

# Summer 2023 Fellowship News

**Palm Beach Fellowship of Christians & Jews**

1993-2023

# 30

bringing the community  
together for 30 years

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## Season Highlights 2022-2023 Season



## *Chairman's Message*

### **Learning from the Past for a Better Future for All**



*John C. "Skip" Randolph*

As I write this message on Independence Day, 2023, I am reminded of the bravery of those who fought for the independence of our country and of those who signed our Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, declaring that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.

Just as our founding fathers were pioneers, so do I like to think of the founders of the Fellowship 30 years ago as pioneers. They pioneered the idea of the Palm Beach Fellowship of Christians and Jews at a time that it was sorely needed.

These founders, Christians and Jews alike, saw a need to be addressed, that being the antisemitism which was rife within the Town at that time. Since its founding, the Fellowship has sought to bring together, through education and dialogue, people of the Jewish and Christian faiths so that each would have a better understanding of each other's faith and their heritage so they would learn to respect one another both for their differences and their commonalities. Much has been accomplished in these 30 years but it is clear that there is still much work yet to be done.

Yes, "all men (and women) are created equal," but one would hardly recognize that fact to be evident in the thoughts and behavior of those involved in the rampant antisemitism which exists in our country and world today. Attacks against the Jewish people today have become more prevalent than in recent years past.

It is important that we individually, and as a group, stand up, speak out and take action against these hateful activities. Our Town's Mayor and the Town Council have spoken out decrying these actions, stating there is no place in the Town of Palm Beach for said activities.

Let us not remain silent in the face of these hateful activities. To do so, as many have said before us, makes us complicit to the point that if don't stand up for others, who will stand up for us when we become the subject of similar attacks.

So, let us remember the bravery and wisdom of our forefathers, including the founders of the Fellowship 30 years ago. Let us, through our voices and through our actions, make them proud.

### *Add your voice to our efforts!*

With the start of the new fiscal year on July 1, we hope you will take a stand and support the mission of the Fellowship through your annual membership contribution to help us bring the community together with meaningful programs and events during the 2023-2024 season.

*See page 27 to join or renew your membership NOW to take full advantage of members only activities and discounts on events such as the Annual Dinner.*

## *Board of Directors*

### **2022-2023**

John C. Randolph, *Chair*  
Margaret Zeidman, *Vice Chair*  
David J. Thomas III, *Treasurer*  
J. Grier Pressly III, *Secretary*

Michael Ainslie  
Elinor Belfer  
Eric Christu  
Lew Crampton  
Malka Fingold  
Jeffrey Fisher  
Charles Hagy  
Sylvia James  
Cynthia Kanai  
Richard Kleid  
David S. Mack  
Zelda Mason  
J. William Metzger  
Danielle Hickox Moore  
James B. Murphy III  
Enid Pollak  
Heath Randolph  
Ronald Y. Schram  
Alan Shulman  
Michael Small  
Debora Weinstein

### **Honorary Board**

Nancy Brinker  
Gail Coniglio  
Edward Hennessy, Jr.  
Anita Michaels  
Donald Perrin  
Kenneth Z. Slater  
Lesly S. Smith  
Bob Wright  
Susan Keenan Wright

### **Ex-Officio Clergy**

Dr. Robert Norris  
*Royal Poinciana Chapel*  
Rt. Rev. Archimandrite Glen Pothier  
*St. Edward Catholic Church*  
Rabbi Michael Resnick  
*Temple Emanu-El Palm Beach*  
Rabbi Moshe Scheiner  
*Palm Beach Synagogue*  
The Rev. Timothy Schenck  
*The Episcopal Church of  
Bethesda-by-the-Sea*

### **Staff**

Sherri Gilbert, *Executive Director*

# *We gratefully acknowledge...*

The **Mary Alice Fortin Foundation**, the **Palm Beach Country Club Foundation**, and the **West Palm 100** for generous grants in support of Fellowship programs and activities and scholarships we provide to local Palm Beach County educators for Holocaust education, in-kind donations from Buff City Soap and Palm Beach Creamed Honey, and event venues Society of the Four Arts, Temple Emanu-El, and Wells Fargo Palm Beach. ...and the following Palm Beach Fellowship members and donors for their vital support this past season:

