



**Peggy and Ed  
Robin:**  
A Legacy of Activism  
and Philanthropy

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Peggy and Ed Robin with their children and grandchildren





# Legacy MAGAZINE

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## L'shanah Tovah!



**Wishing you and your family  
a sweet and meaningful  
New Year filled with much joy,  
good health, and prosperity!**

Your Friends at the  
Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles

THE FOUNDATION

JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
LOS ANGELES



# Letter from the President & CEO

At the Jewish Community Foundation, we and our family of donors pursue initiatives that support and empower people experiencing difficult circumstances such as homelessness and mental health issues and those seeking more connection to Jewish life.

In this issue of *Legacy*, we proudly announce this year's recipients of our **General Community Grants** and **Cutting Edge Grants** representing \$2.6 million in total funding. Our General Community Grants mark a record-high \$600,000 distributed to three organizations providing innovative housing solutions to those experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles. Our Cutting Edge Grants total \$2 million, and the recipients are addressing a wide range of vital needs in our diverse Jewish community.

“It is easy to see our community’s challenges as insurmountable. . . . That is why we do what we do, to bring light and optimism to the darkness that at times seems to envelop us.”

— Marvin I. Schotland

Our cover story features longtime Foundation donors **Peggy** and **Ed Robin** whose inspiring journey of community activism and philanthropy led them to Israel and the former Soviet Union where they met with refuseniks to advocate for the freedom of Soviet Jews. Thanks to the Robins and the groundbreaking refusenik movement, 1.5 million Soviet Jews ultimately emigrated and now openly practice Judaism. In recent years, Peggy and Ed have prioritized family philanthropy and are actively engaging their next generations, even creating Donor Advised Funds for their seven grandchildren to inspire them on their own paths in *tzedakah*. This dedicated family truly exemplifies the incredible power of philanthropy and community service.

We recently held an event exploring the needs of foster youth in Los Angeles and Israel. It featured **Shula Mozes** of the **Mozes-Wolfowitz Foundation** in Israel,



and local experts **Winnie Wechsler** of the **Pritzker Family Foundation**, **Dr. Dione Washington** of **LA Trade Technical College** and **Ciara Jasiewicz**, a former foster youth who is now mentoring other young people seeking more stability. They shared uplifting stories of foster youth overcoming significant challenges and described a number of encouraging efforts underway that are empowering young people and leading them to a better future. Many of our event attendees were motivated to take action to help address foster youth issues.

After reflecting on the above, I’m encouraged and inspired. It is easy to see our community’s challenges as insurmountable. However, examples like Shula, Winnie, Dione, and Ciara along with all the nonprofits we recently funded prove that despite difficult circumstances, success is possible. That is why we do what we do, to bring light and optimism to the darkness that at times seems to envelop us.

Wishing you and your family a most enjoyable and meaningful High Holiday season. ✨

**Marvin I. Schotland**

President & CEO  
Jewish Community Foundation  
of Los Angeles



## The Robin Family: A Legacy of Activism and Philanthropy

For more than a half century, Ed and Peggy Robin have played a significant role in philanthropy and Jewish community leadership locally, nationally, and internationally. In addition to fortifying Jewish life in Southern California, they have helped build Israel-Diaspora relations and played a vital role in freeing Soviet Jewry. The Foundation has been privileged to serve for many years as this dedicated couple's trusted partner in their philanthropy.



*Ed and Peggy in front of their expansive home library.*



*The Robins with their mentors, community leaders Dorothy and the late Ozzie Goren.*

### In the Beginning

In 1966, Ed and Peggy moved from Charleston, South Carolina, to Los Angeles where Ed joined the **National Labor Relations Board** as a young attorney and Peggy raised the couple's two children. Ed later worked in private practice and eventually launched a successful business, **NAS Insurance Services**. The family moved to a new home in Encino in 1973 and joined **Valley Beth Shalom** where they remain members today. That October, when the Yom Kippur War threatened Israel's existence, they decided to become more active in the Jewish community. Fortunately, they were mentored by legendary leaders and longtime Foundation donors **Ozzie** (z"l) and **Dorothy Goren**, who provided invaluable advice and guidance.

