



# National Council of Jewish Women Greater New Orleans Section

Bulletin [www.NCJWneworleans.org](http://www.NCJWneworleans.org) August 2020

## NCJW GNO launches “The Plague of Anti-Semitism”

This past March all Americans were in the midst of the fight against Covid-19. At the same time it had become increasingly obvious that a response was needed to another insidious virus ---- anti-Semitism was once again proliferating.

Therefore, in early Spring NCJW GNO President Susan Hess confirmed that planning had begun for a Zoom series that would examine the current rise of anti-Semitism both in the United States and globally. Sponsored and funded by NCJW GNO through a generous donation from Vivian and Richard Cahn, an invitation was extended to the ADL Southwest regional office, Hadassah New Orleans, and the Jewish Federation of Greater New Orleans to serve as partners for the series.

The series of four programs would be comprised of educational webinars. The use of Zoom would enable us to feature experts in their fields from around the world.

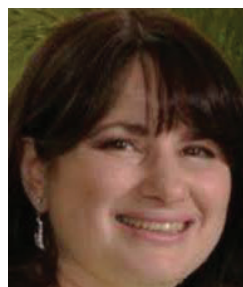
The first webinar was launched on Sunday, June 26 featuring Dr. Gil Troy who spoke to **“A Global Historical Examination of Both Traditional and More Current Forms of Anti-Semitism”**.

It was seen by over 300 registrants, including participation from a number of national NJCW sections. At the completion of the first program a post-webinar survey was made available to



**Dr. Gil Troy**

viewers, and was completed by more than 50% of the participants. They ranked the program with a 97% very positive response. Some said the webinar was too short, and they wanted “more, more, more.”



**Ricki Hollander**

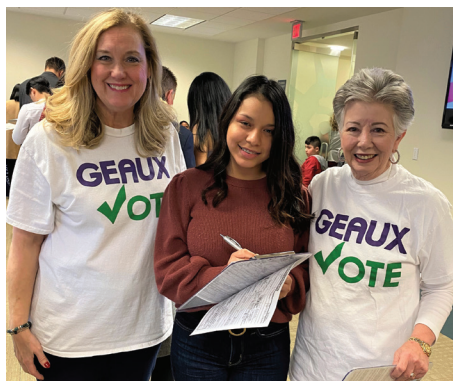
So more is what we have in store! The second program, **An Exploration of Blood Libels, Conspiracy Theories, and Plagues**, with emphasis on the Coronavirus and how it is impacting our lives today, was scheduled for Sunday, July 26, 3:00 p.m. featuring Ricki Hollander, a senior analyst at the Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting (CAMERA), headquartered in Boston.

This webinar continued to provide expert information and the tools needed to understand and respond to anti-Semitism.

This successful series can be added to the long list of accomplishments of the NCJW GNO section. Successes don't happen without the devoted, excellent and professional work of a program committee. The many collective hours the committee put into this project resulted in a program for which our section should be duly proud. Thank you Shayna Blum, Vivian Cahn, Ana Gershanik, Marsha Halteman, Lis Kahn, Barbara Kaplinsky, Loel Samuel, Dana Shepard, Kathy Shepard, Karen Sher, and our president Susan Hess.

*(continued on page 3)*

## NCJW Pulling Out All the Stops in Getting Out the Vote for 2020 Election



**Barbara Kaplinsky, new citizen registering to vote, Susan Klees**

Engaging New Voices and Voters (ENNV) Coalition, founded by the National Council of Jewish Women GNO, and the League of Women Voters, is dedicated to motivating every potential voter to register and get out to vote in the 2020 General Election.

ENNV Coalition members are the American Association of University Women (AAUW), C'est La Vote, Hadassah, Jewish Next Gen community in New Orleans (JNOLA), Jeremiah Group, Lower 9th Ward Voters Coalition (L9), Metairie Indivisibles, NAACP, New Orleans Coalition (NOC),

Together New Orleans, Touro Synagogue, The Urban League, VOTE- Voice of the Experienced and St. Bernard Volunteers for Family & Community (SBVFC).

Under the co-leadership of Sylvia Finger and Jill Israel and supported by NCJW members Barbara Kaplinsky and Miriam Waltzer, ENNV has developed a comprehensive marketing campaign that will strive to get the message out about the critical importance of voting in the Greater New Orleans community and beyond.

*(continued on page 5)*

# Presidential MESSAGE

## COULD THINGS BE ANY STRANGER?

Back in May we held the third of our NCJW general meetings, and installation of new Officers and Elected Board Members, as well as the presentation of the Harold Salmon Award to recipient Susan Kierr.

