



The Milken Family Foundation and BJE  
cordially invite you to the

32<sup>nd</sup> Annual JEWISH  
EDUCATOR  
AWARDS *Luncheon*

December 7, 2022

Luxe Sunset Boulevard Hotel | Los Angeles





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

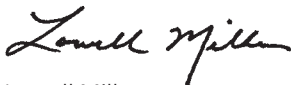
# Message from the MILKEN FAMILY FOUNDATION

Virtually all successful people can name at least one talented educator who has helped them along their journey through learning and life. We entrust to our teachers and principals the responsibility to ensure that all students acquire the skills, knowledge and experiences to succeed academically. At the same time, it is these same extraordinary educators who embody the Jewish tradition of *l'dor v'dor*: passing down the understanding of our people's history and destiny and, in so doing, instilling in young people the intellectual discipline and curiosity, self-reliance, character and identity essential to securing a fulfilling and productive role in society.

Indeed, this kind of impact we honor with the Milken Family Foundation Jewish Educator Award is far from finite. It ripples through classrooms and communities and remains a constant guide in students' own lives as they navigate their roles in today's complex world. Those whom we recognize today—Shoshana Braude, Monica Daranyi, Rabbi Daniel Grama and Larry Kligman—have distinguished themselves by supporting the development of both mind and soul and representing the nobility and integrity of the teaching profession.

The aim of the Jewish Educator Awards has always been to recognize 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.

Each of the four unique and distinguished Jewish educators we honor today 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, from generation to generation.



Lowell Milken  
Founder, Jewish Educator Awards  
Chairman and Co-Founder  
Milken Family Foundation



Richard Sandler  
Executive Vice President  
Milken Family Foundation

# Message from

## BJE: BUILDERS OF JEWISH EDUCATION

This year's Milken Family Foundation Jewish Educator Awards luncheon chances to coincide with Pearl Harbor Day. Eighty-one years ago, the world was at war on multiple fronts; for some, the annihilation of the Jews was a central aim. In the month following the bombing of Pearl Harbor, a conference of German leaders was held at Wannsee to determine a "final solution of the Jewish question." The upshot was a plan—much of which was all too effectively implemented—for the systematic murder of millions of men, women and children.

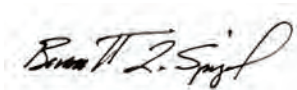
Those gathered at Wannsee included many who held advanced degrees from German universities. Education, as understood in Jewish tradition, is not merely a matter of knowledge or skill. It is about wisdom and discernment, values and character; it is about wonder, curiosity and kindness.

Jewish schools throughout the ages have educated toward the ideal of doing what is "right and good." The 36 BJE-accredited Jewish day schools educating 10,000 students, K–12, are as committed to fostering good character as they are to facilitating academic excellence. It is the educators at each school who nurture the growth and development of the whole child.

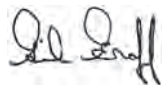
Our schools and students are blessed with outstanding educators, four of whom we are honored to recognize and congratulate today. Rabbi Daniel Grama, Shoshana Braude, Larry Kligman and Monica Daranyi are devoted to the well-being and character development of each student, no less than to their acquiring tools of learning and attaining subject mastery. This is at the heart of Jewish education.

BJE is deeply appreciative of the leadership of the Milken Family Foundation in highlighting the importance of education and, particularly, Jewish education, and for recognizing the essential role of educators. This year is the 32<sup>nd</sup> year of the Milken Family Foundation's Jewish Educator Awards. The Hebrew letters with the numerical value 32 are "lamed" and "vet," spelling the Hebrew word *lev*, heart. The Milken Family Foundation is at the heart of advancing Jewish education, and BJE is proud to join in this extraordinary program.

Sincerely,



Bennett Spiegel  
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 long-standing 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.