“We strive to take an entrepreneurial approach to philanthropy and Jewish involvement.”

—Ed Robin

### A Legacy of Community Activism Begins

Their first trip to Israel in 1975—one of many—energized their volunteerism. Peggy became engaged with the **National Council of Jewish Women** and the **Jewish Federation Valley Alliance**. Ed initially got involved with the **Jewish Federation Valley Alliance** campaign and eventually chaired both the **LA Jewish Federation's Legal Division** and the national **UJA Young Leadership Cabinet**. He helped create **The Federation's LA-Tel Aviv Partnership** and was a pioneer in Israel-Diaspora relations. He became vice chair of the **LA Jewish Federation** and chair of the **National Conference of Soviet Jewry** and served on the boards of many other organizations, including the

“The Foundation has been a crucial partner every step of this thrilling journey. They’re experts in entrepreneurial philanthropy, and there’s no other resource like them.” —Ed Robin

Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, JDC, Israel Policy Forum, and American Jewish University, from which he received an honorary doctorate in 2018 for his Jewish activism.

## Engaging Their Family in Philanthropy

Early in their philanthropic journey, they created a charitable fund at The Foundation to give *tzedakah* more effectively. Six years ago, the Robins partnered with The Foundation to ensure a legacy of giving across generations by establishing Donor Advised Funds for their seven grandchildren, now ages 17 to 27.



Robin/Linhardt family in Israel, December 2018.

**Jake**, 27, uses his Donor Advised Fund to support the **Jewish Family Service Donor Giving Circle** in San Francisco where he lives. He’s part of a team listening to pitches from various nonprofits and deciding whom to support. **Maya**, 17, fondly remembers her time at **Camp Ramah**, one of many organizations supported by her grandparents, and plans to contribute to the camp.

“Our grandchildren have become empowered through their Donor Advised Funds by supporting many causes they’re passionate about and selected without our



The Robins with former refusenik Natan Sharansky (far right) in 1986 on his first visit to Los Angeles, shortly after his release from the Soviet Union.

direction,” the Robins say. “It’s so rewarding to see them grow independently in *tzedakah*, and it’s exactly what we had hoped for.”

## Playing a Role in Jewish History

Ed and Peggy began championing the historic movement to free Soviet Jews in the early 1980s. By 1983, Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union had dropped to a shockingly low 1,200 émigrés from 50,000 in 1979. Things seemed hopeless.

Undaunted, they met with world leaders to rally support and traveled to Moscow to assist refuseniks. Peggy taught fellow activists planning to travel there everything from language skills to how to cope with dangerous monitoring by Soviet security agents. The couple also secretly brought goods that Soviet Jews could sell on the black market, generating money for survival.

Four years later, Ed co-chaired an extraordinary Soviet Jewry freedom rally in Washington, D.C., attracting 250,000 people. The relentless movement to free Soviet Jews was ultimately successful. “It’s the greatest endeavor we were ever involved in,” they say proudly.



Ed in 1982 with then Vice President George H. W. Bush at the UJA Young Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C.



# Peggy and Ed Robin

## An Entrepreneurial Approach to Philanthropy

"We strive to take an entrepreneurial approach to philanthropy and Jewish involvement," Ed explains. "We invest where we think we can have an impact and foster success." They often fund socially innovative nonprofits run by visionary leaders, including **Paideia**, the **Jerusalem Press Club**, and **Wende Museum**.

Paideia—"education" in Greek—is a one-year Jewish studies program offered throughout Europe that is helping transform Jewish culture by training a new generation of leaders. "It's positively changing the face of European Jewish life," says Peggy. When the Robins visit Europe, Paideia graduates often provide them with an insider's perspective on local Jewish communities. Ed and Peggy maintain that the recent rise in European anti-Semitism isn't the entire story. "We've seen Jewish life thriving there," adds Ed.



