



# JOSEPH AND HARVEY MEYERHOFF FAMILY CHARITABLE FUNDS

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## MESSAGE FROM TERRY

Spring is fully upon us, but the non-profit and foundation world is still struggling with reduced funds and increased needs. We are still learning of layoffs and reductions from even the most seasoned among us. For those of us who still have funds to give away, it makes us more cautious and thoughtful. Every dollar counts. Every meeting matters. We wonder with our reduced funds, where can we make the most difference.

This newsletter highlights some of our new gifts to local Jewish agencies which are a direct response to the economy. Our career center at MICA officially moved to its new home in the Gateway Center. We are forever grateful to the

huge contributions made by MICA students in our community but also mindful that they need work when they graduate. This year's career fair attracted 500 students and 48 employers; the largest ever! Employers were wowed by some of the talent they saw. Some never knew what MICA had to offer! This fair was funded by an additional grant we made this year to support our career center at MICA as part of our strategy to bolster the institutions that we have funded in the past and to support the middle class by helping these well educated students and hoping that they remain in Baltimore.

The Maryland Film Festival has just concluded. By content alone, it was easily the

most successful festival held in Baltimore ever and one that we gladly have supported for 4 years now. Again, a project that provides interesting and affordable entertainment and cultural variety in our city that can be used by middle income citizens.

We have made a new six figure gift to the Enoch Pratt Free Library to support the central branch computer center and another contribution to the BMA for general operating support and to help fund the free attendance. We are hopeful that the investment environment will continue to show signs of improvement so that we can more fully serve our community.

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## NEW JOB FOR LAURA CUTLER

Kudos to our cousin, Laura Katz Cutler on her new job as Deputy Director of American University's Center for Israel Studies. AU is a nationally known pioneer and leader in the growing academic field of Israel Studies, having created the country's first undergraduate minor in Israel Studies and hosted the first visiting professor in Israel Studies. Through its unique location and interdisciplinary approach, CIS exists to present the creative and intellectual contributions of modern Israel in the arts, sciences, social sciences and humanities. We look forward to hearing from Laura about many more exciting programs to come!



*Laura, with her new boss, Professor Russell Stone, Director of the Center for Israel Studies on AU's campus*

## FAMILY NEWS



*Lee teaches Jewish learning session for foundation execs at the Weinberg Foundation offices*



*Somebody turned the big 6-0!*



*Aunt Ellie at the Herbert D. Katz Memorial lecture in Miami, FL with speaker Beth Wenger*

## FUNDS NEWS

### INTERFAITH STUDY GROUP

For four weeks in March and April, the ICJS with ABAG, the ASSOCIATED and Associated Black Charities sponsored an interfaith study group for funders from differing faith traditions. Terry attended 3 of the 4 sessions and found the experience very enriching. Lee, co-chairman of ICJS played a significant role in organizing the sessions and provided thought provoking summations after each meeting. The group is considering presenting these sessions again.

### JEWISH FEDERATION LEADERS RAISE ISSUES WITH TOP POLITICAL LEADERS

During a two-day mission to Washington, D.C., Terry joined top national federation leaders from across the country to advocate on key domestic and foreign policy issues to government leaders.

UJC/Jewish Federations of North America hosted a two-day summit for a select group of top UJC and federation leaders. Summit participants met with White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel,

Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), Majority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives Steny Hoyer (D-MD), and more than two dozen other U.S. Senators and Representatives from both political parties. The participants also discussed key geopolitical issues with Andrew Shapiro, Senior Advisor to U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, and

Israeli Ambassador to the United States Sallai Meridor.



*Terry and summit participants with Sallai Meridor*

## GRANT NEWS

### THE ISRAEL PROJECT

Since its beginning, the family funds have supported The Israel Project founded by Jennifer Laszlo Mizrahi. TIP now reaches 76,000 reporters in 53 countries via its internet messages, timely releases and press briefings. TIP has offices

in Jerusalem, Sderot and Washington D.C. and now works in English, French, German, Spanish, Russian and Arabic. TIP puts a democratic face on Israel and constantly reminds the world, that Israel is the only country in the

Middle East where Muslims, Jews and Christians have freedom of speech, freedom of religion and the right to vote.

To learn more visit:

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

### KICKIN IT WITH THE RENTS

We are pleased to sponsor the Kickin' It with the Rents (Kickin' It) program at Center Stage this year. The Kickin' It program is held approximately six times a year in conjunction with Center Stage's theatre productions. For \$8 per person, a family can attend the theatre production and have dinner beforehand with the play's cast and crew. Dinner also offers an

opportunity for guests to interact with the performers and ask questions. This is an affordable option for Baltimore families to experience the arts. The 2009-10 series begins this fall. We encourage you to visit [www.centerstage.org](http://www.centerstage.org) for more information and hope you can take advantage of this wonderful program.

### MICA CAREER CENTER

For many years, the family has funded the Joseph Meyerhoff Center for Career Development at MICA (Maryland Institute College of Art). The Gateway, a new residential and theatre tower on campus now houses the Center. Not only is the space fantastic, but the visibility it gives the Center has changed dramatically. This year our family also sponsored an employee relations coordinator to manage a career fair

and develop better relationships with regional businesses. Held April 3, over 500 students attended and 48 employers were represented. Both groups were extremely enthusiastic about the event and we are waiting to hear just how many jobs and internships will result.



*The MICA Career Fair in full swing*

### JEWISH COMMUNITY SERVICES UPDATE

Our Jewish tradition requires that we take care of the poor and those in need; this economy has put tremendous strain on our Jewish agencies in Baltimore. The family recently made a \$50,000 grant to Jewish Community Services to fund a job development position and a \$100,000 grant to the Jewish Community Center since so many families have had to cut their memberships or need financial help to continue sending their children to the early childhood programs.

## ARTS EVERY DAY UPDATE

We are pleased that we have been able to fund the Principals' Progressive Visit for Arts Every Day. The visit, which will be a city schools professional development day, will give principals and vice principals the opportunity to experience the educational value of cultural institutions by experiencing them directly. Each Administrator will spend 45 minutes at each of the cultural institutions.

The participants will travel on school buses and receive a tour of the City's cultural and arts institutions guided by representatives from the Greater Baltimore Historical Alliance and the Maryland Historical Society.

To learn more about Arts Every Day and their programs, visit: [www.artseveryday.org](http://www.artseveryday.org)

## DOWNTOWN BALTIMORE FAMILY ALLIANCE

We are pleased to announce our latest grant to the Downtown Baltimore Family Alliance. This grant will allow the DBFA to hire a new part-time Executive Director to help lead the group to become a major player advocating issues for Baltimore's middle class families.

For more information on the Downtown Baltimore Family Alliance visit their website: [www.dbfam.org](http://www.dbfam.org)

## A WORD OF THANKS

Dad has season tickets for the Orioles, but despite being a big fan of the team, cannot attend all the games. He makes the tickets available to office staff, and also donates a number of tickets to two organizations, one of which is the Oncology program at Johns Hopkins Hospital. The tickets are then used by patients and their

families so that they may enjoy an outing at Camden Yards. The recipients have often responded that this provides a welcome break from the daily hospital routine for treatment. The thank you letter below illustrates how the seemingly "little things" can make a big difference to someone.

*"It is with great appreciation that we write to thank you for the*

*tickets to the Orioles play the Yankees and Tampa Bay. Such a nice change from the many tests and doctor's visits. A real treat, great weather, a terrific stadium the parking spot made it so easy for us—our big concern about walking any long distances was solved! You are very kind and generous!"*