

HILLEL JUC

presents

HILLEL JUC



CAMPUS



SUPERSTAR



2024



SHOWTIME!

Sunday, April 14th

5:30 pm

Stage AE

Hillel

The Edward and Rose Berman
Hillel Jewish University Center
of Pittsburgh

Campus Superstar 2024

FINALISTS



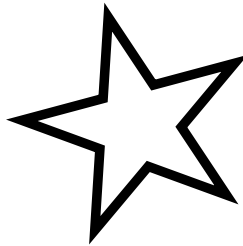
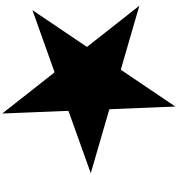
The proceeds from tonight's event benefit Hillel JUC Students

The Edward and Rose Berman Hillel Jewish University Center of Pittsburgh (Hillel JUC) is the center of Jewish life for students from Carnegie Mellon University, University of Pittsburgh, Chatham University, Duquesne University, and other area colleges, serving an estimated 2,200 undergraduate students. For a diverse group of students from various backgrounds and interests, the Hillel JUC provides a nurturing environment where students can both explore and participate in the vibrant world of Jewish life on campus.

Based on the premise that college life involves much more than attending classes, the Hillel JUC provides the environment and tools that empower students to help shape their future as Jewish young adults. Our student-designed and student-led programs challenge them to learn and grow, choosing from an array of religious, cultural, political, and social options based on individual interests.

By engaging and empowering students to help create their own center for Jewish life on campus, the Hillel JUC serves as a training ground for future Jewish leaders and committed members of the community.

For more information, please visit www.hilleljuc.org.



Executive Director and Board Chair Message



Daniel Marcus
Executive Director & CEO



Aaron Leaman
Board Chair

Welcome to Campus Superstar 2024! We are so happy to have you join us for another incredible event. Each year we are astonished by the remarkable talent of our Pittsburgh area students. It is a privilege to see and hear them perform. Our immense gratitude goes to everyone who has made this event possible: a huge thank you to Jill Machen and the band, the performers, audience, donors, and the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh for supporting Hillel JUC and Campus Superstar.

As you know, Campus Superstar is the annual fundraising event for The Edward and Rose Berman Hillel Jewish University Center of Pittsburgh. The essential funds raised by Campus Superstar provide us with the resources to engage with every Jewish student and to build authentic relationships. These crucial funds allow us to host Shabbat and holiday experiences, provide leadership training, social justice activities, Jewish learning fellowships, Challah for Change braids and baking, Israel education and advocacy—and so much more.

The mission of our Hillel JUC is “to enrich the lives of Jewish students so that they may enrich the Jewish people and the world.” Our fantastic staff and amazing student leaders strive each day to meet this ambitious goal. We believe that every Jewish college student has an important chapter to write in the story of the Jewish people. With your partnership, we can ensure that they have the resources and support needed to write their meaningful chapter. We know that our commitment to every Jewish student is our best investment in ensuring dedicated Jewish leaders for tomorrow.

About

Lynne and Blair Jacobson



Lifelong Pittsburghers, Lynne and Blair have never had a desire to live anywhere else, as long as they can travel.

Although both went to Colfax and Allerdice, they had never met before a blind date in 1963 resulted in this merger, and subsequent generations. Their children, Larry and Missy Jacobson, Teddi and David Horvitz, and grandchildren, Nora and Abby, have been central to their long marriage since all live in Pittsburgh.

Lynne is an alumna of Chatham College and Blair graduated from Pitt. They have moved from Shadyside to Squirrel Hill and back to Shadyside - a total distance of 1.9 miles.

Blair's 63-year career as a financial advisor specializing in life insurance and employee benefits began with Equitable Life, and included National Financial Partners, The Wagner Agency and evolved through the years into Jacobson Associates, Inc.

continued

Lynne and Blair Jacobson

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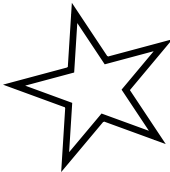
His hard work and success enabled them to travel extensively, with insurance companies and independently, to all seven continents.

Lynne's "career" was mainly as household executive, but she took a detour to be the first employee of Pittsburgh's Race for the Cure in the early 90's. She was also a private pilot with an instrument rating, and enjoyed rappelling off Pittsburgh skyscrapers for a good cause. While she was airborne, Blair was pedaling his bike with the OMBC (Old Men's Bicycle Club) around the city or to Erie as part of the MS-150 Escape to the Lake a dozen years.

They have been active volunteers involved in many community organizations, including as board members and as presidents or chairs. A list would put everyone to sleep.

