

# update

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**The Newsletter of National Council of Jewish Women, Los Angeles Section**

**NCJW/LA STARTS OFF THE 2012-2013 YEAR!**

## **Annual Meeting on June 3 Featured Board Installation, Volunteer Awards, and Special Auditorium Rededication**



*Outgoing Board Secretary Rebecca Wayne casts the ballot for the 2012-2013 Board of Directors.*



*Keynote speaker Abby J. Leibman, president and CEO of MAZON: A Jewish Response To Hunger, said the key to her success as an advocate is being a troublemaker. "I have been challenging authority since kindergarten," she said.*



*Donor and longtime member Rose Norton was honored during a Special Rededication of the newly remodeled auditorium.*

**J**une 3rd brought almost 100 people to Council House for National Council of Jewish Women/Los Angeles's Annual Meeting. The keynote speaker was **Abby J. Leibman**, president and CEO of MAZON: The Jewish Response to Hunger. Installing our 2012-2013 Board of Directors was **Captain Kelley Fraser** of the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station.

Outgoing Board President **Ruth Zeitzew** and Incoming Board President **Amy Straus** presented the

President's Award to **Pamela Brown**, vice president of Women Making a Difference and seder chair for the past two years, in recognition of her unique contributions to the organization.

The Volunteer Awards were presented by Amy and Annual Meeting Chair **Suzanne Buckholtz**. Recipients included **Merle Siegel** (Lifetime Achievement), **Shelli Dodell** (Distinguished Leader), **Cheryl Abrams**, **Viti Golomb**, and **Peggy**

*Continued on page 4*



*The newly installed 2012-2013 Board of Directors: (standing, left to right) Women Helping Children VP Susan Isaacs, Executive Director Hillary Selvin, Lorraine Joffe, Women Helping Women VP Shelli Dodell, Gail Cohen, Secretary Phyllis Cohen, President Amy Straus, Suzanne Buckholtz, Treasurer Marla Smith, Leanore Saltz, and Renee Tener-Hertzberg, and (seated, left to right) Thrift VP Cipra Nemeth, Advocacy VP Rebecca Wayne, Anita Aratow, Merle Siegel, Ruth Zeitzew, and Women Making a Difference VP Pamela Brown. Not pictured are Development and Outreach VP Deborah Berger, Parliamentarian Peggy Schwartz, C. Jean Pearlstein, Nancy Scher, and Lotte Sohn.*



National Council of Jewish Women  
Los Angeles Section

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Isn't it fun to be in the know? NCJW/LA has long had the reputation of being a well-kept secret. But as an NCJW/LA member you're in on the secret—you're walking around with some juicy little tidbits. You know that we are keeping school libraries going in the face of drastic budget cuts. You know that our social workers are running workshops and empowerment groups out in the community. And you know that our Women Making a Difference monthly Mitzvot and Merlot programs have blossomed and now there are groups in the Valley and in the Agoura Hills area in addition to our flagship group in the city.



**Amy Straus**  
President

But I'll bet you didn't know that our Jewish Women's Conference has expanded this year, in all ways. A longer day, a bigger venue (UCLA), and ongoing programs and workshops throughout the year to help keep us connected.

And did you know about our connection to Israel? NCJW has supported programs for women, children, and families since before the creation of the state. Here in Los Angeles, our Israel committee has gathered to learn about the steps we can take to help the country and its people.

Ohhh! And just one last nugget that I hope has become less and less of a secret, but have you noticed the big changes? The auditorium, lobby, and kitchen of Council House are looking quite shiny and new thanks to the generosity of Rose Norton and the Ahmanson Foundation. If you haven't seen the new look, stop by to check it out! Who knows what other interesting pieces of information you might pick up!

*Amy*

## NCJW/LA in the News

In honor of Jewish American Heritage month in April, National Council of Jewish Women founder Hannah G. Solomon's story was printed on the back of **Manischewitz matzo boxes!**



The matzo box featuring Hannah G. Solomon

Council Thrift Shops was featured on the **HGTV special "I Brake for Yardsales"** that aired on April 20. "Good Morning America" lifestyle anchor Lara Spencer moonlights as an interior designer, and the program shows her visiting our North Fairfax store to decorate her best friend's new Hollywood Hills home.



Lara Spencer

Her fabulous finds included a set of six vintage dining chairs, an upholstered bench, a side table, and a console. On the program Lara demonstrates how with a little imagination, paint, and elbow

## A FEW WORDS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It is going to be a busy summer. Besides the kids out of school, vacationing, and other fun summer stuff that keeps us all busy, the Presidential election is November 6—and with it the chance for each American to stand up and choose the future of our country. No one else can do this for us.