## **FOUNDER'S SOCIETY**

\$10,000

Suzanne & Michael Ainslie  
Malka Fingold  
Anne & Christopher Flowers  
Barrie & Nicholas Somers

## **PATRON**

\$1,000

Linda & Skip Aldridge  
Ann-Britt & Christian Angle  
Barbara Brizel  
Kathleen & Lew Crampton  
Allison & Stuart Haft  
Sir Geoffrey Leigh  
Zelda Mason  
Anne & Bill Metzger  
William A. Meyer  
Anita & Sam Michaels

## **FAMILY**

\$250

Traci & Keith Braun  
Diane Buhler &  
Eric Lieberman  
Elizabeth & Chris Callahan  
Marcia & Bill Cini  
Margaret Donnelley  
Mary Ann Ehrlich &  
Lisa Pearlman  
Leslie & Stan Godoff  
Jacqueline Goldman  
Joanie & Murray Goodman  
Marion & Henry Gorelick  
Carla & David Herwitz



▲ *Todd Bonlarron, Sherri Gilbert, and Gregg Weiss at the West Palm 100 "Happy Hour for a Cause" in support of the Fellowship in May at Café Saporì.*

▼ *Mayor Dani More, John Rothberg, Lesly S. Smith, and Dr. Robert Norris at the Welcome Back Members Reception in October 2022 at Four Arts Gardens.*



## **CHAIRMAN'S COUNCIL**

\$5,000

Ellen & Irwin Levy  
David Minkin Foundation  
Lee & Harvey Poppel  
Debora Weinstein

## **PATRON**

*continued*

Priscilla & Donald Miller  
Beverly J. Myers  
Kristy & Grier Pressly  
Leslie & Ronald Y. Schram  
Elizabeth & Alan Shulman  
Fran & Ron Terwilliger  
Connie & David J. Thomas  
Tamara & Bruce Watkins  
Susan & Bob Wright

## **FAMILY**

*continued*

Catherine & Robert Holt  
Barbara James  
Lynn & Russell Kelley  
Claire Levine z"l  
Elaine & John Lynch  
Carole & Cynthia Martin  
William Matthews  
Harriet Miller  
Catherine & Robert Ostellino  
Deborah & Michael Pucillo  
Karly & Heath Randolph  
Karen Restaino  
Fredericka & Stuart Shpetner

**Invest in making the community a better place —  
Renew your membership for the 2023-2024 season!**

## **INDIVIDUAL**

\$100

Ruth Abramson  
Lexye Aversa  
Anthony John Bailey  
Laurel T. Baker  
Amanda Bjornson  
Sister Colleen Brady  
Maureen Carter  
Vera Chapman  
Carol Collins  
Maureen Conte  
Ralph Del Deo  
Robert G. Donnelley  
Edith B. Eglin  
Alvin Fertel

## **INDIVIDUAL**

*continued*

M. Lynn Fisher  
Cynthia Friedman  
Josh Gorfinkle  
Sharon Gregory  
Charles Hagy, Jr.  
Maureen Hicks  
Lesley Hogan  
Bobbi Horwich  
Mina Hyman  
Jeanne Kanders  
Tony Lampert  
Tami Lesser  
Dorothy Levy  
Terry Liddell

## **BENEFACTOR**

\$2,500

Tori Dauphinot & Ken Hubbard  
Edith Friedheim/  
Eric Friedheim Foundation  
Michelle & Howard Kesler  
Patsy & Donald Mintmire

## **SUPPORTER**

\$500

Susan & Harvey Bazaar  
Warren Belmar  
Susan & George Cohon  
Carla Cove  
Melinda & Steven Duncker  
Arlette Gordon  
Susan G. Guttman  
Sylvia James  
Richard M. Kleid  
Pamela & Brian McIver  
Daisy & John Meroy

## **FRIEND**

\$150

Lori Ackerman  
Ellen J. Bernstein  
Robert Bertisch  
Mary Cooney  
Jenny Cyker  
Marie Bloom Deckert  
Carole Gigliotti  
Renee & Rob Gordon  
Heather & Patrick Henry  
Alesia & John Hoy  
Stephen Jacobs  
Cynthia & Dennis Kanai  
Fruema Klorfein z"l  
Paulette Koch &  
James Zisson  
Susan Oberg Lane  
Gail & Alan Levine  
Annette & Rabbi Joel Levinson

