



Operation Promise

Speakers



An important ingredient in telling the Operation Promise story is storytelling – about the lives of the people we are trying to help. And who better to tell those stories than the people themselves? Ethiopian Israelis and Israelis from the former Soviet Union, dynamic and exciting figures of different backgrounds that comprise the many faces of Operation Promise.

UJC is teaming up with its overseas partners, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and the Jewish Agency for Israel, to bring these speakers and professionals on the ground in the FSU and Ethiopia who can also describe the complex challenges facing these communities and the complexities involved in helping them, in a simple and powerful way.

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
[WWW.UJCINTEROFFICE.ORG/
OPERATIONPROMISE](http://WWW.UJCINTEROFFICE.ORG/OPERATIONPROMISE)
OR 212.284.6766.



ETH Zohara Aiaso was born in Ethiopia in 1979, walked the journey from Ethiopia to Sudan, finally reaching Israel in 1985. After completing high school, Ms. Aiaso served in the National Service Corps, where she worked with Down's syndrome children. In 2001, she received a certificate in educational mediation from Beit Berl College; from 2000 to 2003, she worked as a PACT educational mediator in kindergartens. From 2003 to 2005, Ms. Aiaso was Beersheva coordinator of the Aleh project, which helps to develop leadership and volunteerism within the Ethiopian community in Beersheva.

Ms. Aiaso is Deputy Chair of the Beersheva Ethiopian National Project Steering Committee and is working towards a college degree in education.

Speaker's Fee\$400

UJC Subsidy

- 50% of the fee
- 100% of the overseas portion of the trip
- 50% of domestic travel

Community Responsibility

- 50% of the fee
- 50% of an equal share of domestic travel
- all local costs

Tour Dates

To be announced

ETH Ruti David Amir immigrated to Israel from Ethiopia in 1977, when she was eleven years old. Her father, an activist in the Ethiopian Jewish community, had been forced to flee the year before. In 1984, as large numbers of Ethiopian Jews arrived in Israel, Ms. Amir helped them by volunteering in JDC-sponsored absorption programs. Later, she was the first Ethiopian-Israeli woman to serve in the Israeli army; after that, she spent nearly a decade in communications and TV production, working on projects like "Through Our Eyes," an Israeli current affairs program in Amharic.

Ms. Amir began working as a local coordinator for JDC's Eshet Chayil Program in Lod in 2002 and became the program's national coordinator two years later.

Speaker's Fee\$400

UJC Subsidy

- 50% of the fee
- 100% of the overseas portion of the trip, when on tour
- 50% of domestic travel

Community Responsibility

- 50% of the fee
- 50% or an equal share of domestic travel
- all local costs

Tour Dates

To be announced

No Photo Available



ETH Batya Ayob is a leading advocate for Ethiopian-Israeli rights – and she’s traveled a long road to earn that right. Born in Addis Ababa in 1973, Batya and her 11-year-old sister made aliyah alone in 1983, only to be reunited with their parents in 1986 in Montreal. She ultimately graduated from Concordia University with a degree in the social sciences, and returned to Israel in 1997, where she earned a graduate degree in Israeli politics and society before working for several Israeli non-governmental organizations. Today, Batya is executive director of the Israel Association for Ethiopian Jews, a leading grassroots group that advocates for the community’s educational and social integration.

Speaker’s Fee\$600

UJC Subsidy

50% of the fee
100% of the overseas portion of the trip, when on tour
50% of domestic travel

Community Responsibility

50% of the fee
50% of an equal share of domestic travel
all local costs

Tour Dates

October 30 - November 10

ETH Yael Azala and her family made the long, treacherous journey to Israel nearly 23 years ago. She spent months in a refugee camp, where both her mother and brother died. In 1984, Yael made it to Israel. Unfortunately, her father died a year later and Yael was sent to boarding school. Yet, she is succeeding, with federation support. In college, working part time, Yael is determined to make it in Israel. “The journey of the Ethiopian people to Israel is a miracle ... but I know that if I don’t use all my strength to get an education, I will never rise to my potential in this society.”

