

TRIPLE

MAY 19, 2022 # 18 IYAR 5782





We Are Proud to be Honoring

Cheryl & Brian Fox
Elayne & Ron Kluchin • Carrie & Scott Simmerson, Lexi & Jamie
Inna & Igor Vaytsman-Tziporski, Alan & Jesse

for their inspiring support of Friendship Circle's mission.

We Proudly Salute

the teen friend-makers for their ongoing dedication to sharing their precious gifts of friendship.



The Triple Triumph

reflects the families who met the challenges of Covid with extraordinary resilience, our dedicated teen friend-makers, and our superbly supportive community, continuing to show its support through it all.

It was because of the community's perseverance and shared belief that every child deserves a friend, that Friendship Circle was able to open its doors following a period of severe isolation, and provide much-needed, face-to-face socialization for children of all abilities.

Teen friend-makers were able to realize the value of their selfless giving when their friendships were needed the most.

By honoring outstanding community leaders and a host of teens, we reflect on all we have accomplished together this year, and we celebrate the Triple Triumph.





The Mission of Friendship Circle

To spark friendship, connection, and support for children of all abilities, their families, and Jewish teens.

- In-Person Programs
 providing face-to-face
 socialization
- Teen Friend-Makers
 experiencing the rewards of uplifting families
- Weinberg Teen Friendship Award Recipients devoting 8,000+ hours
- **Families** feeling the embrace of a caring community through friendship and connection

An Array of Programs

Better Together • Exceptional Jewish Spirit • Friends@Friendship Circle • Friendship Fun Days Friendship Social • Holiday Events • Kiddie Circle • Parent Support & Networking Sibling Support • Summer & Winter Camps • Sunday Circle • Teen Education Seminars Teen Leadership Board • Teen Scene • Young Adult Division • Weinberg Friendship Award



The Rebbe's Inspiration

Friendship Circle was inspired by the teachings and personal examples of the Rebbe. He taught us that every person is composed of body and soul. The soul is the primary and eternal existence, while the body temporarily serves the soul through its mission in this world.

The challenge of humanity is to live a life consistent with the soul's mission. As we look beyond the veneer of our bodies, we can recognize that all souls are pure and precious. Indeed, the Rebbe's unconditional love of people knew no bounds. He selflessly comforted, counseled, blessed and uplifted young and old...the prominent and the otherwise unnoticed.

The Rebbe considered children with disabilities to have a particularly close connection to G-d, and he regularly urged others to recognize their extraordinary potential. The Rebbe's teachings and example continue to motivate and guide Friendship Circle.



The Heart of Friendship Circle

THREE ENTITIES ARE AT THE HEART OF THE FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE MISSION

- **1. The children** of all abilities and their families, who can choose among an array of programs where they can be themselves in a relaxed environment and enjoy connecting with their friends.
- 2. The teen friend-makers, educated to constitute the backbone of Friendship Circle programming by befriending the children and serving as role models. Through their regular Friends@Home visitations and their vital assistance with group programs, they make lasting changes in the lives of children. At the same time, they learn the impact they are making on others, setting a foundation for a life of giving and sharing.
- **3. The community**, which enables all of this to happen through its generous involvement. Community members lend expertise, serve on the Board and committees, and provide financial support through grants, independent giving, and participation in Friendship Circle's three annual fundraisers: the annual awards gala in May, My Walk 4 Friends in September and the Year-End Campaign in December.



Congratulations to Our 2022 Honorees



2022 HONOREES

BRIAN & CHERYL FOX

The Foxes' contributions to Friendship Circle follow numerous roles in the Jewish community. Cheryl formerly chaired the Shabbos Project Cleveland and currently serves on the board of Green Road Synagogue and Kosher Food Bank. Her involvement with Friendship Circle's annual

Walk began some 15 years ago.

