These are groundbreaking times for Mikva Challenge.

During the past year, we widened our reach and served a record number of youth in Action Civics programs in Illinois, Washington, DC, and California, fostering pathways to greater participation of young people in our democratic fabric. This year we celebrate with pride Mikva’s 20th anniversary. We look forward to an even stronger future, ever guided by the principle central to our founders, Abner and Zoe Mikva: the best way to learn democracy is to do democracy.

Students involved in Mikva Challenge are demonstrating that they want to be at the table; they want to have a say. As you will see in this Annual Report, we are one of the few programs in the country that is shifting students’ civic attitudes and skills and showing that young people can engage thoughtfully and responsibly in our democratic process. Further, we have found the consequences for young people to be transformative – to their sense of identity, their motivation to serve one’s community, their academic and social lives, and their development of active, informed citizenship and leadership.

Yet, far too few students have access to this kind of learning, particularly in under-resourced communities of color. This year we officially launched the Mikva Challenge National Strategy: focused efforts to expand Mikva’s Action Civics curricula and programs to youth in localities with limited opportunities. This kind of involvement in civic affairs always has been fundamental to promoting a just and equitable society. The deep rifts rocking this nation remind us that making space for informed dialogue and thoughtful participation is just as important today. Now more than ever is the need for the kind of work we do.

We want Mikva Challenge always to present the very best in innovative and best practices. Even as we expand to new sites and partner with larger numbers of teachers, school administrators, and community leaders in the Mikva movement, we hold ourselves to the highest standards in what we offer. We worked hard to earn our strong reputation. We strive to maintain it.

Will you partner with us? We cannot do this work without your support. If you, like us, are inspired by the hope for our communities and nation that these youth represent, please consider a gift to Mikva Challenge. As always, thank you.

Lauren Jones Young
Chair, National Board of Directors
A Brief History of Mikva Challenge
1995-2006

2000
100 students representing 9 schools campaign in the Iowa Primary for President. Executive Director O’Grady brought her 6 week old baby and many board members chaperoned this ambitious trip.

1999
First fundraiser held—a roast of Jack Marco, CEO of the Marco Consulting Group and former Mikva campaign manager/staffer. Almost 200K was raised and a bold trip to the Iowa Caucus was planned.

2001
Mikva launches the Summer Government and Leadership Institute (now Summer Fellows), placing rising seniors in internships with public officials at the city, county, state, and federal level.

Mikva leads a public policy trip to lobby for elections reform in Springfield.

Mikva also launches the Mikva Club and students become staples on CAN-TV with their political talk show.

First Young Women’s Leadership lunches are hosted, inviting women leaders and public officials to converse with young women.

Mikva awards $1000 Mikva college scholarships.

2000-01
Brian Brady is hired as Executive Director and brings a youth development lens to Mikva programs.

Student Election Judges program launches.

2006
Mikva students travel to Springfield to advocate for improved school funding and help host a rally for thousands of students.

2005
Mikva wins Service Learning Agency of the Year award.

Mikva’s annual operating budget surpasses $1M.

Mikva receives grants from the Kellogg Foundation and Surdna Foundation to launch Citywide Youth Councils to provide city institutions with youth voice and expertise – the inaugural council advises Arne Duncan, CEO of Chicago Public Schools and provide youth innovation grants to student activism projects.
1995
Ab Mikva retires as White House Counsel and his remarkable career at the upper echelons of all 3 branches of government.

1996
Former Mikva staff member, Ken Adams watches the funeral service for Congresswoman Barbara Jordan. Saddened that Jordan did not get the recognition she deserved in her lifetime, Adams begins brainstorming with former Mikva staff members about creating a lasting tribute to the public service careers of Ab and Zoe Mikva before it was too late for them to appreciate it.

1997
Mikva Challenge is incorporated. Founded by Ab and Zoe Mikva, with their friends (Ken and Anita Adams; Dick and Joan Wolff; Dick and Judy Meltzer; Sandy and Joan Horwitt), to mark the Mikvas’ remarkable public service legacy. The goal: inspire Chicago city youth to participate in democracy through real-life electoral experiences.

1998-99
First Executive Director, Laura O’Grady is hired. 4 teachers in 2 Chicago public high schools pilot the Mikva program. The goal was simple: get students studying the issues and candidates in an election and volunteering on campaigns. 40 students from Kelvyn Park and Bowen High Schools volunteer as campaign interns.

2002
Student Voices program brings classroom activism and electoral participation to 30 new high schools. Mikva students advocate for election reform in wake of Florida recount.

2003
Mikva moves into its own office space. Mikva receives a W.K. Kellogg Foundation grant to start the Youth Innovation Fund (YIF), a youth philanthropy group that funds youth civic engagement and activism in Chicago.

