

SILVER ANNIVERSARY EDITION

SHALOM

BRAWERMAN ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL WEST

of WILSHIRE BOULEVARD TEMPLE

ANNUAL
REPORT

2023-2024



BRAWERMAN WEST Parent Association

Shalom Brawerman!

In 2023-2024 our community came together in the most meaningful and incredible ways.

Throughout this unprecedented year, our Brawerman West Parent Association supported our school, our surrounding community, and Israel, our farther-away community. The highlights of the incredible work we accomplished were not possible without the amazing dedication and leadership of our PA committee Vice Presidents and all the other parent volunteers who committed their time throughout the year.

Our Room and Mitzvah Representatives helped our community in more ways than we can count! We always knew what our children had going on all year long with plenty of notice to plan, and we felt truly cared for in times of need and in celebration.

Jewish Celebrations provided us with heartfelt traditions and events from the *Rosh Hashanah* apple and honey taste test to *Chanukah* latke making, Passover model *sedarim*, and Israel's birthday. Each and every event made us feel like we were wrapped in a warm, *menschy* hug. The *Tikkun Olam* Committee worked tirelessly to organize food, toy, book, and clothing drives to give back to those in need. And a special call-out to everyone who volunteered for *Purim* held at Brawerman East. So many details and logistics were involved and the committee went above and beyond to make sure it was "the best day ever!"

Our Social Events Committee supported all of our PA events/meetings and worked hand in hand with other committees to create beautiful and memorable moments. The Faculty Appreciation team showed endless creativity to help make our teachers and administrators feel extra love with special lunches, coffee carts, taco trucks, and surprise treats from September through June.

Our year would not have been the same without the tireless dedication of our Fundraising team! We had an epic week in November with the three



Carrie Rifkin and Stephanie Teitelbaum
PA Co-Presidents

Bs: Book Fair, Boutique, and Bake Sale. And somehow in the middle of the Bs events, we hosted a fantastic Grandparents and Special Friends Day. In late spring, we also had our memorable Pier Night. The night buzzed with excitement from current students, faculty, and alumni, all of whom enjoyed endless rides, games, and treats.

Four behind the scenes committees that worked tirelessly all year long included Logo Wear, which kept our Brawerman spirit strong and on-trend; Library, which reshelved all the returned books so they could be rechecked out; Lost & Found, which got favorite items back to our kiddos week after week; and Challah, which always made celebrating Shabbat easier and even more special.

And last but never least, everyone's favorite—Sports Day! This year was another special day shared with Brawerman East filled with camaraderie, spirit for days, and endless games—from hoops and obstacle courses, to a home-run derby and bouncies—and it could not have happened without all of the support from the committee and the huge number of parent volunteers.

On behalf of the Brawerman West PA, we thank you all for your time, energy, and unwavering commitment. Your countless volunteer hours make us more than an excellent school. You make us a community that always goes above and beyond. Saying that we are appreciative doesn't even begin to describe how grateful we are for all of you.

Thank You and *Shalom*,

Carrie Rifkin and Stephanie Teitelbaum
PA Co-Presidents





MESSAGE FROM

The Head of School

Our theme for the 2023-2024 school year was *shalom*, or peace. When we picked the theme back in late June 2023, we did it with intention, seeing it as an appropriate landing pad after the tumult and challenges of the Covid years. It took on a whole new meaning after the events of October 7, 2023. We all have been praying for peace, but with the ongoing threats in Israel and upticks in antisemitism around the world and domestically, especially on college campuses, *shalom*—as defined as the absence of war or strife—is not something we can readily expect any time soon.

Nonetheless the theme of *shalom* was highly relevant to how we felt about our school and our community this past school year. *Shalom* in Judaism means more than just the absence of war or strife; it means finding a state of serenity and harmony. I felt it at every event we had as a community during the school year—the Israel fundraisers hosted by Brawerman families, the vigils, the guest speaker sessions, the *Yom* commemorations at the end of the school year, and the meetings with our families and faculty. When we were together, we felt differently. We felt peace; we felt *shalom*. We were more serene; we were more harmonious.

It is of course not enough that Brawerman be a place for our families to come together during difficult times. We have to be an outstanding school, and the Brawerman educational program is as strong as it has ever been. We are fortunate to have an ideal mix of passionate teachers to make up our faculty, loaded with teachers who have 20 plus years of experience, many mid-career educators, and a handful of newer teachers in their first few years of teaching. Keeping our talented educators and attracting new faculty continues to be an area that we are focused on, and, with the support of our parents' generous giving and the support of the WBT Board of Trustees, we have continued to make competitive compensation for new and returning faculty a top priority. This is an area that will require ongoing attention as the new teacher pipeline has been shrinking, and it is an area that Temple leadership and I are laser focused on.

