

WELCOME AND THANK YOU FROM OUR 2018 GALA CHAIRS

Welcome to the 64th Annual Beth El Synagogue Center Gala! We're delighted to honor Donald Fleishaker and also to pay tribute to Lori and Steven Schwartz (our President's Ne'emanim Service Award recipients) and Robyn and Daniel Yairi (our very first Lapid Award recipients).

The theme of this year's Gala is a quote from Pirkei Avot: "The day is short, the work is great. If not now, when?" How appropriate, given the endless contributions made throughout the years by Donald, Lori, Steve, Robyn, and Dani. Just a few minutes spent reading their biographies on our website (www.bethelnr.org) will make you want to step up and contribute to Beth El and the greater community as they have.

We're sincerely grateful to Linda Newman for her endless hours to ensure that our event is such a huge success for Beth El. Her guidance and support are without equal. To our incomparable Executive Director Erica Leventhal and our amazing staff—Abby, Alise, David R., Debra, Jon, Olivier, and Milton and his entire maintenance staff—we appreciate all your dedication and hard work. This event could never happen without your efforts! We especially thank the entire Gala committee for their Herculean effort to ensure the success of this event that is so important to the social and financial success of Beth El Synagogue Center.

Finally, our hardest expression of thanks to our guests and donors, without whom we'd be unable to hold this event. Your commitment to the Beth El community and your appreciation for Donald, Lori, Steven, Robyn and Dani are what makes our Gala such a warm, wonderful event. Have a terrific evening and enjoy the festivities!

Aaron and Geralynn