At the same event I gave the 2019-2020 Annual Report. What a difference a few months made! It seemed like a century ago that all of these things happened: In July 2019 we recruited a new NCJW Way cohort, and staged a wonderful Board Retreat. In October we had a memorable Hannah Solomon Luncheon at which Judge Madeline Landrieu was honored for her years of public service.

Also in October we brought together most of the Past Presidents for their annual luncheon, and finally dedicated a bench at City Park's Storyland in recognition of NCJW GNO's 120th Anniversary year.

Our January general meeting was very special when Sheila Katz, the new CEO of NCJW National came to New Orleans to discuss, along with Rabbi Yonah Schiller at Tulane Hillel, what is happening Jewishly on college campuses around the country. The Emerging Leader Award was also presented to former NCJW Way'er, Alyse Fuchs.

In February just before the State Legislature was due to go into session our Advocacy Committee made a concerted effort to connect with as many legislators as possible to familiarize them with our Social Justice agenda.

In early March we enjoyed a fascinating art program overseen by Membership Vice

President Gail Pesses meant to attract new members as well as engage existing members.



**Susan Hess, Rabbi Lexi Erdheim, and Charlie Cox**

### THEN DISASTER STRUCK WITH COVID-19

Our February and April bulletins outlined so many coming events and programs, none of which came to pass. Gala - postponed. National Convention - cancelled. Courts Matter Seminar - never happened.

All of a sudden we entered Zoom Land, with our first Zoom Board meeting on April 2nd.

We were just settling in to our new reality when...

### DISASTER STRUCK AGAIN

Demonstrations erupted around the country in the wake of George Floyd's tragic and unnecessary death. New Orleans was no exception.

For a week after the killing, people gathered at Duncan Plaza in front of City Hall to mourn and to protest. I was one of them. I walked from group to group, trying to maintain social distancing in light of the COVID-19 outbreak, while at the same time taking the pulse of the community.

People were distraught and angry on so many levels. They wanted change - but what type of change was not yet clear.



Frustration was boiling over, with no easy answers in sight.

Still, this seemed a possible inflection point in the history of racism in our country. Generationally people are seeing things differently. Where there were barriers to equality before, young people see no such obstructions. They want Justice, and they see no reason why Justice is not attainable.

There is a lot of ground to cover between where we are as a society, and where we must get to in order for Justice to prevail. There is a learning curve begun during the demonstrations and leading to a better life. NCJW wants to be a part of that curve.

*Susan Hess*

## OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING

On October 19, the Advocacy Committee of NCJW GNO will welcome a local speaker to discuss one of the many issues that is rooted in systemic racism. This is the first in a series that will explore the ways in which racism pervades our society. Join us to learn from esteemed experts across many fields who have generously agreed to share their expertise so that we may strengthen our dedication to dismantling racism in our community.

## Scholarship Program

The Scholarship Program of NCJW Greater New Orleans Section provides needed financial assistance to local Jewish individuals who have a plan to achieve their academic goals. Donations can be made to:  
**Nancy B. Timm, 5708 Garfield Street, NOLA, 70115.**

**The Irma M. Isaacson Memorial Scholarship Fund:**  
Nancy Timm  
in memory of Wendy Good  
in honor of Susan Kierr

**The Sara B. Stone Educational Fund:**  
Madalyn and Robert Schenk  
in honor of Susan Kierr  
in memory of Wendy Good  
Julanne Isaacson  
in memory of Jack Lengsfeld

**NCJW**  
National Council of Jewish Women  
Greater New Orleans Section

**President**  
Susan Hess

**Editor**  
Vivian Cahn

**Photo Editor**  
Barbara Kaplinsky



# Harold Salmon Award



**Susan Kierr**

Our closing event and installation of board members was scheduled to be held at Rizzuto's Ristorante on Sunday May 17. Event chairs Joan Sheen and her daughter Melanie were working on a special luncheon (where we would actually eat together) to install our officers and board

members and to present (actually, not virtually) the Harold Salmon Award to a very deserving Susan Kierr.

But...the best-made plans sometimes need to be changed: to Zoom.

The event was still special, and thanks to Kathy Shepard, it went off flawlessly.

We had 79 people in attendance from across the country, including Susan Kierr's extended family. Judge Robin Giarrusso presented the Harold Salmon award to Susan, Loel Weil Samuel performed the installations, and president Susan Hess gave the "State of the Section" report.