Under the authentic and warm leadership of our Director of Admissions Lindy Goldberg, the last several years of enrollment have had robust application pools and the most selective admissions processes in the history of the school. Lindy's work, along with strong advocacy from our parents, has created an admissions

process where there have been growing numbers of families who make us their first choice school. This is a reflection on not only the quality of our programs, but also on the quality of our community. Families want to be here, where the sense of purpose and belonging are so strong.

Part of Brawerman's strength comes from being a part of Wilshire Boulevard Temple, which provides us the leadership and resources to perform at the highest levels. I have the pleasure of working closely with the Temple leadership team that includes Senior Rabbi Steve Leder, Incoming Senior Rabbi Joel Nickerson, Executive Director of Education Naomi Reem, Executive Director Donna Nadel, Wilshire Boulevard Temple Board President Scott Edelman, and the Chair of the Education and School Governance Committee Claire Goldsmith. These Temple leaders not only serve our school and Temple well, but they also push me and the Brawerman administrators to be better leaders, and I am grateful to be part of such a powerhouse team.

Part of that Temple strength is the clergy who are involved in the schools. At our grade level coffees earlier in the school year, parents had the opportunity to meet the Wilshire Clergy who have a classroom presence where they build real connections with our students. Our Rabbis and Cantors provide students an opportunity to connect with a clergy member, the *Torah*, and text study in a powerful manner. This is where those Jewish roots are being grown, where Jewish knowledge is being expanded, and where Jewish pride is blossoming.

Brawerman is a place where students graduate as proud and knowledgeable Jews, and we have been doing it for 25 years. From the day this school was founded under our first head of school Nadine Breuer, we have ended every week the same way, singing arm in arm to the song *Hashkiveinu*. This tradition is the very essence of who we are, and we have been doing it here since 1999.

The *Hashkiveinu* prayer is usually recited at night before bedtime as a call for a peaceful, protected night of rest. It calls on God to provide a shelter of peace over you as you sleep. We sing this on Friday afternoons during our *Kabbalat Shabbats* before students head home for the weekend. Every Brawerman student knows that this is the ritual that brings closure to the school week and signals the start of *Shabbat*. When we bring alumni together, this is what we sing together. When our Grade 6 students stand on the *bima* for the last time before graduating, this is the moment we cry together. And when I look around the room when we sing *Hashkiveinu* each week at *Shabbat*, it's palpable how it fills us all up with feelings of purpose, belonging, connectedness, and ultimately, peace. We live in difficult times, but I am grateful to be able to live it with you, and with Brawerman as our Shelter of Peace.

We are facing an existential moment in time—for Israel and for Jews. Brawerman has always been important. We needed Brawerman before; we need Brawerman now; and we will need Brawerman forever. *Am Yisrael Chai*.

BRANDON COHEN

Brawerman WEST SPOTLIGHTS



STUDENT COUNCIL

The 2023-2024 school year had over 50 students from Grades 4-6 join Student Council and run for elected positions including Treasurer, Secretary, Vice President, and President. Led by co-advisors Adena Loewenthal and Nicole Schoneman, members formed various committees from Spirit Week to Bake Sale! This year we also saw the addition of the Charity and Donation Committee. This committee was founded by students and rooted in our *tikkun olam* values. Throughout the year, this committee worked together to raise over \$2,000 in bake sales and Brawerman Teddy Bear sales, which was then donated to support the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) in Israel. We are so proud of all our Brawerman leaders accomplished as they collaborated and planned to bring their ideas into reality.



DEBATE

Brawerman's Debate Team competed in their very first tournament during the 2023-2024 school year and took home multiple wins! Debate is a mix of writing, research skills, public speaking, and analytical thought. Our debate students spent months learning how to argue both for and against multiple topics, such as the electoral college and whether or not tipping and college tuition should be eliminated. Our students provided assertions, reasons, and evidence while simultaneously arguing against and refuting their competitors' main ideas. We could not be more proud of our inaugural Brawerman Debate Team for setting such a high bar in both poise and performance!

"We are so proud of Brawerman and our debaters who participated in their first tournament. [It] wasn't about how they scored or who won or what the topics were, but rather each child's individual development from round to round, learning new skills, getting more comfortable, and trying to be a better version of themselves by the end of the day. They absolutely accomplished that and Ms. Edson and Ms. Hugo were incredible coaches; encouraging, positive, and so supportive of the kids and the beginning of what can and should be an important program for Brawerman to build on."