# Rabbi Daniel Grama

## Valley Torah High School

Rabbi Daniel Grama exudes kindness, caring and true admiration for the young men he has taught at Valley Torah High School for more than a decade. Rabbi Grama is the school's director of recruitment for incoming ninth graders and teaches Torah, Talmud and Halacha to students who come to VTHS with less prior exposure to Judaism, focusing on building relationships and sharing his positive outlook on life. Talmud, with its foreign vocabulary and lack of punctuation and sentence structure, is always a challenge, so Rabbi Grama has developed special worksheets to help students apply their knowledge of text and uses relatable examples to discuss Talmudic concepts.

In addition to Torah, Rabbi Grama leads the school's Sephardi Minyan, making sure students from Sephardic families maintain their rich culture and

customs. Outside of school, Rabbi Grama leads the Westside Shul and hosts a weekly "Torah Tuesday" program on Instagram Live with his daughter Aliza. He holds certificates in rabbinical studies from Beth Medras Eeyun HaTalmud in Monsey, New York (1991); rabbinical ordination (S'Micha) from the Chief Rabbinate of Israel (1996); and master's degrees in educational leadership, from Bellevue University (2019), and social work, from Yeshiva University (2022).

Rabbi Grama cites his parents, both educators, and his ninth grade rabbi as role models and inspiration for his career in education. He sees his role not just as teaching Torah, but also as inspiring and motivating youth to continue living a Jewish life and studying religion: "I want them to value themselves both as people and as Jews connected to our Torah history."







# Shoshana Braude

## Bais Chaya Mushka

At Bais Chaya Mushka, Morah (teacher) Shoshana Braude provides a safe, nurturing environment for her first graders to excel academically and socially. Mrs. Braude builds a solid foundation in Jewish education, with lessons that include davening, stories of Tzadikim, Hebrew reading and writing, and Jewish laws and customs. Mrs. Braude stresses social-emotional learning and the mind-body connection through innovative programs like the Nurtured Heart Approach, S'cool Moves, Bal-a-Vis-X, Brain Gym, and Sand Tray Therapy. She promotes empathy and appropriate social behavior through the Social Thinking methodology and uses Project Resolve and Bullies2Buddies to teach children to solve interpersonal problems.

Mrs. Braude and her husband arrived in Los Angeles in 1980 to teach Torah, inspired and encouraged by the Lubavitcher Rebbe. She holds a diploma

from Beth Rivkah Teacher's Seminary in New York City and has taught for more than four decades. Mrs. Braude mentors new teachers and to her own craft applies the same principles of lifelong learning she encourages in students, attending professional development workshops and trainings as well as personally researching methods to remain on the cutting edge in meeting the real-time needs of her students.

Students leave Mrs. Braude's classroom with not only a love for learning Torah and doing *mitzvot*, but also increased self-confidence. "I want my students to be very aware of the great qualities and talents that every single one of them possesses," she says. "Knowing how great they are will empower them to be proud Jews, maintain their Torah values and be confident and successful in life."





# Larry Kligman

## Abraham Joshua Heschel Day School

Larry Kligman has been an integral part of Heschel Day School for decades. A 1985 Heschel graduate, Mr. Kligman returned after college to begin his career in education—and he never left. He served as dean of students, middle school director and associate head of school before being named head of school in 2013. In his current role, Mr. Kligman is responsible for day-to-day operations and ensuring that programs and procedures reflect the school's core values: integrity, justice, intellectual curiosity, empathy, and individual and communal responsibility.

At the middle school, Mr. Kligman created new leadership roles for students and expanded extracurriculars, growing enrollment from 130 to 175 students at a time when most non-Orthodox Jewish middle schools were shrinking. He chaired BJE's Heads of School Council and is active in both

the California Association of Independent Schools and Los Angeles School Heads Network. He holds a bachelor's in kinesiology from California State University Northridge (1993), as well as a master's in education and a credential in educational administration from National University (1998).

Partnering with families is important to Mr. Kligman. During the High Holidays this year, more than 200 family members baked challah, joined the Circle of Shofar and gathered on the beach for Tashlich. "I hope our students learn that they have a voice and need to use it for good," he says. "I hope that with the Jewish values our students learn from our community, they will be ethical, compassionate, moral, active citizens who will be the voices for our community and for our Jewish future."







