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Ida Crown Jewish Academy

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Ida Crown Jewish Academy is an affiliate of the Associated Talmud Torahs of Chicago and a partner with the Jewish United Fund in serving our community.

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ICJA ANNUAL REPORT

2020-21 • 5781:

A Year Like No Other

Inspiring Bnei & Bnot Torah to Thrive in the Modern World

Message from our Dean

Dear Academy Family:

This past year was an incredible year — a year of challenges overcome, learning and growth, safety and health. It was a year when our 78-year traditions of inspiration, academic achievement and personal growth continued unabated. What some thought was impossible proved to be possible.

That we can fill the pages of this report with stories of our students' achievement in a year of a pandemic is a wonder. We are grateful to have spent every day at school, in person, celebrating all that ordinarily happens in an academic year here. In these pages you'll see just how we made this happen, thanks to the tremendous support of our ICJA community and from the Village of Skokie as well as some local businesses.

What was most extraordinary this year was that it was actually ordinary. Ordinary for Ida Crown Jewish Academy, that is, where we celebrated Torah and academic achievement daily while enjoying dozens of extracurricular and athletic opportunities.

In addition to our students learning and living Torah, we celebrated: the 1st, 3rd, and 5th place winners in the National YU Girls Talmud Competition; a National Merit Scholar; two winners of a national STEM competition; the winner of a state-wide literary competition; four co-authors of a published scientific research article; leaders in NCSY, Bnei Akiva, and CTeen; 22 members inducted into the Torah Chapter of the National Honor Society; Illinois State Scholars; and student-athletes who safely competed in basketball, baseball, soccer and cross country!

And that is just a partial list. For as you turn the pages of this annual report, you will discover so many more examples of excellence. Because ICJA is a school that continues to respond to the needs not only of the moment but of the future as we prepare our students for lives of engagement and success. Whether in technology or the arts, Talmud or Jewish living, our innovative and dedicated faculty offer our students the finest Jewish experiences and general education.

Each one of you reading this report have been our partners. You help move us forward, providing scholarship funds so that no child is ever denied an education. You inspire us to dream bigger and brighter. Recently, a member of this year's graduating class gave me a beautiful picture, emblazoned with a large Israeli flag and the following words from the late Lord Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, ztz"l:

"To defend a land, you need an army. But to defend freedom, you need education. You need families and schools to ensure that your ideals are passed on to the next generation and never lost, or despaired of, or obscured. The citadels of liberty are houses of study. Its heroes are teachers, its passion is education and the life of the mind."

This year more than ever, Ida Crown Jewish Academy proved to be such a citadel, and our teachers are our heroes. Our families and our alumni are our guarantors, and our students are our future. During this past year, we proved how much we could accomplish when we all come together for the sake of *Torah u'Maddah*, even during the most trying of times.

For this I am eternally grateful but even more eternally optimistic that next year will be even better, as will every year in the future. Because our school is a beacon of the best of a Modern Orthodox Jewish life and community.

Thank you for being such a vital part of our sacred venture.

B'vracha,

Rabbi Leonard A. Matanky
Rabbi Leonard A. Matanky



Senior Salute

In a year like no other, when so many normal expectations had to be discarded or left behind, the class of 2021 persevered, remained engaged, and carried out their plans with an extra dash of enthusiasm.



"I'm extremely excited for the future, especially because of all the skills that I've been given by Ida Crown." – Chana Friedman

A Year of In-Person Learning, Inspiration & Safety



9

Seniors were Illinois State Scholars

23

Seniors were inducted into the National Honor Society, Torah Chapter

22

Seniors devoted over 200 hours of chesed, and will be inducted into the Deborah Katzin Chesed Society

87%

Of seniors will be spending their gap year in Israel

Students and staff returned to in-person learning in the fall of 2020 ready to turn uncertainty into opportunity. Despite so many challenges, our ICJA community created a year like no other.

We focused on our core mission, the same mission we have had for 78 years: to inspire Bnei & Bnot Torah to thrive in the modern world. This year, that world looked so different, but our faculty kept our school open, our classrooms engaging, and our programming inspiring.

The class of 2021's 75th commencement ceremony capped this incredible year. Our diamond jubilee symbolized what ICJA is for Chicago: a jewel of a school representing Jewish community and continuity.

This report provides a glimpse into a year like no other, and offers a taste of just how exceptional the ICJA experience is and can be.

Select highlights from 2020-2021 school year include:



174

Days of in-person instruction



0

In-school COVID transmissions.



0

Quarantines or classes canceled due to transmission



7

All-school COVID testing days; all results were negative!



237

Daily updates from our Dean (Since March 2020)

National Merit Scholars



Enon Gurvich
Finalist



Benjamin Grey
Commended Student

National Honor Society Torah Chapter

24 seniors were inducted into the NHS this year. The National Honor Society (NHS) is the nation's premier organization established to recognize outstanding high school students. More than just an honor roll, NHS serves to recognize students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, service, leadership and character. *Kol Hakavod* to: **Ayden Allswang, Alyssa Amrami, Noa Brasch, Noah Brody, Pelah Cohen, Aharon Falk, Shira David, Daniella Glass, Benjamin Grey, Enon Gurvich, Abigail Koenig, Dafna Kutliroff, Ronen Lavi, Samantha Levy, Meira Linzer, Rachel Margolin, Dahlia Matanky, Simone Miller, Zoe Nussbaum, Sarah Rosenblum, Rachel Schwartz, Isaac Shiner, Tali Yeger, and Isaac Zipperstein.**

Illinois State Scholars

Nine Aces earned accolades from the State of Illinois for outstanding academic achievement. The program makes selections from approved High Schools across the city. *Kol Hakavod* to: **Ayden Allswang, Alyssa Amrami, Noah Brody, Shira David, Daniella Glass, Benjamin Grey, Simone Miller, Rachel Schwartz, Isaac Zipperstein.**

Jason Lerner מ"ה Memorial HaYehudi HaTov Awards



Dozens of students were recognized at this Spring's Torah Awards including seniors.

