

## ANNUAL REPORT 2022



Cherishing Our Place in Time



## Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada

jewishheritage@jhcwc.org www.jhcwc.org (204) 477-7460

C-140 123 Doncaster Street

#### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

**MISSION** 

**VISION** 

**MANDATE** 

THE JHC COLLECTION

WHO WE ARE

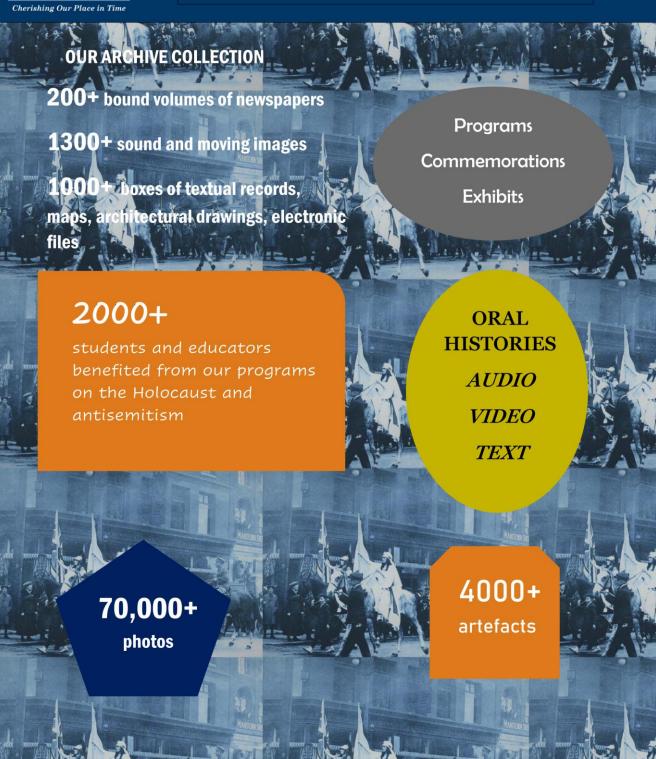
#### THE JEWISH HERITAGE CENTRE

- To develop, interpret and disseminate information on the history and culture of Western Canadian Jewry and to develop awareness of the history, moral and ethical implications of the Holocaust and other human rights violations.
- To document, preserve and share information on the culture and historical formation of Jewish communities in Western Canada. The Centre also serves as an advocate for anti-racism and education on the Holocaust and antisemitism.
- To forge a pathway for the future by preserving and sharing compelling stories and educating the present and future generation
- To collect and preserve the records, artefacts and traditions of our community.
- To present programs and exhibits about the history, experiences, achievements, and culture of the Jewish community.
- To maintain and expand a searchable and detailed database of Jewish gravestones in Manitoba and farther afield.
- To promote the awareness and understanding of the history of the Holocaust through education—reaching thousands of students and educators each year. We address the fact that society continues to witness genocide due to continuing racism and hatred and that we must all be vigilant in opposing racism, antisemitism, and other forms of bigotry.
- Our treasured archive brings our community's history to life through its collection of images, artefacts, documents, and multimedia, including:
- More than 70,000 photographs
- More than 200 bound volumes of newspapers from 1914 to the present
- Oral histories—audio, video, and text
- More than 1300 sound and moving image recordings
- More than 1000 boxes of textual records, maps, architectural drawings, electronic files, and other documents from 1870s to today
- More than 4000 artefacts including religious paraphernalia, medical and pharmaceutical items, military jackets, medals, and awards, clothing; dolls, trophies, sports memorabilia
- Original documents and artefacts from the Holocaust era

The Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada (JHC) brings together the Jewish Historical Society of Western Canada, the Marion & Ed Vickar Jewish Museum of Western Canada, the Jewish Historical Society Archives, and the Freeman Family Foundation Holocaust Education Centre.



# PRESERVING OUR COMMUNITY'S STORY ENSURING OUR FUTURE



## Message from our President & Executive Director



The third year of COVID meant a partial return to in-person programming for the Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada. Most of our programming did remain online, and we are learning that in some cases, we were able to reach even more people through this virtual platform. This was especially the case with education on the Holocaust and antisemitism—reaching at least 5000 students and educators.

