



Michael Koss (center left), the first recipient of the Bernstein Young Leadership Award, presents to Risa Miller (center right) the 2009 BYL Award, which is named in honor of Bobbie (far left) and Don Bernstein (far right)

Risa Miller Wins Award

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Federation members in good standing contributing regularly to the Annual Campaign.

The Bernstein Young Leadership Award carries with it financial support to attend the General Assembly where recipients are recognized at a Young Leadership Luncheon.

Risa Miller has been an active Federation board member since 2005, recently serving for two years as its Treasurer. She is also Federation's representative at the Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community, and serves on the Finance Committee, Main Event Steering Committee and Campaign Cabinet. Additionally, she has chaired the Newcomer Committee and participated in the Second Class of the Bernstein Leadership Group.

Notably, she has generously contributed to the Federation's Annual Campaign for ten straight years and is a member, with her husband David, of the Ben Gurion Society.

Beyond the Federation, Risa is very active at the Charlotte Jewish Day School, where she is a board member and currently chairs their Annual Fund. She has also served as Board President and Silent Auction Chair for the Jewish Preschool on Sardis, and is currently a member of the JCC Board of Directors.

The Board and Staff of the Jewish Federation thank Risa for being an exemplary leader in both her actions and commitments, and for all her many contributions as an outstanding young leader. ☆

Women's Professional Network

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being both a participant and a facilitator for this lively and entertaining group of savvy women. At each WPN meeting I met someone new with whom I had something in common, personally and professionally," remarked Jennifer.

"Train Your Brain" was the topic for our January meeting sponsored by McCormick and Schmick's SouthPark. Vicki Parker Director of Learning Rx and her talented team facilitated the program which allowed women to flex their mental muscles with a series of brain training exercises. WPN returned to The Light Factory in March for Table Topics, facilitated by Lisa Blau. "Networking: Do's and Don'ts," "Career Empowerment: Taking Matters into Your Own Hands" and "Building Your Personal Brand" were the topics facilitated by a highly professional group of women.

In order to educate and inform women about the Jewish Federation, an active volunteer offered a "Federation Minute" prior to each meeting. Cary Bernstein, co-chair of the Annual Campaign, Pam Levy, a member of the Allocations Committee, Linda Seigel, Major Gifts Chair, and Gale Osborne, past president of the

Charlotte Jewish Day School, have each supplemented Fern Epley's warm and informational welcomes.

"How wonderful to be part of such an amazing group of women. The women of WPN genuinely care about each other, about serving the community, developing professionally, and growing personally all while having a little fun. Leave it to the Jewish Federation to serve the professional Jewish women of our community by initiating such a great program. From fashion trends to training your brain, every meeting has been interesting and different. Definitely not your same old networking," states Kelly Gaines, owner of Charlotte Aquatics.

Membership in the WPN is limited to those women who make a minimum commitment of \$180 to the Federation Annual Campaign. A directory was emailed to members in early May and will be updated as new members join. To learn more about how you can get involved or to receive email communications about future programs, please contact Sue Littauer, Development Director of the Jewish Federation at sue.littauer@jewishcharlotte.org

In celebration of the first year

of the Women's Professional Network, a Summer Social and Wine Tasting will be held for the membership on Thursday, June 25 from 6-7:30 PM at the home of Fern Ingber Epley. Recognizing the challenge of our current economy, women who would like to join but are unable to meet the minimum pledge are encouraged to call Sue Littauer for special arrangements.

According to Jane Rabinovitz, owner of Jane's Gems Boutique, "The response to the premier year of the Women's Professional Network has been a resounding 'yes.' Our community of professional women have networked, been enriched, educated and supported by one another. This is a very powerful new resource for our community. We've only just begun."