- Jennifer & Eric Kaufman, Parents of Ashley Kaufman, Class of 2024

STEAM NIGHT

The 2023-2024 STEAM Night was a huge success and was enjoyed by the entire Brawerman community. The evening featured Brawerman teachers, UCLA's Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honors Society students, Parker Anderson Enrichment, and ReDiscover Center. Guests made elephant toothpaste, weaved yarn, and erupted lemon volcanoes on Leder Playground while the courtyard was filled with short-burst science activities. The chapel was active with young scientists experimenting with hexbugs, radial symmetry, ink tiles, Isaac Newton color disks, lava lamps, squishy circuits, invertoscopes, dash robots, and geoplanes. Young doctors stopped by the Teddy Bear Hospital to wrap wounds, wear stethoscopes, and take temperatures. Students honored Israel by making *Am Yisrael Chai* bracelets for themselves and their loved ones. It was an incredible community-building event where our students and their families got to discover the wonders of science, technology, engineering, art, and math.



BLAZE ATHLETICS

The 2023-2024 school year was a huge success for Brawerman Blaze athletics. Our fall, winter, and spring seasons had over 200 student athletes representing Brawerman. Our athletics philosophy—fostering good sportsmanship, skill development, and fun—shined throughout all seasons. The fall season had our Grades 4, 5, and 6 co-ed flag football teams go a combined 24-4. The winter season saw our three basketball teams go a combined 28-4, including an undefeated season for our Grade 4 boys! Lastly, our two co-ed soccer teams had a combined record of 11-4. Coach Barry, Coach Kamer, and Coach Levenson were proud to coach our athletes as their actions embodied respect for teammates, opponents, and officials. Go Blaze!

GRADE 4

SACRAMENTO

Grade 4 had an exciting time watching history leap from their textbook to real life with a trip to Sacramento. Students donned their hard hats and explored the mines of the Mother Lode in the Gold Bug Mine, watched the hammer hit the anvil at a blacksmith shop, panned for gold, and learned that gold was extracted from quartz. Students explored Old Town Sacramento, including an underground archaeological site that showed how the streets were raised to protect the city from devastating flooding. After a stop at the California State Railroad Museum to learn about the building of the railroad and explore old-fashioned locomotives, students ended the day by climbing aboard a horse-drawn wagon to tour the town. The Sacramento trip is the first overnight trip at Brawerman, which marks a critical turning point in students' development, maturity, and independence.



GRADE 5

ASTROCAMP

Grade 5 students had a stellar time enhancing their scientific knowledge and personal growth by attending an overnight, three-day trip to Astrocamp. Astrocamp is an exceptional outdoor science school program designed for students to explore the principles of physics and astronomy in a fun and interactive way. Some highlights from the trip include using lights and lasers to learn about the light spectrum and experiencing the thrilling Skyscraper ride. Students gazed at the stars using high-powered telescopes and observed the sun through a special telescope. Students also participated in a late-night scavenger hunt where they worked together to find clues and complete challenges. Overall, this trip was an excellent opportunity for Grade 5 students to broaden their scientific knowledge, build their independence, and bond with one another.

BOSTON

Grade 5 spent five fulfilling days learning, growing, and exploring the historic city of Boston. One of the trip's highlights was visiting Plymouth to explore the Plimoth Patuxet Museum, where students entered the world of the indigenous and colonial people who lived, worked, and built communities along the exact shores in the 1600s. Another student favorite was a visit to Salem. Students visited the Gallows Hill Museum, where they were transported back in time for a theater performance inspired by the Salem Witch trials.

Other experiences included walking through the Old North Church, visiting Paul Revere's house, riding a duck boat through Boston Harbor, going to the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate, and spending time at Lexington and Concord. Students even attended a Boston Red Sox game at Fenway Park, where they made it onto the jumbotron! Grade 5 ended their jam-packed week with a meaningful moment at the New England Holocaust Memorial. The Grade 5 Boston trip was an incredibly memorable experience for all who participated.

GRADE 6

ISRAEL WEEK

When the class of 2024's Grade 6 trip to Israel was canceled following the atrocities of October 7, Brawerman made it our mission to create a meaningful alternative Israel experience for students. Led by Elhanan Brown, our Israel Engagement Specialist who flew in from Israel for the week, Grade 6 students from both Brawerman West and East experienced the next best thing to traveling to Israel: spending a week of school immersed in Israel-related learning and experiences. Students made hand-dipped candles inspired by the city of Tzfat, participated in a drum circle akin to those at the Bedouin tents, negotiated at a "shuk" for Israeli treats, dug for archeological treasures, and learned about the diversity of Israeli society. Throughout Israel Week, students fostered a meaningful connection with and deep love for Israel. Even though they did not get the chance to physically leave the country, students still had the opportunity to cultivate relationships with each other, across campuses, and with their Jewish homeland. Brawerman looks forward to taking the Class of 2024 to Israel in the future.