Pelah Cohen (pictured left) & **Enon Gurvich** (pictured left), recipients of the Jason Lerner מ"ה Memorial Yehudi Hatov Award.

The Yehudi HaTov is awarded to a senior, or seniors, who are dedicated to Torah excellence, *middot*, and *chesed* and are selected by their peers.

Model UN



Hannan Stein was awarded honorable mention in her UNICEF committee for YUNMUN (Yeshiva University National Model United Nations). In her own words:

“

Although different this year, I am glad that I had the chance to participate in YUNMUN. In my committee, UNICEF, we had the opportunity to debate and pass resolutions regarding child trafficking on the dark web. Not only did I learn more about child trafficking, but I also met other teens from around the world. Thank you to Mr. Cooper for encouraging me to participate in YUNMUN, for helping to cultivate a passion of mine, and for leading me in the right direction to win an honorable mention at this year's YUNMUN conference.

ZERO**Transmission**

Ida Crown Jewish Academy has always been an inspiring and magical place. This past year, during the pandemic, it was way more. ICJA was a safe harbor for our community during a global storm. For many, COVID 19 meant Zoom school or no school at all. But for us at Ida Crown, every student, teacher, and administrator had both in-person and virtual options available to them every single day. We did not miss one day of in-person classes the entire year, in fact we added a couple additional days.

How did we manage this uncertainty so effectively?

First and foremost, our diligent faculty were trained to teach on Zoom in addition to the classroom and were provided with continuous consultation and guidance on how to integrate the classroom. We had the technology equipment and support for teachers to reach every student at home plus every conceivable safety measure in classrooms. Even as COVID 19 spread throughout Chicagoland prior to the arrival of the authorized vaccines, it was never transmitted within the walls of the Esformes Family Campus of ICJA.

**Doubling Down On Admissions**

Due to the pandemic, rather than taking our foot off the breaks, we doubled and redoubled our efforts to meet or exceed our expectations in a normal year.

Over 70 families registered and attended our ICJA 'Out of the Box' Open House which was a huge success! While it was all virtual, the 8th grade students, and their families, were still able to explore and discover so much about the Ida Crown Jewish Academy. Each registered student received a large box filled with ICJA swag - ICJA basketballs, blankets, and even a special sefer written by Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks ztz"l. Additionally, each box came with a personal letter from a current 9th grade ICJA student. Of course, everyone loved the swag.

Furthermore, despite the mitigations and added constraints, we were able to arrange private campus tours, with an ICJA student ambassador, to prospective students and their families. We look forward to welcoming our newest community members, over 50 fresh faces, and the ICJA Class of 2025. Moreover, we are delighted to welcome our transfer students who will be joining ICJA this fall.

Covid**The New Normal**

From a range of noticeable social distancing measures, to the imperative of raising and maintaining hygiene standards, we successfully adapted our classes, clubs, and sports to accommodate the social and emotional needs of our students without compromising the health and safety of our school.

As Rabbi Matanky reminded the community just before the first day of school, "Never before has the concept of "kol Yisrael areivim zeh ba'zeh" [all Jews are responsible for one another] been so critical and clear".

The leaders, faculty, and staff of ICJA prioritize the health and wellness of the entire community along with the education of our students. The school implemented advanced safety and cleaning measures including abundant and clear signage, one-way hallways, virucide spray, MERV-13 HVAC filters, outdoor tents and adirondack chairs, and enhanced disinfection with electrostatic sprayers after school hours.

"One thing that we didn't want to change was the fun. So one model that we came up with this year that was really successful was the pop-up model. We did bubble soccer, we did a pop up carnival one day, we just tried to keep everything new and exciting"! - Mrs. Zeffren



"Ida Crown really taught me how to think for myself, and it gave me a passion for learning that I think is going to be really beneficial".

— Dani Glass

"Did you complete your Wellness Check? Have a great day!"
- Front Office Staff

"The new normal at ICJA is moving forward, and students are adjusting... Our teachers are the best, our students are wonderful (even when they challenge us), and together we will move forward to learn Torah, study maddah and prepare the next generation of Jewish leaders..."

— Dean, Rabbi Dr. Leonard Matanky



A YEAR

Like No Other



Ida Crown Girls Club (Walder Foundation) launches and students and staff enjoy the first ever pandemic-style un-Retreat.

The system has been running smoothly! After a farewell gathering to say one last thank you to Dr. Kahan who made *aliyah*, a pre-Chanukah chesed day - the first of three Ann Rita Schwartz z"l *Chesed* Days - was held on campus followed a few days later by a pop-up *Chanukah* program including a JUF event with the Jewish community of Bahrain.

September

December

February

April

June

July-August '20

November

January '21

March

May

ICJA's 'Plan for Reopening' was shared with students and families, followed by a successful return to school.

