



National Council of Jewish Women Greater New Orleans Section

Bulletin

www.NCJWneworleans.org

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Loyola College of Law Dean Madeleine Landrieu to receive 2019 Hannah G. Solomon Award

By Ana Ester Gershanik



**Madeleine Landrieu
2019 HGS Recipient**

The Greater New Orleans Section of the National Council of Jewish Women will be presenting Madeleine M. Landrieu with the 2019 Hannah G. Solomon Award on Thursday, October 17, at a luncheon at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel. The Selection Committee is very excited to honor a woman whose actions have made a positive impact in the community exemplifying the qualities of Hannah G. Solomon.

Madeleine is the Dean of Loyola University New Orleans College of Law. Prior to her appointment on July 1, 2017, she served as a judge on the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal for the State of Louisiana, and prior to that, as a trial court judge on the Civil District Court for Orleans Parish. During her 16-year tenure in the judiciary, Landrieu served as president of both the Louisiana District Judges Association and the Louisiana Judicial College. She also served on the Board of the Louisiana Judges and Lawyers Legal Assistance Program.

"I did not plan this journey and never envisioned being Dean of a law school," she said. She confessed that coming from a family of nine siblings with parents who are wonderful role models, she wanted to be the mother of nine

children, even when she was in law school and met her husband Paige Sensenbrenner. They are the proud parents of four daughters: Erica, Hannah, Alexandra and Olivia.

Landrieu has spent a large part of her career advocating for improvements in laws and policies relative to children who come before the courts as a result of abuse or neglect. She is a founding board member of the Louisiana Institute for Children in Families, and was instrumental in the launch of Louisiana's Quality Parenting Initiative and Louisiana Fosters, efforts to raise awareness about the needs of abused and neglected children and their families. She attributes her dedication to this cause to her volunteer work in an orphanage while in high school. "I was so impressed by the situation of kids without parents that I vowed that one day I would be doing something about it," she said.

Recently, Landrieu was appointed to serve on the National Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Association's Council of Advisors to the Board of Trustees and serves as Co-Chair of the Advisory Committee to the Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services.

"I am stunned and humbled by this honor granted to me by an organization for which I have the highest respect and admiration," Landrieu said. She is especially proud of creating the Louisiana Institute for Children in Families, an idea launched and inspired by the late Lindy Boggs. She is very proud of the organization's accomplishments such as the Foster Youth Intern Program that provides foster youth with opportunities to do an internship with a Louisiana legislator, legislative committee or state agency engaging policymakers on the challenges and issues surrounding life in foster care. In addition, she said that the Institute was the driving force in passing the bill extending foster care to age 21 and the bill limiting the age of strippers to 21.

Because of Landrieu's leadership and vision, she has been the recipient of numerous awards, including the Michaelle Pitard Wynne Professionalism Award from the New Orleans Association of Women Attorneys, the Gillis Long Poverty Law Center's Public Service Award, the Louisiana State Bar Association's Pro Bono Publico Award, its Young Lawyers' Section Pro Bono Award, and its President's Award. In 2017, Landrieu received the inaugural President's Award from the Louisiana Judicial College for her "dedication to judicial education, particularly in the areas of new judge training and mentorship."

In addition to her devotion to the Institute, Landrieu serves on the board of Covenant House, New Orleans, a service provider for homeless, at-risk, and trafficked youth, and she previously served as chair of that Board. She serves on the Legal Services Corporation Disaster Task Force and as co-chair of the sub-committee on Continuity of Operations

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Charged with alerting Madeleine Landrieu to the NCJW honor were (clockwise) Madalyn Schenk, Susan Hess and Flo Schornstein.

Presidential MESSAGE



Wow! Here I am, president of the most dynamic and creative group of women in the City of New Orleans!

NCJW has, for 50 years, given me training, direction and preparation for my life's work. Now I am bringing home those experiences to take my shot at guiding the organization that means so much to me – and which I love. Of course, I will be building upon the achievements of past board members and presidents who have done such an amazing job of leading this important and worthwhile enterprise.