Brian had been involved in several organizations such as Montefiore, Camp Stone, Jewish Federation of Cleveland, and Fuchs Mizrachi School when he was tapped to become Friendship Circle's third board chair, following Peter Rzepka and Steve Weinberg. Under his leadership, Friendship Circle expanded its board, brought in new stakeholders, and invested in an intensive strategic planning process that is reshaping Friendship Circle's priorities and professional structure.

The Foxes have a daughter and son-in-law, Jenna and Yair Polster, and a foster son, Noah Farrell, whom they welcomed into their family when he was 16. (Coincidentally, he was already a Friendship Circle volunteer friend-maker!)



2022 HONOREES

RON & ELAYNE KLUCHIN CARRIE & SCOTT SIMMERSON • LEXI & JAMIE

Fittingly, the Kluchin family's three generations of Friendship Circle involvement began with a special friendship. Nearly 20 years ago, Ron, an architect who has worked with many local Jewish institutions, formed a close relationship with Rabbi Yossi—leading to Ron's leadership role in fundraising for the annual My Walk 4 Friends event, Elayne's strong support of Friendship Circle, and the eventual involvement of their daughter Carrie, son-in-law Scott, and granddaughters Lexi and Jamie.

In Lexi, the Kluchins see the power of Friendship Circle to transform lives. An indifferent student as a teen, she learned about Friendship Circle through the participation of cousins Nick and Jordan and decided to volunteer as a friend-maker, eventually becoming a role model for her peers. Today, she is avidly studying to be a behavioral intervention specialist at Ohio University where she helps organize Rosh Hashana services, baby-sits children, and devotes time to many other altruistic pursuits

2022 HONOREES

VAYTSMAN-TZIPORSKI FAMILY INNA AND IGOR, ALAN AND JESSE

The Vaytsman-Tziporskis' Friendship Circle support began when four-year-old Alan participated in programs on Green Road in South Euclid. Then, when Friendship Circle's move to Pepper Pike sparked rapid growth of

programs and teen volunteers, Alan's childhood reached new heights as he sang and played piano at major events. That's when Inna, Igor, and Rabbi Yossi began to plan a first: a community Bar Mitzvah at Friendship Circle. Before a full house of friends, a jubilant Alan showed off his musical and Hebrew prowess.

Today, Alan is nearing high school graduation from Orange, where many of his friends are part of Friendship Circle. Now a teen volunteer himself, he devotes time as a friend-maker to younger children and to the Better Together program as a friend to older persons. Sixth grader Jesse has a deep appreciation of Friendship Circle, having joined his brother at numerous programs and events. Inna and Igor, who began life in Mariupol, Ukraine, continue as advocates of the organization that has immeasurably uplifted their family.



Friends of the Month



Sam Friedman My most enriching FC experience was visiting a special friend during the pandemic. Even though we had to keep our distance, we were able to bond and create an amazing friendship.



Rafi Rubeck FC helped me realize the positive effect I had on the friends I interacted with, and how happy it made me to know I was truly making an impact. This lesson is one I will carry—being the best friend I possibly can—because you never know the effect you have on others.



Kylie Soble Friendship Circle has helped me build friendships and connect with teens of all ages in the Jewish community. I learned that an act of kindness can brighten anyone's day.



Ari Friedman My time spent at Friendship Circle has taught me that everyone deserves and needs a friend. I have learned how important it is for everyone to have the opportunity to socialize and connect.





Friends of the Month



Peyton & Brayden Salomon Friendship Circle has given us the chance to help those in need of support, guidance, and friendship. We have met some amazing people through FC.



Mark Gantman Volunteering at FC helped me realize how people will open their arms and see the beauty in others. I now feel comfortable in new environments, ready to accept others for who they are.



Andie Berlin FC has helped me to feel what others are going through. When I saw a friend from FC crying in the hallway at school, I had the confidence to go over and try to understand how to help.



Asher Baskind I enjoy making people happy. I particularly enjoy my buddies who I am matched with on Sundays. I would like to continue working with children with disabilities and volunteering at FC.



