

Center for  
DESIGNED  
PHILANTHROPY®



# DESIGN & IMPACT NEWS

## More Than a Decade of Cutting Edge Grants & Inaugural Next Stage Grants

In our Los Angeles Jewish community, there are countless examples of kindness and *tikun olam*. There is also tremendous need for support for seniors, including many Holocaust survivors and immigrants, individuals with special needs, children, and young people who are forging their own Jewish identity in today's dramatically different world of mobile phones and social media. The Foundation created the Cutting Edge Grants initiative in 2006 to support programs with the potential for transformative impact on these and other critical needs in our community. In this issue of *Design & Impact News*, we reflect on this decade-plus of Cutting Edge Grants, introduce the recipients of our inaugural Next Stage Grants, and highlight some of our grantees whom we honored at a Cutting Edge Grantees' event, *Your Time to Shine*, in early May.



VOL. 6 NO. 1 • SUMMER 2017

THE FOUNDATION  
JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
LOS ANGELES

# Cutting Edge Grants: A Decade-Plus of Community Impact

The Foundation's Cutting Edge Grants initiative was created in 2006 to fund new and innovative programs that address critical needs in the Los Angeles Jewish community. Since then, we have awarded more than \$17 million in Cutting Edge Grants to nearly 90 organizations that work with every demographic in a range of service areas. From children to seniors—through schools, synagogues, community centers and healthcare facilities—these programs have benefitted thousands of individuals.

"Over the past decade, our Cutting Edge Grants have made an enduring impact on Jewish Los Angeles," stated **Marvin Schotland**, The Foundation's president and CEO. "Our grantees continue to transform our community through their vision and innovation. We're proud of our role as a go-to source for social entrepreneurs and other innovators making a difference in the world through a wealth of programs that have taken root locally, and touched the lives of so many."

In the decade-plus since they were conceived, Cutting Edge Grants have taught us some significant lessons about grantmaking. Consider just a few:

- **Partnership is at the core of our grantmaking.**

Our relationships with Cutting Edge Grantees does not end with us merely writing the check. We become their partners along the way and learn together. Even organizations that do not receive funding come to value having an ongoing relationship with us.

- **Never discount the power of personal passion.**

The driving strength of many social entrepreneurs is passion. They truly care about the work they do and the people they help, and it's inspiring to be a part of enabling that passion to be translated into action.

- **Resist temptation to create a dichotomy between "Next Gen" and the rest of us.**

We are a major contributor to innovative programs that are serving the younger generations of our community, but we are also excited about engaging LA baby boomers and beyond in meaningful ways. Together we are helping to build a vibrant Jewish community of all ages and diverse backgrounds.

**Elana Wien**, vice president of The Foundation's **Center for Designed Philanthropy**, who oversees Foundation grantmaking, adds: "These Cutting Edge Grant recipient organizations are re-animating Jewish life in neighborhoods such as Pico-Union and Silverlake and forging inclusive pathways for those who might otherwise not find their home within Jewish life."

The Foundation is extraordinarily proud to support the vital work of our Cutting Edge Grant recipients. Looking forward, we are invested in the continued growth of our grantmaking and the lasting effect it will have on our community, *l'dor va'dor*.

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– Marvin Schotland  
President & CEO,  
Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles





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– Elana Wien  
Vice President,  
Center for Designed Philanthropy

## Next Stage Grants Launched—NEW!

In July, The Foundation launched its inaugural Next Stage Grants, a pilot **capacity building** program that invests in the strength of Jewish nonprofits in Los Angeles. These grants are a natural extension of our 10+ years awarding Cutting Edge Grants to seed new and innovative programs in the Los Angeles Jewish community. Working with four former Cutting Edge Grant recipients, Next Stage Grants will provide an unprecedented level of support to help them plan and grow through the next stage of their evolution. This new, multi-year grant program represents a significant deepening of our relationship with our grantees and the Jewish community as a whole.

The 2017 Next Stage Grant awardees are below. To learn more about all of our grantees, please visit [www.jewishfoundationla.org/grants](http://www.jewishfoundationla.org/grants).

### WHAT IS CAPACITY BUILDING?

Capacity building is a long-term investment in the strength of an organization. Through capacity building, nonprofits are better able to fulfill their mission by evaluating their work, creating strategic plans, improving infrastructure and program delivery, developing leadership skills, increasing fundraising ability, and exploring other growth initiatives.

