

# The Charlotte JEWISH news

An Affiliate of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte

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November 2014

## DAVID BROZA LIVE IN CONCERT Celebrate 75 Years of Living Generously and 2015 Main Event

The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte will celebrate 75 Years of Living Generously at the 2015 Main Event with David Broza "Live in Concert"!

Co-Chairs Cary Bernstein and Julie Lerner Levine invite you to join them as the Federation pays tribute to its past presidents, shares its rich history, and kicks off its 2015 Annual Campaign. The 75th Anniversary and Main Event will be held on Thursday, December 11 at 7:30 PM at the Knight Theater at Levine Center for the Arts.

Often called the Bruce Springsteen of Israel, David Broza is one of the most dynamic singer-songwriter instrumentalists in the world. Multiplatinum Israeli icon David Broza has won the hearts of audiences with magnetic performances and soulful lyrics. His virtuosic guitar playing fuses Israeli, Spanish, and English musical influences; his flamenco rhythms blend with intricate rock-and-roll finger picking. His enduring career has been defined by over 25 successful albums and numerous awards.

The son of an Israeli/British businessman and a folk singer, Broza was born in Haifa, Israel (where his grandfather founded an Arab-Israeli settlement), and was raised and educated in England and Spain. Broza originally planned to become a graphic

artist, and by age 17, was selling his paintings in the Rastro, Madrid's famous Sunday flea market. However, after high school graduation, he was drafted into a three-year term in the Israeli military. Stationed away from family and friends, he began playing guitar in cafes to earn extra money, and was eventually offered a record deal. Since he hoped to attend the Rhode Island School of Design, he declined. He later recorded a tape to promote his live shows. "Somehow, one of the songs became a #1 hit in Israel," he explains. At age 21, he was a star, and by age 27 he was being mobbed by fans in the street as his recordings went triple platinum.

David Broza's 1994 and 1999 live concerts recorded at the top of Masada resulted in platinum albums; while his Spanish language release, "Isla Mujeres," gained him superstar recognition in Spain. His most recent album "East Jerusalem/West Jerusalem" recorded in English and released in 2014 promotes a lasting peace between Israelis and Palestinians.

Broza creates a unique style of multi-cultural musical blend, sung in poetic rhythms of three languages. He is a captivating, compelling performer who masters his guitar into submission. He is the creator of a classical suite, which has been performed with various

orchestras all over the world. His latest concert tours include Belgium, Spain, Argentina, Germany, Venezuela, Mexico, Brazil, and the United States.

Mostly, Broza remains buoyed by the self-fulfillment of living his dream. "I'm just happy to be a singer/songwriter and to be making a living from it," he notes. "You have to be in it for the fun or you might as well sell shoes."

According to The New York Post, "To hear the music of David Broza is to be moved. To see Broza in concert is to be mesmerized."

Tickets for the 75th Anniversary and Main Event are \$54 and \$36 and can be purchased through [www.carolinatix.org](http://www.carolinatix.org). (Ticketing charges will apply.)

Please consider becoming a "Friend of Broza" event patron with a donation of \$250. "Friends of Broza" will receive two prime tickets, a signed CD, and acknowledgment in the evening's program, on the Federation website and, in *The Charlotte Jewish News*.

Although there is a multitude of convenient parking located near the Knight Theater at The Levine Center for the Arts, the Federation will be taking reservations for "The Broza Bus" which will leave the Shalom Parking Lot at 6:45 PM. For more information about The Broza Bus and parking near the Knight Theatre, please visit the Federation website at [www.jewishcharlotte.org](http://www.jewishcharlotte.org) or call the Federation office at 704-944-6757.

75th Anniversary and Main Event co-chairs Cary Bernstein,

Julie Lerner Levine have assembled a dynamic Host Committee. Members are: Judy and Stan August, Galia and Tomer Lapidot-Boaz, Roz and Ivan Cooper, Talli and John Dippold, Jill and Michael Dinerman, Ruth and Alan Goldberg, Beth and Jeff Goldman, Sandra and Yaron Goldman, Talia and Steven Goldman, Trish and Barry Golembe, Stacy and Todd Gorelick, Jodi and Josh Greenwald, Patricia and Ted Johnson, Dana and Andrew Kapustin, Elise and Jaime Kosofsky, Randi and Justin Lan, Judy and Eric Laxer, Susan Rubenstein and Eric Lerner, Louis Sinkoe and Kevin Levine, Leigh and Daniel Levine, Wendy and Lee Pake, Wendy and Adam Petricoff, Debora and Ed Pizer, Jennifer and Andrew Rosen, Heidi and Michael Rotberg, Stacey and Ira Slomka, Aviva Stein, Debra and David Van Glish, and Kelly and Doug Wilson.