2004
Campaign trips to the New Hampshire Primary and Iowa Caucuses during presidential election years transform how student participants see their role as citizens and future voters. Every candidate clamors for photo ops with the “Mikva kids.”

McCormick Foundation supports Mikva in expanding its Student Election Judges program — partnering with the Chicago Board of Elections to recruit and train teens to serve as polling place judges, eventually becoming a national model.

Mikva receives a 3-year $500,000 grant from the Annenberg Foundation to implement “Student Voices” project, now the Issues to Action program. Youth take action on the issues they care about, sharing them at the annual Action Civics Showcase.
A Brief History continued:

2007-2019

2007
Peace & Leadership Councils are launched at 3 schools in high-violence communities, bringing Mikva’s program model to anti-violence issues.

2010
Mikva launches the Center for Action Civics to provide professional development and curriculum to educators in Chicago and eventually nationwide.

- Ron Huberman, CEO of CPS, funds the Student Advisory Council’s recommendation to pilot Student Voice Committees in 5 CPS Schools.
- Citywide Youth Councils expand — now focusing on Health, Juvenile Justice, Education, and policies of Chicago Mayor.

2011
Mikva hosts the 9th Annual Civics Fair. Over 120 students present their action projects on issues facing Chicago communities. Mikva hosts the Youth Voices Mayoral Candidate Forum with 250 students on Chicago Tonight.

2012
Mayor Rahm Emanuel approves the Mayoral Youth Commission’s recommendation to pilot the CTA Free Fare program for low-income students in 5 schools.

2013
Mikva hosts the first ever Youth Solutions Congress. Over 400 youth gather to discuss and vote on the top 15 solutions to improve health, education, employment, safety and recreation in the city of Chicago. Mikva launches the Juvenile Justice Council to provide youth input on policies and programs involving young people and the criminal justice system.

2018
Mikva’s annual operating budget surpasses $3M.

- Mikva is awarded a $1M capacity-building grant from the MacArthur Foundation.
- Mikva develops initiatives with cities, counties and school districts around the country using Mikva’s Action Civics curriculum. Two new initiatives, Action Civics WI and Action Civics MI, launch to increase our capacity to partner with local school districts to deliver authentic, transformative civic engagement to youth across the nation.
- Soapbox Nation brings Mikva’s signature public speaking competition across the country with over 25 school districts participating from Hawaii to New York.

2019
Mikva Challenge celebrates 20 years of empowering youth with the skills and opportunities to be active and informed leaders. Mikva continues to grow its partnerships with schools nationwide.
2004

Mikva Challenge Annual Report

The New Civics Convening is held in Chicago with nearly 200 teachers from across the country – raising Mikva’s profile and gaining the attention of national funders.

The Emerging Leaders Board is founded.

2009

Mikva youth attend the Inauguration of President Barack Obama in Washington, DC.

Mikva celebrates its 10th anniversary with a gala fundraiser.

Project Soapbox program is launched to help youth develop their public speaking skills, the foundation of becoming strong public advocates on their issues.

2014

The New Civics Convening is held in Chicago with nearly 200 teachers from across the country – raising Mikva’s profile and gaining the attention of national funders.

The Emerging Leaders Board is founded.

2014-2015

Action Civics LA and Mikva Challenge DC are launched to serve teens with Issues to Action and Project Soapbox programs.

Michelle Morales is hired in Chicago, becoming Mikva’s first female and Latina ED.

Abner and Zoe Mikva Legacy Campaign is announced to raise support for the founding program, Elections in Action.

2016

Judge Abner J. Mikva passes away on July 4, 2016. He is memorialized by hundreds of friends, colleagues, and Mikva Challenge alumni that August. Speakers include his mentee, Supreme Court Justice Elena Kagan.

2008

Mikva youth travel to Iowa, New Hampshire, Colorado, Minnesota, Indiana, and Wisconsin to campaign during the 2008 Presidential Election season. Mikva Student Elections Judges number 2,539, comprising nearly 20% of all election judges in the City of Chicago.

First expansion outside of Chicago happens at Barrington High School, creating a model for school district partnerships.

2017

Youth Safety Advisory Council is formed to advise the Superintendent of Chicago Police on issues concerning youth safety.
Our Chapter cities in DC, Illinois, and Southern CA continue to grow and innovate. DC and CA chapters have doubled the number of students participating in the past year, and Mikva Illinois has added new youth councils supporting young adults in our most challenged communities.

“Action Civics and Mikva have given me a voice that I initially thought had not mattered and has encouraged me to step into the “real world” with confidence that I can make a difference.”

— Jazmin, Action Civics CA student

100,000+

Students participated in our programs in 22 cities/counties throughout the country. Tens of thousands more are impacted by our curricula that is being used across the country in all 50 states.
Mikva Challenge is now training and supporting Action Civics efforts in 7 new cities and regions.