*At the courtyard of the Wende Museum of the Cold War in Culver City with founder and executive director Justin Jampol.*

The Robins are also passionate about the Jerusalem Press Club, which positively influences journalists and policy makers about Israel through access to Israeli experts and decision-makers. This insider's view ultimately helps get a more informed and nuanced perspective on Israel published in the worldwide press.

One local entrepreneurial nonprofit the Robins support is the new **Wende Museum** in Culver City featuring fascinating art exhibits about the Cold War and Soviet culture. In typical fashion, Ed serves on Wende's board of directors.

## An Enduring and Valued Partnership

Over the years, the Robins have worked closely with The Foundation, even collaborating on funding initiatives. "The Foundation has been a crucial partner every step of this thrilling journey," says Ed. "It does a terrific job identifying and vetting innovative nonprofits and presenting us with meaningful funding opportunities offering broad



*Ed and Peggy meeting with Pope Benedict at the Vatican in 2008.*



*Ed with the late President of Israel Chaim Herzog.*



*With President of Israel Shimon Peres, of blessed memory.*

influence, like its Cutting Edge Grant recipients (see pg. 8). Foundation staff are experts in entrepreneurial philanthropy, and there's no other resource like them."

Ed recently retired, and he and Peggy are now refining their charitable objectives. "As we evolve from less emphasis on activism and focus more on philanthropy, The Foundation—which has always been a great help to us—becomes an even more essential partner in defining and implementing our philanthropic goals. This includes perpetuating our family's culture of *tzedakah* through our children and grandchildren." To that end, Ed and Peggy are creating a Family Support Organization—an alternative to a private family foundation—to ensure their legacy of philanthropy continues for generations.

According to **Dan Rothblatt**, The Foundation's executive vice president, "Over the 30-plus years I've known the Robins, they've always set the highest standards for being involved with the community and their family. Through The Foundation, our relationship has deepened, and I've been so inspired by their values, activism, and commitment to many causes. I'm grateful that The Foundation has served as a vital partner in their powerful journey to repair the world."

"We could never have dreamed of all the friendships and richness we've experienced through philanthropy and community activism," Peggy concludes. "We would not be the people we are today without our philanthropy and our charitable funds at The Foundation." ✧

## Embracing Family Philanthropy: The Foundation's Perspective

What makes the Robins' story so meaningful is their focus on family philanthropy and on ensuring their legacy of charitable giving continues for generations. Like the Robins, you can open Donor Advised Funds for your family members to encourage them to find their own path in *tzedakah*. Many families have done this, including Ozzie, z"l, and Dorothy Goren who served as mentors to the Robins. In 2013, the Gorens opened Donor Advised Funds for their children and grandchildren to continue their family tradition of giving.

A Donor Advised Fund is an easy, flexible, and tax effective way to make charitable donations to your favorite causes. It is like a charitable checking account for recommending grants to nonprofits of your choosing. All contributions qualify for an immediate tax deduction. Your Donor Advised Fund grows tax-free, and unlike a private foundation, there's no minimum annual distribution requirement.

### How a Donor Advised Fund Works:



If you're exploring family philanthropy, our **Center for Designed Philanthropy** is an ideal resource for Foundation donors. The Center provides the expertise to design thoughtful giving strategies tailored to your needs. Our experienced Center team facilitates family meetings to assist with intergenerational philanthropy, recommends grantmaking opportunities, organizes site visits, and helps you realize your charitable passions.

If you'd like to learn more about these options or schedule a complimentary consultation, please contact us at 323.761.8704 or [development@jewishfoundationla.org](mailto:development@jewishfoundationla.org). ✧



# New Cutting Edge Grants Awarded



**Cutting Edge**  
**GRANTS**

The Foundation recently awarded \$2 million in Cutting Edge Grants to seven initiatives focused on transforming Jewish Los Angeles through social innovation and community engagement. Established in 2006, the Cutting Edge Grants program supports social entrepreneurs and innovative organizations working to address critical needs for diverse populations in the Los Angeles Jewish community. To date, \$21 million in Cutting Edge Grants has been distributed to more than 100 programs. These grants are possible thanks to the support of our family of donors.



