

\$60,000 Presented as Scholarships for Excellence

This year the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance will distribute \$60,000 to students in scholarships for excellence. The scholarships will be awarded to musical performing groups in the areas of chamber music, opera, jazz and dance. In addition, twenty scholarships will be given in teaching from the **Philip and Jacob Green Foundation**. Many of these scholarships come from the generous contribution of the **Ima Foundation** established by **Soraya** and **Younes Nazarian**, **Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Academy**.

In addition, and as part of its continuing efforts to foster excellence, this year the Academy will host a series of master classes, as well as workshops and lessons by renowned performing artists. In the area of string instruments: **Vadim Gluzman**, the violinist, will visit the Academy as a "Chais Visiting Artist" during this year, which is a tradition that the Academy is preserving to show its appreciation to the Chais family. The renowned violinist will give master classes and individual lessons to students. An additional guest will be the renowned violist **Yuri Gandelsman**, who will also give master classes, a solo performance in a concert and will also conduct the Academy Chamber Orchestra.

The well-known bassist **Gary Karr** will be named an Honorary Fellow of the Academy and will provide a week of master classes. In addition ten outstanding students of the string division will be chosen to participate in a special program given by **Itzhak Perlman**. In the field of jazz the Academy will host this year the famous Israeli jazz bassist **Avishai Cohen**, who will provide master classes and workshops. Joining the faculty this year is an outstanding graduate of the Academy **Sasha Pavlovsky**, the first violinist of the Jerusalem Quartet. Prof. Ilan Schul, President of the Academy, said: "Above all else the Academy is devoted to excellence in training a cadre of leaders, who will be the artists and teachers of tomorrow."

Scholarships for Jerusalem Youth in Classical Music

The Academy recently received official notification that it will be able to provide special scholarships from the estate of the late Ms. Batsheva Cohen, who devoted a considerable amount of her assets to the children of Jerusalem who study classical music.

The Academy thanked the administrator of the estate, Adv. Neide Gilinsky, and announced that it will distribute these special scholarships in the most appropriate way, to needy students and pupils. The Academy will also hold a special event to commemorate the late Ms. Batsheva Cohen.

HIGHLIGHTS

New Academic Year Opens - October 2009



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Conservatory Opens First Branch in Ben Shemen

This year the Conservatory will open its first branch outside of Jerusalem, at the Ben Shemen Youth Village. The goal of this ambitious, cooperative project is to turn Ben Shemen into a "musical village".

This project is being made possible through a generous grant of the Rashi Foundation and the cooperation of the local authority of Modi'in. There are many students at the youth village and in the region that have proven talent in the area of music, but without the proper teaching framework are not able to develop their talents.

The Conservatory headed by Ms. Leah Agmon will operate this innovative project at Ben Shemen and will provide its excellent teaching staff, as well as Academy students to implement the project.

This is the first undertaking of Ms. Agmon, the newly appointed Director of the Conservatory, who began her term of office within the past month. We wish her great success in this project and in the development of the Conservatory.

Activity in the Periphery Gets a Boost



Dr. Michael Klinghoffer

A prize of the Council for Higher Education in Israel for activity in the periphery was awarded this year to the coordinator of this activity at the Academy, Anna Shapira. This prize, which includes a substantial sum of money, was awarded for the Academy's outreach activity in the peripheral areas of Israel. In recent years the Academy has greatly expanded its activities in these areas and now conducts programs in more than 10 different locations where Academy students teach music to youth and children.

Dean of Students Dr. Michael Klinghoffer, who heads this program, has successfully expanded it over the past several years. Last year more than 10 percent of the student body took part in this activity and also received scholarships for their own studies. This year the number of students participating in the project is expected to expand substantially.

Project Cellcom Volume

A new project that is being instituted in the periphery is the result of unique cooperation between the Academy and the cellular phone company Cellcom, which operates Cellcom Volume Centers for youth in outlying areas throughout Israel.

The Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance will be enhancing the activity of these centers by providing teachers and students who will teach and create music with the young participants. The program, which was begun last year as a pilot, was enthusiastically received by the staff of the Cellcom Volume Centers and as a result it is being expanded during this academic year. This unique program was initiated by Mr. Rami Mardor, Managing Director of the IDB Foundation for the Community, which belongs to businessman Nochi Dankner.

