

Cedar Sinai Park benefit raises more than \$500K



Cedar Sinai Park's virtual benefit emcees Jennifer Felberg and Dale Johannes shared what makes the nonprofit so special to the Jewish community.

Skits in Marcy's Bar and residents sharing stories of what makes Cedar Sinai Park so special provided an evening full of fun and laughs at the nonprofit senior living community's annual benefit on May 12.

"The expression of love was truly moving," says CEO Kimberly Fuson. "Watching our community come together was inspiring."

Board Member Felicia Rosenthal agrees: "The benefit show was so genuine, and the heart was so apparent that you knew this was a community."

Presenting sponsors included Jordan Schnitzer, Ralph and Sandi Miller, and Marcy Tonkin. Tonkin is the namesake and benefactor of Marcy's Bar, located in Rose Schnitzer Manor.

"A very special thank you goes to Marcy," says Fuson. "At the end of the evening, Marcy generously gifted us even more than she already had to close the gap toward our \$500,000 goal."

The nonprofit [Cedar Sinai Park](https://cedarsinainpark.org) provides residential and community-based care to elders and adults with special needs, allowing them to live with comfort, independence and dignity in an environment based on Jewish values.

"While we are thrilled to have met our goal for the benefit, the needs of Cedar Sinai Park are ongoing," says Fuson. "Every dollar helps us to serve our residents in the manner they deserve so completely: with love, honor and respect."

You can still donate to support Cedar Sinai Park residents at cedarsinainpark.kindful.com/.

You can also still catch the show at avstream.me/marcysbar.

Maayan Torah Day School receives federal grant

In late April, Maayan learned it was one of just 16 schools in Oregon receiving a grant from the American Rescue Plan's Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools program. ARP EANS is a federal grant to address the impact that Covid-19 has had, and continues to have, on non-public school students and teachers. It is intended for private schools with a high percentage of low-income students.

Maayan will receive a little over \$210,000 in student supports for Covid learning loss.

"Together with the first round of CRSSA EANS, our EANS allocation has brought close to \$300,000 of student supports to Maayan," says Maayan Principal Rabbi Yerachmiel Kalter. "This is huge, as a small school like ours with a high percentage of students on scholarships has very limited means to pay for specialists and student support personnel."

The school used the first round of funds to improve curriculum, buy some tech and expand personnel in the resource room. "Next year, we plan to do pretty much the same with the funding with an even larger emphasis on the resource room/support personnel," says Rabbi Kalter.

"With the extra supports we were able to put in place this year, we saw our reading comprehension scores go from 65 percent at or above grade level to 82 percent," he says.



Sips & Sweets attendees give a standing ovation to event honorees Leslie (z"l) and Eva Aigner (left). Photos by Ken Klein.

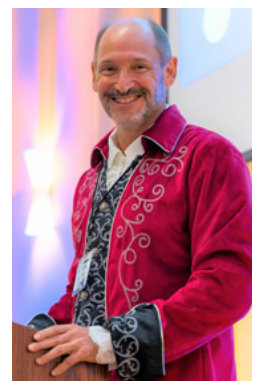
Sweet for so many reasons

On May 19, Jewish Family & Child Service held its annual fundraiser, Sips & Sweets, at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center.

The evening of wine and desserts drew 180 in-person attendees – and more than 100 who watched the Livestream from home. The event featured honorees Leslie (z"l) and Eva Aigner, Holocaust survivors from Hungary, as well as Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici and Lisa Schroeder, chef and owner of Mothers Bistro & Bar.

The evening ended with a surprise twist: Ben Sandler, education director at Congregation Beth Israel, closed out the event with a wild, shofar-blowing unicycle ride into the Stern Ballroom to help kick off JFCS' 75th year. A celebration of its 75th year of providing stability and hope to the Jewish and greater Portland communities takes place throughout the next year, culminating in a gala in May 2023.

Thanks to JFCS' generous event sponsors, matching grants from Martha Soltesz and Bob and Rita Philip and dig-deep giving by in-person and online attendees, JFCS exceeded its fundraising goal.



JFCS board president Larry Holzman donned fancy attire to emcee Sips & Sweets with event chair Elana Stampfer Emlen.