I began my journey during the age of giants – Celia Katz, Flo Schornstein, Margot Garon, Jane Buchsbaum, Grace Hudson, Joan Berenson and others who mentored me, inspired me and led me to where I am now.

I have been involved with many fine organizations that provide services but no money, and also organizations that provide money but no effort at services.

NCJW is *unique* in what we do. We provide both Treasure and Talent, but we immerse all our efforts in Jewish values.

The question I have asked myself in getting ready to be president is – *Where do we go from here?*

Of course, we want to continue our exceptional efforts in both Community Service and Advocacy, because the needs of the less fortunate never really go away. We tackle them with both our legislative agenda and our programs in the community.

Right now in Advocacy we are working on Women's Rights, Pay Equity, Gun Violence, Immigration, Criminal Justice, Voter Registration and many other issues.

When it comes to Community Service, we have many ongoing projects such as The Family Justice Center, Girls on the Run, Courtwatch NOLA, The Center for Children's Rights, and Sisterhearts. We also have four completely new projects which we have recently adopted.

They are:

1. Silence is Violence – dealing with the lack of a witness protection program in our state.
2. Partnering with the Anti-Defamation League on a program called "No Place for Hate," which tries to prevent bullying in schools.
3. Literacy Alliance – which organizes high school graduation ceremonies for adults who have completed their GED (now called Hi Set) requirements.
4. Lowernine.org – which is rebuilding homes and stabilizing home ownership still needed 14 years after Hurricane Katrina.

Our new projects especially will need volunteers to work with them. This leads me to the first of my goals for the coming year, which will mostly address the foundational aspects of The National Council of Jewish Women Greater New Orleans Section. I would like us to really upgrade our volunteerism, particularly trying to re-engage members of long standing who are no longer

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NCJW GNO Board Ushers in 2019-2020 Program Year



Vice President Admin Sarah Covert, President Susan Hess, and Board Retreat Co-Chair Alysse Fuchs. Not pictured - Board Retreat Co-Chair Avital Kadosh.

Members of the 2019-2020 NCJW GNO Board gathered together at City Park's Garden Study Center on Sunday, August 25th from 10 am to 1 pm to begin our year of programming. The Board Retreat was planned and executed by Co-Chairs Alysse Fuchs and Avital Kadosh with assistance from VP Sarah Covert and President Susan Hess.

The day began with the President's Welcome followed immediately by a rousing game of Community Service Jeopardy where board members showed their knowledge of the community services our section supports.

National Bylaws Co-Chairs Kathy Shepard and Dana Shepard led discussion and the vote on the Section's recommended amendments to the NCJW bylaws. Then

Chair Loel Samuel walked board members through her committee's recommended changes to the National Resolutions, which were also approved. To learn more about the process the committees took to reach these recommendations, please see the article on Bylaws and Resolutions.

Sarah Covert presented the board kits including a powerpoint presentation on Top 10 Procedures and a simulation of how to use the NCJW GNO Organizational Chart. Attendees then broke up into groups to brainstorm potential education, family, social, or service-related events. After a delicious lunch where participants broke up by table to discuss Development, Public Affairs, Membership, Community Services, or Technology, President Susan Hess reported



Showing off their NCJW items are Tricia Kirschman, Shellye Farber, Barbara Greenberg, Ina Davis, Maddie Fireman, and Kathy Shepard.



Back row (l to r): Dana Shepard, Alanna Rosenberg, Judge Miriam Waltzer, Gail Pesses, Barbara Kaplinsky, Simone Levine, Ina Davis, Susan Hess, Sylvia Finger, Sarah Covert, Benay Bernstein, Fran Dinehart, Kayla Kauffman, Carol Newman Middle row (l to r): Shayna Blum, Kelsey Jannerson, Patty Barnett, Shellye Farber, Loel Samuel, Tricia Kirschman, Barbara Greenberg, Mar-ni Karlin, Susie Jernigan, Kathy Shepard, Marsha Halteman Front row (l to r): Tana Velen, Alysse Fuchs, Maddie Fireman.

back on the many ideas generated by the Event Brainstorm.