## COMMUNITY LEGAL AID SOCAL IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE JEWISH DIVORCE ASSISTANCE CENTER

\$300,000/3 Years

Safe and Healthy Jewish Families Project provides supportive services, protective orders, and civil and religious divorce assistance to Jewish survivors of abuse and their families.

[www.communitylegalsocal.org](http://www.communitylegalsocal.org)



## JEWISH GRADUATE STUDENT INITIATIVE

\$270,000/5 Years

Jewish Executive Women's Leadership empowers female Jewish students and young professionals by building an innovative leadership program, exclusively by women and for women.

[www.thejgsi.org](http://www.thejgsi.org)



## RESPECTABILITY

\$300,000/3 Years

Project Moses: LA Jewish Leaders with Disabilities Program mentors college-educated Jewish individuals with disabilities to serve in leadership positions and trains Jewish organizations on inclusion.

[www.respectability.org](http://www.respectability.org)



## SAFE PARKING LA

\$300,000/3 Years

Jewish Community Safe Lots engages synagogues and their members in providing safe parking options and supportive services for individuals living in their vehicles.

[www.safeparkingla.org](http://www.safeparkingla.org)



## SVARA

\$260,000/3 Years

SVARA Los Angeles will launch the first queer-focused Talmud learning program in Los Angeles for the queer community and allies.

[www.svara.org](http://www.svara.org)

## TRYBAL GATHERINGS

\$270,000/3 Years

Trybal Gatherings LA provides Jewish camp experiences in Los Angeles for Jews in their 20s and 30s, reaching disconnected young adults and promoting communal involvement.

[www.trybalgatherings.com](http://www.trybalgatherings.com)



## USC HILLEL

\$300,000/3 Years

The Bradley Sonnenberg Wellness Initiative is a health and wellness program that provides Jewish college students with mental health services, wellness workshops, and individualized support.

[www.uschillel.org](http://www.uschillel.org) ✦

To learn more about The Foundation's grantees, visit [www.jewishfoundationla.org/grantees](http://www.jewishfoundationla.org/grantees).



# New General Community Grants Awarded



**General Community  
GRANTS**

## Addressing Homelessness in Los Angeles

The Foundation awarded a record-high \$600,000 in General Community Grants—a 22 percent increase from last year—to three organizations that provide housing to individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles. General Community Grants provide multiyear awards to support programs focused on high-priority social issues throughout Los Angeles. These grants are possible thanks to the support of our family of donors.

“Homelessness is the deepest moral and humanitarian crisis facing our city, and we can only address it if a coalition of conscience is ready to step up to the plate, invest in solutions, and bring unsheltered Angelenos indoors,” said **Mayor Eric Garcetti**. “The Jewish Community Foundation is an inspirational example of what it means to act on our values and heed the highest level of *tzedakah*—to give everyone the opportunity to live under a roof, stand on their own feet, and build a future of prosperity for themselves and their families.”



### **LA FAMILY HOUSING** \$200,000/2 Years

**Shared Family Interim Housing** will renovate and convert three houses in the San Fernando Valley into shared interim housing for families experiencing homelessness.

[www.LAFH.org](http://www.LAFH.org)

### **BRILLIANT CORNERS** \$200,000/2 Years

**Motel Conversion Project** will renovate a mid-city LA motel and provide supportive housing for dozens of individuals experiencing homelessness.

[www.brilliantcorners.org](http://www.brilliantcorners.org)



### **THE PEOPLE CONCERN** \$200,000/2 Years

**Scalable Permanent Supportive Housing for Homeless Individuals in Los Angeles** will scale the development and construction of supportive housing for individuals experiencing homelessness, using an innovative model that leverages private-investment dollars and manufactured housing construction to reduce the cost and time it takes to develop housing.

