

L'Dor V'Dor 2024

COMMUNITY AWARDS CELEBRATION - 3 MAR 2024

Thank you
Dr. Lee, Jane, Magnus, & Lily
for your strength,
for your courage,
and for your support
of the Jewish people.

Am Yisrael Chai.



Mazel Tov and congratulations to Dr. Tabia Lee and Jane Jacobson for your contributions, leadership and inspiration to our community and to Hillel of Gilicon Valley.

Thank you to Garita and HGV staff for guiding our students and providing a stimulating, supportive and educational programs at Hillel.

To our student honorees,

Magnus Herrlin and Lily Guggenheim,
we are proud of your accomplishments
and wish you continuing success in your
educational life and vocation.

Doris Davis

Am Yisrael Chai!

Werba Rubin Papier Wealth Management Salutes the 2024 Honorees for their Inspirational Leadership



Leaders are characterized by vision, passion and commitment to achieving their goals. Our four honorees each have their own unique way to demonstrate their leadership skills. Our community has benefited from their dedication to making a difference. None of them look for any reward or recognition, but it's only appropriate that we pause to acknowledge their efforts.

Thank you for all you do to make us all better.



Alan Werba CPA, CFP | awerba@wrpwealth.com Aaron Rubin, JD, CPA, CFP | arubin@wrpwealth.com Jason Papier | jpapier@wrpwealth.com

1732 N. First Street, Suite 220, San Jose, CA 95112 (408) 605-3154. | www.wrpwealth.com



Our Community Honorees

Dr. Tabia Lee Jane Jacobson

Our Student Honorees

Magnus Herrlin Lily Guggenheim

L'Dor V'Dor 2024

President's Message



Welcome to L'Dor V'Dor 2024 and thank you for another year of support for our Jewish college students. We are always grateful and appreciative of your support, but this year we are especially thankful. The events of Oct 7th had a massive impact on, not only the Jewish world, but on our friends, our supporters, and anyone with a heart. Needless to say, it's also had a huge impact on our college students. Along with the enormous rise in antisemitism, we've seen the tepid response from many of our colleagues and leaders, and we've

watched as huge crowds took to the streets in support of the monsters who brutalized our people. All of this has taken an emotional toll on our young students. Some say they are afraid to wear anything to campus that marks them as Jews. Our Hillel has given them a safe space to be Jewish, to socialize, and to just relax. Hillel even serves as an advocate for the Jewish students when necessary, calling out campus leaders when they either fail to respond, or don't respond appropriately to the antisemitic pressures on campus. Hillel is there for them.

Your support of our Hillel is what allows us to be there for our students. Without your support they wouldn't have that safe space or that advocate. They would be facing a lot worse campus climate, and they would be facing it alone. But they do have that space, and they do have that advocate, because of you. So todah rabah, may God bless you, and may God bless Israel.

Carrie Zeidman, Board President Hillel of Silicon Valley

Carrie Zeidmai



ABOUT HILLEL

Hillel of Silicon Valley is more than a house, it's a warm and welcoming home for the Jewish students of De Anza College, Foothill College, Santa Clara University, San Jose State University, and West Valley College. Whether they are rejoicing in their Jewish identity, rediscovering it, or reinventing it, Hillel is here to support them on their journey of learning, repairing the world, and reconnecting with Israel.

Hillel's quality programs create an opportunity for students to explore the social, cultural, educational, and religious tapestries of Judaism and Israel. Hillel supports and inspires students to develop a connection and love for Israel.

Hillel of Silicon Valley has been a community away from home for many students over the years. Whether for Shabbat dinners or holiday celebrations, a quiet place to study or do laundry, our door is always open. And while we have much to offer the students, we recognize the fact that students have much to offer us.

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Welcome to L'Dor V'Dor 2024!

It was business as usual, till it wasn't. The world is upside down. Trying to understand people's reactions to October 7 and their passionate antisemitism from a rational

standpoint is futile. The best we can do is to embrace our mission even tighter and keep forging forward. Up until October 7, it was a "normal" year for Hillel of Silicon Valley. We delivered excellent programming, engaged hundreds of students in Jewish life and each other, and connected them to Israel. Students looked forward to home-cooked Shabbat dinners with their friends and enjoyed learning about and celebrating the Jewish holidays. We offered meaningful learning sessions about Jewish heritage and values, and Israel. Community educators taught our students how to appreciate our diverse ethnic backgrounds and various degrees of Jewish observance.

But as in previous years, our mission was undermined by antisemitism. Whether in the classrooms, the quad, or the schools' newspapers, hatred and harassment permeated the college experience for our students. We stood with them, provided them with the education and tools they needed to respond to anti-Israel rhetoric, and raised the alarm with administrators. Unfortunately, after October 7, maligning the Jewish people became acceptable, and no longer behind closed doors. Antisemitism bubbled to the surface. We found ourselves in a whirlwind of incidents at our campuses. Despite feeling overwhelmed we did not hesitate and swiftly responded to the students' concerns and fears.

We found encouragement as a new frontier developed where parents were no longer on the sidelines, and together with members of the community they got involved by attending events to show solidarity, by writing to administrators to express concern and outrage, and by extending funding support.

Students need Hillel more than ever! We work with college students as they grapple with questions about their identities, their future, and how they will fit into the world around them when identifying as Jewish is only one of many options for students today. Our commitment to inspiring students to develop life-long involvement in Jewish life and connection to Israel is unyielding.

Despite the time and stress that anti-Israel activities create for our staff, we continue to offer a calendar full of great programs. Hillel of Silicon Valley's answer to our students' fears is to shine the light of Judaism ever brighter! By hosting warm Shabbat dinners, numerous events on our campuses, holiday celebrations, and fun activities that help students build a supportive and loving Jewish community.

"Hillel feeds our bodies, our souls, and our minds."

-Jacob, SCU

So, as I reflect on the challenges and triumphs of 2023, a year marked by both achievements and heartbreaks, I extend our deepest gratitude to you, our supporters. You trust us to inspire Jewish college students to be proud of their heritage and to appreciate the blessing of having a Jewish State. And that despite the turmoil, we engaged 147 Jewish students and hosted 99 events.

You, our community, make it possible! Your loyal and generous support ensures that we have the resources we need to fulfill Hillel's vital mission. We must stand together for our students in these challenging times so their future will include Jewish life and a connection with Israel!

The future of the Jewish community depends on what we all do now.

Together, we will deliver a strong Jewish future!