NATIONAL PARKS

In lieu of going to Israel this year, Grade 6 embarked on a weeklong adventure to Utah and Arizona to explore our beautiful National Parks. Students hiked the majestic canyons at Bryce Canyon and the Grand Canyon and enthusiastically floated down the Colorado River where they passed Horseshoe Bend, looking at 1.1 million-year-old cliffs. The last stop was Sedona, where students were blessed to have the entire magnificent sanctuary of the Jewish Community of Sedona and the Verde Valley as their Brawerman prayer space. With journals in one hand and prayer books in the other, students reflected on their incredible journey—not just on the trip but also on their collective years at Brawerman—as they looked through the prayer book for a poem or prayer they connected with. The National Parks trip was an inspiring cumulative experience for our students, full of breathtaking sites and spiritual connections.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Romy Harari



How did your education at Brawerman help solidify your connection to Judaism and Israel?

My education at Brawerman helped me nurture a deep and connected relationship with my Jewish identity. Beginning at a young age, I was able to participate in Jewish traditions and rituals such as keeping *Shabbat* every Friday and observing each Jewish holiday. Brawerman helped not only to create the foundation of my role in the Jewish community, but also to foster and grow my Jewish identity.

How have you advocated for Israel since October 7?

Since October 7 I have been a part of many charity drives that help raise funds for the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) and the innocent civilians in Israel. I have also continued my work in educating younger generations of the atrocities that transpired during the Holocaust through the David Labkovski project. Rabbi Ben-Naim invited me to speak to Grades 4-6 Brawerman students about the project on *Yom HaShoah* this past school year, which was a meaningful and full-circle moment for me.

Can you share about the Ellie Lainer Youth Leadership Award that you won?

The Ellie Lainer Youth Leadership Award in Holocaust Education is presented to a student who demonstrates leadership and commitment to Holocaust education. I was fortunate enough to bring the David Labkovski Project to my school, Harvard-Westlake, and lead a meaningful assembly with approximately 700 people for *Yom HaShoah*. I was able to share my knowledge of the Holocaust through a survivor's art pieces and share the messages of life, survival, tolerance, acceptance, and the importance of bearing witness to history with my peers.

To learn more about the David Labkovski Project, go to: <https://davidlabkovskiproject.org>

What is a key takeaway you took from your time at Brawerman?

A lesson I have taken with me from my time at Brawerman has been the character trait of being a *mensch* and upholding the *Mensch Code*. This has taught me to go through life with a mindset of not only respecting others, but also providing care, empathy, and support to those in my community who need it.

Brawerman West Leadership



Brandon Cohen
Head of School



Nadine Zysman
Assistant Head
of School &
Principal



Rabbi Elissa
Ben-Naim
Director of Jewish
Life & Learning



Jenn Palmer
Assistant
Principal



Andrea Weinstein
Assistant
Principal



Michelle Handzo
Director of
Learning Support



Lindy Goldberg
Director of
Admissions



Erin Jacobs
Director of
Operations



Gilad Weisner
Director of Special
Programming

MESSAGE FROM

Rabbi Steven Z. Leder

Pritzker Chair, Senior Rabbis



The best time to plant a tree is 25 years ago. The second best time is now. Twenty-five years ago we planted a seedling called Brawerman Elementary School. For two decades we have enjoyed the fruit of that slow growing, carefully nurtured tree. We see it at secondary schools all across Los Angeles, where admissions directors thank us for the *mensch*es we send them and where our students thrive as learners and leaders. We see it on our college campuses where Brawerman graduates are part of the proud, fearless, thoughtful, and tenacious Jews standing up to Jew hatred in the aftermath of October 7. We see it when our students are defenders of Israel and the Jewish people at work and on social media. We see it in the kindness of our graduates and the comfort of them knowing Wilshire Boulevard Temple will always be their home. We chose a great time to plant that first tree 25 years ago—it truly is a Tree of Life. We planted again when we established Brawerman East, an incredible community of Jewish learning and pride. We will keep on planting, protecting, and watching the next generation burst into blossom...the future fruit of our hearts and souls...sweet as honey on our tongue.

