

Millstone INSTITUTE

STRENGTHENING JEWISH LEADERSHIP IN ST. LOUIS

2012 Millstone Fellows



Hilary Cedergreen is interested in community engagement and action, including families with school aged children. She is an active board member of the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC). Through JCRC Hilary organized St. Louis' first Children's Hunger Seder and also chaired the collections of winter outerwear and books for people in need. Hilary participated in the 2011 Jewish Federation Rubin Mission and attended the Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA) Plenum in 2010.

Hilary is a graduate of University of Missouri with a B.A. in English Literature and formerly worked in a family retail business. She and her husband, Jake Cedergreen, V.P. at Express Scripts, have 3 children, ages 11, 9 and 6. They are members of Congregation Shaare Emeth.



Jason Cohen is interested in policy issues and government and issues related to Israel. He participated in the 2011 Rubin Israel Experience. Jason has over 15 years of experience in managing and executing some of the nation's premier national public affairs efforts as a principal in Dewey Square Group (DSG). Jason's clients have included Microsoft, General Motors, Boeing, Anheuser Busch, and AT&T. Prior to DSG, Jason managed direct mail for congressional candidates and served as an

account manager for Voter.com, where he managed customer service for political clients. He has worked on a number of local and national political campaigns, including two presidential campaigns. A 2006 graduate of Leadership Chesterfield, Jason is the Co-Founder of the Stephen J. Morris Scholarship Foundation and serves on the Board of Directors of Live Feed. Jason has a B.S. in Public Affairs from University of Indiana and is married to Jami, a former teacher and member of the Board of Directors of the Friends of Wings program at BJC. They have 2 daughters, ages 4 and 6.



J.J. Flotken is interested in Jewish Life in St. Louis and serving the needs of current and future generations. He currently serves on the Board of Trustees of the Jewish Federation, is a Past President of Jewish Federation's Young Professionals Division, and is a 2009 recipient of the Grosberg Young Leadership Award. J.J. is a Partner at Caravus, an Employee Benefits consulting firm. He participated in the American Jewish Committee's Leadership Program and the Clayton Chamber of Commerce *Leadership*

Clayton Class. J.J. has volunteered with the City of Clayton, CollegeBound, Clayton Century Foundation, Big Brothers/Big Sisters and Zeta Beta Tau. He is a Founder and Member of Sons of Bosses in St. Louis. A graduate of the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University,

he is married to Angela and they have two daughters, Taylor (4) and Morgan (2). They are members of United Hebrew Congregation.



Phil Frischer *is interested in community, leadership, and consensus building.* He has been a board member of the JCC and committee chair of the JCC Youth Department, Early Childhood Department and Tour de Fun, the first year that it surpassed 3,000 participants. Phil has also served on the board of Jewish Family & Children's Service (JF&CS) and Jewish Federation Young Professionals Division (YPD). Phil is a Senior Vice President, Director of Client Management at Lockton Companies and is a Certified Employee Benefits Specialist (CEBS) and ISCEBS Fellow. He previously worked at Aetna and Willis. Phil grew up in Kansas City. He has served as a youth coach for football, baseball and soccer and has been active in the United Way Campaign. Phil has a BSBA from Drake University where he was chairman of the Drake Relays. Phil and his wife, Helene, an attorney, have 2 children, 14 and 11 and are members of United Hebrew Congregation.



Josh Goldman *is interested in forming a national network of Jewish leaders interested in justice and change.* Josh was one of 25 recipients of the 2011 "Inspiring St. Louisan" award by the NAACP as a champion for literacy. Josh developed "Succeeding with Reading" which targets low income children who struggle with literacy. He first implemented the program at ACCESS Academies, preparing 5th and 6th graders for reading success at 6 local faith based middle schools. Josh is currently Project Manager for Education and Learning Initiatives at Urban Strategies and has taken "Succeeding with Reading" nationally. He is a graduate of St. Louis University and has a M.A. in Education from Vanderbilt and MSW from the Brown School of Social Work, Washington University. A member of Central Reform Congregation, Josh and his wife, Sarah, a Licensed Social Worker and School-Based Mental Health Specialist. They have a 2 year old daughter.



Lexie Goldsmith *is interested in inspiring others to increase involvement in Jewish life.* Lexie is a member of the United Hebrew Congregation Board of Trustees, is the current Chair of the UH Communications Committee and recently served as Co-Chair of Adult Education. Lexie has coordinated Marketing and Publicity for several congregational events and was named the 2011 recipient of United Hebrew's annual Irene Fox Ruach Award. Lexie also served as the Treasurer/Administrator for the Parkway North High School Hockey Club and was a PTO officer at Bellerive Elementary. Lexie grew up in Minneapolis, has a B.S. from Drake, and formerly worked in Chicago. She has a background in advertising and currently works as a freelance advertising media specialist. She and her husband, Steve, a branch manager for a large medical rehabilitation supply company have two sons, ages 20 and 18.