[www.thepeopleconcern.org](http://www.thepeopleconcern.org) ✖

To learn more about The Foundation’s grantees, visit [www.jewishfoundationla.org/grantees](http://www.jewishfoundationla.org/grantees).

# Conversations with Our Donors

by Natella Royzman, Director, Charitable Gift Planning



It is an honor to be a part of The Foundation's team of experts helping charitable individuals and families develop customized giving strategies. All the donors we work with have unique and evolving needs, goals, and values around their giving. The process of gaining a deep understanding of our diverse family of donors is a big part of what makes this work so dynamic and fulfilling. Here is a bit of insight into how **Howard Elyashar**, a new donor I've had the pleasure of working with, approaches giving:

## True Locals

Born and raised in the LA area, Howard is a successful CPA and partner with **Dorfman & Company LLP**, a boutique accounting and financial planning firm. He and his wife, **Natasha**, know the Jewish community and its needs well. In their early 30s with two young girls—one a newborn—they belong to **Chabad of Encino** and are active in many Jewish organizations including **Emek Hebrew Academy**, **Chabad on Campus**, **Chabad of the Valley**, **Jewish Family Service**, **Chai Lifeline**, **JNF**, and **Hadassah**, among others. Jewish identity/education is a core focus of their philanthropy.

## "God Gives, and We Give"

Howard's greatest lesson in philanthropy came from his grandfather. As a youngster during the Yom Kippur *Ne'ila* concluding service, Howard noticed his grandfather giving a very generous donation to the synagogue. When

he asked him why he gave so much, his grandfather responded, "God gives, and we give." This forever shaped Howard's philosophy on giving. "At the end of the day, everything we have is a blessing from God. He gives us the ability to help others, and we should. The Jewish community really needs our help," Howard says.

## Giving Quickly and Often

Referred to The Foundation in January by attorney **Zack Dresben**—also a Foundation donor—Howard pursues a funding strategy of "giving quickly and often." He frequently contributes to his Donor Advised Fund and then designates grants promptly, often upon learning of a unique charitable opportunity or meeting an innovative nonprofit leader.

"Giving is easy with The Foundation," Howard says, "especially with the online service for making donations and giving grants." Howard credits The Foundation's staff for why he refers his clients and colleagues. "They make my life easy because they offer a centralized way to give and their service is excellent. I often recommend The Foundation because it creates a wonderful environment for people to become more effective philanthropists and get more involved in community." As a busy CPA juggling high-profile clients with complex matters, Howard highly values simplifying his *tzedakah* through The Foundation.

## Maintaining Perspective

The Elyashar family approaches their philanthropy with modesty—a strategy Howard says he inherited from his parents. Before opening a Donor Advised Fund at The Foundation, Howard mostly learned about giving opportunities from friends and family, writing a check with each request and asking that his name be kept quiet.

Even for this article, Howard mentioned his sole interest in sharing his experience is to motivate and inspire others to donate. "I don't give so that people know that I give. I give because I understand that there is great need."

We are grateful that the Elyashar family is now part of our donor family. ✨



Foundation donors *Natasha and Howard Elyashar* with their daughter *Navah* (newborn daughter *Lielle* not pictured).

## The State of Foster Youth in Los Angeles and Israel: A Conversation with Experts in the Field



Center for Designed Philanthropy Vice President Elana Wien introduced the event and Associate Director Naomi Strongin led the panel discussion.

This past spring, the Center hosted an event on the needs of foster youth in Los Angeles and Israel and on how our community of donors can support these youth as they transition out of the foster care system. Foundation Trustee **Heidi Monkarsh** and her husband, **Jon**, invited us into their beautiful Brentwood home for a panel discussion with experts in the field.

