

ACTIVIST · ENTREPRENEUR · HUMANITARIAN · PHILANTHROPIST · POET



11TH ANNUAL
LIGHTS OF OHR SHALOM

HONORING
JOSE GALICOT

SUNDAY, APRIL 10, 2016
MCMILLIIN EVENT CENTER AT LIBERTY STATION
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

ACTIVIST · ENTREPRENEUR · HUMANITARIAN · PHILANTHROPIST · POET

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About our Honoree

Matilde Behar was 14 years old when she first set eyes on the handsome Rafael Galicot. Already aged 34, he was calm, mature and worldly. Rafael had fled Istanbul years earlier to avoid the military, finding employment all over Europe (including work as a casino croupier in Monaco), and mastering multiple languages. Now, in 1936, Rafael was a travel agent in México City whose explorations brought him to the sleepy Southern Chihuahua silver-mining town of Santa Barbara. There, Matilde's parents Isidor and Sofia, also Sephardic Jews from Turkey, operated a small general store grandly named El Nuevo Mundo.

The younger of two children, Matilde was dark and womanly – and bright, having already found a job as a teacher at the local elementary school. Matilde, who always knew her mind, immediately sized up Rafael Galicot as excellent husband material. Evaluating the paucity of suitable matches for Matilde within the tiny Jewish community in Santa Barbara, Isidor and Sofia agreed, and discussions and proposals ensued.



Jose Galicot



Matilde and Rafael were married in 1936, and Rafael thereupon settled in Santa Barbara so that his young bride could remain near her parents. On October 1, 1937, at age 15, Matilde delivered the first of their two children, a son they named José (Hebrew name Joseph). Their second son Julio (Yehuda) was born in 1940. Through the early years of their marriage, Rafael was Matilde's household mentor, instructing her in cooking, housekeeping and child care.

In 1940, Rafael and Matilde moved their small family from Santa Barbara to México City, where Rafael pursued a business venture that was so unsuccessful that, in 1943, they found it necessary to relocate again. This time they settled in Tijuana, closer to Isidor's brother in Los Angeles. Rafael established a wholesaling business that sold suit materials, including fabrics, buttons, zippers, padding and silks for linings, to the many men's clothing manufacturers and tailors in that city. Rafael's business prospered: He bought an office building and a warehouse, and began to invest in apartments.

José and Julio attended the local Tijuana public schools, where discipline was strict and caning was common. When José completed 6th grade, Rafael and Matilde decided that he should have a more intensive Jewish education. So, in the fall of 1949, they drove José to México City and enrolled him in the Colegio Hebreo Sefaradi. José remained in that school through 9th grade, rooming with relatives nearby.

The Colegio Hebreo Sefaradi changed José's life. A shy, tentative, bespectacled and heavy-set fellow when he arrived, José transformed himself. He flourished in the school's egalitarian atmosphere, where teachers dispensed discipline through patient suggestion. What is more, José noticed that the student leaders in the school were physically strong fellows who stood up for one another. Aspiring to a position among the elite, José lost weight and worked hard on physical conditioning. He got into fights and won. He was an exceptional volleyball player, and organized his own league.



By the time he left the Colegio Hebreo Sefaradi José had begun to plumb the deep reservoir of personal fortitude that has been his mainstay. At public high school in México City, José was a champion of the underdog, once rescuing a fellow student from a gang of rowdies who were shooting off Bastille Day firecrackers inside the school building. That student's name was Carlos Slim.



During high school, José and a friend, Arieh Konig, founded a politically middle-of-the road Sephardic Zionist club, Tifereth Zion. Not as left-wing as the Hashomer Hatzair, but slightly left of religious groups such as B'nei Akiva, Tifereth Zion had 120 young members, both men and women.



Following high school, José enrolled in the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), México City, to study civil engineering, all the while pursuing his deep passion for Zionism and Jewish community organization.