## **BENEFACTOR**

*continued*

Sandra & Donald Perrin  
Leslie & John C. Randolph  
Lesly S. Smith  
Maggie & Mark Zeidman  
Maura Ziska & Eric Christu

## **SUPPORTER**

*continued*

Marilyn Meyerhoff &  
Sam Feldman  
Danielle H. Moore  
Giselle Anna Parry  
Mary Robosson  
Bryna Rogers &  
The Rev. Tim Schenck  
Ann & Michael Small  
Baylie Rosenberg  
Caroline B. Sory  
Amy & Ken Viellieu

## **FRIEND**

*continued*

Bonnie Osher &  
Peter Sherman  
Bebe Pesenti  
Preservation Foundation of  
Palm Beach/Amanda Skier  
Rosalyn Regal  
Ronald D. Risner  
Carolyn Rose & Irv Geffen  
John Rothberg  
Gary Russell &  
Michele Cecchin  
Aileen & David Sarda  
Rhona Shugarman  
Sylvia & Donald Singer  
Sandra Thompson  
Linda Wartow  
Rebecca & Gregg Weiss  
Belle Winston

## **INDIVIDUAL**

*continued*

Kiana Rivera  
Bernis Gold Rosenbloom  
Roberta Frost Rosenthal  
Pamela Saba  
Magda S. Saltzman  
Mary Schmitz  
Christie Schwab  
Robert W. Slater  
Rita Taca  
Suzanne Turner  
Susan Van Pelt  
Phyllis Verducci  
Audrey Weinstein  
Leonard Zack

# Annual Fellowship Dinner

The Annual Fellowship Dinner was held on March 16, 2023, in the beautiful Circle Room at The Breakers Palm Beach. Special Guest Speaker Brad Meltzer, host, History Channel's *Lost History* and *Brad Meltzer's Decoded* and *New York Times* Best-Selling Author, entertained and enlightened the audience with an inspiring message.

The 2023 John C. Randolph Award, given annually to someone who exemplifies the mission of the Fellowship, was presented to Charles Hagy, Jr., Middle School Head at The Benjamin School and community volunteer.

Special thanks to *Platinum Circle Sponsor* The Slater Foundation, *Silver Circle Sponsor* Debora Weinstein (in support of educator and student tables), and to Joanie and Murray Godman and Howard Kaslow and Brigitte Mery and family for donations in honor of Randolph Award recipient Charles Hagy, Jr.

See more photos from the event on pages 6-7 and online at [www.palmbeachfellowship.net](http://www.palmbeachfellowship.net).

photos by Capehart



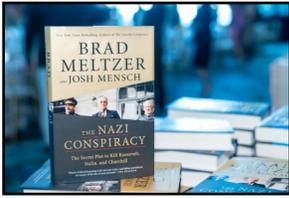


Dinner Co-Chairs  
Debora Weinstein | Sylvia James



# BUILDING BRIDGES BY BREAKING BREAD *Together*





*Annual Fellowship Dinner*  
continued





# Annual Meeting and Student Awards Ceremony

More than 200 Fellowship members, teachers, and students (and their families beaming with pride) gathered on June 6, 2023, at the Wells Fargo Community Room in Palm Beach. The end-of-season Member Reception and Annual Meeting included an overview of the organization's mission and efforts outlined by Board Chair John C. "Skip" Randolph, and a slide presentation to recap the season's events and activities by Program Chair Grier Pressly. Guests enjoyed delicious hors d'oeuvres and beverages as they mingled in celebration of the end of both the Fellowship season and the school year.

With the main focus on honoring the winning entries in the annual Essay and Creative Arts Competition, the 64 outstanding students who created them and their 22 supervising teachers, representing 11 public and private schools throughout Palm Beach County, received certificates and cash prizes, presented by Vice Chair Maggie Zeidman and Education Chair Charles "Chuck" Hagy. The topic for the 2023 contest was "Justice," which was expressed through essays, poetry, spoken word, videos, music, and visual art.

