

THE WEXNER FOUNDATION

# WEXNER SUMMITS

## SUMMIT SEEDS 2024 BIO BOOK



# SUMMIT SEEDS

PLANTING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEADING CHANGE

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### Igor Alterman

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Igor Alterman serves as the President and CEO of the Jewish Federation of Greater Dallas. Known for his entrepreneurial spirit, Igor has transformed organizations, he had an opportunity to lead. Before moving to Dallas, Igor spent seven years in Miami, FL, as the CEO of the University of Miami Hillel. There, he was the lead staff for finishing a multi-million dollar capital campaign for a state-of-art Braman Miller Center for Jewish Life. Igor designed a vision to position it as a desirable venue, that hosted dignitaries, world-class seminars, and distinguished speakers. Under his leadership, UM Hillel became one of the flagship Hillels in the movement, winning the most prestigious awards, doubling its annual budget, and drastically increasing student and community engagement. Graduate of the Hebrew Union College, Igor attributes his educational vision to his Masters's in Religious Education, and his management skills to the Zeldin School of Nonprofit Management. Igor is a member of the Schusterman ROI Community, Hartman, and MASA graduate. A Russian-born Jew, Igor lived in Israel, New York, Los Angeles, Miami, and has moved to Dallas with his wife, and two children.



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### Debbie Berman

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I am the co-chair of Jenner & Block's Business Litigation, Trade Secrets and Restrictive Covenants and Media and First Amendment Practices. I assist clients with complex commercial matters, such as broken deals or business relationships and has deep experience in trade secrets matters as well as defamation and First Amendment-related tort cases, among others.



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### Ron brummer

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Ron Brummer is the Deputy Director General of the Ministry of Diaspora Affairs and Combating Antisemitism. In his current role he has been leading the Public Diplomacy efforts at the Ministry since October 7th .Previously he served as Israel's Deputy Ambassador in Chile and as Deputy Consul General of Israel to the Southeastern US. Brummer has been dealing with issues related to Antisemitism, BDS, Public Diplomacy and Israel- Diaspora affairs for nearly 15 years.



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### Jonathan Crystal

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Through Crystal Venture Partners, I invest in and advise more than a dozen technology companies accelerating the future of the insurance industry. In 2018, I combined my family's insurance brokerage firm, Crystal & Company, with Alliant Insurance Services, the nation's leading specialty insurance brokerage firm, bringing together two great companies and successfully capitalizing on the strengths of each firm. During my tenure at Crystal & Company, I served in a number of capacities, driving the growth and strategy of the company. As the firm's Chief Financial Officer, I was responsible for the firm's general and field operations and previously led the firm's national Private Client Services group. I began my career in management consulting at Oliver Wyman. I graduated cum laude from Princeton University, with a Bachelor's degree from the School of Public & International Affairs. I currently serve as an officer and board member of Central Synagogue, as well as a trustee of The Jewish Museum. I was raised in San Antonio, Texas and live in New York City with my wife, Rabbi Darcie Crystal, and three children ages 13, 17, and 19.



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### Cheryl Drazin

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Cheryl Drazin, WHP Alum (Dallas 13), is the Senior Vice President for Talent and Knowledge at ADL where she provides strategic leadership across all areas that affect the organization's people and culture. Cheryl joined ADL in 2013 as the Jean and Jerry Moore Civil Rights Area Counsel and became regional Director of for the Dallas regional office in 2016. In 2020, Cheryl was appointed Vice President of the Central Division where she and her team worked daily to fight antisemitism and all forms of hate. Prior to joining ADL, Cheryl was a shareholder in a boutique labor and employment law firm where her practice focused on advocating for individuals who experienced workplace discrimination. Born and raised in Shreveport, Louisiana, Cheryl graduated from Washington University in St. Louis and received her law degree from The University of Texas School of Law. Outside of work, Cheryl served as the Board Chair for Camp Young Judea Texas, a member of the board of Jewish Children Regional Service and recently served on the nominating committee for CHAI (Community Homes for Adults, Inc.). Cheryl and her husband Aaron have three children, Evan, Naomi and Sam. Cheryl can be reached at cdrazin@sbcglobal.net.

