Tribefest 2012 Attracts Young Adults Across the Nation

For the second year in a row, TRIBEFEST 2012 in Las Vegas, NV in March was a resounding success. The weekend began with a host of outstanding speakers each recounting how Judaism influenced their lives. While vice chair of JFNA (NYL Cabinet), Bradley Sherman, inspired the 1,500 attendees by retelling "three miracles" that emanated directly from federatgiving efforts: former Saturday Night Live cast member and keynote speaker Rachel Dratch added comic flair as she spoke about her career and how Judaism influenced her later in life; and author, A.J. Jacobs spoke briefly about the making of his book The Year of Living Biblically.

The strong balance of speakers only heightened the event for the Charlotte, NC group. Led by Tair Giudice, Director of Outreach & Engagement for the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, a Bobcats' flag-waving group of ten individuals showed their support for the Queen City. As the Charlotte group returned from the variety of jam-packed breakout ses-

sions, concerts by Israeli artists, or lectures on Jewish culture and politics, one thing was clear: Each person gained something positive from each experience. A few of the highlights included the spirited dance session - DegeDrum: Ethiopian Drumming, Song, and Dance, Workshop - and the highly entertaining session: The Jewish Vote in 2012, which captivated everyone who attended the session. Hopefully, judging from the wealth of knowledge and networking connections that the individuals gained, the old axiom that "Everything that happens in Vegas stays in Vegas" won't hold true this time around.

On Monday, the Charlotte group set their alarms and participated in the rewarding service project where they read books to elementary students in local schools. The experience allowed the Charlotte group, and each delegation that participated, to understand the significance of their roles in the community, along with the impact that they can have in any arena.

By the time the closing main





Charlotte Young Adults enjoying the speakers and getting to know each other in Las Vegas at TRIBEFEST 2012.

stage started on TRIBEFEST's final day, exhaustion had set in. As they said their farewells, the Charlotte contingent put their final coins in the slots at the airport. No one won "big," but if you count the valuable experiences of TRIBEFEST, everyone left a winner.

For more information on TribeFest or Federation's Young Adult Division contact Tair Giudice, Director of Outreach and Engagement, at 704-944-6759 or tair.giudice@jewishcharlotte.org.



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Mazel Tov & Congratulations

Rabbi Schindler spoke about

Dr. Quillen's speech, "Leader-

"Kol Isha," the voice of a woman

and the power that we have when

ship for the 21st Century,"

focused on ways to recognize and

promote moral courage in the

public sphere. All human beings

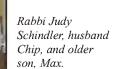
we work together.

On March 20, Rabbi Judy Schindler received the 2011 Woman of the Year award. The event, A Woman's Place 2012, was presented by the Levine Museum of the New South and Charlotte Woman of the Year.

The evening opened with a reception on the museum's first floor in honor of Rabbi Schindler. The guests then proceeded to ImaginOn for the award ceremony, acceptance speech by Rabbi Schindler, and a keynote address by Dr. Carol Quillen, president of Davidson College.

Rabbi Judy Schindler with Dr. Carol Quillen.







Sis Kaplan, Cyndee Patterson, Carol Hardison, Rabbi Judy Schindler, Janet Lefkowitz, and Emily Zimmern, director of the Levine Museum of the New South.

be different, she said, but the more diverse a population, the more tension between democracy and pluralism. While we may look to our leaders for solution, leadership is not a quality of an individual, it is a attribute of our community. \$\Delta\$

are equal and should be allowed to