Anaheim, CA  Cobb County, GA  Detroit (Metro), MI  Baltimore County, MD  Milwaukee & Madison, WI  Rochester, NY

Mikva took the 13 winners of our Soapbox Nation digital speech competition to speak up on the issues that matter to them on Capitol Hill.

At Mikva Challenge’s 2018 Action Civics Summer Institute, we convened over 160 educators and administrators from 14 school districts to learn strategies to engage young people in meaningful civic action and implement Mikva curricula in their classrooms.
The Action Civics Summer Institute brings together hundreds of educators from across the country to learn strategies to engage young people in meaningful civic action.

Mikva Challenge partners with cities and school districts to empower educators across the country. Rooted in Action Civics, our curriculum and programs take youth through a process of identifying issues they care about and developing research-backed solutions to affect community change—activating generation of young civic leaders in the process.

Mikva Challenge believes young people learn democracy by doing democracy and envisions a nation where youth enliven and improve our civic systems with their ideas and idealism. Mikva’s national goal is to serve as a catalyst for bringing high quality, Action Civics to school districts around the country. By equipping marginalized youth and under-resourced schools with our youth empowerment program model, Mikva helps awaken civic identities and strengthen communities. While Mikva’s 3 Chapters serve as our model sites and innovation hubs, our new partner site model provides Mikva curricula, training, and strategic supports to school districts around the country. A key to our national work is our annual Action Civics Summer Institute—we convene educators from all of our chapters and partner sites to learn and share best practices in Action Civics. Another core building block to our national strategy is bringing our trademark Project Soapbox initiative to schools nationwide to foster youth voice and civic action.

“It is a place for people to speak on issues they care about. Draw breath, have fun, speak truth.” — Student in Madison, WI, Project Soapbox

A note from Brian Brady, President of Mikva Challenge:

2018 Impacts

300+ teachers engaged

15,000+ number of youth served

150+ school partners
Soapbox Nation, a partnership between Mikva Challenge and Facebook Education, takes the transformative power of Mikva’s Project Soapbox curriculum to the next level: young people from around the country speak up about the issues facing their community, share their Soapbox speeches digitally, and compete to win a trip to present in Washington, DC.

“People should know that Project Soapbox isn’t just another academic requirement, and the extra work shouldn’t stop them from trying it out. It’s a way to express yourself and make your voice heard, which in our society currently, is very difficult for youths. People will listen, and support you. The energy is amazing. The whole thing is an amazing and fun experience.”

— Student, Madison, WI, Project Soapbox

“The focus on student voice is powerful and I’m inspired to help create spaces in schools and communities where students can be empowered in meaningful ways.”

— Teacher, Summer Institute

Mikva Challenge locations:

**Chapters:**
- Southern California, CA
- Chicagoland area, Aurora — IL
- Washington D.C.

**Partner sites:**
- Milwaukee, WI
- Madison, WI
- Detroit (Metro), MI

**Emerging partners:**
- New York City, NY
- Akron, OH
- Prince George’s County, MD
- Baltimore County, MD
- Wilmington, DE
- Cobb County, GA
- Marquette, MI
Mikva Challenge IL

A note from Michelle Morales, Chief Executive Officer of Mikva Challenge IL:

2018 proved to be an exciting year for Mikva Challenge Illinois. Civics is in urgent demand and the movement to make civics more than just a class is growing. Our unique mix of positive youth development, Action Civics and citywide events are the perfect ingredients for providing a platform for empowered, confident and activated youth — youth who are changing the world around them. This year, our chapter provided in-school services to 185 middle and high school teachers in Chicago, Aurora & the Northwest suburbs, impacting over 10,000 youth annually. Through our Citywide Youth Councils, 110 youth directly impacted major city institutions — this year adding the Chicago Police Department. Lastly, our Elections in Action program recruited and placed more than 2,200 high school juniors and seniors as student election judges this past election cycle! Mikva Challenge not only makes space for youth, centers youth voice, and builds their skills, but we also provide real-world employment & problem solving opportunities — where youth see themselves as the change agents that they are.

“Mikva for me woke that part of me that society tried to keep quiet and it gave me back that confidence.... It gave me that awareness to say, ‘hey just because you’re a student doesn’t mean you’re not entitled to having a voice.” — Youth Participant

Direct democratic experiences offered to youth:

- 62 interns placed in
- 43 elected officials offices
- 5 campaign trips
- 2,200+ students served as election judges
“Mikva Challenge has helped me connect with the constituents that matter most to me and my office — students. Listening and working with Mikva youth leaders has helped me implement policies and programs that truly center youth needs.”

