

Honor and celebrate

**11th
Anniversary**

**Exciting Raffle
Prizes Every Night!**



Celebration!®

Cinema North

**May 3-7,
2009**

**JEWISH
FILM FESTIVAL
OF GRAND RAPIDS**

Sunday, May 3rd

RUN FOR YOUR LIFE

Monday, May 4th

FUGITIVE PIECES

Tuesday, May 5th

THE DEBT

Wednesday, May 6th

MAX MINSKY AND ME

ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY DINNER

THE CASE FOR ISRAEL

Thursday, May 7th

NOODLE

Admission: \$ 6.00 per film

Flex pass tickets (eight admissions): \$ 36.00 available at the
Jewish Federation until May 1st

*This program is sponsored by the Jewish Federation
of Grand Rapids, Celebration! Cinema, the
Rosenzweig-Coopersmith Foundation and private donors.*

See information on pages 8-9

FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK . . .



Spring has finally arrived as has the wrap up of our annual campaign. Andrew Samrick has done a great job directing the campaign and with the excellent cadre of volunteer solicitors we are able to report a respectful result with the stark realities of today's economic situation.

On the positive side, the average gift size rose slightly over last year and we added 30 new donors to the rolls, including 2 new Lions of Judah. The campaign did show a 9% decrease overall in funds raised and that was primarily due to a decrease in overall donors. With this new reality, the Federation is still committed to providing services and programming to the greater Grand Rapids Jewish community. All organizations need to be more efficient without affecting services and we are no different.

Through our support of United Jewish Communities, their work through the JDC (Joint Distribution Committee) has supported many programs throughout the world.

This month, I would like to share with you a report from Asher Ostrin, director of JDC's FSU (Former Soviet Union) Department, who recently visited Ukraine to study the current economic situation and its impact on JDC's programs and clients.

Ukraine's economy is in the advanced stages of collapse. The currency (Grivna) is in free fall, and markets for the few goods it produces have constricted. The unem-

ployment rate has remained steady only because labor laws make it difficult to fire employees; instead, they get months-long unpaid leave. Factories operate three days a week and output is reduced by more than 50 percent.

In Kiev, the request for support from Jewish families to the Jewish Family Service for pregnant women is up 31 percent. Parents are still employed, but their income is cut by at least half. Retirees have been hit hard—their pensions have been cut, and they are growing more dependent on JDC-sponsored Hesed services.

Products that Hesed usually provides for elderly clients, from diapers to medicine, are unavailable. Utility costs have increased four of out of the past six months; last month the price of pasta rose 35 percent and bread rose 28 percent. Each month, the elderly must choose between medicine and food.

As for JDC, Ostrin reports, "We are in a very good place vis-a-vis those who rely on us." Because local contracts were fixed, JDC has been able to create funds to purchase medicine for the elderly and address the increase in utility costs.

In order to ensure support for the most difficult cases in the past few years, Hesed reassessed its entire welfare caseload and is now better positioned to monitor those at high risk. Due to careful expansion of services for at-risk children, JDC is also positioned to respond to newly needy families.

Dan Hurwitz

OUR MISSION

Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids supports cultural, social and financial needs of Jews locally, in the State of Israel, and around the world.

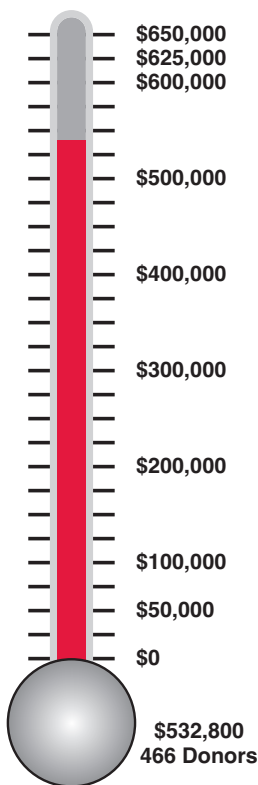
This mission is accomplished by providing services to the community and through fundraising and allocation efforts.

SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE . . .

MARCH 20-22, 2009



CAMPAIGN NEWS . . .



Shalom for the final time this campaign! I wanted to thank each and every one of you for your involvement and support in this year's fundraising effort. As you know, the economy has made this campaign particularly important – and at the same time more difficult.

Your contribution of time, energy, and money has laid the basis for a year of continued social services, programming, and community development. And special thanks to Executive Director Jeff Slotnick and Campaign Coordinator Cathy Winick – your hard work made this year's campaign a success!

Andrew



Our fund-raising this year is down 9%, and we need your donations.

If you have not yet done so, please consider making a gift to support our annual campaign, which ends April 30th.

Double Your Gift!

- Any new gift and any increase to a previous gift will be matched dollar for dollar, up to \$20,000, thanks to the generosity of the Louis and Helen Padnos Foundation.
- And, if you are 40 years of age or under, any new gift or increase to last year's gift will be matched dollar for dollar, up to \$10,000, by the Hurwitz and Thodey families through the Berkowitz Foundation.

Please consider increasing your gift or, if you haven't before donated, please consider making a gift this year. **Thanks to these matching grants, your money will go twice as far in helping Jews locally, nationally and abroad.**



ANNUAL CAMPAIGN 2008

Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids
4127 Embassy Dr SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546
(616) 942-5553 email: info@jfg.org
www.jfgr.org

Please cut out this pledge card, fill it in and send it to the Federation office.

I HEREBY PLEDGE TO THE FEDERATION ANNUAL CAMPAIGN THE SUM OF: \$ _____

Donor's Signature

Method of Payment: Check Stock
Please charge my: Mastercard Visa

Card Number

Exp. Date

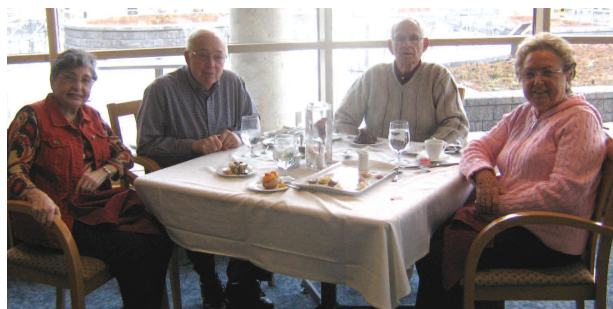
Live Generously.

Name _____

Address _____

SENIOR PROGRAMMING . . .

March's Lunch Bunch at
The Heritage Restaurant
It was **ABSOLUTELY DELICIOUS!**



DINNER AND A MOVIE!

Join us at the . . .
*Jewish Film Festival
of Grand Rapids!*
Monday, May 4th
~ **5:00 p.m. Dinner** ~
Carino's Italian Restaurant
2183 East Beltline N.E.
~ **7:30 p.m. Film** ~
Fugitive Pieces
Celebration! Cinema North
(Knapp and the East Beltline)
Dinner: \$7 • Film Ticket: \$6
RSVP to Liz at 616-942-5553, ext. 206
Free transportation is available!

Join us at . . .
The Jewish Theatre
Production of
Laughter on
the 23rd Floor

Sunday, April 26th

*We will meet in the Temple parking
lot at 2:15 and travel by taxi to
Spectrum Theater. We will return
to Temple by 5:30 p.m.*

Cost: \$8.00

RSVP to Liz at 616-942-5553 ext. 206

Mitzvah Specialists!

*Here is your schedule
through June 2009!*

Tuesdays,
10:30 a.m.

May 12

June 9

YOUNG ADULT DIVISION . . .

YAD Chinese Dinner and a Movie

At the Jewish Film Festival

Thursday, May 7

6:00 p.m.

**Dinner at MingTen on
Celebration Cinema Dr.**

7:30 p.m.