Our award recipient Susan Kierr has been a positive force for good over her years with NCJW, doing an exemplary job as president with the focus on intergenerational involvement. She has also been involved with Book Partners and Bean Bags and Books. She has been an advisor to the NCJW Way program, and a

chair or co-chair of the General Meeting, the Gala, the Past Presidents' event, the Emerging Leader award committee, and most recently chaired the 2020-2021 Nominating Committee.

In the larger community, Susan has taught dance therapy and yoga in the public library following Katrina, and was also the NCJW liaison for NOLA4Women.

The Harold Salmon Award is presented to an NCJW member who has exhibited continued commitment to NCJW, who is innovative and motivated, and works well with people. Our awardee more than fills the bill. Congratulations Susan!

## ANTI-SEMITISM – (continued from page 1)

### UPCOMING WEBINARS – THE PLAGUE OF ANTI-SEMITISM

On Sunday, August 30, 3:00 p.m. CDT, NCJW GNO will host its third

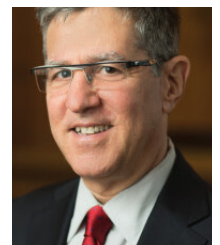


**Steven Pomerantz**

anti-Semitism program, this one on **Historical Experience with White Supremacy** presented by Steven Pomerantz, former Assistant Director of the FBI and former

Director of Counter-Terrorism for the FBI. This presentation will include a breakdown of the current FBI demographics of hate crimes motivated by anti-Semitic rhetoric and violence from both the extreme Right and extreme Left of American society.

The last in the NCJW GNO anti-Semitism series will be held on Sunday, October 4, 3:00 p.m. CDT. The program, **Is Today's Anti-Zionism the Latest Form of Anti-Semitism?**



**Rabbi Amiel Hirsch**

will feature guest speaker Rabbi Amiel Hirsch, Senior Rabbi, Stephen Wise Free Synagogue in New York City.

## Vivian Cahn Receives the Coveted NCJW President's Award



**Vivian Cahn**  
Award recipient

The National Council of Jewish Women is an amazing organization with a storied past and a fabulous cadre of dedicated volunteers who continually make things happen.

One of those outstanding volunteers is Vivian Cahn, who was presented with the 2020 President's Award in a surprise ceremony at the June 9th ZOOM NCJW Board Meeting.



**Ina Davis**  
Award fabricator

The award was custom-crafted for Vivian by her good friend and former president Ina Davis.

The President's Award is bestowed at the discretion of the President to that person who demonstrates outstanding commitment to the Section by going over and above the call of duty. Ms. Cahn is one of only 15 women to ever receive this prestigious recognition since the award was established in 1981.

Ms. Cahn is an avid, long-standing and active NCJW member who has volunteered for all kinds of jobs, both large and small, over the years. She has co-chaired "Those Who Dared to Care", co-chaired the Hannah Solomon lunch, chaired or co-chaired opening events, closing events, fund raising events and general meetings.

This year she is serving on the Executive Committee as Corresponding Secretary.

Said President Susan Hess, "All the items mentioned above are memorable, but they are eclipsed by the most urgently important thing Vivian has done. This year she stepped into the void created by the unexpected retirement of our Vice President of Administration, and took it upon herself to shoulder the task of editing, layout arrangement and printing of our NCJW bi-monthly bulletin. What would we have done without her?"

# Gala

The NCJW Diva Cabaret that was originally scheduled for March found a new date to celebrate! Those who already purchased tickets were invited to join us on Saturday, August 8 for a virtual event that was not to be missed. Hosted by the one and only Laveau Contraire, guests attended via Zoom for a celebratory toast at 7:00 p.m. with champagne that was delivered to their door by Gala Committee members. At 7:30, Laveau was joined by the main entertainment for the evening, Kitten N' Lou, a couple who has combined their unique and extensive burlesque, theater, and dance performance backgrounds to create showbiz tour-de-force performances like the one we saw!

Thank you to Susan Hess, President, Barbara Greenberg, VP of Development,

Tana Velen, Gala Chair, Cathy Glaser and Joyce Pulitzer, Patron Co-chairs, and the rest of the Gala Committee: Patty Barnett, Tiffany Cotlar, Phyllis Feran, Carole Jacobson, Barbara Kaplinsky,

Beverly Katz, Susan Kierr, Sara Lewis, Pam Lyles, Loel Samuel, Flo Schornstein, Dana Shepard, Kathy Shepard, & Hannah Udell for this creative, unique and fabulous event!