There are many issues on the table. For NCJW/LA the issues are clear: We must protect women, children, and families and their rights to choice, health care, economic stability, fair pay, equality, and education. Each of us must take the necessary steps to ensure a strong and healthy future for ourselves and our children. Our ability to participate in this process is both an obligation and a responsibility.

NCJW/LA affords you the opportunity to find a way take those necessary steps. We have many areas in which you can help. You can volunteer your time in one of our programs either once in a while, once a week, or once a month, support our programs with your contributions, or donate items to our Council Thrift Shops. Whatever choice you make...please make that choice now!

**“Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once or twice a year, but when you volunteer you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in.”—Anonymous**

Choose the community you want your family and friends to be part of. Join NCJW/LA today!



**Hillary Selvin**  
Executive Director

## LETTER CORNER

grease, second-hand treasures can be transformed into high-end design.

Our May 16 “War on Women” Advocacy program was at the center of **Sandy Banks’ Los Angeles Times** column “Voices for Abortion Rights: Women at a Political Strategy Session Take a Page from the Opposition” published on June 2 ([www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-banks-20120602,0,7069564.column](http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-banks-20120602,0,7069564.column)).



### Standing Beside Us

Thank you so much for honoring the Downtown Women’s Center with NCJW/LA’s inaugural Community Partnership Award.

We truly admire the wonderful work of NCJW/LA and are pleased to stand beside you, as together we strive to improve the quality of life for women in our community. We had a great time at the Awards Gala!

—Molly Moen, COO, and  
Brianna Freiheit, Chief Program Officer,  
Downtown Women’s Center,  
Los Angeles

The NCJW/LA UPDATE welcomes letters from readers. Mail to Dana Bigman, Director of Development and Communication, NCJW/LA, 543 N. Fairfax Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90036, or email to [dana@ncjwla.org](mailto:dana@ncjwla.org). Questions? Call Dana at 323-852-8507.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President:** Amy Straus

**Vice Presidents:**

Deborah Berger, *Development & Outreach*

Pamela Brown, *Women Making a Difference*

Shelli Dodell, *Women Helping Women*

Susan Isaacs, *Women Helping Children*

Cipra Nemeth, *Council Thrift Shops*

Rebecca Wayne, *Advocacy*

**Secretary:** Phyllis Cohen

**Treasurer:** Marla Smith

**Parliamentarian:** Peggy Schwartz

**Directors:** Anita Aratow, Suzanne Buckholtz, Gail Cohen, Lorraine Joffe, C. Jean Pearlstein, Leanore Saltz, Nancy Scher, Merle Siegel, Lotte Sohn, Renee Tener-Hertzberg, Ruth Zeitzew

**Executive Director:**

Hillary Selvin

## MANAGEMENT TEAM

**Executive Director:**

Hillary Selvin

**Chief Financial Officer:**

Sofiya Dubinsky

**Director of Development and Communication:** Dana Bigman

**Director of Retail Operations:** Robert Klausner

**Director of Women Helping Women:** Ava Rose, LCSW

**Director of Membership and Outreach:** Susan Sysler

**Director of Women Helping Children:** Melissa Tillman

**Director of Advocacy:** Ruth Williams

**Program Director of Jewish Women’s Conference:** Maya Paley

**Office & Facilities Manager:** Carole Pearson

ANNUAL MEETING/  
Continued from page 1

**Shapiro** (Emerging Leaders), **Marcy Norton** (Special Achievement), and **Scott Shulman** (Professional Service). Special recognition was given to **Julie Davis, Susan Isaacs, Lorraine Joffe, Lenore Wax, Rachel Wolff**, and the Art Pals Team Facilitators: **Deborah Abram, Karol Blumenthal, Joel Blumenthal, Marcia Jones, Judy Kerbes, Marla Lefton, Helene Schacter, Andrea Stanley, Melina Warren, and Karen Wollons.** NCJW/LA also acknowledged our 100-hour volunteers.

A highlight of the afternoon was a Special Rededication of the auditorium honoring donor **Rose Norton** and her family, whose contributions made the recent remodel possible.

Our thanks to the Annual Meeting sponsors and underwriters: **Amy and Jeffrey P. Straus, Cheryl Abrams, Suzanne Buckholtz, Peggy Shapiro, Merle Siegel, Deborah Berger, Zachary Brown, Mike Brownstein and Eva Mezey, Eileen and Howard Buckholtz, Irv and Kate Losman, Beverly and Allen Mushinsky, Brenda and Bob Sandler, and Mary Losman.**



The Board Installation was conducted by Capt. Kelley Fraser of the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station.