**Movie Showing: *Noodle
Celebration!* Cinema North**

Cost includes dinner & movie: \$15.00

*Daddy (or special male friend)
and Me Bowling and pizza lunch*



*Jacob, Larry
and Maya
Cieply*



*Taylor, Frank
and PJ Weiss*



*Ethan and
his car*

Pizza & Pottery

*Sarah and
Marissa enjoy-
ing lunch while
painting*



*The gang
painting*



*The Vyns and
Noyes painting*

UJS will have a Yom Hashoah service on Sunday, April 19 at Temple Emanuel at 11:30am

This will feature the Grand Rapids Youth Symphony Choir and various other artists.

The 8th grade class (teacher - Lauren Duchemin) will be leading this service. There is also a speaker from Calvin College who will speak before the service at 10:30.

We would like to invite all local Holocaust survivors to be present and recognized at this service.



Tune In April 18 - 26
for plenty of Laughs!

Spectrum Theater
616-234-3946

Ticket Sales starting April 6
March 30 for Season Subscribers
Purchase tickets online at www.jtgr.org



www.jtgr.org

**April 18, 22, 23,
25 at 8 p.m.*
April 19, 26 at 3 p.m.**

Jewish Theatre Grand Rapids will present Neil Simon's comedy "Laughter on the 23rd Floor," April 18-26, 2009 at Spectrum Theater on the GRCC campus, directed by Paul Dreher. Simon reminisces about his early days as a comedy television show writer with such talents as Mel Brooks, Larry Gelbart, Carl Reiner, and his brother Danny. The writers deal with a host of wacky antics and struggle with TV executives to put their shows on the air. You'll laugh till you hurt! Not suitable for children; Adult language and material.

*Please note that the dates for this show do not follow our normal show schedules due to Passover.



Honor Israel Night

Thursday, May 21, 2009, at 6:30 PM
Banquet at Grand Rapids Airport Hilton
4747 28th St. S.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49512

Message from Jim and Sheryl Siegel . . .

We are hopeful that many of our community members will attend this very important event. The event is sponsored by our Christian Friends of Israel and we need to be in attendance to show our support. There will be no fund raising and it promises to be an interesting and informative program.

Guest Speaker: Frank Gaffney

Frank Gaffney is the Founder and President of the Center for Security Policy in Washington, D.C. The Center is a not-for-profit, non-partisan, educational corporation established in 1988. Under Mr. Gaffney's leadership, the Center has been nationally and internationally recognized as a resource for timely, informed and penetrating analyses of foreign and defense policy matters.



Please RSVP to Federation at 942-5553. Cost for the dinner banquet will be \$10.00.

On the second Tuesday of every month, families depend on food donations from the **Food Bank at Temple Emanuel.**

Drop off food donations between 10am - 2pm Monday through Friday at Temple Emanuel

or mail checks payable to Temple Emanuel and specify the donation is for the Food Bank.

Temple's Address:
1715 E. Fulton,
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

HADASSAH BOOK CLUB

Next Meeting:
April 22nd • 7:15 p.m.

Where: Sue Remes' home
3403 Burton Ridge SE, Apt. B

Book: *"People of the Book"*
by Geraldine Brooks

Please RSVP

Book Club discount books are available at Schuler's Book Store on 28th Street.



For more information contact:
Sue Remes – 616-949-3505
Flory Silverstein – 616-949-5766

Grand Rapids Chapter of Hadassah Invites you to attend the Annual Donor Dinner

Wednesday, April 29, 2009 • 6:30 PM

Congregation Ahavas Israel

2727 Michigan NE, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49506

A program about stem cell research

Presented by Merritt Taylor, Ph.D.

Dr. Taylor is a professor in the Biomedical Science Department at Grand Valley State University. He is a renowned expert in the field of stem cell technology. Hadassah is committed to the discovery of cures. The more we know, the more we can do.

Minimum Donor Pledge: thirty-six dollars

Dinner: twenty-two dollars

Call Cathy Winick at 956-7172 for more information or to RSVP.

Jewish Film Festival 11th Anniversary



Celebration!
Cinema North

Sunday, May 3rd 6:30 p.m.