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### Adina Epelman

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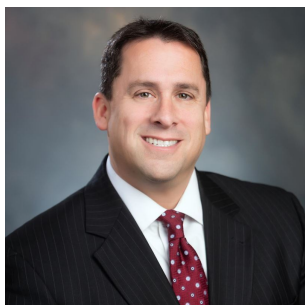
Adina Danzig Epelman joined Hillel International in 2015 where she founded Hillel U, a comprehensive talent development platform. She is currently Hillel's Vice President for Engagement and Impact, overseeing Hillel International's work in the areas of social impact and student engagement and wellness. Adina began her Hillel career at Stanford, where she worked from 2000 - 2010, serving as Hillel at Stanford's Executive Director for seven years. The highlight of her tenure was leading the organization through a capital campaign and construction project that moved Hillel at Stanford from a small basement to a two-building facility. From 2011-2015, Adina served as a Program Officer for the San Francisco Jewish Community Federation. An alumnae of the Wexner Graduate Fellowship (Class 11), Adina earned an M.A. in Modern Jewish Studies from the Jewish Theological Seminary and a Master of Public Administration from New York University's Wagner School of Public Service. Originally from California, Adina completed her B.A. in Political Science at U.C. Berkeley in 1993. She lives in the San Francisco Bay Area with her husband, Dan, and their three children, Lia, Noam and Ayelet.

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### Burton Garland, Jr.

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I use my "Jewish values" to guide me personally and professionally. I am a management-side labor and employment lawyer. I have provided pro bono legal services to various Jewish organizations and charities in St. Louis, Missouri. I have been involved in many Jewish organizations over the years and am honored to participate in the Jewish community philanthropically. I have served on the Boards of Temple Israel of St. Louis and Jewish Family & Children's Services of St. Louis. I am currently a board member of the Jewish Federation of St. Louis and chair a planning and allocation subcommittee (Enhancing St. Louis' Connection To Israel). I have served on JFedSTL's Board for approximately 4 years and have served on the P&A Committee for approximately 7 years. Through Jewish Federation of St. Louis, I have been a Millstone Fellow and a 2010 Rubin Israel Experience Participant. In 2016, I was honored to receive the Grosberg Young Leadership Award from the Jewish Federation of St. Louis and plan to use the stipend to learn about law in Israel. I am married to Amy Handelman Garland and together we have three children: Sophia, Jason, and Grant (Sophia will be a Freshman at Lehigh University starting in August 2017).

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### Shira Goodman

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Shira Goodman is a member of the Anti-Defamation League's National Affairs Team. She serves as Senior Director of Advocacy, coordinating state and local advocacy across ADL's 25 Regional offices, developing engagement opportunities for volunteers, and, since October 7, leading ADL's work to combat antisemitism on campus. She previously served as the Regional Director of the Anti-Defamation League's Philadelphia Region, which serves Eastern Pennsylvania, Southern New Jersey and Delaware. For seven years before joining the ADL, Shira served as the Executive Director of CeaseFirePA, a statewide organization working to end the epidemic of gun violence in Pennsylvania and across the country. Prior to that, Shira worked as Deputy Director of Pennsylvanians for Modern Courts, a non-profit working for fair courts and equal access to justice, and as a labor lawyer at Ballard Spahr. Shira is a proud member of the 2016 Philadelphia Wexner Heritage Class. Shira is a graduate of the University of Michigan and Yale Law School.