Speaker’s Fee\$400

UJC Subsidy

50% of the fee
100% of the overseas portion of the trip, when on tour
50% of domestic travel

Community Responsibility

50% of the fee
50% of an equal share of domestic travel
all local costs

Tour Dates

To be announced

ETH Mimi David-Ratta is a role model for Ethiopian Israelis of all ages. When Mimi was nine, she left her family in Ethiopia to make aliyah – by walking for 750 kilometers over three weeks to Sudan, where she spent four months before reaching Israel and her dream. Today, the mother of two, Mimi coordinates the Pele project that helps Israeli youths ages 12-18, and volunteers with Ethiopian-Israeli youth through the Ethiopian National Project in her hometown of Ramle.

Speaker’s Fee\$400

UJC Subsidy

50% of the fee
100% of the overseas portion of the trip, when on tour
50% of domestic travel

Community Responsibility

50% of the fee
50% or an equal share of domestic travel
all local costs

Tour Dates

September 6-16



ETH Micha Feldmann speaks fluent Amharic and is known throughout the Ethiopian-Israeli community as “Abba Micha.” That’s because since 1970, Micha has devoted his life to bringing Ethiopian Jews to Israel and integrating them into the mainstream. As Israel’s consul-general to Ethiopia, he was one of the key architects of 1991’s Operation Solomon. Micha has also worked for the Jewish Agency and is now a consultant on Ethiopian issues to the Jewish Agency, the IDF, and the Israel Crisis Management Center, where he helps new immigrants from Ethiopia and the FSU. In 1998 he wrote a book of the dramatic rescue, “The Ethiopian Exodus.”

Speaker’s Fee\$600

UJC Subsidy

- 50% of the fee
- 100% of the overseas portion of the trip, when on tour
- 50% of domestic travel

Community Responsibility

- 50% of the fee
- 50% or an equal share of domestic travel
- all local costs

Tour Dates

September 6-16

ETH Mazi Melesa came to Israel with her family as part of Operation Solomon. Mazi was 12. For the first few months in Israel, she lived with her family at the Ethiopian absorption center in Netanya. There, she learned Hebrew and studied Israeli culture. After a few months, she enrolled in the boarding school. When she finished six years at the boarding school, she graduated with a high school diploma, and began her army service. After completing her army service, she attended Haifa University to study occupational therapy. In the last two years of her studies, she was chairperson of the National Ethiopian Students Organization. Today, Mazi is an advocate for the Ethiopian Israeli community.

Speaker’s Fee\$600

UJC Subsidy

- 50% of the fee
- 50% of travel to the community

Community Responsibility

- 50% of the fee
- 50% of travel to the community
- all local costs

Tour Dates

Available upon request

ETH Fasil Legesse immigrated to Israel from Ethiopia in 1981 at the age of 19. Following graduation from Tel Aviv University, he challenged himself to provide an Ethiopian-Israeli voice through Israeli media channels. It didn’t take him long to get started. In 1986, Mr. Legesse aired the country’s first Amharic language broadcasts from the Kol Yisrael radio studios. In the late 1990s, JDC co-sponsored, together with the Ethiopian-Israeli community and the Israeli government, the popular bi-weekly TV program “Through Our Eyes,” produced and edited by Mr. Legesse. He also produced and directed the 1997 documentary film “For the Sake of Zion.” In January 2000, Mr. Legesse established “Fasildan,” a communications company based in Ethiopia.

Speaker’s Fee\$400

UJC Subsidy

- 50% of the fee
- 100% of the overseas portion of the trip, when on tour
- 50% of domestic travel

Community Responsibility

- 50% of the fee
- 50% of an equal share of domestic travel
- all local costs

Tour Dates

To Be Announced



ETH Riki Mullu was born in Ethiopia. She studied Hebrew and Jewish studies in the Orth School in Gondar. In 1977, she left Ethiopia with 150 Jewish students. She was 13 when she began her life in Israel; and 20, when three of her sisters walked from Ethiopia to Sudan to join her. At the time, Riki was working for Youth Aliyah in the Medical Service Department, where she helped orphans, many of whom were very sick after their desert journeys.

