

AJC SEATTLE

ADVOCACY IN ACTION DINNER

HONORING

AMY LEVIN RAGEN AND
MATTHEW BROOKS RAGEN

THE DR. AARON^ZL AND RUTH M. BERNSTEIN
DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SERIES FEATURED SPEAKER

Matti Friedman

Award-winning journalist and author

EVENT CO-CHAIRS

Saul Gamoran and Judith Greenstein

MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2023

PROGRAM

WELCOME

Saul Gamoran and Judith Greenstein
Event Chairs

HAMOTZI

Rabbi James Mirel

Sam Jefferies

AJC Seattle, Board Vice President

PRESENTATION TO HONOREES

Rabbi Noam Marans

AJC Director, Interreligious and Intergroup Relations

HONOREES

Amy Levin Ragen and Matthew Brooks Ragen

INTRODUCTION TO SPEAKER

Saul Gamoran

FEATURED SPEAKER

Matti Friedman

The Dr. Aaron^{z"l} and Ruth M. Bernstein Distinguished Speaker Series

CALL TO ACTION

Matt Bergman

AJC Arabian Gulf Institute, Board Member

ABOUT OUR HONOREES



AMY LEVIN RAGEN AND MATTHEW BROOKS RAGEN

Amy Levin Ragen is Chair of the Technology Transactions Practice Group at the law firm of Shook, Hardy and Bacon. She assists clients in structuring and negotiating complex commercial agreements, with expertise in buying, selling, developing and commercializing technologies for use in clients' products and services and in protecting their valuable intellectual property rights in technology assets.

Amy founded Ragen Swan PLLC prior to merging the practice with Shook in June 2021. Prior to starting Ragen Swan, Amy was commercial counsel to Teledesic, a broadband satellite telecommunications company; a partner at Davis Wright Tremaine (Seattle) in the corporate and telecommunications practice group; and an associate at Morrison & Foerster (San Francisco). In 2012, The Puget Sound Business Journal honored Amy as a "Woman of Influence", an award bestowed to women who have made a difference in their industry and community. Amy has served on the AJC Seattle Regional Board for over 20 years, including as past President. Amy is also an AJC leader at the national level, serving on the Executive Council and as the current Chair of the Interreligious Affairs Steering Committee. She is also a member of AJC's Board of Governors, Asia Pacific Institute (API) and the Middle East Strategic Policy Group, and serves on the national Governance, Advocacy and Audit Committees. A native of Detroit, Amy graduated from Yale University and the University of Chicago Law School. Amy and Matt are the proud parents of Jake, Josh and daughter-in-law Shelly.

Matthew Brooks Ragen is an experienced and skilled fine art photographer. He prints images in his home darkroom using historic processes such as silver gelatin, platinum, cyanotype, kallitype and more. Matt's images have been featured in an array of photography publications. In 2022, his work was exhibited at the Photographic Center Northwest Gallery in Seattle and in the Pacific Northwest Drawers at the BlueSky Gallery in Portland. Matt has created extraordinary images from multiple AJC mission. These include travel

to Indonesia, India, Morocco, Israel, Germany, Poland, Hungary, Slovakia, Japan and Korea. Matt is a past board chair of the Photographic Center Northwest, a nonprofit in Seattle. He is the founding member of Sunbreak Advisors and actively offers consulting services for software product management and cloud economics for technology companies. Prior to that, Matt was at Amazon Web Services for 6 years and at Microsoft Corporation for 25 years, where he held leadership roles in product, marketing and sales organizations. Matt earned degrees in Electrical Engineering from Yale University, an MBA from the University of Chicago, and, most recently, a degree in fine art photography in 2022 from Photographic Center Northwest.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



MATTI FRIEDMAN

Matti Friedman is a journalist and the award-winning author of four works of non-fiction. Matti's most recent book *Who by Fire: Leonard Cohen in the Sinai* is an account of Leonard Cohen's concert tour to the front lines of the Yom Kippur War. The book has been listed by both *Vanity Fair* and *Mosaic Magazine* as among their top books of 2022 and is being made into a limited TV dramatic series by Keshet International.

Matti's 2019 book, *Spies of No Country: Secret Lives at the Birth of Israel*, won the 2019 Natan Prize and the Canadian Jewish Book Award, among other prizes. His 2016 book, *Pumpkinflowers: A Soldier's Story of a Forgotten War* was chosen as a New York Times Notable Book and won the 2017 Vine Award for Canadian Jewish literature, among other honors. Matti's first book, *The Aleppo Codex*, was awarded the 2014 Sami Rohr Prize and the American Library Association's Sophie Brody Medal.

A former Associated Press correspondent, Matti's work as a reporter has taken him from Israel to Lebanon, Morocco, Moscow, the Caucasus, and Washington, DC. Two critical essays he wrote about media coverage of Israel after the 2014 Gaza war, for *Tablet* and *The Atlantic*, triggered intense discussion and have been shared on Facebook more than 130,000 times. His writing has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic*, *Tablet*, *Smithsonian*, and elsewhere.