Kronstein

Sarita Bronstein Executive Director

Optimism is the belief that things will get better;
Hope is the belief that together we can make things better.
No Jew, knowing Jewish history, can be an optimist,
but no Jew worthy of the name abandons hope...
To be a Jew is to be an agent of hope.

-Rabbi Jonathan Sacks (z*1)



Event Committee

Thanks To All Who Made L'dor V'dor A Great Success!

Carrie Zeidman

Master Graphic Designer

Sarita Bronstein

Coordinator and Advisor

Mitch Reitman

Coordinator and Advisor

Hillel of Silicon Valley Staff

Support and Logistics

Rabbi Ilana Baird • Spencer Brodie • Alan Crystal • Mike Gilfix • Barb Green
Art Nordon • Linda Rosen • Chuck Taubman

Special thanks to:

Doris Davis

for continuing to be an extraordinary fundraiser

Alex Drukarev

for serving as our Tribute Book Ad Coordinator

Phillip Nguy

for producing this year's informative video

Bob Zeidman

for proofreading the tribute book

If I am not for myself who will be for me?

If I am for myself only, what am I?

And if not now, when?

Rabbi Hillel, Pirkei Avot, 1:14

?אם אין אני לי, מי לי

?וכשאני לעצמי, מה אני

?יאם לא עכשיו, אימתי

רב הלל, פרקי אבות א:יד



Mission Statement

Hillel of Silicon Valley provides a welcoming, supportive environment to enrich students' college experience and enable them to connect with the Jewish community and Israel.

Vision

Hillel of Silicon Valley inspires every Jewish student to make an enduring commitment to Jewish life, learning, and Israel.



Dr. Tabia Lee

DR. TABIA LEE, is a former director at De Anza College that was fired from her job after she questioned the "orthodoxy" surrounding several anti-racism campus policies and what the term meant for the college.

Lee joined as the director at De Anza's Office of Equity, Social Justice, and Multicultural Education in 2021. She joined the nonprofit organization, Foundation Against Intolerance and Racism (FAIR), after losing her job at the community college. Lee encountered a lot of hostility and resistance to her asking questions about anti-racism language and policy efforts. Dr Tabia Lee alleged that the college authorities dismissed her from her job after she worked to execute a Jewish inclusion event in the school.

Dr Tabia Lee alleged that she received backlash from college administrators shortly after joining her position as a director in 2021. She claimed that after she published her essay in the *Journal of Free Black Thought* on February 18, the college finally got hold of a reason to fire her.

Lee stated in her essay "Under the Banner of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) efforts in many learning environments, a neo-reconstructionist race(ist) orthodoxy has emerged that actively works to suppress and exclude alternative frameworks, methods, ways and means for dealing with American education's race(ist) problem."

Dr Tabia Lee attended the University of California at Davis from 1997 to 1999, where she pursued her Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology and social deviance. She acquired her Master's degree from the University of Phoenix in 2004. She specialized in education, curriculum, instruction, and crosscultural language and academic development.

Tabia Lee received her Doctorate degree in Urban Educational Leadership and Administration from the University of California, Irvine, in 2009.



Jane Jacobson

JANE JACOBSON, her husband, Len, and sons, Dan and David moved to Saratoga in 1974 from Princeton, NJ.

A long-time member of Congregation Beth David, Jane taught in the religious school, served as chair of the Religious School Education Committee, was Adult Education Committee Chair, and ran the synagogue's gift shop. She sat on the Congregation Beth David Board and currently co-chairs Beth David Women with Seema Cicerone. From 1983 to 1986, the Jacobsons lived in Israel, where she was the first Director of the Douglas E. Goldman Genealogy Center at Beth Hatefutsoth in Tel Aviv. Upon their return

to Silicon Valley, she volunteered with the Silicon Valley JCRC working with Diane Fisher, JCRC Executive Director, and chairing the annual Santa Clara County Holocaust Remembrance event.

Jane maintains her many decades of support of Hadassah. She sits on the National Assembly and is deeply involved in Advocacy on behalf of Hadassah and Israel and, as part of that involvement, she serves as a board member of the California Jewish Public Affairs Committee (JPAC). She enjoys being involved in Hadassah's Youth Aliyah Committee. Meeting the needs of the youngsters from dysfunctional Israeli immigrant and resident families cemented her relationship with that project. Youth Aliyah welcomes youngsters from Ukraine, Russia and, during the current war, welcomes evacuees from northern Israel and Gaza.

Working with young adults complements her support of Hillel's Shabbat Dinner Program. It gives her great pleasure to ensure that these young people are provided a traditional Shabbat meal at Hillel House, providing a welcoming place for them to meet and solidify their Jewish identity.

Magnus Herrlin

MAGNUS HERRLIN is a third-year student at San Jose State University majoring in business administration with a concentration in international business. He was named as a '22-'23 President's Scholar honoree, an honor given to students who have maintained a 4.0 GPA for at least one semester.

Magnus previously served as the Director of Internal Affairs on the '22-'23 San Jose State University Associated Students Board, and previously served as the president of the Democrats at San Jose State University, a recognized student organization, for the '21-'22 and '22-'23 school years. Magnus is currently the president of the San Jose State University Pre-Law Society for the '23-'24 school year.



Magnus resigned from his position on the San Jose State University (SJSU) Associated Students Board (AS) rather than retract the concern he expressed about antisemitism being present at SJSU including within AS. Magnus advocated for the inclusion of Jewish students and the suppression of antisemitism.

Lily Guggenheim

LILY GUGGENHEIM is a senior at Santa Clara University and is about to wrap up her three and a half years there this June! While at SCU, she has learned the ins and outs of political science and spent time cultivating a strong Jewish community on campus.

Throughout her college career, Lily has been selected for prestigious internships and fellowships including as an Intern in Mayor Sam Liccardo's Office, an Intern in Congressman Ro Khanna's District Office, and as a Fellow for the Adam Schiff for Senate Campaign. She most recently started work on Sam Liccardo's



Congressional campaign as a Senior Campaign Fellow. Lily's passions for Politics and Judaism are paired with her love for theatre and her family business. Lily grew up active in her family's theater company, 3Below Theaters, and now works as the box office and marketing manager there.

Lily is currently Senior Senator for SCU's Associated Student Government, President of SCU's Jewish Student Union, and previously served as President of SCU's Students Supporting Israel chapter for two years. Lily has been a highly effective student leader by bringing Shabbat dinners and other events to the campus. Following October 7, Lily organized a letter writing campaign which ultimately led the President of SCU to condemn Hamas. Lily organized several vigils for students, faculty, and staff to gather for comfort. Lily is excited to continue her political career post grad and stay active in our Bay Area Jewish community.