Mark Kantor, President



We were pleased to see that our community continued to support us through these challnging times. In less than a year, we were able to reach our goal, creating a one-million dollar endowment fund at the Jewish Founation of Manitoba in support of our treasured archive. Thanks especially to our two lead donors to the Jewish Heritage Centre Florence and Norman Vickar Archival Endowmnt Fund-Larry and Tova Vickar and family, and the Asper Foundation who helped us ensure the preservation of our community's history for years to come.

Belle Jarniewski, Executive Director

We are grateful to the many individual donors who contributed to the new fund as well as to our other funds: the Jewish Heritage Centre Endowment Fund and the Holocaust Education Centre Endowment Fund.

Our staff worked throughout the last two years on a long-awaited total renovation of the Freeman Family Foundation Holocaust Education Centre. The new museum and learning centre will be open as of the end of January, 2023. We are thrilled to introduce great strides in museological best practices and technology.

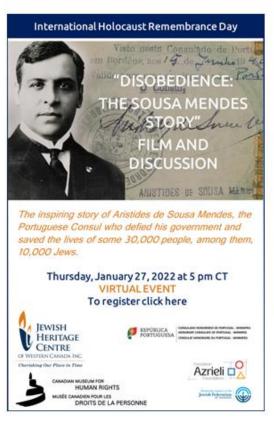
We presented many programs throughout the year, among them a virtual reading of "Waiting for Lefty," discussion with author Wayne Hoffman, who utilized our resources in writing his book, our annual Switzer Cooperstock Lecture, and several programs during Holocaust Education Month in November. We were pleased to once again partner with the Canadian Museum for Human Rights to mark International Holocaust Remembrance Day with a film and discussion about Aristides de Sousa Mendes. The local Portuguese community also partnered with us on this wonderful event.

We were thrilled to have CNN anchor Jake Tapper as our 2022 Sol and Florence Kanee Distinguished Lecturer. While a last minute news responsibility prevented Tapper from joining us in person, it was so good to gather again in person for this event which Winnipeggers have come to anticipate and look forward to each year.

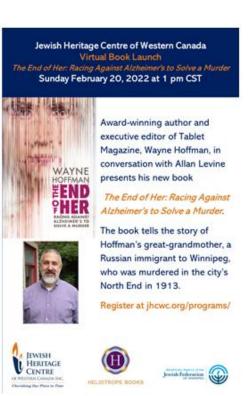
The archive continues to be a sought-after reference source for academics, researchers, authors, and filmmakers as well as people from all over the world who are looking for information on their families.

The Jewish Heritage Centre is thankful for our talented and dedicated staff who interface with members of the public and researchers from all over the world. We note with pride that our Archivist, Andrew Morrison has been appointed to chair the Association for Manitoba Archives and that Stan Carbone, our longtime Director of Programs and Exhibits received the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee medal in 2022.

We are also thankful to our Board of Directors, volunteers, and generous donors. As we look ahead, we continue to count on the interest and generosity of the community so that future generations may also learn from their past.

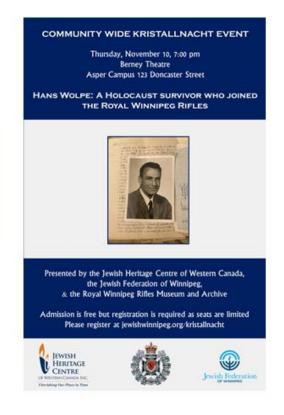












Antisemitic hate has raged throughout history, Weaving together the stories of Winnipeg Holocaust survivors, a student group provides a ray of hope;

For Holocaust Education Month,

The Westwood Historical Society

The Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada Present

## Truth Against Distortion

- Survivors Speak Out Against the Rise in Hate -

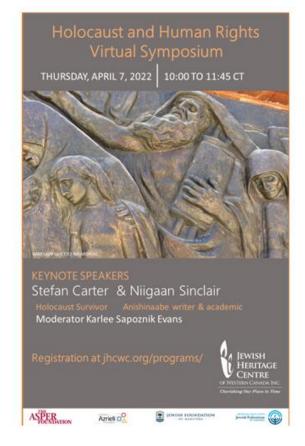
November 15, 2022 at 7:00 pm Berney Theatre Asper Jewish Community Campus 123 Doncaster Street

Tickets are Free Registration Required: snewman@radyjcc.com









## **Education & Commemoration**

The Jewish Heritage Centre is recognized as the principal purveyor of education on the Holocaust and on antisemitism through its Holocaust Education Centre (HEC). Each year, we provide programming, education to thousands of Manitobans. The JHC partnered with Manitoba Education and Training to provide professional development programs to educators from across the province.