The Women's Professional Network presented by the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte offers women the opportunity to engage socially and connect with a cause. The Network meets five times each year and is open to all professional women whether or not they are actively engaged in careers outside the home. ☆



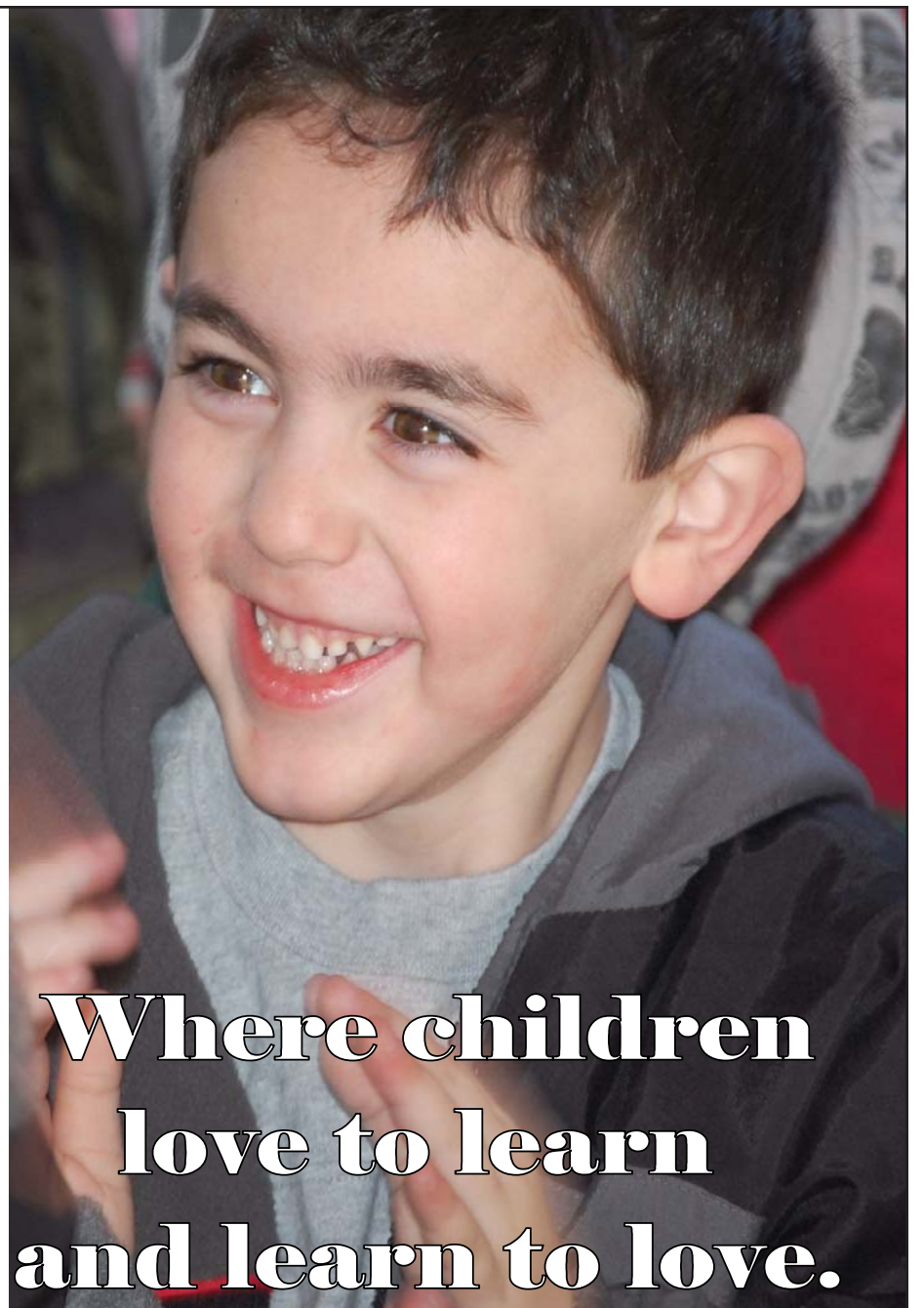
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