Lana Melman KEYNOTE SPEAKER

LANA MELMAN is the CEO of Liberate Art and a 20-year veteran of the entertainment industry. She is a leading expert combatting the cultural boycott effort against Israel and a professional speaker and writer.

Lana has worked with the representatives of almost a thousand artists pressed to boycott Israel and prevented numerous cancellations of scheduled concert dates in Israel.

Her book, ARTISTS UNDER FIRE: The BDS War Against Celebrities, Jews, and Israel, puts the boycott, divestment, and sanctions campaign against Israel (BDS) on trial. Lana tells the stories of artists and entertainers like Bon Jovi, Alicia Keys, and Carlos Santana caught in its crossfire. She calls out a vocal group of artists, led by Pink Floyd co-founder Roger

Waters, who have joined the attack and created a star-studded battle between themselves and the thousands of musicians, filmmakers, and authors who refuse to be cowed.

As CEO of Liberate Art, Lana united five-time Grammy winner Ziggy Marley together with the Jewish National Fund (JNF) for its clean water initiative and produced the first anti-BDS celebrity panel featuring artists from film, television, and music. Participants included musician Alan Parsons (the Alan Parsons Project) and the iconic writer/producer/director David Zucker (Airplane!, The Naked Gun, Scary Movies).

In a previous position, Lana helped circulate a statement supporting Israel's right to defend itself signed by over 300 Hollywood luminaries, including Arnold Schwarzenegger, Seth Rogen, Kelsey Grammer, Sylvester Stallone, Tom Arnold, Benji Madden, and Sarah Silverman. She also worked closely with Scarlett Johansson's representative during the SodaStream/Super Bowl controversy and with Alicia Keys' team when she received extreme boycott pressure for her performance in Tel Aviv.

Lana has written dozens of opinion pieces for international publications and is a go-to source for information and commentary for journalists. A frequent guest on TV and talk radio, she has been invited to speak in forums large and small-including to members of the UK Parliament.

Artists Under Fire won the Nellie Bly Prize Blue Ribbon for Nonfiction Journalism (2022) and the NYC Big Book first prize for Cultural & Social Issues (2023). It was also an Amazon New Release Best Seller in four categories.

Lana served as the premier director of Creative Community for Peace from 2011-2015 and founded Liberate Art in 2015.

Currently, Lana is a columnist for the Sun Sentinel Florida Jewish Journal, a Co-Founder of the EndJewHatred Movement, and a member of the JNF Arts and Entertainment Task Force.

She began her career in the entertainment industry as an attorney for Columbia Pictures Television and a business affairs executive at CBS. She later worked as a creative executive at CBS, Warner Bros., and Paramount, then as a writer and executive producer.

Lana's book Artists Under Fire - The BDS War Against Celebrities, Jews, and Israel was published on May 3, 2022.



Jeff Applebaum MASTER OF CEREMONIES

A native New Yorker, Jeff made his national TV debut on CBS as a comedian on the "Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson." He has also appeared on Comics Unleashed, ABC-TV, America's Got Talent, NBC and his highly rated DryBar Comedy special was recently released. He's opened for and performed with comic legends Robert Klein, Mort Sahl, Robin Williams, Dana Carvey, Elayne Boosler, and more. He's also a frequent guest on KGO Radio, AM810 in San Francisco, CA.

Jeff was cast by Sandy Hackett, the late Buddy Hackett's son, to play the principal role of Joey Bishop in the long-running musical tribute "The Rat Pack Is Back," in San Francisco, Chicago, and Las Vegas, and produces a local Rat Pack show, regularly. He is also

credited and appears in the blockbuster film "The Pursuit of Happyness," starring Will Smith.

Jeff is also active in the business and hi-tech worlds, using his two engineering degrees from MIT. He performs around the world in clubs and theaters, for major tech company launches, and on Zoom and other virtual platforms. Learn more at: www.jeffapplebaum.com



Program



Welcome and Introductions

Jeff Applebaum, Emcee

Hatikvah

Led by: Shanna Gilfix and Hannah Tarley

Hillel of Silicon Valley Video

Student Leadership Awards

Lily Guggenheim, Santa Clara University Magnus Herrlin, San Jose State University

Presented by:

Sarita Bronstein, Executive Director and Mitch Reitman, Assistant Director

Community Leadership Awards

Jane Jacobson

Presented by:

Mitch Reitman, Assistant Director

Dr. Tabia Lee

Presented by:

Sarita Bronstein, Executive Director

Musical Performance

Hannah Tarley, Violinist

Keynote Speaker

Lana Melman
"Antisemitism Assaulting Hollywood
and College Campuses"

Introduced by:
Art Nordon
Board Member, Hillel of Silicon Valley

The Werba Family Student Initiative (Fund-A-Need)

Closing Remarks

Sarita Bronstein, Executive Director

(Program order subject to change)

Mazel Tov and congratulations to
Dr. Tabia Lee and Jane Jacobson for your contributions,
leadership and inspiration to our community
and to Hillel of Silicon Valley.

Thank you especially to Sarita for your unending dedication and devotion to Hillel and to the HSV staff for guiding our students and providing stimulating, supportive and * educational programs at Hillel.

To Magnus Herrlin and Lily Guggenheim, we are proud of your accomplishments and wish you continuing success in your educational life, vocation and future endeavors.

Judaism and our Jewish heritage is strengthened and preserved by your participation and leadership in our community, our country and the world.

Margie Cahn and Family

Thank you to Sarita and the Hillel staff for creating a wonderful experience for the students in our community.

The Balaban Family Mishy, Jason, Arissa, and Briana Hillel's positive impact on so many students is beyond impressive.

Keep up the good work – particularly in light of today's challenges.

Holocaust Education and
Awareness for Life (HEAL)
Myra and Michael Gilfix and Family



With deep appreciation to Sarita, Hillel Staff, and our honorees for consistently supporting our youth.

May 2024 be a year filled with productivity and faith in the best in what we have to offer to our students.

The Metz Family

Mazel Tov to Hillel of Silicon Valley for another great year!

Virginia and Randy Hess







Karin-Dornfest Jewish Learning Fellowship

Be part of a 5-week cohort-based model Jewish learning experience. We will dive into topics such as wellness, personal growth, antisemitism, interrelations and inclusivity, and social media!