Lindsey Greenberg Linzer *is interested in community service, nonprofit management, and Jewish life.* Lindsey has a B.A. from Goizueta Business School at Emory University and an MBA from Columbia Business School in New York. While at Columbia, Lindsey was the Vice-President of the Nonprofit Board Leadership Program, a program that paired business school students with leading NYC nonprofit boards. Lindsey is the Program and Information Manager at the Gateway Center of Giving. She also worked with Sustainable St. Louis. This past year Lindsey was a volunteer on the Youth Development Allocations Panel with the United Way, currently sits on the Junior board of COCA, and is a participant in the Anti Defamation League's (ADL) current Glass Leadership Institute. Lindsey grew up in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, and had the opportunity to experience both March of the Living ('00) and Birthright Israel ('07). She came to St. Louis to join her husband, Ross Linzer, a lawyer with Thompson Coburn LLP.



Brad Gross *is interested in engaging the next generation of leaders and issues of Jews around the world.* Brad is a member of the Jewish Federation of North America National Young Leadership Cabinet, a recipient of the Jewish Federation Grosberg Young Leadership Award, a member of the Jewish Federation's Major Gifts Integration Team, past co-chair of the Ben Gurion Society, and a former member of the YPD board. Brad has been on several trips and extended stays in Israel and journeys throughout the world. Brad is a Project manager at Gross Mechanical Contractors, Inc. He received a BSME from Johns Hopkins. Brad was recently married to Sarah Kovenock, an attorney.



Rabbi Levi Landa *is interested in engaging children and young families and bringing together Jews from across the entire spectrum of our community in a proud celebration of Jewish life.* Director of Programming for Chabad of Greater St. Louis, Levi studied at Yeshivas in France, Israel and Great Britain before attending the Rabbinical College of America where he received his Ordination from the former Chief Rabbi of Israel, Rabbi Mordechai Eliyahu. Levi has taught and lectured for various local synagogues and organizations and has presented workshops at four local day schools as well as congregational religious schools and pre-schools. Having lived overseas for six year, Levi moved back to St. Louis with his wife, Rivkah, and they are the proud parents of three children.



Jim Levey *is interested in children, young families and social justice issues.* He is a former board member of the Jewish Federation's Young Professionals Division (YPD) Board and Temple Emanuel. Jim was the Chair of the Rubin Israel Experience in 2008. He is currently a corporate attorney at Graybar Electric Company, Inc. He previously spent 13 years at a large international law firm in downtown St. Louis practicing securities law and developing start-up company clients. He has a B.A./B.S. from the

University of Pennsylvania and a J.D. from Duke Law School. Jim is married to Jackie, Director of St. Louis Hillel, and they are the parents of Asher who is 2.



Rachel Lubchansky is interested in helping people in need and strengthening understanding and sense of openness across perceived boundaries. She is currently the social chair at Young Israel and in 2007 she co-founded the Barbara Mendelson Tomchei Shabbos Fund, which provides food to Shabbos-observant families during their time of need. Rachel works part-time for Milk Nursingwear, where she handles customer relations and marketing. Prior to motherhood, Rachel was the founder and president of Funky Frum, Inc., an e-boutique that bridges traditional notions of modesty with a modern sense of fashion. Rachel has a Bachelor's in Integrated Marketing Communication from the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT) in New York and spent the early years of her career in the New York fashion world. Rachel served on the steering committee for the 2003 Maccabi Games and was on the Executive Board of the Jewish Federation's Young Professionals Division (YPD). She and her husband, Adam, an engineer at Boeing, are the parents of 3-year-old triplets.



Steve Malter is interested in children/youth initiatives and developing the next generation of leaders. Steve currently serves on the boards of the St. Louis Hillel at Washington University and the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC). He is the recipient of JCRC's 2012 Emerging Leader Award. Steve is a member of the Millstone Institute for Jewish Leadership Advisory Committee and is a past member of the Board of Trustees for United Hebrew Congregation. Steve is an Assistant Dean for Student Development and Strategic Initiatives for the Olin Business School at Washington University. He has worked on the development of eight courses, including Business Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Israel and Venture Advising in Israel, which partners with US and Israeli students to work on consulting projects of Israeli start-ups. Steve has a B.A. and M.Ed from the University of Florida in Counselor Education focused on college administration, and a Ph.D in Educational Policy and Leadership Students from the University of Missouri, St. Louis. Steve and his wife, Felicia, a partner at Rubin Brown, have 2 daughters ages 7 and 4.