Wilshire Boulevard Temple Clergy



Rabbi Elissa
Ben-Naim



Rabbi David
Eshel



Rabbi Susan
Nanus



Rabbi Joel
Nickerson



Cantor Lisa
Peicott



Cantor Kerith
Spencer-Shapiro



Rabbi Joel
Simonds



Rabbi Hannah
Elkin



Cantorial Intern
Aliya Stuart



Rabbinic Intern
Jeff Silverstein

Wilshire Boulevard Temple Schools Leadership



Naomi Reem
Executive Director
of Education



Noa Grant
Director of School
Communication



Rebecca Spain
Director of
Advancement



Jayme Zahavi
Associate Director
of Advancement



Oriana Horowitz
Chief of Staff

MATRICULATION

OUR ALUMNI
HAVE ATTENDED **MORE THAN 75** DIFFERENT COLLEGES ✓

American University
Art Center College of Design
Bard College
Barnard College
Belmont University
Boston College
Boston University
Boulder Business School
Brown University
Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo
California State University,
Northridge
Carleton College
Carnegie Mellon University
Chapman University
Claremont McKenna College
Colby College
Colgate University
Colorado College
Columbia University
Cornell University
Dartmouth College
Drexel University
Elon University
Emory University
Eugene Lang College
FIDM
George Washington University

Georgia Institute of Technology
Hamilton College
Harvard University
Indiana University
Ithaca College
Kenyon College
Lehigh University
Lewis and Clark College
Loyola Marymount University
Michigan State University
Middlebury College
New York University
Northeastern University
Northwestern University
Oregon State University
Otis College of Art and Design
Parsons School of Design
Pitzer College
Pomona College
Princeton University
Purdue University
Rhode Island School of Design
Rutgers University
San Jose State University
Scripps College
Southern Methodist University
Stanford University
Syracuse University

Texas A&M University
Tufts University
Tulane University
University of Arizona
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, Riverside
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of California, Santa Cruz
University of California, San Diego
University of Chicago
University of Colorado, Boulder
University of Denver
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of Oregon
University of Pennsylvania
University of Richmond
University of Southern California
University of St. Andrews
University of Texas at Austin
University of Vermont
University of Wisconsin
Vanderbilt University
Washington University in St. Louis
Wesleyan University

Brawerman West students matriculate to top-tier independent schools in Los Angeles.

Secondary Schools	2022-2024
The Archer School for Girls	4
Brentwood School	19
Crossroads School	10
Harvard-Westlake School	15
Milken Community School	28
Windward School	22
Public	6
Other*	8
TOTAL	112

*1-2 student(s) between 2022-2024 has matriculated to the following schools:

The Buckley School, Campbell Hall, Geffen Academy, Marlborough School, and Wildwood School.

Mazal tov TO THE **Brawerman West Alumni Class OF 2018!**



THEY ARE ATTENDING THE FOLLOWING COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES:

Columbia University
George Washington University
Lehigh University
Loyola Marymount University
New York University
Northeastern University
Northwestern University
Southern Methodist University

Syracuse University
Texas A&M University
Tufts University
Tulane University
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, Santa Barbara

University of Michigan
University of Pennsylvania
University of Richmond
University of Texas at Austin
Wesleyan University
University of Wisconsin - Madison

Alumni Sushi and Shmooze



BRAWERMAN WEST

GRANDparents

We are thrilled to thank our Brawerman West GRANDparents* for their generous support of our 2023-2024 Annual Giving Campaign. Purposeful connections with grandparents enrich our school community. By connecting *l'dor v'dor*, from generation to generation, we make personal meaning of the world we live in. We look forward to the expansion of this valuable program as it furthers the reach and scope of our school experience while providing additional layers of love and joy to our Brawerman extended family members.

Halina and Alan Alter (Sam Kleinman, '27; Grant Kleinman, '30)
Martha and Barry Berkett (Madison Dragoon, '28; Asher Dragoon, '30)
Lynette and Derek (z"l) Brown (Liv Altshule, '25; Winston Altshule, '27)
Susan and Michael Castle (Madeleine Ross, '26; James Ross, '30)
Betty Cota (Levi Teitelbaum, '27; Eli and Ezra Teitelbaum, '28)
Helen and Gary Dosik (Kayla Nickerson, '22; Rebecca Nickerson, '25)
Barbara and Roger Fieldman (Noah Epstein, '28; Ryan Epstein, '30)
Janet and Bill Glucksman (Sam Glucksman, '22; Henry Glucksman, '24;
Grace Glucksman, '26)
Michal and Zvi Gutentag (Benjamin Hynick, '26; Jake Hynick, '29)
Robin and William Haber (Oliver Sands, '30)
Roger and Susan Hertog (Hannah Hertog, '30)
Rhonda and John Jacobs (Noa Bornstein, '27; Mati Bornstein, '30)
Linda F. Lynn (Eden Lynn, '20; Talia Lynn, '24)
Fran and Joel Parker (Bernie Zysman, '23; Taryn Zysman, '25; Jac Zysman, '29)
Linda and Bill Rouse (Hudson Messinger, '25; Aiden Messinger, '29)
Corrine and Lenny Sands (Isabel Sands, '27; Noa Sands, '29; Oliver Sands, '30)
Theodore Schwartz (Samuel Schwartz, '26; Cameron Schwartz, '29)
Sandy and Morrie Symson (Londyn Ozur, '24; Harper Ozur, '25)
Gerry Teitelbaum (Levi Teitelbaum, '27; Eli and Ezra Teitelbaum, '28)
Penny and John Wallerstein (Jaxon Silverstein, '28)
Betty and Ross Winn (Brodie Dorfman, '28)
Diane and Howard Wohl (Hudson Wohl, '30)