The first session will take place on the first week of April from 6:00-8:00pm at the Hillel House: 44 S. 11th Street, San Jose, CA

Each participant will recieve dinner for each session and upon attending all 5 sessions, a stipend for \$250.

This Fellowship program has helped numerous college students since 2020 when it started by inspiring them to embrace their Jewish heritage and values.

Donations accepted to fund this annual program.

Make A Donation

Royal Wines & Spirits congratulates Hillel of Silicon Valley and its honorees on this year's L'Dor V'Dor.

May you go from strength to strength!



David Tabibian, Royal Wines & Spirits 3144 Williams Road, San Jose, CA 95117 • (408) 260-1098



What Will Your Legacy Be?

Our tradition teaches us that we create meaning by connecting ourselves to something greater - to Jewish values, to our community, to our institutions, to repairing the world.



We are grateful to the following members of the Legacy Society for their meaningful commitments to Hillel of Silicon Valley now and for the future.

Anonymous
Arnie (z"I) & Cookie Addison
Rabbi Josh & Dana Berkenwald
Dr. Edward & Marjorie Cahn
Jack & Fran (z"I) Chevlen
Mel & Dorothy Cotton (z"I)
Rick (z"I) & Doris Davis
David & Debby Hoffman
Barbara Illowsky
Dov & Madelyn Isaacs
Jerry (z"I) & Rita Jacobson

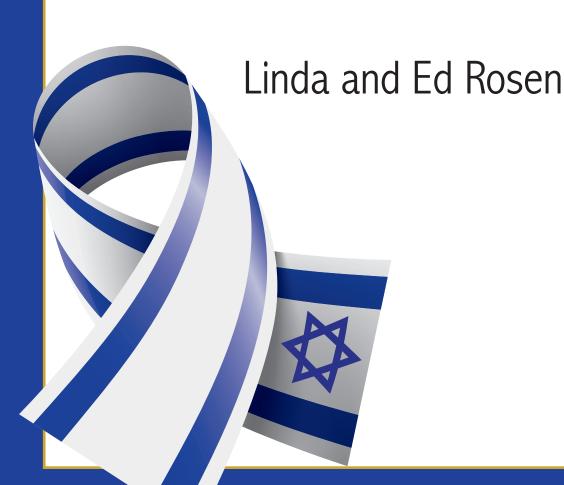
MJ & Jerry Lopatin
Ron & Sue Maltiel
Leonard & Sylvia Metz
Bonnie Slavitt
Robin Penn
Sherri Sager
Steve Schleimer & Cyndi Sherman
Charles & Barbara Taubman
Rick & Ann Tavan
Dennis & Daphne Teifeld
Alan & Pat Werba

We invite you to become a member of Hillel of Silicon Valley's Legacy Society, and help us secure a vibrant future.

Add Hillel of Silicon Valley as a beneficiary to your IRA, life insurance policy, or retirement plan.

Mazal Tov and thank you
Hillel of Silicon Valley
for your service to our youth.

May you continue to go from strength to strength!



Mazel Tov



Lily Guggenheim & Jane Jacobson

For your contributions, leadership and inspiration to our community and to Hillel of Silicon Valley.

One who strives to do good and kind deeds attains life, success and honor.

— Proverbs 21:21 -



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Thank you to all of the Hillel staff,

volunteers, and donors

for strengthening

our Jewish community!

Sarah Stolkarts & Spencer Brodie

With appreciation to
Sarita Bronstein and her team
for their tireless dedication to
inspiring Jewish college students
to be proud Jews
and supporters of Israel!

Many thanks for your hard work and steadfast commitment!

-Rebecca Bronstein

Mazel Tov to honorees
Jane Jacobson, Lily Guggenheim,
Dr. Tabia Lee, and Magnus Herrlin
for your leadership and inspiration
to our community
and to Hillel of Silicon Valley.

Many thanks to the staff of Hillel of Silicon Valley for your dedication to our students.

Madelyn and Dov Isaacs



Mazel Tov Jane!

We appreciate your contribution and commitment to our Jewish community and Hillel of Silicon Valley.

Thanks to Sarita, Mitch and the entire HSV staff for providing guidance and inspiration during these difficult times.



Shabbat Cooks and Sponsors

We want to thank the Shabbat Cooks that prepared or sponsored Shabbat meals for our students since last year's L'Dor V'Dor:

Addison-Penzak JCC Russian

Speaking Community

Rabbi Ilana Baird

Iris Bendahan

Beth David Women

Birthright Israel

Cathy Beyda

Danny Bozutto

Cathy Beyda

Nancy Cherniss

Marc Cohn

Congregation Sinai

Sue Crystal

Doris Davis

Dorothy Dorsay

Alex Drukarev

Dunfein Havurah

Ilanit & Yinon Eliaz

Susan & Steve Ellenberg

Arlene & Ed Ehrlich

Anita Fenner

Karen Fihn

Ruth Fletcher

Foothill College Student Activities

Ricki Gafter

Jonathan Gershater

Lori Ghan

Wendy Glasser

Meira Goldesdyner

Lilia Gorshtevn

Barb & Arve Green

Helaine & Steve Green

J Crew Havurah

Joyce Halper

Hebrew Free Loan Association

Bonnie Hirsch

Michelle Hittleman

Barbara & Dan Illowsky

Madelyn & Dov Isaacs

Jonathan Jackel and Friends

Nurit Jacobs

Jane & Len Jacobson

Rebecca Jedel

Naomi Klughaupt

Andrea & Edgardo Laber

Miriam Ladabaum

Ann Lee & Alex Bernstein

Jeanette & Stuart Lerner

Judy & Gordon Levin

Rose Litvin

Marsha & Larry Matheny

Phyllis Newman

Onward Israel

Ruth & Marc Pupkin

Dr. Gary Radine

Nora Rousso

Judy Sack

Robyn & Mark Setzen

Bonnie Slavitt Ann & Joe Sorger

Rama Strod

Lynette & Mark Tannen

Barbara & Chuck Taubman

Sheila Weisberg

Harriet Weiss

Dina Yevelev





Hope is our future

The Aftermath of October 7

Not long after the new Fall Semester began, we were all horrified by the news of the brutal Hamas attack of October 7 in Israel. At several Shabbat dinners following the massacre, students were able to come together to process what they were experiencing, learn facts about the situation, and seek solace with peers.

Hillel staff devoted much of its efforts to creating a space of comfort and community for our students. Vigils were held at San Jose State and Santa Clara Universities.