Their love of Broadway, especially musical theater, brought them to Campus Superstar early in the series and led to them co-chairing the 2015 competition honoring Natalie & Larry Kaplan. They have had the pleasure of seeing a number of the winners in shows ON BROADWAY - a special joy.

Lynne and Blair both believe that access to Jewish programming before adulthood is very important to one's future identity as active members of the Jewish community. After Sunday School, Hebrew school, and Jewish summer camp, Hillel becomes a very important factor. They appreciate and applaud the importance of Hillel in providing this for our communities during the important college years, especially in the current environment.



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Campus Superstar

FINALISTS

Max Elliott Braunstein	Carnegie Mellon University
Jackson Haywood	Carnegie Mellon University
Janessa Minta	Carnegie Mellon University
Matty Palmer	Carnegie Mellon University
Benji Santiago	Carnegie Mellon University
Diana Craycroft	University of Pittsburgh
Cammi Caldwell	Point Park University
Miles Hanna	Point Park University
Isabel Mincy	Point Park University
Jordan Threatt	Point Park University
Alternates:	
Lola Hodgins	University of Pittsburgh
Daphne Riddle	Point Park University

Emcee

Kelly Dzanaj

Special Guest Performer

Jack Ducat

Campus Superstar 2023 Winner

Talent Coach, Writer and Director

Jill Machen

Campus Superstar Band

Justin Bendel, Bass Guitar

Brian Lee, Keyboard and Conductor

Gino Maione, Drums

John Maione, Guitar and Arranger

Nina Mascio, Keyboard

Stage Manager

Jessica Haidet

Photography

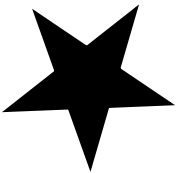
Christina Montemurro Photography

Finalists



Max Elliott Braunstein
Carnegie Mellon

Max Elliott Braunstein (he/him/his) is so excited to be performing tonight! Hailing from Vermillion, South Dakota, Max came to Pittsburgh to pursue a BFA in musical theatre at Carnegie Mellon University. He's currently in his junior year. Outside of theatre, Max loves writing music, skiing, and cooking while watching MasterChef to feel like he's in the competition. Max plans to move to New York City after graduation and is stoked for what the future holds. Shoutout to Hillel JUC for this incredible opportunity, his family's boundless support, and his dog, Milo. Insta: @mebrauns



Jackson Haywood
Carnegie Mellon

Jackson Haywood is highly honored and excited for the opportunity to be a finalist in this year's Campus Superstar. Jackson was born in Charlotte, North Carolina, but calls Clover, South Carolina home. He attends Carnegie Mellon University, majoring in Musical Theater. As a freshman, Jackson embraces every opportunity presented before him, and he is only just beginning. Music and entertainment have been the heart of Jackson's life and the motivation of his soul. Growing up in the church, Gospel music is the foundation of Jackson's love for music and storytelling. In full gratitude, Jackson would like to thank G-d, his family, friends, the CMU community, and Hillel JUC for his opportunity to perform tonight. He hopes that as you watch him perform, you will experience the magic of the moment he feels when performing.





Janessa Minta

Carnegie Mellon

Janessa Minta is currently a sophomore at Carnegie Mellon University pursuing a degree in musical theatre, and absolutely stoked to be here. Originally from Oregon, they're thankful for their hometown's small but mighty community theatre that inspired them to chase their dreams. They have a passion for screenwriting, jazz, and just about anything that gets them on a stage. They extend their thanks to Hillel JUC for this opportunity to work with so many talented artists.



Matty Palmer

Carnegie Mellon

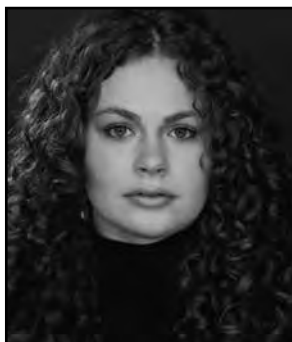
Matty Palmer is so grateful and excited to share the stage once again with many talented singers in Campus Superstar! A current sophomore in the Musical Theatre program at Carnegie Mellon University, he calls both Southern California and Southeast Kansas his home. When not singing or acting, Matty loves learning all types of different instruments, cooking, and nerding-out with video games. Recently, he played Pippin in *Pippin* over the summer and will soon be in *Sweeney Todd* at Tibbits Opera playing Toby! He wants to thank all his friends, family, roommate, Hudson, and Gary Kline at Carnegie for their never-ending support and love!



Benji Santiago

Carnegie Mellon

Benji Santiago is so pumped to be performing in Campus Superstar among such incredible vocalists. Benji grew up in Orlando, Florida, and is currently a sophomore Musical Theatre major at Carnegie Mellon University. Some favorite musical credits include Melchior in *Spring Awakening*, and Malvolio in *Twelfth Night*. Among other things, he is proficient at playing the drums, hip-hop dance, freestyle rap, and pretending to be Jeremy Allen White. Tonight, he's singing for his lovely family and friends. Thank you, Mom!