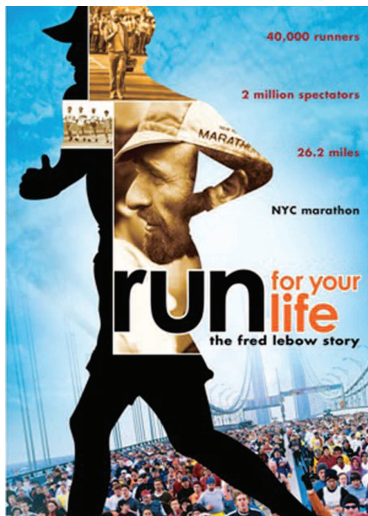
RUN FOR YOUR LIFE

96 min

English

An affectionate salute to a Jewish sports icon and a must-see for avid runners, *Run For Your Life* is the remarkable true story of Fred Lebow, mastermind of the New York City Marathon. Raised in an Orthodox Jewish family in Transylvania, Fischl Leibowitz fled war-torn Europe and eventually settled in the Big Apple. After a career in the garment trade, this scrappy showman launched the New York City Marathon, eventually transforming it into the world's largest marathon, encompassing all five boroughs, and a source of civic pride during troubled times.

Panel presentation with Greg Meyer, winner of the Boston and Chicago marathons and "Marathon Don", Don Kern.



Monday, May 4th 7:30 p.m.

FUGITIVE PIECES

104 min

Rated: R

English, Greek, Yiddish and German



A powerful, poetic, and emotionally-charged drama about love, loss and redemption, *Fugitive Pieces* tells the story of Jakob Beer, a man whose life is transformed by his childhood experiences during WWII. The film is based

on the beloved and best-selling novel by Canadian poet Anne Michaels.

Tuesday, May 5th 7:30 p.m.

THE DEBT

93 min

Hebrew, German, Russian with subtitles



The year is 1965. Rachel Brener is one of three young Mossad agents who caught "the Surgeon of Treblinka" - a Nazi monster who was never brought to trial in Israel. The official reason for this was that he committed suicide as a prisoner while being held by his Israeli captors in a safe house somewhere in Europe. Today, 35 years after the well communicated suicide, an article appears in a small, local paper in central Europe. Shockingly the Surgeon is ALIVE, and willing to admit his crimes against the human race - especially the Jews. The three original Mossad agents, who are now in their late 60s, become aware of this unfortunate and threatening knowledge. They decide to take the law into their own hands and complete their old assignment to eliminate "the Surgeon of Treblinka" - before the big lie comes out in the open. Rachel Brener, the original Mossad agent, is



FILM FESTIVAL . . .

now a well-known and beloved writer publishing a new book. She owes the completion of that assignment to her country and friends, but especially herself. She will not be able to live with 35 years of terrible lies. Will the respected elderly woman be able to become once more a cold blooded hit woman and fulfill her destiny and mission to society and herself?

Panel presentation: *Dr. Daniel Rosen, Neuropsychologist, and Dr. Richard Raubolt, Psychoanalyst, will address the effects of traumatic experiences.*

Wednesday, May 6th 4:30 p.m.
Family Matinee

MAX MINSKY AND ME

94 minutes



German with subtitles

Author Holly-Jane Rahlens based the screenplay on her best-selling novel, *Prince William,*

Maximilian Minsky and Me, which received the German Award for Young Peoples Literature in 2003. A charming story about friendship, dedication and dreams, this film is a comedic coming-of-age film adults and teens will enjoy equally.

ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY DINNER

Wednesday, May 6th
6:00 p.m. in the Wave Room
Celebration! Cinema
R.S.V.P. by May 1st to the
Jewish Federation at 942-5553

Wednesday, May 6th 7:30 p.m.

THE CASE FOR ISRAEL:

Democracy's Outpost –

A documentary film with Alan Dershowitz

English

Presenting a vigorous case for Israel – for its basic right to exist, to protect its citizens from terrorism, and

to defend its borders from hostile enemies. Alan Dershowitz engages leading political, judicial and academic leaders from Israel and North America in objective and intelligent discourse on the critical challenges facing Israel and the West.



