

Jewish Community Foundation Marks 10th Year in Prescott

Anniversary luncheon honors violinist Itzhak Perlman

Prescott, AZ: In celebration of its tenth anniversary, the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Prescott hosted a luncheon at the Prescott Resort and Conference Center on Thursday, January 17th, 2008 honoring signers of the Foundation's Endowment Book of Life, Arlene and Lynn Raskin for Philanthropic Leadership, and world-renowned violinist Itzhak Perlman for his life long advocacy of inclusive practices for the disabled.

"The Endowment Book of Life is an important historical record for our local Jewish community," says Foundation board president Dr. David Hess. "Its signers have promised to leave a legacy gift to help endow the future of Jewish education, institutions and social services in the greater Prescott area. It's a moral commitment to leave something permanent for future generations."

The leather-bound volume is hand-inscribed by a calligrapher and contains a brief history or personal statement made by each of the signers. Housed in a special case at Temple B'rith Shalom in Prescott, it becomes part of a permanent record about the people who helped build the local Jewish community as well as the greater Prescott region.

Says Foundation trustee, Harold Greenberg, "For the Prescott community, The Book of Life is a documented expression of the giving spirit of the Jewish people who live here. Through our Foundation, these endowments pass into the Prescott region to benefit the larger community in so many enduring ways - such as the Raskin family gift that provided the new general and cardiac surgery waiting area at Yavapai Regional Medical Center." It was for this gift and so many like it over the years that Arlene and Lynn Raskin were recognized by the Foundation with their prestigious Philanthropic Leadership Award.

Perlman's sold-out appearance in Prescott - rare in a town of this size - was another example of the Foundation's work. That performance, made possible by a grant from the Dorothy-Ellen Morris Endowment Fund was dedicated to the memory of Morris, who passed away in 2006.

Mr. Perlman was also honored at the luncheon, receiving the Foundation's Tikkun Olam (Hebrew meaning 'repairing the world') Award for his contributions to music, teaching, and the causes of the disabled. The award, a one-of-a-kind sculpture by local artist Natalie Krol, was accompanied by a \$10,000 donation to the Perlman Summer Music Program, a charitable organization that provides gifted musical children an opportunity to learn from Perlman during a special summer camp.

To learn more about the community services provided by the Jewish Community Foundation and opportunities to participate in the Foundation's Legacy programs, visit www.jcftp.org or call the Foundation at (928) 717-0016.