Cammi Caldwell

Point Park University

Cammi Caldwell is originally from Cincinnati, Ohio and is currently a senior musical theater major at Point Park University. You might have seen her at the Pittsburgh Playhouse in productions such as *Rent*, *In Pieces* and *Sondheim on Sondheim*. Cammi is happy to be sharing the stage with a lovely community of artists and hopes you enjoy the hard work of all the contestants and creative team!
@cammicalldwell





Miles Hanna

Point Park University

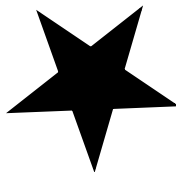
Miles Hanna is a senior musical theater major at Point Park University. A few of Miles' credits consist of Benjamin Coffins III, *RENT*, (Point Park University) Joel, *Little Children Dream of G-d*, (Point Park University); Otto, *Spring Awakening* (Point Park University); *Swing, In Pieces*, (Point Park University); *Swing, Newsies*, (Point Park University); Ru, *Merrily We Roll Along*, (Front Porch Theatricals); Frank Decker, *Working*, (The Theatre Lab in DC); Performer/Director, *CAMA on Broadway*, (Capital Area Music Association); Sir Lancelot, *Spamalot*, (The Theatre Lab in DC). Thank you! Please enjoy the show! It's an honor to be part of Campus Superstar this year! Please sit and relax and enjoy everyone's spectacular performance!!!
@mileshanna27_



Isabel Mincy

Point Park University

Isabel Mincy is a sophomore BFA Musical Theatre major at Point Park University. She is so excited to be a finalist in Campus Superstar! Some of her favorite credits include Crutchie in *Newsies*, Ella in *Cinderella*, Tin Man in *The Wizard of Oz*, and most recently, Woman 1 U/S in Richard Maltby Jr.'s *Closer Than Ever*. Isabel enjoys singing all different genres of music and plays piano in her spare time. She would like to thank her friends and family for their unending love and support, and her voice teacher Giovanna for always encouraging her and helping her grow!

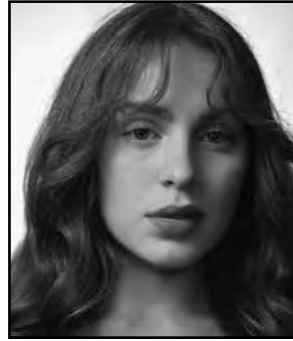
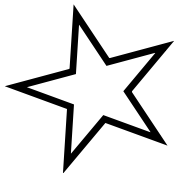




Jordan Threatt

Point Park University

Jordan Threatt is a senior musical theater major at Point Park University, and he is so excited to be performing at this year's Campus Superstar event. Before he discovered his love for musical theater, he had a voice and a song to sing since the tender age of two! He is so excited to be sharing his gift and love with everybody here tonight. Sit back and bask in the magic. "Leave your heart and soul out on stage for the audience, and create something magical with your gift and hopefully you'll feel that magic tonight."



Diana Craycroft

University of Pittsburgh

Diana Craycroft is delighted to be a finalist in Campus Superstar! Diana previously studied at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts in the professional actor training program. She is currently majoring in nutrition science and minoring in theatre at the University of Pittsburgh. She can be seen behind the camera in various short films at UNCSCA, including, *Sammy*, *Without Strings* (Beautiful Woman), *What It Takes* (Vivian), *Homer*, *Teller of Tales* (Lachesis), and fan film, *Spiderman: Hunted* (MJ); she will be reprising her role of MJ in the sequel filming this spring. Her favorite stage roles include Eliza Doolittle in *My Fair Lady*, Mary Poppins in *Mary Poppins: the Musical*, and Maria in *The Sound of Music*. She wants to thank Hillel JUC and hopes everyone has a blast at Campus Superstar! Her gratitude always goes to her parents, friends, and teachers who have inspired her to follow her creative dreams!

Alternates



Daphne Riddle

Point Park University

Daphne Riddle is a sophomore musical theatre major at Point Park University and is honored to be performing alongside so many talented artists! Originally from McMinnville, Oregon, Daphne is very close with her family, and appreciates their unconditional support. Most recently, she was seen in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* at the Pittsburgh Playhouse as an ensemble member, and the understudy for Rosa Bud. Daphne is so grateful to be living out her dreams in Pittsburgh and can't wait to see where these next few years at Point Park take her!