## Monica Daranyi

### Milken Community School

Milken Community School (MCS) has thrived thanks to math teacher Monica Daranyi's three decades of commitment to excellence, devotion to community and deep concern for students and colleagues.

Ms. Daranyi makes geometry rigorous and relevant, helping students build math competency and executive functioning skills that serve them well beyond the walls of her classroom. She looks for cross-curricular opportunities, such as a recent collaboration with Milken's "Fab Lab" (makerspace) where students created and explored the geometry of stained glass windows.

In addition to her teaching role, Ms. Daranyi creates structures and opportunities for student life and engagement, as well as setting and administering expectations in and out of the classroom. As the division dean for ninth and tenth grades, she is on the front lines helping students who are struggling

academically, socially or behaviorally. The *ruach* or spirit of the Milken community, Ms. Daranyi spearheaded the school's 6–12 house system and "house cup" competition, worked with divisional rabbis to reimagine Purim week, and planned the first whole-school Hanukkah retreat ("Hanukkahton") at American Jewish University's Brandeis Bardin campus. She holds a bachelor's in mathematics from Mount Saint Mary's University (1981).

Ms. Daranyi has multifaceted goals for her students. "I want to provide positive learning experiences in mathematics and help the next generation find joy in problem-solving," she says. "I hope they feel confident and have empathy for others. No matter how large a problem or a challenge may be, if you can break it down into manageable steps, you can accomplish anything."



# PREVIOUS JEA RECIPIENTS

## 2021

**Yoav Ben Horin**  
de Toledo High School  
**Cherie Friedman**  
Kadima Day School  
**Natalie Williams**  
YULA Girls High School  
**Chana Zauderer**  
Yeshiva Rav Isaacson-Toras Emes Academy

## 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 Isaacson

## 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 Isaacson-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







## *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.

# ADVANCING A MISSION



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](http://milkeneducatorawards.org)

## Milken Educator Awards

Lowell Milken created 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](http://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 individuals 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*

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 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](http://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, late wife of Lowell Milken who was 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, Ph.D.

*President Emeritus, ArtCenter College of Design*



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

# LOWELL MILKEN FAMILY FOUNDATION



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

## Lowell Milken Center for Music of American Jewish Experience

Established by Lowell Milken, the 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. An array of course offerings 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.

**“The Lowell Milken Center’s breadth of research and curriculum, preservation of treasured oral histories, performance of diverse repertoire, and partnerships around the world, are creating new avenues for Music of 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 a new Program on 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.”**

— Joel Feuer  
*Executive Director*



lowellmilkencenter.org



## Lowell Milken Center for Unsung Heroes

*Discover ... Create ... Change*

Established by Lowell Milken in 2007, 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 more than \$30,000 in prizes and include ARTEFFECT and the Discovery Award. LMC has a global footprint impacting more than 2.5 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*



# LOWELL MILKEN FAMILY FOUNDATION



## Aaron Milken Center

With the guidance and vision of Lowell Milken and the support of the Lowell Milken Family Foundation, the Aaron Milken Center for Early Childhood Education at Stephen Wise Temple and Schools will open in fall 2024. As a state-of-the-art, nurturing space for young learners and their families to gather, learn, and discover, the Center will embody Wise founder Rabbi Isaiah Zeldin's dream of providing lifelong Jewish education to all those who seek it. The Aaron Milken Center will also serve as a living tribute to the late son of lead donors Lowell Milken and Sandra Salka Milken.

The building's construction will maximize the beautiful hilltop campus with vibrant facilities and a sense of connection with the natural world that will foster growth and learning for children in a nurturing environment. The Aaron Milken Center will also house community and sacred spaces for parents and families alike to create a place where all ages feel welcome and inspired.

**“Aaron Milken Center represents the next chapter in the Wise community’s extraordinary commitment to early childhood education. Through our work in Aaron Milken Center, we are granted the amazing opportunity to enrich the Jewish life of children, their parents, and their grandparents.”**

**— Rabbi Yoshi Zweiback**  
*Senior Rabbi  
Stephen Wise Temple and Schools*

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**SAVE THE DATE**

# MUSIC and JUSTICE

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