In 1987, Riki returned Ethiopia to bring her parents and three brothers to Israel. Her parents joined her in Jerusalem within a few months; it took several more years before the rest of her brothers and sisters were able to make aliyah. After the difficult period in Ethiopia, she returned to work with Youth Aliyah and remained there until 1991.

Speaker's Fee\$600

UJC Subsidy

50% of the fee
50% of travel to the community

Community Responsibility

50% of the fee
50% of travel to the community
all local costs

Tour Dates

Available upon request

NEW FACES OF ALIYAH

A special Operation Promise version of this very successful, very compelling program is in production. The New Faces of Aliyah tour pairs two young people, usually one from Ethiopia and the other from the FSU, to travel North America and tell their often harrowing, sometimes troubling, but always inspiring stories. A Jewish Agency professional accompanies them to provide context and answer questions. Our colleagues in the Jewish Agency specially select all team members. They are particularly articulate spokespersons with very good English language skills. Each participant is tutored and briefed for this specific task within the American Jewish community.

UJC Subsidy

100% of overseas and domestic airfare for all three team members

Community Responsibility

- \$600 for up to 2 days in the community, \$200 for each additional day
- all local costs



ETH Dr. Ted Myers is an associate clinical professor in International Health at Stanford and the Senior Medical Consultant for JDC. In 1983, he and his wife, Peggy, organized a medical clinic for Ethiopian refugees in Sudan. In 1986, he developed a village-based medical program in Gondar province for JDC and after the migration to Addis Ababa he organized a comprehensive medical program for the displaced Ethiopian Jews. In 1993, he developed a pharmacy and a medical consultation program for JDC in Cuba. Since that time he has developed a JDC medicine distribution program for the impoverished elderly members of Jewish communities in the former Soviet Union. He has also organized the annual JDC International Medical Conference in St. Petersburg and he is the editor of the JDC Medical Newsletter, which is published monthly in Russian and is distributed to over 500 Jewish physicians in the former Soviet Union.

ETH Peggy Myers made annual trips with her husband to Sudan, Ethiopia and Israel where she faithfully recorded the plight of the Ethiopian Jews. In January 1992, her photographs of the Ethiopian Jews opened at the Judah Magnes Museum in Berkeley. During the next four years, the exhibition was shown in cities throughout the United States. Since 1993, she made several trips with her husband to Cuba where she has interviewed and photographed members of the emerging Jewish community. Since 1994, she has been traveling with her husband to Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia where she has continued her photographic work emphasizing the rebirth of Jewish life in the former Soviet Union, the plight of the impoverished elderly members of the Jewish communities, and the extraordinary work of JDC.

Ted and Peggy Myers appear together.

Speaker's Fee\$600

UJC Subsidy

50% of the fee
50% of travel to the community

Community Responsibility

50% of the fee
50% of travel to the community
all local costs

Tour Dates

Available upon request

New speakers are being added every week. Stay informed. Go to www.ujcinteroffice.org/operationpromise.



ETH Dror Nagusa made aliyah with his family in 1984. His journey to Israel was filled with hardship: the family was attacked by robbers in the desert; their money and possessions were stolen; Mr. Nagusa, his father and sister were kidnapped by the border police. At the refugee camp, most of his family became so ill, Mr. Nagusa had to work in the soup kitchen to help take care of them. Mr. Nagusa was five.

In Israel, Mr. Nagusa went to a Youth Aliyah boarding school in Hadera and a year later, became one of the youngest singers in the famed Sheba Choir.

Mr. Nagusa served in the prestigious paratroop unit in the army. He then earned his BA in psychology, sociology and anthropology from Haifa University. Today, Mr. Nagusa is the social counselor at the Jewish Agency's Aba Houshi student dormitories.