Attendees listening to keynote speaker Abby Leibman in the newly remodeled auditorium



Left to right: Incoming President Amy Straus and Outgoing President Ruth Zeitzev congratulating Pamela Brown on receiving the President's Award



Left to right: NCJW/LA Executive Director Hillary Selvin, "Emerging Leaders" Cheryl Abrams and Peggy Shapiro, and President Amy Straus



Board Member Merle Siegel with her Lifetime Achievement Award



Left to right: Hillary Selvin, Susanne Hertsfelder, Phillip Savenick, Rose Norton, Amy Straus, and Suzanne Buckholtz



Annual Meeting Chair Suzanne Buckholtz (left) calls upon Vice President of Thrift Cipra Nemeth to say the Ha Motzi.



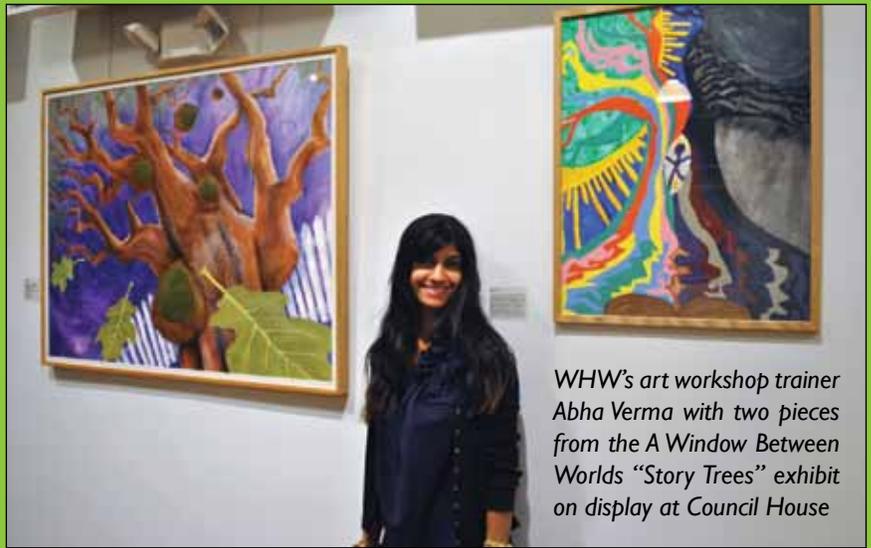
Amy Straus with "Distinguished Leader" Shelli Dodell, VP of Women Helping Women



Marcy Norton (left) received the award for Special Achievement and Scott Shulman (right) was recognized for Professional Service.



Left to right: Amy Straus with Helene Schacter and Karol Blumenthal, who accepted a Special Recognition Award on behalf of Women Helping Children's Art Pals Team Facilitators



WHW's art workshop trainer Abha Verma with two pieces from the A Window Between Worlds "Story Trees" exhibit on display at Council House

## NCJW/LA Presents Art Exhibit Series

The Annual Meeting was the kickoff for a new series of art exhibits in the Council House auditorium. NCJW/LA will present exhibits relating to our mission through various agencies and organizations as well as giving up-and-coming Jewish artists a venue for their work. Each exhibit will be on display for two to three months.

The first exhibit, titled "Story Trees," is from **A Window Between Worlds** (AWBW), a nonprofit organization dedicated to using art to help end domestic violence. Since 1991, AWBW has provided creative expression as a healing tool for more than 74,000 battered women and their children in crisis shelters, transitional homes, and outreach centers throughout the U.S.

**Abha Verma**, Women Helping Women's Domestic Violence Services Coordinator, was trained by AWBW to lead its art workshops for domestic violence survivors. Each year, Abha trains the WHW staff and interns to conduct the workshops with their individual and group therapy clients, including individuals who receive therapy

at Council House and those who are seen by WHW staff in local shelters. NCJW/LA received a scholarship from AWBW for Abha's training and for the art materials for WHW clients and an additional scholarship for the current exhibit.

Through images of roots, bark, branches, leaves, and fruit, the Story Trees exhibit reveals journeys of strength and courage taken by women and children who have experienced domestic violence. Often left untold and unseen, these stories share the pain, triumphs, and strengths that survivors discovered in themselves as they escaped from the violence. Others reflect wishes, hopes, and dreams for the future. Some represent conversations sparked within a family as the Story Tree became a collaboration and a window to open dialogue and understanding. The Story Trees exhibit will be on display through mid August.