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Michael Karlin

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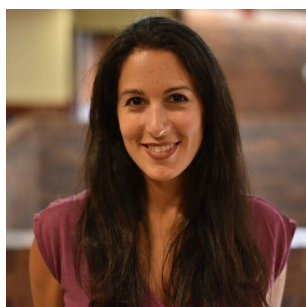
Michael Karlin is a real estate investor and developer concentrating on single-tenant net lease assets. Michael was co-founder of Security First Network Bank, the world's first Internet bank, and S1 Corporation, Inc. Michael completed the Wexner Heritage Program in 2007 and went on to receive his Ph.D. in Religious Studies and a Graduate Certificate in Jewish Studies from Emory University in 2014. His dissertation, "To Create a Dwelling Place for God': Life Coaching and the Chabad-Lubavitch Hasidic Movement in Contemporary America," is an ethnographic study of two Jewish life coaching programs. After graduate school, Michael served as an Assistant Professor of Psychology at Life University and the Associate Director of the Life University Center for Compassion, Integrity and Secular Ethics, where he created the Compassionate Integrity Training program. Michael currently serves as the president of the Board of Trustees of the Weber School, a Jewish Community high school and works with the Zalik Foundation on innovative projects benefiting the Atlanta Jewish community, including serving as editor of the "What You Should Know" newsletter and leading the Sapir Salon Atlanta initiative.

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Rona Kaufman

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Rona Kaufman is an associate professor at Thomas R. Kline School of Law of Duquesne University, where she teaches constitutional law, employment discrimination, family law, gender and the law, and children and the law. Her scholarship focuses on how the law affects women and children, and her articles have been published in the Buffalo Law Review, Florida International University Law Review, Wisconsin Journal of Law, Gender & Society, and other publications. She has researched and written extensively on intersections of law and motherhood, pregnancy, and patriarchal violence. Her current research projects include exploring anti-Semitism. Before becoming an academic, Kaufman practiced commercial litigation and family law and employment law with international law firms in Texas. Kaufman completed the Abraham L. Freedman Fellowship at Temple University Beasley School of Law and earned her Master's in Legal Education. As the granddaughter of Holocaust Survivors and the daughter of Israelis, Professor Kaufman is deeply committed to the welfare of the Jewish people. She is a proud Zionist and the mother of a daughter who is a combat soldier in the IDF and a son who is preparing to draft soon.

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Daniel Kinel

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Dan loves spending time and traveling with his wife Ellen and their two sons, Oren (18) and Gil (16). He is a Trustee of the Jewish Federation of Rochester, and is co-Chair of the Planning and Allocations Committee. Along with 7 other members of his 2019 WHP cohort, Dan co-founded Brighton Stands Against Antisemitism. In 2010, he received the Federation's Benjamin Goldstein Young Leadership Award and was the honoree as the 2016 Hillel Community Day School Scholarship Dinner, where he was on the Board for over 10 years. Dan was diagnosed with Young Onset Parkinson's Disease in 2013, and is on the Executive Committee of the Udall Center for Parkinson's Research at the University of Rochester Medical Center, where he is also an adjunct Assistant Professor of Neurology. Dan has been on steering committees for several studies, including STEADY PD-III, the largest study of a potential disease-modifying Parkinson's drug ever conducted. Dan retired as a Partner (May 2022) from Harter Secrest and Emery LLP, Rochester's largest law firm, where he practiced for 27 years as a corporate and securities lawyer so he could devote his time and energy to defining the next stage in his journey.

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### Tziona Koenig-Yair

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Tziona is currently Executive Vice President, Israel at the Claims Conference. Prior to that, she was DG of the Ministry of Diaspora in the government. Before that, she was VP at the Hartman Institute in Jerusalem. She was the first National Commissioner of the Equal Employment Opportunities Commission. Prior to being appointed to establish and create the new government Equality Commission in Israel, she served as Head of the Legal Department and as Executive Director of the Israel Women's Network, Israel's foremost advocacy group for women. Tziona started her legal career as a prosecuting attorney at the District Attorney's office in Tel Aviv. Tziona also teaches courses on equality and diversity in the workplace and starting this year, Adaptive Leadership, at Tel Aviv University. In her work, Tziona is committed to social change and has dedicated her career to strengthening and supporting the promotion of equality. In 2011 Tziona was selected as one of one hundred most influential people of The Marker for 2011, due to her work in promoting and implementing equality in the labor market in Israel. She holds an LLB from the Faculty of Law at Hebrew University and an MPA from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