The panel was moderated by the Center's Associate Director **Naomi Strongin**, and the panelists included **Ciara Jasiewicz**, a former foster youth and now an advocate for students in the **Guardian Scholars Program** at **LA Trade Technical College (LATTC)**; **Shula Mozes**,

Chair of the **Mozes-Wolfowitz Foundation** and founder of **Lamerhav**, an organization that supports young adults in Israel who lack family support; **Dr. Dione Washington**, the Foster and Kinship Care Education Director at **LATTC**; and **Winnie Wechsler**, Executive Director of the **Anthony & Jeanne Pritzker Family Foundation**, which founded the **UCLA Pritzker Center for Strengthening Children and Families** as part of its **Pritzker Foster Care Initiative**.

The fascinating conversation touched on stories about supporting foster youth and why doing so is so meaningful, the challenges foster youth face, and opportunities for our community to support initiatives addressing this issue. Interestingly, the speakers touched on many similarities between the experiences of foster youth in Los Angeles and in Israel. No matter where a person lives, transitioning to adulthood without state-sponsored services and family support is challenging. Organizations such as **Lamerhav** in Israel and the **Guardian Scholars Program** at **LATTC** provide mentorship and counseling, in addition to many other services, to help students succeed.

### THE CENTER FOR DESIGNED PHILANTHROPY

provides the resources, expertise, and connections to design thoughtful giving strategies tailored to your needs.

Learn more at [www.jewishfoundationla.org/center](http://www.jewishfoundationla.org/center).



Foundation donors and guests mingled before the event.

Ciara Jasiewicz shared her success story, beginning when she was a child in foster care. After living in more than 20 homes, Ciara was losing hope that she would ever find stability. She enrolled in college at LATTC and connected with Dr. Dione Washington, who, at the time, was offering classes for foster care parents. Shortly thereafter, Dione established the Guardian Scholars Program to support more students like Ciara. With Dione's guidance and support, Ciara earned advanced degrees and now mentors foster youth in that same program. Her achievements, empowerment, and leadership help other foster youth imagine what is possible despite their challenging circumstances.

## Numbers to Note

- 30,000 children are currently in foster care in Los Angeles County.
- Only 58% of young people in foster care in California graduate from high school, and only 3% graduate from college.
- Half of all young adults who age out of foster care end up homeless or incarcerated.
- Approximately 20% of young adults ages 18–25 in Israel need supportive services.

Data provided by Foundation grantee Alliance for Children's Rights ([kids-alliance.org/facts-stats](https://kids-alliance.org/facts-stats)) and Jewish Funders Network Greenbook ([jfunders.org/greenbook](https://jfunders.org/greenbook)).



Lauren Schiff and Rosanne Ziering



Caroline Kelly

For many years, The Foundation and its donors have supported foster youth through grantmaking in Los Angeles and Israel. In the past three years alone, The Foundation has awarded more than \$2 million to organizations working to pave paths of personal, educational, and professional success for young people in the foster care system.

## Donor Impressions

"It was a wonderful panel discussion that illustrated the universality of human needs even in very different environments. These programs do for children and young adults what the legal system is totally unequipped to accomplish," said **Leon Kaplan**, Foundation donor and retired Los Angeles Superior Court Judge.

According to **Marcia Weiner Mankoff**, Foundation trustee and donor, and clinical social worker, "I found the panelists incredibly motivating and moving. To me, the most important message tonight was that regardless of our age, we need to feel like we belong."

Foundation donor **Daniel Kianmahd** said, "I thoroughly enjoyed the event. It was a rare chance to have a closer look at the impact The Foundation has on our community." ✨

# Event Speakers and Attendees



*(L-R) Dr. Dione Washington, Ciara Jasiewicz, Naomi Strongin, Shula Mozes, and Winnie Wechsler*

“Everyone can help support children who grow up in foster care. All of us can do something, whether it be volunteering, giving clothes to an organization that collects supplies for foster youth, or by donating funds. So many activities and organizations here in Los Angeles are making a real difference, and everyone has an opportunity to be part of that.”

