



Elaina Corwin & Ellen Multer, Event Co-Chairs BQLI Region Woman of Achievement Gala

Dear BQLI Region Friends,

How wonderful it is to celebrate and honor these amazing and dedicated 17 Women of Achievement and 9 *L'Dor V'Dor* Award recipients, our emerging leaders and the future of BQLI Region and Conservative Judaism. We had the pleasure of speaking with many of our honorees and do you know what each one we spoke to questioned? The common theme was, “I really don’t know why I’m getting this award.” We easily and quickly would stress that all these women deserve to be recognized for their humility, integrity, accomplishments, selflessness and generosity towards their Sisterhood Affiliate, synagogue, local community and Israel.

As our first time co-chairing the Woman of Achievement Gala, we experienced a myriad of emotions, and except for the occasional bouts of nervousness, they were all positive. The most overwhelming feeling that arose was marvel for the WOA Gala Chair and committee that preceded us. In our new role as organizers of this event, we learned not only how much planning, precise attention to detail and man hours are needed, but that it takes flair, style, and leadership qualities necessary to pull this thing off. With Jani Majewski at the helm, supported by the rest of the WOA Gala committee “village”, it was made to look simple, which is why we were left in such a state of awe. The opportunity to run such an event became a wonderful learning experience. We have built relationships in a way we never imagined, and we stepped “outside our box” to grow in new directions. For this we are grateful.

We are also grateful to BQLI Region for choosing to support WLCJ’s Sisters Helping Sisters Emergency Relief Fund. This fund supports Women’s League Sisterhood Affiliates affected by the 2025 wildfires in California. Thank you for donating through the gala website if you already have, and if not, please take advantage of this opportunity to help.

The People of Israel Live, *Am Yisrael Chai*, is the theme of this year’s Torah Fund Campaign. Our interpretation of *Am Yisrael Chai* is a manifestation of this evening’s gala. We may not be in Israel, but tonight, here, we are living and we are carrying on in supporting JEWISH life in America. We are gaining power, knowledge and resources to help our sisters in our homeland. These honorees, the ones who asked the question of why they deserve this award, are instrumental in making sure that *Am Yisrael Chai* keeps happening throughout the generations to come. *Yashev Koach* for having that fortitude to be part of that cycle of *Am Yisrael Chai*! May each of you go from strength to strength!

Best wishes,
Elaina Corwin and Ellen Multer
BQLI Region Woman of Achievement Gala Co-Chairs