AJC has deepened our sense of Jewish identity, and made us more engaged and educated members of our global community. We were both looking for ways to make the Jewish values of charity (tzedakah) and repairing the world (tikkun olam) active parts of our lives when we got involved with AJC.

AJC has educated us about cultures, religions and communities outside our own personal experiences. This has included meaningful engagement with leaders in the Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, Mormon, Catholic and Eastern Orthodox religions and others. These interactions have shown us that religion need not be what divides people, but what can actually bring us together. Through trust building that comes from listening to and learning about each other, we can create solutions to challenges among people, and within societies, that we did not believe to be possible.

AJC has given us the extraordinary opportunity to participate with senior AJC staff in meetings with government leaders, senior diplomats and civil society leaders around the world and engage in important dialogue about AJC priority issues. These interactions build bridges of communication at the highest levels that have led to important change in governmental policies and diplomatic relations. This work is done in a way that only AJC can—it is pragmatic, nuanced and impactful.

We are grateful to AJC for enabling us to be part of these efforts to repair the world and shape the future. Our lives have been remarkably enriched through our engagement with AJC.

We are also grateful for the support of our friends and family who have honored us tonight by your presence, for the leadership of Regina Friedland as our fabulous AJC Seattle Regional Director, and for the tireless efforts of Assistant Director Leslie Rubinstein to make this evening happen.

—Amy Levin Ragen and Matthew Ragen



American Jewish Committee Advances Catholic-Jewish Relations with Visit to Vatican, Prayers for Pope Francis Recovery and Presentation of Unique Gift

April 2, 2023 — Vatican City

American Jewish Committee (AJC) President Michael Tichnor and CEO Ted Deutch led a leadership delegation to the Vatican. At a festive Shabbat dinner for Catholic and Jewish leadership, Tichnor presented AJC's gift to Pope Francis, which was received by Cardinal Leonardo Sandri, vice dean of the College of Cardinals, on behalf of the ailing pontiff. The gift, a unique Tree of Life image in which the nanochips of the Holy Scriptures of Christianity, Judaism and Islam are embodied, includes quotes from all three Abrahamic traditions referring to the Divine word as the Tree of Life.

"Pope Francis continues to lead the way of mutual respect and love between all people and especially in the family of Abraham, and this artwork of beauty, both physical and spiritual, encapsulates that message, which, we pray, will extend to all humanity," said Tichnor. "We deeply appreciate the special relationship we have enjoyed with the Holy See for some sixty years. We are moved to be with our Catholic friends as we all celebrate the tenth anniversary of Pope Francis's pontificate."

"We are so grateful for the transformation in Catholic-Jewish relations and for the privilege AJC has enjoyed and continues to enjoy as a central actor in this ongoing historic reconciliation, which Pope Francis has taken to even greater heights," said Deutch. "Pope Francis's love and care for the Jewish People is universally known. We are grateful for his strong voice condemning antisemitism."

Upon receiving the papal gift, Sandri declared that "Pope Francis will be very happy with this beautiful gift, especially because it expresses his vision for human fraternity in our world."



In response to Pope Francis's hospitalization, the AJC delegation gathered outside the main synagogue in Rome to pray for his full and speedy recovery.

AJC, the global advocacy organization for the Jewish people and the worldwide Jewish pioneer of interfaith understanding, enjoys close, cooperative relations with the Vatican, as well as with American Catholic leadership. AJC played a central role in the international contacts between the Holy See and the Jewish people during the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council, and has continued to be a leader in advancing Catholic-Jewish relations since the promulgation of *Nostra Aetate*.

This three-day AJC leadership mission to the Vatican was the third of Pope Francis's papacy. "I am very grateful to you for the distinguished contribution you have made to dialogue and fraternity between Jews and Catholics," the Pope told an AJC leadership delegation in February 2014.

In March 2019, addressing an AJC leadership delegation, the pope spoke of the church's longstanding relationship with AJC and the value of interreligious dialogue. "Your commitment to Jewish-Christian dialogue goes back to *Nostra Aetate*, a milestone in our journey of fraternal reckoning," he said.

In addition to meeting with cardinals, archbishops, and bishops—the senior leaders of the Catholic Church—AJC's delegation met with the ambassadors to the Holy See of the United States and Israel, the leaders of the Roman and wider Italian Jewish community, and American seminarians at the Pontifical North American College.

The delegation of 40 AJC leaders included Rabbi David Rosen, AJC International Director of Interreligious Affairs, who was knighted by the Vatican in 2005; Rabbi Noam Marans, AJC Director of Interreligious and Intergroup Relations; Lisa Palmieri-Billig, AJC Representative in Rome and Liaison to the Holy See; and AJC Interreligious Affairs Chair Amy Levin Ragen.