— Dr. Janice Jackson, CEO, Chicago Public Schools

2018 by the numbers:

111 school partners
185 teachers engaged
10,200 youth served

Community action projects completed:

100 projects in 70 schools
2,500+ students
A note from Sheila McMullin, Site Director of Action Civics CA:

In the most populous state in the U.S., Action Civics CA empowers California educators with Action Civics curriculum that equips youth to promote a just and equitable society having impacts nationwide. In just four short years, we are proud to have expanded our work from a small pilot program serving 1,200 young people with one staff member to now working with educators statewide. Currently, we are serving over 4,000 young people through 24 Action Civics program schools in Orange and Los Angeles Counties with 3 staff members and teacher cohort of 56.

“I am human. I have rights. I have feelings. I can see when things are wrong and they need to be fixed. We need to stand up when things are wrong and make them right. OUR VOICE MATTERS!”

— Angela, 8th Grade, Project Soapbox
"I’ve seen the students really blossom from being shy and hesitant, to being passionate about their beliefs. But the more significant piece for me is putting that passion into action."

— Carla Barrera-Ortiz, Principal, S.T.E.A.M. Legacy High School, Issues to Action

Direct democratic experiences offered to youth:

1. week long summer leadership intensive workshop at The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation
2. students to DC for Soapbox Nation
3. annual countywide youth events

Councilmember David Ryu sponsored the 2018 Action Civics CA’s Civics Showcase — students from across participating schools convened to present their civic leadership, research, and projects. Through this event, youth advocate for a local issue and network with peers and adult allies to coalition build.
A note from Robyn Lingo, Executive Director of Mikva Challenge DC:

Mikva DC began as a small pilot program 4 years ago, working with 200 students at four schools. Today, we are making a real citywide impact, reaching 1,200 local students at 33 schools across our city and have expanded our reach by 500% since our pilot year.

By integrating Mikva’s signature Action Civics curriculum into the core curriculum for DC Public Schools, we have helped changed the way US Government and DC History courses are taught throughout the school system. And we have ensured that EVERY 6th through 12th grade student in DC Public Schools gets the chance to write and deliver our signature “Project Soapbox” speech. Meanwhile, we have trained hundreds of youth leaders to engage in local and national politics by registering their peers to vote, hosting candidate forums, canvassing for candidates and serving as Poll Workers on Election Day. As one of our key partners at DC Public Schools says,

“Mikva DC is the name of the game when it comes to civic engagement and action civics in DC!”

Number of direct democratic experiences offered to youth:

- 12 internships with local government
- 7+ in person meetings with elected or appointed officials
- 1 totally youth led candidates forum
"More than anything, I feel inspired because I believe that I am, truly, the future. I am capable of igniting a fire inside of individuals around me because of Mikva and my experience."

— Lekabel, former Mikva DC Summer Fellow and current freshmen at the University of Notre Dame

Our Elections in Action program provides authentic and direct political participation experience to young people even before they reach voting age.

“True leaders know when to follow. I will follow these students who organized the best political forum of the year!”

— DC Attorney General Karl Racine, at our Youth Led Candidates Forum in May 2018

1,000 students served in 2018

a 500% increase since 2014


2017-18 2018-19

30 Teachers engaged 40+

25 # of Schools 33
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Jacqueline Shiff
Frederick Snyder
David and Lori Soglin
Faith Stevenson
Jessica Tansey and David D’Silva
John D. Taylor, Jr. and Maria Simon
Jim and Diane Toma
Bob Walsh
Jacqueline White
Jane Wishner and Robert Rosenberg

*split gift; **multi-year gift
James Wochner
Ann Wolff
Jordan Wyatt
Lauren Jones Young

$1000 - $2499
Molly and Mike Andolina
Angelo, Gordon & Co.
Peter Barber and Tracy Dell’Angela
Madeline Barick
Barnett Capital
Cynthia and Leo Barron
Alan Bartelstein
Peter Birnbaum
Mimi Birnbaum
Rob Brooks
Norbert Budde
Sharon and Lionel Bush
Joseph Byrd
Cynthia Canary
Cindi Canary and Adam Brooks
David Castro
Larry Christenson
Columbia Partners Investment Management
John DeBlasio
Judy Eng
Marty Feeny
Dennis J. FitzSimons
Brigid Flanagan
Ellen and Jeffrey Gilbert
Jordan and Danielle Goodman
Grand Victoria Foundation
Stephen Green
Joel L. Handelman and Sarah R. Wolff
Tom Hayes and Claudia Langman
Gaye Hill
Illinois Tool Works Inc.
Institute of International Education
Reyadh Kazmi
Maria Levine
Lloyd A. Fry Foundation
Steve Lomax
Susan & Fred Mardell
Mark W. Mead
Richard and Judith Meltzer
Mesirow Financial, Inc
Judson H. and Linda Miner
Josephine and Newton Minow
Jenné Myers
John Norman
O'Shaughnessy Asset Management
ORBA – Certified Public Accountants
Peregrine Capital Management
Peter and Lucy Ascoli Family Fund at The Chicago Community Foundation
Landy Pheloung
Grace Powers
Polly and Ken Rattner
Julian Regan
Brian Robinson
Robert Samuel
Lois Scott and David May
Vanessa Sea
Segall Bryant & Hamill
Larry and Janet Shiff
Amy Tara Koch
The Oppenheimer Family Foundation
The Rock Creek Group
Judith Torney-Purta
Monica L. Walker
Tom and Jeannie Wixon