Lola Hodgins

University of Pittsburgh

Lola Hodgins is a lifelong performer and student at the University of Pittsburgh studying Urban Planning and Geographical Analysis. She is super excited to take part in Campus Superstar this year! Lola's favorite way to perform is through singing, specifically musical theatre. Some past roles include: Emma Carew (*Jekyll & Hyde*), Little Sally (*Urinetown*), Cinderella (*Into the Woods*), and Logainne (*25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*). Thank you to Hillel JUC for this opportunity!



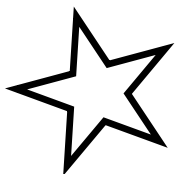
Who's Who



Jill Machen

Talent Coach, Writer and Director of Campus Superstar

Jill Machen has returned to direct and produce her 16th Campus Superstar after launching the first Hillel production. Ms. Machen is a director and choreographer and has received Gene Kelly awards and nominations locally for her work on *Pippin*, *The Hot Mikado*, and *Urinetown*. Jill writes and directs original material as well. Her inventive revue "No Reservations" received critical acclaim and recognition in the Post-Gazette. Jill spends time participating in a series of Broadway workshops each summer, attending master classes with current Broadway casts and production teams. It has been especially exciting over the years to watch the progress of the many former campus superstar contestants working and performing in NYC, on tour, and on Broadway! In addition to directing, Jill is a private audition coach for actors and students looking toward careers in acting and musical theatre. Though she has many other credits of which she is proud, Jill's favorite and greatest productions (which she co-directs with husband Michael) are the smash hits, "IT'S A GIRL," starring Lindsay, and the sequel, "IT'S A GIRL 2" starring Jennifer. A new spinoff from the "Girl" series is now affording Jill the opportunity to play her greatest role yet; that of Granmummy to Baby Jackie Ann. Jill is looking forward to further expanding the franchise in the near future with additional productions.



Who's Who



Kelly Dzanaj

Emcee

Kelly Dzanaj joined Talk Pittsburgh in April as co-host alongside Heather Abraham and Mikey Hood. She is a born-and-bred Pittsburgher, graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School in the South Hills and has been in the media market for 11 years. A proud Penn State graduate, Kelly has been the host of 100.7 STAR's Afternoon Drive from 2-7 p.m. and has loved every minute of getting to connect with Pittsburghers every single day. Her work has been nationally-recognized with a coveted Gracie Award in 2022 (think Oscars for women in media!) and is Pittsburgh City Paper's Best Radio Personality two out of the last three years!

Kelly resides in Washington County (Peters Township) with her husband and two children. She loves talking about Pittsburgh to Pittsburghers, every single day, on a variety of platforms.



Jack Ducat

Special Guest Performer

Campus Superstar 2023 Winner

Jack Ducat (he/him) is thrilled to be returning to Campus Superstar this year! Jack is an upcoming Senior Music Theatre Major at Carnegie Mellon University, and won Campus Superstar last year after singing "Feeling Good". He was recently seen at Carnegie Mellon in *Lear*, and is currently in *A Little Night Music*, which is running through April 20th! This summer, he can be seen in *The Wedding Singer* with Eclipse Theatre before he departs for a semester abroad at the National Institute of Dramatic Art in Australia. He would like to thank his family for their endless support, and Campus Superstar for this opportunity. Enjoy the show!

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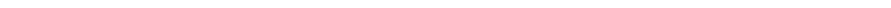
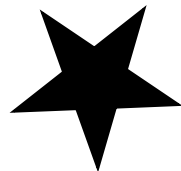
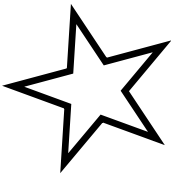
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**applauds the wonderful
efforts of Hillel JUC,
true community leaders
Lynne and Blair Jacobson
and all of the talented
Campus Superstar
contestants!**



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Congratulations to honorees
Lynne and Blair Jacobson.**



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**IT IS OUR GREAT PLEASURE
TO CONGRATULATE THIS
YEAR'S HONOREES
LYNNE AND BLAIR JACOBSON**

**Your vision and leadership have helped
To make the Hillel JUC the wonderful place it is
for Jewish campus life in Pittsburgh.**

