



the Milken Family Foundation and BJE  
cordially invite you to the

*30th Annual* JEWISH  
EDUCATOR  
AWARDS *Luncheon*

Luxe Sunset Boulevard Hotel • Los Angeles • December 17, 2019



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


## Message from the MILKEN FAMILY FOUNDATION

Society today demands much of its educators. We look to them to provide young people with the tools to acquire intellectual discipline and curiosity, attain high scholastic achievement, learn self-reliance, develop character and identity, and secure a fulfilling and productive role in the larger world. In short, educators do more than just educate—they help our young people steer a steady course across the shifting seas of modern society.

This is particularly true in Jewish education. Yes, educators in Jewish schools are charged with providing young people with a rigorous and disciplined education. But just as importantly, they also must help students make that critical connection between Jewish heritage and beliefs in ways that inform their daily conduct, their views of the world and their capacity as future leaders in their communities, the nation and the world. Those whom we honor today—Michelle Andron, Eric Hartung, Rabbi Abraham Lieberman, and Nelly Wisner—have particularly distinguished themselves by supporting the development of both these critical human dimensions: helping to prepare students' minds while playing a role in orienting their souls as Jews.

The aim of the Milken Family Foundation Jewish Educator Awards has always been to recognize educational excellence—but excellence of this particular kind. While the formation of Jewish identity comes naturally from families who perpetuate the faith, outstanding Jewish educators provide a powerful source for the continuity of that formation. They do this by drawing on a range of resources, from the imperatives and sustenance of religious tradition to the fundamentals of a broad and rich curriculum. They also must draw deeply on their own character and God-given gifts, including their intelligence, scholarship, commitment and compassion, as well as their ability to inspire these values in their students. For what they are passing on to Jewish youth is not just their own endowment of knowledge—but also their moral understanding.

These are the qualities we look for in our recipients, and which we honor today by recognizing these four unique and distinguished Jewish educators. Each is a living lesson we should know and make known, so that collectively these educators become the standard for all educators and the criteria by which educational excellence can be gauged. With each new Jewish Educator Award recipient, Jewish education and the standards of excellence become that much stronger.



Lowell Milken  
Chairman and Co-Founder  
Milken Family Foundation



Richard Sandler  
Executive Vice President  
Milken Family Foundation

## Message from

# BJE: BUILDERS OF JEWISH EDUCATION

This year marks the 30th annual Milken Family Foundation Jewish Educator Awards luncheon. Pirkei Avot, a collection of rabbinic aphorisms compiled 1800 years ago, records the statement that 30 years is a demonstration of strength. The visionary leadership of the Milken Family Foundation in initiating and sustaining the Jewish Educator Awards has done much to strengthen recognition and appreciation of the essential role of Jewish educators in shaping the present and building the future.

BJE joins in congratulating the 2019 Jewish Educator Award recipients. Michelle Andron, Eric Hartung, Rabbi Abraham Lieberman and Nelly Wisner represent a field that daily nurtures student inquiry, learning and growth at 38 Jewish day schools in greater Los Angeles, educating 9,800 students, with impact for generations. The Hebrew words for “education” and “dedication” are closely linked; the educators we gather to recognize are profoundly dedicated to the students whose lives they so deeply touch.

On behalf of the entire network of Jewish day schools, BJE: Builders of Jewish Education extends appreciation to the Milken Family Foundation on the milestone of 30 years of honoring a professional calling that so richly deserves recognition. May the Milken Family Foundation, as our community’s educators, go from strength to strength.

Sincerely,



Mark S. Berns  
President,  
BJE: Builders of Jewish Education



Gil Graff, Ph.D.  
Executive Director,  
BJE: Builders of Jewish Education

# JEWISH EDUCATOR AWARDS

The Milken Family Foundation, in partnership with BJE, established the Jewish Educator Awards 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 between 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 work a minimum of 15 hours per week at the K–12 level. They must have been working for a minimum of five years in a BJE-accredited school (need not be at the same BJE-accredited school for all the years).