## Welcome to our Newest Members!

March 1, 2020 – July 1, 2020

### Rabbi Katie Bauman

4238 St Charles Ave  
New Orleans LA 70115  
W: 895-4843  
kbauman@tourosynagogue.com

### Darci Becker

1225 Perrin Dr  
Arabi, LA 70032  
C: 504-400-8834  
darcibecker@gmail.com

### Rabbi Lexi Erdheim

4125 Fountainbleau Drive #B  
New Orleans LA 70125  
C: 973-902-9603  
W: 504-885-2600  
alexis.erdheim@gmail.com

### Suzanne (Sue) Dicharry

3201 St Charles Ave  
New Orleans LA 70115  
C: 210-9102  
sdicharry@yahoo.com

### Lauren Gerber (R/M David)

4964 Folse Dr  
Metairie LA 70006  
C: 267-567-7727  
lcgerber1@gmail.com

### Louise S Glickman

7 White Palmer Court  
Biltmore NC 28715  
C: 828-633-0411  
lsglickman@gmail.com

### Janice Meer

4420 LaSalle St  
New Orleans LA 70115  
C: 301-466-5654

### Marisa K Kahn

319 S. Lopez St #G  
New Orleans LA 70119  
C: 321-544-4171  
marisakahn@hotmail.com

### Morgan Sherman (R/M Daniel)

6872 Canal Blvd  
New Orleans LA 70124  
C: 954-881-3218  
Marcela Totah (M/M Ricardo)  
3908 Napoli Dr  
Metairie LA 70002  
C: 338-0254  
marcelatotah@hotmail.com

### Directory Changes

Below are changes to member addresses between March 1, 2020 and July 1, 2020. Please update your directory.

### Caron Bleich

19 Thoreau Road  
Lexington MA 02420  
caronbleich@gmail.com

### Jack Hudson

150 Broadway Apt 307  
New Orleans LA 70118  
C: 400-6657

### Kayla Kauffman

4405 Elba St  
New Orleans LA 70125

### Joan Ellen Soboloff

610 Queen of Peace  
Covington LA 70435

### Myra M Soboloff

610 Queen of Peace  
Covington LA 70435



## WATCH YOUR MAIL

### Blue Book Directory Change Cards Coming!

We will be mailing the directory update cards at the end of July. Corrections will be **due by September 15, 2020**. Please be on the look-out for your card, then complete and respond promptly. We want your listing to be accurate in our 2020-2021 Blue Book Directory.

Also in these difficult times, we are asking **if any of our members can advertise with us**, please do so. Do you own a business, have a law, CPA, insurance, medical or real estate practice you want to advertise? Have a unique service you can provide and want to tell everyone about it? Or do you know people who do? If so, please contact **Barbara Greenberg at 504 236-5411**.

**Also ... stay safe!**



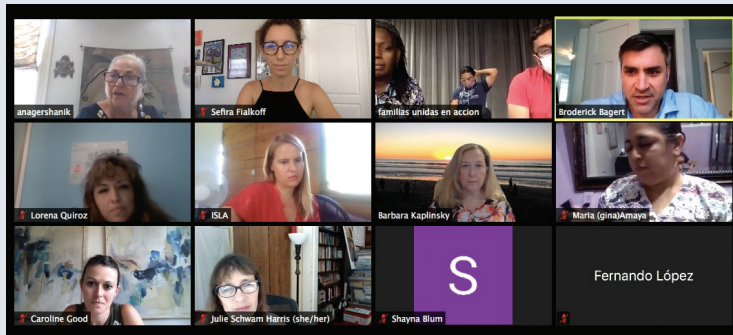
## NCJW joins with United Families in Action to Help Local Immigrants

Hundreds of New Orleans based immigrant families have lost jobs due to Covid-19 and the crisis is hitting the immigrant community particularly hard.

So, a coalition of NCJW leaders began a Zoom dialogue with leaders of *Familias Unidas En Accion* (United Families in Action). This organization is dedicated to providing immigrant families in the greater New Orleans area with the resources needed to thrive in a new community, while maintaining their culture and history.

Organized by Barbara Kaplinsky and Broderick Bagert of *Together New Orleans*, this initial meeting served to bring people together across lines to look at what undocumented workers are currently experiencing, to amplify these voices and to broaden the base with others who care about this issue.