A new normal has set in with a successful Out of the Box Open House, a range of co-curricular programming, and the first of seven all-school COVID tests (we thank LifeScan Labs for their partnership).

2021 began with a *motzei-Shabbat* exclusive showing of Season 3 of *Shtisel* for our Society of Patrons. MLK Day featured a presentation from Rev. Cheeks of the IFCJ. Soon after school resumed, faculty and staff received their first COVID-19 vaccine doses. The third all-school COVID test came on Inauguration Day for Joe Biden and Kamala Harris, and second semester began with human foosball. More good news for Aces athletics; teams will be allowed to schedule practices and scrimmages.

The joy and happiness of Adar was palpable as ICJA's first open gym in over 12 months drew eager student-athletes and to their great delight, a handful of basketball games were scheduled including two with FYHS. A Pre-Purim chesed day - the second Ann Rita Schwartz z"l *Chesed* Day - was a hit, and the Sam Bernstein z"l Music Program returned to campus. Campus programming included festivities for Seniors on Saturday night.

Things pick up quickly after *Pesach* vacation with the return of mandatory *minyanim*, a powerful *Yom Hazikaron* Zoom presentation from Rabbi Dr. Joseph Polak, Purple Day on campus with Shalom Task Force, a preview of the 2020-21 edition of ICJA's literary magazine *Charlotte's Web*, the third Ann Rita Schwartz z"l *Chesed* Day, featuring a book presentation from Eden Levi on *Emunah*, and not only are sports teams given permission to travel by bus, moreover the Aces baseball team wins the Zaidy Robert Berezin Crosstown Classic tournament.

To wrap up the year like no other, Aces baseball defeats Horizon Science Academy to advance to round two in the IL state championships, an end of the year Student-to-Student panel with renowned scholars and experts Dr. Deborah Lipstadt and Dr. Malka Simkovich, and saving the best for last, ICJA's 75th Commencement Ceremony for the class of 2021 was held in-person with family and friends.



Don't Lose The Fun

While other schools were cancelling programs, we were finding ways to recreate them. While others shut down, we opened up and showed up for others.



Chesed Like No Other

Chanukah: Over 1900 packages prepared for hospital and nursing home patients.

Purim: Our students and staff joyfully produced more than 1000 packages of mishloach manot, care kits, cards, and recipe jars to Sharsheret, Chai Lifeline, Yachad, Chicago Center for Torah V'Chesed, Park Plaza and JFE Hebrew School (NCSY).

Lag BaOmer: Our students and staff put together over 750 packages to cancer treatment centers in the Chicagoland.

Thank you to the Schwartz family for their continued partnership and support of our Ann Rita Schwartz z"l Chesed Days.

Activities Like No Other

13 whole-school guest speakers, including Rabbi Aaron Leibtag, Dr. Daniel Aschheim, the Consul for Public Diplomacy at the Consulate General of Israel to the Midwest and high school student and author of "Finding your own Spiritual Journey" Eden Levi.

Chanukah: Bubble Soccer, JUF sponsored zoom event with the Jewish community of Bahrain. Ebrahim Nonoo, head of the Jewish community of Bahrain, led the candle lighting and delivered remarks. He was followed by US Representative Brad Schneider, a dvar Torah by Rabbi Matanky and finally entertainment by the ICJA band, part of the Sam Bernstein z"l Music Program.

Purim: "Ice" Skating, Let's Make a Deal

Yom Haatzmaut: Guest Speakers, Cake Wars, Israel Trivia Game, inflatables and giant tricycles

Lag BaOmer: BBQ, s'mores, archery tag, and sports

Campus Community

Clubs & Committees

Mechanot / Ida Crown Girls Club

Young women need opportunities for personal and religious growth, for leadership and for fun. Three years ago, ICJA created the ICGC program (Ida Crown Girls Club) to give those opportunities to our *Bnot Torah*. Two years ago, with the support of the Walder Foundation, those opportunities were expanded by the introduction of the *Mechanot* Program which engaged two of our talented ICJA educators to serve as mentors and counselors for our young women. Under the leadership of Mrs. Lynn Kraft and Mrs. Alise Gold, ICGC offers regular programs for our female students guiding them as they develop their leadership skills. This year, despite a pandemic ICGC held eight programs from the *Babka Bake with Sharsheret* to roller skating on *Chanukah* and meeting with Judge Ruchie Freier.

We thank the Walder Foundation for supporting ICGC as well as our Mechanot programming.

Mechanichim

The *Mechanichim* Program has been a huge success for boys at ICJA. ICJA's *Mechanichim* program promotes spiritual and religious exploration, connection, and growth through personal accountability for boys outside of the classroom. This year the *Mechanichim* offered opportunities for learning, for discussion and for fun. From bubble Soccer to *Mesillat Yescharim*, our *mechanichim* continue to help our young men find inspiration in a life of Torah

We thank the Natalie Schleifer and the Jack P. Schleifer Foundation for supporting Mechanichim programming.



Award Winning COPO Initiative

Student leaders on the JUMP (Jewish Unity Mentoring Program) committee, a national leadership program sponsored by NCSY, presented their project online to a panel of judges. Their project is called COPO – for *מן הכוח אל הפועל* – is an effort to enhance spirituality, religious inspiration, and tefillah among their peers by introducing a different theme each month and staying connected via a WhatsApp group. COPO placed as a top four finisher nationally and was awarded a \$1,500 prize to invest in programming.