The Students Supporting Israel (SSI) club at San Jose State organized a "Bring Them Home Now" tabling event to call attention to the hostages being held by Hamas. The students were joined by a large contingent of community members.

An anti-Israel rally was also held that day. Over 100 protestors dressed mostly in black, many covering their faces, marched around campus shouting anti-Israel slogans. The University Police Department was out in force and did an excellent job of keeping the two groups separated and safe.

We wrote letters to the presidents at each of our campuses to help them understand that the increase in antisemitism warranted their intervention. In addition, students at SJSU and SCU wrote letters to their schools' presidents urging them to release statements condemning Hamas. Faculty at both campuses signed the letters.

We are grateful for their outpouring of support from various departments and divisions at the schools we serve.

Despite these difficult times, it has been an eventful year for all of us at Hillel of Silicon Valley. Below is a review, highlights, and challenges from February 2023 through January 2024.

Israel Advocacy and Campus Climate

We continue to work with our partners including Students Supporting Israel, StandWithUs, Israel on Campus Coalition, ADL, Club Z, and others to help our students stand up to anti-Israel hate and antisemitism.

Hillel of Silicon Valley and the Jewish Faculty and Staff Association at SJSU are working closely to identify ways that we can collaborate more effectively to make sure that the voices of Jewish students and faculty are heard. We are working to promote each other's programming in order to strengthen Jewish visibility and presence on campus.

Over the past two years Hillel of Silicon Valley has been part of Hillel International's Campus Climate Initiative (CCI) together with SJSU. The goal is to ensure a campus environment where Jewish students feel comfortable expressing their identity and values, free of antisemitism, harassment, and marginalization. We had hoped that our other schools would also join CCI and devoted a great



deal of time meeting with the schools' leadership to present the Initiative as a framework to better understand campus climate for Jewish students, and identify areas where strategic policy, procedural, and programmatic interventions might be most impactful. Unfortunately, none of the schools will be able to participate in CCI 2024 but are going to consider it again for 2025.

We hosted a webinar called "Antisemitism in the Classroom" for students and members of the community about the divisive Liberated Ethnic Studies Curriculum that imposes a narrow ideology, polarizes students, sows bigotry, disparages Israel, glorifies violent movements, and errone-

ously equates capitalism with racism. We have been encouraging our community members to promote a constructive curriculum in schools that builds understanding, inspires mutual respect, confronts racism, and celebrates ethnic accomplishments.

Hillel of Silicon Valley was invited to participate in a Community Relations Committee organized by the Chief of the SJSU Police Department, which seeks to connect the university's goals and resources to community leaders, including regional non-profit organizations to advance the mission of SJSU as "a driver of economic growth, social mobility, and social change for Silicon Valley, and a thought leader for state and national issues."

In June, we hosted another community webinar on *Woke Antisemitism* with a panel featuring speakers representing Jewish Institute for Liberal Values together with Dr. Lee. About 65 people attended this webinar. The panel discussed how woke ideology shuts down discourse, corrupts Jewish values, and spawns a virulent new strain of antisemitism.

We regularly posted social media articles about Israel's culture, history, scientific achievements, and humanitarian initiatives to educate our various constituencies about Israel's democratic values.

Birthright Israel 2023

In the Summer 2023 forty students, together with staff members Sarita and Zohar, along with tour guide Gai and



seven active IDF soldiers, traveled to Israel to explore the land, history, and people. The group's journey began with a hike at Banias shaded by a natural canopy of trees and a soothing waterfall, then they went rafting in the Jordan River, cruising downstream in refreshingly cold waters.

As our Birthright trip progressed, participants continued to learn about Jewish history, tradition, and culture, from the mysticism of Tzfat to the religious significance of Jerusalem. In Jerusalem, students experienced the bustle of

Mahane Yehuda, the open-air market, as Israelis did their weekly shopping in preparation for Shabbat. After Mahane Yehuda, they toured the old city, and went to the Kotel (Western Wall).

Over the following days, students got to visit the Israel Museum, Har Herzl (national military cemetery), and Yad Vashem (Holocaust Museum). They also ventured into the desert where they spent a night in a Bedouin tent before heading off to Masada and the Dead Sea. After experiencing the desert, they headed south to an army base on the border with Gaza for an excellent presentation about the realities on the ground by two IDF soldiers. The trip concluded with stops in Sderot and Tel Aviv.





Our weekly Shabbat dinners continue to be a major draw to Hillel activities. Some of the most popular dinners have included activities such as table discussions, guest speakers, Kahoot trivia games, singing and dancing. After dinner, students are always invited to socialize at a festive Oneg Shabbat featuring karaoke, ping pong, pool, card games, and dessert.

As always, we use the opportunity at Shabbat to celebrate and educate about Jewish heritage, Israel, and Jewish holidays.

Some of our themed Shabbat dinners this calendar year included:

To commemorate Pink Shabbat, we learned about Sharsheret, an organization that helps raise awareness about breast cancer. We sent everyone home with their own mini challah!

For Autism Acceptance Shabbat, students participated in group bonding activities in order to learn how everyone thinks differently and how to

work together to achieve a common goal. They were also told about the resources on each campus when it comes to accessibility.

We commemorated Pride Shabbat through engaging discussions in order to strengthen our commitment to building a community that embraces diversity and inclusion. As a fun twist, we enjoyed the rainbow challahs we prepared, reminding us of how our lives are forever intertwined.

We culminated our Israel Week activities last May with our annual Israel Shabbat to celebrate Israel's 75th Birthday. It featured an Israeli meal, we learned about the history of ptitim (Is-



raeli couscous) and the Dead Sea, sang Israeli Shabbat songs, and played the Israeli game matkot (paddle ball game) outside, learned Israeli dancing and more.

In celebration of Sephardi/Mizrahi Heritage Month (November), we featured a lively Shabbat dinner featuring a menu full of foods to highlight the rich culture of Sephardic Jewry. One of our student leaders from Foothill College gave a presentation about the culture through foods.

On the second night of Chanukah, we came together

for a lively Shabbat dinner filled with food, songs, and games. Prior to dinner, students gathered to recall the story of Chanukah, where we took our minds back to our Hebrew school days and pieced together the miraculous and triumphant story of the Maccabees. We were reminded of the incredible resilience of the Jewish people who always manage to find the light in times of darkness. Students said the Chanukah blessings, lit every menorah we could find at Hillel, and sang Light One Candle and the more traditional Chanukah songs. Of course, our feast included latkes and sufganiyot (donuts).



