



26th Annual  
JEWISH  
EDUCATOR  
AWARDS  
*Luncheon*





MILKEN FAMILY FOUNDATION  
JEWISH  
EDUCATOR  
AWARDS

## WELCOME

Dr. Gil Graff  
*Executive Director*  
BJE

## NATIONAL ANTHEMS

Dr. Mark Goldenberg  
*BJE Board Member*

## GREETINGS

David Siegel  
*Consul General of Israel in Los Angeles*

## REMARKS

Richard Sandler  
*Executive Vice President*  
*Milken Family Foundation*

## HAMOTZI

Rabbi Adam Kligfeld  
*Temple Beth Am/Pressman Academy*

## LUNCH

## BIRKAT HAMAZON

Rabbi Gordon Bernat-Kunin  
*Milken Community Schools*

## VIDEO PRESENTATION

## PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Richard Sandler  
Dr. Gil Graff

## LUXE SUNSET BOULEVARD HOTEL

DECEMBER 15, 2015

*Sponsored by the*  
*Milken Family Foundation in*  
*cooperation with BJE,*  
*a beneficiary agency of*  
*The Jewish Federation*

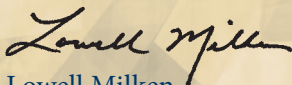
## Message from the MILKEN FAMILY FOUNDATION

Today's celebration gathers Jews from across the spectrum, the most secular to the most Orthodox, united in a common goal—educating our youth to ensure a vibrant Jewish future. For as our tradition notes: “Train up a child in the way he should go, and even when he is old, he will not depart from it.” (Proverbs 22:6)


Clearly, those who instruct our young people to the highest standards have an enormous impact on the vitality of our communities and the viability of our heritage. With the goal of recognizing and rewarding the most outstanding among them, we initiated the Jewish Educator Awards in 1990 to dramatically expand the support and recognition for teachers, administrators and other education professionals working in BJE-affiliated schools. By surprising educators with their Awards before entire school communities, we say in a very public way that excellence in education should be rewarded. And by capturing the imagination of students, we hope to encourage our next generation to consider careers in teaching.

A great education is not passive but active. If we, the Jews of Greater Los Angeles, hope to attract, develop, motivate and retain talented people to choose this most fundamental of professions, we must honor those who bring excellence to their efforts and provide them with opportunities and incentives for their work to flourish.

Those we honor today—**Jamie Gomer, Hanna Keynan, Kelly Shepard and Rabbi Levi Solomon**—exemplify the Jewish day school mission to prepare our youth for successful lives in the context of our values as a people. Through their intelligence, scholarship, commitment and compassion, these educators motivate students to achieve their academic potential, improve our communities, and embrace the joys and responsibilities of their Jewish heritage. They are a blessing to us all.



Lowell Milken  
*Chairman and Co-Founder*



Richard Sandler  
*Executive Vice President*



## Message from

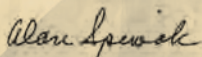
# BJE: BUILDERS OF JEWISH EDUCATION

This year's Milken Family Foundation Jewish Educators Awards luncheon is celebrated one day after the close of Hanukkah, which commemorates a milestone in successfully resisting Hellenism. Those who lived in Judaea more than two millennia ago, when the Temple in Jerusalem was re-dedicated (Hanukkah), could not have imagined the remarkable circumstances of life in today's United States.

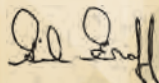
Living in a country that values multiculturalism and diversity, Jews have the opportunity to contribute Jewish wisdom to meeting the challenges of modern society. Only if Jews are knowledgeable about the rich tradition of which they are legatees, however, can they contribute to addressing contemporary issues through a Jewish lens. Jewish day schools provide learners with the fullest array possible of tools for life in the twenty-first century, including roots in Jewish values.

BJE is proud of the excellence in education that is characteristic of the 37 Jewish day schools in Greater Los Angeles. At the heart of that excellence—in science and math, history and literature, religious studies and languages, cultural arts and athletics—stand outstanding educators. BJE recognizes with appreciation the outstanding personnel whose dedication to nurturing student learning enables day school graduates to achieve tremendous success, leading lives of meaning and contributing to the communities of which they are a part.