Speaker's Fee\$400

UJC Subsidy

50% of the fee
100% of the overseas portion of the trip, when on tour
50% of domestic travel

Community Responsibility

50% of the fee
50% of an equal share of domestic travel
all local costs

Tour Dates

To be announced



ETH Shmuel Negussie completed high school in 1979 in Gondar. In 1990, he earned a BS degree in chemistry from Addis Ababa University. Shortly thereafter, he made aliyah. Immediately after coming to Israel, Mr. Negussie started to study Hebrew language in the Kfar-Sava absorption center. He later moved to Jerusalem, where he continued to study Hebrew and where he eventually earned an MS in applied chemistry from Hebrew University. After earning that degree, Mr. Negussie served in the Israeli Air Force for nine years.

In October 2003, he went back Hebrew University to study to become a pharmacist.

Speaker's Fee\$400

UJC Subsidy

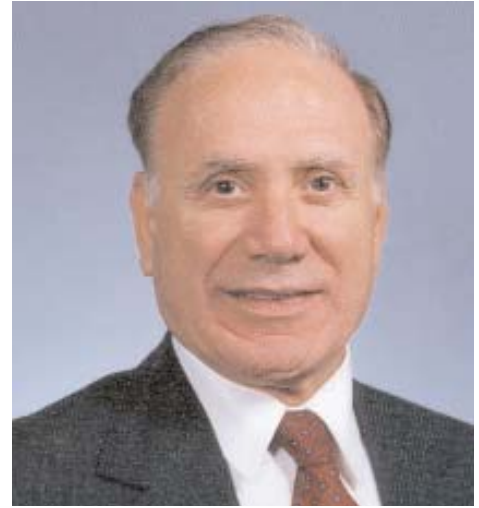
50% of the fee
100% of the overseas portion of the trip, when on tour
50% of domestic travel

Community Responsibility

50% of the fee
50% of an equal share of domestic travel
all local costs

Tour Dates

To be announced



ETH Asher Naim was Israel's Ambassador to Ethiopia during Operation Solomon, and played a key role in getting the rescue airlift off the ground. He tells that story as the author of "Saving the Lost Tribe: The Rescue and Redemption of Ethiopian Jews." Ambassador Naim served as Israel's envoy around the world, from Africa to Korea, and as envoy to Finland from 1988-1990 he helped negotiate the transfer of Russian Jews to Israel.

Speaker's Fee\$600

UJC Subsidy

50% of the fee
100% of the overseas portion of the trip, when on tour
50% of domestic travel

Community Responsibility

50% of the fee
50% of an equal share of domestic travel
all local costs

Tour Dates

September 18-29
October 30-November 10



ETH Arieh Oz was born in Germany in 1936. His family fled to the Netherlands shortly before the Nazi conquest and spent most the war hiding with a Dutch family – a family that was later recognized by the State of Israel for their humanitarianism. Arieh arrived in Israel in 1946, received his pilot’s wings in 1956, and was one of the Hercules C-130 aircraft pilots that flew to Entebbe in 1976 to rescue Israeli hostages. In 1986, he prepared El Al’s aircraft for Operation Solomon and captained the first Boeing 747 to land in Addis Ababa and actually carried home to Israel 1,087 Ethiopians on this flight – a record noted in the Guinness Book of Records.

Speaker’s Fee\$600

UJC Subsidy

- 50% of the fee
- 100% of the overseas portion of the trip, when on tour
- 50% of domestic travel

Community Responsibility

- 50% of the fee
- 50% of an equal share of domestic travel all local costs

Tour Dates

To be announced



ETH Ricki Rosen has worked as a photojournalist for more than 20 years, first in New York, now in Israel. She was a contract photographer for Time Magazine in Israel; her photographs have been published in Newsweek, People, the New York Times Magazine, Stern, Figaro, and various books and exhibitions.