The next art exhibit will open in mid to late August and include an opening reception. Details will be announced soon.

For further information, contact Susan Sysler at 323-852-8512 or [susan@ncjwla.org](mailto:susan@ncjwla.org).

## WOMEN HELPING WOMEN Community Counseling & Support Services

*"A movement is only composed of people moving. To feel its warmth and motion around us is the end as well as the means."*

– Gloria Steinem

For many people, summer is a time to take off, leave school or work behind, and slow one's pace before the new year. At Women Helping Women (WHW), we also shift gears every summer to prepare for the new year, but our pace never slows. We know that in order to sustain the movements to end domestic violence and child sexual abuse, to provide healing and empowerment for those experiencing hardship and trauma, and to strengthen families, we must continually reinvigorate our programs, and reinvest in the most important resource we have: the people in our community.

And so this June, we will invest in nurses, teachers, mothers, women in mid-life, and those seeking training for new careers by distributing **WHW Scholarships** to help 10 women in achieving their dreams and strengthening their families through education.

If you are concerned about the many students who will spend this summer struggling to pay their tuition or child care expenses for the fall, please join our efforts to brighten their summers. Volunteer for the Scholarship Committee, donate to one of our 11 scholarship funds, or consider funding a scholarship of your own.

### Court Watch

Our **Family Court Advocacy Project** will not rest this summer either. We will be gathering much-needed data for our Court Watch research project, which examines the experiences of domestic violence victims and their children in family courts.

While most families are planning their barbecues and summer vacations, hundreds of women who have survived domestic violence relationships will be spending thousands of hours in

family court, seeking restraining orders from former partners, and battling to maintain custody of their children. And WHW will be there too.

We will recruit and train more Court Watch volunteers to observe court proceedings, interview local domestic violence experts to formulate our research questions, and begin preparing to analyze the data that will lead to future advocacy efforts and policy recommendations.

### Counseling and Emergency Assistance

We have been busy this past year—serving more than 150 clients in therapy and over 1,000 Counseling Talkline callers, and offering emergency assistance to more than 400 individuals. We are proud of our accomplishments but we never rest on our laurels, because we know that during the summer the needs of the community do not take a holiday. That's why every summer, we review our programs, revise our procedures and assessment tools,

and renew our clinical skills through continuing education, to ensure we are effectively meeting the needs of the community and to reinvigorate our programs for the coming year.

This summer, we also will revitalize our Talkline by training a class of 10 new volunteers, to make sure that every phone that rings in our Talkline Room next year will be answered by a warm, compassionate voice.

### Make a Difference by Volunteering

If you would like to be part of our movement to ease the suffering of those in need, evaluate the effectiveness of our court system, or empower individuals seeking to improve their lives through education, consider a change of pace this summer. Join one of Women Helping Women's many vital programs, and feel the warmth of making a difference.

To learn about volunteer opportunities, call 323-852-8515 or email [whw@ncjwla.org](mailto:whw@ncjwla.org).

*There shall be eternal summer in the grateful heart. – Celia Thaxter*



Women Helping Women's summer interns (left to right): Jenny Blair, Anna Miller, and Carly Bonnell. From mid June, through mid August, the interns will assist with Counseling Talkline training and supervision, Court Watch research, program development, and grantwriting.

## WOMEN HELPING CHILDREN Art & Literacy Programs for Youth

As the school year came to an end, Women Helping Children (WHC) volunteers and program participants celebrated another year of successful programming.

More than 100 students received academic support in our **After School Homework Club** and shelter-based **Tutoring and Enrichment** programs.

In addition, over 500 students at participating schools enjoyed learning about the elements of art through our **Art Bridges Culture** and **Art Pals** programs.

And thousands more students were able to visit and explore their school libraries each week thanks to the support of WHC **Light Up a Library** volunteers, who remained committed to keeping school libraries open and accessible to students.

### World Book Night

NCJW/LA was selected to be one of 5,000 book-givers during the first-ever World Book Night on April 23.

WHC volunteers and Alexandria House Teen Program participants had a great time promoting a love of literacy and distributing various titles to random patrons along the streets of LA.



National Council of Jewish Women/Los Angeles



Teen moms at McAlister High School enjoy learning about the elements of art and creating art-work for their babies.

### Coming in 2012-2013

As we prepare for the 2012-2013 academic school year, WHC volunteers remain committed to providing art education in schools with no funding or resource for the arts. We also will offer shelter-based after-school tutoring and enrichment and continue to staff underserved school libraries in order to keep them open and accessible to students. In addition, WHC will replace lost and worn books at participating Light Up A Library school libraries with funds raised from our recent Mackin Fund4Books campaign. Thanks to your support, we raised more than \$2,000 during the campaign!