$2500 - $4999
Attorney’s Title Guaranty Fund, Inc.
Baird Foundation, Inc.
Emily Bergstrom
Steve Binder
Corbin Capital Partners LP
Eagle Asset Management
Leonard Gail and Robin Steans
Scott Garrett
Bruce and Vicki Heyman
James P. and Brenda S. Grusecki Family Foundation
Adrienne C. Limjoco
London Economics International
Jennifer Loudon
Miner, Barnhill & Galland, PC
Motorola Solutions Foundation
Ronald E. Powell
Ralph Beck on behalf of The Beck Foundation
Robert W. Baird & Co.
Burton X and Shell Z Rosenberg

$5000 - $9999
Abbott Laboratories
ABS Investment Management LLC
Allianz Global Investors
Amalgamated Bank of DC
Ariel Investments
Barrow, Hanley, Mewhinney & Strauss, LLC
BNY Mellon Asset Management
Congressman David and Judy Bonior
Stephen Brennan
Michael and Kim Cassel
Steven Cohen and The Hon. Mary Mikva
Corbin Capital Partners, L.P.
Kevin Davey
Delaware Investments
Matt Drasser
Exelon Foundation
JP Farrar
Bettlylu and Paul Saltzman
Square One Foundation Inc.
Sterling Retail Services, Inc.
Systematic Financial Management
The Chicago Bar Foundation
United Food & Commercial Workers Local 1996
Brian and Sheila Whalen
Adam Wyatt
Fasting 5K
Jon Feinberg
GAM
Jill Garling and Tom Wilson
Gwen Gold
AJ Goulding
Seth Healy
Dan Hidder
Intercontinental Real Estate
International Brotherhood of Boilermakers
Janice Kanter and Thomas McCormick
Richard Keenan
KPMG
Lazard Asset Management
John and Jill Levi
Ron Luraschi
Mark Maloney
Nick Mavro
Aaron McGreevy and Otto Odendahl
McMorgan & Company
Lou Membrino
Laurie Mikva and James Pfander
Amy and Peter Mills
Adam Munder
Patrick J. Naughton
Neuberger Berman
North Sky Capital LLC
Hon. Julia Nowicki and Dr. Timothy Sanborn
Peter Palandjian
Denise Pearman
Jason Perry
Nehemiah Rolle
Sentinel Realty Advisors

Jonathan Siegel
Smith, Graham & Co. Investment
Denise Spillane
Steven B. Achelis Foundation
Allyson Tarmino
The Chicago Housing Authority
The Crown Goodman Family
The Sidley Austin Foundation
The TCW Group
ULLICO Investment Company, Inc.
Nicholas Verano
Voya Investment Management
Mike Wagner
Chris Wallace
Keith Watson
Wells Capital Management

$15000 - $19999
Anonymous
Bank of America Merrill Lynch
Entrust Permal
Microsoft
Smart Chicago Collaborative

$20000 - $29999
Kenneth and Anita Adams
Best Portion Foundation
Brinson Foundation
Chicago Teachers Union Foundation
Conant Family Foundation
Rabbi Rachel Mikva and Mark Rosenberg
National Real Estate Advisors, LLC
Steans Family Foundation
William Blair & Company

$50000 - $99999
Aspen Institute
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois
Joyce Foundation
Jack Marco
NBCUniversal
The Boeing Company
W. Clement & Jessie V. Stone Foundation

$100000 - $149999
Allstate Insurance Company
Congressman John B. Anderson
Chicago Community Trust
Crown Family Philanthropies
Polk Bros. Foundation

$200000 - $250000
Citi Foundation

$250000+
Robert R. McCormick Foundation

*split gift, **multi-year gift
DC Donors

$1 - $99
Franz Karl Adler and Danielle Chappell
Mackenzie Baris
Tim Barnes
Brian Brady
Amanda Briggs
John Carr
Sue Colden
Stefanie Cruz
Cheri Norris Delavergne
Margaret C. Dunkle
Ethel M. Dutky
Tim and Ann Foster
Karmen Fox
Kathleen Gille
Adam Green
Stanley Greenberg
Nishan Halim
Phil Hampton
Roger Hickey
Lee Hobra
Allan J. Kennedy
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Abe and Joan Krash
Emily Larson
David Lengenfelder
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David Medina
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Robert Molofstay
Jane Myers
Haian Nguyen
William Nussbaum and Susan Spangler
Joy Olson
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Eric Schwartz
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Joseph and Margaret Swinton
Maggie Szymanek
Sarah Walter