Panel presentation: *Gloria Greenfield, Producer of the film and Alex Safian PhD, Associate Director and Research Director at the Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America (CAMERA).*

Thursday, May 7th 7:30 p.m.

NOODLE

90 minutes

Hebrew and Mandarin with subtitles

At thirty-seven, Miri is a twice-widowed, El Al flight attendant. Her well-regulated existence is suddenly turned upside down by an abandoned Chinese boy whose migrant-worker mother has been summarily deported from Israel. The film is a touching comic-drama in which two human beings – as different from each other as Tel Aviv is from Beijing – accompany each other on a remarkable journey, one that takes them both back to a meaningful life.



Despite our best intentions and efforts, sometimes arrangements go awry.

If necessary, we reserve the right to change or cancel speakers, movies or location.

For information call: Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids (616) 942-5553

or visit us at www.jewishgrandrapids.org

The Film Festival is made possible by a generous grant from the Rosenzweig-Coopersmith Foundation

**WEDNESDAY,
MAY 6TH**

 **Celebration!**
Cinema North



~ 4:30 p.m. – Family Matinee ~
MAX MINSKY AND ME

Author Holly-Jane Rahlens based the screenplay on her best-selling novel, *Prince William, Maximilian Minsky and Me*, which received the German Award for Young Peoples Literature in 2003. A charming story about friendship, dedication and dreams, this film is a comedic coming-of-age film adults and teens will enjoy equally.



~ 6:00 p.m. ~

**ISRAEL
INDEPENDENCE DAY
DINNER**

in the Wave Room

*Enjoy a variety of traditional Middle Eastern food
(Hummus, Babaganush, Falafel wrap, Mujadara Fattouch, Salad, Baklava and more!)*

Adults: \$7.00, Children (12 years old and younger): \$5.00
R.S.V.P. by May 1st to the Jewish Federation at (616) 942-5553

~ 7:30 p.m. ~

THE CASE FOR ISRAEL

Screening of the film is followed by guest speakers Gloria Greenfield, Producer of the film, and Alex Safian PhD, Associate Director and Research Director at the CAMERA.

Admission: \$6.00.

For tickets and information contact the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids:

(616) 942-5553

4127 Embassy Drive SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546

FREE AND OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY



Program on:
Dr. Moses Maimonides
Philosopher, Physician, Scientist,
Scholar, Talmudist

*Also known as
Rabbi Moses ben Maimon, the Rambam*



Special guest speaker

Dr. Blair Grubb

Dr. Grubb is an MD cardiologist and widely published research scientist in the field of electrophysiology of the heart. He is also a graduate of the Florence M. Milton School of Judaic Studies. He has developed a study of Maimonides utilizing newly developed computerized techniques in historic document analysis, to reveal an illuminating picture of Maimonides' life and significance for the Jewish community of his own day as well as the future. Dr. Grubb will also show Maimonide's historic contribution to medical science. This is a superb, unique lecture with virtually unmatched clarity, which will leave a stimulating, profound effect on ourselves as individual Jews and as citizens.

Sunday, May 10, 2009 - 7:00pm

Congregation Ahavas Israel, 2727 Michigan, NE

Reception to Follow

There will be no solicitation of funds

For additional information, as well as to RSVP, please call Jeff Slotnick
at The Jewish Federation, 942-5553 or Buddy Joseph at 942-9503

A Patient Advocate Designation...

allows you to select a Patient Advocate who can have access to your medical records and represent your wishes for medical care in case you are too sick to do so.

*Please note that spouses do not automatically become one another's Patient Advocate.

To receive a FREE Patient Advocate Designation, please contact Liz Scheibe, Director of Social Services,
at (616) 942-5553.



