

# The Charlotte JEWISH news

An Affiliate of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte

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## Through Federation You Can Do Good Everywhere from Anywhere 2016 Main Event Inspires Philanthropy

The Main Event, which is the official kick-off to the Jewish Federation's 2016 Campaign, was held Thursday, December 17, 2015.

Main Event chair Larry Schwartz welcomed over 400 people to the event which featured guest speaker Abigail Pogrebin, author of *Stars of David: Jewish Identity in the 21st Century*. After sharing her personal story, Ms. Pogrebin skillfully interviewed Charlotte's own "Stars of

David" – Larry Schwartz, Holly Levinson, and Alan Kronovet. The audience was absorbed in the personal stories they shared – Larry about his grandparents who survived the Holocaust, Holly about finding her spiritual home within the Jewish community, and Alan about his experience growing up in Charlotte's Jewish community. Larry, Holly, and Alan each linked their Jewish identity to their passion for the Jewish Federation and the great work

it does throughout the local and worldwide Jewish community.

The audience responded generously and pledged over \$285,000 toward Federation's 2016 Campaign goal of \$3,700,000. The amount pledged was the highest amount in Main Event history. ✪



Main event chair, Larry Schwartz; guest speaker, Abigail Pogrebin; Federation president Holly Levinson; and campaign chair, Alison Lerner



Amy Vitner, Jennifer Collman, Valorie Bronstone, and Julie Rizzo



Amy DeLoach and Cheryl Alley

Photos courtesy of ArtShots Photography

For more photos from the Main Event, please turn to page 2.

### Support Teens: Wear Orange on February 9

## Teens: Attend "Forward4 Love" Event at Label on February 12

Everyone wants healthy and respectful relationships for their kids. But violent, sexist messages in music, the arts, sports, and games, combined with the amount of technology now in the hands of teens, can make that a tough goal.

"Respect Week," February 8-12, is being celebrated during Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month to encourage teens to creatively advocate for and promote

healthy relationships. The National Youth Advisory Board for loveisrespect sponsors this national event and has made available a guide for teens offering information and advice on everything from using social media to awareness displays, pep rallies, t-shirt contests, chalking, posters, and ways to engage their schools.

Once again this year the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte and its affiliated agencies are

joining forces to promote this effort. They are encouraging everyone to wear #orange4love on Tuesday, February 9, and to attend the free community event on February 12 at Label.

"We all want to see young people have safe and healthy relationships," says Stephanie Starr, Director of Jewish Family Services. "The reality is one in three young people will experience abuse in their relationships, with 16 to 24 year olds considered most of risk. What more important work is there for us as Jews than promoting and helping secure healthy relationships for our youth and all young people," she concluded.

On Friday, February 12, join with our entire local community and stand up and be counted while having fun at the "Forward 4 Love" free event for youth and their families from 5-7 PM at Label. Our "call to action" will be made with music, free food from Pinky's, and raffle prizes.

Winners of the photo contest, for those who posted pictures on social media using #TDVAclt of their projects wearing orange creatively or with the most likes/shares, will be awarded prizes, including dinners at local restaurants. Watch the website TDVA.CharMeck.org for local updates on the photo contest and events and to access the Guide, and loveisrespect.org/resources/teendvmonth nationally for in-

formation on Respect Week.

Questions and how to get involved? Contact Melissa.Siegel-Barros@mecklenburgcounty-nc.gov or Marsha Stickler at

info@shalombayit-nc.org. Spread the message #Orange4Love and help all of us to remember that love has many definitions, but abuse isn't one of them. ✪



Teens at last year's annual youth event

**One in three adolescents in the U.S. is a victim of physical, sexual, emotional, or verbal abuse from a dating partner, a figure that far exceeds rates of other types of youth violence.**

**30% of teens are text-messaged 10 to 30 times an hour by their partners asking where they are, who they are with, what they are doing. Nearly 1/4 of them communicate hourly between midnight and 5 AM.**

**One in five girls electronically sends nude or semi-nude photos or videos.**

**37% send sexually suggestive texts.**

**One in five recipients shares the photos or videos.**

**In a 2009 survey, 3 out of 4 parents said they had talked about healthy relationships with their kids. The majority of kids said no one had talked about abuse. Learn how you can at loveisrespect.org or jwi.org.**

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