$100 - $249
Emily Andrews
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Suzanne George
Jeffrey and Linnea Goddess
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Lewis Grossman
Nicolas Guzman
Cosby Hunt
Mike Ibarra
Justice Elena Kagan
Linda and Dick Kirschten
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Kevin Manning
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Corrine and Leonard Parver
Brian Payne
Sarah Pokempner
Lara Ponomareff
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Alexander Sanikidze
Patricia J. Simon
Singh Management Co., LLC
Stephen Sleigh
Mitchell Stevens
Donna Stowe
Michael and Molly Strauss
Julie Sutherland
Lamont Tarbox
Union Privilege
Wellington Management Company LLP
Sherilyn Wright
Rabbi Daniel Zemel

$250 - $499
Robert Brandon
Julie Butler
Margaret Butler
Anthony Domino
Alison and Peter Fenn
Albert and Esther Foer
Zoe Gratsias
Jerry Hartz
Hanna Hunt
Sidney Lawrence
Marcy Mistrett
Steven Mushar
Samuel Ryan
Davie Smith
David Umansky
Fred and Linda Wertheimer
Jay D. Zeilern

$500 - $999
David Apatoff and Nell Minow
Jack Davies
Kevin Downey
Robert H. Green
Peter Hart
Mclean, Koehler, Sparks & Hammond Certified Public Accountants
Peter O’Keefe
Martha Pope
David Rapp
$1000 - $2499
Kim Holmes and Joel Bonder
Nadine Cohodas*
Patrick and Annie Griffin
Beth Heifetz
Sanford and Joan Horwitt
Randy Kinder
Bruce Lerner
Geehan and Jim Lingberg
Robert and Ann Lingo
Richard and Judith Meltzer
David Redlawsk and Aletia Morgan
Craig and Erika Singer
The Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers & Grain Millers Inter.
The Richard E. and Nancy P. Marriott Foundation
United Steelworkers
Marvin Weissberg

$2500 - $4999
Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP
L. Headley Butler
Columbia Partners Investment
Jill Daschle
International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers
International Union of Painters and Allied Trades, AFL-CIO
Bentall Kennedy
Lazard Asset Management
Blanche Montesi
Nora Roberts Foundation
Segal Marco Advisors
Pamela Silberman
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The Foley Hoag Foundation
Eva Yazhari

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AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust
Amalgamated Foundation
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Decker Anstrom and Sherron L. Hiemstra Crowell & Moring Foundation
Humanities Council of Washington DC
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
Peter Kovler
Jill and Richard Meyer
Paladin Capital Group
UFCW Charity Foundation
ULLICO Investment Company, Inc.

$10000 - $14999
AFL-CIO
Carol L. and Landon V. Butler
Share Fund
Richard and Joan F Wolff

$15000 - $19999
AFL-CIO Investment Trust Corporation

$20000 - $29999
Congressman David and Judy Bonior
Gregg Hymowitz

$50000 - $99999
Kenneth and Anita Adams
Sylarn Foundation*

*split gift; **multi-year gift
CA Donors

$1 - $99
Paul Adkins
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Gerald Alford
Cory Alford
Leo Allen
David Alport
Marianne Araneta
Todd And Laura Arrowsmith
Vanessa Avila
Katie Bailey
Alexandra Bissonnette
Louise Bonnet
Kurt Braunohler
Korrin Brooks
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Christopher Butler
Ann Cheney
Alfred Chung
Kevin Cianciolo
Chris Corcoran
Monica Corcoran
Rachel Davis
Karey Dornetto
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Scott Gairdner
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Lauren Handley
Vanessa Harlan
Natalie Hernandez
Danny Jenike
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Kristiana Zerom

$100 - $249
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Nishith Bhatt
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Brian Brady
Jade Chang
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Walter Hill
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Susan Larsen
Henry Mcgill
Rosalind Music
Eric Notarnicola
Anthony Pennay
Steven Peterman
Mark & Amelie Proksch
John Mark Robinson
Jacob Rosenberg
Jenny Roth
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Paul Scheer
Holly Schlesinger
Andrew Weinberg
Emily Wilcox
Eric Wilson
Rosaline Wu

$250 - $499
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Eileen Brady
Adelle Burke
Thomas Carr
Robert Cecon
Leelai Demoz
Jerod Gunsberg
Jeanne Huybrechts
Michele Josue
Suzanne Lituchy
Juliet Mcmullin
Naomi Seligman
Matt Selman
Small Ax, Inc
Alex Tse
Nicholas Van Brunt
Anne Youngblood

