On November 4, 2015, IAJF held its 14th Annual Gala at Lincoln Center’s Alice Tully Hall in New York City. A packed house of nearly 1,000 guests were on hand to celebrate the achievements of the IAJF and to stand united with Israel.

The evening's emcee, comedian Elon Gold, warmed up the crowd with a rousing comedy act. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu delivered a personal message to the audience, thanking the IAJF for its lasting impact on the lives of many Israelis. Consul General of Israel in New York, Ambassador Ido Aharoni, spoke of the community's important work. Newly elected IAJF President Robert Kahen, took the guests into a journey of the famous melody, "Somewhere Over the Rainbow," whose true meaning is the dream of the land of Israel. When Israel was born the dream came true, exemplifying the true reason why we all gather for this meaningful event: to celebrate Israel and strengthen it!

One of the highlights of the evening was the honoring of IAJF Vice President Yosef Shahery for a lifetime of achievements, impact on the community and an unwavering support for Israel. A poignant video documenting Mr. Shahery's accomplishments gave a small glance on the life of a noteworthy leader and visionary.

A talented ensemble of the IDF Orchestra entertained the audience with a performance of traditional Israeli songs. The evening's keynote speaker, Ambassador Danny Danon, the new Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations, spoke about the ever increasing problem of violence against Israelis and his experiences at the United Nations. Following the event, the IAJF hosted an exclusive after-party for over 200 young professionals in Lincoln Center.

A record breaking $5 million was raised in 2015 due to the immense support of our community and the generosity of our honoree Mr. Yosef Shahery, who provided the biggest surprise of the evening by pledging $1 million. Total funds raised to date by the IAJF since 2002 now exceed $37 million, which has allowed the IAJF to benefit over 170 different organizations.

In all, the Gala brought together those whose hearts are filled with the love of Israel and who stand together as one.
IAJF board members with Ambassador Danny Danon, Major General Yaakov Ayish, Major General (Ret.) Meir Klifi-Amir and IDF soldiers

IAJF 14th Annual Gala at the Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center, NY City

Keynote Speaker, Ambassador Danny Danon, Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations

Greeting of Ambassador Ido Aharoni, Consul General of Israel in NY

Master of Ceremonies, Comedian Elon Gold

National Anthems performed by Sophie Saidmehr and IDF Orchestra

IDF Orchestra in Performance
Recognition of Gala Honoree, Mr. Yosef Shahery

The 14th Annual Gala Honoree, Mr. Yosef Shahery

IAJF Vice Chairman, Mr. Shahram Yaghoubzadeh

IAJF President, Mr. Robert Kahen

Young Leadership Division Executive Board Members, Ms. Sheeryn Kahen and Ms. Ashley Emrani

IAJF Vice President, Mr. Steven Khadavi