We continued to offer a variety of "Partner Shabbats" for our college students to engage with other affinity groups and organizations. For example, in April, thirteen local high school students from United Synagogue Youth enjoyed meeting our students and learning about how to choose a Jewish-friendly college, about Hillel, and about college life in general. Later in April, we held our annual Russian Shabbat. We were joined by a group of women from the Addison-Penzak JCC's Russian-Speaking Community who cooked and prepared a Russian-feast themed Shabbat dinner for the students at Hillel. Before dinner, Rabbi Ilana Baird described her mission to Warsaw to help resettle Ukrainian refugees.

We also co-sponsored several Shabbat dinners on campus with the Jewish

Student Unions at SCU and Foothill College and held a Shabbat dinner specifically for community college students at a community member's home.

Our students are always grateful to the Shabbat cooks and sponsors who provide delicious meals to enjoy. We are especially thankful to this year's honoree Jane Jacobson for organizing groups of volunteers who prepare many meals for us. We also enjoyed meals and presentations from synagogue groups, havurot, and community organizations.



Jewish Education

In February and March, we held our Karin-Dornfest Jewish Learning Fellowship for a new cohort of students that included subjects such as Jewish social media and pop culture, the modernization of Jewish practice, and experiencing and responding to antisemitism.

Cooking and baking classes always attract a crowd. Several groups of students came together throughout the school year, to braid and bake challah. They made round challah for the High Holidays, pink challah for breast

cancer awareness, and challah filled with fruits and nuts in observance of Tu B'shevat.

Our staff taught students how to make hamantaschen for Purim that included a wide variety of flavors. Of course, these cooking sessions included information about customs and practices from Jewish communities around the world.

In support of Women's History Month (March), students learned about powerful Jewish women throughout history. They also gathered to learn about healthy relationship boundaries led by a member of the Shalom Bayit team.

To prepare for Passover, students learned how to make both Ashkenazi and Sephardi versions of Charoset. They also made chocolate matzah bark to enjoy at our well-attended Passover Shabbat seder. Students took turns reading the Haggadah and had the opportunity to share their family's Passover traditions with each other before enjoying the festive holiday meal. For many of our students, our seder was the only one they attended this year.

To prepare for the High Holy Days at the beginning of the Fall Semester, we offered the program "Like Jew Never Knew." Chabad Rabbi Shaya Bernstein led a discussion about the High Holy Days and conducted a trivia game with the students. During the Sukkot holiday, students came together to build our beautiful sukkah, learned about the holiday, and played board games.

As part of our Sephardi/Mizrahi Heritage Month Activities in November, students joined together for a cultural event to learn

about "Beta Israel," also known as Ethiopian Jews from our special guest, Jonathan Eyov, the Israel Fellow from Stanford Hillel who shared his own story as an Israeli-Jewish Ethiopian Jew.

On the fifth night of Chanukah at SJSU and sixth night at SCU, students and faculty met on the campuses for ceremonial menorah lightings, singing, dancing, latkes and doughnuts. In addition to faculty and administrators, the







events were held in collaboration with the Chabads of San Jose and Santa Clara, the respective Jewish Student Unions, SCU's Jewish Law Student Association, and community members. Both events made it possible for us to bring light to our community at a time of stress from final exams, the rise in antisemitism, and the war in Gaza.

In addition, we were excited to be able to offer a 7-hour make-your-own wooden menorah workshop just before final exams to help students get in the Chanukah spirit, learn about the holiday, and to create a sense of accomplishment.

Our annual Jewish Heritage Month activities this past January welcomed students at Foothill College upon their return to campus in January after Winter Break.



Programs included an opening ceremony featuring Jewish food and music, an art presentation by a Jewish photographer about immigration to the United States, a talk by a Holocaust survivor, and a Tu B'shevat Shabbat dinner and seder on campus.

Israel Education

Last February, we hosted a program for a group called Pay It Forward (PIF) where a group of 25 Jewish women do an activity every month to learn about different community organizations to raise awareness and raise money. The leader of PIF is the grandmother of one of our students. Twelve women from the group came to Hillel House to bake heart-shaped cookies. The very next day, student leaders from SCU's Jewish Student Union and Students Supporting Israel tabled on campus and sold the heartshaped cookies in support of Save a Child's Heart, an Israeli organization that provides lifesaving heart surgery for children all over the world.

In April, Hillel students, parents, and college administrators gathered at the Hillel House in observance of Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) to remember the six million men, women, and children slaughtered during the Holocaust. Our program included poems read by students, the recitation of the Shoah Kaddish, and a special presentation by Holocaust survivor Herbert Barasch. We were also privileged to view an exhibit from the California Holocaust Awareness and Action Interactive Museum.

To celebrate Yom Ha'Atzmaut we tabled at several campuses and at the Israel@75 Festival. We featured





four stations on our campuses with activities that highlighted:

The Wonders of Israel: We gave bath salt from the Dead Sea and explained its uniqueness.

Israeli Food: We gave Israeli snacks and provided information about Israeli cuisine, history, and fun facts.

The Richness in Cultures in Israel: We had a Henna artist on campus to offer tattoos to students (Jewish Moroccan and Yemenite Jewish tradition). We distributed handouts with information about other cultural traditions and facts about the Israeli population.

Israel's Creative Nation: We gave printed

information about Israel as a start-up nation, and the students made creative T-shirts with Hebrew words and symbols.

Just like the Jewish Learning Fellowship, our Israel Learning Fellowship has become one of our annual signature programs. There were twelve students in last year's cohort to learn about the history of Zionism, Israel, how to combat myths about Israel, and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

To commemorate Kristallnacht, we offered a Lunch and Learn with SJSU English Professor Dr. Linda Landau who described the key

th salt ts uniqueand cuisine,

We had a ttoos to menite andouts tral tradipulation.

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events leading to Kristallnacht and the Holocaust. She also helped students understand Israel's history and how the status of the Palestinian people led to the Hamas massacre and Israel's war in Gaza.

Our Israel Fellow led a group of students to a day-long conference at the Israeli Consulate in San Francisco. Alongside student leaders from Stanford, Berkeley, Davis, and Santa Cruz, they engaged in meaningful discussions about the current events in Israel, the growing challenge of antisemitism on campuses, hate crimes, and strategies to advocate for themselves. Witnessing the collective commitment to stand up for Israel and the Jewish community was truly inspiring!