*Brawerman GRANDparents donated a minimum of \$1,800 to this year's Annual Giving Campaign.

Fundraising & Engagement



Rebecca Spain
Director of
Advancement

Jayme Zahavi
Associate Director
of Advancement

The 2023-2024 school year was not what we expected. With the horrific events of October 7 and our minds and hearts completely with Israel, we made the decision to put off the launch of our Annual Giving Campaign. We were unsure how successful our campaign would be taking into consideration the tragedy unfolding in our Jewish homeland. Unsurprisingly, the Brawerman community showed an outpouring of love and support to Israel while continuing to make Brawerman, as well as the overall security at Wilshire Boulevard Temple, a top priority. We are thankful to our community for supporting Israel and Brawerman, recognizing how critical it is, now more than ever, to have a thriving Jewish Day School.

Brawerman West and Wilshire Schools East (Brawerman East and Glazer ECC) had separate Annual Giving Campaigns for the first time ever this year. While we didn't quite reach our goal of \$1.6 million, Brawerman West raised more on its own than it has ever raised before for our Annual Giving Campaign! This is a true testament to the strength and dedication of our community. Thank you to the Annual Giving Co-Chairs, as well as the members of our Endowment Committee. Your support, along with the generosity of the entire Brawerman community—including current parents, alumni parents and former students, grandparents, faculty, and even current students—allowed us to bridge the budget gap and engage in additional programming and fieldtrips throughout the school year. Most importantly, your generosity helps ensure that Brawerman will be here for decades to come.



Renovated the field
with beautiful new synthetic grass—
now known as the
**SCHWARTZ FAMILY
TURF FIELD**



The turf provides a big upgrade to a premium open space on the Brawerman campus. This will truly benefit the students, faculty, athletics, and other important events throughout the school year. We are proud that the community now has a place that can be used and utilized, to its full potential, for many years to come.

- GINA AND TODD SCHWARTZ



70 Families

joined the Brawerman Giving Circle by donating gifts of

\$10,000+

to Brawerman's Annual Giving Campaign

HOSTED AN
Alumni Sushi and Shmooze
for the Brawerman
Class of 2018 Graduates



MORE THAN
\$75,000

in **NEW** endowment gifts and pledges

RAISED MORE THAN

\$1.51 Million

for our Annual Giving Campaign

to help pay operational costs, update the school's facilities, enhance programming, and provide professional development opportunities for our staff

MORE THAN

\$105,000

from Brawerman grandparents and alumni families

HOSTED

A Brunch and Learn event for grandparents

about the school's history and celebrating Brawerman's 25 year anniversary with Head of School Brandon Cohen and Rabbi Elissa Ben-Naim



Endowment

Brawerman currently has **more than \$9.8 million** in cash and legacy pledges.

A robust endowment is an essential component for independent schools in a landscape of rising tuition costs and scholarship requests. It also allows us to support families and areas of need for Brawerman during times of crisis. This fund is a source of long-term support for the school. The principal is invested and the yearly interest may be used to:

- Provide financial assistance
- Retain and recruit faculty
- Stabilize tuition
- Fund programs

Both Annual Giving and Endowment are critical to Brawerman's success:

- Annual Giving raises funds from all school families every year for current use
- Endowment provides for the future

Endowment gifts of \$25,000 and above will be recognized on our legacy walls on both campuses as well as in Brawerman and Wilshire Boulevard Temple publications. Opportunities are also available to endow special programs at the school.

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE



Margo Freedman, Rochelle Glucksman, Stephanie Lipson, Joli Altshule, Kara Slater, Jessica Rosenberg, Brad Slater
Not Pictured: Lauryn Harris, Gretchen Klein, and Marsha Levin

This is a school we love.
Let's ensure its future.