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 the 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 between 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
- » Personal involvement in responding to the needs of Jewish and secular communities

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





## MICHELLE ANDRON



As the general studies principal at Emek Hebrew Academy, Michelle Andron has a broad mandate. She oversees the entire general studies program for kindergarten through eighth grade, including hiring and supervising educators, scheduling, admissions, accreditation, professional development, parent communications, and accommodating students with special needs. But curriculum has been a particular focus for Mrs. Andron. Since joining Emek as curriculum coordinator in 2010, she has worked to create a cohesive scope and sequence for Emek's general studies curriculum, building consistency through the grades so that students are better prepared for high school and beyond.

Though she had worked with younger children as a tutor and counselor, Mrs. Andron entered college planning a career in medicine. An advisor told her she should major in something other than biology to stand out in the medical school application process; she chose education. Her courses and field work hooked her on teaching. During her first teaching job at Sinai Akiba, her mentor Shelley Lawrence (a 2009 Jewish Educator Award recipient) "told me I was born to be a teacher," says Mrs. Andron. "I knew I had made the right choice."

At Emek, Mrs. Andron has implemented many new programs over the years, including Responsive Classroom, reading and writing workshops, Singapore Math, a middle school humanities program integrating social studies and language arts, teacher rounds for peer observation and feedback, and parent nights focused on math, science and Jewish learning. "Since my first day of teaching I have tried to instill in my students the idea that everyone is different and has different gifts," says Mrs. Andron. "We all need different things to be able to learn and grow. As educators, our goal is to give each individual student what they need to be able to unlock their individual gifts and reach their highest potential."



## ERIC HARTUNG



Middle schoolers at the Rabbi Jacob Pressman Academy of Temple Beth Am take a deep dive into science, thanks to Eric Hartung. Studying physics means creating websites that describe different kinds of energy, then designing and building roller coasters, using the engineering design process to test and improve their creations. In life science, students learn about genetics via Mr. Potato Head, using Punnett squares to predict genetic outcomes by matching six “Tater Tots” with their parents based on physical traits. In earth science, students develop public service announcements on geological events, weather and climate change, including models and proposed solutions.

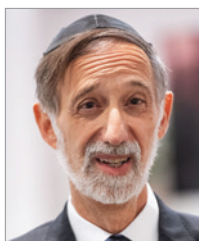
Teaching is Mr. Hartung’s third career, after starting in health-care management and then selling, installing and servicing aquariums. A life-threatening medical emergency caused him to rethink his career choices. When he helped a friend by teaching science to second graders once a week and realized he loved the classroom, Mr. Hartung began teaching full time. As Pressman’s former science department chair, Mr. Hartung believes that learning must be personal to be meaningful. For one project, students measure each room in their house, then create blueprints and a scale model, even building circuits to provide lighting to each room. Next year, the same project will be based on blueprints for Pressman’s proposed new building.

Mr. Hartung manages Pressman’s science fair and serves on the executive board of the Los Angeles County Science and Engineering Fair (LACSEF). Students apply the scientific method as they develop reading comprehension, writing, research, data analysis and presentation skills. Over the past 12 years, 48 of Mr. Hartung’s students have received awards at LACSEF and eight at the state level, with one project winning best in state. “My goal is to instill in students the desire to do better today than yesterday,” he says. “I want them to understand that if they break down a challenge into small pieces, it becomes more manageable.”





## RABBI ABRAHAM LIEBERMAN



Students at Shalhevet High School know that Rabbi Abraham Lieberman will always encourage them to follow their interests. As a Judaic studies teacher for grades 10–12, Rabbi Lieberman believes that written texts hold the key to greater understanding. His projects start with a simple reading of a given text, followed by as many questions as students can think of. When a sub-topic catches students' attention, Rabbi Lieberman encourages them to research the topic on their own, allowing for the self-mastery and discovery so important in learning. Students present their ideas and findings to the class and lead discussions with their peers. "Learning to comprehend and analyze Jewish texts can turn ordinary students into lifelong learners," says Rabbi Lieberman. "If all we do is teach and test and move on, we have not fulfilled what teaching Torah is all about. Being 'the people of the book' requires that we engage the book."