Ms. Rosen began documenting the massive aliyah of Russian and Ethiopian Jews to Israel in 1990. She made three trips to Ethiopia, including the historic Operation Solomon. In 2004, she began “Transformations: From Ethiopia to Israel,” a project in which she photographed the same Ethiopian Jews whom she had photographed 13 years earlier.

Speaker’s Fee\$600

UJC Subsidy

- 50% of the fee
- 100% of the overseas portion of the trip, when on tour
- 50% of domestic travel

Community Responsibility

- 50% of the fee
- 50% of an equal share of domestic travel all local costs

Tour Dates

January 29-February 9



ETH Menberu Shimon was 13 when he and his 15-year-old sister were secretly brought to Israel. In Israel, Mr. Shimon attended the Amit boarding school, served in an IDF combat unit, and entered the Hebrew University where he studied education, sociology and anthropology.

While studying for his Bachelor’s Degree, Mr. Shimon worked with a group that facilitated social integration for minorities. After earning a Master’s in administration and policy, Mr. Shimon began working with the Israel Association for Ethiopian-Jews, an Ethiopian-led advocacy and service organization representing Israel’s Ethiopian community. In 2005, Mr. Shimon became JDC Director of Operations for the Atzmaut program in Jerusalem’s Neve Ya’akov neighborhood.

Speaker’s Fee\$400

UJC Subsidy

- 100% of the overseas portion of the trip, when on tour
- 50% of domestic travel

Community Responsibility

- 50% of an equal share of domestic travel all local costs

Tour Dates

To be announced



ETH Pnina Tamano arrived in Israel 20 years ago, at the age of three. The only memory she has is of the huge airplane that brought her family home.

Ms. Tamano began her education in a boarding school. In the army, she served in the Home Front Command Unit.

Determined to succeed, Ms. Tamano was accepted to Israel's largest law school at OAC-Ono Academic College. This year, she was elected vice chairman of the Ethiopian Student Union in Israel. She is also a volunteer at the Yoseftal Community Center in Petach Tikvah; and is studying to learn how to lead groups designed to empower young women. Ms. Tamano is also an accomplished singer.

Speaker's Fee\$400

UJC Subsidy

- 50% of the fee
- 100% of the overseas portion of the trip, when on tour
- 50% of domestic travel

Community Responsibility

- 50% of the fee
- 50% of an equal share of domestic travel
- all local costs

Tour Dates

To be announced

ETH Adissu Tzahai is the local ENP coordinator for Lod, Rehovot and Gedera. He made aliyah in 1984, when he was 9 years old, with his father, mother, and 11 brothers and sisters. His two youngest brothers died during the journey from Ethiopia.

Mr. Tzahai studied in the Maalot Youth Village, and then Yemin Orde from 9th grade. He entered the army in 1994, serving in the maintenance division, where he was responsible for an entire unit. Mr. Tzahai later earned a degree from Bar Ilan University in Political Science and Sociology. Mr. Tzahai has dedicated his career to helping Ethiopian immigrants and when, just a few months ago, his sister was murdered by her husband who then committed suicide, Mr. Tzahai's drive to help his community strengthened.

Speaker's Fee\$400

UJC Subsidy

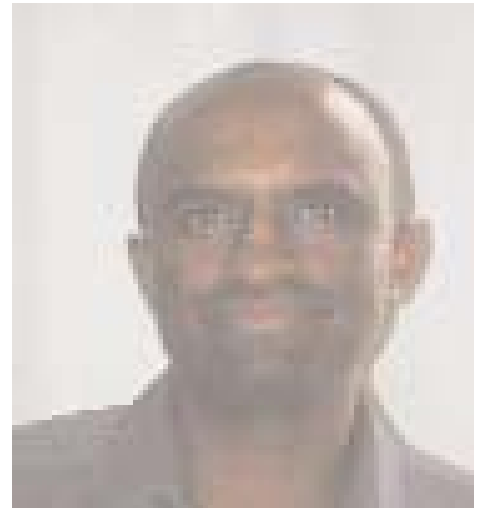
- 50% of the fee
- 100% of the overseas portion of the trip, when on tour
- 50% of domestic travel

Community Responsibility

- 50% of the fee
- 50% of an equal share of domestic travel
- all local costs

Tour Dates

To be announced



ETH Ezra (Zalalo) Yevarkan was born in 1978. In early 1984, his family hired a guide and began to walk towards the Sudanese border. It took four weeks to reach Sudan. En route, an aunt died and the family was robbed by bandits. They stayed in a Sudanese camp for several months, before finally arriving in Israel through Operation Moses in December.