We are grateful to the Milken Family Foundation for its focus on education and for honoring Jewish education through the Jewish Educator Awards program. BJE is proud of its longstanding partnership with the Milken Family Foundation. Congratulations to Jamie Gomer, Hannah Keynan, Kelly Shepard and Rabbi Levi Solomon, outstanding representatives of the excellence of our community's Jewish day schools



Alan M. Spiwak  
*President, BJE*



Gil Graff, Ph.D.  
*Executive Director, BJE*

# JEWISH EDUCATOR AWARDS

The Milken Family Foundation, in partnership with BJE, established the Jewish Educator Awards (JEA) in 1990 as a complement to the Milken Educator Awards. Each fall, four unsuspecting educators in BJE-affiliated schools are surprised before their entire school communities with individual unrestricted Jewish Educator Awards of \$15,000. Honorees reflect the highest ideals of Jewish and secular education, fostering the lifelong pursuit of knowledge and nurturing a value system that can guide students through adulthood. Recipients also demonstrate an outstanding ability to develop Jewish children's understanding of the connections among their religion, classroom activities and lives outside of school.

## GOALS

Outstanding educators who continue to learn are essential to fostering student growth, improving schools and enhancing the education profession. Hence, the goals of the Jewish Educator Awards are:

- » To honor and reward outstanding Jewish day school educators for the quality of their teaching, their professional leadership, their engagement with families and the community and their potential for even greater contributions to the healthy development of children
- » To increase public support and recognition for Jewish day school educators who make outstanding contributions to the development of their students
- » To increase public awareness of the important role of Jewish day school educators in the community and in society
- » To encourage able, caring and creative people to choose the challenge, service and adventure of education as a career



## SELECTION

Award recipients are selected by a committee of educators—both professional and lay leaders from the Jewish community—who have a longstanding concern for and involvement with education in Jewish schools.

To be eligible for consideration, educators must teach a minimum of 15 hours per week at the K–12 level. They must have been teaching for a minimum of seven years in a BJE-affiliated school.

Criteria considered for the selection of Jewish Educator Award recipients include:

- » Exceptional educational talent and promise, as demonstrated by outstanding practices in the classroom, school and community
- » Evidence of originality, dedication and capacity for leadership and self-direction
- » Commitment to influencing policies that affect children, their families and schools
- » Strong long-range potential for even greater contributions to children, the profession and society
- » Distinguished achievement in developing innovative educational curricula, programs and/or teaching methods
- » An outstanding ability to instill character and self-confidence in students
- » An outstanding ability to develop Jewish children's understanding of the connections among their religion, their classroom activities and their activities beyond the classroom
- » Commitment to professional development and excellence, and the continuing Judaic and/or secular study necessary for it
- » Personal involvement in responding to the needs of the Jewish and secular communities

Criteria for administrators also include an outstanding ability to attract, support and motivate committed education professionals.





## JAMIE GOMER



Upon graduating UC Berkeley and while deciding where to pursue acting studies, Jamie Gomer accepted a job assisting her own beloved fifth-grade teacher, never realizing the impact it would have on her future. Then it was off to New York for an intended life in the theater. After a few exciting years, but yearning for more meaning, Ms. Gomer decided to apply her love of performance and creativity to teaching. She taught kindergarten for eight years at Columbia Grammar and Preparatory School in Manhattan while adding to her own education credentials.

In 2005, Ms. Gomer accepted a kindergarten position with Abraham Joshua Heschel Day School, where young learners are emboldened by her boundless creativity and joy of teaching. Her classes are a cornucopia of learning activities. Every morning, she prepares diverse stations replete with color and opportunity. These include a science booth that teaches students about the human body and the senses, an optical illusions table, a reading corner and a Lego center. Language arts, sharing, exercise music and spelling songs are also emphasized. As a lifelong learner, Ms. Gomer translates her experiences at the prestigious Lucy Calkin's Writers Workshop into a special project for her young authors, who write their own "books" with a choice of topics and styles.