Matilde's parents, Isidor and Sofia Behar, did not remain in little Santa Barbara, and eventually they also moved to Tijuana. Isidor set up another El Nuevo Mundo there. Rafael and Matilde had purchased a small house in Tijuana that became a meeting place for the many Mexican Jewish families – both Ashkenazi and Sephardi – who were migrating to Northern Baja California during the 1950s and 60s to seek jobs or start businesses in the thriving U.S. border region. These gatherings cemented friendships that led to the founding of the Magen David Jewish Center, which in 1965 became the Centro Social Israelita, an organization that, to this day, fosters Jewish identity and provides recreation and Jewish community services.

José and Ana

Ana Raquel (Hebrew name Hannah) Levine (called “Janche”) was born in México City in July 1939. Both of her parents, Chaya and Hayim, came from Ashkenazic Jewish families in Lithuania. Her father had immigrated to México in the 1920s at the age of 12, and her mother, in 1936. Ana was the oldest of three children, all of whom spoke Yiddish as their first language.

As a student during the 1940s and 50s at the Colegio Hebreo Tarbut, the secular Zionist school for Ashkenazi families in México City, Ana developed a deep devotion to Israel. At the age of 12, Ana joined the liberal Zionist youth group Hanoar Hatzioni, and from the ages of 13 to 20, she served on its Board of Directors. In 1952, Ana met Golda Meir, who had come to México through the Jewish Agency to promote support for Israel. Recognizing Ana’s aptitude for leadership, she warned her “Don’t let your special gift die out... Promise me you will come to live in Israel.”



Ana’s Hanoar Hatzioni group, which was small, always was seeking new members. Why not recruit the members of Tifereth Zion, which was well-known for its fine and handsome young men? Ana felt that such passionate and aggressive fellows might respond to an offer of a joint sporting program, so she contacted a local public high school, which agreed to permit Hanoar Hatzioni to use its athletic fields. In describing how she persuaded the Sephardic Zionist group to agree to joint programming, and ultimately a merger in 1954, with Hanoar Hatzioni, Ana points out that “Our group included many beautiful young girls. Smart ones, who now are writers and artists and have done a lot with their lives. I sent them to conquer the fellows.” One of those lovely young women was Ana herself, who became acquainted with José at the first joint event of the two groups. She was 15 years old.

Thereafter, Ana and José saw one another often at Zionist youth meetings, and they worked together as Jewish summer camp organizers and mentors, responsible, as a couple, for as many as 150 sleep-away campers at one time. Ana always was the camp’s mother figure, tucking each child tightly into his or her cot each night so that the sleeping area became known as Tamales Janche, or “Janche’s Pockets.” From these beginnings, Ana and José became increasingly active as Zionist organizers, José being elected head of the Amalgamated Federation of Jewish Youth Groups in México in 1956.

Soon Ana and José declared their life’s intentions to their parents: They were havorim, intending to settle in Israel as soon as possible. They were in love and wanted to marry. However, events intervened that put their relationship on hold. As a leader, or *madricha*, within Hanoar Hatzioni, Ana was selected in 1957 for a one-year *Machon L’Madrachei Chutz La’Aretz* (Institute for Youth Leaders in the Diaspora) scholarship to study in Jerusalem, sponsored by the World Zionist Organization. Ana received a diploma qualifying her to teach Hebrew. Upon her return to México, she attended the UNAM, where she continued university courses toward becoming a teacher.

Meanwhile, José had risen to high leadership in Hanoar Hatzioni, promoting Zionist causes and seeking enrollments, in addition to attending to his studies. In 1958, José received his own invitation to Israel, as a delegate to the First Jewish

Congress for Youth. He is proud to recall that the speech he delivered at the opening ceremony, as the Zionist Youth representative from Latin America, was sufficiently inspirational that both David Ben Gurion and Golda Meir approached and hugged him enthusiastically at its conclusion. José traveled in Israel for six months, taking in the sights around the 10-year-old country.

When José's Israel travels were over, he accepted an appointment as shaliach for Jewish youth (ages 14 to 17) in the community of San Jose, Costa Rica. When he arrived, he found a dilapidated meeting house next to a synagogue and precisely two teenagers enrolled in the youth program. Taking a cue from Tom Sawyer, José started painting the building himself. When curious young people came by to ask who he was and what he was doing, he put them to work. Applying that clever tactic, and many others, during one year in Costa Rica, followed by a similar assignment in Guatemala, José was able to expand youth programming in those countries to encompass more than 600 participants.

