

Inaugural List of Top-Rated Jewish Nonprofits

Menlo Park, Calif. — November 18, 2009 — GreatNonprofits, Jewish Funders Network, JTA, Natan, Slingshot Fund, Jewish Jumpstart, Upstart Bay Area, JGooders.com, and Guidestar announced today the top-rated Jewish nonprofits (www.greatnonprofits.org/jewish). Jewish nonprofits focused on young adult and teen engagement got the highest ratings in this inaugural list. The ratings were submitted by people in the Jewish community who have volunteered, donated, or been served by the nonprofits. There are over 180 nonprofits on the list available at www.greatnonprofits.org/reviews/issues/jewish.

The nonprofits with the most reviews for their categories receive additional promotion.

“Winning the GreatNonprofits Jewish Choice Awards validates our mission and does the Russian American Jewish community proud,” said Mordechai Tokarsky, division director of Gateways’ Russian American Jewish Experience (RAJE), in New York. RAJE was the top-rated nonprofit in the Northeast with a budget of over \$1M. “We hope winning this contest will help us garner the support we need to bring the RAJE model of communal renewal to other US cities. This will enable nearly 1 million Russian American Jews to build strong communities, fortify their Jewish identity and enhance their sense of Jewish peoplehood.”

This is the first ever list providing reviews of Jewish nonprofits by those who have actually experienced their work. The contest, held during October and November in honor of the Jewish High Holidays, asked people to submit reviews and ratings about Jewish nonprofits. The results show the dynamic and cohesive nature of the Jewish community, as well as the emphasis being placed on engaging the next generation. These unique results will be helpful to donors and supporters looking to get involved.

“There are so many great Jewish nonprofits that don’t have an advertising budget and are not household names,” says Perla Ni, CEO and founder of GreatNonprofits. “Through this first-ever list of top-rated Jewish nonprofits, you can see how some of these nonprofits are changing lives. Donors and volunteers who are interested in getting involved now see which nonprofits are really making a difference.”

The entire list of nonprofits is at www.greatnonprofits.org/reviews/issues/jewish. The nonprofits with the most positive reviews are:

Best of Northeast

Small (budget under \$250,000)

J'Burgh

Pittsburgh, PA

<http://greatnonprofits.org/reviews/jburgh>

Medium (budget \$250,000 to \$1,000,000)

keren simchas chossen ve kallah

Brooklyn, NY

<http://greatnonprofits.org/reviews/keren-simchas-chossen-ve-kallah1>

Large (budget over \$1,000,000)

RAJE

Brooklyn, NY

<http://www.greatnonprofits.org/reviews/raje>

Best of South

Small (budget under \$250,000)

Mosaic Outdoor Clubs of America

West Palm Beach, FL

<http://greatnonprofits.org/reviews/mosaic-outdoor-clubs-of-america-inc>

Medium (budget \$250,000 to \$1,000,000)

J Street Education Fund

Washington, DC

<http://greatnonprofits.org/reviews/j-street-education-fund-inc>

Large (budget over \$1,000,000)

BBYO

Washington, DC

<http://greatnonprofits.org/reviews/bbyo>

Best of Midwest

Small (budget under \$250,000)

Mitziut

Chicago, IL

<http://greatnonprofits.org/reviews/mitziut>

Medium (budget \$250,000 to \$1,000,000)

Jewish Student Union

Chicago, IL

<http://greatnonprofits.org/reviews/jewish-student-union1>

Large (budget over \$1,000,000)

Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland

Cleveland, OH

<http://greatnonprofits.org/reviews/jewish-community-federation-of-cleveland>

Best of Mountain

Small (budget under \$250,000)

DAT Minyan

Denver, CO

<http://greatnonprofits.org/reviews/dat-minyan>

Medium (budget \$250,000 to \$1,000,000)

Judaism Your Way

Denver, CO

<http://greatnonprofits.org/reviews/judaism-your-way>

Best of Northwest

Small (budget under \$250,000)

Bet Alef Meditative Synagogue

Seattle, WA

<http://greatnonprofits.org/reviews/bet-alef-meditative-synagogue>

Medium (budget \$250,000 to \$1,000,000)

JConnect Seattle

Seattle, WA

<http://greatnonprofits.org/reviews/jconnect-seattle>

Large (budget over \$1,000,000)

Seattle Jewish Community School

Seattle, WA

<http://greatnonprofits.org/reviews/seattle-jewish-community-school>

Best of West

Small (budget under \$250,000)

American Committee for Melabev

N. Hollywood, CA

<http://greatnonprofits.org/reviews/american-committee-for-melabev-inc>

Medium (budget \$250,000 to \$1,000,000)

Jewish Milestones

Berkeley, CA

<http://greatnonprofits.org/reviews/jewish-milestones1>

Large (budget over \$1,000,000)

IKAR

Los Angeles, CA

<http://greatnonprofits.org/reviews/ikar>

Best of International

Small (budget under \$250,000)

Jewish Volunteering Network

London, UK

<http://greatnonprofits.org/reviews/jewish-volunteering-network>

Medium (budget \$250,000 to \$1,000,000)

New Israel Fund of Canada

Toronto, ON Canada

<http://greatnonprofits.org/reviews/new-israel-fund-of-canada>

Large (budget over \$1,000,000)

Puah Institute

Jerusalem, Israel

<http://greatnonprofits.org/reviews/puah-institute>

About the 2009 Jewish Choice Awards

The awards were hosted by GreatNonprofits, the leading provider of user-generated ratings and reviews of nonprofits, Jewish Funders Network, JTA, Natan, Slingshot Fund, Jewish Jumpstart, Upstart Bay Area, JGooders.com, and Guidestar. Over the course of the Jewish Choice Awards, more than 103,000 people visited the GreatNonprofits Web site, and almost 4000 reviews were posted about more than 180 nonprofits serving youth.

Reviews appear on GreatNonprofits.org as well as GuideStar.org, the premiere source for donor research on nonprofits. Nonprofits with the most positive reviews in their region and budget category were determined the winners of the 2009 Jewish Choice Awards. Additionally,

nonprofits with 10 or more positive reviews will be included on the GreatNonprofits Top-Rated Jewish Charities list. Those who submitted reviews were eligible to win prizes such as free Noah's Bagels, free copies of "Business Mensch" by Noah Alper, a free stay at Kimpton Hotels, and more. Reviews submissions took place from October 1st to November 13th, 2009.

Media Contact:

Shari Ilsen

Shari.Ilsen@greatnonprofits.org

650.234.4766 (office)

978.621.3396 (cell)