Board members were asked to bring their most exciting items marked with the NCJW insignia. The award for best item went to Ina Davis for her NCJW trivet she found at an estate sale during her term as Section President and Kathy Shepard was the runner-up sporting her NCJW Runs My Life T-shirt. Other items included other T-shirts, President's pins, life member pins, dog tags, post-its, pens, and nail files.

We covered a lot at this year's Board Retreat, got to know each other better, and prepared fully for an exciting year ahead!

From the Voter Registration Committee

Naturalization Ceremony run by the Immigration Services: We have been volunteering at two events every week and will continue to serve at both morning and afternoon Friday ceremonies through September as the office works to complete the backlog of 2,000 applicants. We are averaging around 50 new voters every Friday.

Partnership with Literacy Alliance facilitated by Robin Goldblum: Our first event was on Sunday, August 4th at Melba's Poboys, an iconic New Orleans establishment, where the owner provided an incentive of a meal or a drink to everyone who registered that day. We registered 15 new voters and checked up on a dozen more on our GeauxVote app to confirm that they were still on the rolls. We have two more events this month in partnership with the Literacy Alliance.

A.L. Davis Fun Day in the Park: One of our coalition members, Candes Carter, was the coordinator of the event, which included a school supply giveaway, food and music. We registered 13 new voters in the torrential downpour.

College and High School Events: Events have been scheduled at UNO, Tulane Hillel and Ben Franklin High School this month, with more locations to be added soon. We



Sylvia Finger, NCJW Voter Mobilization Co-Chair, registers new voters at the Homeland Security Immigration and Naturalization Services Ceremony.

are working with our partners, L9 in Orleans and Jeremiah Project in Jefferson, to register at every high school in the city. Please check your calendar for volunteer opportunities. Here is the link to sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0c49afad2da5fd0-september>

VOTE (Voices of the Experienced): We met with staff members to train them to register voters. We will be assisting at some of their events in the future.



Barbara Kaplinsky, a member of the NCJW Voter Registration team, helped to register new citizens at the Immigration and Naturalization Ceremonies including these three ladies, all former Canadians.



October 12 Primary	
Wed, 9/11	Deadline to register to vote in person or by mail
Sat, 9/21	Deadline to register to vote online through GeauxVote
Sat, 9/28 – Sat, 10/5	Early voting (except Sun, 9/29), 8:30 am – 6 pm
Tues, 10/8	Deadline to request absentee by mail ballot through La Sos Voter Portal or through parish Registrar of Voters
Fri, 10/11	Deadline for parish Registrar of Voters to receive voted mail ballot by 4:30 pm (except military & overseas ballots)
Sat, 10/12	ELECTION DAY. Polls open 6 am – 8 pm. All voters in line by 8 pm have the right to vote.
November 16 General	
Wed, 10/16	Deadline to register to vote in person or by mail
Sat, 10/26	Deadline to register to vote online through GeauxVote
Sat, 11/2 – Sat, 11/9	Early voting (except Sun, 11/3), 8:30 am – 6 pm
Tues, 11/12	Deadline to request absentee by mail ballot through La Sos Voter Portal or through parish Registrar of Voters
Fri, 11/15	Deadline for parish Registrar of Voters to receive voted mail ballot by 4:30 pm (except military & overseas)
Sat, 11/16	ELECTION DAY. Polls open 6 am – 8 pm. All voters in line by 8 pm have the right to vote.

NCJW Joins with Other Organizations to Call for Closing The Camps on Tisha B'Av

Jewish organizations across the country — led by NCJW, T'ruah, Bend the Arc, and J Street — organized Jewish events on Saturday, August 10 and Sunday, August 11, 2019 on Tisha B'Av to #CloseTheCamps.

Tisha B'Av is a Jewish day of mourning, commemorating the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem. This coalition used the saddest day on the Jewish calendar to mourn and resist the policies of our government that are endangering, imprisoning, and deporting refugees and immigrants seeking safety.