In August 2022, we presented a summer institute for teachers from all over the province, in partnership with Manitoba Education and Training and the Azrieli Foundation. Belle Jarniewski, our Executive Director, presented a keynote talk on how to teach about historical as well and contemporary antisemitism. She has also been called into schools to present on this topic to students. She also represented Canada as a member of Canada's federally appointed delegation to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's (IHRA) meetings in Sweden, serving on the Academic Working Group and the Committee on Antisemitism and Holocaust Denial.

Our Holocaust and Human Rights Symposium featured local Holocaust survivor, Stefan Carter and Indigenous scholar Niigaan Sinclair in conversation with Karlee Sapoznik. Thanks to the virtual platform, we were able to reach students from all over the province and as far away as Alberta.

In the spring, we marked Yom Hashoah in partnership with Congregation Shaarey Zedek. Our in-person reading of Megillat Hashoah– the Holocaust Scroll, was replaced by a virtual reading, with guest readers from a variety of communities led by Michael Benarroch, President of the University of Maitoba.

For the fourth year in a row, a student from Westwood Collegiate was the recipient of the Mina Rosner Human Rights award. Jasper Bain's winning essay is posted on our website: "The Closed Door to Canada: An Investigation of the Antisemitism Behind the Canadian Government's Immigration Policy for Jews from 1933 to 1939." The Westwood Historical Society was also the recipient of the inaugural Barry Lank Social Justice/Human Rights Film Award.

## **Genealogy Institute**

#### Chair, Lynn Roseman

This year we have continued to update our database and keep it current. We have added about 1,000 new entries and photographs to our website as we finally made it to Regina and Saskatoon.

We continued with our photographing within Winnipeg as well, all new stones added by midsummer were photographed. Our main area of research this year was on the Vickar family. It was a long project, very labour intensive, but finally finished. An electronic copy of the Family Tree and a 86-page book were provided to our archives in December, and sent to Larry Vickar this month. We plan to work on the co-lateral lines for Elaine Sharfe this spring.

Our plans for this year include visiting all the Winnipeg cemeteries as usual, and I am hoping to improve our records from Chapel Lawn.

## **Archives**

#### Chair, Amy Karlinsky

Archive Report September-2021-August 2022

The endowment campaign for the Florence and Norman Vickar Jewish Heritage Centre Archival Endowment Fund at the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba was a highlight of the year. The campaign achieved enormous success and broad community support from generous donors, raising over \$1 million dollars in funds. This campaign fund builds upon previous, dedicated funds for the Archive. Its success affirms the importance of collecting, preserving, storing, cataloguing, and making materials about Jewish History and Life in Western Canada accessible for now and into the future. We are grateful for this support! A plaque in the hallways lists all of the donors and we thank again them for their vision, foresight, and generosity.

Ongoing work in acquiring, cataloguing and providing access to materials at the Jewish Heritage of Western Canada Archives has been maintained through the increase in time in January 2022 of our now full-time Professional Archivist, Andrew Morrison, who holds a Masters in Information Studies and who also assumed volunteer duties and professional connections as Chair of the Association for Manitoba Archives. This year, the ability to preserve records for the long-term has been improved through renovations in the basement. Our storage has

been enhanced by the construction of a vapor barrier and the implementation of the last recommendation by an environmental consultant. Temperature, humidity, and monitoring for pests in basement and upstairs storage are undertaken regularly during the year.

The work of the archive this year included an environmental scan of donation policies across archives in Manitoba, and continued digitization projects for improved accessibility. During the year, the oral history digitization project begun in the previous year was completed. More than one thousand records are now digitized, and hundreds of audio files are now available online. Jewish Life and Times (1969- 2009) and other publications of the JHC have also been digitized which have been a useful asset for researchers and staff.

