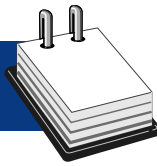


SAVE THE DATES!



4TH ANNUAL PURIM BALL
Sunday • April 2, 2006 5:00 PM
 Hyatt Regency at Penn's Landing
 For reservations: email Randi Butow:
 rbutow@akibaweb.org

UPPER SCHOOL MUSICAL: RAGTIME
May 21-24, 2006
 Bluett Theater, St. Joseph's University
 Wynnefield, PA

AKIBA GRADUATION: CLASS OF 2006
Thursday • June 8, 7:30 PM
 Temple Adath Israel, Merion Station, PA
 Class of 1956 is invited to join the
 graduation processional

ALUMNI QUESTIONNAIRE: PLEASE RESPOND!

Current Name: _____	WORK INFORMATION:	
Name as Student: _____ Class of: _____	Your Position: _____	
Spouse Name: _____	Name of Company: _____	
Children Names: _____	Street Address: _____	
Current Street Address: _____	City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____	
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____	Country: _____	
Country: _____	Phone: _____	Email: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____		
College: _____ Degree(s) Earned: _____		

Please clip and mail in the above form to Susan Gordon,
 C/O of Akiba or register on-line on the Akiba website



AKIBA HEBREW ACADEMY Founded 1946
 223 North Highland Avenue
 Merion Station, PA 19066-1798
 610-667-4070 Fax: 610-667-1046
 A Constituent of Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia

Mitchell R. Cohen,
President

Rabbi Philip D. Field, *Head of School*

Miriam Shpen Feist, *Director of Institutional Advancement*

Susan N. Cohen, *Director of Alumni Affairs & Donor Relations*

Ariele Z. Klausner '76, *Alumni Committee Chair*

CHEVRA Editor/Writer: Beverly C. Rosen,
Director of Marketing and Public Relations



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Akiba Welcomes Director of Alumni Affairs Susan Gordon to Join Development Team



Susan Gordon will join the Akiba team as the full-time Director of Alumni Affairs and Donor Relations, effective February 27. "We are delighted to welcome Susan to Akiba," comments Mitchell R. Cohen, Board President, "and know that her expertise and efforts will further our goal of establishing and maintaining strong relationships with our Akiba alumni and supporters."

Formerly a Senior Major Gifts Officer at the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, Susan has over 20 years of progressive responsibility in not-for-profit management and fundraising. She has a MBA from Temple University, Fox School of Business, and a MSW from Yeshiva University, Wurzweiler School of Social Work.

Susan looks forward to forging relationships with our Akiba alumni who number more than 2,000, as well as with our donors. "I am delighted to become part of the Akiba family. Since the school's first graduating class in 1951, Akiba alumni have excelled professionally and personally as outstanding members of their Jewish communities and their communities at large. It will be a real joy to enable alumni to inspire future generations of students while they share their knowledge, experience and resources to help shape the Akiba of tomorrow." To contact Susan, phone 610-667-4070 ext. 154 or email: susangordon@akibaweb.org

Ariele Z. Klausner '76 Heads Alumni Affairs Committee



Ariele Zandman Klausner '76, Akiba parent and Board Vice-President, will chair Akiba's new Alumni Affairs Committee.

When asked about her new committee and the full-time Alumni Affairs position, Ariele shares, "Having been actively involved with Akiba for the past 10 years and currently a parent of two Akiba students, I am very excited to be chairing this new committee and look forward to working closely with Susan Gordon. The creation of this full-time position has been a dream of mine for many years. Together, I know that we will be able to reconnect with and strengthen our relationships with our wonderful alumni. I hope that many of our alumni will get involved with Akiba."

Josh Landes '80 Invites Akiba Students To Meet Nobel Laureate, Dr. Aumann

Joshua Landes '80, partner in Wynnefield Capital, Inc. in Manhattan, recently invited senior Akiba AP/BC Calculus students to a special reception with Professor Robert J. Aumann, 2005 Nobel Laureate in Economics. The reception was held in Josh's office where students had a unique opportunity to meet personally with Dr. Aumann and listen to his presentation on game theory. We are grateful to Josh Landes for providing this unique and memorable opportunity for our students.



Meeting a Nobel Laureate: Posing with Professor Aumann in the first row is Bruce Strong. Second row (l. to r.) are Max Kaplan, Matt Klayman, Ross Berkowitz, Rachel Weinblatt, faculty member Marlene Gefter, and David Joffe. In the third row, (l. to r.) are faculty member John Borgman-Winter, Julien Menko, Head of School Rabbi Philip D. Field, Akiba alum Gideon Naim '82 and Joshua Landes '80.

Visit Akiba On-Line: Log Onto Our Alumni Page

Want to find out what's new at Akiba? Then visit us on-line and browse our website: www.akibaweb.org Be sure to click onto our Alumni page to catch up on news and views. We also invite you to register on-line and to send us your most updated information. Register today!

ALUMNI ROUND-UP

AKIBA ALUM: Leadership in Action

Hats off to our alumni who are actively involved at Akiba. Alumni serving as officers of our Board of Directors include: Vice- Presidents **Sylvia Binder Blume '61** and **Ariele Zandman Klausner '76**, as well as members at large, State Representative **Joshua D. Shapiro '91** and **Henry L. Shrager '67**.

Alumni serving on our Boards of Directors and Trustees include: **Mitch Albom '76**, **Joseph R. Carver, M.D.'64**, **Joy Pincus Cooper '90**, **Donna Goldblum Haas '76**; **Joshua M. Kern '90**, **Hershel J. Richman, Esquire '59**, and **Michael Alan Stein '69**. Trustees include **Abigail W. Katz '59** and **David Kosloff '86**. **Hershel Richman** and **Joseph Carver** also served as Board presidents.