Friends of the Month



Dalya Berezovsky I look forward to coming to FC. It is my favorite time of week. Knowing that I can help make someone else feel like they have a friend that really cares about them brings me joy.



Jake Goldman Through FC, I have been able to grow and become more responsible. The traits and skills I develop like patience, caring for and sharing my time with kids, are important, and they will remain with me and be useful throughout my life.

Jude Holz I really like seeing how my friend grows in his communication and interactions. These experiences at FC teach me to be more flexible. Spending time with my buddy and understanding how he feels helps me develop patience, empathy and understanding for others.



Molly O'Neill FC sparked my interest in learning more about working with people of all abilities. It's an area of education that I would like to pursue. My experience with FC opened that door.





Thank You to Our 2021-2022 Teen Friend-Makers

Tehilla Altose Rachel Aronova Logan Grant Auerbach* Heath August Oriya Baskin Asher Baskind* Abigail (Abby) Baum* Dalya Berezovsky* Eliana Berezovsky* Andie Berlin* Emma Berlin* Samantha Bernon* Ephraim Blau* Shiri Bookman Steven Brenis Sean Broderick Liat Browner* Olivia Burkons Callyn Carran* Eden Chaimovic Brenna Charlick* Talia Charnas* Camryn Cohn* Sadie Conway Solomon Cover Ellie DeMinico* Dylan Ettkin Eliana Farkas* Ari Friedman* Samuel Friedman* Sarah Friedman Tehilla Gallor Mark Gantman

Sophie Geduld Asher Gearity* Sophie Gellis Matthew Goldberg Ian Goldfeder Ashley Goldman Carley Goldman Jacob Goldman* Eitan Gecovich Sorah Green Zara Greenfield* Owen Grossman* Netta Haas* Aiden Hays* Tyler Herman* Jude Holz* Jackson Hurwitz Caroline Jacobs* Netanel (Nate) Jacobs Eitan Joel Emily Kanengeiser* Maurice Kaplan Michal Kaufman* Yael Kaufman* Mia Kimmelman Cole Kirchick* Dean Kirchick* Guilherme Kliger Mauricio Kliger* Dara Klugherz* Alexa Konover **Emily Kurland** Sara Kurland*

Rilev Lavine Rebecca Lawton* Lindsav Lebowitz* Matthew Linden Sadie Lipins Abby Liska Joey Lurie Noah Lurie Ava Maersch Michelle Margolin Yoni Meyers* Leah Mikhelson* Nathan Miller Shana Nadoff* Parker Newman Riley Olsen* Jack Oneill Molly O'Neill* Neli Pelts Chava Peltz Remy Perry* Bracha Pister Yehudis Platschek Elvana Plotkin Hannah Plotkin* Shoshana Pollack* Lia Polster* Sammy Rivchun Sol Rivera* Alex Rosen Asher Rosner Noah Rosner* Eli Rubeck

Hudi Rubeck* Rafi Rubeck* Bravden Salomon* Pevton Salomon* Esther Samowitz Chava Rivka Schlossberg Carter Schreibman Mallory Sesnowitz Adiel Sharvit Batsheva Shvken Brandon Silverstein Michael Slodov Tori Small Ezra Smith Kylie Soble **Bayla Socher** Aviva Soclof* Nathaniel Soclof* Jonathan Sosonov Shari Spiegel Haley Spitz* Sophia Stepanyan Dafna Stern Daniella Taub Alan Vaytsman* Bailey Walinsky Lily Warshawsky Grace Weimer Truman Williams Esty Witkes* Jordyn Zucker*

*Many of whom are receiving the Weinberg Friendship Award



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Interim Program Director

Dale Richardson

Bookkeeper

Eli Shomer

Associate Development Director

Kim Sirkin

Director of Marketing & Communications

Jon Thozeski

General Maintenance Manager





Mazel tov to our friends and fellow honorees

Elayne & Ron Kluchin Carrie & Scott Simmerson and Family Inna & Igor Vaytsman-Tziporski Family

Thank you for your continued support of Friendship Circle.