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As of 4/13/2023

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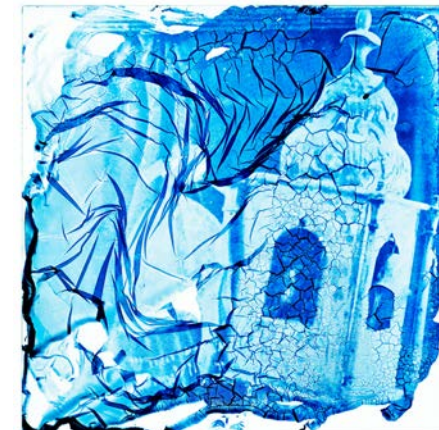
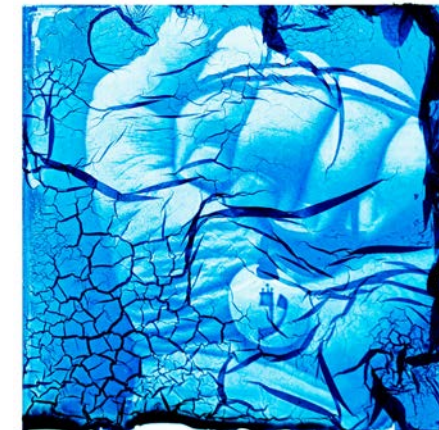
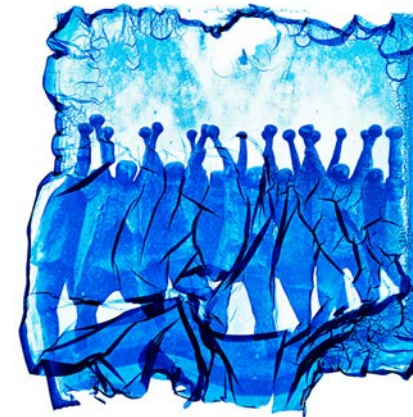
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David Warnock and Kayla Higgins

THERE IS NO WHY HERE



I learned a family secret from my grandfather when I was 25—something that even my mother said that she did not know at the time. The deep blue hues of the cyanotype process result in photographs that have deceptive qualities of tranquility. By printing on glass, the unpredictable crackling lines and the sliding of the emulsion are faults that I encouraged while working in the darkroom. The result is images that are not quite reality—there are secrets to be learned by looking more closely.

These photographs, mostly made on travels with AJC, are a remembrance of difficult times and places. In combination with another series (*Blue On My Mind*, exhibited at the Photograph Center Northwest in 2022), these two projects have become a visual metaphor for secrets that are hidden in plain sight.



WHO WE ARE

American Jewish Committee (AJC) is the global advocacy organization for the Jewish people. We work to shape a brighter future by taking on the toughest challenges and pursuing the most transformative opportunities. Join us. Together, we can counter antisemitism, open new doors for Israel, and advance democratic values.

“AJC’s moral clarity, your professionalism, and your determination distinguish you from others, and make you an **indispensable actor and interlocutor**.”

MANUEL VALLS, PRIME MINISTER OF FRANCE (2014-16)



THROUGH AJC, YOU CAN SHAPE THE FUTURE

HOW WE ADVOCATE

“You’ve been called **the State Department of the Jewish people**, a title so apt I may start giving out some assignments today.”

THEN-U.S. DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE ANTONY BLINKEN
ADDRESSING AJC GLOBAL FORUM 2015



GLOBAL DIPLOMACY

AJC engages in strategic, long-term diplomacy with government officials in the U.S. and around the world.



POLITICAL ADVOCACY

AJC works to impact policy in the United States at the local, state, and federal levels.



COALITION-BUILDING

AJC builds alliances with other faith and ethnic communities to advance issues of mutual concern.



STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS

AJC leverages its vast global media presence to educate the public and shape opinion.



Global Reach. Global Impact.

AJC drives change through an unparalleled global network that spans six continents. Wherever the Jewish people and Israel need us, AJC is there.