See more photos from the event throughout this newsletter and online at [www.palmbeachfellowship.net](http://www.palmbeachfellowship.net).

photos by Tom Tracy Photography



Emily Pollock (*Pine Crest School*), reads her poetry entry.



# Facing History and Ourselves

## Holocaust Education

The Fellowship partnered with the School District of Palm Beach County on July 25-26, 2023, to present the *Facing History and Ourselves* "Holocaust and Human Behavior" seminar for middle and high school educators. This vital training will provide curriculum and teaching methods for the participants to bring back to their schools and students. The Fellowship has been providing full scholarships for fees and materials to local teachers to attend these seminars for more than 20 years, as well as follow-up implementation workshops.

► *Facing History* seminar facilitator Jeremy Nesoff (*more photos on back cover*)



## Winning Entries 2023

# Topic: JUSTICE

### *Supervising Teachers of Winning Students*

**Jeannette Alfaro** | Woodlands Middle School  
**Alex Baranov** | Pine Crest School  
**Robert Bayless** | The Benjamin School  
**Jennifer Bird** | Rosarian Academy  
**Kevin Colling** | Oxbridge Academy  
**Mary Cooney** | St. Luke Catholic School  
**Virginia Devine** | Rosarian Academy  
**Rudy DeVries** | The Benjamin School  
**Chrissie Ferguson** | The Benjamin School  
**Krista Gage** | St. Mark's Episcopal School  
**Debbie Gibson** | Pine Crest School  
**Steve Gordon** | Western Pines Middle School  
**Kendra Gremaux** | Eagles Landing Middle School  
**Ronald Kane** | The Benjamin School  
**Flint Keller** | Rosarian Academy  
**Ashley Monastra** | BAK Middle School of the Arts  
**Michael Palmgren** | The Benjamin School  
**Frank Raimondi** | St. Luke Catholic School  
**Gabrielle Reilly** | St. Luke Catholic School  
**Mary Richichi** | Independence Middle School  
**Taylor Schneider** | Rosarian Academy  
**Eugenia Smith** | St. Mark's Episcopal School

### *Essay – Award of Excellence*

**Isabelle Anthon** | The Benjamin School

As the 20th U.S. president, James A. Garfield, once said, "next in importance to freedom and justice is popular education, without which neither freedom nor justice can be permanently maintained." If one is uneducated, one cannot truly understand how to keep the world free and fair. In a more precise sense, justice is the quality of being impartial, specifically in a law-type setting. This principle must not always be taken so literally. It is a philosophical idea that people are to be treated impartially and reasonably by arbiters of the law. Justice is a crucial aspect of the world that needs to be nurtured and maintained.

Opportunities to serve justice arise in our everyday lives. In my experience, they come into play at school. As a student council member, I strive to improve my school's environment. Part of this responsibility involves watching out for other students, especially when bullying is involved. Although the school provides anti-bullying training at the beginning of the year, many students remain as bystanders during confrontations. These habits are not good and must change for the sake of justice. What will become of our world if we do not stand up for others? I was attracted to the idea of student government for these reasons. Teachers can only do so much to influence students in the right direction, but a peer's guidance garners much more impact.

Justice can have a significant impact on one's being, myself included. In today's world, many pressures are placed on the shoulders of my generation. Achieving climate change and world peace are what society thinks should be our top priorities. I strongly wish to make these changes, but they will be hard to complete unless many people join. Perhaps the reason why a resolution has not transpired is that not enough people care. Sometimes when I see something unjust, I do nothing about it. Only out of fear of being isolated in my own opinions do I neglect to help another person. However, adopting the habit of being a bystander like many others is worse than standing my ground. I will try my best to advocate for myself and others in matters of justice.

The absence of justice would taint the world's balance and order, and freedom would no longer be a given. In light of the creation of social media, I feel even more pressure to save the world from its current state. The internet seems to only show the injustices. When I enter my desired career path, journalism, I aim to spotlight the world's do-gooders. Shining a light on those who fight for justice can hopefully inspire people. Teaching justice is impossible; one must learn it. To form a better and more fair society, one must exude the values of justice and empathy for others so the next generations may do the same.