We launched an Israeli Cooking Club. At different sessions, participants learned to cook Israeli favorites such as bourekas, shakshuka, risotto ptitim, and chicken schnitzel while learning about Israeli cuisine and culture.

At the beginning of the semester, we wanted to highlight the importance of promoting wellness. Our students gathered for yoga with a professional instructor and drank boba tea. After the Israeli yoga practice, the instructor explained to the students about yoga in Israel, followed by listening to Israeli music.

In addition, our Israel Fellow led an educational session called Israel 101 to present background on Israel's geography, people, and challenges. Together with the student club leadership, our staff mobilized students for letter

writing to legislators about the importance of supporting Israel at this difficult time.

We also offered a program called "Memory through a Recipe." Our Israel Fellow recounted the horrible murder of two sisters and their mom in a terror attack in the Jordan Valley. To remember them, the students baked brownies utilizing the recipe of Maya, the older daughter (who had been murdered). They took a picture with the brownies and Israel flag and sent it to the family to tell them that we remember and care.

Community Building and **Social Programs**

It was just one year ago that our extended community joined virtually and at various watch parties for L'Dor V'Dor 2023. We had guests from the Bay Area and throughout the country. We honored our Executive Director Sarita Bronstein for over 10 years of service. We presented Hillel of Silicon Valley's newest highlight video, "Let's Give 'Em Hillel to Talk About," featuring photos and clips of our students enjoying the diverse and vibrant programming.

To celebrate Purim, we dressed in our suits and fancy dresses

at our first ever Purim Masquerade Ball held at Santa Clara University co-sponsored by Jewish Student Union at Santa Clara University, Hillel of Silicon Valley, and SCU's Campus Ministry. Besides dinner and dancing, students made their own masks and had the opportunity to make *mishloach manot* gift bags to give to their friends so that they could fulfill the mitzvah.

At the end of the 2022-23 academic year, our students were invited to come to the Hillel House to study for final exams and to enjoy a cozy Lag Ba'Omer bonfire and make s'mores.

Students gathered to watch the Jewish Film Festival favorite *Paris Boutique* which received many nominations for the Israeli Academy Awards.

We also had two evenings where we sang and made s'mores around a bonfire in Hillel's backyard. Several of our students went to the San Jose Earthquakes game for their Jewish Heritage Night. They were invited to join with other Jewish groups to carry the team flag into the stadium.





Challenges

We are finding it increasingly difficult to host events on campus as many of the clubs with which we share areas of interest will not work with groups that they view as pro-Zionist. In addition, faculty are unresponsive and

resistant to host our speakers or our events in their classrooms. This presents a real challenge in being able to present a balanced point of view or counter anti-Israel rhetoric.

Students and faculty who speak out for the Jewish student community on our campuses get bullied and "canceled." Not many people have the courage to stand up against antisemitism and anti-Israel campaigns, and when they do, organized efforts against them are launched. This is a deterrent for others to also speak up when they see injustice against the Jewish community on our campuses and discourages people from wanting to collaborate with our clubs.

While the antagonists on our campuses have plenty of resources

because they are well-funded, to conduct their hateful campaigns against us, we are continuously in need of funding to counter the hate and provide activities for our students.







Mazel Toy to our honorees!

With gratitude and admiration for your passionate dedication and inspiration to our community.

Yasher Koach and Kol HaKavod.

May you go from strength to strength!

-Rita Jacobson

Am Yisrael Chai!

In the name of our fallen, our hostages, our soldiers and citizens of Israel.

Dennis & Daphne Teifeld

Mazel Tov to the honorees! You are an inspiration to us.

Thank you to the Hillel staff, volunteers, and donors for supporting our students which strengthens our Jewish community.

Barbara and Dan Illowsky

Mazel tov to Lily and may Hillel go from strength to strength.

Stephen Schleimer & Cindy Sherman

Am Yisrael Chai!



Alazel Tov to
Dr. Tabia Lee,
Gane Gacobson,
Alagnus Herrlin and
Lily Guggenheim.

Thank you for all you do
for our Hillel.
You are an inspiration
to all of us!

Cookie Addison

Am Yisrael Chail



Mazel tov Jane!

Scott Budman and Jenny Green

Mazel Tov Jane Jacobson,
We Love & Honor All You've Done

Jo Budman

Mazal Tov Jane and Lily

Martin and Sheryl Rattner

Mazal Tov Lee!

From your colleagues at JIIV *

Mazal Tov Jane & Lily!
Your honors are well deserved. *Emily & Howard Gannes*

In memory of my brave grandmother Clara Anderman. ☼
Julia Lutch

Magnus, Be strong and courageous!

District Attorney Jeffrey F. Rosen

Kol HaKvod: Jane Jacobson, Magnus, Lily!

Michal Strutin, Michael Sinensky

Jane, Mazel Tov!

The Canastaers:

Carol, Dorothy, Jean, Mary Ann, Sylvia

Mazel Tov for the outstanding accomplishments!

Jim Nessi

Hillel Silicon Valley
Students, Staff & Volunteers
You're EXTRAORDINARY!

Barbara & Morey

Congratulations Jane on the well deserved honor.

Rabbi David and Shelley Kunin

Thank you!

...Hillel of Silicon Valley for your service to our youth.

May you continue to go from strength to strength.

Deborah Davis

Thank you to all of the Hillel staff, volunteers, and donors for strengthening our Dewish community

Robin Sabes

Am Yisrael Chai!

Mazal tov and congratulations to our L'dor V'dor honorees Dr Tabia Lee and Jane Jacobson.

Congratulations to our student honorees
Lily and Magnus.
We are proud of your accomplishments and wish you success in your educational life and vocation.

Special thanks to our Executive Director Sarita and the staff of Hillel of Silicon Valley for their tireless work.

Anita and Gabi Margittai



To our deserving honorees: מזל טוב

To our incredible Hillel staff: תודה רבה

In time of need, our Hillel came through. We thank God for HSV.

עם ישראל חי

Dan Pitt & Claudia Bloom



Thank you to keynote speaker, Lana Melman, for her tireless fight against antisemitism and BDS.

Thank you as well to Sarita Bronstein and our four honorees, Dr. Tabia Lee, Jane Jacobson, Magnus Herrlin, and Lily Guggenheim, who continue to fight for the Jewish students on the college campuses represented by Hillel of Silicon Valley.