Ms. Gomer's passion for instruction extends to curriculum planning as she implements new lessons and integrates subjects that include Hebrew and Judaica. Now, as a senior teacher, she plans school trips and supervises assistants and support staff while participating in their professional development. She is also a valued mentor to colleagues.

But it's Ms. Gomer's students who keep her excited to teach every day. She says she wants to instill in them the wisdom to understand that making a mistake presents an opportunity to learn and grow. Above all, she hopes that they gain a sense of belonging to the larger, more profound whole known as "community."





## HANNA KEYNAN



As a child growing up in Israel, Hannah Keynan's first mentor was her artist father. The beauty of his lush landscapes combined with a belief in his daughter's potential inspired her to become a working artist in her own right. Upon coming to the United States, Ms. Keynan discovered her path in the creative world as an art specialist, where she is able to guide students in letting their imaginations flourish as they explore diverse techniques and media ranging from print-making to ceramics to working with found and recycled materials.

In Ms. Keynan's pre-K through eight-grade art classes at Pressman Academy, a Hebrew immersion school, she teaches the Jewish art experience, as well as Jewish values, by teaching art through Hebrew and Hebrew through art. She collaborates with teaching colleagues at the elementary and middle school levels, seeking to integrate the arts into the broader curriculum and, in the process, enlivening the learning experience for all.

Ms. Keynan's students find their voices and see each others' points of view with the advantage of art history. Kindergartners study Vassily Kandinsky; second-graders explore Henri Matisse; and seventh-graders learn from the work of Keith Haring. And when it comes to studio art, she pulls out all the stops to encourage students to be creative and demonstrate their uniqueness while thinking outside the box. Her zest for learning is contagious.

Ms. Keynan is the impresario and driving force behind Pressman's yearly Art at the Academy show, a three-day event that showcases student work. The event is so popular that it recently grew to incorporate the school choir and orchestra in a broader celebration of the arts. This annual event is a favorite of parents, who are in awe of their children's creations and praise Ms. Keynan's artistic abilities as well as her positive impact on their young lives.



## KELLY SHEPARD



Kelly Shepard chairs one of Los Angeles' finest high school arts programs—private or public—in a department that includes acting, dance, technical theater and instrumental music at Milken Community Schools. Fortunately for students and faculty alike, one of Mr. Shepard's own professors at the renowned Indiana University School of Music encouraged him to multiply his love of vocal performance by teaching generations of students.

At Milken, Mr. Shepard has directed such big, bold Broadway musicals as *Sweeney Todd*, *Grease* and *Spamalot*, which won the school national awards as well as a visit from the original screenwriter. He teaches music theory and vocal repertoire, using sophisticated instructional techniques that led him to create part-predominant learning tracks for singers to hear their music on computers or CD players, thus allowing them to learn their music faster outside of school. This allows for more classroom time devoted to teaching vocal technique theory, ensemble and sight reading technique that is now popular at many campuses.

Mr. Shepard directs the concert choir as well as Kol Echad, Milken's a capella group. Kol Echad has won top prizes internationally and is considered one of the most cohesive student groups on campus. He is founder and conductor of the L.A. chapter of HaZamir, one of 25 chapters of the international Jewish teen choir under the auspices of the Zamir Choral Foundation. His chapter will unite with the others to perform at Carnegie Hall in spring 2016.

In every endeavor, Mr. Shepard strives to infuse a deep sense of Jewish culture and spirituality among students, staff, families and community. He is a respected faculty leader who frequently mentors young educators, and is among the most dedicated professionals on campus in terms of his commitment to professional growth. And for his students, the passion and artistic appreciation he instills become a lifelong gift.



## RABBI LEVI SOLOMON



Twenty-one years ago in England, while studying to be a computer programmer, a young Levi Solomon learned of an opening for a Judaic teacher—working for the principal who had been his own second grade teacher. Accepting this job was a life changer, and he has since devoted most of his professional career to the students, staff and community of Emek Hebrew Academy, where he was named principal in 2012.