Mr. Yevarkan was educated at Yeshiva Kfar Haroeh from which he graduated with honors, majoring in physics. In the 11th grade he joined a Youth Aliyah mission to Poland. After serving in the army, in October 2002, Mr. Yevarkan began his university studies at Bar-Ilan University and is now majoring in electrical engineering.

Speaker's Fee\$400

UJC Subsidy

50% of the fee
100% of the overseas portion of the trip, when on tour
50% of domestic travel

Community Responsibility

50% of the fee
50% of an equal share of domestic travel
all local costs

Tour Dates

To be announced

ETH Shmuel Yilma was born in 1968 and together with his family, was among the first Jews to leave Ethiopia via Sudan in 1980. He earned a BA in educational administration and an MA in educational counseling. He served in Israel's elite Paratroop Regiment. In 1991, Mr. Yilma was awarded special recognition by then Commander-in-Chief Ehud Barak. Mr. Yilma is also the author of "From Falasha to Freedom – An Ethiopian Jew's Journey to Jerusalem," published in 1996. When Mr. Yilma first started working with JDC, he was responsible for programs aimed to ease the culture shock among Ethiopian immigrants. Today, he is the JDC Director of Young Adult Programming for the Ethiopian-Israeli Community.

Speaker's FeeNo Fee

UJC Subsidy

100% of the overseas portion of the trip, when on tour
50% of domestic travel

Community Responsibility

50% of an equal share of domestic travel
all local costs

Tour Dates

To be announced



FSU Duo Dmitri are partners on and off the stage. Luba Agranosvsky and Dmitri Kasyuk were both born in Moscow, are graduates of the city's Gnessin Academy of Music. They moved to Jerusalem in 1990 with their very young daughter, and subsequently won both the Israel Broadcast Authority Competition (Jerusalem) and the Carlo Soliva International Chamber Music Competition (Italy). They have made numerous recordings for Israel Radio, Israel TV and a number of highly successful appearances with Israeli orchestras. Ms. Agranovsky and Mr. Kasyuk moved to the USA in 1997. They tell their poignant story, interwoven with their beautiful music.

Speaker's Fee\$800

UJC Subsidy
50% of the fee
50% of travel to the community

Community Responsibility
50% of the fee
50% of travel to the community
all local costs

Tour Dates
Available upon request



FSU Arieh Doobov is the JDC Special Advisor to the Executive Vice-President and works with senior JDC leadership to develop global strategy.

Prior to this position, Mr. Doobov served as Director of Special Projects in JDC's FSU Department where he was responsible for developing new programs, strategic and financial planning and donor relations. He also spearheaded JDC's pioneering Children's Initiative.

Born in Australia, Mr. Doobov was head of the Jewish student movement in Australia and New Zealand in 1991.

Speaker's FeeNo Fee

UJC Subsidy
50% of travel to the community

Community Responsibility
50% of travel to the community
all local costs

Tour Dates
Available upon request



FSU Leonid Feldman is a living example of the drama of modern Jewish history. He has experienced total assimilation, Jewish rebirth, violent anti-Semitism, imprisonment in Russia as a Zionist activist, and freedom in the West. The spiritual leader of Temple Beth El in West Palm Beach, Florida and CLAL Associate, Leonid Feldman is the first and only Soviet-born Conservative Rabbi in America. His emotional return to his hometown of Kishinev was featured on the NBC TODAY Show, and the Israeli National television. He also hosted a TV show on a Christian Cable channel in Florida for 2 years.