Although we did not have a local event here in Louisiana, our brilliant, fearless Advocacy Committee members, Steffani Bangel and Jessica Frankel, wrote a moving Op-Ed that was published in the New Orleans Advocate on August 9th.

"The treatment of asylum-seekers at our borders feels eerily reminiscent of what Jews have seen before: people forced to hide in the shadows... children torn from parents... held in overcrowded, unsanitary, and inhumane detention centers.

These actions are illegal, hateful, and do not reflect the American ideals with which we were raised."

You can find the full text of the letter on the website of The Advocate as well as on the NCJW GNO facebook page.

As Steffani and Jessica wrote in their timely and poignant Op-Ed:

"As Jews who are now living in freedom, we bear the responsibility to protect immigrants and refugees in our own country and ensure that history is not repeated."

National Bylaws and Resolutions

In April 2020, NCJW will convene its National Convention in Chicago. At the Convention, NCJW will install the 2020-2023 Board of NCJW, Inc. and vote on updating the NCJW Resolutions and Bylaws. The year before an NCJW National Convention, local sections are given the opportunity to review the National Bylaws and Resolutions and make suggestions for changes, additions or deletions. This summer, two groups from our local section reviewed these documents and developed recommendations which were discussed and

approved by our board on Aug. 25th at the Board Retreat. We have submitted these changes to the national committees, which will review all submissions and develop a suggested set of resolutions and principles to submit to the convention delegate body. It is then the responsibility of the voting delegates to debate, amend and finally approve a set of Resolutions and Principles as well as National Bylaws for the next triennium, 2020-2023.

Thank you to both our Bylaws Review and Resolutions Review committees for the

spirited discussions regarding the issues of importance to NCJW locally, nationally and internationally.

Resolutions/Priorities Committee — Loel Samuel (chair), Ina Weber Davis, Shellye Farber, Maddie Fireman, Susan Hess, Gail Pesses, Dana Shepard and Kathy Shepard

Bylaws Committee — Dana Shepard and Kathy Shepard (co-chairs), Ina Weber Davis, Shellye Farber, Susan Hess, Gail Pesses and Loel Samuel

Surprise Brunch

In honor of Barbara Kaplinsky's two wonderful years as President of the NCJW GNO Section, Gail Fenton Pesses hosted a surprise brunch attended by members of the 2017-2018 and the 2018-2019 Board of Directors. Lured to Gail's home under the pretense that Gail needed advice on marketing, Barbara was shocked to find that we were gathered there to celebrate her. Thank you, Barbara, for your service to NCJW GNO!



What a shock! Barbara Kaplinsky came to the home of Gail Pesses under the guise of helping Gail create a marketing plan for a new business. Barbara didn't have a clue about the real reason.



Thank you party chair Susan Kierr poses with NCJW Office Administrator Sandy Decquir and Barbara Kaplinsky.



Karen Sher gives a big hug to President Barbara Kaplinsky.



Barbara was showered with beautiful Michal Negrin jewelry gifts from Board Members in appreciation for her two years of NCJW leadership.



NCJW Board Members surprise President Barbara Kaplinsky at a special fiscal year end Thank you brunch at the home of Gail Pesses. Pictured l to r, back row: June Leopold, Sarah Covert, Kathy Shepard, Susan Hess, Carol Newman, Dana Shepard, Gail Pesses, Barbara Kaplinsky, Ina Davis and Gail Chalew. Pictured l to r front row: Tricia Kirschman, Susan Kierr and Barbara Greenberg.



Barbara shares her surprise with Board Members.

2019 HANNAH G. SOLOMON AWARD – (continued from page 1)

Planning for the Courts and Legal Service Providers.

Like Hannah G. Solomon, Madeleine Landrieu is not afraid of challenges that she continues to encounter while serving her community. "Through the Katrina tragedy, the curtain was pulled back to reveal the inequities and corruption of our system," she said. "We still have a lot to do, but the biggest challenge in Louisiana is to educate our community about the impact of early childhood education."