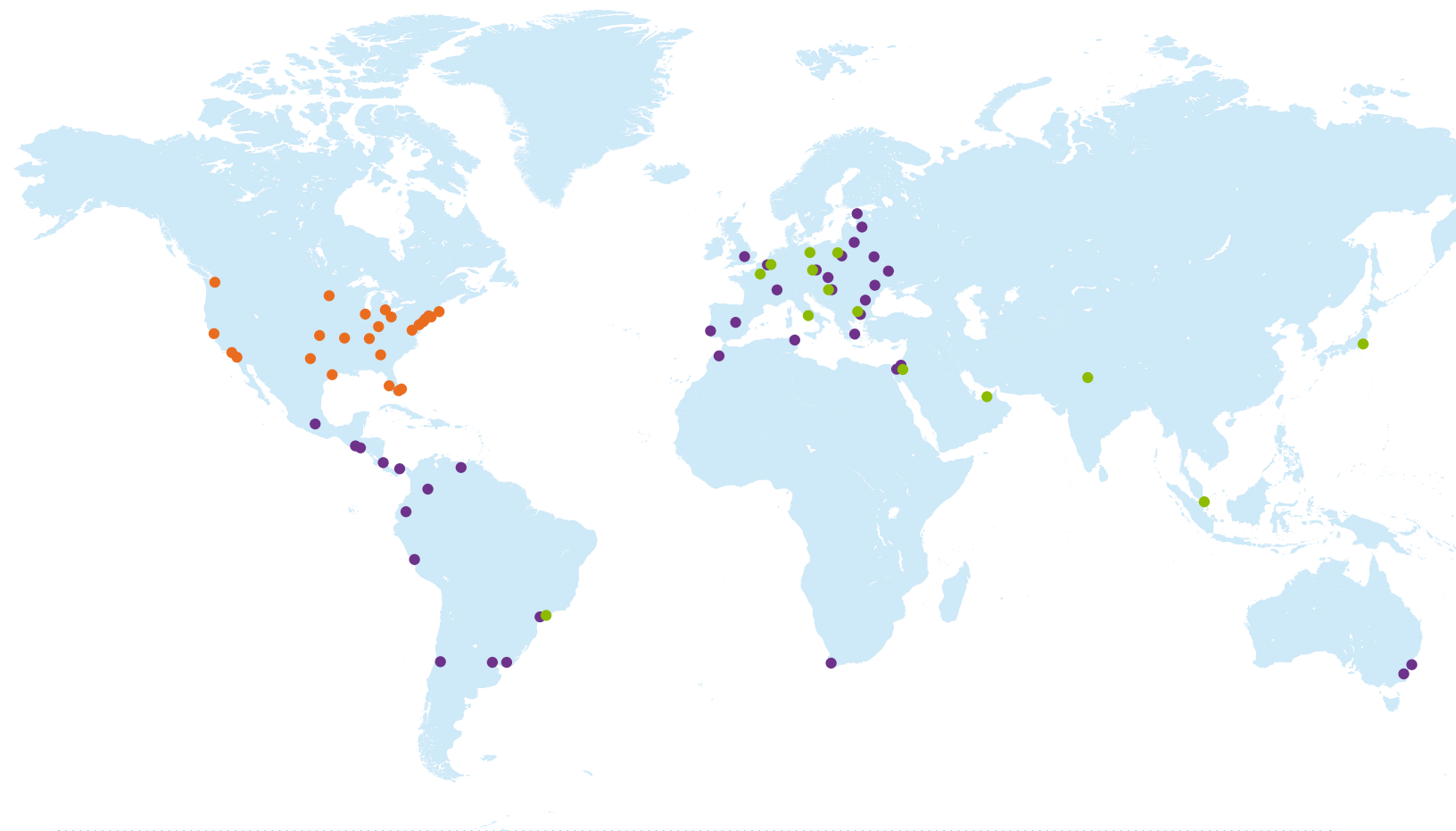
WHERE WE WORK

● 25 U.S. REGIONAL OFFICES

● 14 OVERSEAS POSTS

● 38 INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

More Than 3.5 MILLION Engaged Advocates Worldwide



AFRICA

AJC's Africa Institute partners with African governments, civil society, and diaspora communities to build coalitions on issues of common concern, and facilitates cooperation between African countries and Israel.

ASIA

AJC's Asia Pacific Institute (API) engages leaders in the region and their representatives in the U.S., making them more aware of the Jewish people and Israel, and fostering political alliances, economic links, and dialogue on AJC's priority issues. Headquartered in New York, API has representation in Southeast Asia, Tokyo, and Washington, and an advisor in New Delhi.

EUROPE

AJC's offices in Berlin, Brussels, Paris, and Warsaw, and representatives in Budapest, Prague, Rome, and Sofia, promote cooperation among Europe, the U.S., and Israel, and partner with local Jewish communities.

ISRAEL / MIDDLE EAST

With offices in Israel and the Arab Gulf, AJC works to reimagine the Middle East. AJC Jerusalem forges relationships with Israeli leaders and members of the diplomatic community. It also hosts all delegations visiting Israel through AJC Project Interchange. AJC's office in Abu Dhabi strengthens ties between Israel and Arab nations and promotes understanding among Arabs and Jews.

LATIN AMERICA

AJC's Arthur and Rochelle Belfer Institute for Latino and Latin American Affairs (BILLA) develops and strengthens ties to Latin America and the U.S. Latino community. BILLA is headquartered in Washington, with staff in Miami and a representative in São Paulo.

UNITED STATES

AJC's headquarters in New York and office in Washington conduct international diplomacy and engage the Administration and Congress. The advocacy and coalition-building carried out by AJC's Regional Offices across the country reinforce these efforts.

Congratulations!

Shook, Hardy & Bacon celebrates
Amy Levin Ragen and **Matthew Brooks Ragen**
upon their recognition by the American Jewish
Committee Seattle at the 2023
Advocacy in Action Dinner.

On behalf of the Shook team, we are grateful for
the opportunity to work alongside Amy and proud
to support her work advancing AJC's mission in our
community and beyond.

ATLANTA | BOSTON | CHICAGO | DENVER | HARTFORD | HOUSTON | KANSAS CITY
LONDON | LOS ANGELES | MIAMI | NEW YORK | ORANGE COUNTY | PHILADELPHIA
SAN FRANCISCO | SEATTLE | ST. LOUIS | TAMPA | WASHINGTON, D.C.