Peter Kelsen '74 is heading Akiba's Capital Campaign Committee, along with his wife **Kate**, an Akiba Board member. The **Kelsens** are the parents of **Leah '09**, with **Hannah** waiting in the wings.

Amanda Levick Steier '80 is Akiba's Business Manager. Her daughter **Zoe** is a 7th grade student at Akiba and her daughter **Arielle** hopes to attend Akiba next year.



Film Friends: Akiba alumni **Sivy Binder Blume '61** (far right) and **Peter Kelsen '74** (far left) pose with film star and screenwriter **Peter Riegert** and Board member **Kate Kelsen** at an Akiba event for alumni, families, friends and supporters held at The Prince Music Theater in Philadelphia. Mr. Riegert discussed his film *King of the Corner* with an enthusiastic audience. The film event is one of many planned to thank members of our Akiba family for their support. **Sivy Blume** and **Kate Kelsen** co-chaired this special program.

Akiba's \$10 Million Capital Campaign Underway Lighting the Way for Future Generations

A ten million dollar Capital Campaign, themed "Lighting the Way for Future Generations," is underway at Akiba. The Campaign will fund renovations that will match Akiba's standards of excellence with excellent facilities. Highlights of the Capital Campaign project include: raising the roof on the classroom building, adding a third level that will accommodate 36% more classroom space; introducing a new and improved science wing; expanding the library to feature a multi-media center; building a multi-purpose Beit Midrash; and creating a unifying façade to blend the old with the new, mirroring the architectural details of the mansion -- the heart of Akiba.

The fence, separating the carriage house from the main campus will be removed, providing more green space for our students and additional parking spaces. The carriage house itself will be transformed into administrative offices, freeing up classroom space in the main building. Looking ahead, our vision for Akiba includes a new state-of-the-art athletic facility.

Internal campaign solicitations have raised \$5 million to-date. This half-way mark to our goal was accomplished in six months. Akiba leaders and supporters are forging ahead to raise the remaining funds. Akiba's future looks bright!



Proposed Exterior Elevations



AKIBA Highlights & Happenings

NEWSMAKERS

The Great Debater: **Ben Eidelson '05**, a sophomore at Yale University, was recently named North American University Debate Champion.



Dr. MLK, JR. Community Award: **Jonathan Ludmir '02**, a senior at the University of Pennsylvania, is the recipient of the prestigious Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Involvement Recognition Award, sponsored by the University in recognition of the late Dr. King and his exemplary work on behalf of the entire American Community.

Oscar! Oscar! Congratulations to **Geoffrey Richman '93**, an editor of the documentary film *Murderball*. The film is one of five documentaries nominated for an Academy Award this year. **Geoffrey** also edited a new film, *God Grew Tired of Us*, that won two awards at the 2006 Sun Dance Film Festival: the Audience and Grand Jury awards. It is the first time that a documentary received both awards.

Truman Scholar: **Jeremy Sueker '02** was named a Truman Scholar in 2005, one of 75 in the country. This prestigious award recognizes outstanding college juniors who plan a career in Public Health. The award carries with it a \$75,000 scholarship for graduate school. **Jeremy** attends Tufts University.

We invite Akiba alum who have won awards and/or have been recognized in significant ways to email "news" to SusanGordon@akibaweb.org

Leaving a Legacy: L'dor V'dor

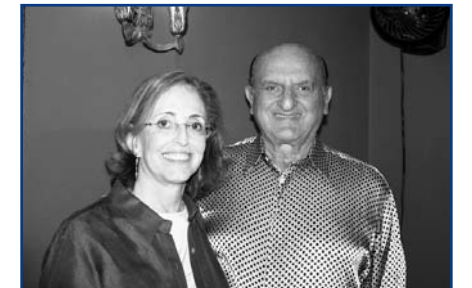
A number of alumni, as well as parents and grandparents of alumni, have made major gifts to Akiba this year. All of the gifts help assure a vibrant future for Akiba, our students, and our community. At press time, we thank:

Lillian H. and **Dr. Robert L. Brent**, active Akiba supporters and grandparents of three Akiba students - **Rachael '06**, **Hannah '08** and **Jonathan '10 Foster** - who have made a seven figure lead gift to Akiba's Capital Campaign, named the school's new science wing, contributed generously to Akiba's endowment fund, and have left a future bequest in their will. The **Brents** are also the Honorary Co-Chairs of Akiba's Capital Campaign, and **Dr. Brent** is a member of Akiba's Board of Directors.

A **Foundation Wall** will recognize donors who make a six figure gift or more to Akiba's Capital Campaign. To-date, the following alumni will be recognized on the Foundation Wall: **Peter Kelsen '74**, **Hershel J. Richman Esquire '59**, **Michael Stein '69** and **Lynn Quitman Troyka '55**.



Jennifer and Michael Stein '69 and **Betsy and Hershel Richman '59** share a moment at Akiba's 2005 Purim Gala.



Lynn Quitman Troyka '55 and **David Troyka** leave a legacy.

Dr. Igor and Mrs. Bernice Laufer, parents of **Miriam '88** and **Jacob '92**, have established an endowment in honor of Igor's parents **Sara and Henry Laufer**, survivors of the Holocaust, and in gratitude for the education that their children received at Akiba. The endowment will support Akiba programs focusing on the Jewish history and culture of Eastern Europe and pre-Shoah communities, as well as provide travel grants for 11th graders who want to participate in Akiba's 11th grade Eastern European trip.

State Rep. Joshua Shapiro '91 Helps Secure Akiba Grant

Security is a major issue today, and State Representative **Joshua D. Shapiro '91** helped secure a major Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) grant for Akiba. The grant, awarded to nonprofit organizations, provides funds for security enhancements.