When José moved back to México City from Central America, he re-ignited his relationship with Ana. Not only was the couple planning to marry, now they both were formidable youth Zionist organizers. As key activists and leaders within Hanoar Hatzioni, they made that organization strong, putting on several Jewish Youth Conferences, including a series of symposia on Jewish living in Cuernavaca, México, with speakers that included the German Jewish psychologist and social philosopher Erich Fromm. Ana recalls: "We had seminars on topics such as psychology, sexology, Jewish education and ethics... In order to be a mensch you need to know many things!"

José and Ana finally were married, in a civil ceremony in Tijuana on February 19, 1961, and in a Jewish ceremony in México City on March 19, 1961. She was 21 and he was 23. "This was a time in México when Sephardi and Ashkenazi didn't mix," comments Ana, "but we did what we wanted and it turned out fine."

José and Ana both viewed their marriage as the first step on a journey toward life on a kibbutz in Israel. Immediately, they applied to the Jewish Agency to arrange the paperwork to enable them to make aliyah, and to send them airline tickets. While waiting for the arrangements to be completed, Ana and José stayed in Tijuana at an apartment owned by José's parents, and José went to work in his father's business. Almost immediately, their plans were disturbed: Rafael suffered the first of several heart attacks, and Ana became pregnant. Matilde, who also was looking after her aging parents, needed assistance in tending to Rafael.

By the time their tickets from the Jewish Agency arrived, José and Ana had their first baby, Denisse Matilde, born in 1962, and José had launched a business in Tijuana. He also had enrolled at the Tijuana campus of the UNAM, where he pursued, and ultimately completed, a Licenciante in Economics. Ana was accepted as a student at the Escuela de Trabajo Social de Baja California, where she studied social work.



Ana and José did not make aliyah to Israel as planned. Instead, they built their family where they were. The birth of Denisse Matilde was followed by those of Chaya Aida, Rafael Solomon and Gregorio David.

Business after business after business

Over the past 50+ years, José Galicot has remained one of Tijuana's most resourceful businessmen. Despite devaluations of the peso at times when he was heavily invested in retail, and competition from cell phones and iPhones when he was in the landline telephone services business, José has been undaunted in identifying and pursuing promising ventures of all sorts.



Building upon knowledge gained during his short tenure at Rafael's suit materials company, José established a highly-successful men's jacket manufacturing company, Galber S.A., in 1962. In 1968, José and his brother Julio purchased two beauty supply wholesaling companies, La Favorita and El Ahorro, and transformed them into a retail chain with multiple shops throughout Baja California.

José always had been enamored with "beautiful but lonely" Cabo San Lucas, and early on he began to buy land there. In the late 1960s and throughout the 70s, José invested in commercial space: in shopping centers, in Tijuana (Viva Tijuana Plaza) and Cabo San Lucas (Gali Plaza) and resorts in Cabo San Lucas (Plaza Nautica and Plaza del Sol) and elsewhere in Baja California, such as Rosarito Beach (Calafia Paradise Resort). From 1984 to 1993, José operated the famous "OH!" Disco in downtown Tijuana, modeled on New York's Studio 54. OH! was the hottest club in town, attracting mainly Americans, including celebrities Madonna, Robin Williams, Clint Eastwood, Tina Turner and Neil Diamond. It also was popular with Mexican clients who might have been more infamous. "Everyone went there," José once told the Los Angeles Times, "the good and the bad."

Over the years, José has held senior executive positions with Mexican banks in Tijuana and México City, including Multibanco Mercantile de México, and he continues, to date, as an independent consultant to banks throughout Baja California. José got into the telecommunications business in a major way in the 1980s at the behest of his sons, investing in several communications companies, most notably BBG Communications, at one time the world's largest provider of collect-calling services.