Beit Sefer B'yahad/ United Jewish School

1715 East Fulton
616-459-5976
Pam Rush
pam@templemanuelgr.org

Grand Rapids, MI 49503
fax 616-459-6510
School Director
www.unitedjewishschool.org

March 21-22 The 11th/12th grade headed to Chicago via the Amtrak train for an overnigher. They visited the brand new Spertus Museum, watched a Chicago Bulls vs Los Angeles Lakers game, shopped, ate great food but most of all had a great time with their Jewish peers. Thank you to Leo Schlesinger and Lauren Duchemin for chaperoning.



March 29 the Pre-K through the 2nd grade took their annual field trip to the Matzah Factory at the Chabad House. Thank you to all the drivers and chaperones. A big thank you to Sarah Weingarten for organizing the event.



UJS
Yom Hashoah service
Sunday, April 19th, 2009
11:30am
Temple Emanuel
Remembering the six million
Honoring our local survivors

Featuring
The Grand Rapids Symphony Youth Choir
Grand Rapids Symphony Violinist – Christine Golden
Clarinetist - Michelle Benjamin

Pre-service program sponsored by Temple Emanuel
10:30 am – Calvin College Prof. Randall Bytwerk

Landmark Speeches of National Socialism
Bending Spines: The Propagandas of Nazi Germany and the German Democratic Republic

UJS Contributions

In memory of Abraham Shinwell and Morris Richlin
In Honor of Pam Rush, Bill Marfink and Amy Ostrow

By Jerry and Sylvia Belfer
By Brad and Kathy Osborn

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS . . .

Congregation Ahavas Israel

Tot Shabbat Services - May 9, 10:45 a.m.

This is the final Tot Shabbat service of the year, before going on hiatus during the summer.

Led by Cantor Marisa Krishef in room 6.

Sanctuary Shabbat Speaker

May 2 - The Reverend Dr. Ed Dobson

Title – “A Year Of Honoring The Torah: A One Year Commitment To Live In The Second Temple Period”

Yishuv Hada'at -- Settling the Mind: Jewish Contemplative Prayer and Yoga

Thursday evening, April 30, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Cost: \$10/members

Connecting the mind, the body, and the spiritual self using Yoga and Hasidic text study.

Lag Ba'omer Bonfire

Monday, May 11, 7:00 p.m.

Home of Mel and Lyn Brenner

125 Greenridge NW, Grand Rapids

Chabad House

BS"D

"You Be the Judge"

Do you enjoy a good argument?
Here's your chance to debate the best
Jewish minds in history.

An opportunity for you to examine the reasoning of the Talmud and see how it influences modern cases actually brought before courts of Jewish law.

A chance for you to enter the fray and state your case.

\$75 – A six session course

On Tuesdays: April 21, 28, May 5, 19, June 2, 9, 2009 • 7:30-9:00 p.m.

2615 Michigan St. Grand Rapids, MI 49506

For more info email: Jewishlearningwm@gmail.com or call: 616-706-8018

Temple Emanuel

Temple Emanuel invites the entire Jewish Community to join us as we observe Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, on Sunday April 19, 2009.

We welcome Calvin College Professor Randall Bytwerk as our guest speaker. Professor Bytwerk will speak on, "Words that Killed: Nazi Propoganda and the Holocaust".

Professor Bytwerk has written extensively in the areas of propoganda and rhetoric. One of his books is entitled, "Bending Spines: The Propogandas of Nazi Germany and the German Democratic Republic".

Come for bagels and lox at 10:00 AM

Professor Bytwerk's presentation will begin at 10:30 AM.

The cost for breakfast is \$5. Please call to RSVP.

Immediately following this presentation the entire community is invited to join the United Jewish School observance beginning at 11:30 AM.

Temple Emanuel invites the community to join us for Sunday Night at the Movies on April 26 at 7:00 PM.

We will view the movie, "The Ritchie Boys" and this will be followed by a discussion of the film.

Run out of Germany by the Nazis, a small contingent of German Jewish intellectuals exacted the perfect revenge, returning to Europe as US soldiers to defeat the enemy. Groundbreaking and unforgettable, "The Ritchie Boys" is story of a handful of German nationals who used their language and cultural knowledge to wage psychological warfare against the Nazis and to liberate Europe.