$500 - $999
Virginia Beutner
Anne Falk
Jay Gassner
Cynthia Hirschhorn
Nancy McCabe
Sandra Medallis
Sunset Rose
Jeffrey Susskind

$1000 - $2499
Anonymous
Artists First, Inc.
James Breen
Ethan Falk
Alan Sieroty
Jason Woliner

$2500 - $4999
Caviar
Sheep Meadow Foundation

$5000 - $9999
Falk Charitable Trust

$10000 - $14999
Shari And Richard Foos

$30000 - $49999
Arsalyn Program
Of Ludwick Family Foundation*

$50000 - $99999
Sylarn Foundation*

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Annapurna Productions, LLC

National Donors

$1 - $99
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Sharon L. Bender
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Susan Brady
Brian Brady
Cardale Brinson
Lydia Colunga-Merchant
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Alla Dekhtyar
Daniel Delehanty
Jonathon Deroo
Colleen K. and Michael C. Devlin
Cynthia Doyle
Jennifer Egbon
Joe Engleman
Anna Fillmore
Brian Finley
Rick Flynn
David J. Flynn
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Rozzie Gee
Rachel Geiman
Ashli Gornall
Judy L. Hartwell
F.M. and J.E. Hayman
Roger A. Holtslander
Darlene Kaltz
Farihah Khandaker
Michelle Ku
Anne M. Lilla
Cynthia Linton
James L. Lipton
Gail Luckey
Julie Matuzak
Diane McMillan
Lois Anne Moots
Tonja Morgan
Haian Nguyen
Darlene and Derwin Durrwachter Rushing
Kathlene E. and Vincent J. Tocco
Sally A. Torres
Alma Vera
Emily Wilcox
Amie Wilkinson

$100 - $249
J. Stephen Armstrong
Dan Conley
Lewis Farms
Ken Johnson
Lynn Krebs
Lou Malnati
Lisa K. Morse
Jennifer K. Nowaczok
and Frederick Miller
Judge Cynthia S. Platzer
Joanne M. Pohl
Jennifer Sheparovichh

$500 - $999
Paul Lucey
Marc Lipsitch and Meira Levinson*
John J Solecki

$5000 - $9999
Anonymous
City of Aurora Illinois
Gorter Family Foundation
iCivics, Inc.

$10000 - $14999
Jack Miller Center
Joseph and Vera Zilber Charitable Foundation Inc.

$20000 - $29999
Kenneth and Anita Adams*
Brico Fund, Global Water Center

$50000 - $99999
Facebook

*split gift; **multi-year gift
Bob Norton Fund

$1 - $99
Matt Berusch

$100 - $249
Andrew Abtahi
Noel Bennett

$250 - $499
Matthew Pawlak

$1000 - $2499
Susan Crotty
Karen Norton

$2500 - $4999
AFL-CIO Investment Trust Corporation
Ted Doyle
Lynda Leslie

Tribute Gifts

In Memory of Abner Mikva
Scott and Jill Baskin
Susan Bekenstein
Tim and Ann Foster
Joel L. Handelman and Sarah R. Wolff
Nancy Kullman
Eric Lane
Maeva Marcus
Rabbi Rachel Mikva and Mark Rosenberg
Anonymous Proksch
Michael Tepper

In Honor of Amy Singh
Prem and Mary Singh

In Honor of Becca Cohen and Alexander Beckman
Mia Brodersen
Steven Cohen and The Hon. Mary Mikva
Paula Froehle
Andrea Penick

In Honor of Betty Lou Morris
Richard Cummings

In Honor of Congressman David Bonior and Family
Larry Cohen
Anthony Domino
Nishan Halim
Gregg Hymowitz
Eva Yazhari

In Honor of Corrine and Leonard Parver’s Wedding Anniversary
Corrine and Leonard Parver

In Honor of Cynthia Canary
Peter Bensinger
Keenya Lambert
Douglas Morrison

In Honor of David Narefsky
Lois Scott and David May

In Honor of De’Rell Bonner
Diana Palomar

In Memory of Don Levine
Ruth Levine

In Memory of Edward & Jennifer Regan
Julian Regan

In Honor of The Honorable Mary Mikva
June Patinkin
Julia Wheeler

In Honor of Jacqueline Shiff
Sheryl Markman
Larry and Janet Shiff

In Honor of James Alford
Linda Swift

In Memory of Janet Drukarsh
Naomi Seligman

In Honor of Jason Woliner
Mark & Amelie Proksch

In Honor of Jill Bass
Amy Mooney
Lara Pruitt

In Honor of John Keller
Gayle McJunkin

In Honor of Ken Adams
Adam Green
In Honor of Kortez Brinson and Kevin Brown
Raymond Brown