Cheryl & Brian Fox Jenna & Yair Polster



HONOREE

We are deeply honored and humbled to be recognized for our involvement in Friendship Circle.

Any contribution we may have made to advancing the Friendship Circle mission pales in comparison to the impact the organization has made on three generations of our family.



Elayne & Ron Kluchin
Carrie, Scott, Lexi, and Jamie Simmerson







We are incredibly proud of our son

Alan

for all his accomplishments throughout the years and the amazing effort he gives to Friendship Circle to bring much-needed friendship to other children.

We are tremendously grateful to the

Friendship Circle Program Staff

for all they have done for our family.



Inna & Igor Vaytsman-Tziporski



PRESIDENT CIRCLE

Congratulations to

the Honorees & Teen Friend-Makers

for your Commitment and Dedication to improving the lives of others.



Pam & Craig Kahn





Honorees and Teens

Mazel Tov and Thank You

We appreciate your dedication and commitment to all the families served by Friendship Circle.



All our best, **Steve & Penni Weinberg**



LEADERSHIP CIRCLE

Congratulations to

Cheryl & Brian Fox, the Vaytsman-Tziporski Family, and the Kluchin/Simmerson Family

Friendship Circle's 2022 honorees.

All of these individuals have donated both time and money to Friendship Circle and the precious children and families they serve.

We appreciate your hard work and dedication on behalf of Friendship Circle.

Thank you, as well, to all the

Teen Volunteers

You have touched the lives of so many children.

Without you, Friendship Circle would not be possible!

Mazel Tov and keep up the good work!



Peter & Aliki Rzepka





Mazal Tov to our dear friends Cheryl & Brian Fox

on their well deserved honor.

You dedicate your lives
to serving your community and making a difference.
Your acts of tzedakah and chesed know no bounds,
and our lives are enriched by having you in our Friendship Circle.



Best wishes,

Judy & Morry Weiss • Hildee & Gary Weiss and family
Karen Rutman-Weiss & Jeff Weiss and family
Rachel & Zev Weiss and family • Sara Hurand & Elie Weiss and family



DIAMOND CIRCLE

Congratulations to

the Honorees

In honor of the Rebbe



The Waxman Family







GOLD CIRCLE

As Board Chair, I take this opportunity to thank...

The Teens

for giving your time, showing compassion, and befriending children in need of friendships

The Families

for sharing your precious children with our community

The Community

for making these blessings possible



With gratitude, Harley & Gail Cohen



Mazel Tov to

Rabbi Yossi & Estie Morozov and the Devoted Staff and Volunteers

on leading Friendship Circle through a Triple Triumph year!



Cheryl & Brian Fox Jenna & Yair Polster







Mazel Tov to

All the Honorees

Your involvement in the community is truly inspiring.



Michele & Ben Katz



GOLD CIRCLE

Congratulations

to the recipients of this well-deserved, distinguished honor.

May all your best majestic days be ahead.



Jonathan Leebow









We are delighted to honor our dear friends

Cheryl & Brian Fox

May you continue to be a source of strength to Friendship Circle and the Jewish community.



Shanie & Boaz Shevach



SILVER CIRCLE

CONGRATULATIONS!!!



John & Peggy Garson





Congratulations to

All the Honorees & Teens!



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Mazel Tov to the well-deserving

Honorees & Teen Volunteers

"Who is wise?
Those who learn from everyone."
~ Pirkei Avot



With gratitude to all our friends at Friendship Circle for making our community so special,

Michael, Shari, Jackson and Noah Goldberg







To the

Honorees & Teen Friend-Makers

We admire and respect your dedication to the children.

May your family, friends and the entire community follow in your footsteps to help perpetuate the important mission of Friendship Circle.

We wish you continued success in all your endeavors.

Mazal Tov!



Jill & Brad Helfman



TO THE HONOREES

TO THE VOLUNTEERS

TO THE BOARD

TO THE **STAFF**

THANK YOU for all you do.