Rabbi Lieberman started college as a psychology major but switched to education after discovering his passion for teaching. Inspired by Dr. Susan R. Katz, founding principal of Shulamith High School in Brooklyn, Rabbi Lieberman began teaching in 1979. At Shalhevet he teaches six classes, including Tanach, Talmud and Jewish history. Rabbi Lieberman leads his students through historical analysis of primary sources like the first Jewish Siddurs, Haggadahs and newspapers printed in the Americas. His goal: to create interesting, informative and reflective lesson plans that inspire students and teach them to think on their own. He strives to make the texts relevant. "How do we turn an ancient text into a tool to teach us how to be better people and understand the meaning of life, our struggles, failures and accomplishments?" asks Rabbi Lieberman. "God builds an imperfect world; it becomes our job to make it more perfect."



## NELLY WISNER



Beth Hillel Day School's youngest students thrive both academically and socially in Nelly Wisner's classroom. Mrs. Wisner, who teaches transitional kindergarten and kindergarten general studies, creates a nurturing and structured environment with lessons that are rigorous, engaging, interactive and inspiring. During her interactive calendar routine, children build leadership, math and executive functioning skills while boosting their confidence. The class tracks the passage of time through days, months and weeks, calculating the number of days of school past and remaining. They document the weather, mark birthdays and tally lost teeth, using charts and graphs to display information in both English and Hebrew. Students eagerly await their turn to serve as calendar leader, excited to help their classmates make sense of the data the class gathers.

Mrs. Wisner joined Beth Hillel in 2006 after volunteering in her son's classroom and realizing she was spending more time at school than working in the family's textile business. "I felt a calling to ensure that every child could have a positive educational experience in which they felt nurtured, valued, understood and inspired," she says. Mrs. Wisner joined the class as an assistant, thriving on the hands-on learning while studying child development at Los Angeles Valley College. She knows her move from the business world to the classroom was the right choice, "After the transition, I felt that I had found my calling."

Mrs. Wisner meets with parents at the start of the year to learn about her incoming students and drafts Individual Student Success Plans with academic, social and emotional goals. On Friendship Fridays, Mrs. Wisner works with the Hebrew teacher on lessons that reinforce "shalom bayit"—acts of kindness, giving compliments and inclusiveness. The goal: inspire students to love learning, nurture their strengths and talents, emphasize kindness and empathy, and foster an environment where the children lift each other up.

# PREVIOUS JEA RECIPIENTS

## 2018

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**Rabbi Shimon Abramczik**  
YULA Boys High School

**Florette Benhamou**  
Harkham Hillel Hebrew Academy

**Fanny Koyman**  
Abraham Joshua Heschel Day School

**Patty Tanner**  
Wise School

## 2017

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**Yehudis Blauner**  
Cheder Menachem

**Adrienne Coffield**  
Brawerman Elementary School

**Melody Mansfield**  
Milken Community Schools

**Jenny Zacuto**  
Yavneh Hebrew Academy

## 2016

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**Ilana Ribak**  
Sinai Akiba Academy

**Fruma Ita Schapiro**  
Ohel Chana High School

**Tammy Shpall**  
de Toledo High School

**Rabbi Chaim Trainer**  
Yeshiva Rav Isaacsohn

## 2015

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**Jamie Gomer**  
Abraham Joshua Heschel Day School

**Hanna Keynan**  
The Rabbi Jacob Pressman Academy of Temple Beth Am

**Kelly Shepard**  
Milken Community Schools

**Rabbi Levi Solomon**  
Emek Hebrew Academy

## 2014

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**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

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**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

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**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

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**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

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**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

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**Shelley Lawrence**  
Sinai-Akiba Academy

**Melanie Berkey**  
Shalhevet School

**Rabbi Mitchell Malkus**  
The Rabbi Jacob Pressman Academy of Temple Beth Am

**Rabbi Dov Goldman**  
Cheder Menachem

## 2008

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**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

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**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

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**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

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**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

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**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

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**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

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**Rabbi Gordon Bernat-Kunin**  
Milken Community High School

