

YOU BELONG AT THE



September 23, 2019 - 23 Elul 5779

The JCA's 2019 Annual Meeting was a great success! We had a wonderful time connecting with old and new faces, and celebrating a year of great achievements. [Click here for the evening's message](#) from Executive Director Molly Curren Rowles. We are so pleased to share our 2018-2019 [Annual Report](#) and excited to welcome this year's JCA Board:

Rachael Alfond, *President*
Laura Kittle, *Vice President*
Stuart Piltch, *Treasurer*
Sherrie Bergman, *Secretary*
Bette Novick, *Immediate Past President*

Sarah Allenby
Mollie Barnathan*
Judy Bertram
Steve Brinn
Ilona Davis
Cathy Kline
Ben Marcus
Sophia Ranta
Tom Rosen
Carl Szanton*
Barbara Shaw
Dan Soley
Marilyn Weinberg

*Elect

Each year, the JCA awards high school seniors who have distinguished themselves in scholarship, athletics, and as exemplary citizens. We were proud to present the awards this spring at recipients' high school awards ceremonies, in front of their peers, teachers, and families, and we know they will go on to brighten and enrich their communities as college students next year. Our group of awardees this year are:

The Robert J. Agger Award was given to **Benjamin Levine** at Portland High School.
The President's Cup was given to **Alex Rubin** at Deering High School
The Steven Brent Jacobson Award was given to **Jeremy Baker** at Cheverus High School and **Ben Schoenfeld** at Portland High School.

In addition, the JCA gives annual awards that recognize community leadership, volunteerism, and celebrate Jewish creativity:

The Linda and Joel Abromson Award celebrates a "Jewish Dream", and this year was awarded to both **Meryl Troop**, who will make her first trip to Israel to learn new crafting skills and techniques; and **Andrea Levinsky**, who will attend songleader bootcamp workshops and learn to play the guitar! Both awardees plan to return to

Southern Maine with a new set of skills to share with our community, and we can't wait to welcome them next year and hear all about their adventures!

The Richard and Adele Aronson Young Leadership award was established to honor the service of the next generation of volunteer leaders who will ensure the continued growth and strength of our community. The award includes a trip for the winner and their spouse to the next-scheduled Federation General Assembly, where community leaders connect with all of the resources, energy and passion of JFNA at the national level and meet people like them from all over the world. We are so pleased to give the 2019 Aronson Young Leadership award to **Sarah Allenby**.

The Karen M. Lerman Volunteer Award was established in Karen Lerman's name to recognize a member of the community who has gone "above and beyond" on behalf of the Jewish Community. Karen spent 16 years as a key volunteer for the JCC, serving in numerous roles and continuing her dedication to the Jewish Community Alliance. This year, we were proud to give the award to Community Volunteer **Joan Levy**.

Finally, we were proud to honor outgoing Board President **Bette Novick**, whose kind and thoughtful leadership has allowed us to reach so many milestones and achieve our goals in the first years of operations in our new building. Bette is an incredible person, and we have benefited professionally and personally from all she has done for us. We are thrilled to continue to work with Bette as our immediate past president!

L'Shalom,
Molly Curren Rowles



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