Participating from NCJW in this effort are Shayna Blum, Sefira Fialkoff, Jessica Frankel, Anna Gershanik, Caroline Good, Julie Schwam Harris, Barbara Kaplinsky, Dana Keren and AI Page



## NCJW PULLING OUT ALL THE STOPS – (continued from page 1)

ENNV leaders are adapting to the COVID-19 situation which requires all new ways to reach out to target audiences. Tactics include, but are not limited to, radio public service announcements, posters and flyers in high traffic places, recruiting professional athletes and musicians to record 'GeauxVote' messages and share on their social media platforms and

reaching out to high schools and colleges with education and training webinars on getting out the vote.

According to ENNV leaders Sylvia Finger and Jill Israel, "We believe educating people about the importance of voting is one of the most concrete actions we can take to change the direction of our crumbling society."

### YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE – USE IT!! THE CENSUS IS OUR FUNDING – COMPLETE IT!!

REGISTER TO VOTE	
<b>Eligibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>US citizen</li> <li>17 years old to register (16 at DMV); must be 18 to vote</li> <li>Reside in the parish in which you are registering to vote</li> <li>Off probation/parole, currently on probation, on parole 5 or more years</li> <li>See other requirements at <a href="http://geauxvote.com">geauxvote.com</a></li> </ul>
<b>Online</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Go to <a href="http://geauxvote.com">geauxvote.com</a> and follow the prompts</li> <li>You must have a LA driver's license or state ID</li> </ul>
<b>Other</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Go to your local Registrar of Voters office to complete a paper form</li> <li>DMV – when you're getting a new or renewing your driver's license</li> <li>Social Service offices</li> </ul>
IMPORTANT DATES FOR NOV 3 ELECTION	
Paper Registration Deadline	Oct 5
Online Registration Deadline	Oct 13
Early Voting	Oct 20-27
Mail/absentee Ballot Request	Oct 30
Reg of Voters Receipt of Abs. Ballot	Nov 2
<p>Engaging New Voices and Voters A Non-Partisan Coalition, co-led by National Council of Jewish Women and League of Women Voters</p>	

VOTE BY MAIL (ABSENTEE)	
<b>Eligibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senior citizen 65 +</li> <li>Temporarily absent</li> <li>Offshore</li> <li>Nursing Home</li> <li>Higher Education</li> <li>Clergy</li> <li>Hospitalized</li> <li>Incarcerated</li> <li>Must have LA driver's license or state ID</li> </ul>
<b>Request an Absentee Ballot</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply online or on the app</li> <li>Download application and send/deliver completed application to local Registrar of Voters</li> </ul>
VOTE IN PERSON	
<b>Early Voting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Find locations on the app or on <a href="http://geauxvote.com">geauxvote.com</a></li> <li>Bring picture ID</li> </ul>
<b>Election Day</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Find your polling place using the app or <a href="http://geauxvote.com">geauxvote.com</a></li> <li>Bring picture ID</li> </ul>



Use the app's Search by Voter to register, access [geauxvote.com](http://geauxvote.com), view ballot, find polling locations, sign up for reminders...and much more!



**2020 CENSUS DATA IMPACTS:**

- Medicaid, Head Start, and SNAP Funding
- Community Programs for Kids and Seniors
- Congressional Seats/Legislative Districts

DEADLINE: OCTOBER 31, 2020

"Flyer design/content by Jill Israel, Sylvia Finger and Joy Braun".

## HIPPY Becomes Training Grounds We Play Center

When Robin Giarrusso joined the board, then-president Barbara Kaplinsky charged her with the responsibility of re-invigorating the dormant HIPPY program. HIPPY is an evidence-based home visiting program designed to improve outcomes by supporting parents in their role as their children's first and most important teachers. By its very name, Home Instruction for the Parents of Pre-School Youngsters, the program is geared to educating parents. After much investigation, it was clear that no HIPPY program was currently functioning in the Greater New Orleans area. The goal became finding another program.

With the help of Dr. Keith Liederman, the executive director of Kingsley House, another program was located. Training Grounds We Play Center creates supportive learning environments to enable caregivers and educators to provide children with quality experiences that promote healthy brain development, appropriate adult child interactions and positive social and emotional skills. Prior to the pandemic, the caregiver, whether a parent or grandparent, attended the pre-school along with the child so that they could learn how to teach and support their preschooler. Additionally, the caregivers got the opportunity to socialize and learn from one another about the joys and challenges of raising children. Since the pandemic, Training Grounds has converted to doing all their activities virtually. They are offering summer programs to get children ready to enter kindergarten, parent learning opportunities, a song and dance session every weekday, and a newborn parent support group and virtual play dates for children 2-4 years old. The co-founders of Training Grounds are Melanie Richardson who has a master's degree in social work and Christine Neely who has a master's degree in education. NCJW looks forward to supporting the work of this much needed program!