Join us in saluting Madeleine Landrieu. We hope to see all of you at the luncheon in her honor on Thursday, October 17, at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel.

Hannah G. Solomon Award Recipients

This award is given annually to a community leader who exemplifies the qualities of Hannah G. Solomon, founder of the National Council of Jewish Women. These leaders have brought about important community programs and services through their leadership in a volunteer capacity. Each has been a catalyst for social change.

1966 Rena Wilson	1986 Sunny Norman	2001 Barbara Herman
1967 Margery Stich	1987 The Honorable Joan B. Armstrong	2002 Madalyn Schenk
1968 Myra Soboloff	1988 Elizabeth Rack	2003 Babs Isaacson
1969 Thomas Godchaux	1989 The Honorable Miriam Waltzer	2004 Melba and Moise Steeg, Jr.
1970 Olga Jackson	1990 Diana Lewis	2005 Betty Wisdom
1971 Edith Rosenwald Stern	1991 Grace Hudson	2006 Inge Elsas
1972 Helen Mervis	1992 Donald Mintz	2007 Carol Good
1973 Sarah Davis	1993 Sybil Morial	2008 Phyllis M. Taylor
1974 Edith Schulhofer	1994 Julianne Isaacson	2009 Carol B. Wise
1975 Jane K. Buchsbaum	1995 Pres Kabacoff	2010 Nancy Marsiglia
1976 Millie McClendon Charles	1996 Shirley and Dr. Robert Haspel	2011 Joan Berenson
1977 Sara Stone	1997 Harry Blumenthal, Jr.	2012 Mary Keller Zervigon
1978 Florence Schornstein	1998 Eddy Rosen	2013 Ruth Kullman
1979 Rosalie Cohen	1999 Hugo Kahn	2014 Marjorie and Scott Cowen
1981 Roy Schwarz	2000 Marjorie and Roger Bissinger	2015 Julie Schwam Harris
1982 Barbara Lemann		2016 Ana and Juan Gershanik
1983 Rosa F. Keller		2017 Kim Sport
1984 Mike Brenner		2018 Susan Hess
1985 Norma Freiberg		

Legacy is what the NCJW Greater New Orleans Section is all about “Faith in the Future; Belief in Action”

Is it time to think about your legacy?

Jewish tradition understands that legacy is far more than a financial bequest. It is also “*sharing what you have learned.*” It is the obligation to make the world a better place for future generations by creating your legacy today.

By including the NCJW- New Orleans Section - in your will and estate planning, you can ensure that we, together, will continue to make a positive difference through advocacy, service and leadership for the entire New Orleans community. Please consider making a legacy bequest to NCJW New Orleans.

According to the website of the Jewish Endowment Foundation of Louisiana (JEF) *when you create your Jewish legacy, you reflect what is most important and meaningful to you.*

To learn more about participating in the NCJW Legacy program, please contact Barbara Greenberg c/o www.ncjwneworleans.org.

The Jewish Endowment Foundation - <https://jefno.org> - is also a valuable resource for legacy planning, as well as your personal financial planner.

STORY OF A NCJW LEGACY A GENEROUS BEQUEST AND FAITHFUL REMEMBRANCE



Beautiful flowers have been placed by NCJW, GNO Section leaders at the grave site of Mayer Israel since her death in 1982. This gesture has taken place in appreciation for the Mayer Israel Legacy and the resulting ongoing and extensive funding of NCJW's numerous community service projects and leadership training programs for the past 35+ years. It was also stipulated in Martha Israel's 1977 will that NCJW will place flowers on their grave on the date of their wedding anniversary each year (April 28th). Tricia Kirschman, Assistant Treasurer of NCJW, GNO Section, has been personally placing the flowers since Katrina.

In 1978 Martha Graf Israel, the widow of Mayer Israel, wrote her final will by hand. In her will, she stipulated a generous and significant bequest for the NCJW. She also included one request.