Had he not been so extraordinarily successful in business, or so devoted to bettering society, we well might be honoring José for his achievements as a writer. José is an accomplished journalist and poet, having published 10 books of commentary and poetry. Congregants who regularly attend High Holiday services at Ohr Shalom recall José's poetic readings each year at Kol Nidre. His poems, delivered in beautiful Spanish and translated to English by his grandson Ilan Podlipsky, always are a highlight of the evening. The readers of *Zeta*, the major weekly Baja California newspaper, know José primarily as a journalist, owing to the column, "Facetas," which he wrote regularly for more than 20 years. The *Zeta* pieces have been collected into the books *Presencias de la Ciudad*, *Setenta* and *Facetas*.

José, Ana and Tikun Olam

While José and Ana still were living with small children in a Tijuana apartment owned by his parents, they already were deeply engaged as local Jewish community activists. Although she also was completing university degrees, first in social work at the Escuela de Trabajo Social (where she taught group dynamics courses), and then in education at the Universidad Autónoma de Baja California, Ana began to organize educational and social activities for Jewish children in their neighborhood.



As more children joined, she set up a program of classes on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays and recruited talented young mentors from the community. Modeling her program on the multi-faceted youth Zionist programs she and José had led in México for Hanoar Hatzioni, she called it Ken, or “nest.”

As the Ken grew, José and some of his colleagues persuaded wealthy local Jewish businessmen to purchase a building, and to install a pool and sports facilities. Opened in 1967, the physical premises of the Centro Social Israelita, which became the home of the Ken, was a collaborative effort of both Sephardic and Ashkenazic Jews. For more than 10 years, Ana served as principal of the Ken Jewish school, and she and José established summer camps for the Centro Social Israelita.

Since 1975, Ana has been a devoted member of WIZO, the Women’s International Zionist Organization, a volunteer association that funds social welfare projects in Israel and elsewhere. Locally, Ana’s name practically is synonymous with WIZO, reflecting the fact that she served as President of San Diego-Tijuana WIZO from 1990 to 2015. Ana continues her WIZO activities to date, developing cultural and educational programs such as Ulpan classes for older women and men.

José has devoted his extra-business interests to scores of involvements, particularly in México and Israel. Only a brief review of those is possible here:

México

José loves the city of Tijuana. Early on, he pursued projects to promote the economic development of the city and its environs and enhance educational and cultural opportunities there. Among the organizations to which José generously has devoted his time, often serving as a Board member, have been the San Diego-Tijuana Smart Border Coalition, El Trompo Interactive Museum, and the Sala Anguiano.

José is Tijuana’s biggest booster. He readily points out two things: (1) Tijuana gets a bad rap. Whereas the media focus on drug cartels and crime, Tijuana – México’s 4th most populous city – actually is a manufacturing powerhouse, and (2) The San Diego-Tijuana metropolitan area, with its high-tech capabilities and educated workforce, seriously could become one of the world’s most dynamic economic regions. José once commented to *La Prensa*, the San Diego-based Latin

American newspaper that “San Diego has long believed it has been living with a toad called Tijuana, but in reality Tijuana is a prince waiting to be discovered.”

José will tell you that 600 manufacturing companies operate in Tijuana, including 34 aerospace firms and 60 medical products developers, and that every one of the high-tech heart valves used in surgeries in the U.S. has been made in Tijuana.

In 2010, to spread the word more widely and loudly, and thereby to attract additional investment in Tijuana, José and other Mexican business leaders organized the first Tijuana Innovadora (TI) conference, a forum

addressing the multiple advantages of doing business in Tijuana, held over a 2-week period in October. José and his fellow organizers lined up as speakers Al Gore, Larry King, Wikipedia co-founder Jimmy Wales, Twitter co-founder Biz Stone, Nobel Prize-winning economist Robert Aumann, Paul Jacobs from Qualcomm, and others. The forum showcased, to more than 750,000 attendees (including Carlos Slim and Mexican President Calderón), the achievements of Tijuana-based companies in the sciences and engineering, as well the city’s artistic, cultural and culinary assets.