# Court Watch NOLA

Court Watch NOLA is proud to be a NCJW- sponsored volunteer-based group. Our mission is to promote reform in Orleans Parish criminal courts through civic engagement and courtroom observation. CWN has recruited, trained, and supported over 1,000 volunteers in observing and reporting on whether our judges, prosecutors, public defenders, and other public servants are doing their jobs professionally, transparently, ethically, constitutionally, and procedurally in a fair manner. Courtwatchers come from all walks of life and are trained to monitor and collect data that will be published in Court Watch NOLA's annual reports. CWN volunteers track thousands of criminal cases, and their daily and visible presence in the courtroom (and now on zoom) help identify systemic problems while sending the message that our community cares about making the courts more accountable and just.

To join as a volunteer, please do so at <https://www.courtwatchnola.org/become-a-court-watcher/> or email Volunteer Coordinator Jesse Manley at [jmanley@courtwatchnola.org](mailto:jmanley@courtwatchnola.org).

Since the beginning of Governor John Bel Edwards' COVID-19 stay at home order, courtwatchers have been monitoring criminal courts remotely, collecting dependable data, and publishing such

data via social media, thus ensuring more transparency in the criminal courts. Since March 22<sup>nd</sup> (when the stay away order was issued), 49% of all arrests (or 989 arrests) have been made for exclusively non-violent offenses, including 11% of arrests made for drug or alcohol related offenses without any violence involved. Also important to note, 33% of all arrests, since March 22<sup>nd</sup> have been for domestic violence offenses. Out of those arrested since the stay at home order, 85% were Black (67% Black Men and 18% Black Women), 14% were white (10% white men and 4% white women), and 1% were Latino men. Since Covid 19, Court Watch NOLA has created a coalition to push the New Orleans Police Department to allow its police officers to issue summons instead of arrests for nonviolent, non-domestic, non-sex offenses. Summons would require a person report to court, but would not result in immediate jail time. Summons would reduce the spread of Covid 19 which has been found in the Orleans Justice Center.

Last month in June 2020, Court Watch NOLA released its annual report. Find it at <https://www.courtwatchnola.org/wp-content/uploads/2019-Annual-Report.pdf>. Some of the highlights from this report include:

- the failure of Magistrate Court judges

to ask about gun ownership in 70% of court watcher observations of domestic violence bail hearings, despite a new law requiring judges ensure any gun possessed by a domestic violence-charged criminal defendant be transferred to the sheriff or a third party. The presence of a firearm in a domestic violence situation increases the risk of homicide by 500%.

- District Attorney Cannizzaro's refusal to prosecute 47% of the felony domestic violence cases with 55% of those felony refusals due to victim reluctance or disappearance.
- In 39% of all observations in which a court fine or fee was imposed upon a defendant by an Orleans Parish felony court judge, the judge failed to abide by the constitution and inquire into the defendant's ability to pay, despite the federal court's repeated demand they do so.

And in May 2020, a not-for-profit brought civil rights litigation against Orleans Parish Criminal Court Judge Paul Bonin for ethics rule violations involving a former law partner and campaign contributor (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OI6CnqffKRM>) based on Court Watch NOLA's investigation and uncovering of the issue in its 2018 annual report. You can find this report at: <https://www.courtwatchnola.org/wp-content/uploads/2018-Annual-Report.pdf>

## Thank You to Our GiveNOLA Day Donors!



We are deeply grateful for your continued support of NCJW which helps us maintain our community service and advocacy projects. Special thanks to our President Susan Hess for "hosting" a happy hour toast to our new board and challenge match. We had more donors and more dollars this year because of your generosity!