Student to Student

StS is a student-lead initiative which aims to educate high school students about the basics of Judaism. This year's encounters were virtual due to the pandemic, but they still covered Jewish topics ranging from holidays, Jewish beliefs, life cycle events, Israel, Shabbat, Kashrut, and more. Perhaps the best takeaway from the year were the Q&A's built in to each session. Most participants had never met a Jew. StS hosted a year-end panel program featuring Dr. Deborah Lipstadt and Dr. Malka Simkovich.

All of the speakers were very good at explaining everything to those of us who might not have known a lot before this. It was also easy to tell how much their faith means to each of them, and I think that is a great example for all of us. — **StS Participant**

Awards

And Notables

Yeshiva University's Bronka Weintraub *Bekiut* Program

The national Talmud competition went virtual, and ICJA's contestants poured over the entire masechet Moed Katan for the *Daf-a-Week* track. Contestants had to study at an accelerated rate to finish all 28 *daf* of the *masechet* as the program launched later than normal; right after Sukkot. Nationwide, 120 students from 16 different high schools entered the *daf* track. "When the scores had been tallied, ICJA's Shira David and Simone Miller were the top two winners in the field!"



2021 STEM Curriculum Competition Award

David Holman and Noah Brody's project, "pot-a-plant", earned top marks in a national STEM competition run by The Center for Initiatives in Jewish Education, or CIJE. CIJE's Innovation Day is a culmination of a year of course work in the CIJE-Tech high school engineering curriculum. David and Noah created a pod for a plant which automatically measures the moisture of the soil adding water as needed and provides artificial sunlight as needed.



Tikvah Fellowship

Mr. Josh Cooper, ICJA history and economics teacher, was just awarded one of Tikvah's inaugural Abraham Lincoln Teacher's Fellowships. From hundreds of applicants nationwide, Mr. Cooper was one of 36 teachers selected for this coveted opportunity.

The 2021 Bonnie Dayan Visual Art Awards

Each year the Saltzman family awards cash prizes to outstanding art students. This art award was established in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Saltzman's daughter, Bonnie. Bonnie was a talented and creative wife and mother who approached life with the perception of an artist. The art program of Ida Crown Jewish Academy is grateful for the support of the Saltzman family for encouraging art students to pursue their love of the arts.

Mathletes

This year, about 30 Aces from the Mathletes team participated in our regular league, the North Suburban Math League. In all but one of the five online meets, ICJA was represented by either Benny Grey or Gideon Miller for the oral presentation component. ICJA also participated in The Jewish High School Math League contest which occurs just once a year. Last but not least, Aces made a great showing at a competition hosted by Yale University, in which students competed in different rounds and then had an opportunity to hear from a panel of students currently studying math/science at the esteemed Ivy League institution.



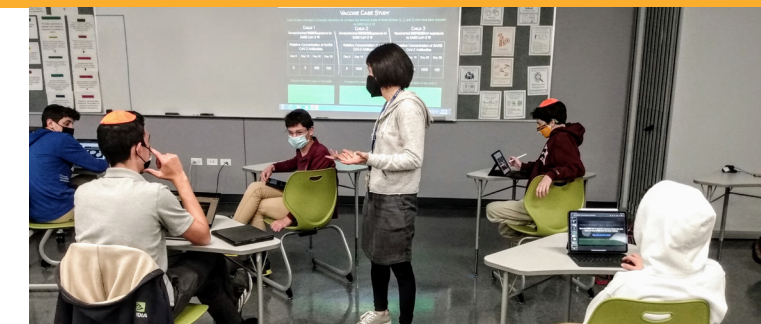
Letters About Literature

LAL is a competitive statewide reading and writing program sponsored by Illinois Secretary of State and State Librarian, Jesse White, as well as the Illinois Center for the Book. Aces earned accolades across the board including Sarah Friedman (class of '22). First Place among all high schoolers, Sarah wrote to Jean-Dominique Bauby, author of *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly*. There were thousands of entries, and her essay about lessons she learned from the book set her apart! Sarah participated in an online ceremony hosted by the Secretary of State. That's not all, though, as other Aces earned recognition as well, they included:

Finalists: Zachary Goldberg & Joshua Kupietzky

Semi-finalists: Jordyn Baker, Danielle Cohen, Yonatan Nudman, Yolie Starck, Hannah Stein, Nechama Tarshish, Shaina Tarshish, and Tehila Weiner

Honorable Mentions: Laura Bellows, Gabriel Gordon Bursten, Ethan Comrov, Adi Seruya, and Rina Yahav



Physical Sciences & NGSS

Turning the page on traditional expectations for a life science curriculum, Mrs. Gleicher introduced the Next Generation Science Standard, or NGSS, to her ninth grade biology students. Centered around four disciplinary core life science ideas and together with the other two foundational dimensions of the NGSS, science and engineering practice and cross cutting concepts, the NGSS model educates via phenomenon-driven storylines. By spiraling the information from into phenomenon driven storylines - rather than memorizing facts - Mrs. Gleicher's students were able to benefit from a more meaningful and rigorous classroom experience whether they were in-person on campus or at home over Zoom. Throughout the year, Mrs. Gleicher skillfully incorporated vaccines, as a storyline performance expectation, into the curriculum so that her students would be able to more personally relate what they were examining to the reality of the world around them.

Aces Scoreboard

Cross Country

The odds were stacked against these Running Aces. The 2020 season, initially cancelled, got off the ground only after half the season had already past. ICJA Cross Country shocked the CPC Conference finishing 2nd in both the Boys Varsity and Girls Varsity Championships. Leading the Boys was Eliezer Zagorin and Noah Strahlberg who both made the All Conference Team. Furthermore, despite the limited organized training this season, six runners set personal records.

