



JEWISH COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
ORANGE COUNTY

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2025

IT'S HAPPENING – JEWISH STREET ART FESTIVAL IN ORANGE COUNTY

The Jewish Community Foundation Orange County is hosting the Jewish Street Art Festival, which began in May and continues through the fall. Vibrant, large-scale murals by Jewish urban street artists from across the U.S. and Israel are being created at locations throughout Orange County. **A one-day Festival event on August 24th will highlight the Jewish Street Art Experience.**

Founded by artist and designer Hillel Smith, who first brought the event to Jerusalem in 2019 and later launched decentralized versions across North America, the Jewish Street Art Festival comes to Orange County with the Jewish Community Foundation's Weissman Arts Program serving as cultural co-producer and driving community partnerships for this regional rendition. This year's return to an in-person format will feature 11 new murals by nine acclaimed artists, including Rabbi Yitzchok Mouly, Mike Wirth, Louis Barak, Adam Podber, Alexander Golob, and Dede Bandida with Nitzan Mintz.

Murals have already been painted in Santa Ana, Irvine, Huntington Beach (pictured on right), with more to come! Visit jewishstreetart.com/tag/2025/ to learn more about the meaning behind each work of art!

Register now to join us on August 24th at the Merage JCC, located at 1 Federation Way in Irvine, to celebrate the Jewish Street Art Festival! Free Workshops have limited capacity and are filling up fast!

Enjoy interactive workshops, from graffiti tote-bag stenciling to hip-hop dance in the Family Zone, meet artists in an "UnPanel," watch live graffiti spray-paint demos, and join thought-provoking conversations like the Graff Heals panel.



Shalom by Hillel Smith in Downtown Santa Ana. Hillel uses his distinctive experimental lettering to spell out the word Shalom in Hebrew.



Together at Sinai is a collaborative mural painted by artists Yitzchok Mouly and Shaina Yarmush with the students of Hebrew Academy Community Day School of Orange County.



"Koach" by Mike Wirth at Hillel at UC Irvine captures strength through vibrant imagery.



Eureka by Louis Barak in Downtown Santa Ana. Every element of this mural artistically honors pieces of Orange County's rich Jewish history that unfolded right here in this very neighborhood beginning in the 1920s.



JOIN
US

SUNDAY
AUGUST
24
2025
10AM - 4PM

WEISSMAN ARTS
JEWISH COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
ORANGE COUNTY

PRESENTS —
**Jewish Street Art
Experience:
Live @ the JCC
OPEN TO THE WHOLE FAMILY**

**MEET THE ARTISTS
LIVE DEMOS
HANDS-ON ART
DELICIOUS FOOD**

at the MERAGE JCC
1 FEDERATION WAY
IRVINE CA 92603

visit jcfoc.org/weissman-arts/



REGISTER TODAY FOR DYNAMIC WORKSHOPS, ACTIVITIES, AND EVENTS LED BY TALENTED URBAN JEWISH ARTISTS

TOGETHER WE GUARANTEE A JEWISH TOMORROW

JCFOC FUND HOLDER SPOTLIGHT

BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE THROUGH JEWISH VALUES

Meet Susan & Robert

Susan Mattisinko and Robert De Leon are newer to Orange County, but their philanthropic impact is already significant. As **dedicated fund holders** and **committee members** at the Jewish Community Foundation Orange County (JCFOC), they are combining their passion for environmental sustainability with a commitment to strengthening Jewish community life. Their giving is fueled by purpose, aiming to create a more resilient and connected future.

The couple's approach to philanthropy is deeply personal, rooted in family traditions of giving and volunteerism. By involving their adult children in philanthropic activities, they're ensuring these values continue to the next generation. "We want our children to have philanthropy in their DNA," Susan explains. "It's about more than just donating money, it's about inspiring the next generation to give back."



Susan & Robert
in Machu Picchu, Peru



Susan & Robert's
daughters

Shortly after moving from LA, they organized a COVID-era Jewish environmental bike ride in partnership with Adamah. The event exceeded expectations, raising over \$20,000 and uniting the community during a time of isolation. "We grew up with an appreciation for the outdoors and felt we could help bring people together," Robert shares. "Orange County offers a great opportunity to make a meaningful contribution."

That success led to the creation of Adamah's Orange County Climate Action Fund, supported by an **endowment fund** established by Susan and Robert **at JCFOC** to support local Jewish nonprofits in implementing energy-efficient upgrades. The initiative has since inspired similar funds in other communities. JCFOC has been a proud partner, providing structure and credibility to their efforts. "We knew the Foundation could help connect different community resources," Susan notes. Susan and Robert's OC philanthropic engagement has flourished at JCFOC, with their establishment of additional endowment funds benefiting both their congregation and Hillel. **These endowment funds send out gifts to their favorite charities every year in their names to ensure funds will be available now and for generations to come.**

What Will Your Legacy Be? Join Susan, Robert and more than 1,000 OC community members in **Life & Legacy** by contacting Wendy Arenson at wendy@jcfo.org or 949.435.3490.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2025 GRANT RECIPIENTS

This year, the JCFOC Grants Committee, made up of local community lay leaders, awarded

64 GRANTS to
44 OC ORGANIZATIONS, with over
70,000 INDIVIDUALS
of all ages expected to participate.

Over \$6M has been awarded since inception of our grants program. We invest in community-led projects that deepen engagement, nurture Jewish identity and connection, and build a more vibrant, resilient community - and a thriving Jewish future in Orange County.