Justine Aguiar ~ Harriet Aguiar-Netto ~ Bradley and Daniela Bain ~ Patricia Barnett ~ Jody Braunig ~ Gail Chalew ~ Shellye Farber ~ Dr. Madeleine Crilly and Madelyn Fireman ~ Mara and Joshua Force ~ Susan Frank ~ Jessica Frankel ~ Mr. and Mrs. Josh Friedmann ~ Alice Yelen Gitter ~ Ilyse Goldberg ~ Robin Goldblum ~ Michele Goldfarb ~ Linda Green ~ Susan Green ~ Seth Harris & Julie Schwam Harris ~ Amy Haspel ~ Susan Hess ~ Sue and Jack Jernigan ~ Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Kanter ~ Barbara and Mark Kaplinsky ~ Dana Keren ~ Susan Kierr ~ Patricia Kirschman ~ Liederman Family ~ Lee Blotner ~ Leann and Ted Moses ~ Beth and Ellis Murov ~ Jennifer Nathan Simoneaux ~ Gail F Pesses ~ Alanna E Rosenberg ~ Loel and Larry Samuel ~ Susan Scharff ~ Mimi Schlesinger ~ Emily Schoenbaum ~ Arielle Schwartz ~ Dana Shepard ~ Kathy Shepard ~ Fran Simon ~ Lynn Skelding ~ Laurie and Paul Sterbcow ~ Joanna Sternberg ~ Sherri Tarr ~ Nicole Trosclair ~ Eileen Wallen ~ Miriam Waltzer ~ Marjorie and Roy Weiner

## NCJW Way

### The 5th Class: 2019-2020 - "Social Justice Through a Jewish Lens"



In attendance at the Hannah G. Solomon Award Luncheon were L-R: NCJW Way Co-chairs Madalyn Schenk & Ina Davis with "Way" class members Alice Kallman, Lilli Geltman, Leslie Becker, Hilary Gold, and Tamra Olin (missing from photo: Al Page co-chair)

## Personal Giving 2019-20

Thank you so much to everyone who has supported this year's Personal Giving campaign! This year, we raised over \$26,500 from more than 85 generous members. The following list represents donors from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

### \$1-\$99

Rachel Bergman  
Phyllis Bernstein  
Jody Portnoff Braunig  
Gail Chalew  
Fran Dinehart  
Shellye Farber  
Linda Friedman  
Susan Friedman  
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Betty Straus Smith

Judy Steinberg  
Rochelle Ungar  
Rita Warren

### \$100-\$249

Diane Katz Africk  
Mary Lynn Alltmont  
Carol Asher  
Barbara Bresler  
Melanie Bronfin  
Jane Buchsbaum  
Susan Dembrow Daube  
Ana Ester Gershanik  
Cathy Schatz Glaser  
Jacqueline Gold  
Susan P. Good  
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Susan O. Hess  
Tricia Kirschman  
Betty and Ira Kohn  
Foundation  
Nita-Joan Sams  
Dana Shepard  
Sylvia Stahl-Sterne

The 2019-20 Personal Giving Campaign ran from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. If you would like to join the 2020-21 campaign, or if you have questions about your gift, please contact Jenny Nathan Simoneaux at [jenny.nathan@gmail.com](mailto:jenny.nathan@gmail.com).

## Louisiana Coalition for Reproductive Freedom

NCJW Greater New Orleans Section is a member of the Louisiana Coalition for Reproductive Freedom, the leading statewide coalition fighting for reproductive health, rights, and justice. In March, NCJW members Michelle Erenberg and Steffani Bangel spoke at a national rally on the steps of the Supreme Court as the Court heard a case that threatened to close Louisiana abortion clinics. The Court recently decided this case, delivering abortion rights advocates in Louisiana a big win that ensures the three remaining clinics in the state will stay open. The Coalition's statement is below:

In June, the United States Supreme Court issued its decision in *June Medical Services v. Russo*, an abortion rights case challenging an "admitting privileges" law passed in Louisiana in 2014. As it did four years ago in *Whole Women's Health v. Hellerstedt*, the Supreme Court decided that admitting privileges laws are unconstitutional, and ensured that people in Louisiana will continue to have access to abortion care.

The Louisiana Coalition for Reproductive Freedom is thrilled that the Court did what it was obligated to do--uphold its past decisions. But as organizations and individuals that strive for reproductive

health, rights, and justice in Louisiana, we realize our fight is far from over, and this victory at the Court is not enough to provide our community with the justice it deserves.

While this decision is a win for our communities, it fails to address the myriad restrictions still in place that are aimed at preventing people from making their own healthcare decisions. Waiting periods that necessitate multiple clinic appointments, mandatory ultrasounds, and required counseling are unnecessary burdens placed on people seeking abortion care. There is no justice until we can all access affordable, culturally-competent healthcare services, including abortions.

The fight continues and in November, Louisiana voters will weigh in on a proposed constitutional amendment that threatens to ban the right to abortion. For more information on the November constitutional amendment campaign, visit <https://laforfreedom.org/>.