Basketball

Aces basketball turned a flicker of hope into a meaningful year. In late February, our medical team gave final approval for a limited series of basketball games for Senior Varsity teams. In their first game of the pandemic, on March 4, the Lady Aces SV defeated Rochelle Zell at ICJA in convincing fashion. Four days later, it was the SV boys turn. Against their arch rivals from Fasman Yeshiva the SV boys were determined and tough in an exciting back-and-forth contest. The payoff was an overtime victory! Though the gym was closed to fans, the action was broadcast online via the Zaidy Robert Berezin Court Cam - graciously made possible by his grandchildren.

Soccer

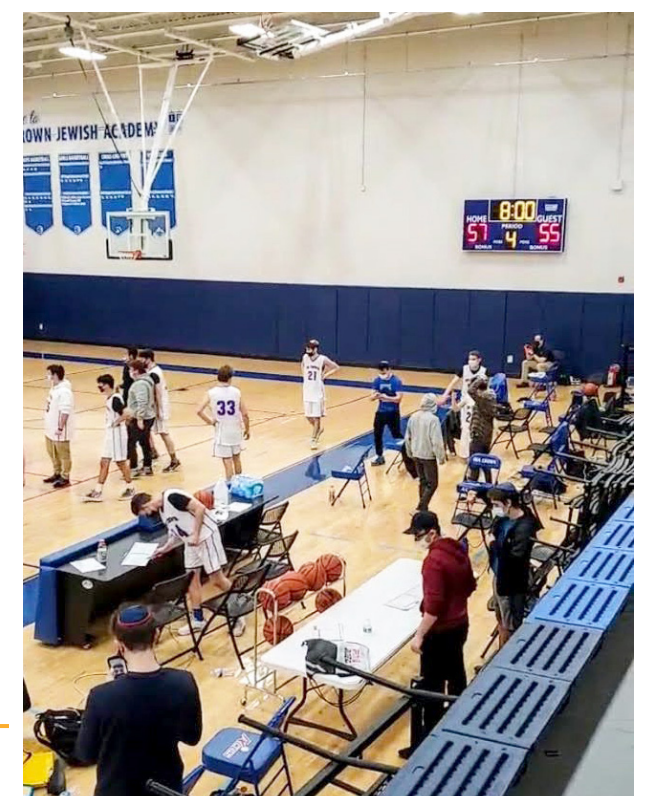
A new group of girls came together this season and built chemistry after a long year without soccer. The team worked hard to overcome our rivals from Rochelle Zell to make it to the conference championship. In the championship game our Lady Aces managed to score first with twenty minutes left in the game. Alas, the ensuing few minutes took a different turn, but finishing 2nd place was an enormous accomplishment this season. Taking on a quality team like Hope Academy to the final minutes was a remarkable achievement in a season that almost wasn't. Moreover, ICJA Boys Soccer kicked off a successful inaugural season.

Baseball

This year's Zaidy Robert Berezin Crosstown Classic was a huge hit. After going 1-0-1 in the first two games, the Aces found themselves playing for the crown. In the last inning, a walk-off hit by Benny Grey led Ida Crown Aces Varsity past the Tigers of Rochelle Zell 2-1 to capture ICJA's first ever Zaidy Robert Berezin Crosstown Classic Championship. The first round of the IHSA tournament was hosted by the Aces At Caleb Field, the Aces defeated Horizon McKinley 16-5 to advance. The season ended as the Aces fell short in the regional semifinal game to Grant Park High School.

Wrestling

The Ida Crown Wrestling Team's 2020-2021 school year was neither typical nor ideal. Spirited practices with conditioning exercises were held from the beginning of September through finals in June, but competitions were cancelled due to the pandemic. Seniors Enon Gurvich, Ezra Landman-Feigelson, Moshe Lodkin, Bentzy Osgood, and Donny Zeller all lost their culminating season. Finally, in early June, three wrestlers traveled to Melrose Park to compete in the Illinois Wrestling Coaches Association State Championship series regional at Walther Christian. Senior Captain Bentzy Osgood took third place at 160, and Junior Aryeh Schwartz took third place at 170.



College Application

Traditionally, standardized testing has been one of the most critical components of the college application process. However, because of the pandemic, most universities modified their policies and made the reporting of test scores optional. Thus, high school transcripts became even more prominent in evaluation processes. With a rigorous dual curriculum already in place at ICJA, the quantity of daily courses and the quality of instruction in our school stood out even more. The mix of optional test scores, added emphasis on records and transcripts, and academic performance contributed greatly to Aces' acceptance in both private and public universities.

College Guidance

We take immense pride in supporting our families, and generations of alum, as they chose institutions that provide opportunities for a rich and robust Jewish life on campus. The Dr. Tammy Kaplan z"l College Guidance Program includes a 6-unit intensive college planning seminar, "Decisions", which is designed to guide students through accessing resources and asking the right questions in selecting a university to meet their needs.

Where will Aces from the class of 2021 be matriculating?

87% of our graduates are planning on spending their "fifth year" in Israel.

For the first time, the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign is the penultimate college of choice for our senior class. This is a testament to the hard work that Jewish groups (Hillel, Chabad, and JET) are doing to improve Jewish life on campus and reflects the reality of growing costs of out-of-state universities.