— Winnie Wechsler, Executive Director of the Anthony & Jeanne Pritzker Family Foundation

“I think that many times we are overwhelmed by the size of a problem, and we think that because a problem is so deep and so big, we can't do anything about it. Sometimes we don't even try because it's so massive. I challenge more funders to become interested, recognize the need, contribute, collaborate, be involved, and solve this problem.”

— Shula Mozes, Chair of the Mozes-Wolfowitz Foundation in Israel

“Thanks in part to funding by The Foundation, our program has blossomed into something so wonderful. Each year, our graduation rate increases by about 10 percent, and our dropout rate decreases. Of the 147 foster youth in my program right now, 75 percent are employed. It's been a drastic turnaround.”

— Dr. Dione Washington, Foster and Kinship Care Education Director at LATTIC

“I've been with the Guardian Scholars Program for 11 years, mentoring students and facilitating workshops to help guide them and hold their hand through the process. I can provide a sense of hope by setting an example for them. You can walk into any office on campus and talk to anyone sitting at a desk, but if that person can relate to you and say, 'I've been there, I understand, I know the struggle, and I was able to get through it,' it is very powerful.”

— Ciara Jasiewicz, advocate for students in the Guardian Scholars Program at LATTIC and former foster youth

# Recently Seen...at The State of Foster Youth in LA and Israel Event



- 1 Marvin Schotland, Marcia Weiner Mankoff, Glenn & Andrea Sonnenberg, Dan Rothblatt, Elana Wien, and Bill Feiler
- 2 Anton Schiff and Jay Grossman
- 3 Russ & Linleigh Richker, and James Cummings
- 4 Jeremy Rosenthal and Ruth Lynn Sobel
- 5 Dan Rothblatt, Estee Lumer, Frank Ponder, and Jon Monkarsh
- 6 Janice Fitzgerald and Neal Kaufman
- 7 Joan Doren and Felisa Gateman
- 8 Jeff Abrams and Michele Breslauer
- 9 Howard Waldow and Jan Berfein Burns
- 10 Frank Ponder and Barbara Dembo
- 11 Natella Royzman and Daniel Kianmahd

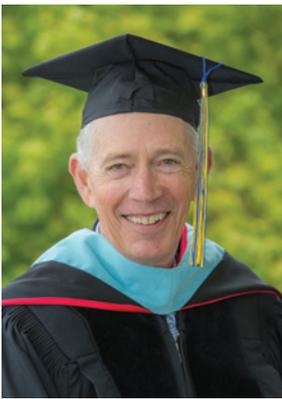
*Photos: Vivien Best*

Learn more about the Center for Designed Philanthropy at [www.jewishfoundationla.org/center](http://www.jewishfoundationla.org/center).



**Legacy** MAGAZINE JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF LOS ANGELES

# Marvin I. Schotland Receives Honorary Doctorate from AJU



Foundation President & CEO  
Marvin I. Schotland

Foundation President & CEO Marvin I. Schotland was recently conferred a doctor of humane letters *honoris causa* degree by **American Jewish University** during its 2019 commencement. Since joining The Foundation in 1989, Schotland has driven innovation, while simultaneously building The Foundation's reputation as a trusted steward of our donors' charitable legacies. Several major achievements, among others, during his tenure include: Creation of The

Foundation's Center for Designed Philanthropy which focuses on legacy planning, intergenerational giving strategies and identifying charitable fields of interest; and development of Cutting Edge Grants and Next Stage Grants programs that have provided millions of dollars of support for initiatives that strengthen, reimagine and sustain Jewish Los Angeles. During Schotland's 30 years at The Foundation, assets have grown twelve-fold from \$90 million in 1989 to more than \$1 billion today, and nearly \$1.5 billion in grants were distributed in this period. ✕

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Please send your comments and suggestions to the editors.

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**Every year, we plant trees in Israel through the Jewish National Fund to offset our carbon footprint.**