*Steffani Bangel is a member of NCJW. She is the Executive Director of the New Orleans Abortion Fund (NOAF). To learn more about NOAF, please visit [www.neworleansabortionfund.org](http://www.neworleansabortionfund.org).*

## NCJW Cares

Sheryl Title, *Chairwoman*

- ◆ In memory of Jack Zoller  
By Susan and Bill Hess
- ◆ In memory of Darlene Holmes  
By Susan and Bill Hess
- ◆ In memory of Roy Provansano  
By Susan and Bill Hess
- ◆ In memory of Jackie Toledano  
By Leslie Becker
- ◆ In honor of Lane Halteman  
By Mrs. Lane Halteman
- ◆ In honor of Patricia Kirschman's birthday  
By Brittany Kirschman
- ◆ In honor of Susan Kierr as the recipient of the 2020 Harold Salmon Award  
By Ellen Kierr Stein  
By Jason, Todd, and Andrew Stein and their families  
By Dana and Louis Shepard
- ◆ In memory of Wendy Good  
By Barbara and Mark Kaplinsky  
By Loel and Larry Samuel  
By Joan A. Bronk  
By Dana and Louis Shepard
- ◆ In honor of NCJW  
By Celeste Cahn, Elise Cahn, David Cahn, and Jeffrey Cahn
- ◆ In memory of Thaia Pick  
By Dana and Louis Shepard
- ◆ In honor of NCJW  
By the Julanne Isaacson Donor  
Advised Fund
- ◆ In honor of NCJW  
By the Harriet and Maurice Handelman  
Donor Advised Fund





National Council of Jewish Women  
Greater New Orleans Section

6221 S. Claiborne Ave., Suite 208  
New Orleans, LA 70125  
(504) 861-7788

### Have You Changed Your Address?

If so, please contact the office

Phone (504) 861-7788  
Fax (504) 861-0044  
Email [ncjwgn@gmail.com](mailto:ncjwgn@gmail.com)

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
New Orleans, LA  
Permit No. 608

## Membership Corner

Some of us, cocooning safely at home now with extra time to contemplate our navels, worry about making the best of our abundance of down time. Others of us lack that luxury—worrying how we will keep our sanity as we try our best to help our homebound children adjust to this weird time. Another brave group of us do battle on the front lines working in the health care professions, nursing back to health those stricken with COVID-19.

**NOW, more than ever, it is a rare and peculiar time when we need each other!**

NCJW Greater New Orleans Section wants to fill the various needs of our valued members and reach a warm hand out to prospective members. (It might have to be a warm smile on Zoom, or a warm voice at the other end of the telephone). The Membership Department is making plans to add comfort, enrichment, laughter, and friendship to your lives. We want you to have the pleasure of feeling part of a community that is doing good things for our world.

Now is the ideal time for you to bring a new member into NCJW. Please be aware that any Jewish woman new to New Orleans—here for no more than 2-3 years—is eligible for a complimentary one-year membership. NCJW sponsors these complimentary memberships through Jewish Federation of Greater New Orleans' Newcomers Program.

## NCJW Executive Committee and Board Members

<i>President</i>	Susan Hess
<i>Executive Vice President, Membership</i>	Gail Pesses
<i>Vice Presidents</i>	
<i>Public Affairs</i>	Dana Keren
<i>Development</i>	Barbara Greenberg
<i>Community Services</i>	Simone Levine
<i>Corresponding Secretary</i>	Vivian Cahn
<i>Treasurer</i>	Kathy Shepard
<i>Assistant Treasurer</i>	Tricia Kirschman
<i>Financial Secretary</i>	Fran Dinehart
<i>Recording Secretary</i>	Gail Chalew
<i>State Policy Advocate</i>	Maddie Fireman
<i>Ex-Officio</i>	Barbara Kaplinsky Susan Kierr
<i>Honorary Vice Presidents</i>	Florence Schornstein Celia Katz Julanne Isaacson

### ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

<b>Term 2018-2020</b>	
<i>State Policy Advocate</i>	Maddie Fireman
<i>Community Services</i>	
<i>Coordinator</i>	Karen Sher
<i>Scholarship Co-Chair</i>	Ann Thompson
<i>Scholarship Co-Chair</i>	Nancy Timm
<b>Term 2019-2021</b>	
<i>Membership Committee</i>	Patty Barnett
<i>HIPPY</i>	Robin Giarrusso
<i>Membership Committee</i>	Rollie Rabin
<i>NCJW Way</i>	Ina Weber Davis
<i>Family Justice Center</i>	Susie Jernigan
<i>Personal Giving</i>	Jenny Nathan Simoneaux
<i>Advocacy Co-Chair</i>	Alanna Rosenberg