

PRESS RELEASE

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ONE OF THE NY JEWISH COMMUNITY'S SUPER COUPLES SALUTED AT THE JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL OF NEW YORK 2017 WINTER BENEFIT RECEPTION

December 5, 2017 - The Jewish Community Relations Council of New York (JCRC-NY) celebrated its 2017 Winter Benefit Reception at the Jewish Museum honoring Zoya Raynes and Robert Friedman.



Honorees Zoya Raynes and Robert Friedman

JCRC-NY EVP & CEO Michael S. Miller, Zoya Raynes,
Robert Friedman, IDB-NY Chairman Jacob Berman,
IDB-NY President & CEO Uri Levin, JCRC-NY President Charles S. Temel

Photos by Melanie Einzig

150 guests attended the JCRC-NY second annual Winter Benefit Reception and paid tribute to Zoya Raynes and Robert Friedman, two people who are extraordinarily dedicated to the Jewish community, the City of New York and the State of Israel. Israel Discount Bank of NY served as Corporate Benefactor; Toby and Ronny Hirsh, Omni New York LLC, One & Only Realty, and Pamela and George Rohr served as Sponsors; and multiple individuals served as Supporters.

The program featured JCRC-NY Board Member and Development Co-Chair Brian M. Cohen as host and remarks from JCRC-NY President Charles S. Temel and IDB-NY Chairman Jacob Berman. JCRC-NY Executive Vice President and CEO Michael S. Miller presented the award, a menorah designed by American artist and one-time New Yorker Michael Aram. JCRC-NY Development Co-Chairs Maggi Sedlis Goldstein, who also serves on the JCRC-NY Board of Directors, and Marissa Shorenstein, a JCRC-NY Vice President, welcomed Sponsors and Supporters to a private tour of two museum exhibitions: *Modigliani Unmasked* and *Veiled Meanings: Fashioning Jewish Dress from the Collection of the Israel Museum, Jerusalem*. The exhibitions were open to all guests after the program.

Zoya Raynes is the Global Head of Marketing and Investor Relations at Amber capital, and Robert Friedman is Principal and Co-Founder of Olympic Property Partners. Zoya was born in Kiev, Ukraine and immigrated to the United States with her family in 1979. Zoya has served on JCRC-NY's Board of Directors for more than 12 years and on the Executive Committee and also chairs the annual Congressional Breakfast. She currently serves as President of the Jewish Communal Fund and is former President of the Council of Young Jewish Presidents, the Jewish Heritage Program, and UJA-Federation of NY's Investment Management Division and is a 2012 Wexner Heritage Program Fellow. Robert was raised in Forest Hills and received his BA from Yeshiva University and MBA from Yale University. He founded and participated in the Machal Hesder program which provides students from outside Israel with the opportunity to combine Jewish studies and army service in the IDF. He received a BA from Yeshiva University and an MBA from Yale University. He is active in Israel advocacy and spent many years in his career financing and managing several Israeli technology companies. Robert's award-winning documentary film, *More Precious than Pearls*, about faith after the Holocaust and featuring his father, pearl dealer Alex Friedman, has been screened at film festivals and venues world-wide.

The Jewish Community Relations Council of New York (JCRC-NY) is the central coordinating body and resource organization for the Jewish Community in the metropolitan New York area. An active force in New York civic and communal life, JCRC-NY builds and establishes working relationships within the Jewish community, with other ethnic and faith communities, and with public officials and government agencies.

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