Matthew Neufeld is interested in developing sustainable collaborations, inspiring young Jewish professionals and strengthening the St. Louis region. As Managing Director of Metro Theater Company, Matthew has worked to create partnerships between arts organizations, other nonprofits, educational institutions, and for-profit companies. An active participant with Next Dor, Matthew chaired the search committee and artist search committee. Matthew is an active member of Central Reform Congregation (CRC) and is a member of the St. Louis Hispanic Leaders Group and Puerto Rican Society where he serves as a member of their scholarship committee. Matthew participated in Focus St. Louis' Leadership St. Louis Class of 2010-2011. He has a B.A. from Tisch School of the Arts at New York University (NYU) and the Artist-Manager Partnerships

Program at The Field in New York. Matthew is married to Frances Morales-Neufeld, a marketing and communications professional completing her graduate studies at Webster University.



Michael Oberlander *is interested in maximizing the community's resources to build a vibrant (and thriving) Jewish and broader St. Louis community, as well as strengthening the connections between our communities and communities in Israel.*

He currently serves as Vice Chair of Planning and Allocations for the Jewish Federation of St. Louis, Executive Committee member of The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis and Member of the St. Louis Urban Debate League Advisory Board. His past leadership roles include Vice Chair of the JCC, Board President of St. Louis Hillel at Washington University, Board member and Executive Board member of Epstein Hebrew Academy, Vice President of Young Israel Congregation, and dozens of committees and chairmanships, including the Millstone Institute for Jewish Leadership. Michael is Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary for Brown Shoe Company. Michael grew up in Chicago and has a degree in Political Science from the University of Chicago and a J.D. from Vanderbilt Law School. He and his wife, Sima, a science teacher at Ladue High School, have four children ages 8 to 16.



Rachel Pepe Zucker *is interested in dialogue about Israel, responsibilities to the elderly and engaging people in the work of the Jewish Federation.*

Rachel currently serves as the Vice President of Mass Education for Young Professionals Division (YPD). A past participant in the YPD Leadership class, Rachel participated in the 2009 Rubin Israel Experience. Rachel is the Manager of the Liberman Graduate Center at Washington University where she is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Center and works with graduate student groups to promote their leadership development. Prior to this position, she was the assistant to an Associate Dean in The Graduate School of Art & Sciences, where she helped students develop their potential as leaders while helping to strengthen the graduate student community at Wash U. Rachel is a graduate of the University of Michigan.



Ron Present *is interested in involvement in Jewish life and health care services for kids and seniors.* Ron is a Principal and Healthcare Industry Services Practice Leader with Brown Smith Wallace. Prior to joining BSW he provided strategic and business development services to Carelinc Options, Cedars at the JCA, Senior Assist, and Integrated Health Services as a consultant for Ernst and Young and other accounting firms. He currently serves as President of the Missouri Chapter of the American

College of Health Care Administrators, Board Secretary of the Missouri Health Executives Group and Finance Chair on the Board of Crystal Oaks Long Term Care. He is active at Shaare Emeth Congregation, was formerly involved with Jewish Federation Young Professionals Division (YPD) and is a past board president for the Jewish Center for the Aged

(JCA) Associates. Ron is a graduate of University of Missouri with a Bachelor's and Master's in Health Care Administration and an MBA. He is married to Barbie Barenholtz Present, a national sales rep. with ADP, and they have 2 children, ages 12 and 10.



Nicole Rainey *is interested in social and economic justice, using literature for social change, and fostering connections among diverse Jews in St. Louis.*

Nicole is presently the Grant Manager for College Bound. She formerly worked in development at Catholic Charities. Nicole established Saturdays at the Studio, a free creative writing enrichment program for over 100 elementary-aged children and will become Director of Middle School Workshops at StudioSTL. She helped establish an Artist in Residence program at Next Dor and assisted Next Dor in the successful completion of their 501(c)(3) Status application. In 2009, Nicole represented St. Louis in the National Poetry Slam. She began her career as an AmeriCorps VISTA. Nicole is a graduate of Truman State University with a B.A. in English. She is presently completing the process to become a DJ on 88.1 KDHX's literary program.