Speaker's Fee.....\$1500

UJC Subsidy
50% of travel to the community

Community Responsibility
100% of the fee
50% of travel to the community
all local costs

Tour Dates
Available upon request



FSU John Goldkrand is volunteer physician for Jewish Healthcare International (JHI), which provides missions to assist elderly Jews and the people who serve them in the former Soviet Union. These missions include doctors, dentists, and nurses from the United States and Israel. The missions consist of seminars for home healthcare workers and physicians involved in the care of the Jewish patients. In addition, patients are seen in a clinic on an outpatient basis, as well as those who are home bound.

Speaker's FeeNo Fee

UJC Subsidy
50% of travel to the community

Community Responsibility
50% of travel to the community
all local costs

Tour Dates
Available upon request



ETH /FSU Jerry Kobrin is a St. Paul ophthalmologist and a JHI volunteer. His first work by JHI included Ophthalmology help to the Ethiopians in Israel. Soon thereafter the work continued in Eastern Europe and the FSU. He and his wife have spent time in Ukraine and Belarus. During their last several trips she gave lectures at the Jewish center and helped in psychological evaluations. Similar programs exist also in Kiev, Kishinev and Riga. Many other medical specialties are now participating on a broad basis.

Speaker's FeeNo Fee

UJC Subsidy
50% of travel to the community

Community Responsibility
50% of travel to the community
all local costs

Tour Dates
Available upon request



FSU Jennifer Kraft was named JDC Director of Community Relations in 2002. In that capacity, she serves as a resource to American Jewish professional and lay leadership about global Jewish needs and JDC's programs.

Ms. Kraft has been with the JDC since 1994, when she was the recipient of the Ralph I. Goldman Fellowship in International Jewish Communal Service and conducted community development and Jewish educational projects for JDC in Bombay and Kiev.

Speaker's FeeNo Fee

UJC Subsidy
50% of travel to the community

Community Responsibility
50% of travel to the community
all local costs

Tour Dates
Available upon request

ETH /FSU Stephen S. Kutner is the co-founder and CEO of Project Vision, Inc., an organization dedicated to facilitating high-level professional vision care to communities with limited access to eye care in Israel, and to Jewish communities throughout the world. He is also the Medical Director of JHI. He has been a medical consultant to the JDC for many years and serves currently on its Medical Advisory Committee. He has spoken widely on the vision problems of the Jews of Ethiopia, and on the ongoing international programs of Project Vision in Romania, in the FSU, and in Israel.

Speaker's FeeNo Fee

UJC Subsidy
50% of travel to the community

Community Responsibility
50% of travel to the community
all local costs

Tour Dates
Available upon request

TO BOOK A SPEAKER

Please go to www.ujc/interoffice.org/speakers or call 212.284.6766



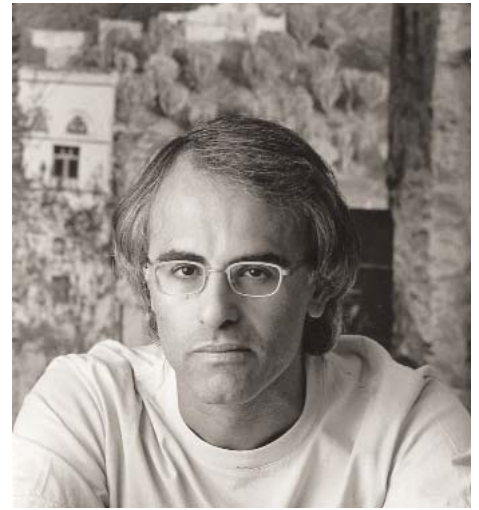
FSU **Michael L. Novick** was appointed JDC Executive Director for Strategic Development in December, 1999. In his position, Mr. Novick is responsible for leading efforts to build partnerships between Jewish federations and JDC's worldwide programs. Prior to his assuming this position, Mr. Novick was Executive Vice President of the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle for nearly 12 years. He previously served as Assistant Director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh; and began his professional career with the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland.