Flavors of Israeli Melting Pot Cuisine with Chef Avi Sekerel

Special Thanks to the following:

Malka Berman, Rachel Deaner, Patricia Green, Karen Padnos, Karen Sigal, and Marla Tulett for their time and effort in helping Avi prepare the meal;

Mario and Talia Atias for helping with the shopping and showing Avi Grand Rapids;

Sue Remes for decorating;

Michael and Roberta Jacobson for donating the wine;

Karni Farms for donating the herbs;

and Thank You to the fabulous audience that contributed to making this a great event!





Jews and non-Jews alike across Ukraine tuned in this year to watch “Ukrainian Stars Factory”—a version of American Idol—to cheer on its only Jewish contestant, Vladimir Goodkov.

Vladimir hails from Kharkov, the second largest city in Ukraine, which boasts a renewed and thriving Jewish community. Yet it was only three years ago that the young star, now 21, first came to the JDC-supported Beith Dan Jewish Community Center at his friend’s urging. Once there, the Center’s diverse programs enticed Vladimir to return time and again. Through the JCC’s Jewish Youth Association, funded by JDC, he participated in the “Vocal Studio Aviv” program and quickly became a favorite performer at Kharkov cultural festivals and Jewish holiday events.

While studying at the Kharkov State Polytechnic University and pursuing his musical ambitions, Vladimir also discovered his love of leadership and service to the Jewish community. He volunteered for several madrich (counselor) and leadership training programs and worked in the community as an advisor to its youth and a caring companion to its elderly. As a student in the JDC-facilitated School for Future Jewish Leaders—a training program begun by a graduate of the JDC-supported “Metsuda” Jewish Young Leadership Program—Vladimir gained both management skills and honed his natural leadership abilities through implementation of several of his own creative projects for the

Road to Ukrainian Stardom begins in JDC-Supported Community Center

community.

When Vladimir went off to compete on the national televised reality show, he did not forget his roots or hometown. He brazenly declared himself a Jew, despite the growing threat of anti-Semitism that has increasingly been surfacing in Ukraine. And the young star went further: Vladimir demonstrated his pride in his Jewish identity by choosing to celebrate his Judaism publicly as one of his prizes during the the competition. Successful performances during the course of the competition won Vladimir the chance to have one wish granted—anything he wanted, including a concert in Cannes or his own CD release. But instead of the riches and glory, Vladimir asked to have his friends from the Jewish Youth Association brought to the studios so they could celebrate Shabbat dinner with him and his co-contestants. Aired on Ukrainian national television, the dinner featured Vladimir making the traditional blessing over the wine and challah and encouraging his friends to talk about an event in their lives that made them who they are today.

For Vladimir, the answer was simple. “The way I am now—enthusiastic, not afraid to say anything—is thanks to the people, the community that I became part of,” he said.

Young Vladimir went on to win the entire competition, distinguishing himself as a rising music star in Ukraine. And in the process, he sent a clear message that fame can be used not just for personal gain, but for good.

COMMUNITY NEWS . . .

2009 Grand Rapids Community Mission to Israel **Enjoy the journey of a lifetime!**

December 21-29, 2009

Departing Sunday, December 20

8 days, 7 nights
6 lunches, 7 dinners

*Travel by luxury coach, accompanied by
a licensed English speaking guide
and youth counselor*



*For cost and
additional
information,
call 616-942-5553*

Brief Itinerary:

Monday: Arrive in Tel Aviv, welcome dinner

Tuesday: Breakfast briefing with guest speaker, walking tour of Tel Aviv and sights, dinner at an authentic Middle East restaurant

Wednesday: Depart to the north: museum tour, Moshav Nahalal, Partnership community visit

Thursday: Plant a tree, Jeep tour of Golan Heights, Katzrin’s ancient synagogue, Safed