CHAMPION

\$1,000,000+

Geri and Richard (z"l) Brawerman
Dana and Richard Pachulski
Talia and Jason Rimokh
The Shirken Family

LEADER

\$500,000 - \$999,999

Goldhirsh-Yellin Foundation,
in Memory of Bernard and
Wendy Goldhirsh

BUILDER

\$100,000 - \$249,999

Joli, Andrew, Liv, and Winston Altshule
Nadine Breuer Retirement Event
de Toledo Family Scholarship Fund
Rochelle and Jacob Glucksman
Goldstein and Fridman Families
Gretchen and Jon Klein
The Lipson Family
The Silber Family Foundation
The Sklaver Family

BENEFACTOR

\$50,000 - \$99,999

The Joseph Alexander Foundation
Brodyn, Skylar, and Georgia Bana
The Heald Family
The Samuel Family
Payam, Pegah, Kyle, Leah, and
Jaden Shahian
The Ullendorff Family

SUPPORTER

\$25,000 - \$49,999

Abrams Family Foundation
The Alpern Family
Allison and Larry Berg
The Berman Family
Brawerman Alumni Association Fund
Brawerman Parent Association
Nadine and Steve Breuer
Robin and Elliott Broidy
Lynette and Derek (z"l) Brown
Shelly and Mike Cohen and Fran and
Joel Parker, in Memory of Sylvia and
Mayer Gutman
The Essey Family
Sherri and John Fogelman
Julie Monkarsh Gadinsky
Suzanne and Jacob Gehl
Bill and Janet Glucksman
Margo E. Freedman and
David B. Goldman
Lonnie Levi Israel
Opal and David Judaken
Marsha and Fredrick Levin
Marcia and Doug Mankoff
Fred and Sharon Monempour
Lauryn Harris and Greg Pimstone
Orit and Nadav Ravid
Michelle and Marc Rosenbach
Caleb Rosenblum '16 and
Micah Rosenblum '21
The Rosman Family, in Memory of
Lily and Don Rosman
The Sabet Family
Lauren and Anton Schiff
Kara and Brad Slater
Caroline and Robby Soofer
Amy and Jeffrey P. Straus
The Waters Family