SHOOK
HARDY & BACON

THE CHOICE OF A LAWYER IS AN IMPORTANT DECISION AND SHOULD NOT BE BASED SOLELY UPON ADVERTISEMENTS.

CORPORATE SPONSOR

The Social Media Victims Law Center salutes
AJC for its unyielding commitment to combat
racism, antisemitism and hatred whose malign
influences are nurtured and promoted through
social media platforms that are unconstrained
by moral, social or legal accountability.



**Social Media
Victims
Law Center**

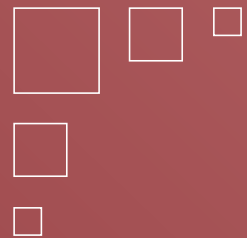
AMBASSADORS SOCIETY

Amy and Matt,
thank you for all you have done
for the Seattle Jewish Community and
to further AJC's interreligious work.

MICHAEL AND KAREN
TICHNOR

Dear Amy and Matt,
we have been fortunate to travel around the
world together with you working to achieve
AJC's mission and know how very much
this honor is well deserved.

MAZAL TOV,
MICHAEL AND LORI FELDSTEIN



Amy and Matt.

A great big Mazel Tov

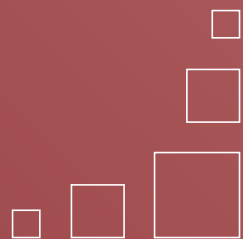
on this well-deserved honor.

May you smile brightly knowing

the invaluable impact that your

support has had on AJC.

*Warmly,
Suzi Jaffe*



**We join AJC Seattle
in honoring
our friends
Amy & Matt Ragen
for their work to enhance
the well-being of the
Jewish people
and Israel.**

**The Larry Benaroya
Family Foundation**

We send a full-throated Mazel Tov and heartiest congratulations to you both all the way from Houston on the occasion of this well-deserved honor from AJC Seattle. You two exemplify what passionate, thoughtful and impactful advocacy can accomplish in the arena of intergroup relations and both AJC and its partners are the better for it.

The friendship between us which was kindled on our 2016 AJC Mission to India and which has blossomed and grown ever since remains very special to us and we look forward to many more happy and adventurous times together in the coming years.

Mazel Tov again and know that we send our very best wishes to you both and to your family, always.

EVE AND BOBBY LAPIN



Dear Amy and Matt,
Mazel Tov on this well deserved honor
and with deepest appreciation for all you do
in supporting AJC's vital work.

**MUCH LOVE,
MARCIE AND CLIFF GOLDSTEIN**





**HONORED TO TRAVEL THE WORLD WITH YOU!
THRILLED TO BE WITH YOU TONIGHT!**

Beth and David Inlander

DIPLOMATS SOCIETY

**Mazel Tov, Amy and Matt,
for this wonderful and
well deserved honor.**

We are grateful for our more than
30 years of friendship (and counting),
and for your high level and inspirational
service to AJC, which is making a positive
difference at home and abroad.

With love and admiration,
Deborah and Doug

DELEGATES SOCIETY

Mazel Tov on being honored
for your meaningful involvement with AJC.

Amy's leadership has been instrumental
to our commitment and growth within AJC
and for that we are so deeply grateful.

And for our friendship over many years....
we feel blessed to have you in our lives
and always feel part of your family.

With Much Love,
Eileen and Mark

*You are not obligated to finish the work,
but neither are you free to desist from it.*

Pirkei Avot 2:21

Mazel Tov on this
well-deserved honor.

Love,
Fredrick, Marsha and Emily
Helene, Ben and Frankie

In honor of Amy and Matt,

For your involvement and dedication to AJC.

*AJC continues to advocate on behalf of the
Jewish people, Israel and build bridges boldly and
unapologetically across communities from this
region and across the world.*

James Polack
Polack Philanthropic Fund

With enormous respect
and appreciation for
Amy and Matt,
the local AJC team,
and the superb work done
by AJC in the United States
and around the world.

JUDY AND JOE SCHOCKEN

Amy and Matt,

With much admiration, respect as well as appreciation for your commitment to the Jewish people and your dedication to the very important work of AJC.

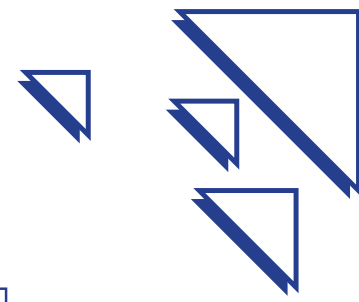
You are a role model to so many here in Seattle and across the nation.

We truly recognize all that it takes to fulfill your role as a leader and are completely grateful for your tireless devotion.

May you enjoy contentment and pride in the knowledge of how much positive impact you have had over all your years of Jewish advocacy.

Warmly,
Murray and Karri Lee

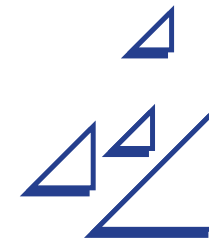
Dear **Amy**
and **Matt**



I am in admiration of your tireless effort on behalf of AJC. You embody the spirit, concern and values that AJC has for maintaining human rights for our Jewish brethren, for Israel and for all peoples on our planet. Your ongoing work to bring so many impactful AJC programs to Seattle and to us Nationally enriches all our lives.