**We are so proud of you!
Rose and Ed Berman**

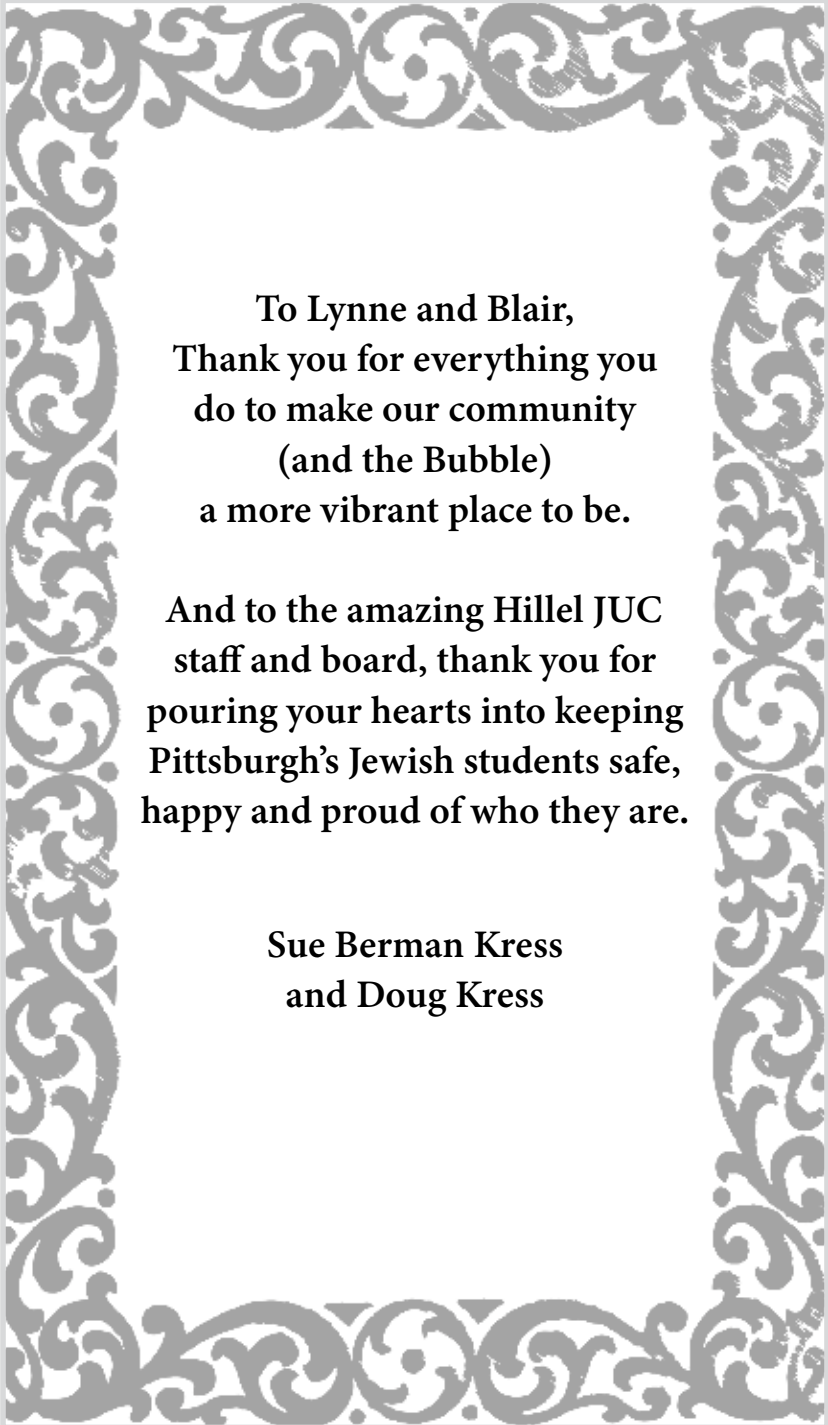
Congratulations to
Lynne and Blair Jacobson

and thank you for
supporting Hillel JUC.

We wish you all the best!

Rhoda and Chuck Steiner





**To Lynne and Blair,
Thank you for everything you
do to make our community
(and the Bubble)
a more vibrant place to be.**

**And to the amazing Hillel JUC
staff and board, thank you for
pouring your hearts into keeping
Pittsburgh's Jewish students safe,
happy and proud of who they are.**

**Sue Berman Kress
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Hillel JUC, your staff and Board,
for your exceptional care of the students during
this especially difficult time and all year long.
You provide a home-away-from home and a
place to learn things not found in books.*

We appreciate all that you do!

Superstar finalists - you are all winners!

*Grateful & proud to be part of this,
Lynne & Blair Jacobson*



BRAVO

To our wildly talented
2024 Campus Superstar students:

Max Elliott Braunstein

Jackson Haywood

Janessa Minta

Matty Palmer

Benji Santiago

Congratulations!
You inspire and amaze us!

**Carnegie
Mellon
University**

cmu.edu





**Congratulations to Lynne & Blair Jacobson
on this well-deserved honor
and
Good luck to all Campus Superstar contestants!
The Plung and Resnick Families**





Never underestimate the
power of a great
performance.

We are proud to support the
Hillel JUC, and we applaud the
Campus Superstar performers.

