



The Milken Family Foundation
and BJE cordially invite you to the

31st Annual JEWISH
EDUCATOR
AWARDS *Luncheon*

Luxe Sunset Boulevard Hotel | Los Angeles

May 23, 2022



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


Message from the MILKEN FAMILY FOUNDATION

A wise Jewish proverb advises us to “Find yourself a teacher, and acquire for yourself a friend.” The two relationships are interconnected as they nurture academic, ethical and personal growth for young people as individuals and lifelong learners. It is little wonder that every successful person can cite one or more educators whose impact will forever guide and inspire. As both a society and a community, we depend on talented educators 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. Of equal importance, 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—Yoav Ben-Horin, Cherie Friedman, Dr. Natalie Williams and Chana Zauderer—have 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 a lifetime. 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

"Behold how good and pleasant it is for brothers (and sisters) to sit together." These words of the Psalmist resonate more than ever, as we gather, today—after a hiatus of more than two years—to celebrate Jewish educators and Jewish education at the Milken Family Foundation Jewish Educator Awards luncheon. Since we last assembled, educators have worked with extraordinary dedication and perseverance—in changing and, often, very challenging circumstances—to help students learn and thrive.

In the annual cycle of Torah study, Jews across the globe are, this week, completing the reading of the Book of Leviticus. The leitmotif of this book is kedushah, sanctification. Leviticus is, above all, a summons to lead a purposeful life.


BJE congratulates this year's Milken Family Foundation Award recipients, Yoav Ben-Horin, Cherie Friedman, Dr. Natalie Williams, and Chana Zauderer. They represent a field that daily encourages and promotes student inquiry, learning and growth at 36 Jewish day schools in greater Los Angeles collectively educating nearly 10,000 students, K–12. Beyond nurturing skills development and critical and creative thinking, Jewish educators guide students toward lives of kedushah.

We thank the Milken Family Foundation for recognizing and honoring the essential role of educators in shaping our present and building the future. The impact of those we celebrate extends to generations of students and families. How good and pleasant to join in honoring them, today.

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.

Cherie Friedman



As part of the capstone project for her master's degree, Cherie Friedman developed a Social Justice Awareness Program for Kadima Day School in West Hills. The program "helps students understand and practice tikkun olam [repairing

the world]," says Miss Friedman, who serves as Kadima's K-8 associate director and teaches fifth grade general studies. She also brought restorative justice practices to Kadima, addressing conflict by repairing harm and restoring relationships: "Restorative practices create a culture of kindness, respect, responsibility and justice."

Born to an observant family in South Africa, Miss Friedman's background sharpened her focus on social justice. She attended Jewish preschool and day school, studied Torah and Talmud, and was steeped in Jewish history like the Crusades and the Holocaust. She couldn't reconcile learning about intolerance and discrimination against the Jewish people while living under South Africa's apartheid policies. Miss Friedman knew early on that she would pursue a career in education, earning a bachelor's in primary

education in 1989 from University of Cape Town and a master's in teaching from American Jewish University in 2019. She has spent 32 years as an educator: "I wanted to help others make the connection between what we as a people have endured and what we need to impart. I knew I wanted to educate Jewish students about how they can raise awareness and prevent further discrimination and intolerance in this world."

Now in her 10th year at Kadima, Miss Friedman serves as the K-8 associate director, looking after students' overall academic, social and emotional progress. A member of Kadima's senior administrative team, she supports and mentors new faculty, participates in hiring, organizes professional development and fosters teacher collaboration and learning differentiation. The STEAM lab, technology integration, parent communication, community events, curriculum, assessments, field trips and after-school programs: All of these fall under Miss Friedman's purview. She strives to help students "become involved, active, independent learners and problem-solvers who connect their learning to the issues that are relevant to their communities and the world at large."



Yoav Ben-Horin



As the director of global Jewish education at de Toledo High School in West Hills, Yoav Ben-Horin has created programs that permeate the entire student learning experience. Through partnerships with international organizations

and schools, de Toledo students have opportunities to live and learn with Jewish young people around the world. Student exchange programs range from several weeks in Tel Aviv, Budapest and Montevideo to two and a half months at Ohel Shem High School in Ramat Gan. Mr. Ben-Horin also created the Global Classroom on Jewish Peoplehood and Identity, a joint class with Jewish schools in Israel, Mexico, Uruguay, Hungary, Turkey, South Africa and the U.S.

Before becoming an educator in 2006, Mr. Ben-Horin held a variety of positions that led him from academia to Jewish pedagogy. After earning a master's from England's Oxford University in 1976 and working toward a doctorate at Harvard, he served as a national security analyst at the RAND Corporation and manager of the Jewish American Research Institute. Mr. Ben-Horin taught Jewish thought and directed

the student exchange program at Milken Community Schools, and also served as director of the Israel and Overseas Pillar at United Jewish Communities in New York. It was his experience lecturing before and after the 1991 Gulf War that nudged Mr. Ben-Horin toward education. "I had a growing sense that the combination of passion and dispassion was too rare," he says. "Passion too often overwhelms perspective, and perspective all too often comes with emotional distance and moral neutrality."

With 16 years of service to de Toledo's students, Mr. Ben-Horin reflects on the most important lesson he hopes he has instilled. He wants them to leave de Toledo with "a curiosity, thoughtfulness and ability to engage the world and themselves," he says. "[I want them to have] a passion for Israel, for the Jewish people as a whole, and for their American belonging—combined with a rich understanding of their own complex identity, and a dispassionate perspective on all of it."