Martha asked that each year on the date of her wedding anniversary, flowers would be placed on their graves. Martha passed away in 1982 and in April 1983, a group of members from the NCJW brought flowers to Martha and Mayer Israel's graves in Metairie. Thus, a yearly ritual began.

For 36 years now, Martha and Mayer Israel's legacy bequest has supported and will continue to support the NCJW's programs and advocacy efforts to the great benefit of so many in the New Orleans community. And for 36 years members of NCJW have faithfully and gratefully honored Martha and Mayer on the date of their wedding anniversary, fulfilling Martha's request.

THANK YOU

**to the Jewish Endowment Foundation
and the Babs and J.E. Isaacson Memorial Unrestricted Fund**

NCJW Greater New Orleans Section recently learned we will be an annual recipient of the Babs and J.E. Isaacson Memorial Unrestricted Fund administered by the Jewish Endowment Foundation. This legacy gift will be put to good use for projects like “Fox 8 Defenders” which were close to Babs and J.E.'s hearts.

Anti-Defamation League's No Place for Hate Program



This school year, NCJW is working together with the ADL on its No Place for Hate program. No Place for Hate is a self-directed program helping all of the stakeholders take the lead on improving and maintaining school climate so all students can thrive. It specifically focuses on anti-bias and anti-bullying in schools for grades K-12. This autumn, the program will hold a regional art and poetry contest, and at the end of the year, schools will receive a “No Place for Hate” banner that they can proudly display. The ADL is looking for NCJW volunteers who may be interested either in helping judge the art and poetry contest or in helping with the logistics and execution of the banner ceremony at the end of the year. If you are interested, please contact Al Page at apage@islaimmigration.org.

NCJW Scholarship Program 2019

Co-Chairs: Nancy B. Timm, Ann T. Thompson and Hallie Timm

The NCJW scholarship program is the oldest continuous program of the Greater New Orleans Section. Scholarships have been awarded since 1929. Hundreds of local Jewish students have benefited from the allocations made. The criteria are as follows:

- Jewish
- Reside in the Greater New Orleans area
- Must be able to demonstrate financial need
- Have a clear and realistic goal to achieve educational pursuit

The Scholarship Committee awarded six students grants for the 2019-2020 academic school year. The students are pursuing their dreams to complete their college education in such areas as nursing, restaurant management, political science and physical therapy. Two of the students have received their scholarships for the first time. Each student has a ceiling of eight semesters to receive assistance and the only financial obligation is that they consider donating back to the Scholarship Program when they are in a position to do so. The program continues to exist due to the generosity of your donations.

Literacy Alliance

The Literacy Alliance of Greater New Orleans (LAGNO) is a coalition of adult educators and organizations in the New Orleans community that advocates for literacy equity. The New Orleans Public Library hosts LAGNO, providing us an office, phone line and staff. Our goal is to support and help accomplish the goal of these organizations of a 100% literate city, person by person. This



NCJW leaders Susan Hess and Ina Davis earlier this summer attended the **Literacy Alliance Regional Adult Education Graduation**, one of the newest **NCJW Community Services**. Hundreds of people gathered at Mahalia Jackson Theatre to celebrate graduates. There was a great line-up of speakers, from a radio personality to a judge, to professors and public office holders. Several students spoke and the YEP Drumroll performed! The keynoter was a member of the Jena 7 and on his way to Georgetown Law for an advanced law degree. Pictured here is Ina Davis and some of the proud graduates.

means addressing healthcare and employment disparity as well as criminal and social justice in order to enhance or elevate lifelong learners' quality of life and prospects. We reach those who are underserved and isolated, embracing two-generational strategies by addressing the needs of children, older youth not in high school and not working, adults in families, both traditional and nontraditional. We address the urgency of racial and economic equity through education and work to develop partnerships and to meet with policy makers in order to meet the organizations needs as well as help organizations grow and become influential.