In addition to the 24 Aces who plan on attending Yeshiva University, Stern College for Women, and Touro College, destinations where Jewish life inherently permeates daily life in and around campus, 12 other Aces have chosen universities with an active OU-JLIC (Orthodox Union-Jewish Learning Initiative on Campus) fellowship program. These include IDC Herzliya in Israel, Brandeis University, Columbia University, and the University of Maryland. Together with the OU, the JLIC contributes to Jewish life by both enhancing learning opportunities and ensuring a sufficient "infrastructure for Orthodox life to flourish".

Record Breaking

Annual Campaign

The development team led by Co-Chairs Max Wasserman and Liz Geifman set their sights on yet another unprecedented campaign goal in a year like no other. Thanks to a dedicated and engaged group effort, we are grateful to all who helped us surpass our objectives ahead of schedule!

IN TOTAL, \$1,358,000 WAS RAISED FOR THE ICJA ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND — TOPPING \$1 MILLION FOR THE SEVENTH YEAR IN A ROW.

Scholarship Funds assist more than 60 percent of our student body, ensuring the continuation of our founders' mission that no Jewish child is denied a distinctly Jewish and exceptionally well-rounded education. As we work tirelessly to prepare our students to thrive in the modern world, both as Jews and as contributing members of society, we are so grateful to the many donors who enable us to accomplish this mission.

The highlight of our development efforts was, again, our Dr. Edward A. Crown Scholarship Dinner.

Under blue skies and ample sunshine, over 200 Academy supporters gathered together on the plaza — unmasked — for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres.

This was the first in-person celebration for so many in the community who were all gathered in shared purpose, to celebrate ICJA's 78 years and to honor Dr. Amy Kaiser, Dr. Ben Katz and Rabbi Binyomin Segal - leaders who inspired us and were instrumental in helping us achieve so much, safely, throughout the pandemic.

A special thank you to our Society of Patrons members who are keystones in our fundraising efforts. Participation as an SOP enables ICJA to continue to provide direct scholarship assistance to families. This year's Society of Patrons event, an exclusive release of the hit Netflix third season of Shtisel, was a tremendous success despite being forced to go virtual.

Thank you to Debbie and Dr. David Dobkin SOP Co-Chairs.

Thank you to our partners, stakeholders, and to all those who contributed to help us reach our 2021 campaign goal. You enable us to continue to fulfill our mission.

— The ICJA Family

ICJA 5781 Annual Campaign

JEWISH DAY SCHOOL GUARANTY TRUST FUND

Thank you to the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago and the generous donors to the Jewish Day School Guaranty Trust Fund. In Fiscal Year 2020, the Fund distributed \$59,986 to ICJA and \$1,384,159 in total since the Fund started. Gifts to the Fund are considered commitments to the Jewish Federation's Centennial Campaign and are over and above the donors' annual gifts to the Jewish United Fund and to the individual day schools they may support. For more details on the Jewish Day School Guaranty Trust Fund, contact Jordan Amrani at 312.444.2822 or JordanAmrani@juf.org.

THE IDA CROWN ENDOWMENT FOUNDATION

The Ida Crown Endowment Foundation was created in partnership with the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago's Day School Endowment Program and the Associated Talmud Torahs to ensure that ICJA and our sister day schools have the necessary resources to meet growing and evolving community needs. All endowment commitments are recognized as gifts to the Jewish Federation's Centennial Campaign.

HEEREY SCHOLARSHIPS

Middle class families with multiple children in day school feel the "financial squeeze" of day school tuition more than any other group. The Bernard Heerey Family Foundation Scholarship was established to meet the needs of these middle income families. Scholarships can finance as much as full tuition for families who meet these requirements. This year THE HEEREY FOUNDATION HELPED 40 STUDENTS ATTEND THE ACADEMY. We gratefully acknowledge the Bernard Heerey Foundation for its generosity and commitment to day school education.

ICJA SHAY SCHOLARS

Scott Shay ('75) transferred to ICJA from public school and his experience was life changing. Today, he is a successful businessman and a leader in American Jewish society. In recognition of what ICJA did for him, Mr. Shay established a scholarship fund to support public school students who make the change and come to ICJA. This past year, nine students benefited from the Shay scholarship and we look forward to helping more students benefit from the resources made possible by Mr. Shay.

The Ida Crown Endowment Foundation

Anonymous (12)
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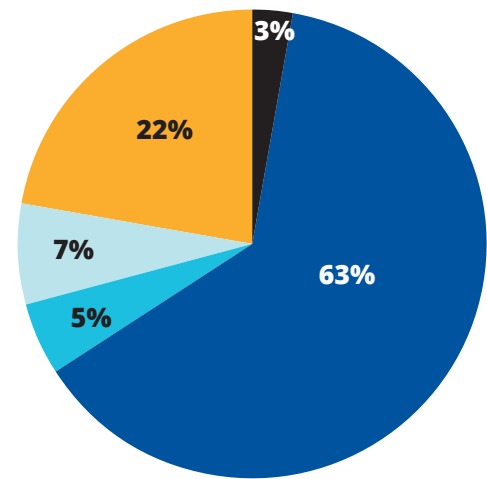
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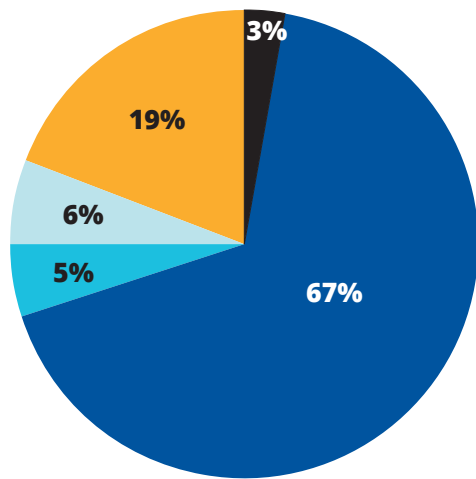
Financial Summary