Dr. Natalie Williams



As the principal of the girls' division of YULA High School in Los Angeles, Dr. Natalie Williams makes a priority of ensuring students' social and emotional well-being, in addition to their academic success. She

oversees the guidance department and brought in a mental health professional to lead group discussions, provide crisis counseling and keep an eye on students' psychological and emotional development. Dr. Williams also watches over the school's religious environment, school culture, co-curricular events, athletics and performing arts. "We ensure that each student has the opportunity to grow, thrive, get involved and maximize her potential during high school," she says.

With 17 years as an educator, six in her current position at YULA, Dr. Williams was inspired to teach by her family and her own experiences at school and camp. After graduating from Yeshiva University in New York in 2004 with a business degree and a stint in real estate, she moved to Los Angeles

to teach at Harkham Hillel Hebrew Academy in Beverly Hills and, at the same time, completed a master's degree in teaching at American Jewish University. Dr. Williams thought her move to California would be temporary, but "I fell in love with education more than I ever thought I would," she says.

Dr. Williams, who earned a doctorate in K-12 educational administration from Trident University in 2019, sees her role at YULA as helping teachers, faculty and staff develop meaningful connections with students, both within and outside the classroom. "Our school is famous for its relationships," she says. Dr. Williams encourages her team to get to know the entire child, spending time with them in their comfort zones—the basketball court, on stage or in the art studio. She believes educators must be authentic and vulnerable with pupils and should feel like stakeholders in their futures. Dr. Williams impresses upon students that every individual brings something different to the world: "Like your voice or your fingerprint, the light you are meant to shine into the world is unique to you."



Chana Zauderer



As General Studies Principal at Yeshiva Rav Isaacsohn's Toras Emes Academy, Chana Zauderer oversees academic life for all elementary students as well as middle school girls. She hires, schedules and supervises

teachers, communicates with parents and leads grant writing and the accreditation process. This year, Mrs. Zauderer is also teaching eighth grade English. Her favorite task is observing in the classrooms, "where I have a chance to see talented teachers working their magic," she says. "Every classroom has its own dynamic energy. It is always with reluctance that I leave the classroom and return to my office."

Mrs. Zauderer has spent 37 years as an educator, 17 of those at Toras Emes. She always loved learning; when she misbehaved as a child, all her mother needed to do to set her straight was threaten to keep her home from school. But at some point, she noticed that not all of her fellow students felt the same way. "I vowed that one day I would work in a school and make learning

fun, exciting and meaningful," she says. In 1985, Mrs. Zauderer earned a bachelor's degree in computer science (CS) from Queens College in New York, but despite the fact that CS was an up-and-coming field, her heart wasn't in it. She started teaching, went on to earn a master's degree in education from Rutgers University in New Jersey in 1994, and never looked back.

Before the pandemic, Mrs. Zauderer created a new incentive program called STAR to help Toras Emes teachers instill Jewish values and reward positive behavior in the classroom. Though STAR was cut short by COVID-19, Mrs. Zauderer makes a point of encouraging students to be good ambassadors for the school and the Jewish people whenever she can. She reminds them to read, daven (pray) and help out at home. "I hope to instill in my students a lifelong love of learning and teach them that learning doesn't end just because you leave the classroom," she says. "There's always more learning to be done."



PREVIOUS JEA RECIPIENTS

2019

Michelle Andron

Emek Hebrew Academy

Eric Hartung

Rabbi Jacob Pressman Academy of Temple Beth Am

Rabbi Abraham Lieberman

Shalhevet High School

Nelly Wisner

Beth Hillel Day School

2018

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

Yehudis Blauner

Cheder Menachem

Adrienne Coffield

Brawerman Elementary School

Melody Mansfield ✱

Milken Community Schools

Jenny Zacuto

Yavneh Hebrew Academy

2016

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

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

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 Uslaner
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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





MILKEN FAMILY
FOUNDATION

Celebrating 40 Years 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*

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.

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

“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

Lowell Milken founded the Milken Archive of Jewish Music in 1990 to discover, record, preserve and disseminate the magnificent accretion of music of Jewish experience in America over the past 350 years. 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.” 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

Milken Educator Awards

Lowell Milken founded the Milken Educator awards to provide public recognition and individual financial rewards to K-12 teachers, principals and specialists who are furthering excellence in education. Hailed by the media as recipients of the 'Oscars of Teaching,' teachers 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 2,900 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

Milken Community School

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 School

ADVANCING A MISSION



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. Birdielee 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

Committed to building educator excellence to give all students the opportunity for success, Lowell Milken established the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching (NIET) in 2005. NIET partners with schools, districts, states and universities to attract, develop, support and retain the high-quality human capital necessary to raise achievement levels for all students. NIET has impacted nearly 300,000 educators and 3 million students in 1,000 districts. NIET rubrics are also an integral component of teacher preparation programs at more than 75 universities.

“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



niet.org

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.

“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



HMCtartcenter.org

LOWELL MILKEN FAMILY FOUNDATION



schoolofmusic.ucla.edu/milken-fund

Lowell Milken Center for Music of American Jewish Experience

The Lowell Milken Center for Music of American Jewish Experience at the UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music is the first of its kind in North America. It 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 UCLA curriculum approved for General Studies draws students of all faiths and ethnicities. 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; L.A. 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

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 a new Program for Philanthropy and Nonprofits. 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 financial prizes.

“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



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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