Since the first TI conference, Tijuana Innovadora has evolved into a multi-faceted social action organization, with José as its President. TI has mounted two even larger bi-annual business conferences, bringing in crowds numbering 900,000 in 2012 and 1.1 million in 2014. Now TI has launched a set of “Spheres of Influence” projects aimed at improving quality-of-life for all of Tijuana, tapping and directing the youthful energy of the hundreds of young people who have volunteered to staff the TI events. To date, these projects have offered to young people guidance, leadership training, and hands-on experience in such areas as fashion design and merchandising, entrepreneurship, computer applications development, fine arts curating, and musical performance. TI now has a permanent central office staff that handles administrative, legal, public relations and marketing functions year-round.

José has been honored many times by the grateful citizens of Tijuana, receiving, for example, the Tijuana Medal for Civic Merit in 1995 and 2010, and the 2010 Tijuana Citizen of the Year Award.

Israel

Since the early years when Ana and José lived in Israel as Zionist youth leaders, they have returned dozens of times. Of course, through WIZO, Ana has been an angel to Israel. Ana and José also have been active in pro-Israel ventures that include the Maccabee Games and the Israel Navy Veterans Association.

Among the Galicots’ current involvements is the Tel Aviv-Yafo Foundation, the international fund-raising arm of the City of Tel Aviv-Yafo. The objective of the Foundation is to enhance the quality of daily life in the metropolitan area by

financing projects (with funds matched 50-50 by the City) focused on education, social welfare and the environment. In September 2011, the Tel Aviv-Yafo School District opened the “Jose and Ana Galicot Family Kindergartens,” which actually are pre-kindergartens for 3 and 4-year-olds, in three neighborhoods. In 2014 and 2015, the School District dedicated additional educational facilities donated by the Galicots: a library and resource center at Yud Alef High School, which serves students with learning disabilities, and a science center and library at Hamagan Elementary School, in the Maoz Aviv neighborhood, where many refugees from Darfur have settled.

Of course, José and Ana Galicot donate significantly to agencies in and around San Diego. Concerned that their children and their 17 grandchildren in the U.S. should live their lives within a community-focused Jewish environment such as the one José and Ana helped to create in Tijuana, they have supported the Ken Jewish Center in Chula Vista. The Galicots also have been major supporters of the San Diego Museum of Art in Balboa Park, where José is a member of the Board of Trustees.

José and Ana contribute significantly to another U.S. institution: Ohr Shalom Synagogue. Of course, they are generous. Even more, they are a treasure among us, bringing with them the history, world view, and deep commitment to Judaism described, if only in outline, in this booklet.



(L-R) Ana Galicot, Ron Prozor the Israeli Ambassador to the UN, and Jose Galicot



Jose Galicot, Daniel Magun, Jaime Brener, Denisse Brener Galicot, Ilan Podlipsky, Ana Galicot, Matilde Galicot (z"l)

Letter from the Rabbi

Dear Jose:

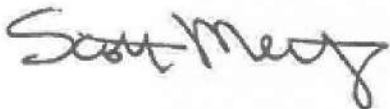
To be a Jew is to understand one's self as a citizen of the world – connected to all peoples and all places. You truly embody this ideal in your life, your work and your philanthropy. You are very much at home here in the United States, down south in Mexico and across the globe in Israel. Being home means you are rooted in those places, you are nourished in those places and you continue to make lasting contributions in each of those places.

To be a Jew is to translate one's life through language and text. You bring your gifts of care, insight and wisdom to this world through the poetry of your words. You witness the world around you, process those experiences in deep and meaningful ways, and then express them through an artistry of poetics that uplifts and challenges all who hear your poems. Your recitation of poetry has become an important piece of Yom Kippur for our entire Ohr Shalom community.

To be a Jew is to live one's life within sacred community. You live your life here within your Ohr Shalom family. You have celebrated life's most important moments as part of this extended family. We have been blessed to share together some of life's most joyous moments, and some of the saddest. You have helped us create a deep sense of family here at Ohr Shalom. Together with your beloved Ana, you have raised your children to feel at home within this community you have done so much to build. You now get to share in the pleasure of watching as your grandchildren grow and develop as part of this very special synagogue extended family.