The Jewish Federation's annual fundraising campaign is focused on helping people in need, rescuing people in danger, and keeping Jewish life strong. The Jewish Federation believes in the power of community and in working together to make the world a better place. Please visit our website [www.jewishcharlotte.org](http://www.jewishcharlotte.org) to learn more about the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte. You will have the opportunity to make your 2015 pledge at the event.

"Our History Is Only Our Beginning" is the theme of the 2015 Annual Campaign – no phrase could be more fitting as we celebrate Federation's rich history and 75th Anniversary.

*The Federation pays tribute to the sponsors who have made this event possible:*

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Sponsorships are still available – for more information, contact the Federation office.

*The mission of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte is to raise and distribute funds to support and enrich the lives of Jews locally, nationally, in Israel and worldwide. Through education, planning and community building, the Federation's mission ensures that Jewish values, goals, traditions and connections are preserved for current and future generations. ☆*

Tickets for the 75th Anniversary and Main Event are \$54 and \$36 and can be purchased through [www.carolinatix.org](http://www.carolinatix.org) (Ticketing charges will apply.)

## Hadassah Israeli Products Fair

The Charlotte Chapter of Hadassah invites the entire community to support Israel, by buying from Israel. On December 14 from 9 AM-2 PM in Sam Lerner



Some of the many beautiful pieces available for sale at Hadassah's Israeli Products Fair and on U-Boutique.

Center at Shalom Park, Hadassah will be hosting vendors with Israeli and Judaica products, foods, and services. It is a perfect opportunity to do your Hanukkah shopping.

We also invite and encourage you to shop early with U-Boutique, a virtual marketplace designed to help Israeli artists and designers with small businesses market their Israeli-made products overseas. U-boutique will generously be donating 6% of products purchased from the following link to Charlotte Hadassah.

<http://tinyurl.com/u-boutique4CharlotteHadassah>

We will also be having several fabulous raffle prizes including



jewelry from Betsy Klein, Diamonds Direct, and a piece of jewelry from Akko in Israel. Raffle tickets are \$5 each or 3 for \$10, and can be purchased in advance.

Please contact Stacy Baum at [schree@carolina.rr.com](mailto:schree@carolina.rr.com) or 704-808-0423 for additional information. ☆

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Dear Readers,

We at *The Charlotte Jewish News* want to take this opportunity to thank you for taking the time to read about the latest happenings in our community. We continue to grow in Charlotte, with new synagogues and congregations, more events than ever, and more ways for you to connect to your Judaism.

*The Charlotte Jewish News* is seeking new ways to inform you with the most up-to-date avenues of communication. We now have a regular online edition of CJN ([charlottejewishnewsedition.com](http://charlottejewishnewsedition.com)) and a newly revamped website ([charlottejewishnews.org](http://charlottejewishnews.org)). Our Facebook page brings you the very latest community news and we are close to establishing our Twitter and Instagram accounts. You can help by visiting our website, liking us on Facebook, and following us on Twitter and Instagram.

And you can help by making a voluntary subscription donation with the form below. Our only source of revenue is our advertising in this print edition and as the cost of paper and postage and establishing an online presence rise, our revenues have not risen accordingly.

Please remember that there are some agencies in Shalom Park that would not be able to get their messages to you without *The Charlotte Jewish News*. You can support those agencies by supporting us. Please consider a small tax-deductible donation. A return envelope has been inserting into the paper this month for your convenience.

Today rabah.

## JEWISH FEDERATION NEWS

### Apple Picking with PJ Library

More than 180 kids, parents, and grandparents joined PJ Library and the Jewish Federation for our Annual Rosh Hashanah Apple Picking at Carrigan Farms. Our group got a chance to experience an age-old holiday tradition first hand – picking some delicious apples from the orchards and learning how honey is made.

In addition to a bag full of fresh apples, each family took home a Rosh Hashanah goody bag compliments of the Jewish federation and our beneficiary agencies: Charlotte Jewish Preschool, Levine JCC, Levine-Sklut Judaic Library, and the Jewish Preschool on Sardis.