A strong and passionate leader, Rabbi Solomon inspires learning and creativity among Emek's 600 P1 through eighth grades, with programs aligned to 21st century learning expectations. While preserving the integrity of traditional learning, faculty have adopted modern project-based learning and rotation model classes. In the Judaic department specifically, Rabbi Solomon has established core standards with systematic, data-driven systems for key subjects of *Kriyah* (Hebrew reading), *Halacha* and *Yediot Klalot* (Jewish general knowledge). Nationwide, the Chumash program "*Lehavin U'lehaskil*" is used in 120 Jewish day schools, with Emek as the model school for the West Coast.

Emek students are not the only ones immersed in learning. Rabbi Solomon supports ongoing professional development for faculty. As a lifelong learner, the rabbi himself earned an MA in Educational Administration and Supervision. He is one of a small group of Los Angeles administrators selected to pilot the western branch of the Principals Training Institute, which is based on a New York state leadership program.

Rabbi Solomon is known for developing connections with parents and families, keeping in close contact while taking time, for instance, to attend team sporting events. He even coached the league baseball team for several years. And when it comes to Emek staff, they are empowered as their leader, Rabbi Solomon, welcomes feedback, offers coaching techniques, and highlights their achievements. The cumulative result is a school community in which all can learn, grow and experience the love of Torah and Mitzvot.