Cherished Jose, thank you for all the ways in which you make this world more caring, more beautiful and more poetic. Thank you for your words and your inspiration. Thank you for inspiring and motivating. Thank you for the holy days we hope to share together for many years to come.

With great respect, affection and love,



Rabbi Scott Meltzer

Letter from the President

Dear Friends,

It's such a pleasure to have the opportunity to honor José Galicot, an honor way overdue. It is a near certainty in fundraising that the people who most deserve to be honored are the ones who least wish to be honored, and this was certainly true of Señor Galicot. For months Don José encouraged us to honor another person or another organization, anything to deflect attention from himself. It is fortunate that we have some persistent people at Ohr Shalom who wouldn't take "no" for an answer, and so here we are at the big day with an eminently worthy honoree.

Part of the Jewish obligation to do Tikun Olam is to do it without regard to religion, race or creed. We are here to heal the world, not just the Jewish world. Nobody demonstrates this better than José Galicot who has spent a good portion of his life trying to help impoverished children anywhere he can.

His work in Israel and Tijuana alone are worthy of a lifetime achievement award and more praise than we can possibly bestow in one evening. I hope you enjoy tonight's event and will give generously to support two things very dear to the Galicot family: Israel and Ohr Shalom.

No great event can come to be without great people directing the effort. For this we have to thank Melissa Galicot, our chairperson for the event, and Lynn Mendelsohn, our Vice President of Programming. Kudos also to Susie Meltzer and Zeji Ozeri for another great video and to Debbie Suissa for being the glue that, as usual, brings everything together.

So, on with the show! Eat well, take home a nice prize, enjoy the entertainment, honor Pepe and support us with an open heart.

My very best wishes to all of you.

Ray

Letter from Committee Chair

Dear Ohr Shalom Family and Friends,

Planning and putting together an event with the team from Ohr Shalom to honor José Galicot, my father-in-law, has been an honor and a pleasure. Throughout the years I have been a recipient of his support, comfort, generosity and encouragement and so it is especially rewarding for me to be able to give back to a man who has given so much. Jose Galicot has tremendous energy, warmth, wisdom and benevolence. As a family, we have been fortunate beneficiaries of his boundless love and attention. To Ohr Shalom's public tribute to Mr. Galicot, I am delighted to add my own personal toast "L'Chaim!"

As our synagogue's most important annual fundraiser event, the Lights of Ohr Shalom evening is intended to be a memorable experience for everyone, and especially for the honoree. This year, we are celebrating Jose Galicots 55+ years of community service, in particular to the City of Tijuana, to the Jews in Tijuana and San Diego, and to the immigrants from that Jewish community who have spilled over to San Diego.

We hope that you enjoy dinner, our program honoring Mr. Galicot and of course the prizes!!! As the synagogue relies on the proceeds from Lights of Ohr Shalom to pay its operations expenses, we are most grateful for your participation!

A special thanks to you Ray!!! As Board President, not only do you supply the vision that has generated enthusiasm for events like tonight, you are hands on and continue to prove to be a role model for myself and the community. Thank you for your helpful words and always being by my side.

With love,

Melissa Galicot

Letter from Jeffrey Davidow

Jose Galicot is a visionary. He is a man who refuses to accept the present as it is and who uses his intelligence, enthusiasm, and untiring energy to bring about change. He does not leave it to the young to worry about shaping the future, but rather energetically molds the future himself.

He does this even when the odds are against him. He values the views of friends, but he is not limited by them. Years ago, when Jose outlined his plans for Tijuana Innovadora to me, I discouraged him. So many efforts to promote cross-border activity and understanding had failed, it simply seemed to me that a man of his age should not subject himself to the waste of time and energy that such a project promises with no chance of success.

Well, not for the first time in my life, I was dead wrong. Jose took a seed of an idea and turned it into a tree that provides shade, sustenance, and a hopeful view of the future.

This approach is also visible in his lifetime support for the State of Israel. He is one of those dreamers who built the nation, seeing no obstacle too great to overcome. His success in business is similarly marked by a willingness to go where others fear to tread.

But most importantly, he is a man of great decency. His love for his family (which is fully reciprocated) and for the many communities in which he dwells is legendary. I am proud that he is my friend.