Speaker's FeeNo Fee

UJC Subsidy
50% of travel to the community

Community Responsibility
50% of travel to the community
all local costs

Tour Dates
Available upon request



FSU **Zion Ozeri**, whose Yemenite parents came to Israel on the famous Operation Magic Carpet, is one of the world's leading photojournalists. His photographs have appeared in The New York Times, Newsweek, The Jerusalem Report, The Jerusalem Post, Middle East Insight, as well as The Baltimore and The L.A Jewish Times.

Mr. Ozeri is on a life-long quest to document the Jewish world. He had been to Russia, Eastern Europe, many former Soviet Union Republics, the Middle East including Yemen, Africa, India, Central Asia, and Latin America.

Speaker's Fee.....\$1000

UJC Subsidy
50% of travel to the community

Community Responsibility
100% of the fee
50% of travel to the community
all local costs

Tour Dates
Available upon request



FSU Yelena Ralf may be among the more recognizable university students in Israel. She's the current Miss Israel. Born in Donetsk, Ukraine, in 1983, Yelena was a counselor at a Jewish Agency summer camp who made aliyah as part of the SELA program in 2001. In 2004, she became a model, and was crowned Miss Israel in 2005. She represented Israel at the Miss Universe contest in Bangkok, taking sixth place. Yelena is also studying political science at Tel-Aviv University.

Speaker's Fee\$600

UJC Subsidy

50% of the fee
100% of the overseas portion of the trip, when on tour
50% of domestic travel

Community Responsibility

50% of the fee
50% of an equal share of domestic travel
all local costs

Tour Dates

October 30 - November 10



FSU Scott Richman is the representative in New York for the JDC field activities in the former Soviet Union, including Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, and 10 other countries. This encompasses an area that stretches across eleven time zones and an estimated 1.5 million Jews. Mr. Richman's duties include frequent visits to the field.

Prior to joining JDC, he was an attorney at a Manhattan law firm. Prior to attending law school, Mr. Richman worked as financial analyst at Merrill Lynch for two years.

Speaker's FeeNo Fee

UJC Subsidy

50% of travel to the community

Community Responsibility

50% of travel to the community
all local costs

Tour Dates

Available upon request



FSU Alina Spaulding immigrated to this country in 1979 with the help of many federation-supported agencies. Her story is an inspirational, miracle story in which we each share a part – from the moment she left Ukraine until today, in her role as adopted mother to two Jewish teens from the FSU. Ms. Spaulding currently works for the Greensboro Jewish Federation as the Director of Outreach and Education. Her commitment to building community is realized each day as she works for the very agency that rescued her family more than 20 years ago.

Speaker's Fee.....\$3000

UJC Subsidy

50% of travel to the community

Community Responsibility

100% of the fee
50% of travel to the community
all local costs

Tour Dates

Available upon request



FSU Ronnie Vinnikov was born in the Ukraine in 1974 and made aliyah to Israel in 1990. After graduating from Israel's elite High School of Arts in Givataim in 1992, Mr. Vinnikov served in the IDF. In 1998, he graduated from Tel-Aviv University with a BA in sociology and anthropology. He is currently studying for his Masters in communications at the Hebrew University.

Mr. Vinnikov is the first Jewish Agency special emissary to Russian-speaking Jews in the United States. His mission: to develop educational and cultural projects for this audience as a means to strengthen their ties with Israel. Prior to that, Mr. Vinnikov was an assistant to the spokesman of the Jewish Agency.

Speaker's FeeNo Fee

UJC Subsidy

50% of travel to the community

Community Responsibility

50% of travel to the community
all local costs

Tour Dates

Available upon request

The Jewish federation community has time and again shown how we as a people rise to so many occasions. We live generously, we groom future leaders, we invest in our children, we demand justice for people who cannot advocate for themselves, we fund programs and services and emergency responses, and by our example we create a spirit of giving and hope that other communities only pray they can emulate. You are part of this generous, pluralistic, and big-hearted community that does so much good.