# PREVIOUS JEA RECIPIENTS

## 2014

**Rabbi Menachem Mendel Greenbaum**

Cheder Menachem

**Katya Malikov**

Shalhevet High School

**Ariela Nehemne**

Valley Beth Shalom Day School

**Barry Schapira**

Brawerman Elementary School West of Wilshire Blvd. Temple

## 2013

**Osnat Bernstein**

Abraham Joshua Heschel Day School

**Benny Ferdman**

New Community Jewish High School

**Mickey Rabinov**

Beth Hillel Day School

**Deborah Raskin**

Or HaChaim Academy

## 2012

**Mary Itri**

Stephen S. Wise Temple Elementary School

**Rabbi Usher Klein**

Mesivta Birkas Yitzchok

**Rabbi Baruch Kupfer**

Maimonides Academy

**Lidia Turner**

Saperstein Middle School of Milken Community High School

## 2011

**Lisa Feldman**

Weizmann Day School

**Marnie Greenwald**

Temple Emanuel Academy Day School

**Hava Mirovski**

Sinai Akiba Academy

**Juli Shanblatt**

Bais Yaakov School for Girls

## 2010

**Deborah Cohen**

Abraham Joshua Heschel Day School

**Dalia Golan**

Harkham Hillel Hebrew Academy

**Louis Schwerdtfeger**

Valley Beth Shalom Day School

**Debra Sokolow**

Milken Community High School

## 2009

**Shelley Lawrence**

Sinai-Akiba Academy

**Melanie Berkey**

Shalhevet School

**Rabbi Mitchel Malkus**

The Rabbi Jacob Pressman Academy of Temple Beth Am

**Rabbi Dov Goldman**

Cheder Menachem

## 2008

**Malka Clement**

Stephen S. Wise Temple Elementary School

**Suri Nowosiolski**

Yavneh Hebrew Academy

**Debra Schaffer**

Abraham Joshua Heschel Day School

**Dena Wolmark**

Bais Yaakov School for Girls

## 2007

**Mona Riss**

Emek Hebrew Academy

**Alan Rosen**

Maimonides Academy

**Bilha Schechter**

Valley Beth Shalom Day School

**Lee Tenerowicz**

Brawerman Elementary School of Wilshire Blvd. Temple

## 2006

**Bluma Drebin**

YULA Girls High School

**Rabbi Simcha Frankel**

Cheder Menachem

**Tamar Rosenfeld**

The Rabbi Jacob Pressman Academy of Temple Beth Am

**Dr. Rennie Wrubel**

Milken Community High School

**Beverly Yachzel**

Beth Hillel Day School

## 2005

**Rabbi Berish Goldenberg**

Yeshiva Rav Isaacsohn-Torath Emeth Academy

**Vivian Levy**

Sinai Akiba Academy

**Chaya Moldaver**

Yavneh Hebrew Academy

**Dr. Bruce Powell**

New Community Jewish High School

**Robin Solomon**

Adat Ari El Day School

## 2004

**Eileen Horowitz**

Temple Israel of Hollywood Day School

**Rick Hepworth**

Yeshiva Gedolah of Los Angeles

**Rabbi Mordechai Dubin**

Maimonides Academy

**Pamela Kleinman**

Heschel West Day School

**Inez Tiger**

The Rabbi Jacob Pressman Academy of Temple Beth Am

## 2003

**Aliza Dallalzadeh**

Temple Emanuel Academy Day School

**Rabbi Shlomo Goldberg**

Yeshiva Ohr Eliyahu

**Shulamith Y. May**

Harkham Hillel Hebrew Academy

**Jan Navah**

Stephen S. Wise Temple Elementary School

**Tamar Raff**

Valley Beth Shalom Day School

## 2002

**Rabbi Gordon Bernat-Kunin**

Milken Community High School

**Rabbi Avrohom Klyne**

Yavneh Hebrew Academy

**Marty Uslander**

Kadima Hebrew Academy

**Barbara Wirtschafter**

Bais Yaakov High School for Girls

**Sara Yoseph**

Atid Hebrew Academy

## 2001

**Frida Eytan**

Sinai Akiba Academy

**Carol Goldman**

Stephen S. Wise Temple Elementary School

**Vered Hopenstand**

Shalhevet High School

**Rabbi Shmuel Jacobs**

Yeshiva Rav Isaacsohn-Torath Emeth Academy

**Janet Saltsman**

Heschel West Day School



## 2000

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**Kathy Reynolds**  
Milken Community High School

**Andi Schochet**  
Maimonides Academy

**Rabbi Pesach Wachsman**  
Emek Hebrew Academy

**Elaine Wasserman**  
Temple Israel of Hollywood Day School

**Ginny Zemtseff**  
Sinai Akiba Academy

## 1999

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**Irit Eliyahu**  
Temple Emanuel Academy Day School

**Malca Schwarzmer**  
Yeshiva Ohr Eliyahu

**Bonita Selk**  
The Rabbi Jacob Pressman Academy  
of Temple Beth Am

**Rabbi Aron Tendler**  
YULA Boys High School

**Shawn Watanabe**  
Milken Community High School

## 1998

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**Joan Cohen**  
Harkham Hillel Hebrew Academy

**Susan Dubin**  
Valley Beth Shalom Day School

**Deborah Norwood**  
Stephen S. Wise Temple  
Elementary School

**Rabbi Laurence Scheindlin**  
Sinai Akiba Academy

**Shira Smiles**  
YULA Girls High School

## 1997

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**Tova Baichman-Kass**  
The Rabbi Jacob Pressman Academy  
of Temple Beth Am

**Joseph Hakimi, Ph.D.**  
Sinai Akiba Academy

**Lynn Karz**  
Yeshiva Ohr Eliyahu

**Chaya Shamie**  
Bais Yaakov of Los Angeles

**Mari Siegel**  
Kadima Hebrew Academy

## 1996

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**Rabbi Asher Z. Biron**  
Valley Torah High School

**Ofra Dor**  
Stephen S. Wise Temple  
Elementary School

**Lana Kideckel Marcus**  
Adat Ari El Day School

**Esther Markel**  
Emek Hebrew Academy

**Lee Shaw**  
Abraham Joshua Heschel Day School

## 1995

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**Elyse Flier**  
Milken Community High School

**Haim Linder**  
Adat Ari El Day School

**Andrea Silagi**  
The Rabbi Jacob Pressman Academy  
of Temple Beth Am

**Rabbi Avrohom Stulberger**  
Valley Torah High School

**Debbie Wachsman**  
Emek Hebrew Academy

## 1994

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**Esther Bar-Shai**  
Adat Ari El Day School