Jeffrey Davidow
President of the Institute of the Americas



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TIJUANA, MEXICO

Dear Mr. Galicot,

On behalf of the U.S. Consulate General in Tijuana, I offer my congratulations on your receipt of this honor from the Ohr Shalom Synagogue of San Diego. This well-deserved distinction is a reflection of the laudable work you have done to strengthen the San Diego-Tijuana region.

You have proven yourself to be a tireless supporter of Tijuana, and are an effective advocate for the city. Your belief in the importance of hard work and a combination of vision and action has brought cultural and economic success to your efforts and to Tijuana.

As co-founder of Tijuana Innovadora, you have helped bring attention to Tijuana's sophisticated artistic, cultural, and manufacturing spheres. Founded in 2010, when the image of Tijuana was still that of violence and recession, Tijuana Innovadora has enabled the region to showcase its entrepreneurial spirit, attract local investment, and change popular perceptions of the city.

Your service on the Smart Border Coalition demonstrates your commitment to strengthening the economic relationship between San Diego and Tijuana. Your ties to and passion for both sides of the border have made you an invaluable contributor to our all-important efforts at cross-border cooperation.

Thank you for your work, and congratulations on this honor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "W Ostick".

William A. Ostick
Consul General

SUSAN A. DAVIS
53RD DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

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EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE
SUBCOMMITTEES:
EARLY CHILDHOOD, ELEMENTARY AND
SECONDARY EDUCATION
HIGHER EDUCATION
AND WORKFORCE TRAINING

April 10, 2016

Ohr Shalom Synagogue
2512 Third Avenue
San Diego, CA 92103



Dear Friends:

It is a great pleasure to have this opportunity to greet you as Ohr Shalom Synagogue celebrates the "Lights of Ohr Shalom" annual dinner and auction fundraiser.

As a member of Congress, I admire the work you do providing critical resources to families across San Diego and commend Ohr Shalom Synagogue for its dedication to promoting unity within San Diego's Jewish community. Please know that your efforts are making a difference.

I would like to take this opportunity to commend Jose Galicot, who has for many years worked tirelessly to strengthen our binational ties and for his commitment to improving the lives of Israeli children with special needs.

Again, congratulations and my best wishes for continued success in the year ahead.

With warm regards,

SUSAN A. DAVIS
Member of Congress



KEVIN L. FAULCONER

MAYOR



CONGRATULATIONS TO

MR. JOSÉ GALICOT

APRIL 10, 2016

On behalf of the citizens of San Diego, it is my pleasure to congratulate you on the occasion of being selected as the guest of honor by Ohr Shalom Synagogue for its "Lights of Ohr Shalom" annual fundraiser.

I commend you for your outstanding accomplishments as a humanitarian, businessman, activist and philanthropist. Your contributions to our binational mega-region including the very successful Tijuana *Innovadora* have proven to not only build strong relationships but has provided new business and educational opportunities for talented people throughout the region.

Please accept my warmest wishes for an enjoyable celebration for such exceptional accomplishments.

Best personal regards,

Kevin L. Faulconer
Mayor

202 C STREET, 11TH FLOOR • SAN DIEGO, CA 92101



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
COUNCILMEMBER TODD GLORIA

THIRD DISTRICT

April 10, 2016

Ohr Shalom Synagogue
2512 Third Avenue
San Diego, CA 92103

Dear Friends,

It is my distinct pleasure to extend my warmest greetings to everyone gathered for the Lights of Ohr Shalom annual fundraiser benefitting the Ohr Shalom Synagogue. Tonight's festivities support and celebrate a tremendous San Diego institution and also recognize a distinguished binational leader, José Galicot Behar.

Throughout his career, Mr. Behar has epitomized two of the Ohr Shalom's deepest held values: community involvement and enrichment. As an active leader in pro-business, pro-education, community service, philanthropic, and arts and culture organizations, Mr. Behar has strived to leave his community better than he found it and his hard work remains evident in our communities today.