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### Michal Mastey

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Michal Mastey has been an attorney for over 25 years. She holds an LL.B and LL.M in Law from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and an M.A. in Political Sciences Specializing in Strategy and National Security from Haifa University. Ms. Mastey is also a graduate of the Israel National Defense College, 47th Class. Ms. Mastey has been serving as the Legal Counsel to the Ministry for Diaspora Affairs and Combating Antisemitism since November 2013. As part of her functions as the Ministry's Legal Counsel, she is responsible for the provision of legal advice to the Ministry's head office and units, including the Diaspora unit, Antisemitism and Community Resilience unit, Delegitimization and BDS Unit and the Department for the Economic and Social Development of the Bedouins in the Negev. Prior to her present position, in the years 2011-2013, Ms. Mastey served in the position of Director (Legal Counseling) in the Legal Department of the Prime Minister's Office. Over the years, Ms Mastey has been responsible for providing legal counsel to additional units, such as the Public Diplomacy Unit, the National Events and Ceremonies Unit, the Government Press Office and the Jerusalem Unit. Ms. Mastey lives with her family in Emek Haela.

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### Courtney Mizel

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Courtney Mizel was born and raised in Denver, Colorado. Mizel holds a law degree from USC Law School. She is a co-founder the Counterterrorism Education Learning Lab (The CELL), based in Denver, which is committed to educating and empowering individuals and organizations to combat terrorism. She serves in the National Board of Sharsheret, an organization supporting families affected by breast, ovarian and other genetic cancers. In 2019, Mizel was the first woman elected to the Board of Directors of MDC Holdings, a NYSE-listed public homebuilding company. Courtney serves on several Nonprofit boards including BBYO International, Camp Ramah of California, the Cayton Children's Museum and the Mizel Institute. She is a former member of the Jewish Federations of North America National Young Leadership Cabinet as well as the Milken Institute Young Leaders Circle and is a graduate of the Wexner Jewish Heritage fellowship. She also served on the board of JQ International and was the recipient of the 2017 Community Leadership Award.

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Yaron Neudorfer

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Yaron is the CEO and Co-Founder of Social Finance Israel, Israel's first social-financial intermediary to launch Social Impact Bonds, a sister company to SF UK and SF US, founded by Sir Ronald Cohen. He has previously served for seven years as CFO of the Jewish Agency for Israel, the largest not-for-profit organization in the country, overseeing a budget of more than \$400 million and being responsible for all the fiscal, financial and budgetary considerations of the organization and its subsidiary companies (some are for-profit). Prior to joining The Jewish Agency, Yaron served for 12 years in various positions with the Israeli Ministry of Finance, overseeing projects within social areas such as healthcare and education. During his final position in the Ministry of Finance, he was stationed in New York City, representing the Israeli government vis-à-vis credit rating agencies and executing the borrowing program of the SOI in the Western hemisphere, through various vehicles such as retail bonds (Israel Bonds organization), sovereign credit and loan guarantees. Yaron holds a BA in accounting and economics from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and an MPA from Harvard Kennedy School of Government. Yaron is married with two children.

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Susan Rona

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Originally from New Jersey, Susan received her undergraduate degree from University of Wisconsin, Madison, and a law degree from Washington University in St. Louis. In 2006, Susan moved to Boulder, Colorado with her family. Susan is deeply engaged in Boulder's Jewish community where she spent 10 years working with the Boulder JCC as a professional and lay leader, having a pivotal role in the funding and development of the new Boulder JCC, which opened its doors in 2016. Susan continues to work in the non-profit arena as a fundraising consultant and philanthropic advisor. She is also a volunteer mediator with the Boulder County Sheriff's Office and a facilitator for the city of Boulder.

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Steven Scheck

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First and foremost, father of Jenna, Evan, Haley and Adam. Husband of Michele too. Founder of Inspire WiFi, a wireless internet provider for apartments nationwide. Past involvements include President of Beth Torah Benny Rok Campus, Co-Chair of National Young Leadership Cabinet and Co-Chair of The Network, Miami Federation's Young Leadership Connection. When not at a kid's function or charity meeting, I enjoy playing golf, racquetball and basketball.