**Rabbi Avrohom Czapnik**  
Yeshiva Rav Isacsohn

**Valerie Lev**  
Stephen S. Wise Temple  
Elementary School

**Adele Rubin**  
Abraham Joshua Heschel Day School

**Rabbi Dovid Thaler**  
Ohr Elchonon Chabad

## 1993

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**Adina Bender**  
Valley Beth Shalom Day School

**Rochelle Majer Krich**  
YULA Girls High School

**Luisa Latham**  
Abraham Joshua Heschel Day School

**Rabbi Joseph Schreiber**  
Emek Hebrew Academy

**Suzanne Linden Stein**  
Sinai Akiba Academy

## 1992

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**Janine V. Jacoby** ✧  
Abraham Joshua Heschel Day School

**Manuel R. Katz**  
YULA Boys High School

**Rabbi Yochanan Stepen**  
Emek Hebrew Academy

**Avishag Wyte** ✧  
Temple Emanuel Academy Day School

**Nili Ziv**  
Valley Beth Shalom Day School

## 1991

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**Dr. Vardina Berdugo**  
YULA Girls High School

**Rabbi Yakov Krause**  
Yeshiva Rav Isacsohn

**Shirley Levine**  
Abraham Joshua Heschel Day School

**Lily Mattes**  
Kadima Hebrew Academy

**Barrie Richter**  
Adat Ari El Day School

## 1990

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**Metuka Benjamin**  
Stephen S. Wise Temple Schools

**Roxie Esterle**  
Abraham Joshua Heschel Day School

**Rabbi Menachem Gottesman**  
Harkham Hillel Hebrew Academy

**Rabbi Nachman Mandel** ✧  
Yeshiva Rav Isacsohn

**Rivka Shaked**  
Sinai Akiba Academy

✧ of blessed memory

# ADVANCING A MISSION IN EDUCATION

“Education is at the heart of nearly everything we value as individuals, as citizens and as productive human beings.”

— Lowell Milken  
*Chairman and Co-Founder  
Milken Family Foundation*



A wealth of human potential is represented by individuals of all ages whose vision and purpose make them dynamic forces for change. The Milken Family Foundation’s mission is to help realize this potential by providing the support that enables people to create and carry out effective, lasting solutions to the challenges facing our communities. The Jewish Educator Awards is one of several MFF initiatives working to advance this mission.

## MILKEN ARCHIVE OF JEWISH MUSIC: THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE



The *Chicago Tribune* hailed the Milken Archive of Jewish Music as “the most comprehensive documentation, ever, of music reflecting Jewish life and culture in America.... The Milken’s will realize something that has been a dream of scholars and musicians practically since the dawn of recorded sound.” Launched by Lowell Milken in 1990, this vast “virtual museum” features music, videos, oral histories, photos and essays. The Milken Archive preserves Jewish heritage even as it reveals the universality of the Jewish experience to people of all faiths and cultures.

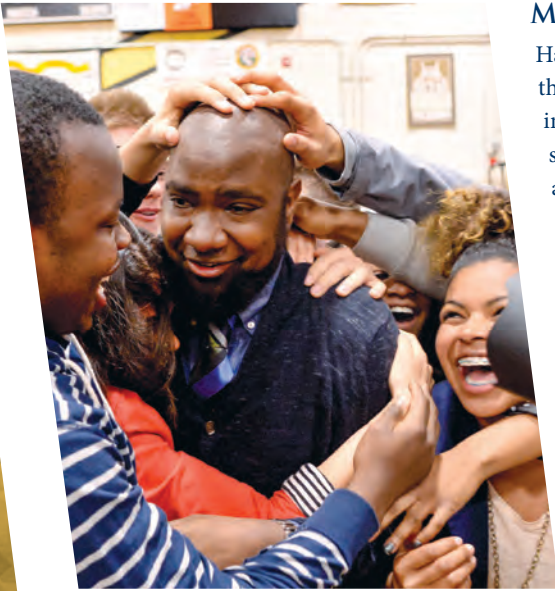
“In sharing the Milken Archive’s diverse repertoire, scholarship and multimedia resources, we seek to broaden public awareness for the various forms of Jewish musical expression that have contributed significantly to American Jewish cultural identity and to the music world in general. In the process, we also hope to encourage present and future composers and performers to express Jewish themes in their music.”