Voice of the Children

This is a special project that was begun last year at the initiative of businessman Mr. Ran Adoni. The project combines PERAH "Big Brother" activities with music lessons by students for needy children. In its first year the project was quite successful and it will be significantly expanded this year.



Narrated Concerts

This project is led by Dr. Veronika Cohen, a member of the Board of Directors of the Academy. It has been ongoing for the past 15 years and attracted this year close to 10,000 children throughout Jerusalem. Additional concerts will be held in the North of Israel for both Jewish and Arab children.



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Issue 2

Prize Awarded to Dr. Taiseer Elias, Head of Middle Eastern Music Department

The prestigious Frank Peleg Prize of Israel's Ministry of Culture and Science was awarded this year to the head of the Academy's Middle Eastern Music Department, Dr. Taiseer Elias. The prize was awarded to Dr. Elias for his many years of activities in bringing Jews and Arabs closer together through music, and especially through the unique department in the Academy which he heads. Each year dozens of students, both Arabs and Jews, study in the Middle Eastern Music Department and together create Middle Eastern music, often with Western influences.

Dr. Taiseer Elias is an accomplished composer and performer on the oud and violin, as well as a valued lecturer and teacher. In the workshops and master classes he gives around the world, Dr. Elias stresses not only his ties to Middle Eastern music but also his appreciation of Western music and creates a very special combination of these genres.

In granting the prize to Dr. Elias the judges wrote: "Throughout his years of activity Taiseer Elias has contributed to bringing Middle Eastern music to the forefront of Israeli culture. As a teacher, Elias has trained generations of performers and musicians, many of whom are engaged in research and creation of Middle Eastern music in the academic world and in concert halls worldwide."

Dr. Elias thanked the Minister of Culture for the prize and said: "The prize is an historic turning

point in Israeli culture. It expresses the official appreciation of the Israeli musical establishment for Arab music and musicians. Israel is a rich ethno-musical laboratory within a complex multi-cultural society. This means that we must preserve what is unique to each culture and at the same time to develop what is common to all of these cultures. If we want a society of true coexistence, we need first to preserve and to nurture Arab culture and music! A meaningful expression of this is found in the Middle Eastern Music Department

which I head within the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance," said Dr. Elias.

In addition, a prestigious prize, the Wuerth Prize of Germany, was presented to the Jewish-Arab Orchestra of the Academy, which is also an important offshoot of the Middle Eastern Music Department.



Dr. Taiseer Elias at prize ceremony

Coming Soon:

Gala Evening with Sara Netanyahu

A special dinner will be held under the auspices of Ms. Sara Netanyahu, wife of the Prime Minister of Israel. This gala event, which the Academy hopes to continue as a tradition, will take place in early December in Jerusalem. The goal is to raise funds for the Academy, which will be devoted to enhancing excellence. The event will be attended by leading figures in Israel and will include a variety of performances by outstanding students of the Academy. The event will be emceed by Israeli singer-entertainer Moti Giladi. The event is being organized by Academy Vice President for Special Projects, Ms. Elizabeth Berkowitz, telephone number: 972-543102104.

Richard Goode: First Ever Visit to Jerusalem

The internationally renowned pianist Richard Goode will be visiting Israel in March for the first time. Goode will be a guest of the Edward Aldwell Center for Piano Performance and Musicianship at the Conservatory of the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance. Goode is considered by many to be the most outstanding pianist in the world today. He will hold master classes for outstanding students. In addition, the Conservatory of the Academy will hold a special evening featuring Richard Goode, which will be a fundraising event for scholarships to foster excellence at the Aldwell Center.



Joint Conference with Bezalel

An upcoming scientific conference entitled "Seeing the Voices" will be jointly held by the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance and the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design, with the support of the National Academy of Science. The conference is a continuation of the dialogue that was begun by Prof. Michael Melzer, Vice President of the Academy for Academic Affairs and Dr. Yaara Bar-On, Deputy President for Academic Affairs at Bezalel. The conference will be headed by the senior researcher Prof. Menachem Zur, and will be the first of its kind to examine the connections between music and the visual arts.