Thank you for your inspiration.

Love, Rosanne



It gives me great joy to honor Amy and Matt.
I knew Amy as a young girl, and I am thrilled
to see the extraordinary leader
and amazing woman she has become.
Matt, your support of Amy and AJC has been
recognized and deeply appreciated by all of us.

Congratulations and much love,
Ruth Bernstein

Thank you to

Amy and Matt

for your commitment to AJC and the
Jewish community. Your leadership is
inspiring and sets an important example
for future generations.

THE COOPER FAMILY



To Amy and Matt,
We are thankful for your
inspiring leadership and dedication
to the Jewish community.

Ken and Jennifer Alterman



Congratulations

AMY and **MATT**

on this well-deserved honor.

DEANNE WEISS ETSEKSON

**Mazel Tov Amy and Matt
on this well deserved honor!**

Your outstanding leadership in the greater Seattle community and specifically toward the mission of AJC has benefitted us all. With your special brand of intellectualism, deep thought and generosity of time and talent, you are both steadfast in your commitment to the safety of Jews around the world, and the security that peace brings to people of all faiths.

Personally, your passion and dedication to AJC, and the tremendous work you have done on it's behalf has been inspirational.

May you go from strength to strength and continue this meaningful work for decades to come. We are all benefactors of your's and AJC important work.

With love and admiration always,
Judy and Jeff Greenstein

Amy and Matt

we are thrilled to be with you
to help you celebrate this well deserved honor.
You were our inspiration in joining AJC
and we know that you will continue
to inspire others with your legacy
of dedication, generosity, and leadership.

LORI AND JIMMY KILBERG

Congratulations

AMY
AND
MATT

Keep up the Good Fight.

MICHAEL AND WENDY SPEKTOR

ADVOCATES SOCIETY

To **Amy** and **Matt Ragen**

for their decades of commitment
and service to AJC and the Seattle
Jewish community. We thank you for your
leadership and friendship.

To the memory of Donald and Joanne
Hochberg for their love and leadership
to their children and grandchildren.

Bill, Annie and
Sarah Hochberg

EMISSARIES

Mazel Tov
to the
honorees

ARI SULKIN AND ADAM ATKINS

Mazel Tov
to the honorees,
In recognition
of AJC's
impactful advocacy.

Madeline and Jon Basha

PARTNERS

*Thanking
Amy and Matt for their
many contributions,
over many years,
to AJC.*

Paul and Florence Katz Burstein

ACTIVISTS

*Amy and Matt's dedication
to our community has made
a positive impact on
countless lives. It is a privilege
to honor them both tonight.*

Jim Dubinsky

ACTIVISTS

Mazel Tov Amy and Matt,

Thank you for all your efforts for AJC, locally, nationally and globally! I am appreciative of the tremendous time given to build bridges of understanding between communities and sharing those impactful experiences. Amy, I very much look up to your hard work and dedication. Our AJC Seattle board is very lucky to have you.

NINA GARKAVI

Amy puts her time, energy, and limitless acumen into making sure the Jewish Puget Sound is safe and thriving. It is a privilege to work alongside her at a time when the need for that work is so acute. Onward and upward.

SAM AND JENNIFER JEFFERIES

PARTNERS

**Mazel Tov, Amy and Matt,
on this well-deserved honor.**

Thank you for your active, steadfast support of AJC and its mission. You are generous in every way—living your commitment to the protection of Jewish communities and the promotion of Jewish values worldwide.

Amy, thank you for your long service to AJC from the local to the global level.

Lisa Strauch Eggers and Mitch Eggers

ACTIVISTS

**Mazel Tov
Amy and Matt**

on this well-deserved honor.

Thank you for many years of tremendous contributions to our community.

Devorah and Saul Gamoran

ACTIVISTS

**Mazel Tov to Amy and Matt
on this distinguished honor.**

With gratitude for your continued efforts and contributions to our Seattle Jewish community and your dedication to the continued success of American Jewish Committee.

RABBI JAMES AND JULIE MIREL

ACTIVISTS

Thank you
Amy AND Matt

for all you do for the Jewish Community and AJC. Your kindness, commitments and contributions make us all stronger. Congratulations to you both for this well-deserved recognition.