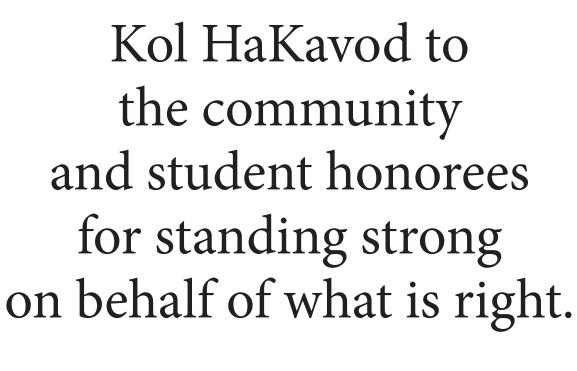


The Young family sends our heartfelt thank you to Sarita and the staff of Hillel, the awardees, and all the students who comprise the Hillel community.

It seems you have been challenged like never before and yet continue making a difference every day for all Jewish students.

Thank you for bringing a light to our community.

Jeff, Anna, Eli, and Abby Young



Chuck and Barbara Taubman

Thank you Sarita
and your hardworking staff
for providing a meaningful
Jewish experience for
students on campus.

- Irwin and Sharon Kasser



Today and always we are proud to support the ongoing work of Hillel of Silicon Valley.

Mazel Tov to this year's honorees on their courageous and dedicated efforts in support of a stronger Jewish community.

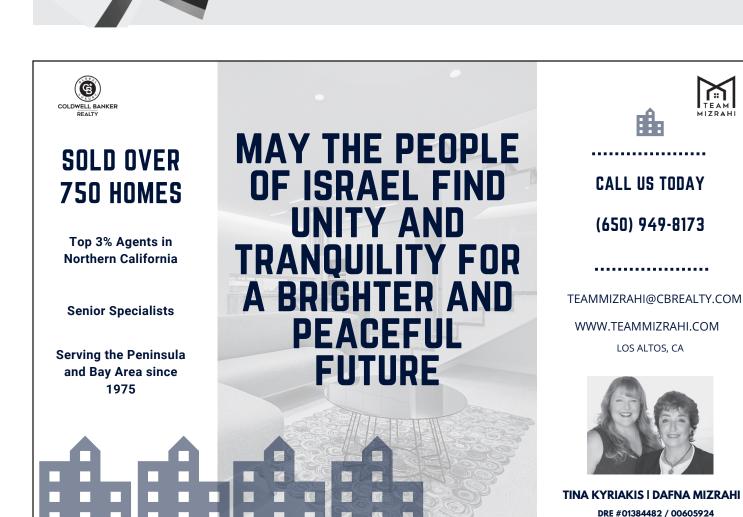


jvalley.org

Congratulations Jane for your dedication in making Shabbat dinners a welcoming experience for our Hillel students.



Phil Bernstein, Seema Cicerone, Asher & Josephine Engler, Vivian Golub, Jack & Marilyn Goodman, Arye & Barb Green, Nurit Jacobs, Sarah Joelson, Lydia Polidi, Neil & Phyllis Newman, Arieh & Rama Strod, George Steres & Cheryl Zatkin-Steres, and Marty & Sheila Weisberg



A BIG thank you to Sarita and the honorees for all your efforts on behalf of our Hillel community!

- Lee Gavens

Todah Rabah to Dr. Tabia Lee and Jane Jacobson for your contributions, leadership, and dedication to our community and to Hillel of Silicon Valley.

Yasher Koach Magnus Herrlin and

Yasher Koach Magnus Herrlin and
Lily Guggenheim, as our 2024 student honorees.
All of us are so proud of your accomplishments
and wish you continuing success in your
future plans!

May you all go from strength to strength.

Bonnie Slavitt

Mazel Tov!

Mazel Tov and congratulations to Jane Jacobson and Dr. Tabia Lee, for your contributions, leadership and inspiration to our community and to Hillel of Silicon Valley.

Thank you to Sarita and HSV staff for guiding our students and providing a stimulating, supportive and educational programs at Hillel.

To Magnus Herrlin and Lily Guggenheim, we are proud of your accomplishments and wish you continuing success in your educational life and vocation.

Kay Fireman



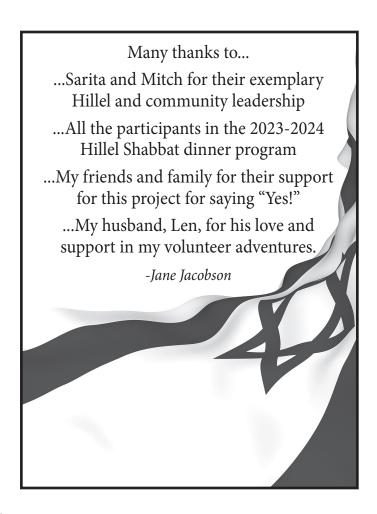
We are proud to join in honoring our mother and grandmother, Jane Jacobson, for her great contributions to Hillel of Silicon Valley.

Love, Tabitha, Dan, Eva, Sophie, Shari, Dave, Nick, and Catie Jacobson



Thank you Jane, Lily, and all of the honorees for all you do for Jewish life at the HSV campuses.

Sue and Ron Maltiel



Bravo!

A salute to the students of Hillel Silicon Valley for their bravery and commitment!



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Thank you
Hillel of Silicon Valley
for your service
to our youth.
May you continue
to go
from strength to
strength.

DAVID & BARBARA COHEN
Family Foundation

Mazel Tov and congratulations to Dr. Tabia Lee and Jane Jacobson for your contributions, leadership and inspiration to our community and to Hillel of Silicon Valley.

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To our student honorees, Magnus Herrlin and Lily Guggenheim, we are proud of your accomplishments and wish you continuing success in your educational life and vocation.

Helaine and Steve Green

Thank you to all of the Hillel staff, volunteers and donors for strengthening our Jewish community

Elana and Jason Feinsmith

Jane and Lily, You two represent the best of humanity!

Judy Levin



Sarita, with appreciation for 11 years of phenomenal HillelSV leadership.

Ann & Joseph Sorger







Temple Emanu-El would like to honor Dr. Tabia Lee, and former Executive Director at Temple Emanu-El, Jane Jacobson for their dedication & support of Hillel of Silicon Valley.

We would like to also recognize students Magnus Herrlin & Lily Guggenheim for the inspiration and hope they provide for future generations. Mazel Tov to the honorees on your well-deserved recognition!

I am deeply grateful for the Hillel SV team, board, and community.

Sarita Bronstein





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Richard & Eleanor Rusnak

