America - July 26, 2021



The Trento-Gold Show - May 11, 2021



Dr. Gina Prime Time - May 18, 2021

## **National Leadership Society**

#### \$500,000 and over

Anonymous

#### \$250,000 and over

Anonymous
The Marcus Foundation

#### \$100,000 - \$249,999

Anonymous (2)
Henry M. & Pari Schwartz
Dr. Bob Shillman
Myron Zimmerman – MZ Foundation

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

Anonymous Ali S. Meli - In Honor Marc J. Rowan - MJR Foundation
Martin & Gail Elsant of Saiid Forouza Rad Judith Taylor

E. Leven Family Foundation

Michael A. & Andrea

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

Craig Deligdish Shalom & Iris Maidenbaum Dennis Seaman

Hershel Elias - Elias Family Philanthropic Stanley & Jenny Margulies The Jodi and Paul Tartell Charitable Fund

Fund Estate of J. Martin Klein

Herman & Edith Itzkowitz Michael & Dr. Bonnie Orbach - Markus Jonathan Tratt

Robert L. Meyer

Mark & Eta Levenson & Helen Orbach Foundation Dr. Bruno Wu & Yang Lan

### **Jabotinsky Society**

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

Bialkin Family Foundation

David Horvitz

Stuart & Dr. Judith F. Rosen

Bart & Jil Blatstein

Ronald & Lisa Hyman

Gilbert Savransky Fund

Paniel J. & Caroline R. Katz

Joel & Liz Brauser

David Horvitz

Stuart & Dr. Judith F. Rosen

Gilbert Savransky Fund

Sheryl Silver

Leon Snaid & Linda Sax

Drs. Ben & Esther H. Chouake Andrew D. & Diane P. Lappin Lewis & Helene Stahl

James & Diana Daniels The Eric & Shira Lewis Robert & Linda Stulberg

Falic Family Foundation Charitable Fund James S. Merryl Tisch - Tisch Family

Ben & Susan Farahi Joseph & Joanne Lubeck Foundation
Phillip M. Friedmann Estate of Susan Marx

Lawrence Gelman Dan & Susan Orbach
Brian R. Grodman George & Anita Rimler

#### **Brandeis Society**

#### (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

Ed Altman & Ann Holstein

Beverly Baker Leora Bar-Levav

Anonymous

Neil & Jodie Becker

Harvey Bell Barbara Bender

Stewart & Sandra Cahn

Steven L. Carter

David & Laura Eisenberg

Robert Feinberg Charles Frohman Francine Gani

Stephen & Gail Gerzof Morton B. & Ruth C. Gleit

Dr. Albert Gold

Dr. Michael & Brenda R. Goldblatt

Taffy Gould Joseph Greene

Martin & Ahuva Gross

Bradley Gross & Stephanie Phillips

Robert & Elaine Guzzardi

Allen & Renee Hamaoui

Aaron & Helen Herskowitz

Larry J. Hochberg - Hochberg Family

Philanthropic Fund

Robert & Elaine Jacobs Ira & Sandra Kaplan

Morris Kaplan Rhonda Kaplan

Jerome Kaufman Morton A. & Rita Klein

Jay A. Knopf

Dr. Arthur & Linda Kook

Tyler & Rebecca Korn

Jeffrey Kraines

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