A major archival processing project was the rehousing and cataloguing of files of the Winnipeg office of the United Restitution Office. These files relate to residents of Western Canada who filed claims against the German government for Holocaust suffering. These records total approximately 13 metres and have already been utilized by researchers. Donations of textual records, photographs, publication, and artifacts have been received during the year. The largest donation comprises the Cherniack family records and includes a book illustrated by Marc Chagall as a fundraiser for the I.L. Peretz School. Other donated material to Archives includes photographs, programs, institutional records, and certificates. The Archivist works in concert with programs to provide research assistance and digitization and supporting the work of the public and researchers as required. Research requests have come from genealogists, journalists, academics, teachers, students, and lawyers. Published works based on research in the Archives include the books The End of Her, and Max Blankstein: Architect; and documentaries Crossing the River: The Fink Family Story, My Great-Grandfather's Tefillin. Additionally, primary source material from the Archives is utilized by Gray Academy students for creative and investigative projects.

We welcome two new members to the Archive Committee: Susan Billinkoff and Kenneth Bell Submitted by the Archive Committee and Archivist

## **Programs & Exhibits**

#### Chair, Daniel Stone

The Programs and Exhibits committee coordinated and developed a range of activities that represented the breadth and diversity of the history and culture of Winnipeg and western Canadian Jewry.

The first Switzer Cooperstock student prize was awarded to Maria Teresova Chomard who wrote on Russian Jewish anarchism in the Canadian West. Ms. Tarasova Chomard delivered a lecture on the topic via Zoom.

Showing of the documentary "Ma Nishma Manitoba" dealt with Jewish life and cultural identity in Winnipeg.

The launch (via Zoom) of Wayne Hoffman's book *The End of Her: Racing Against Alzheimer's to Solve a Murder*" focused on the unsolved 1913 murder of his grandmother in Winnipeg. The annual Gray Academy Student art exhibit featured drawings based on buildings designed by Green Blankstein Russell. The official opening (via Zoom) included representatives of the Jewish Heritage Centre, Province of Manitoba, Gray Academy as well as Jeffrey Thorsteinson (Architectural Historian, Parks Canada) and Marjorie Blankstein. Prof. Itay Zutra (University of Manitoba) delivered a lively and informative lecture on Yiddish language and culture in Israel

A Zoom exhibit of historical and contemporary *chanukiot* drew on the collections of the Jewish Heritage Centre and loans from the community – at – large.

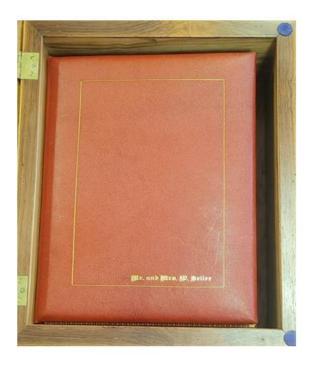
A reading of Clifford Odet's labour classic *Waiting for Lefty* was presented in collaboration with the United Food and Commercial Workers Union and the United Jewish People's Order. During 2021 – 2022 the first phases of research were conducted toward what will eventually be an exhibit on Jewish communal life in Winnipeg and the role of women.

The Jewish Heritage Centre collaborated with other Provincial Heritage Agencies toward the development of a summit dedicated to promoting the importance of heritage preservation in Manitoba.

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## **Recent Acquisitions: New Treasures in our Collection**





Anniversary gift Mr. and Mrs. W. Keller for their 25th anniversary in 1937. It was donated by Sam Miller.





Photo featuring Maxine Steinkopf donated by Max Steinkopf



Page from photo album c. 1975: bowling league for women with special needs established by B'nai Brith Women.

#### **Board of Directors 2021-2022**

#### **Executive Board Members**

President: Mark Kantor

Immediate Past President: Daniel Stone

Treasurer: Harlan Abells

Chair, Programs & Exhibits Committee: Daniel Stone

Chair, Archives & Acquisitions Committee: Amy Karlinsky Chair, Holocaust Education Committee: Belle Jarniewski

#### **Members At Large**

Benjamin Baader, Edward Lyons, Neil Margolis, Mel Myers, Anita Neville, Lynn

Roseman, Marvin Samphir, Sarah Secter, Ben Waldman, Ben Morry.