On June 29, 2019 the National Council of Jewish Women generously supported one of our major annual events: the 12th Annual New Orleans Regional Adult Education Graduation Ceremony during which we gathered to commemorate lifelong learning and applaud the graduates' skills, newfound knowledge, and the time they spent listening to and learning from one another. Representing several adult basic education programs, 125 HiSET graduates walked across the Mahalia Jackson Theater for the Performing Arts stage this year to collect their high school equivalency certificates. Our graduates' accomplishments demonstrate the wisdom in the old saying, "It takes a village," for each person on stage represents their village, their group of people who encouraged them to never give up on their dreams. So, as we recognize this year's graduates, we also celebrate each one's village, the people who

made sure they got here. We gather at this event to reaffirm our commitment to making education and information accessible. We understand that knowledge is power, and we have a social responsibility to use education to help connect those who feel disconnected and bridge the divides in our community. Our graduates inspire us to see our world as a learning opportunity. They have the skills, training, and experience to further succeed and inspire others to do the same.

Robin Goldblum, Megan Holt and Petrice Sams-Abiodun

Board of Directors | Literacy Alliance of Greater New Orleans

NCJW Cares

Sheryl Title, *Chairwoman*

In honor of Barbara Greenberg upon receiving the 2019 Harold Salmon Award

- ◆ By Helen Polmer
- ◆ By Shellie Jacobson
- ◆ By Lorraine Lake Williams
- ◆ By Beverly Katz
- ◆ By Patricia Barnett
- ◆ By Don A. Mitchell
- ◆ By Judith Gainsburgh
- ◆ By Sue Robin Weinbauer
- ◆ By Patricia Kirschman

In honor of Susan Hess as the incoming president of NCJW New Orleans Section

- ◆ By Ana Gershanik
- ◆ By David J. Cahn
- ◆ By Patricia Kirschman

In honor of Barbara Kaplinsky for her years of service to NCJW as president

- ◆ By Ana Gershanik
- ◆ By Dr. Marc N. Behar
- ◆ By Patricia Kirschman
- ◆ By Cathy Glaser

In honor of NCJW

- ◆ By Sylvia S. Sterne
- ◆ By William Sweet
- ◆ By the Louis A. and Lillian Glazer Foundation

In honor of Carol Good's 90th birthday

- ◆ By the Sandy and Edward Heller Donor Advised Fund

In memory of Allan Bissinger

- ◆ By Mickey and Marvin Goldman

In honor of Joyce and Sydney Pulitzer on the opening of Freedom at the World War II Museum

- ◆ By June Leopold and Marty Goldstein

In memory of Joel Myers

- ◆ By Ethel Schnitt
- ◆ By Sheryl and Peter Title

Help Rebuild the Lower Nine

lowernine.org, one of the community service organizations supported by NCJW, is dedicated to the long-term recovery of New Orleans' historic Lower Ninth Ward following Hurricane Katrina and the levee breaches of 2005. It is actively engaged in the long-term recovery of the hardest-hit, slowest-recovering community in the Gulf Coast region. lowernine.org significantly reduces the cost of rebuilding for homeowners by using the labor of unskilled volunteers under the tutelage of skilled construction supervisors. By leveraging volunteer labor and donated materials, lowernine.org helps Lower Ninth Ward residents return or remain in their homes at 25-40% of the cost of regular contracted labor. Since 2007, with the help of over 10,000 volunteers, we have fully rebuilt 88 homes and repaired more than 300 other homes that were unlivable or damaged as a result of contractor fraud. lowernine.org greatly appreciates the support of the National Council of Jewish Women of Greater New Orleans and looks forward to working with many more NCJW volunteers. Contact Laura Shapiro, lowernine.org NCJW Chair, at laura.shapiro02@gmail.com for information on how to volunteer.



Since 2007, with the help of over 10,000 volunteers, [lowernine](http://lowernine.org) has fully rebuilt 88 homes and repaired more than 300 other homes that were unlivable or damaged as a result of contractor fraud. Pictured here are [lowernine](http://lowernine.org) staff and volunteers.