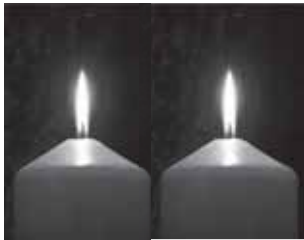
For more information about PJ Library and upcoming events, please contact Tair Giudice, Director of Outreach & Engagement, 704-944-6759 or [tair.giudice@jewishcharlotte.org](mailto:tair.giudice@jewishcharlotte.org).



A gift from the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte

### SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING FOR NOVEMBER 2014

- Friday, November 7, 5:06 PM
- Friday, November 14, 5:00 PM
- Friday, November 21, 4:56 PM
- Friday, November 24, 6:18 PM
- Friday, November 28, 4:54 PM



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# The Strength of a People. The Power of Community.

*The Talmud teaches, "The world is too heavy for anyone to carry alone." With these words, we are reminded of the importance of collective responsibility; wherever a person is in need, there is an entire community ready, willing, and able to provide assistance, care, and support.*

*Here is a personal account of that sense of solidarity and Klal Israel and the power of our Jewish community.*

*By Becca Gerger*

When I first moved to Israel, I felt like Israel was special for its land and history, especially as it connects to Judaism and the Jewish people. I would feel my hands shaking at the Western Wall, and I would see Jews from all over the world living in this vibrant place together. Through those unforgettable experiences, I realized why I decided to move to Israel and serve in the IDF (Israeli Defense Forces). Over time hummus also became a huge part of the equation - kidding, sort of. Eventually after a struggle to understand Israeli culture, I began to love Israel for the warmth and love that radiates within people and their families. No matter how much all the soldiers on my team argued, at the end of each encounter awaited a silent forgiveness as we forged a transcendent unity that took me - and is still taking me - years to understand.

My name is Rebecca Gerger and I moved to Israel (made Aliyah) in 2010, and enlisted in the IDF. I served in the IDF as a female combat soldier in an infantry team on the border of

Egypt. During that time I was known as a "Lone Soldier" (an Israeli soldier, often times from outside of Israel, who has no family living in Israel to support them). I grew up in Charlotte and spent my youth in BBYO and USY, and graduated in 2008 from Providence Day School. I currently have been released from the army and live in Jerusalem, where I am a student at the Hebrew University.

Living in Jerusalem this past summer was difficult. Rioting and nationalistic crimes occurred throughout the city, while an IDF ground operation began in Gaza. Rockets were intercepted over my apartment as I studied for my final exams.

When the Operation expanded in July, many of my friends were called to serve. I will never forget the morning of July 20 when I found out that at least 16 soldiers had been killed the night before in Gaza. When I learned that two of those soldiers were American lone soldiers, one of them an acquaintance named Max Steinberg, my chest dropped. Max was from California serving in the Golani Brigade. Like my family, Max's family was a typical American Jewish family who loved their son, and supported him when he decided to move to Israel. The losses that night really hit home for me, and I didn't know what to make of them. I couldn't stop thinking about how horrible it would be if something had happened to me in combat, and my family finding out thousands of miles away. I remember calling



Becca Gerger

my dad that night and telling him how alone I felt.

Max's funeral was held on July 23 at Mount Herzl. As I was sitting on the train towards Mount Herzl, I remember trying to hold back the tears. I wondered who would show up to these soldiers' funerals? How would their families cope with what had happened, when there are so few people they could turn to who had been through what they were about to go through?

To my surprise, by the time I arrived to Mount Herzl there were so many people I could not even see the burial site. The heavy feeling in my chest left my body when I raised my head and saw thousands of people in all directions gathering to lay Max to rest with his family. Instead of crying, I smiled. I was in disbelief. More

than 30,000 Israelis from all over the country gathered to be with Max's family and show their love and support on this one occasion. I realized that all of Israel was there for Max, and for all the lone soldiers who had ever decided to leave their homes abroad to come and defend the state of Israel. It was the first time in my life that I knew with certainty I was in the right place, and that just as Max had been there for the Jewish state of Israel, Israel was there for him. No matter how alone I had felt as a foreigner all these years, I was never alone.

So when asked what is so special about Israel, I have a new answer. What's so beautiful about the Jewish state is not just its culture or its place in history, it is the Jewish morals that drive society from the inside out. From the

most secular Israeli to the most religious, there was no Israeli who did not feel the heavy burden of every single person who died during the military operation this summer. I can think of no other country in the world where tens of thousands of people with no connection whatsoever to a young soldier from another country would show up to his funeral with heavy hearts and a true sense of appreciation for this one human being. Israeli culture values life, and the life of one matters to all, no matter who you are or who you know.