#### **Emeritus Board Members**

Abe Anhang

Maurice Steele z''l

**Honorary President** Maurice Steele z"l

**Honorary Counsel** Neil Duboff

### Staff

#### **Executive Director**

Belle Jarniewski BEd CTrad MA

#### **Director of Programs and Exhibits**

Stan Carbone BA (Hons) MA

#### **Archivist**

Andrew Morrison BA MISt

#### Past Presidents of the JHCWC

Roz Usiskin

Gerry Posner

Louis Kessler

**Rona Davies** 

Abe Anhang

Charlie Sitwell

Sergio Glogowskii

Dr. Daniel Stone

#### Past Presidents of the Jewish Historical Society

A. Montague Israels Q.C.

Dr. Isadore Wolch

Harry Gutkin

Roz Usiskin

#### **Past Honorary Presidents**

Sol Kanee OC OM

Harold Buchwald CM QC

Abe Anhang

### **Committees**

#### **Archives and Acquisitions**

#### **Holocaust Education**

Ben Baader	Belle Jarniewski	Rose Aziman
Dell Daddel	Delle Jali llewyki	NOSE AZITIGIT

**Shelley Chochinov** Kenneth Bell Bella Ben-Ari

Susan Billinkoff Reva Craven Rietta Floom

Sharon Graham David Gisser Phyllis Laveman

Amy Karlinsky Kelly Hiebert Adeena Lungen

Andrew Morrison Sonja Iserloh Karlee Sapoznik-Evans

Joel Novek Eran Plotnik Sharon Goszer Tritt

> Mimi Singer Bella Weinberg

> > Leslie Wilder

#### **Programs and Exhibits**

#### **Genealogy Institute**

Lynn Roseman

Stan Carbone

Myron Turner

Sol and Florence Kanee Distinguished Lecture Michael Eskin

Mark Kantor Sid Robinovitch

Belle Jarniewski Bruce Sarbit

Neil Margolis Lionel Steiman

Anita Neville Daniel Stone

Marvin Samphir Chana Thau

Daniel Stone

Ben Waldman

Susan Turner

#### A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

#### **Donations received from September 2020 through August 2021:**

#### \$10,000 to \$49,000

Asper Foundation
Azrieli Foundation

Freeman Foundation Legacy Fund

Mary Ann Kanee

#### \$5000 to \$9,999

Abe and Barbara Anhang

Deborah Gray

Maurice z"l & Patricia Steele

#### \$2500 to \$4999

Elaine & Neil Margolis

Belle Jarniewski

Marjorie Blankstein

Carol and Neil Duboff

Group for Yiddish Heritage

Ahava Halpern and Frank Lavitt

Mel & Karyn Lazareck

Ted & Harriet Lyons

Len Steingarten

#### \$1000 to \$2499

Earl and Cheryl Barish

**David Cohen** 

Louis Kessler

Heather Pullan & Tom Frohlinger

Mark & Jill Kantor

Richard & Hilaine Kroft

Peter Leipsic

Melvin & Sharon Meyers

Noam Millo & Tamar Rubin

**Gerry Posner** 

Stephen Rosenfield CPA Corp.

Merrill Shwaid

Sigmund Soudack

Max Steinkopf

Daniel and Kay Stone

Larry Vickar (Vickar Chevrolet)