Ed Reggi *is interested in marginalized Jewish individuals and communities and the power of the story and Jewish storytelling.*

Ed is a professional actor, director and producer of live theater. He is also a filmmaker of human-interest stories and documentary films. Ed is a local advocate for marriage equality and founded both *ShowMeNoHate* and the *Marriage Equality Bus* projects. Ed currently runs Nine Network of Public Media's Digital Storytelling Department – The Nine Academy. Ed has been recognized with the Riverfront Times Web Award, ALIVE Magazine Buzz List Award, Equality Award from Human Rights Campaign, the Vital Voice ICON Award and with a regional Emmy. Ed served as the 2011 St. Louis PrideFest Grand Marshall. In 2012, he participated in the Jewish Federation Rubin Israel Experience, and is a past member of the Central Reform Congregation (CRC) Board. Ed is in demand as a celebrity emcee for numerous organizations throughout the community and is active in social media. Ed has a BFA from Fontbonne University and mastered the art of Improvisational Theater with its founder Paul Sills. Ed is married to Scott Emanuel, a social worker and advocate for LGBT youth.



Jennifer Schmitz *is interested in health care in the U.S. and Israel and Jewish life in St. Louis.*

Jenny is interested in health care, both in the U.S. and Israel, and Jewish life in St. Louis. Jenny currently serves as the President of the Board for St. Louis Chapter Hadassah. She is one of the youngest members of the Hadassah Board. Jenny comes from several generations of doctors. She was drawn to the work of Hadassah and believes in the power of medicine to heal and improve people's lives. Jenny is a Finance Leader at MasterCard Worldwide and previously worked as an Information Technology Project Manager. As a Project Manager, she managed cross-functional teams to develop revenue-generating products. Jenny grew up in the Chicago area. She studied Accounting at Emory University, earned her CPA and

received a graduate degree in Information Technology from DePaul University in Chicago. She is a member of Congregation B'nai Amoona. Jenny and her husband, Jeff, are the parents of two sons, ages 14 and 10. She is also the step-mother to two young adults.



Ian Silberman *is interested in the engagement and discussion of how to better serve the younger, next generation donors and leaders and the overall strategy and efficiencies necessary to create a stronger, more vibrant St. Louis Jewish community.* A past recipient of Jewish Federation's Grosberg Young Leadership, Ian has participated in a variety of leadership positions within the Jewish community, including past co-chair of AIPAC, member of the board of Hillel, various YPD committees and as a member

of the Jewish Community Foundation marketing committee. Currently, Ian serves on the Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation, is Co-Chair of the Ben Gurion Society and is a member of the Jewish Federations of North America National Young Leadership Cabinet. Professionally, Ian spent almost 20 years in senior leadership with a local commercial real estate development firm and joined L3 Corporation two years ago as a principal. A native of the Washington, D.C. area, Ian received his BSBA from Washington University Olin School of Business, is married to Heidi, current co-chair of Women's Connection and they have a 16-month-old daughter.



Douglas Snyder *is interested in educational opportunities and developing leadership networks within the Jewish community.* Doug participated in the 2011 Rubin Israel trip and currently serves as a Board member of Young Professionals Division (YPD). He is a member of Toastmasters International. Doug is a Coordinator with United Way Days of Caring and also is involved with the Max & Drew Erlich Volunteer Program. Doug is a CPA with DuPont. Originally from Delaware, Doug and his wife Rebecca, a Pre-school

teacher at the JCC, recently moved to St. Louis. He has a B.S. from the University of Delaware and will be receiving an MBA from Washington University in 2013.



Lina Dreyfus Wallace *is interested in young families and community issues.* She is originally from Chicago and moved to St. Louis last year. Lina is the Director of Client Success for the HireTrue Platform of Kiosite LLC. She has a background in Human Resources and Talent Management and has worked in senior managerial positions for such diverse organizations as The Community Builders, Inc., Steinberg Advisors, Ltd., and Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life in Washington D.C. As an HR

Consultant, Lina worked with private businesses to improve their talent management functions and leverage human capital. Lina is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin with a degree in Human Development and Family Studies. Lina and her husband, Adam, a physician, have a 2-year-old daughter.



Greg Yawitz *is interested in effective collaborations and partnerships to benefit the entire community.* A former Board President of St. Louis Ambassadors, Greg currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation, Autism Speaks and is the 1st Vice President of Congregation Shaare Emeth. A 2003 recipient of the Grosberg Young Leadership Award, Greg represents St. Louis on the Jewish Federations of North America Young Leadership Cabinet and works locally on NextGen

efforts through the Jewish Federation. Greg is a Commercial Real Estate Broker/Developer and has 19 years experience in all facets of real estate development, including leading, sales, and redevelopment of single- and multi-tenant projects. Greg is a graduate of the University of Southern California. He and his wife, Julie, a Social Worker, have two daughters, ages 13 and 15.