MAZEL TOV and BEST WISHES!



Becky & David Heller







Congratulations to this year's

Triple Triumph Annual Awards Honorees

and to the

Teen Friend-Makers

for receiving the Weinberg Friendship Award.

Special thanks as well to **all the volunteers** who give of themselves so generously and who make the world a better place.



Mazal Tov to All!

Terri & Stuart Kline



Thanks to

Rabbi Yossi & Estie Morozov

for their outstanding leadership, by providing friendship and connection for our teenager, Sol, her friend Alana, and children of all abilities.

Congratulations to everyone involved in the Friendship Circle of Cleveland.





Love, Erica, Geraldo and Sol Rivera







We are delighted to honor

Cheryl & Brian Fox, The Kluchin/Simmerson Family, & The Vaytsman-Tziporski Family

and congratulate the outstanding

Teen Friend-Makers

May you all continue to be a source of strength to Friendship Circle and the Jewish community.



Jill & Mike Stovsky



Mazel Tov to the

Honorees & Teens

and

Thank you to the

Generous Community

You are truly the Triple Triumph.



Jerry & Tracy Appel







BRONZE CIRCLE

Congratulations to the

Teen Friend-Makers & the Honorees

and especially to

Rabbi Yossi & Estie Marozov

for inspiring us all to be triumphant while continuing to bring much-needed friendships to children during challenging times.

May you go from strength to strength.



Lydia, Michael, Ariel, Morell and Danielle Frankel



BRONZE CIRCLE

Mazel Tov to all the

Honorees & Teens

Your kindness and generosity are inspiring.

Keep up the good work.



Cathy & Larry Goldberg





Mazel tov to tonight's honorees

Cheryl & Brian Fox

and

The Kluchin & Simmerson Families

for all that they do for Friendship Circle and for the Jewish People here in Cleveland and around the world.



Rochelle & Harley Gross
Cari & Gary Gross



BRONZE CIRCLE

To the well-deserving

Honorees

I greatly admire and appreciate all your outstanding accomplishments.

To the dedicated

Teen Friend-Makers

May you continue to be a source of pride and nachas.

To

Friendship Circle

Thank you for all you do for the community.



Chuck Whitehill





Mazel Tov to

Brian & Cheryl Fox

You continue to lead by example and inspire many in our community.

Keep up your incredible work!



Danielle & Jeff Wild



Yasher Koach to

the Honorees, Talia Charnas, & Teen Friend-Makers

Your kindness has touched so many lives. Thank you for all you do for our community.



Alyson & Alan Charnas







Mazal Tov to our very special

Kluchin & Simmerson Families

Thanks for all you do for others in so many ways.

We love our cuzins!



Enid & David Rosenberg
Cheryl & Lou Roseman



Mazel tov to this year's

Honorees

May you go from strength to strength!

A light shines from the heart of Dalya Berezofsky, and for that, we are grateful!



Abe, Shoshana and Bayla Socher





Mazel Tov

Cheryl & Brian

on this well-deserved honor.

Thank you for being examples to us of what it means to serve your community (and always doing it with kindness and a smile!)



XOXO, Rachel & Ezra Stark and Family



Mazel Tov to

Cheryl & Brian

and to

All the Honorees

on this well-deserved honor.



Norma & Larry Zukerman and Family





Mazel Tov and Congratulations to

Elayne & Ron Kluchin



Isaac Lewin

I.A. Lewin, PE & Associates



C R E 8 S P A R K S

WALK-IN AND PAINT

Cre8 Sparks is a place where creativity can spark the imagination. For those who claim to have no artistic skills but want a fun experience, or for those who wish to expand their artistic talents, over 100 creative projects are ready for you at Cre8 Sparks DIY Studio at LaPlace.

The studio is well suited for private parties and corporate team-building events. It is equipped with handicap-accessible bathrooms and a play area for young children.