Fondly,
Beth and Benj Pollock

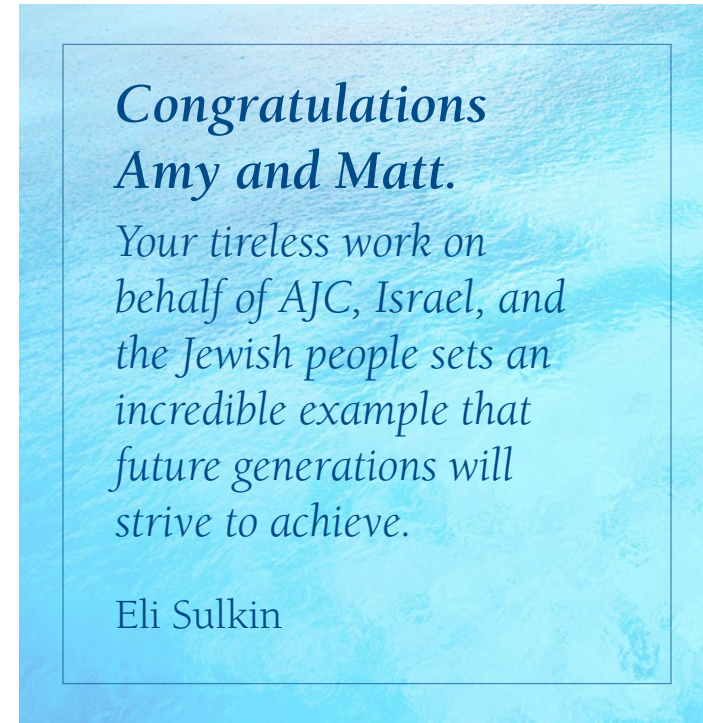
ACTIVISTS



ACTIVISTS



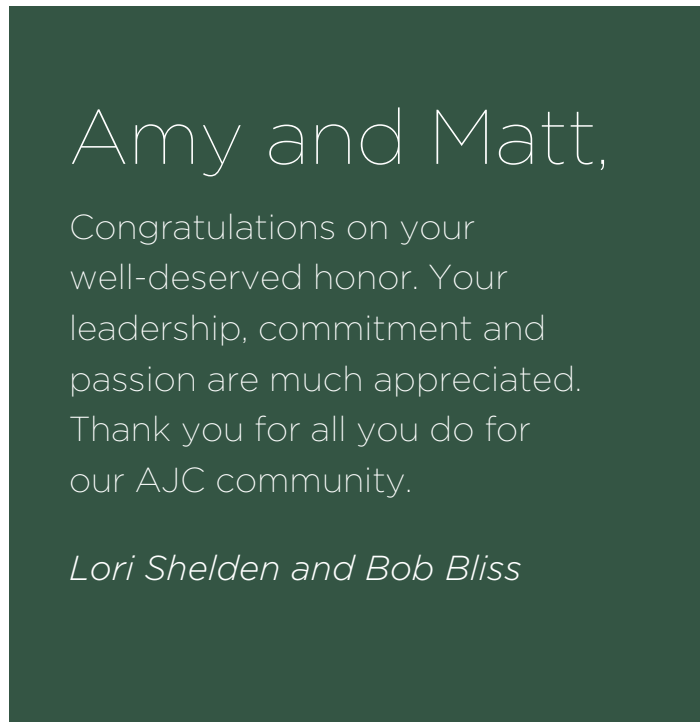
ACTIVISTS



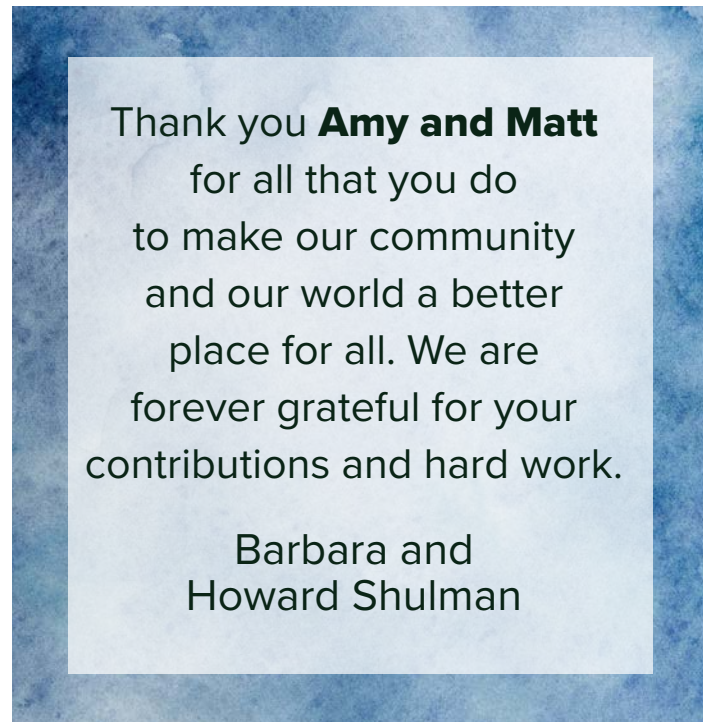
PARTNERS



PARTNERS



ACTIVISTS



ACTIVISTS



ACTIVISTS

Congratulations on this tremendous honor. Thank you for your energy and dedication to such an important cause.

Delia Jampel and John Frank

Congratulations to Amy and Matt on this very special occasion. Your leadership has been extraordinary.

Wendy and Gary Kaplan

With thanks and admiration to Amy and Matt for their leadership and support of strengthening Jewish communities near and far.