MORE THAN

\$9.8 Million in cash and legacy pledges

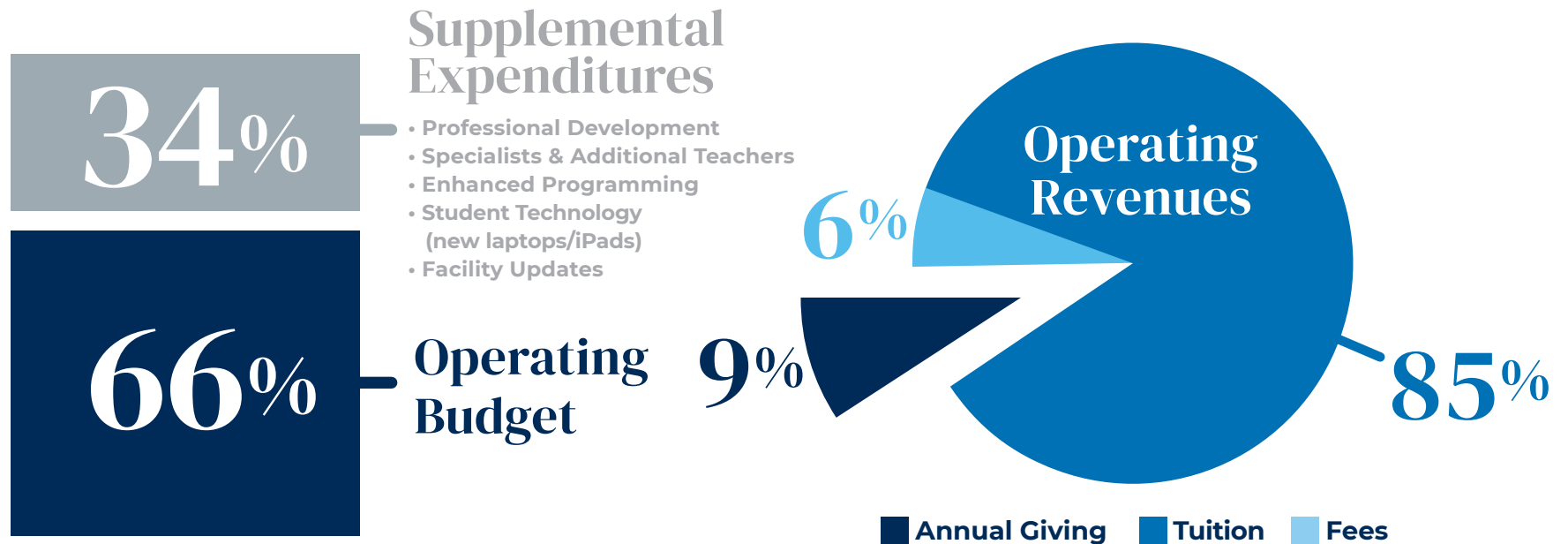
2023-2024

Annual Giving Campaign

Raised \$1,517,836

Brawerman West's Annual Giving Campaign raised more than \$1.5 million. Of this amount, \$1 million went toward Brawerman West's operating budget, while the remaining balance was used for supplemental expenditures.

The funds raised during the Annual Giving Campaign are vital to every part of the annual operating budget and enable Brawerman West to continue growing and making investments in our facilities, education specialists, new teachers and administrators, and ongoing, enhanced programs for our students.



Annual Giving Campaign

2023-2024

Brawerman West reached 98% participation from families and nearly reached our financial goal!

We raised \$1,517,836 to help pay operation costs, update the school's facilities, provide professional development opportunities for our staff, and so much more.



Annual Giving Co-Chairs:

Ghazal & Houman Bana, Bryce & Jason Ozur, Joli & Andrew Altshule

Brawerman West Giving Circle

VISIONARY

(\$50,000+)

Anonymous
Goldhirsh-Yellin Foundation
Dorit and Adir Haroni
Jason and Talia Rimokh
Gina and Todd Schwartz

BUILDER

(\$36,000-\$49,999)

Joli and Andrew Altshule
Charlotte and Gary Gilbert
Kara and Brad Slater

BENEFACTOR

(\$25,000-\$35,999)

Ghazal and Houman Bana
The Lavi Family
Pegah and Payam Shahian
Steven and Stephanie Teitelbaum

PILLAR

(\$18,000-\$24,999)

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Beldegrun Family Foundation
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Nahal and Kevin Danesh
Alison and Ben Levine
Marc and Stefanie Lipson
Bryce and Jason Ozur
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LEADERSHIP

(\$10,000-\$17,999)

The Joseph Alexander Foundation
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Kelly and Matt Sloan
The Taylor Family
Deborah and David Tractenberg
Jessica Kronstadt and Will Turner
Alyssa and Steve Weinberger
Pamela Wohl
The Yadegar Girls

Annual Giving Campaign

2023-2024

PATRON

(\$7,200-\$9,999)

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Monica and Keith Dragoon
Marianna and Yoel Flohr
Alli and Jeff Kleinman
Imbar and Stuart Lebowitz
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Michael Nussbaum
Charlotte and Rick Offsay
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Golnaz and Kayvon Rouhani

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Schuyler and Michael Schwimer
Dori and Larry Simon
Gimena and Ben Soleimani
Caroline and Robby Soofer

SUPPORTER

(\$3,600-\$7,199)

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Lia and Gabe Barenfeld
Abby and Reuben Berman
Megan and Craig Bloom

Jayme and Adam Bolden
Niousha Mehrannia and
Mark Broumand
Lynette and Derek (z"l) Brown
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 (up to \$3,599)

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 Rebecca Gottfried
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Annual Giving Campaign

2023-2024

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Every effort is made to ensure accuracy.
If you find an error please contact
Jayme Zahavi at jzahavi@wbta.org.



Thank you

TO THE ENTIRE BRAWERMAN WEST COMMUNITY FOR YOUR GENEROSITY.

We deeply appreciate your support and commitment to this campaign.
We could not have succeeded without each and every one of you!

BRAWERMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

of WILSHIRE BOULEVARD TEMPLE



WEST CAMPUS

11661 W. Olympic Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90064
(424) 208-8934

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Nadine Zysman, *Assistant Head of School
and Principal*
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Jodi Berman, *Associate Executive Director*
Douglas Lynn, *Associate Executive Director*

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We provide an unparalleled educational experience rooted in Jewish values - inspiring innovative thinking, empowering responsible leadership, and honoring individuality within a nurturing community.

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Chair, Senior Rabbimics*
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Rabbi David Eshel
Rabbi Susan Nanus
Rabbi Joel Nickerson
Cantor Lisa Peicott
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Cantorial Intern Aliya Stuart
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For information on how to support Brawerman, contact
Rebecca Spain at (424) 208-8944 or rspain@wbtl.org.

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BRAWERMAN
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