Alexandria House teens hit the streets promoting literacy on World Book Night.

We hope you can join us on Wednesday, July 11, at 7 p.m. at Hamburger Mary's in West Hollywood for an extraordinary evening of **Legendary Bingo**. All proceeds benefit WHC's Art and Literacy Programs for Youth.

LAUSD schools will reopen to students on Tuesday, August 14, and our WHC Art & Literacy Programs for Youth will start up again soon afterward.

Interested in volunteering? Join us at our **Volunteer Open House** at NCJW/LA Council House on Tuesday, August 7, at 6 p.m. to learn more about opportunities. To schedule a volunteer interview, contact Melissa Tillman, Director of Women Helping Children, at [whc@ncjwla.org](mailto:whc@ncjwla.org) or 323-852-8505.



WHC volunteer Colin Ziegler and AH teen Abraham get creative during the Teen Program.

## Members and Guests Enjoy Women's Seder

A hundred people gathered in the newly refurbished auditorium at Council House on April 11 for NCJW/LA's Annual Women's Seder. With **Cantor Mimi Haselkorn** (pictured above) leading us in song and NCJW/LA Seder Chair **Pamela Brown** leading us in reading the Haggadah, we were spiritually and gastronomically nourished.



Thank you to the seder's sponsors and underwriters: **Amy and Jeffrey P. Straus, Milken Family Foundation, Suzanne and David Buckholtz, Bob Klausner, Beverly Mushinsky, Pamela and Zachary Brown, Rosalie J. Lurie, Cipra Nemeth, Lynn Schleimer, Lynda Stone, Lysa Stone, Anita Aratow, and Deborah Berger.**

## Israel Committee Designates Donation

At their first meeting on May 17, members of NCJW/LA's new Israel Committee determined which granting program in Israel to connect with. The Los Angeles Section will be donating \$1,500, plus an additional \$1,000 from **Amy and Jeffrey P. Straus**, to We Power: The Organization for the Advancement of Women's Leadership in Israel.

If you would like to join the Israel Committee or want more information, please contact Susan Sysler at 323-852-8512 or [susan@ncjwla.org](mailto:susan@ncjwla.org).

## MEMBER NEWS AND EVENTS

### VOLUNTEER OPEN HOUSE

Join us on Tuesday, August 7, at 6 p.m. at Council House to learn more about the variety of volunteer opportunities at NCJW/LA. If you would like to be added to the list to receive an invitation, please contact Susan Sysler at 323-852-8512 or [susan@ncjwla.org](mailto:susan@ncjwla.org). Light refreshments will be served.

### WOMEN MAKING A DIFFERENCE – MITZVOT & MERLOT

We are married and single, mothers and daughters. Join us to make an impact, make new friends, and aid our community through NCJW/LA community service projects.

#### Programs in the City

- Sunday, July 22, 10 a.m.—Shopping spree at Council Thrift Shop/North Fairfax to select items for women at Alexandria House. Buy your own breakfast at Canter's beforehand.
- Thursday, August 23, 7:30 p.m.—Sweet New Year packets for JFS homebound clients including handmade Rosh Hashanah cards at the home of Pamela Brown in the Fairfax Area
- Thursday, Sept. 27, 7:30 p.m.—Create decorations for NCJW/LA Sukkah at Council House.

**Programs in the West Valley/Agoura Hills:** All programs are held at the home of Cheryl Abrams in Agoura Hills.

- Tuesday August 21, 7:30 p.m.—Backpacks with school supplies. Recipient organization to be determined.

**Programs in the Valley:** Programs and dates to be determined.

**Programs with Vista Val Division:** All programs are held at Temple Judea in Tarzana at 1 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month with a hiatus in the summer (June through September). Programming resumes in October.

For more information and to be added to our email list for Women Making a Difference, contact Susan Sysler, Director of Membership & Outreach at 323-852-8512 or [susan@ncjwla.org](mailto:susan@ncjwla.org).

### VISTA VAL DIVISION IN THE VALLEY

Vista Val held its **Annual Spring Luncheon** on May 21 at The Sportsmen's Lodge in Studio City. Seventy-five members and friends gathered to raise funds for NCJW/LA's Women Helping Women Counseling & Support Services and Women Helping Children Art & Literacy Programs for Youth. There also was a minute of silence to pay tribute to Arline Colton, past Vista Val Division president, who recently passed away.

Please note that the Vista Val Division is on hiatus for the summer and its programs will resume in the fall. Meetings are held on Mondays at Temple Judea, 5429 Lindley Ave., Tarzana.