Friday: Depart for Jerusalem: walking tour of Old City, Shabbat dinner

Saturday: Enjoy Shabbat services and optional tours

Sunday: Visit Yad Vashem or Herzl Museum, Old City tour of the Jewish Quarter, Western Wall Tunnel

Monday: Depart to the south: Masada, “Float” in the Dead Sea, closing dinner

Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids Endowments

Life cycle times, both happy and sad, are traditional times to make donations to Jewish causes. You can make a donation of \$5 or more to the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids in honor or in memory of members of our community. We then will acknowledge that donation with a card to that individual or family. This is a wonderful way to send your good wishes and be able to fulfill the mitzvah of tzedakah.

Please be sure to indicate what the occasion is and who is to receive the card. Please specify which of the following funds you would like your donation to be credited to:


- **The Woman of Valor Fund** - (\$10 minimum contribution). To honor the women in our lives who have made a difference personally, locally, or nationally.
- **The Federation General Endowment/L'Dor Vador Fund** - To help ensure the continued work of the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids for now and the future.
- **The Julian and Judith Joseph Fund** - To provide for local programming and events through the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids.
- **The David and Susan Samrick Youth Scholarship Fund** - To provide scholarships to Jewish sleep away camps and experiences.
- **The Chuck and Maxine Shapiro Fund** - To help ensure long-term aid to Israel and Jews around the world.
- **The Louis and Louise Weiner Fund** - To help ensure local programming for seniors in the Grand Rapids Jewish Community.
- **The Jerry and Judy Subar Fund** - To help ensure funding for overseas Jewish communities' needs.

*Thank you for supporting the
Grand Rapids Jewish Community*

The Samrick Youth Scholarship Fund

To David Samrick in honor of his special birthday
Very affectionately, from Andrew Samrick
and Liz Scheibe






WHEN THERE'S A WILL,
THERE'S A WAY TO SUPPORT THE
JEWISH COMMUNITY.

Protect the people you love. Create a lasting partnership with the Jewish community. Your will makes it possible. Leaving a bequest to the Jewish community enables you to create a permanent legacy that can help Jews in need forever. Learn how you can help preserve the Jewish community – for years to come.

The Jewish Federation **Live Generously**
www.yourcommunity.org



Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids Endowment Fund Donation Form

Donation From: Name _____
Address _____
City/Zip _____

In Honor Of: Name _____

In Memory Of: Name _____

Send Card To: Name _____
Address _____
City/Zip _____

Fund (please pick from list): _____

In Honor Of: Name _____

In Memory Of: Name _____

Send Card To: Name _____
Address _____
City/Zip _____

Fund (please pick from list): _____

Send your donation to:
The Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids
4127 Embassy Drive SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546-2418

Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids Social Services Program

The Federation is available to support members of the community when the need arises. Families and individuals of any age are eligible for assistance.

Services available:

Assessment and Referral

Through conversation by phone or in-person, each community member's needs are assessed, and social services to alleviate specific concerns or stressors are identified.

Occasional Visits to Aged or Sick Community Members

Liz is available to visit sick or home-bound members of the community.

Emergency Loans

Members of our Jewish community in Grand Rapids are eligible for an Emergency Loan when conditions are appropriate. The loan is interest free, and the repayment schedule is very flexible.

Advocacy

Assistance with navigating complicated systems, such as special education programs in schools or the health care industry, so that the community member's needs and wishes are addressed.

Please contact Liz, Director of Social Services, for more information.

Liz can be reached by phone at (616) 942-5553 or by email at liz@jfgr.org.

*Communication is always confidential.

The Shofar

Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids
4127 Embassy Drive SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546-2418

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Send articles to: 4127 Embassy Dr., SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546-2418

Phone: (616) 942-5553

Fax: (616) 942-5780

E-Mail: Info@JFGR.org

www.jewishgrandrapids.org

Next Issue's Information Deadline: April 24, 2009

NON-PROFIT
U.S. Postage
PAID
GRAND RAPIDS, MI
Permit No. 973