Guests are permitted to bring their own food and alcohol for their event.

Ages: 3 - 93

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Events

Couples Date Night

Girls Night Out



Workshops





Congratulations to

The Vaytsman-Tziporski Family, The Kluchin/Simmerson Family, and Brian & Cheryl Fox

on this well-deserved honor

and to the dedicated

Teen Friend-Makers

for your outstanding efforts in improving the lives of other children who need a friend.

Keep up the amazing work!

Jewish News



Cheryl & Brian,

Mazel tov on this well-deserved honor.

You are such a wonderful asset to our community.



Lorin & Alan Gottlieb







Congratulations

Ron & Elayne Kluchin & The Simmerson Family

for being honored by the Friendship Circle at the Annual Awards Gala.

This recognition is well deserved for all that you have done for the organization!



Barbara & Larry Kronick



BEST WISHES



Martin Marcus
Shelley & Greg Marcus
Lynne & Phil Cohen







Mazel Tov to

Cheryl & Brian

and all of this year's

Honorees

Thank you for all that you do for Friendship Circle and our beautiful Cleveland Community.



Much love, **The Mayerfelds**



To our dear friends

Brian & Cheryl Fox

Congratulations on being chosen as this year's honorees. We Salute You!

May Hashem continue
to grant you the strength to persevere,
the ability to achieve
and the will to share your success with the community.



Mazal Tov! **Debi & Howard Slater**







Mazel Tov

Brian & Cheryl

on this well-deserved honor.

We are so lucky to have you not just as part of our community, but as part of our family.

May we continue to celebrate smachot together for many years in good health and happiness



With love, Shani & Mark



In honor of

Elayne & Ron and their Family, Carrie & Scott Simmerson, Lexi and Jamie

Best wishes to

Aviva Soclof & Nathaniel Soclof and to all Teen Friend-Makers

for your meaningful work



Marilyn & Ivan Soclof









In tribute to dear friends and champions of Jewish causes

Friendship Circle 2022 Honorees

Ron & Elayne Kluchin & Family and Brian & Cheryl Fox

whose leadership serve as shining examples and whose contributions to the Jewish community are immeasurable.

Rabbi Simcha Dessler Menahel/Educational Director Dr. Louis J. Malcmacher President Rabbi Eli Dessler Financial Director



We're proud to join
Friendship Circle
in honoring our good friends

Brian & Cheryl Fox

whose many contributions
to Friendship Circle,
Green Road Synagogue
and the greater
Cleveland Jewish Community
have made Cleveland a better place
to live for all of us.



Rubin & Eileen Guttman

We are delighted to honor our dear friends

Cheryl & Brian Fox!

May you continue to be a source of strength to Friendship Circle of Cleveland and the entire Jewish community.



Chuck & Juli Herman







Congratulations to the

Kluchin Family!

Your honor is well-deserved.



Barbara & David Hochman

Yasher Koach to

Rabbi Yossi & Estie



Alec & Marcia Berezin



Congratulations to

Brian & Cheryl Fox & the Kluchin Family

for being honored by Friendship Circle of Cleveland.

Your leadership and dedication to this worthy organization and the Jewish community is deeply appreciated.

Kol Hakavod!



Michal & Steven Soclof

Congratulations to

All the Honorees & Wonderful Teen Volunteers

who make a difference in the lives of children and their families who need friendships

Kol Hakavod!



Lisa & Rob Zimmerman







In honor of

Cheryl & Brian Fox

with appreciation for all they do for our community.



Barbara & Ira Taub

Mazel Tov

Brian & Cheryl

Thank you for your generosity and your leadership.



All our love,

Jonny & Adena Klineman



Elayne & Ron Kluchin

Congratulations on being chosen as this year's honorees!

Your dedication to family and community are an inspiration to all.



Barbara & Shelly Fromson

Brian & Cheryl

are two absolutely amazing individuals.

They are true Ba'alei Tzedakah and we are privileged to call them our friends.



Yakov & Estee







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