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Tony Smorgon

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Tony has lived in San Francisco and Marin County with his wife Jennifer, and their five children on and off (otherwise in Australia) since 2006. Tony is a Director on the Jack and Robert Smorgon Families Foundation. In Australia, he served as the Chairman on the Mount Scopus College Foundation. He also performed a key role in the formation and growth of Keren Hayesod-UIA's global forum to strengthen leadership and commitment from the next generation of major donors to Israel. In 2008, Tony became a Wexner Heritage Alumni in San Francisco and was a delegate member on the Alumni Council from 2018-2020. Tony has served on the board of Trustees at Brandeis Marin since 2018.

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Joshua Suchoff

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Josh Suchoff is currently Managing Director of the Academic Engagement Network. He has more than 15 years of experience in nonprofit management and institutional advancement, including the creation and implementation of strategies that increase engagement, promote program visibility, and bolster charitable giving. Prior to joining AEN, Josh was the Chief Development Officer at MILTON, a pluralistic Jewish day school in Washington, DC. Josh also worked in the Federal, State, and Tribal Programs Branch at the Environmental Protection Agency where he administered hundreds of thousands of dollars in grants for the agency's Hazardous Waste Management Grant Program, and for Capital Segway and Segway International as a manager and grant writer helping the company grow its touring business and secure lucrative government grants. Josh received a bachelor's degree in Political Communications from George Washington University, and he has completed his coursework for a master's degree in Nonprofit Management from Gratz College. He is also a Certified Fundraising Executive credentialed by CFRE International.

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Michael Teplitsky

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Michael Teplitsky is the founder and president of Combatting Antisemitism at Northwestern (CAAN). He is also a member of Board of Governors of The Jewish Agency for Israel. He is a former national co-chair of The Jewish Federations of North America's (JFNA)'s National Young Leadership Cabinet. He is an active volunteer with the Jewish United Fund/Jewish Federation of Metro Chicago (JUF). Michael is partner at Wynnchurch Capital, a \$9 billion private equity investment firm. He is a graduate of Northwestern University and Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management, where he completed the Kellogg Board Fellows Program, a two-year intensive training program in nonprofit board governance. Michael is a member of Am Shalom Synagogue in Glencoe, IL. A native of St. Petersburg, Russia, Michael was a refusenik in the Soviet Union during the 1980's and immigrated to the United States in 1990.

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Mila Wichter

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Mila emigrated from the Soviet Union in 1974, and together with her family settled in Dallas, where she continued her studies at SMU. She married Larry Wichter, moved to New York, and started her career in Computer Technology at Paramount Pictures. Mila and Larry moved to the San Francisco Bay Area and had two children. Mila earned a degree in Political Science from UC Berkeley, and continued her IT career with United Airlines, Federal Reserve Bank and IBM. She became a partner in a consulting firm, and then joined Genentech for 12 years before retiring in 2017. Mila was brought up as a proud Jew and a Zionist, but lacked Jewish literacy and education, so regaining her heritage and the pursuit of Jewish knowledge become a life-long journey. In San Francisco she became active with AIPAC where she served 3 terms on the Board, and later established a new Jewish political organization. Following WHP, she turned her attention to Jewish education, and founded Contra Costa Jewish Day School and Limmud Bay Area, where she served as a Founding President for 5 and 11 years, respectively. Mila is a writer (historical and science fiction), a Safta to her four grandchildren, and continues to be engaged in a conversation with her ancestors.

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Dov Wilker

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Dov Wilker has been Regional Director of AJC Atlanta since 2011 and as AJC's National Director for Black Jewish Relations since 2018. Active in the community, Dov serves on the LEAD Atlanta Alumni Board, the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition's Georgia Advisory Committee, the Advisory Council for the Atlanta Ballet and is a member of the Grady Hospital Ambassador's program. After earning his International MBA from Tel Aviv University, Dov worked for an Israeli software start-up. Dov began his career with the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Southeastern United States and previously served as AJC Atlanta's Assistant Director. Dov has been recognized as a "40 under 40" by both the Atlanta Business Chronicle and the Atlanta Jewish Times and was honored with the Asian American Heritage Foundation's Distinguished Community Service Award. Dov received his BBA from the University of Miami (FL) and is married to Julie Jacobson and together they have two daughters.