In Honor of Landon Butler
Suzanne George

In Honor of Landon Butler, and Ted & Sarah Stettinius
Kevin Downey

In Honor of Leah Schneck
Julie Brown

In Honor of Linda Goodman
Lois Scott and David May

In Memory of Lola E. Jones
Lauren Jones Young

In Honor of Louise DiLullo
LuAnne and Erv Ball

In Honor of Mary Daskais
Signe Murphy

In Memory of Maxine Friedman, and Norman & James Snodgrass
Lawrence Friedman

In Honor of Michelle Morales
Sendhil Revuluri

In Honor of Natalie Gastevich
Catherine Nardi and Eric Gastevich

In Honor of Peter Renn and Ben Tahija
Amanda Goad

In Honor of Professor James Pfander
Holly Sellers

In Honor of Project Soapbox
Steven Musher

In Memory of Ralph Smuckler
Vance Liebman

In Memory of Robert G. Sigler, Jr.
Susan Larsen

In Memory of Robert Norton
Douglas Bender
Lynda Leslie

In Honor of Robyn Lingo & Keigh Hammond
Marcy Mistrett

In Honor of Sanford Horwitt
Russell Barefield and Robert Mahoney

In Honor of Sarah Kammerer
Ameerah Phillips

In Honor of Susanne Brady
Jessica T Feldman
Mary Ann O'Meara

In Honor of Thor Soderberg
Jennifer Loudon

In Honor of Tom Hayden
Anne Youngblood

In Honor of Youth Change Makers Awards
Jill Garling and Tom Wilson

In Honor of Zoe Mikva Rhita Lippitz

*split gift; **multi-year gift
## Financial Letter

### Mikva Challenge Grant Foundation, Inc. Statement Of Financial Position

Mikva Challenge is proud to report a strong financial position at the end of FY18. We ended FY18 with a surplus, due to strong foundation partnerships and successful special events. Our generous corporate and individual donors provided critical general operating support for our youth voice programming. We are excited about the Mikva model taking root in more communities and schools across the country. Thank you for your support of Mikva Challenge.

### June 30

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017 (As restated)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$1,240,805</td>
<td>$1,025,675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>$1,240,285</td>
<td>$1,147,446</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants and pledges receivable</td>
<td>$1,064,090</td>
<td>$1,046,686</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other receivables</td>
<td>$170,730</td>
<td>$57,987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses and deposits</td>
<td>$124,379</td>
<td>$116,993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property and equipment, less accumulated depreciation and amortization of $148,927 and $129,752 as of June 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively</td>
<td>$71,228</td>
<td>$24,783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,911,517</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,419,570</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liabilities and Net Assets</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Liabilities:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and accrued expenses</td>
<td>$213,564</td>
<td>$157,344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred rent</td>
<td>$54,140</td>
<td>$6,408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred revenue</td>
<td>$82,833</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$350,537</strong></td>
<td><strong>$163,752</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net assets:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unrestricted:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board-designated endowment funds</td>
<td>$1,452,860</td>
<td>$1,345,702</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undesignated</td>
<td>$684,662</td>
<td>$529,321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total unrestricted</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,137,522</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,875,023</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Temporary restricted                        | $1,423,458  | $1,380,795        |

| **Total net assets**                        | **$3,560,980** | **$3,255,818**    |
| **Total liabilities and net assets**        | **$3,911,517** | **$3,419,570**    |
## Mikva Challenge Grant Foundation, Inc.
### Statement Of Activities

**Years Ended June 30**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017 (As restated)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>Temporarily Restricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenue and support:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation and corporate grants</td>
<td>$533,550</td>
<td>$1,391,272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual contributions</td>
<td>$342,003</td>
<td>$179,590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Special events:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross proceeds</td>
<td>$832,667</td>
<td>$832,667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>$(114,988)</td>
<td>$(114,988)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract services revenue</td>
<td>$866,616</td>
<td>$866,616</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest and dividends</td>
<td>$32,511</td>
<td>$32,511</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net realized and unrealized loss on investments unrealized loss on investments</td>
<td>$(46,105)</td>
<td>$(46,105)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>$20,182</td>
<td>$20,182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net assets released from restrictions:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfaction of restrictions</td>
<td>$1,528,199</td>
<td>$(1,528,199)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total revenue and support</td>
<td>$3,994,635</td>
<td>$42,663</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expenses:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program services</td>
<td>$3,035,896</td>
<td>$3,035,896</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and general</td>
<td>$345,291</td>
<td>$345,291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>$350,949</td>
<td>$350,949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in net assets</td>
<td>$262,499</td>
<td>$42,663</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets, beginning of year</td>
<td>$1,875,023</td>
<td>$1,380,795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets, end of year</td>
<td>$2,137,522</td>
<td>$1,423,458</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mikva Challenge Annual Report 29