2020 Revenues \$8,677,241

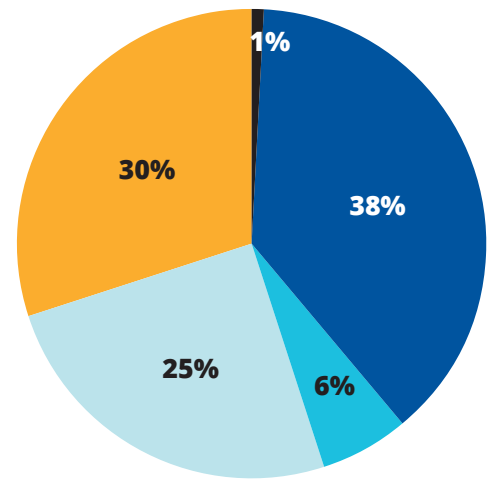


- GROSS TUITION & FEE
- THE BERNARD HEEREY FAMILY FOUNDATION
- JEWISH FEDERATION OF METROPOLITAN CHICAGO & JEWISH DAY SCHOOL GUARANTY TRUST FUND
- FUNDRAISING & ENDOWMENTS
- OTHER

2019 Revenues \$8,305,820

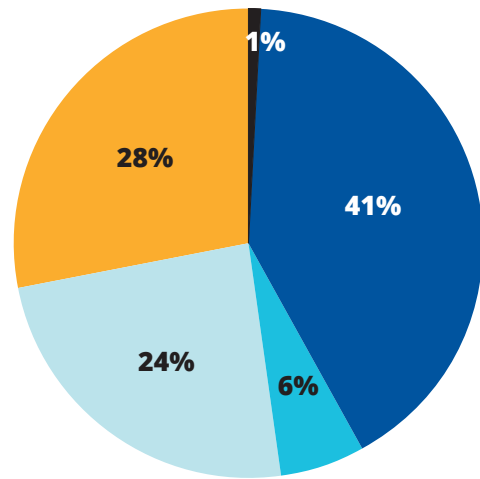


2020 Expenses \$8,012,469



- EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES
- FACILITIES
- ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES
- SCHOLARSHIP
- OTHER

2019 Expenses \$8,148,227



Thank You To Our Capital Campaign Donors

WE REMAIN FOREVER GRATEFUL TO OUR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PARTNERS FOR BEING THE VISIONARIES OF OUR COMMUNITY'S FUTURE BY CONTRIBUTING TO ICJA'S BUILDING CAMPAIGN. BECAUSE OF YOU, WE ACHIEVED OUR ONCE-IN-A-GENERATION GOAL OF BUILDING A CONTEMPORARY HIGH SCHOOL FOR OUR COMMUNITY AND STRENGTHENING ICJA'S ENDOWMENT TO GUARANTEE THE SCHOLARSHIP AND FINANCIAL NEEDS OF FUTURE GENERATIONS.

\$10,000,000 +

THE CROWN & GOODMAN FAMILY

\$1,000,000 – \$9,999,999

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KESHET

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TANYA & CHAIM LUBIN & FAMILY
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CINDY & ALON REDLICH
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MIKI & SHMUEL SCHREIBER & FAMILY
LYNN STEIN & LOREN STEIN
AMMY & MICHAEL SUGAR & FAMILY
IN MEMORY OF ARTHUR AND DOROTHY WARSHAWSKY
FLORA & MARTY WEISS
DANIEL & RIFKA WEISS

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MITCHELL M. DAYAN

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JENNIE & AVI ROTHNER
RENEE BIRNBERG SILBERMAN & JOSEPH
SILBERMAN & FAMILY

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SHARON & YOSIE GOLDBERGER
ALIDA & DANIEL HARRIS & FAMILY
RABBI STANLEY & ROCHELLE KROLL
MICHELLE & BRIAN LEVINSON
ALISON & ALAN MOLOTSKY & FAMILY
ERYNNE & ARI RENNERT
PAUL Z”L & DORIS ROSENBERG Z”L & FAMILY
RACHEL & MICHAEL STEIN
STANLEY & LINDA WEISSBROT & FAMILY
REV. NOAH & MARILYN WOLFF

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MARILYN ALLSWANG EISENBERG Z”L
ROY & ELLEN BERNSTEIN & FAMILY
ARTHUR & GILDA BIRN
REGINA & ERNIE GOLDBERGER
CHERYL & GARY HOBERMAN
MARLA & EZRA JAFFE & FAMILY
CONNIE & DR. ALAN KADISH
JORDAN & SUE KLEIN
THE FAMILY OF RABBI SAMUEL KLEIN Z”L
WILL LENNON & SHARI HELFT
LENNON & FAMILY
MONICA & RICH MAGID
WENDY & JONATHAN MARGOLIN

JODI OKNER & FAMILY
LAURIE & DOV PINCHOT
HELEN & DR. MARC RUBENSTEIN
IN MEMORY OF CYRIL BEN RUBIN
CHARLENE & DR. DAVID SALES
SUSAN & HOWARD STEIN