The connectedness between Jewish people, and the support between us all, has made me more grateful than ever to be a Jewish Israeli American living in this world. ☆

## Jewish Federation Impact 365



*Impact365 hosted a Scotch & Cigars Tasting this past October. Participants sampled a selection of scotches, partook of hearty appetizers, and finished the evening with cigars on the patio.*

*Save the date for Impact365 Annual Comedy Night: Saturday, January 10.*

*Impact365 is a giving society for young adults donating a dollar-a-day (\$365) to the Jewish Federation Annual Campaign.*



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**www.jewishcharlotte.org**



# Bernstein Leadership Group: Shaping Charlotte's Next Generation of Young Leaders

By Don and Bobbi Bernstein

When a "young leadership program" was first proposed 18 years ago at a Federation board meeting, we were inspired and excited at the prospect of funding it. We believed that identifying and educating young leaders was not only in the best interest of our Jewish Community, but it gave us a perfect avenue to replace ourselves. It has been a spectacular success due to the vision and hard work of both the professionals and lay people who have been involved. It has educated, inspired, and motivated hundreds of young adults in our community. It has fostered commitment to Jewish values, lasting friendships, and awareness of leadership opportunities. It has fulfilled its promise, as graduates of the Bernstein Leadership Program are, today, in leadership positions throughout the Jewish community and beyond. We couldn't be more proud.

In recent years, our focus has been on perpetuating our charitable giving through endowments. Bernstein Leadership has been such a successful component of our Jewish Community and so satisfying personally, that we wanted to make sure it would continue even when we're gone. Young leaders are our future and to have had a part in shaping their values is a legacy for which we are most grateful and proud. Our hope is that others will be inspired to leave a legacy gift to their program or institution of choice. It will make a real difference for future generations.

We are excited to announce the



Bobbie Bernstein, Jason Spiegler (YL Recipient), Don Bernstein.

August graduation of the ninth class of BLG under the leadership of chair Lisa Blau. We ask you to take note of this year's graduates, listed below. Share these names with your chairs, your directors and your agencies. Let our entire community rejoice in the fact that these young people have stepped forward to make an important statement and commitment through their activism and generosity of time, spirit, and resources.

**Sara Abadi, Camilla Bahr, Jason Boschan, Evan Brown, Eric Cohen, Elana Congress, Rachel Couchenour, Tali Dippold, Katie Drucker, Tamara Friedlander, Brad Kirchenbaum, David Krusch, Andrew Rosen, Jennifer Rosen, Jessie Sachs, Mark Schreiber, David Sheffer, Julie Sheffer, Adam Silver, Marc Sokolowicz, Diana Warth, Aaron Weiner, David Weiss, Evan Weiss, Sean White, Martha Yesowitch, Joe Zeibert, Marisa Zeibert**

Recruitment for Class X of the Bernstein Leadership Group will take place this winter. For more information on how you or some-

one you know can take part in this exciting program, please contact Tair Giudice, Director of Outreach & Engagement, [tair.giudice@jewishcharlotte.org](mailto:tair.giudice@jewishcharlotte.org) or 704-944-6759. ☆

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This year's Bernstein Leadership Group graduation. Graduates listed above.

The Donald H. and Barbara K. Bernstein Leadership Development Group has been shaping our community's next generation of leaders for close to twenty years. This 18-month program of the Jewish Federation offers young adults (ages 21-45) a unique opportunity to gain a more intimate view of our Jewish community. During the 18-month program, BLG participants delve into the Jewish tradition of social responsibility and learn valuable leadership skills that will help them contribute to improving our community.



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UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS

# Remembering Yitzchak Rabin

By Adi Rodavsky, community shlichah

On November 4, 1995, Israel's Prime Minister and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin was shot to

death by a Jewish assassin. I was seven at the time and when my mother woke me up on the morning of November 5 telling me that our prime minister was dead, I

was not able to comprehend her shock and sadness. I did not know why anyone would want to murder a prime minister, especially when my mother told me he was murdered at a rally whose slogan was "Yes to Peace - No to Violence."

