

Dear Friends and Supporters,

We would like to thank you for participating in the **12th Annual Gala of the Iranian American Jewish Federation of New York (IAJF)** and to provide you with an update on the success of the event which was held on November 7, 2013 at Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center, New York City.

1,000 guests, including 300 young professionals, joined in celebrating the achievements of the IAJF and to show their solidarity with the State of Israel. This was an evening to remember, bringing together members of the Iranian Jewish community in New York, representatives of the government of Israel, local government officials, IDF officers and leaders of the community.

We were privileged to have with us H.E. **Ambassador Ron Prosor**, Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations. **Ambassador Ido Aharoni**, Consul General of Israel, provided special remarks on behalf of the State of Israel. The keynote speaker, the honorable **Ehud Olmert, former Prime Minister of Israel**, provided a powerful speech and captured the audience during a lively and forthright Q&A session. The entertainment for the evening consisted of a performance by a string quartet comprised of students from the Juilliard School, Curtis Institute, and McGill University.

The emotional part of the program was the story of a **true hero, Hanoch Budin**, an IDF veteran who lost his right arm during the 1982 war in Lebanon. He became a professional swimmer after his injury and won 8 Paralympic medals, 2 of them gold and broke 2 world records. The audience showed their pride and appreciation for Hanoch with a long standing ovation following his speech. His heroism, courage, and ability to overcome obstacles are an inspiration and a source of strength.

The IAJF also hosted a special **Rooftop After Party** at the Empire Hotel exclusively for young professionals who attended the Gala. Over 250 guests enjoyed cocktails and specialty hors d'oeuvres while engaging the division's leadership.

Due to the generosity of our community, the IAJF raised a record breaking \$3 million in connection with the 12th Annual Gala. **Since 2002, the IAJF has raised nearly \$29 million in contributions for the benefit of over 150 organizations**, primarily in Israel. IAJF also expanded its local support in recent years and distributed 27% of its funds locally.

We are proud of our community's accomplishments. Together we have improved and saved countless lives. Thank you for your continued support!

Best wishes to you and your family and happy Hanukkah.

Sincerely,

Board of Trustees

Iranian American Jewish Federation of New York



IAJF 12th Annual Gala at the Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center, NY City



String Quartet in Performance



Keynote Speaker Ehud Olmert, former Prime Minister of Israel



Ambassador Ido Aharoni, Consul General of Israel



Special guest Hanoch Budin, IDF Veteran and Paralympic Medalist



IAJF Board members with former Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Ambassador Ron Prosor



Young Leadership Division Roof Top After Party at the Empire Hotel, NY City