The **General Meeting** is held the third Monday of each month (unless it is a holiday) at 9:30 a.m. and includes a speaker. The next general meeting will be on September 10 at 9:30 a.m. For more information contact Vista Val President Gloria Burney at 818-346-4025.

## 2012 Jewish Women's Conference on November 11 at UCLA Will Be Bigger, Better, and Even More Empowering!

This year's Jewish Women's Conference (JWC) is on the move! That is, we're moving to UCLA because we have the wonderful "problem" of needing more space. Building off of last year's success, we've planned a bigger, better, and even more inspiring day for you to share with your friends, daughters, mothers, grandmothers, and sisters. The Jewish Women's Conference of Southern California is scheduled for **Sunday, November 11, from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. at UCLA's Covel Commons.**

The JWC Steering Committee is a group of passionate, multi-generational, talented Jewish women working hard to make this year's conference empowering and enriching for all.

We're excited about the new program, including morning



*"The Jewish Mandate for Social Action" panel at the 2011 Jewish Women's Conference featured (left to right) Rabbi Denise Eger, Elissa Barrett, Rabbi Sarah Bassin, and Rabbi Judith HaLevy.*

workshops held twice, networking receptions in the afternoon, and the addition of empowerment workshops. You will definitely leave this year's conference with a sense of how you can make a difference both in the lives of others and in your own life.

We're also thrilled to announce that **Hannah Rosenthal**, the Special Envoy to Combat and Monitor Anti-Semitism

for the State Department, will be one of our keynote speakers.

Some of the 2012 workshop topics include women in local and global activism, taking risks in your career, wellness and life transitions, and more.

In addition to the conference, JWC will offer a year-round series of workshops and events. Topics include op-ed writing, social media activism, and film screenings.

Thank you to the **Southern California Gas Company, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, and Talma Zelitzki** for jump-starting our fundraising with their generous donations to the Conference.

If you're interested in getting involved as a volunteer or as a sponsor, contact Maya Paley at 323-852-8536 or [maya@ncjwla.org](mailto:maya@ncjwla.org).

### COUNCIL THRIFT SHOPS

## New eBay Site Boosts Sales and Strengthens NCJW/LA Programs

Only six months ago, Council Thrift Shops began its newest venture: eBay! With the prodding of Thrift volunteer and committee member (and now NCJW/LA Board Member) **Lorraine Joffe**, we launched an eBay business out of our Los Angeles "Veteran" store. And now a short time later, Council Thrift Shops has sold more than 2,000 items on eBay!

Along with Lorraine, Assistant Director of Retail Operations **Sophia Orshansky** keeps her keen eye on all that is going on in our daily eBay selling. Our eBay sales are growing every day and the future looks bright.

We are looking to open a new eBay center at our newest location around October 15. The eBay team's excitement about the incredible successes we are

having has given NCJW/LA the ability to further our mission by helping those less fortunate in our community by increased funding for NCJW/LA programs and services.

Your donations of clothing, jewelry, furniture, housewares, art, and books generate the revenue used to directly serve women, children, and families in need and at risk in our community.

When you donate to Council Thrift Shops, you become part of the equation of NCJW/LA and the clients we serve. Without you, our ability to reach out to those in crisis would be severely limited, our programs weakened, and our positive impact lessened for those who need it the most.

Please donate to one of our nine Council Thrift Shop locations (or call



*Council Thrift Shops' eBay staff members Victor Trakhman (left) and Mashid Bakhitiari discuss the listing for an item.*

323-655-3111 or 800-400-6259 for a free pickup). And don't forget to browse our new eBay site at **[www.myworld.ebay.com/ncjwla](http://www.myworld.ebay.com/ncjwla)**.

Thank you for your continuing support of Council Thrift Shops!

For two consecutive days during the first week of May, trained Advocacy Committee members set up camp on the stage of the Fairfax High School Amphitheater, where—with loud music blaring from loudspeakers—they registered more than 150 students to vote. The excitement ran high for these first-time voters and also for the NCJW/LA volunteers as they interacted with the students.

Four other area high schools will be visited before the November election to continue this incredible registration drive. To think that 150 voters would not have been registered had it not been for the Advocacy Committee members and volunteers who gave their time to do this!