Despite being Minister of Defense and also serving as the chief of staff for the IDF during the Six-Day War, Rabin was a supporter of the peace process between Israel and the Palestinians. He oversaw the peace treaty between Israel and Jordan in 1994, a lasting peace which has enabled great cooperation between the two states. Rabin's greatest aspiration was to see two peaceful people, the Israelis and the Palestinians, living side by side. He played a crucial role in the signing of the Oslo Accords in 1992; this treaty laid the foundation to the creation of Palestinian National Authority and also granted it partial control over parts of the Gaza Strip and West Bank.

I learned much later in my life just how violent times were then. Not everyone agreed with Rabin's vision of peace and some were radical enough to actively promote violent rallies against Rabin. This political violence eventually led to Rabin's murder; mere minutes after he stood before the supporters of peace and sang the iconic line "sing a song for love and for wars."

Just this July my parents took me to Tel Aviv and we passed the place where Rabin was killed and we sat in the square which is now named after him and talked about him and his dreams of peace. "It's hard," my mother said, "to believe it could still happen. It's as if the chance for peace has died with



Yitzchak Rabin

ence ruthlessly ended his life and he passed before his time and before he could bring the peace he was dreaming of. Yet his heritage is and should continue to be a passionate, stubborn, unyielding hope for peace. Despite the difficult times we have seen and will continue to see, our message as Jewish people should be as clear today as it was in 1995: "Yes to Peace - No to Violence."

The people of Israel mark Yitzhak Rabin Memorial Day with ceremonies at school, with articles and movies about this remarkable man and all that he still symbolizes for us as a people. Yet I feel that we as Jewish people, devoted to the Mitzvah of Tikkun Olam, must carry the memory of Rabin with us each day, keep the flame alive so that one day it could shine the way to a bright, peaceful future for Israelis, Palestinians, and the people of the world.

I wish you all a wonderful, peaceful month. ✨

him." This was during Protective Edge and our stay in Tel Aviv was short because of the fear of missiles. It was easy, too easy, to lose hope during those days. However, Rabin saw difficult days as well; he saw wars and terror and yet he did not lose his faith in peace. We, Israelis and American alike, have seen great violence during our lives in different parts of the world and it would have been that radical violence's victory to see us lose our hope for a better future.

Rabin did not lose hope. Vio-



**Larry Horowitz, CLU, ChFC**

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## Climb the Ladder of Jewish Literacy with the Levine-Sklut Judaic Library

As the temperatures begin to drop and the leaves begin to change colors we know fall is coming. For the Levine-Sklut Judaic Library (LSJL) fall weather signals it is time to get to work on our annual campaign fundraiser. The most important piece of our annual campaign is you. The LSJL is the center for Jewish Resources in Charlotte and everything that we do is made possible through generous donations from community members like you. As a community library we serve every member of the community by featuring resources that interest everyone. In order to achieve that goal we need your help so that we can work towards enhancing Jewish Literacy in the Charlotte area. We house resources to facilitate learning whether it is about textual studies, history, culture, and so much more.

In addition to providing the Charlotte area with written materials and resources, we also provide the area with programming that increases Jewish Literacy in adults and children alike. For children we provide interactive programs that reach students from preschool through high-school. Adults can further their knowledge by taking part in our adult education classes through the Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning. Adults are engaged in multidimensional learning with clergy who are passionate about enhancing Jewish Literacy.

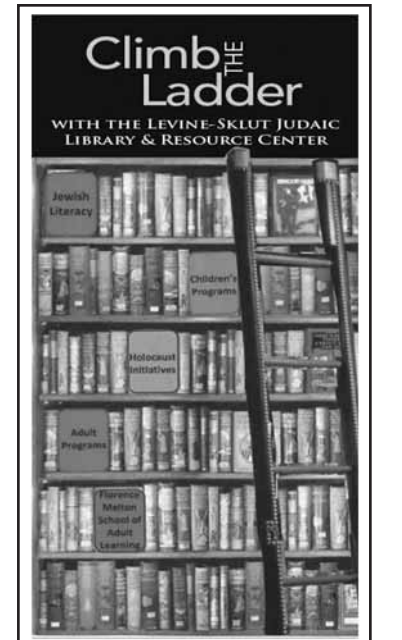
Did this brief introduction

about the library spark your interest? We hope it did, and in order to continue these amazing programs and initiatives we need your help and support. Without the continued support of the community we serve these programs would not be available. Please help us today in our goal of climbing the ladder of Jewish Literacy. It is time to take the next step and make your donation today.

Donations can be made online at [www.lsjl.org](http://www.lsjl.org) under the "Support Us" tab, or by calling 704-944-6763.

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