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Lynne & Blair

Your acts of kindness, leadership, and devotion to family make an impact on Jewish life every day.

Mazal Tov! We salute you and all who make this event possible. Best of luck to our Campus Superstar contestants!

Gail and Norman Childs

Jeremy Childs and Alisha Bottomly
Daniel Childs, Phebe Lockyer and Family



**Find the edge
of what's
possible.**

Congratulations

Lynne and Blair Jacobson and
to the talented contestants of
this year's Campus Superstar
competition.



University of
Pittsburgh.

pitt.edu

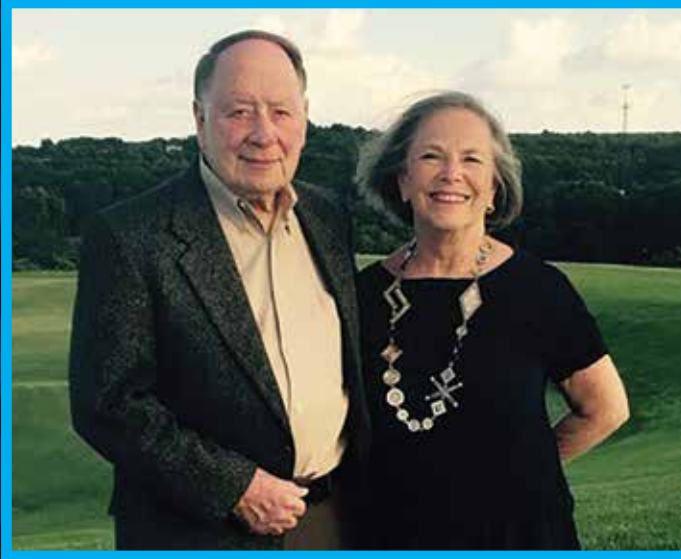
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Lynne and Blair

Your commitment to
Campus Superstar, Hillel JUC,
and our community is
FABULOUS!

The Kamon Family

Michael, Janet, Leah, Ammiel,
Tristen, Amalia, Noah,
and Luna-tic 🐾🐾



Join us
in celebrating the
exceptional achievements
and remarkable contributions
of our parents,
Lynne and Blair Jacobson.
Your dedication, passion, and
unwavering commitment to
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Congratulations on this
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Mom and Dad.
We love you.

Teddi and David Horvitz &
Larry, Missy, Nora and
Abby Jacobson

MAZEL TOV FROM THE TEAM AT



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Fragasso Financial Advisor's founder, chairman and CEO Robert Fragasso ranks #1 in Western PA, March 2024. Fragasso ranked No. 1 in Western PA for 5 years running and ranked #5 in the state in 2024. The rankings are based on data provided by around 6,000 of the nation's most productive advisors. Factors included in the rankings: assets under management, revenue produced for the firm, regulatory record, quality of practice, and philanthropic work. Investment performance isn't an explicit component because not all advisors have audited results and because performance figures often are influenced more by clients' risk tolerance than by an advisor's investment-picking abilities.

Barron's America's Top 100 Independent Advisor

Fragasso Financial Advisor's rank #2 in Western PA, 2023. The Barron's Top 100 RIA Firms ranking, is based on both qualitative and quantitative criteria, including the assets a firm manages and the revenue those assets generate, its regulatory record, staffing levels and diversity, technology spending, and succession planning.

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Mazel Tov!

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**David & Susan Kalson
proudly applaud:**

*The Campus Superstar finalists
for their talent and perseverance;*

*The Hillel JUC staff
for their dedication and
inspiration; and*


*Lynne & Blair Jacobson for
their years of supporting Hillel
JUC and its students.*

Thank you
Lynne and Blair Jacobson

Congratulations to
the Hillel JUC board,
volunteers, students, and staff.

You are all truly superstars to us!

Barbara and Danny Shapira

The background of the page features a light gray musical staff with several notes. The notes are scattered across the staff, with some appearing as eighth notes and others as quarter notes. The staff lines are curved, suggesting a specific musical key or scale. The overall aesthetic is clean and artistic, with a focus on the musical theme.

Thank you to Hillel JUC staff
and supporters for sustaining
Pittsburgh Jewish students
in good times and bad,
filling a critical need in the
Jewish continuum.

- *Mike and Yana Warshafsky*



Todah Rabah to the Hillel
staff and volunteers!

Kol Hakavod for all you do
to strengthen the Jewish
community on all of your
campuses and in Pittsburgh.
We are proud to support you.

Elizabeth, Arnold, and
Alyssa Berman



**Best wishes to all of
tonight's contestants and
congratulations to
Lynne and Blair Jacobson
on all of your hard
work and dedication
to our community.**

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CONGRATULATIONS TO
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Lynne and Blair Jacobson!

