



SENATOR ROBERT MENENDEZ  
UNITED STATES SENATE  
NEW JERSEY

May 15, 2017

Dear Friends,

Please accept my sincerest congratulations as you gather for the Jewish Educational Center's 2017 Annual Gala. This extraordinary occasion is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the JEC's rich and vibrant history as well as the countless exciting ventures ahead.

Since its founding in 1941, the JEC has been committed to educating and inspiring young Jews. The JEC has integrated both secular and religious studies that provide students with necessary and valuable skills as well as a deep understanding of Jewish values and traditions. From nursery school all the way to 12th grade, the JEC offers a tremendous range of education and services. The Lower School, Bruria High School for Girls, and the Rav Teitz Mesivta Academy are wholly dedicated to improving and enriching the lives of the over 830 students they serve.

I would also like to congratulate tonight's honorees: Dr. Aryeh and Myra Pirak, David and Sarah Goldstein, and David and Debra Schiff. Dr. and Mrs. Pirak are this year's *Grandparents of the Year*, having been part of the JEC family for three generations. The Goldstein's are this year's *Parents of the Year* and are looking forward to their fifth daughter graduating from Bruria High School for Girls this year. The Schiff's are the *Family Legacy Awardees* for their dedication to their synagogue, their children's schools, and the larger community. I congratulate all of tonight's awardees!

As your Senior United States Senator, I am dedicated to improving the lives of all New Jersey residents. I would like to thank the Jewish Educational Center for their commitment to enriching the lives of the hundreds of students that they teach every day. Again, please accept my best wishes as you gather for this extraordinary event!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert Menendez".

Robert Menendez  
United States Senator