Silence is Violence



Silence is Violence is a campaign for peace in New Orleans, founded following the murders of musician Dinerral Shavers (d. December 28, 2006) and filmmaker Helen Hill (d. January 4, 2007). Dinerral and Helen were beloved friends, neighbors, and artists of New Orleans' Bywater-Marigny district.

Following these tragedies, Ken Foster, Helen Gillet, and Baty Landis organized a march to New Orleans City Hall to express dismay at the silence of city leadership on the issue of violent crime. The January 11, 2007 March For Survival was attended by 5,000 concerned citizens. On that day, citizens from all parts of the city spoke directly to our leaders and each other about their fears

and hopes for a safer and more equitable city.

The mission of Silence is Violence is to work toward a safe and equitable New Orleans. They provide direct victim services, creative youth engagement, and public advocacy, working with clients and partners from every sector to achieve safe, just, and thriving communities.

NCJW GNO's support of Silence is Violence in 2019-2020 celebrates their work advocating for the establishment of a witness protection program in Louisiana. For more information or to volunteer, please contact NCJW GNO Chair Simone Levine at simone.levine@gmail.com or 504-252-5598.

Birthday Dollars Donors

- ◆ Diane Africk
- ◆ Amy Alexander
- ◆ Rebecca Alexander
- ◆ Marilyn Bernstein
- ◆ Cynthia Farber
- ◆ Shirley Haspel, in honor of her 95th birthday
- ◆ Mark Kaplinsky
- ◆ Celia Katz
- ◆ Tricia Kirschman
- ◆ Marilyn Lassen
- ◆ Marilyn Oelsner
- ◆ Leslie Rau, in honor of Cathy Koone's birthday
- ◆ Jon Strauss
- ◆ Majorie Weiner
- ◆ Marie Wolf

SAVE THE DATE
for NCJW GNO's

Gala

Saturday, March 28th, 2020

Always an Exciting Event!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – *continued from page 2)*

active in our programming. This will involve a major outreach effort. Although it will be a bit of work, I believe it will reinvigorate the Section and will provide a lot of benefits to NCJW, the community, and most meaningfully, to the people we successfully reach.

I would also like to increase our membership in a substantial way. All of you can help with this. Think about people with whom you have lunch, with whom you play cards or mahjong, or attend book clubs or exercise classes. Can you recruit your daughters or granddaughters? We would love to have hip new young members!

Of course, one of the rewards of being a member is being listed in the Blue Book Directory, as well as receiving the Blue Book Directory – an amazingly useful resource. The Blue Book Directory is our way of connecting our members to one another. As Kathy Shepard recently pointed out, it is also the only place to easily find members' cell phone numbers and email addresses.

Another way to strengthen our Section is to significantly raise the profile of the organization in the community at large. We want folks to know about the important work we are doing. Our hats are off to Jessica Frankel and Steffani Bangel for the excellent Letter to the Editor they wrote about immigration and had published in The Times-Picayune/The New Orleans Advocate in August.

Last on my agenda, and possibly the most serious, is anti-Semitism, the dark cloud on our horizon. We are at a point where we can no longer turn away from it and pretend it is not happening. It is already impacting our lives. My synagogue has hired extra security. I am sure yours have too. We have had fatalities in Pennsylvania and California. Every day the Internet is assaulting us. We already had to withdraw from the Women's March, both in Washington and locally.

As you can imagine, there are no easy answers, but that does not mean we can give up. This is life and death. I plan to work closely with

the NCJW National office to address this complicated and sensitive issue, which also involves Israel, our precious refuge of last resort for embattled Jews around the world. I will put together a study group locally to examine our alternatives. If you are interested in being a part of this group, please let me know.

So these are some of the important tasks I would like to shoulder. I congratulate all the new and continuing board members and look forward to working with each and every one of you in a meaningful way. To all our wonderful members, I want you to know that to me you are the blood and bones of NCJW. You have given me the positive energy to make this journey. But I can't complete the journey alone. NCJW needs all of you, the willing members and volunteers, to accomplish all we want to do.

See you all soon as we work together to do great things!



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