UP TO \$5,000

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MARSHA & RICK ARONS
SANDRA & KENNETH BERG
MICHAEL Z”L & JEAN BEST
HELENE & MITCHELL BLIVAISS
AVIVA & LAWRENCE CAMRAS
ANA CARRASQUILLO
SHARON & LARRY CHAMBERS
CHUCK & KAREN COHEN
JOSHUA COOPER
DR. CATHERINE D’ANNA
EDIE & RABBI YOSEF DAVIS
MARC & NAN FINE & FAMILY
HINDY & DR. CAL FINKEL
LESLIE & NORM FINKEL
TED FISHMAN
ROBBIE & SCOTT FRETZIN & FAMILY
DANIELLE & JASON FRIEDMAN
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GLUCK FAMILY
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HERI & HOWARD GOLDSTEIN
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TIRZA & SAM KAHAN
NANCY KAHN
BETH POGONITZ

RABBI SHMUEL & ESTHER KURTZ
RABBI JOEL & EVELYN LEHRFIELD
JULIE & GEORGE LENNON & FAMILY
CARLA & JAMES LEVINE
ANITA & MICHAEL LONDON
ELSA MAESTRANZI
MRS. JOANNE MARIS
ORIT MARMEL
STACEY & AARON MASLIANSKY
AVI MATANKY
AVIVA & YITZCHAK MATANKY
JUDITH & BARRY MENDELBERG
SHOSHANA & BENJAMIN NEIKRUG
DAVID & BARBARA NEWMAN
RABBI JOSEPH & ASHIRA OZAROWSKI
MARGOT Z”L & SAMUEL PARNASS
STEPHANIE & STEVEN PEDERSON
STUART PERLIK CHARITABLE FUND AT THE
CHICAGO COMMUNITY TRUST
DEBBIE & KENNETH POLIN
RIVKAH Z”L & RABBI IRA RABIN
HILDA RAPOPORT
JACK & ANNETTE SALTZMAN
SHAYNA & DAVID SCHECHTER
AUDREY SCHIFF
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RANDY & MICHELLE TRUBNICK & FAMILY
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JUDY AND RABBI DAVID WEISS
ELISSA & ZEV WEISSBERG
JUDITH & JEFF WHISLER
KOCHAVA & RABBI HERTZEL YITZHAK
PHIL & BONNIE ZBARAZ
DEVA & JOSHUA ZWELLING & FAMILY

Grandparents
Giving Circle

THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE LESSONS GRANDPARENTS TEACH THEIR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN FORM THE FOUNDATION OF THEIR LIVES AS JEWISH TEENAGERS. IT IS THANKS TO THE LOVING CARE AND DEVOTION OF GRANDPARENTS TO THEIR FAMILIES THAT OUR STUDENTS ARE ABLE TO THRIVE AS COMMITTED JEWISH YOUNG ADULTS.

WE PAY TRIBUTE TO OUR GRANDPARENTS ANNUALLY AT OUR GRANDPARENTS DAY, WHEN WE INVITE THEM TO JOIN US AT THE ACADEMY FOR A MORNING THAT INCLUDES A STUDENT AND STAFF PRESENTATION, A PANEL DISCUSSION, OR A TOUR AND REFRESHMENTS. WE ARE SO GRATEFUL TO THE GRANDPARENTS, AND MEMBERS OF THE ICJA *KEHILLA*, WHO JOINED US FOR THIS YEAR’S EVENT. WE ARE ESPECIALLY GRATEFUL TO THOSE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO OUR GRANDPARENTS GIVING CIRCLE BY MAKING A GIFT TO OUR ANNUAL CAMPAIGN.

JOAN & SHAEL BELLOWS
MINNA &. DR. ISRAEL BERGER
MARILYN & STUART BERGER
HELENE & DR. MITCHELL BLIVAISS
PHYLLIS & STEVEN BRODY
VERA & HYMAN BURSTYN
CAROLE COHEN
KAREN COHEN
TOBY & YAKOV EIZIK
DR. SUZANNE EPSTEIN
ROBERT FELIX
LINDA & LARRY FRIEDMAN
LOIS & BARRY LEVONTI
GAIL LEVY
KAREN & MORTON LEVY

BARBARA & BERTON GOLDSTEIN
ADELE GORENSTEIN
DEBRA & ROBERT HARTMAN
BARBARA & GEORGE HANUS
SUSAN & DR. JUDA JONA
SARA & BENNET KARAN
MINDY & IRVING KEMPNER
TOBY & SHELDON KIRSHNER
SYDELLE KLEIN
RINA & KALMAN KRAUSE
ARLENE & MOSHE KUPIETZKY
TRUDE MATANKY
JAN & SHERWIN MISHKIN
MICHAEL NUSSBAUM
JUDITH & JORDAN PEIPER

ELLIS & DR. JORDAN POLLACK
ANDREA & DR. STUART RICH
RONNI & ELLIOTT ROBINSON
FREDA ROBINSON
ELLEN & LEWIS ROSS
ELAINE ROTHNER
GALE & ERIC ROTHNER
LOIS & MILTON RUBIN
NATALIE SCHLEIFER
ELAINE STEIN
BRACHA & AVY WEBERMAN
RABBI HOWARD WEINE
LINDA & STANLEY WEISSBROT
LOUISE WOLINETZ