



## INSIDE FJC

### JESSICA ROJAS JOINS FJC AS STAFF ASSISTANT

Jessica has a B.A. in International Relations with a minor in Business. She has nonprofit experience at Rochester Global Connections and overseas experience as an Abroad Ambassador for the Institute for the International Education of Students.

### CARLHENS AIME JOINS FJC FINANCE TEAM

Carl has a B.S. in Finance and has worked in realty and television. He also has nonprofit experience with Cerebral Palsy of N. America in NJ with an accounting internship.

## \$500 REFERRAL PROGRAM

In honor of FJC's over 20 years of service to the philanthropic community, FJC is continuing the referral program! Donor advised fund account holders who successfully refer a friend, or non-immediate family member, who opens a new donor advised fund will receive \$500.

The \$500 can be credited to the donor's account, awarded as FJC charitable gift certificates that can be given for special occasions, or even credited to the new account. New accounts must be opened with FJC's \$5,000 minimum for donor advised funds. There is a limit of 3 bonuses annually for accounts opened with less than \$25,000.

## GIVING USA: 2015 WAS AMERICA'S MOST-GENEROUS YEAR EVER

### CHARITABLE DONATIONS HIT RECORD FOR SECOND YEAR IN A ROW



Donations from America's individuals, estates, foundations and corporations reached an estimated \$373.25 billion in 2015, setting a record for the second year in a row, reports Giving USA 2016: The Annual Report on Philanthropy for the Year 2015.

That new peak in contributions is record-setting whether measured in current or inflation-adjusted dollars. In 2015, total giving grew 4.1 percent in current dollars (4.0 percent when adjusted for inflation) over 2014. The revised inflation-adjusted estimate for total giving in 2014 was \$359.04 billion, with current-dollar growth of 7.8 percent, and an inflation-adjusted increase of 6.1 percent.

#### Highlights about 2015 Gifts to Charitable Organizations

- Giving to educational institutions remained strong; growth exceeded 5 percent in 2015, as it also did in four of the five years between 2010 and 2014.
- The giving to religion slice of Giving USA's recipient pie chart, which measures the percentage of donations made to nine charitable subsectors, has steadily shrunk for decades. Paradoxically, it has never tumbled from its first-place standing in terms of total donations received. In 2015, the category held firm at 32 percent of the total received, the same figure estimated for 2014.
- Many valuable gifts of artwork, books and manuscripts, along with other types of "appreciated assets," were donated to charitable organizations in 2015.
- Giving to foundations was the only category in 2015 where donations decreased—by 3.8 percent in current dollars. Since foundations tend to receive very large gifts, it is possible their magnitude was not as great in 2015 compared to 2014, especially since those contributions influence year-over-year changes in giving.
- Giving to international affairs increased 17.5 percent in 2015 after two straight years of decline. That large increase may be attributable to growth in the number of active international charitable organizations; use of more strategic fundraising methods; and increased focus on international issues among foundations. Additionally, as the slowest-growing type of charitable organization (in terms of gifts received) for six years, giving to this category may have taken longer to recover from the late 2000s recession than others.

Source: Giving USA press release, June 13, 2016



## CHARITY SPOTLIGHT

## ASYLUM ARTS

*A GLOBAL NETWORK FOR JEWISH CULTURE*

Asylum Arts is a global network of Jewish artists, currently with 387 members in the US, Israel, Europe, and Latin America, and we engage audiences with Jewish ideas and community through the vibrant Jewish and Israeli cultural landscape. We have created this international network through facilitated gatherings to build community, and by sparking action through small grants. Asylum Arts supports contemporary Jewish culture on an international scale, bringing greater exposure to artists and cultural initiatives and providing opportunities for new projects and collaborations.

We believe in the power of face-to-face meetings to build community and strengthen relationships among artists. Over the past three years, we have held eleven multi-day retreats in New York, Los Angeles, London, Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. We support Asylum Arts network artists in creative projects that explore Jewish and Israeli ideas, themes, history, and identity. We have given out grants to 66 artists in our two years of grants. Supported projects approach Jewish and Israeli culture from a variety of perspectives. The projects range from video art about the current state of the Venice Jewish community to a theater piece exploring the cultural *shvitz* in a *schmeiss* setting in London. The projects span diverse disciplines, geographical contexts and thematic elements. Through our work, the Asylum artists are sparking conversations and dialogue with hundreds of thousands of audience members about contemporary Jewish and Israeli life.



Artist Career Development Program, Tel Aviv, 2016



Hadassa Goldvicht, *In One Hundred Years*, film still, 2012-2016



International Jewish Artist Retreat, New York, 2016



Rachel Klinghoffer, *Pony girl does her own stunts*, 2016



Reciprocity: Los Angeles Jewish Artist Retreat, 2015

Asylum Arts is a participant in FJC's Fiscal Sponsorship Program. For more information about Asylum Arts, please visit: <http://www.asylum-arts.org/>