— Lowell Milken  
*Founder*





# ADVANCING A MISSION



## MILKEN EDUCATOR AWARDS

Hailed as the “Oscars of teaching” by *Teacher Magazine*, the Milken Educator Awards provide public recognition and individual financial rewards to K–12 teachers, principals and specialists who are furthering excellence in education. Recipients are heralded in early to mid-career for what they have achieved and for the promise of what they will accomplish in the future. Each honoree joins the Milken Educator Network, a group of distinguished professionals whose expertise serves as a valuable resource to fellow educators, legislators, school boards and others shaping the future of education.

“As a Milken Educator Award recipient, I was charged with the responsibility to be an agent for change in education. I take this opportunity seriously.”

— **Dexter Chaney II**  
*Illinois Milken Educator*



## MILKEN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

More than 800 students benefit from a college preparatory education designed to develop them intellectually, spiritually, artistically and physically at Milken Community Schools (MCS), a Jewish day school nationally respected for its rigorous curriculum that challenges students to achieve their individual best. Four unique MCS programs include the Mitchell Academy of Advanced Science and Technology, which engages students through research and discovery; the Architecture + Design Institute, which offers college-level training; the Beit Midrash Fellowship, which focuses on Jewish values and texts; and the Tiferet Israel Fellowship, which forges a lifelong bond with Israel.

MILKEN FAMILY FOUNDATION  
[WWW.MFF.ORG](http://WWW.MFF.ORG)





## MILKEN SCHOLARS

Mike and Lori Milken founded Milken Scholars in 1989 to honor exceptional young men and women who have demonstrated the potential to make a profound difference in the world. Scholars are chosen while they are high school seniors on the basis of distinguished academic performance, school and community service, leadership and evidence of having overcome personal and social obstacles. Milken Scholars receive financial assistance during their undergraduate careers, but what makes the program truly unique is the vast array of other resources provided to scholarship recipients. Being a Milken Scholar means joining an extended family and building relationships with fellow Scholars and Foundation staff who provide a strong support system that lasts over time.

“Whether they become doctors, research scientists, educators, entrepreneurs or diplomats, the common denominator of Milken Scholars is a genuine sense of service.”

— Mike Milken



## MIKE'S MATH CLUB

Learning that appeals to a sense of discovery captures children's interest and imagination. Mike's Math Club, a curriculum enrichment program, shows students in inner-city elementary schools that math is not only useful, but entertaining. Students learn 'secret codes' and 'handy hints' that promote math skills while they play math games and gain a sense of self-worth. Learning with the Mike's Math Club team is important proof to students that learning can be its own reward.

“My mother said it was going to take a miracle to make me interested in math, but now she likes how I come home confident about my math homework.”

— Fifth-grade student

*Birdielee V. Bright Elementary School*

## AFFILIATED INITIATIVES IN EDUCATION

The Lowell Milken Family Foundation (LMFF) is based on a core belief that education endures as the best means for cultivating human capital by developing the skills, knowledge and experiences to prepare people for rewarding and productive lives. Yet education can have this power only if it is delivered and received as part of a rigorous experience. LMFF's efforts are focused on groundbreaking, comprehensive initiatives that provide powerful opportunities for students, faculty and the community-at-large.



### NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING Educator excellence ... Student achievement ... Opportunities for all

Recognizing that an effective teacher is the most important school-based factor in improving student achievement, Lowell Milken founded the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching (NIET) with a commitment to ensuring a highly skilled, strongly motivated and competitively compensated teacher for every classroom in America. Partnering with state education agencies, universities and school districts, NIET offers service, support and solutions in educator leadership, professional development, evaluation and performance-based compensation. More than 200,000 educators and 2.5 million U.S. students are impacted by NIET's initiatives, including the Educator Effectiveness Best Practices Center and TAP: The System for Teacher and Student Advancement.