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Mazel tov
Lynne and Blair,
we love you!

- Adrienne and
Evan Indianer



Best Wishes

from David Sufrin
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**Rachel Firestone
and Jason Binder**

**Congratulations to
Lynne and Blair Jacobson
for this well-deserved
honor, and
congratulations to
all the Campus Superstar
contestants!**

The Golden Family



**Congratulations
to tonight's honorees,
the incredible
student performers,
and Hillel JUC!**

- Amy Herlich

Thank you Dan and Debbie
for all that you do for the
Pittsburgh community.
We are so happy and lucky
to have such amazing friends
who have welcomed us
with open arms.

Yael, Jay, Ben, Elliot and
of course Zach Idler



**Congratulations to
Lynne and Blair!**

Wallis Katz



**Congratulations to one of
our favorite couples!**

**Thank you Lynne and Blair for
your unending leadership and
commitment to Hillel JUC.**

**Cindy Goodman-Leib
& Scott Leib**

**The verdict
is in
and you're
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- Michele Levine
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Jacobson for supporting
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Congratulations
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Congratulations
Lynne and Blair
– well deserved!

*Barbara and Larry
Shuman*



Mazel Tov and
Congratulations to
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And to Hillel JUC!

Elizabeth Goldberg &
Mike Weisberg
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Best of luck to
all performers!

Congratulations to
this year's honorees,
Lynne and Blair
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*Mazel Tov and thanks
to Lynne and Blair
for everything you've
done for Pittsburgh!*

*Congratulations
to all of
the contestants!*

Philip and Jill Lehman

Thank you to
Lynne and Blair Jacobson
for your tremendous
support of Hillel JUC.

Mazel Tov to everyone
who has made
tonight's event such a
great success.

*Dan, Debbie, Benji,
Natan, and
Eliora Marcus*

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Best of luck to each contestant!

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**Congratulations to
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and to all the
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-Dr. Stuart Silverman



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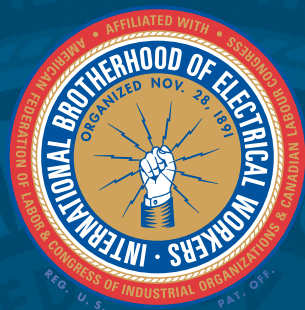
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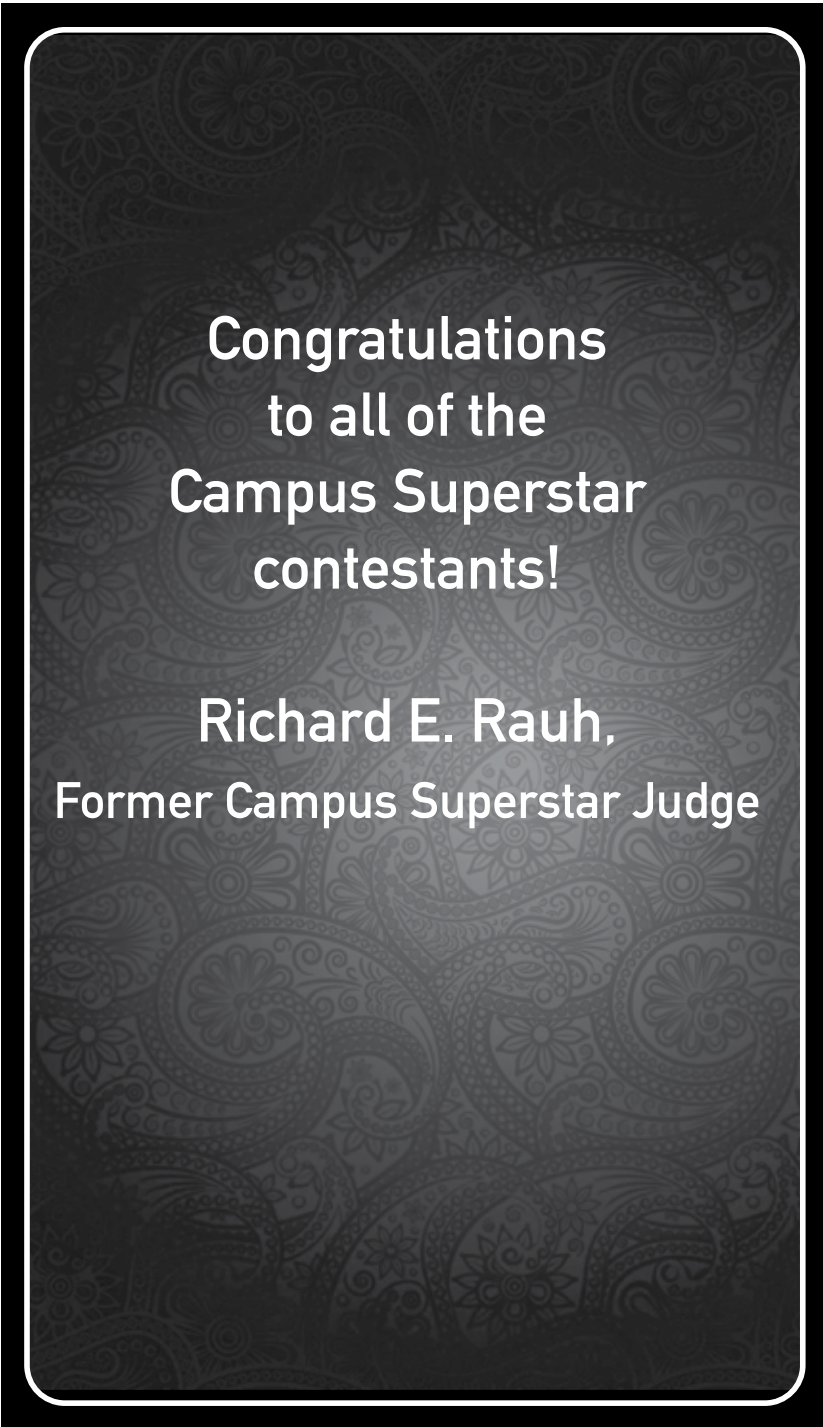
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**Congratulations
to all of the
Campus Superstar
contestants!**

