

Dear YINR Members and Friends,

It is our pleasure to invite you to celebrate the warm and vibrant community that we have built together. The YINR Dinner provides a wonderful opportunity to reflect and appreciate all that our community has accomplished and to raise crucial funds to support its future, as well as to enjoy an evening of delicious food and great conversation with friends and neighbors.

In his commentary on Parshat Vayakhel-Pekudei, Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks z”l, commented,

“I believe that creating community takes hard work, and that few things in life are more worthwhile. Building something with others, I discover the joy of becoming part of something greater than I could ever achieve alone.”

YINR’s 56th Annual Dinner on Sunday, April 30th will honor our friends **Dana and Yudi Fishkin** and **Deena and Rafi Zlotnick**, two couples who share the deep commitment, collaborative spirit, and joyful giving that Rabbi Sacks z”l describes. Each of our honorees shares his or her talents to help build our community in a different way, and our community is truly grateful to each of them.

Our Guests of Honor are **Dana and Yudi Fishkin**. Dana, a scholar of Medieval Jewish History, elevates the level of Torah learning in our community. She currently chairs our Adult Education Committee and serves as Co-Director of YINR’s Women’s Initiative for Jewish Studies (WIJS). In these roles, Dana brings a wide-range of scholars to expand our understanding and perspective. And when we are lucky, Dana shares her own knowledge with us through engaging lectures on Shabbat, Shavuot, or Hoshana Rabba. Dana has also served on the Board of Trustees and has volunteered on many shul committees.

While Dana contributes to our intellectual growth, Yudi uses his expertise to guide the physical growth of our communal home. Yudi oversaw the expansion of our social hall, manages the 1228 North Ave property, and adds a crucial perspective as the shul considers future space needs. Yudi’s understanding of property management and construction, technical acumen, eye for design, and importantly, calm and jovial presence, have made him a valued member of the House Chair team. We are grateful to Yudi for recently taking on the full role of House Chair.

Dana and Yudi are wonderful parents to five children, Reuven, Sydney, Coby, Liam and Gabriel, as well as their dog Uno and a menagerie of other animals and amphibians. The Fishkins are loved by friends from a wide swath of the community, which is indicative of their friendly, fun, and accepting nature.

Our Community Leadership Award recipients are **Deena and Rafi Zlotnick**. Deena, a teacher at WDS, shares her understanding and love with the children of our community. Deena serves in the challenging role of Youth Chair, using her educational knowledge to oversee the Youth Department and create engaging programming for our growing community. This was particularly challenging with the Covid pandemic, and Deena’s leadership was instrumental in our community’s response. Deena has also served on countless shul and Women’s League committees, always counted on for her kind demeanor, great ideas, and willingness to roll up her sleeves and help in any way that is needed.

Rafi is engaged in every aspect of the religious life of our shul. Rafi is a dedicated *Gabbai* in the main minyan, and can be counted on to keep the daily minyanim running as well. He has served on the Decorum Committee and Back to the Future Committee. Rafi is also committed to the shul's *Smichas Chaver* program, inspiring us with his dedication to learning and growth.

Deena and Rafi are the proud and doting parents of Kira, Ellie, and Jonathan, and are known and loved throughout the community for their *hachnasat orchim*, warm, lively and approachable demeanors and deep sense of fun!

Please join us in celebrating our YINR community and paying tribute to these outstanding honorees. The Annual Dinner is counted upon to raise a significant portion of the shul's operating budget, and your support and participation will make an important difference.

Journal ads can be submitted through our journal website or by clicking [here](#). An online dinner journal will be posted on our journal website, and a keepsake book will be created for our honorees. We hope to see our entire community represented in the dinner journal. If you have any financial concerns, please contact Tamar Croog (tcroog.contractor@fujifilm.com) or Amy Stein (executivedirector@yinr.org) for a confidential conversation.

We look forward to celebrating with you on April 30th!

Michelle Halpert and Stephanie Minkove - Dinner Co-Chairs
Ellie Goldenberg and Teri Rosengarten - Journal Co-Chairs