### How will The Foundation facilitate grantee capacity building?

In addition to receiving \$250,000 in funding over 2-3 years, Next Stage Grant recipients will be given customized, professional coaching to identify organizational needs, create a strategic plan for the future, and guide them as they build the capacity of the organization.

### 2017 RECIPIENTS:

Creative Community For Peace ▪ ETTA ▪ Friendship Circle of Los Angeles  
Silverlake Independent Jewish Community Center

# Your Time to Shine: An Event

## Celebrating Our Cutting Edge Grantees

On a lovely May evening, The Foundation honored its Cutting Edge Grant recipients over the past 10+ years at the beautiful home of Foundation Trustee **Marcia Mankoff** and her husband, **Doug**. More than 100 donors and grantees representing dozens of Jewish nonprofits attended.

Foundation Chair **Bill Feiler** extended a warm welcome to the guests, while Center for Designed Philanthropy Vice President **Elana Wien** highlighted the vital role Cutting Edge Grant recipients play in our community. Keynote speaker and Foundation Trustee **Adlai Wertman** then presented on "The Challenges of Measuring Social Impact."

It was an informative, thought-provoking evening, and a wonderful opportunity for Foundation grantees to network with each other as well as with Foundation donors and staff.

"I loved this event because it was an amazing opportunity to connect with a truly inspiring group of social innovators making groundbreaking changes in our community," said **Asher Gellis**, executive director of **JQ International**, a two-time Cutting Edge Grant recipient.



"Tonight gave us a unique opportunity to interact with Foundation supporters and other community organizations, and Adlai Wertman offered great insights into measuring program effectiveness and impact, and the importance of communicating that impact to our current and prospective supporters," said **Molly Forest**, executive director of **LA Jewish Home**, a two-time Cutting Edge Grant recipient.



Rachel Andres and Jay Sanderson

**Jay Sanderson**, president and CEO of **The Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles**, stated, "For the past ten years, The Foundation has helped launch a number of innovative new Federation programs targeting many underserved populations in our community. It was very powerful to see so many of our community partners who share that relationship to The Foundation at the event, enabling us to continue dreaming and planning for the future together."



To learn more about Cutting Edge Grants, visit [www.jewishfoundationla.org/CEG](http://www.jewishfoundationla.org/CEG).



Our gracious hosts,  
Marcia & Doug Mankoff

VISIT [WWW.JEWISHFOUNDATIONLA.ORG/CENTER](http://WWW.JEWISHFOUNDATIONLA.ORG/CENTER)



RECENTLY SEEN....

1. Adlai Wertman, Dan Rothblatt, Elana Wien, Bill Feiler, and Marvin Schotland
2. Rabbi David Sorani and Steven Green
3. Jan Berlfein Burns and Katie Burns
4. Cathy Chanin, Tony Chanin, Adlai Wertman, and Doug Mankoff
5. Devorah Servi and Sandra Sternig Babcock
6. Steve Bram and Evan Schlesinger
7. Cece & Bill Feiler
8. Bill Feiler, Marvin Schotland, Marcia Mankoff, Annette Shapiro, Adlai Wertman, Tony Chanin, and Evan Schlesinger
9. Gary Freedman-Harvey, Georgia Freedman-Harvey, Melinda Altshuler, and Randi Grossman
10. Bill Kaplan and Aaron Henne

DESIGNED GIVING MADE SIMPLE.

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT

# Looking for FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES?

## Consider Supporting The Foundation's Cutting Edge Grants Programs in the L.A. Jewish Community

In 2017, The Foundation awarded \$2 million  
to eight transformative programs through  
our Cutting Edge Grants.

To see a complete list of our grantees, please  
visit [www.jewishfoundationla.org/grants](http://www.jewishfoundationla.org/grants), or  
call us at (323) 761-8715.

The **Center for Designed Philanthropy** provides the  
resources, expertise, and connections to design thoughtful  
giving strategies tailored to your needs.

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Chair

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**Marvin I. Schotland**  
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Editor: Elizabeth Austin

Design: Maxine Mueller

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 Printed with vegetable-based inks on recycled paper/30% post-consumer recovered fiber.