

IAJF 15th Annual Gala Recap

On November 16, 2016, IAJF held its **15th Annual Gala** at Lincoln Center's David Geffen Hall in New York City. Nearly 1,100 guests joined to celebrate the achievements of IAJF and to celebrate the two great nations of Israel and the United States.

Program highlights:

- The evening's emcee, **comedian Elon Gold** warmed up the crowd with a rousing comedy act.
- **The NYPD Ceremonial Unit Color Guard** performed the National Anthem.
- **Israel's President Reuven (Ruvi) Rivlin** delivered a personal video message, acknowledging the lasting impact of IAJF on Israel.
- **Consul General of Israel in New York, Ambassador Dani Dayan**, spoke of the community's important work.
- **USAF Para-rescue Medical Director, Lt. Col. Stephen Rush, M.D.** was presented with an award honoring the US Armed Forces and the brave airmen who daily save lives and protect the land of Liberty.
- **The Great Neck Public Schools Show Band** performed a memorable medley of "Fiddler on the Roof".
- **The evening's keynote speaker, Israel's Ambassador to the United States, H.E. Ron Dermer**, spoke about the strength of Israel and about the positive effect the Iranian Jewish community in NY has had on Israel.

IAJF President, Robert Kahen, shared with the audience the story of a poor young boy adopted by a Jewish family. He grew up to become a great composer, Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong, who recorded the famous song "*What a Wonderful World*". This song reflects the work of IAJF and its supporters despite all the challenges. In helping people in need, together, we have made this a *Wonderful World*.

A record breaking \$4.5 million was raised in 2016 due to the immense support of our community. Total funds raised to date by the IAJF since 2002 are now close to \$42 million, which has allowed the IAJF to benefit over 180 different organizations.





IAJF 15th Annual Gala at David Geffen Hall, Lincoln Center, NY City



Keynote Speaker, Ambassador Ron Dermer, Israel's Ambassador to the United States



Greeting of Ambassador Dani Dayan, Consul General of Israel in NY



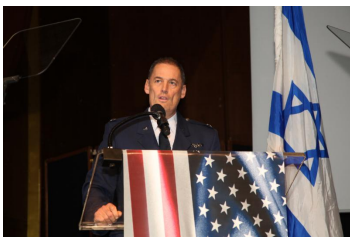
Master of Ceremonies, Comedian Elon Gold



National Anthems performed by NYPD Color Guard, Police Officer Jason Martinoff and soloist Noy Sossover



Great Neck Public Schools Show Band in Performance



Lt. Col. Stephen Rush, M.D., United States Air Force Para-rescue Medical Director



IAJF President, Mr. Robert Kahen



IAJF Vice President, Mr. Steven Khadavi

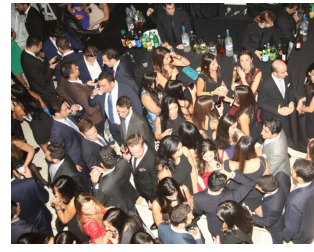




**Young Leadership Executive
Board Members, Ms. Sanam
Assil and Ms. Stephanie
Torkian**



IAJF Gala Reception



**IAJF Young Leadership
Gala After Party**