Jewish Federation of Winnipeg

#### \$500 - \$999

Michel & Danita Aziza

Chana Thau & Michael Eleff

George Saltzberg

David & Sheila Brodovsky

Mira & Martin Buchwald

Lorne Bellan and Bonnie Cham

Susan Feldman

Feierstein & Fishman Medical Corp

Barbara & David Goldenberg

Jeff Itzkow and Cathy Moser

**Barry Kay** 

Barry Kirshenbaum

Daniel and Georgia Klass

Bryan Klein

Debbie and Jack Lipkin

Carlos Machado

Anita Neville

Hart Pollack

Gail Thau & Reuben Potash

Lynn and Kenny Roseman

Harvey and Sandra Secter

Llloyd Secter

Freda Steel and David Gisser

**United Food & Commercial** 

Workers

Audrey Zimmerman

#### \$250 to \$499

Annalee & Hart Greenberg

Patty Lapkin

Marvin & Esther Samphir

Karla Berbrayer & Allen Kraut

Stefan Carter

**Shelley Chochinov** 

Ida & Joil Alpern

Bill and Faye Brownstone

Dee Buchwald

Lawrie and Bea Chreniack

Marsha Cowan

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Allan Fineblit

Bob and Shirley Freedman

Arnold and Sharon Glass

Lisa Gold

Ellen & Danny Hamburg

**David Kroft** 

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Sidney & Sharon Lerner

Michael Salman & Lynn Kohm

Sheldon and Tannis Mindell

Elissa Neville and Tim Nykoluk

Len Podheiser

Harvey Pollock

Sid Robinovitch

Sarah & Dov Secter

Merrill & Shayna Shulman

Edwar Shinewald

Eva and Nathan Wiseman

Lilian Zentner

#### \$100 to \$249

Harlan Abells

Sharon Allentuck

Anonymous in honour of Dan

Stone

Rose and Eddie Aziman

Jeanette Block

Benjamin Baader

Greg and Erina Barrett

Alex Burstein

Stephen Brodovsky

Harvey Cohen and Faye

Rosenberg-Cohen

Hennie and Rick Corrin

Karen Corrin

Maxine Cristall

Tim Edginton

**Dolly Cohen** 

Vera Geynak

Ken Gibbons

Miriam Glogowski

Ben and Serky Goldberg

Cheryl Greenberg in memory of

Barry Hyman

**Sharon Graham** 

Sid and Esther Halpern

Ray and Cathie Harris

Roberta Hurtig

Harry Karlinsky

#### \$100 to \$249 (continued)

Amy Karlinsky & Bryan Magnusson

Harry Karlinsky April Katz

Katy Avery Kinew Kay Four Properties Edith Kimelman Miriam Kohn Roni Kraut

Phyllis Laveman Judy Lichtman Enid Lyons

Manitoba Federation of Labour

Aubrey Margolis Estelle Meyers Paul Moist Adam Muller Estelle Myers

Sara Swartz in memory of John

and Molly Blumberg Susan Regimbal

Joanne and Dick Rothberg Celia & Bruce Sarbit

Mira Spivak Judy Werier **Up to \$99** 

Sandra Adelman Jill Atknikov

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Eliza Pescador Marilyn Pressman Norman Ravvin Susan and Joel Remis

**Estelle Sures** 

Sherri Silverman and Marvin Stern

Lesley Shore Leslie Wilder Michael Wodlinger

Penny Yellen Judith Zack Ruth Zelcer Martin Zeilig

Our sincere apologies for any errors or omissions

## Financial Statements 2021-2022

To view the financial statements please click here

#### New Donations to our Endowment Funds at the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba (09-21 to 08/22)

#### 100,000 +

The Asper Foundation

Marjorie Blankstein and Family
Elaine & Sherwood Sharfe

#### \$50,000 to \$99,000

Debbie Gray Larry & Tova Vickar, Children and Grandchildren

#### \$10,000 to \$49,000

Hershey Braunstein Jewish Orphanage Alumni Harry and Mildred Gutkin Fund Ted & Harriet Lyons Fay & Cliffordz" I Swartz & Family

#### \$1000 to \$4999

Carla Cohen in memory of parents, Estelle & Harley Cohen
Belle Jarniewski Fund for Holocaust
Remembrance and Combatting Antisemitism
Eugene Joseph Fund
Novek Family Endowment
Maurice Steele Fund
Kay and Daniel Stone
David & Heather Vickar in memory of Morris & Ann Vickar
Leah Esther Raber Weinberg and Family Fund

#### \$500 - \$999

Carmela Shragge Finkel Holocaust Awareness Fund

Hilda & Isaac Gotfried Holocaust Fund Ruth & Joe Riesenbach (Riesen) Family

#### \$250 to \$499

Rachel Goldstein Fund
Amy Karlinsky & Bryan Magnusson
Esther & Marvin Samphir
Jeanette Zimmer
Ruth Zimmerman Portigal Memorial Fund

#### \$100 to \$249

Meira & Abe Buchszreiber Estelle (Tzivie) Meyers Jack & Phyllis Newman 50th Wedding Anniversary Fund

#### **Up to \$99**

Dr. Morris & Eleanor Burke Fund
Allan Decter Memorial Fund
Gordon Family Reunion 2018
Sherna (Bernbaum) & Gerry Posner
Barbara & Adam Goszer Fund
Sarah & Maier Henoch Fund
Sima & Ben Herman Memorial Fund
Betty & Morris (Michael) Kirshner Fund
Sam & Tzena (Lena) Shore Memorial Fund
Samuel Izek Stall Fund
Ruth Steen Memorial Fund
Faye & Ernie Tessler
Sigi Wassermann Memorial Fund
Denah & Frank Weinfeld

## THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS AND PARTNERS





























Freeman Family Legacy Fund