Pamela Passman

Amy and Matt—Hooray to you both for your dedication and commitment! With love and admiration.

Susie Ragen

Congratulations Amy and Matt on a well-deserved honor.

Diane Aboulafia and Peter Shapiro

Congratulations Amy and Matt for the recognition of your hard work for AJC and our community.

Dee Simon and the Holocaust Center for Humanity

Congratulations to you both on this well deserved honor.

Matt Barnes & Lesa Sroufe

Congratulations to Amy and Matt, two stalwart and energetic supporters of American Jewish Life.

Carlyn Steiner

Congratulations to Amy and Matt for this well-deserved honor. Your hard work and leadership within AJC are extraordinary, and your practice of tikkun olam is exemplary for us all. How lucky we all are to be in your community!

Lisa and Robert Wahbe

Amy and Matt, our community and the AJC are so fortunate to have leaders like you, who unselfishly dedicate your time, energy and incredible skillsets to make this world a better place for everyone. You are repairing this world brick by brick, step by step, and inspiring all of us to do the same. Thank you so much for everything you do, and CONGRATULATIONS on this significant and well-deserved honor!

Love, Alan and Kim Waldbaum



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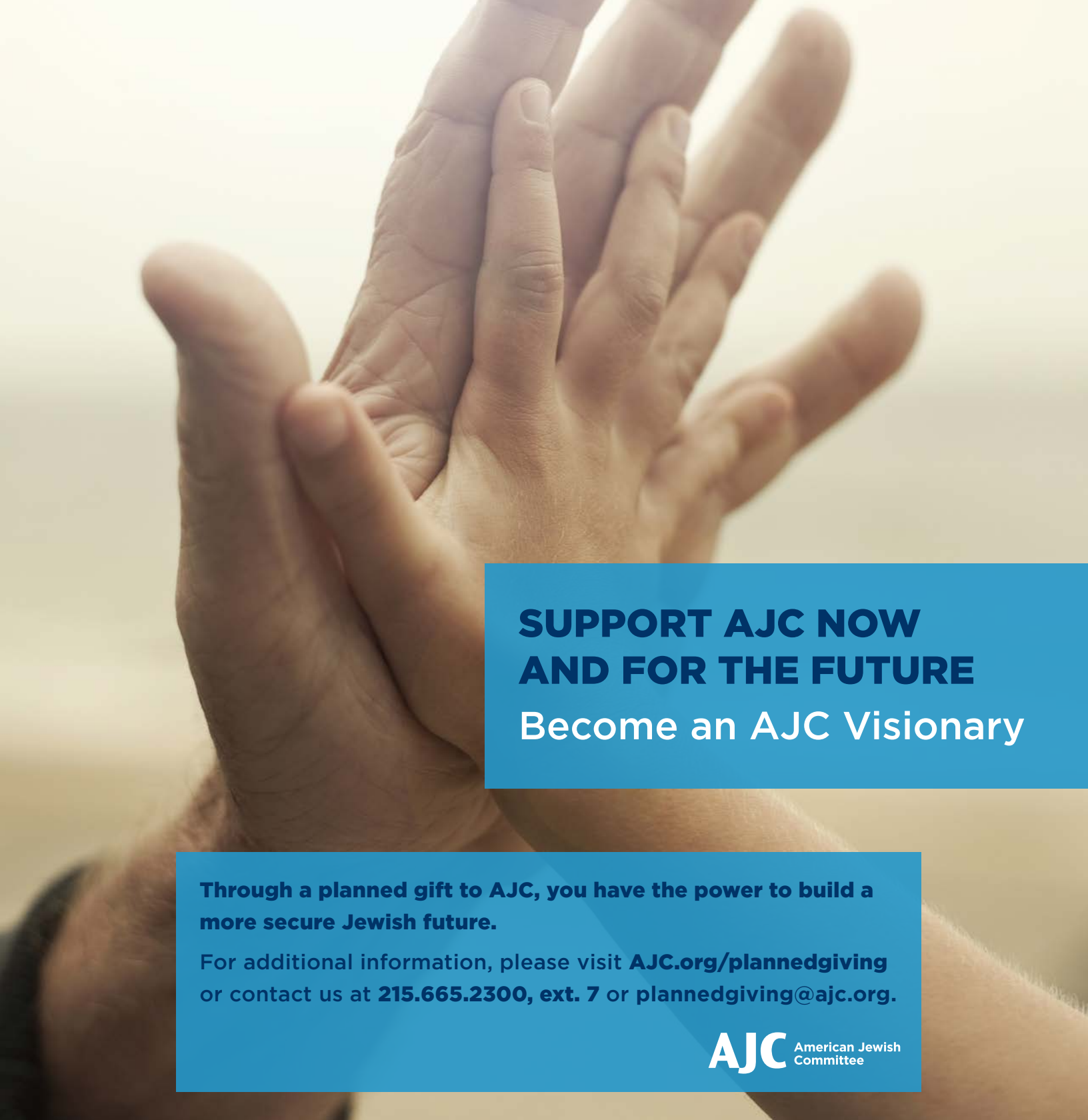
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