**Richard E. Rauh,
Former Campus Superstar Judge**

**Lynne and Blair,
You are our Superstars.
Mazel Tov!**

The Campus Superstar 2024

Host Committee:

Eva and Bernie Bauer

Arlene and Bill Brandeis

Ruth Foltz

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Ruth and Alan Garfinkel

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Teddi and David Horvitz

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Ellen and Bob Katzen

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Carole and Harvey Wolsh



Mazel Tov

to Lynne and Blair Jacobson
on this well-deserved honor!



Thank You

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Congratulations

to all the superstars!



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The students, staff,
and Board of Governors
of Hillel JUC are
delighted to honor
Lynne and Blair
Jacobson for their
commitment and
dedication to
our community.

It has been an honor to
work with you, and to
more importantly, to get
to know you personally.
Thank you for everything
you do,
Aaron A. Leaman
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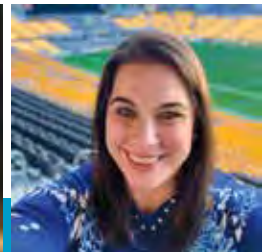
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A poster for the JUC Film Festival. The left side features a large, stylized Star of David in shades of blue and black. The right side contains the text "JUC FILM FESTIVAL" in large, bold, black letters. Below this, it says "MAY 2 - 12, 2024" in a vertical orientation. To the right of the date, it says "PRESENTED BY" above the "FiLM PITTSBURGH" logo, which includes a stylized film camera icon. At the bottom right, there is a QR code with a film camera icon in the center.



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Lynne & Blair

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Our Community!

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Lynne and Blair,
You have always
been superstars
to us.

Much love,
Dana and Jason
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Congratulations to
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Campus Superstars



**Thank you Blair and
Lynne for all you do!**

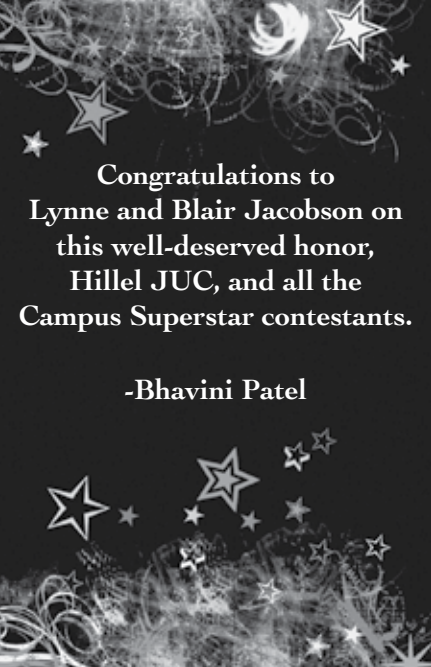


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**Congratulations to
Lynne and Blair Jacobson on
this well-deserved honor,
Hillel JUC, and all the
Campus Superstar contestants.**

-Bhavini Patel

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Congratulations to
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Lynne and Blair.
Your years of
involvement have
had such a positive
impact on our
community and beyond.
We are thrilled
to be able to
share this evening
with you.
You are Superstars!
Alan and Ruth Garfinkel



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