

# COMMUNITY CHEST



## An Evening with Sinai

Skylines, Sinai Academy's 12th Annual Chinese Auction, will take place on Mossei Shabbat January 31st at Ateres Chynka, 129 Elmwood Avenue in Brooklyn. The doors will open at 8:00 pm to an exciting, fun-filled evening with loads of spectacular prizes. Special guest appearances will be made by renowned mentalist and illusionist David Blatt and singing sensation Yosef Chaim.

Sinai Academy serves students with little or no Jewish background but with a sincere desire for knowledge. Participants who support Sinai's Auction help fulfill the dreams of the students of Sinai to become full members of the Jewish people.

## Mitzvah Heroes Keep the Tradition

Following the announcement that Danny Siegel's Ziv Tzedakah fund was closing in January, 2009 after 27 years of charitable work, three students of Siegel and his work decided to pick up the torch with the Mitzvah Hero Fund.

Entrepreneur Bill Begal joined Steve Kerbel – formerly an attorney and now a Jewish educator – and Mary Meyerson, an educational consultant, to continue supporting many of the causes that were assisted by Ziv Tzedakah, and to undertake several new initiatives. Examples include gift cards mailed to Holocaust Survivors, rent assistance to a local family experiencing financial hardship, and aid to an uninsured synagogue damaged by Hurricane Ike in Galveston, Texas.

The organization's work is performed by volunteers, thus reducing overhead costs and allowing more money to support the valuable programs that have been carefully screened and identified as worthy causes.

Both Bill and Steve have made separate trips (privately funded) to Israel this year to personally hand out funds and interface with many of the Israel-based Mitzvah Heroes. For more information or questions, please contact [info@mhfund.org](mailto:info@mhfund.org) or visit [www.mitzvahheroesfund.org](http://www.mitzvahheroesfund.org)



Bill Begal and S



Bill Begal with Moshe Kot of Lev Ramot

## Community Member Awarded



A wonderful evening to benefit the Israel Cancer Research Fund (ICRF) was held at the the St. Regis Hotel last month. Three hundred guests gathered to pay tribute to Sadie Jemal-Meyers, a real estate broker and a member of the local Sephardic community; Dr. Stanley Rosenfeld, a clinical diagnostic radiologist, and Eve Wald, an ICRF trustee and chairperson emeritus. Professor Joel Yisraeli, an ICRF Project Grant Recipient was a special guest speaker. Benjamin Brafman served as master of ceremonies and gala chairpersons included Harry and Alice Adjmi, Charles and Ariela Ben Dayan, Gloria Kaylie, Dr. Alfred Rosenbaum, Alisa Sorkin and Neil and Sarah Soss.

Dr. Yashar Hirshaut, a leading breast oncologist and chairman of ICRF, reminded the guests that this year 61 scientists received grants of \$2.1 million to uncover the mysterious architecture of the cell. "We stand for saving lives. We stand for relieving suffering. Now the blows of the financial crisis have struck. What do we do? The answer is here tonight with our special guests and with each and every one of you." President Harriet Elisofon concluded the evening acknowledging the many successes of ICRF's past and present grant awardees who include winners of the Nobel Prize, Wolf Prize and Israel Prize. "It is our belief that the efforts of our scientists will continue to benefit Israel and all mankind," Elisofon said.

Since its inception in 1975, ICRF has supported and encouraged innovative research by Israeli scientists and has been the largest single source of private funds for cancer research in Israel. ICRF has awarded 1689 grants valued at almost \$37 million to leading Israeli doctors and scientists engaged in cutting edge basic research. Contact ICRF at 212-969-9800, or visit [www.icrfonline.org](http://www.icrfonline.org).

## History in the Making

Preserving your family history is one of the most meaningful things you can do for your children. Legacies will be conducting free workshops in the NY and NJ area at the end of January on the why's and how's of preserving your history. Learn of the importance and explore the different ways in which this can be done. To schedule a workshop for your shul or school, please contact Legacies at 1-877-8 LEGACIES