

IAJF 17th Annual Gala Recap

IAJF celebrated **Israel's 70th Anniversary** during its **17th Annual Gala** at Lincoln Center's David Geffen Hall in New York City on November 14, 2018. 1,100 guests joined to celebrate the achievements of the State of Israel during the past 70 years and the impact of IAJF during the past 17 years. The beauty and the success of the evening was evident by the attendance of more than 360 young professionals, a fantastic achievement that was emphasized during the powerful speech of **Ambassador Dani Dayan, Consul General of Israel in New York**. This is the main reason that we hold the Gala in New York City, which encourages young professionals to attend and learn more about Israel and our community.

It was a festive and exciting evening. We did, however, take a pause with **a moment of silence** and remember the eleven innocent people who lost their lives at the shooting in Tree of Life Synagogue, in Pittsburgh, PA on October 27, 2018 and the twelve people who also lost their lives in a senseless shooting in Thousand Oaks, CA on November 9, 2018. We want to share some of the evening's highlights:

- The evening started with emcee, **Comedian MODI** who warmed up the crowd with a rousing comedy act and finished with **Master Magician Tomer Duday**, winner of 2018 Israel's Got Talent.
- **FDNY Firefighter Regina Wilson** performed the Star-Spangled Banner.
- **IAJF President, Robert Kahen** talked about HOPE and the history of how Hatikvah became the official National Anthem of Israel only in November 2004. Then everyone rose to hear Israeli Soloist Nicole Raviv performing Hatikvah. Mr. Kahen concluded his speech with Israel's points of strength and IAJF's impact on Israel and our community.
- **A newly produced video** highlighted the work of IAJF, the connections to its recipient organizations, and the visits of board members during 2018.
- **Top Israeli Model Titi Ayenew** spoke about her Aliyah to Israel at the age of 12 after losing her parents, commanding 300 soldiers as a lieutenant in the IDF, and eventually becoming the 2013 Miss Israel and a symbol of pride for immigrants to Israel.

We are pleased to announce that **in 2018 IAJF raised over \$5.5 million!** This can be attributed to the immense support and incredible generosity of our community and people like you.





**IAJF 17th Annual Gala at
David Geffen Hall,
Lincoln Center, NY City**



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



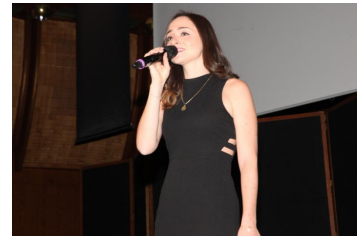
**2013 Miss Israel,
Titi Ayenew**



**Master of Ceremonies,
Comedian MODI**



**National Anthem performed
by FDNY soloist
Regina Wilson**



**Hatikvah performed by
Soloist Nicole Raviv**



**IAJF President,
Mr. Robert Kahen**



**IAJF Vice President,
Mr. Steven Khadavi**



**Young Leadership Executive
Board Members, Ms.
Chelsea Sassouni and Ms.
Sanam Assil**





Magician Tomer Duday



IAJF Gala Reception



**IAJF Young Leadership
Gala After Party**