**Rabbi Avrohom Klyne**  
Yavneh Hebrew Academy

**Marty Uslaner**  
Kadima Hebrew Academy

**Barbara Wirtschafter**  
Bais Yaakov High School for Girls

**Sara Yoseph**  
Atid Hebrew Academy



## 2001

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**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 Wachsmen**

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 Wachsmen**

Emek Hebrew Academy

## 1994

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**Esther Bar-Shai**

Adat Ari El Day School

**Rabbi Avrohom Czapnik**

Yeshiva Rav Isaacsohn

**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 Isaacsohn

**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 Isaacsohn

**Rivka Shaked**

Sinai Akiba Academy

✧ of blessed memory





# ADVANCING A MISSION IN EDUCATION SINCE 1982



**MILKEN FAMILY  
FOUNDATION**

Leading Advances in Education  
Since 1982

Founded by Lowell and Michael Milken in 1982, the Milken Family Foundation (MFF) strives to discover and advance inventive, effective ways of helping people help themselves and those around them lead productive and satisfying lives. The means most conducive to achieving these goals is through 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*

Whether founding the nation's preeminent teacher recognition program, promoting excellence through academic achievement, preserving and expanding a cultural legacy, or pioneering the nation's most successful comprehensive education reform system, MFF continues to champion strategies that elevate education in America and around the world.

Our initiatives:

- » Strengthen the teaching profession by recognizing and rewarding outstanding educators, and by expanding their professional leadership and policy influence.
- » Attract, develop, motivate and retain the best talent for the teaching profession.
- » Stimulate creativity and productivity among people of all ages through programs that encourage learning as a lifelong process.



[milkenarchive.org](http://milkenarchive.org)

“In sharing the Milken Archive’s diverse repertoire, scholarship and multimedia resources, we seek to broaden public awareness of 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 encourage present and future composers and performers to express Jewish themes in their music.”

— **Lowell Milken**  
*Founder*

### **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 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.





[milkeneducatorawards.org](http://milkeneducatorawards.org)

## Milken Educator Awards

First presented in 1987, the Milken Educator Awards provide public recognition and individual financial rewards to K–12 teachers, principals and specialists who are furthering excellence in education. Hailed by *Teacher Magazine* as the “Oscars of teaching,” 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 over 2,800 distinguished professionals whose expertise serves as a valuable resource to fellow educators, legislators, school boards and others shaping the future of education.

“The Milken Family Foundation seeks you out to let you know that every day your choices are affecting the human capital in the world. To have that acknowledgment not only validates what we do, but it takes us away from a career and moves us into a profession. It restores the nobility of teaching.”

— Nader Twal  
California Milken Educator



[milkenschool.org](http://milkenschool.org)

## Milken Community Schools

As an independent Jewish community school serving over 700 students in grades 7–12, learning at Milken Community Schools happens everywhere and with intention—it happens in classrooms, on trips, at programs, at home, online and offline, and during activities. It is grounded in Jewish ideas, values, traditions and practices. Learning encompasses social, emotional, intellectual and spiritual realms. Learning at Milken is personal and communal—it is both the realization of who we are and whose we are. Milken’s learning is encompassed in these core values: Pursuing Academic Excellence; Building Joyful, Welcoming Community; Treating Others with Dignity and Kindness; Taking Responsibility for Self and Others; Connecting to Israel and the Jewish People; Reflecting and Repairing with Integrity; and Pausing to Nurture the Soul.

“Founded on Jewish Values, Milken is about who our children can become and how they can help others become who they might be. Because the world our children will create tomorrow is born in the school we build today, our mission is to educate our children so they can surpass us.”

