

Your Funds at the Jewish Community Foundation of Orange County work to support our community.

Here at the Jewish Community Foundation of Orange County, we have granted thousands of dollars to the Orange County Community Scholar Program over the last three years. Donors like Lillian and Sam Marks (featured on back) created endowed gifts which provide funding to local Jewish institutions each year into perpetuity.

Community Scholar Program

When asked how to describe the mission of the Orange County Community Scholar Program ("CSP"), Arie Katz, Founder of the local Jewish non-profit, is ready with a quick response: "We educate Jews and celebrate Judaism."

Since 2001, CSP has hosted close to 500 educational events in the community ranging from lunchtime lectures and evening salons, to an annual adults only retreat to the yearly one month scholar program, which includes 30 presentations in a variety of locations throughout the county and attracts close to 2,000 participants.



A small sample of the incredible variety of CSP presenters since 2001 includes: Harold Kushner, Amy Jill Levine, Clive Lawton, Marc Michael Epstein, Lawrence Kushner, Neshama Carlebach, Avigdor Shinan, Adin Steinsaltz, Larry Hoffman, Jonathan Sarna, Wendy Wasserstein, Yitz and Blu Greenberg, Saul Berman, Daniel Matt, Rachel Korazim, Stephen Berk, Rachel Elinor, Shaya Gafni, Ed Feinstein, Naomi Levy, Ron Wolfson and Marvin Tokayer.

In addition to hosting an interesting array of speakers on a wide variety of topics, CSP offers Orange County residents multiple opportunities each year

to celebrate Judaism together as a community with an annual Friday night "Shabbat Alive" in Bommer Canyon (this year, the theme was Jewish-Gospel), a family retreat, summer family camping, and a fall dads & kids "in-tents" camping adventure. Camping CSP-style includes an outdoor chef, musical talent and impressive bonfire building. Over the past 8 years, CSP has explored the Sierras, Kings Canyon, Catalina Island, Joshua Tree, Anza Borrego, Santa Cruz Island, Death Valley, Red Rock and the Grand Canyon, weaving Shabbat celebrations and the integration of Jewish values and traditions into each experience.



**The legacy created by Lillian and Sam Marks lives on,
enhancing Jewish education every year into perpetuity.**

In 1988, Lillian and Sam Marks created an Endowment Fund to support Jewish education. During their lifetimes, the Marks saw the positive impact their donation made on the organizations they supported each year. Now, even after their passing, the Sam and Lillian Marks Area of Interest Education Fund continues to generate funds for local organizations providing Jewish education.

The Marks used an Endowment Fund to invest and maintain the principal of their donation at the Jewish Community Foundation. This fund provides a percentage of the balance each year to organizations supporting Jewish education.

Over the years, checks have been received in the name of the Lillian and Sam Marks' fund by many organizations, including CSP, the OC Yiddish Club, Nefesh Minyon (a community congregation for young adults), and Congregation B'nai Israel



Teen staff at Community Scholar Program camping trip

for their Yom Ha'atzmaut Israel experience. This single gift continues to create positive impact in the way the Marks intended each year – providing a legacy of Jewish education to hundreds of Jewish adults and children.

What will *your* legacy be?

“ Our legacy is to ensure our grandkids and their children enjoy vibrant Jewish lives and perpetuate Jewish values.”

– Ralph and Sue Stern

For more information
contact Wendy Arenson,
Director of Legacy Planning
wendy@jcfov.org



1 Federation Way, Suite 210
Irvine, CA 92603-0174
949.435.3490
www.jcfov.org

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