“Every young person deserves the high-quality educational experience that only a talented teacher can provide. What’s more, our nation’s future strength is directly linked to the effectiveness of our educators.”

— Lowell Milken

*Founder and Chairman, National Institute for Excellence in Teaching*



### HOFFMITZ MILKEN CENTER FOR TYPOGRAPHY

Created to advance the research, teaching and understanding of letterform design, the Hoffmitz Milken Center for Typography (HMCT) at ArtCenter College of Design is setting global standards of excellence as an influential force in the field of visual language. HMCT honors the legacy of Leah Hoffmitz Milken, a letterform expert specializing in the creation of unique logotypes and typefaces and a legendary professor for two decades.

“Leah gave us the gift of knowing language, of seeing the visual word, in its most precise and exacting form. As we explore the mission of the Center to set the global standard of excellence in typography and design education, let us do so in the spirit of Leah’s voice continuing to sound, to be made visual, to shout her brilliance, to whisper her profound wisdom, to make real both her scientific precision and the poetry of her imagination.”

— Lorne M. Buchman

*President, ArtCenter College of Design*

## LOWELL MILKEN CENTER FOR UNSUNG HEROES

### Discover ... Create ... Change

The Lowell Milken Center for Unsung Heroes (LMC) discovers, develops and communicates the stories of Unsung Heroes who have made a profound and positive impact on the course of history. Through a unique project-based learning approach, LMC works with students and educators across diverse academic disciplines to develop history projects that highlight role models who demonstrate courage, compassion and respect. By championing Unsung Heroes, students, educators and communities around the world discover their own power and responsibility to effect positive change. Established in 2007, LMC has engaged more than 8,600 schools worldwide.



“We believe that children can reach over walls of bias that adults can never hope to, reaching out and changing lives. Young people can take the lead in inspiring others to repair the world.”

— Norman Conard

*Kansas Milken Educator and LMC Executive Director*

## LOWELL MILKEN INSTITUTE FOR BUSINESS LAW AND POLICY AT UCLA SCHOOL OF LAW

By setting new standards in business law education, the Lowell Milken Institute for Business Law and Policy prepares students for outstanding careers and leadership in law as well as in business, the nonprofit sector and philanthropy. The Institute simultaneously serves as a dynamic hub of research and strategy for practitioners, scholars and experts across a variety of disciplines. A keen emphasis on innovative research at the intersection of law and business is supported by a widely recognized

business law faculty and a unique blend of policy and practice courses designed to prepare students for diverse opportunities in the new economy. A relevant slate of conferences and scholarly events promotes solutions to some of the nation’s most pressing challenges.



“In establishing the Lowell Milken Institute and imbuing it with a vibrant spirit of entrepreneurship and discovery, Lowell Milken has given us the ability to multiply our successes exponentially.”

— Rachel Moran

*Dean Emerita, UCLA School of Law*

# Milken Family Foundation

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Milken Family Foundation strives to discover and advance inventive, effective ways of helping people help themselves and those around them lead productive and satisfying lives. Since 1982, MFF has pursued this mission through its work in education, medical research and public health.



### IN EDUCATION, MFF IS COMMITTED TO:

- » Strengthening the profession by recognizing and rewarding outstanding educators, and by expanding their professional leadership and policy influence
- » Attracting, developing, motivating and retaining the best talent for the teaching profession
- » Stimulating creativity and productivity among young people and adults through programs that encourage learning as a lifelong process
- » Building vibrant communities by involving people of all ages in programs that contribute to their growth and well-being

### IN MEDICAL RESEARCH AND PUBLIC HEALTH, MFF IS COMMITTED TO:

- » Advancing and supporting basic and applied medical research—especially in the field of cancer—to discover causes, treatments and, ultimately cures
- » Improving public health awareness through education, research and practice
- » Supporting public health care programs to assure the well-being of community members of all ages





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