— Sarah Shulkind, Ed.D.  
Head of School, Milken Community Schools





[milken scholars.org](http://milken scholars.org)

### Milken Scholars

Milken Scholars was founded by Mike and Lori Milken in 1989 to honor exceptional young men and women who have demonstrated the potential to make a profound difference in the world. While high school seniors, scholars are chosen on the basis of 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 recipients. Being a Milken Scholar means joining an extended family and building relationships with fellow Scholars and 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**

*Co-Founder and President, Milken Family Foundation*



### 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*

# LOWELL MILKEN FAMILY FOUNDATION

Strengthening Communities through Innovation and 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*

NIET is committed to raising achievement levels for all students by focusing on the most powerful lever for change—teachers and the leadership that supports them. For two decades, NIET has partnered with schools, districts, states and universities to build educator excellence and give all students the opportunity for success. With areas of emphasis spanning school improvement, teacher and leader development, the TAP System for Teacher and Student Advancement, rubric and observation systems, and educator preparation partnerships—NIET has positively impacted more than 275,000 educators and 2.75 million students.



[niet.org](http://niet.org)

"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 by Lowell Milken 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.



[HMCtartcenter.org](http://HMCtartcenter.org)

"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*



[schoolofmusic.ucla.edu/milken-fund](https://schoolofmusic.ucla.edu/milken-fund)

### Lowell Milken Fund for American Jewish Music

The Lowell Milken Fund for American Jewish Music at the UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music builds upon the historic work of the Milken Archive with unprecedented university-level support for Jewish music research, scholarship and programs at undergraduate, graduate and faculty levels. A robust schedule of concerts and symposia engage and educate the university as well as the broader community, creating new audiences for the musical journeys of America's Jews.

*"New Jewish music is created every day; LA is the epicenter. With its incredibly diverse Jewish community, this is the best place to investigate how music reflects the American Jewish experience."*

**— Mark Kligman**  
*Ph.D., Director*



[lowellmilkeninstitute.law.ucla.edu](https://lowellmilkeninstitute.law.ucla.edu)

### 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 the practice of law as well as business, government and philanthropy. Established by the UCLA School of Law and Lowell Milken, the Institute serves as a dynamic hub of research and strategy for practitioners, scholars and experts across a variety of disciplines. Conferences and scholarly events promote solutions to some of the nation's most pressing challenges. The Institute treats law as an integral part of an entrepreneurial economy. This is exemplified by the Lowell Milken Institute-Sandler Prize for New Entrepreneurs—a cross-disciplinary business plan competition offering \$100,000 in prizes, the most offered to students in any discipline at UCLA.

*"Answering Lowell Milken's call 'to make a real difference,' the Lowell Milken Institute for Business Law and Policy engages and channels current leaders of the business law community to train and inspire the next generation of leaders in law and business. The many and varied successes of UCLA Law students demonstrate the Institute's role in developing tomorrow's business law leaders."*

**— Joel Feuer**  
*Executive Director*





[lowellmilkencenter.org](http://lowellmilkencenter.org)



## 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. LMC's international student competitions offer \$32,000 in prizes and include The ArtEffect Project and Discovery Award. Established by Lowell Milken in 2007, LMC has a global footprint impacting more than a million students across all 50 states and around the world. The Lowell Milken Hall of Unsung Heroes is a state-of-the-art museum and research hub based at LMC's Fort Scott, Kansas headquarters.

*"Through LMC Unsung Hero Projects, my students are exposed to inquiry, innovation, and the opportunity to apply 21st century skills—for example, producing a documentary to share with the world."*

**— Stacey Donaldson**  
*Lowell Milken Center Fellow*



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[jewisheducatorawards.org](http://jewisheducatorawards.org) | [mff.org](http://mff.org)



# **UCLA American Jewish Music Festival**

**Sunday, March 1, 2020**

## **Music Crossing Boundaries**

A day of concerts and workshops showcasing the diverse musical styles of the American Jewish experience. From classical to klezmer, tango to Tel Aviv, bluegrass to Broadway. Featuring artists from Los Angeles and beyond.

- Performances all day: 11:00 am—8:00 pm
- Schoenberg Music Building & Royce Hall
- Festival tickets & info: [schoolofmusic.ucla.edu/jmfest](https://schoolofmusic.ucla.edu/jmfest)

***Educator Discounts! Students Free!***

**UCLA** Herb Alpert School of Music  

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Lowell Milken Fund  
for American Jewish Music