NCJW/LA volunteers signing up first-time voters at Fairfax High School on May 1

May 16 was an amazing day at NCJW/LA as Advocacy presented a powerful and informative lunchtime program, “**The War on Women.**” In Council House’s newly refurbished auditorium, 200 people sat attentively and listened to our esteemed panel. **Sandy Banks**, columnist for the *Los Angeles Times*, did a noble job of moderating five panelists: **Serena Josel** from Planned Parenthood, **Linda Long** from California NOW, actor and activist **Tyne Daly**, **Maggie Crosby** from ACLU, and USC student and activist **Kaya Masler**. The audience response was awe-inspiring, and they left with challenging thoughts about how to become activists in this struggle.



Actress/activist Tyne Daly (left) and Los Angeles Times columnist Sandy Banks greeting attendees at the “War on Women” community forum on May 16

### Coming Soon

On July 25, the Advocacy Committee is looking forward to presenting a **Lobbying Skills Workshop** so people will be prepared to influence legislators on upcoming critical issues in women’s health care and reproductive rights. The end of 2012 and the beginning of 2013 bring us into a very challenging political arena that we must be prepared to again fight for rights earned that are on the verge of being lost.

The Supreme Court’s decision on **The Affordable Care Act** will provoke many nagging questions and raise much passion, pro and con. An educational program to help people sort this out is planned for mid-September.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and our annual **Breast Cancer Awareness seminar**, held in conjunction with Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and the City of West Hollywood.

March 2013 will see us back in D.C. for **NCJW’s Washington Institute**, which is a powerful opportunity to turn our progressive ideals into action. It is an extraordinary chance for all NCJW members and supporters to come together from around the country to make an impact on our nation’s leaders. We also look forward to our **lobbying days in Sacramento** again in 2013.

NCJW/LA is in the forefront of social change as we handle the hot issues of the day.

## NEW MEMBERS

### Life Members

Lorraine Joffe  
Sandy Nahan  
Talma Zelitzki

### Annual Members

Allie Barrie  
Donna Fisher  
Marilyn Friedberg  
Gayla Gabriel  
Kimberly Kandel  
Abby J. Leibman  
Shirley Lerman  
Bernice Levin  
Irene Levitt  
Janet Lucar  
Patricia Mann  
Leslie Margolis  
Grace May-Levine  
Michelle Melany  
Suzanne Morden  
Silvia Perchuk  
Dianne Pinkston  
Kim Pomerantz  
Lenore Rodah  
Sharon Rose  
Trisha Roth  
Barbara Rothstein  
Lorin Ruttenberg  
Rayna Saslove  
Nancy Scher  
Lane Sherman  
Carolyn Siegel  
Jami Simons  
Hildi Smith  
Marilyn Szatmary  
Laura Urrutia  
Ellen Weaver  
Edward Withrow III  
Clarke Wolfe

Show your support for NCJW/LA by becoming a member! Besides helping us provide community services for women, children, and families in need and at risk, members receive a 20% discount at all nine Council Thrift Shops (excluding Best of the Best events) when they show their membership card. To join, fill out the Membership Form on the back page.

## TRIBUTES

National Council of Jewish Women/Los Angeles is grateful to all those who support our vital community services through Tributes. This is a wonderful way to honor and recognize the people in your life.

### IN MEMORY OF:

Gita Adler  
Zvia Beyda  
Zvia Beyda  
Arline Colton  
Arline Colton  
Arline Colton  
Arline Colton  
Arline Colton  
Hanna Finkelstein  
Lona Freedman  
Lloyd Friedman  
John Glass  
Adie Holzman  
Adie Holzman  
Ruth Linden  
Ruth Linden  
Sofiya Orshansky's mother, Ida  
Sofiya Orshansky's mother, Ida  
Mila Siderman's husband, Yefim  
Maya Turovsky's mother, Ida  
Maya Turovsky's mother, Ida  
Bette Weinberg  
Warren Yalowitz

### IN HONOR OF:

Elayne Barco  
Pamela Brown  
Suzanne Buckholtz  
Phyllis Cohen  
Phyllis Cohen  
Shelli Dodell  
Shelli Dodell  
Kim Fay and Jim Vitale  
Lorraine Joffe  
Rosalie Lurie  
Val and Gene Margolin  
Cipra Nemeth and Scott Shulman  
Lee Saltz  
Lee Saltz  
Sylvia Schulman  
Hillary Selvin  
Hillary Selvin  
Hillary Selvin  
Peggy Shapiro  
Peggy Shapiro  
Syvia Sherwood  
Scott Shulman  
Merle Siegel  
Merle Siegel  
Amy Straus  
Susan Sysler's family and friends  
Lauren Trexler  
Dr. Eric Yamaura

