

OSHMAN FAMILY JCC Matters

Zina Vladimirsky Memorial Performing Arts Fund

Donors Continue a Legacy in the Arts

Five years after the unexpected passing of one of the OFJCC's most passionate members, Zina Vladimirsky's legacy lives on in words, music and dance in the community she loved.



The late Zina Vladimirsky

Reeling from their sudden loss, Zina's friends sought a meaningful way to continue her involvement in the arts. They created the Zina Vladimirsky Memorial Performing Arts Fund at the OFJCC to support the Jewish artistic experiences central to Zina's life.

Hundreds of Zina's friends, family and coworkers made gifts large and small to ensure the events that Zina loved would continue in her community.

"Zina was my best friend," said Janna Vaystikh, a generous supporter of the fund. "We both immigrated to America, worked together and raised our children together.

If Zina was still with us, she would be involved in every one of these events. Seeing her name still attached to the JCC means that we can continue bringing the community together and celebrating the arts, just as she did."

Zina joined the OFJCC in the early '90s when her husband, Boris, came to work in the Cultural Arts department. High school sweethearts in Russia, Boris and Zina immigrated to California with their two sons.

Upon moving to the Bay Area, Zina threw herself into the art and Jewish communities in her new country. The OFJCC became

her home away from home—a place where she found friends, community and a creative outlet.

A talented actress and captivating tango dancer, Zina thrived both center-stage and backstage. When she wasn't working as a senior software engineer at Intel, Zina's free time was devoted to performing in the OFJCC theater, dancing with her tango club and volunteering at OFJCC events.

"She was my best volunteer," Boris said. "She was at the JCC for every concert, play, performance, you name it. Zina was my source of ideas, my inspiration, everything."

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Donors Continue a Legacy in the Arts (continued)



*Left to right: Chava Alberstein, the OFJCC's new Steinway grand piano, Yemen Blues Band
Below: Zina and Boris Vladimirovsky (2008)*

Boris now manages Zina's fund, which is dedicated to underwriting performing arts events and supporting cultural programs at the OFJCC. Boris directs contributions towards the programs he knows Zina would have held close to her heart.

"For Zina, the most important thing was the Jewish voice," Boris said. "Celebrating our Jewish history and culture through art was her passion."

The donors to Zina's fund make it possible to celebrate Jewish culture through music, theater and dance. The fund has been instrumental in bringing top Jewish talent to the Palo Alto community, including the Yemen Blues Band and Israeli folk and Yiddish artist Chava Alberstein.

Zina's fund has also made it possible to invest in improvements to the OFJCC's musical instruments.

This summer, the OFJCC had the opportunity to purchase a much needed

Steinway concert-size grand piano at a deeply discounted price. Boris generously led the way with a disbursement from the fund, allowing the JCC to seek out additional donors to make owning the Steinway a reality.

The work of ensuring the longevity of the OFJCC's Jewish artistic community was

Zina's passion during her 15 years as a member of the JCC. Her friends, family and coworkers continue to make gifts in her memory each year, ensuring that her contributions to Jewish cultural life at the OFJCC do not end with her passing.

"Zina would be proud of the work we're doing," Boris said.



The Zina Vladimirovsky Memorial Performing Arts Fund relies on continued contributions to underwrite cultural and performing arts events at the OFJCC. To learn more and support Zina's fund, please visit zina.vladimirovsky.org or contact Boris Vladimirovsky at bvladimirovsky@paloaltojcc.org or (650) 223-8609.