



## NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Accomplished Community Leaders Join OFJCC Board of Directors Leading Cultural Arts and Community Center Also Elects New Chair

**Palo Alto, CA—July 23, 2019**—The Oshman Family Jewish Community Center, one of Silicon Valley's leading cultural arts venues and a nonprofit wellness and learning center that serves as an incubator of new expressions of Jewish identity, today announced its 2019-2020 Board of Directors. The diverse, 21-member group includes leaders from the fields of mental health and medicine, academia and venture capital.

The four new members of the OFJCC's Board of Directors announced today include:

**Sabrina Braham**, M.D. is a physician with a busy pediatric practice in Menlo Park who teaches medical students and residents at Stanford University School of Medicine. Dr. Braham graduated from UC Davis School of Medicine and completed her training at Stanford Children's Hospital. She is passionately committed to partnering with families to create a healthy, happy and balanced family life.

**Natara Garovoy**, Ph.D., MPH is the National Program Manager for Clinical Training and Best Practices in Women's Mental Health in the Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention with the Veterans Health Administration. In 2007, Dr. Garovoy founded and served as the Director of the Women's Counseling Center at the VA Palo Alto Health Care System. This center was recognized for outstanding service to Veterans by the City of San Jose and as a Center of Excellence by VA's Women's Health Services.

**Linda Kurz**, Ph.D. has worked at the Brookings Institution in Washington, DC, and earned a Ph.D. in political science from Stanford University. Dr. Kurz recently retired from her position as Project Manager for the Jewish Lives Biography Series, published by Yale University Press. Dr. Kurz is a past board president of Hillel at Stanford and Gideon Hausner Jewish Day School.

**Rich Strock**, an accomplished real estate investor, co-founded a Palo Alto community bank now known as Avidbank. In 2007, Strock joined Coupons.com as an independent board member and remained there for some 12 years. Rich is also an active investor, directly and indirectly through several funds and in an angel capacity. He has served as a founder of the Day Worker Center of Mountain View and on the international board of Riecken Community Libraries, an organization of libraries and community centers in Guatemala and Honduras.



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“Our new Directors are leaders who are making enormous community impact,” says Zack Bodner, the OFJCC’s Chief Executive Officer. “They bring deep knowledge of community resources for us to partner effectively and expand the good that we’re doing for our community. We are incredibly proud of how this talent will guide us in what we want to accomplish in the future.”

Outgoing Board Chair Nicole Rubin notes, “The OFJCC is a place where community leaders who serve as board members can apply their skill sets, think boldly, and make a positive impact on the community. Our board members join us out of a passion and commitment to the OFJCC mission. The OFJCC makes a difference every day in the social, cultural, educational and physical well-being of the community.”

With Rubin completing her term in June 2019, the OFJCC also announced the election of its current treasurer, Ric Rudman, as the incoming chair of the Board of Directors. No stranger to leadership at the JCC, Rudman was named Interim CEO of the OFJCC in 2013 following the departure of Alan Sataloff, serving in that role for seven months until the appointment of Zack Bodner as CEO, and he stayed on for the following year as the OFJCC’s chief operating officer.

A seasoned corporate and non-profit leader, Rudman was Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the Electric Power Research Institute in Palo Alto until 2006. He has served on many community boards, including as Board President at Congregation Beth Am and the Albert L. Schultz JCC, the predecessor agency to the OFJCC. Says Rubin, “I’m grateful to be able to hand this role to Ric. His experience as a leader and his knowledge of the JCC are exceptional. The leadership of the JCC is in good hands.”

Zack Bodner notes, “We’re at a point where we are able to take a deep dive into our mission to continue delivering innovative, high quality programs and events to the community. The depth of experience from these leaders aligns perfectly with that goal.”

The OFJCC serves more than twenty-five thousand people per week.

### **About the Oshman Family JCC**

The Oshman Family Jewish Community Center (OFJCC) on the Taube Koret Campus for Jewish Life serves the South Peninsula through educational, social, cultural, fitness, sports and other programs. The OFJCC is a multi-generational Jewish neighborhood where all are welcome and which fosters new personal and community connections through rich and rewarding experiences. The OFJCC provides a common ground for Jewish institutions, other local groups, organizations and individuals to work, learn and play together for the betterment of the whole community. The OFJCC’s registered trademark is Live Fully®. For more information, visit [www.paloaltojcc.org](http://www.paloaltojcc.org) or call (650) 223-8700.

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