### GET WELL:

Julie Davis  
Kelly Hill  
Adie Holtzman  
Arthur Saltz

### FROM:

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Sinay  
Denise and Brian Kadunc  
The Comcast Ventures Team  
Jean and Herbert Aaron  
Beatrice Goldberg  
Maverick Havurah  
NCJW/LA Board and Staff  
Susan Sysler  
Amy Rosenman  
Susan Hochstein  
Margie and Bud Cosel  
NCJW/LA Board and Staff  
NCJW/LA Board and Staff  
Amy Straus  
Reesa Hahn  
Elinor Kaufman  
Amy Straus  
NCJW/LA Board and Staff  
NCJW/LA and Council Thrift Shops  
Amy Straus  
NCJW/LA Board and Staff  
Marjorie and Jason Green  
Anita and Arthur Aratow

### FROM:

Sylvia Schulman, Samuel Schulman Scholarship Fund  
Susan Sysler  
Susan Sysler  
Arthur and Anita Aratow  
NCJW/LA Board and Staff  
Deborah Berger  
Sandra Borak  
WHC Staff and Volunteers  
Roz Goldstine  
Susan Sysler  
Adrienne and Bob Ross  
WHC Staff and Volunteers  
NCJW/LA Advocacy Department and Committee  
Ruth Williams  
Millie Allinson  
Arthur and Anita Aratow  
Amy Straus  
Ruth Williams  
Karen Engelhardt  
Janet and Larry Meltzer  
Sylvia Schulman, Susan Schulman Begley Scholarship Fund  
Deborah Berger  
Sandra Borak  
Carol Tobias  
Susan Sysler  
Susan Sysler  
Susan Sysler  
Sylvia Schulman, Samuel Schulman Scholarship Fund

### FROM:

WHC Staff and Volunteers  
WHC Staff and the Volunteers of the Alexandria House Programs  
NCJW/LA Board and Staff  
NCJW/LA Board and Staff

*Commemorate a celebration, landmark, or memorial with a tax-deductible gift.*

**To send a Tribute, call 323-852-8518 or visit [www.ncjwla.org/support-us/tributes](http://www.ncjwla.org/support-us/tributes).**

## CONDOLENCES

Our sincerest sympathy to the families of the following members who recently passed away:

### **Arline Colton**

Arline was an active Vista Val Division member since 1992, becoming an NCJW/LA Life member in 2000. She was part of the Vista Val Board, serving as president and most recently as treasurer. She attended Vista Val luncheons and bus trips and supported NCJW/LA through tribute cards and in-kind gifts of books for Women Helping Children library programs.

### **Faith Sussman**

Faith was an active Beverly West Division member since 1991 and was Secretary of the Beverly West Division. She was supportive by attending Beverly West luncheons and our monthly Advocacy programs.

*May their memory  
be a blessing*

### **Second Century Registry**

Have you included NCJW/LA in your estate plans through a will, retirement plan, charitable gift annuity, fully paid insurance plan, or trust? If so, you are automatically a member of NCJW/LA's Second Century Society and we would like to add you to our new Second Century Registry and acknowledge you today for your future commitment.

To let us know that you have remembered NCJW/LA in your will or bequest, please contact the Development Department at 323-852-8507 or [development@ncjwla.org](mailto:development@ncjwla.org).



National Council of Jewish Women  
Los Angeles Section

www.ncjwla.org

The National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) is a grassroots organization of volunteers and advocates who turn progressive ideals into action. Inspired by Jewish values, NCJW strives for social justice by improving the quality of life for women, children, and families and by safeguarding individual rights and freedoms. NCJW's Los Angeles Section has been at the forefront of social change for more than a century by providing the community with programs and services. Today, NCJW/LA serves more than 15,000 individuals each year by providing over 220,000 hours of programs and services with the support of 400 volunteers.

# MEMBERSHIP FORM *Invite the next generation to join us!*

NCJW/LA's mission is to create social change through our advocacy and social and community services. We cannot do this alone. We appreciate your support as a member. Please take the time to invite a family member or friend to join.

## RATES & LEVELS

- Life Member: \$350     Annual Member: \$60     Senior Member (65+): \$35
- Full-Time College Student Member: \$18     Couple: \$100

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Work phone \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Check (make payable to NCJW/LA)  
 Bill my credit card:     Visa     Mastercard  
 Card number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Security code (3 or 4 digits): \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Questions?** Call Susan Sysler at 323-852-8512.

**Please mail this form and your payment to: NCJW/LA, 543 N. Fairfax Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90036**

Tax ID# 95-1641433

www.ncjwla.org

Los Angeles, CA 90036

543 N. Fairfax Ave.

Los Angeles Section

National Council of Jewish Women



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