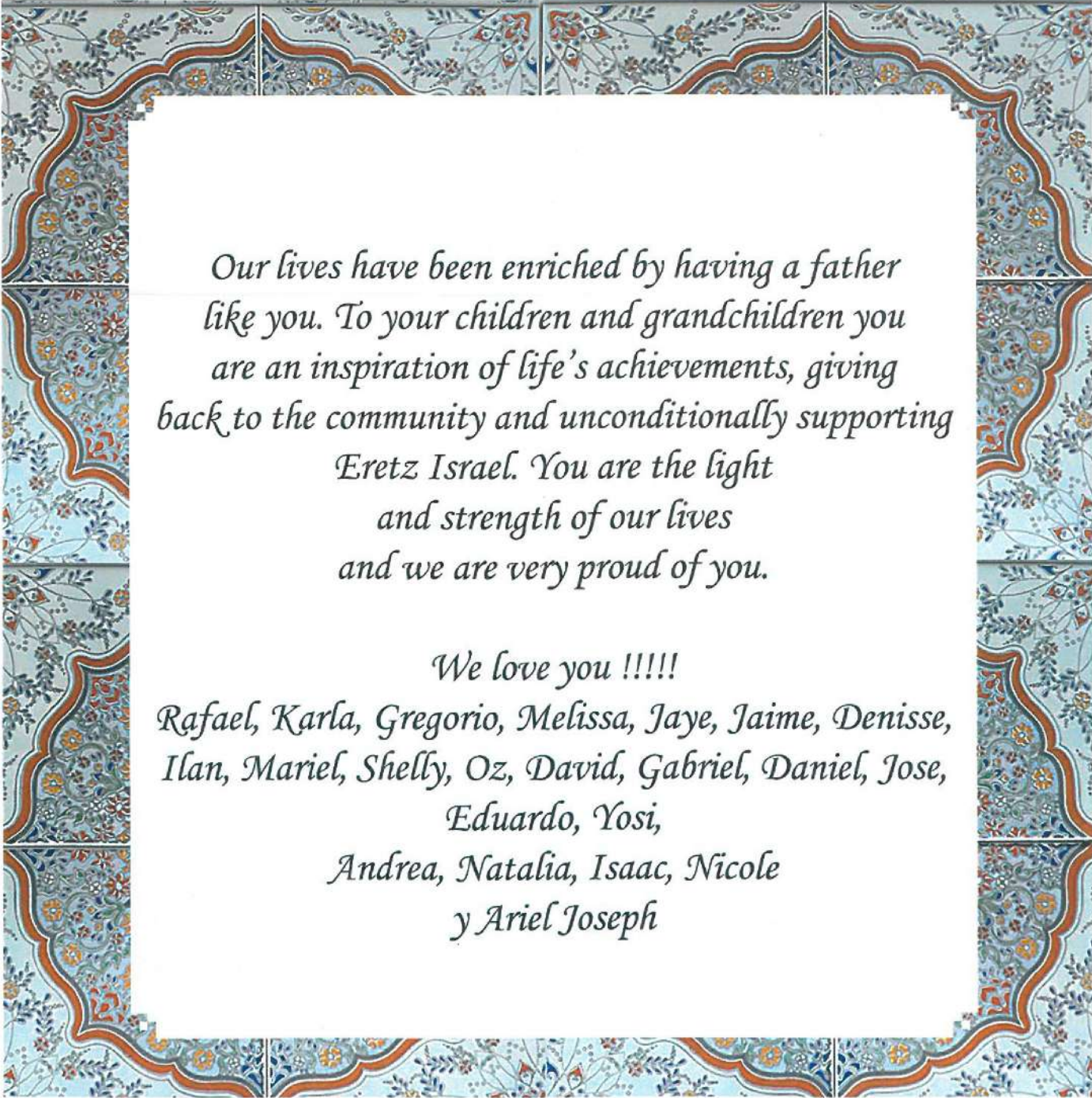
Again, my sincerest congratulations to Ohr Shalom and Mr. Behar on this momentous occasion. Please accept my best wishes for a memorable event and continued success in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Todd Gloria".

TODD GLORIA
Councilmember, Third District
City of San Diego

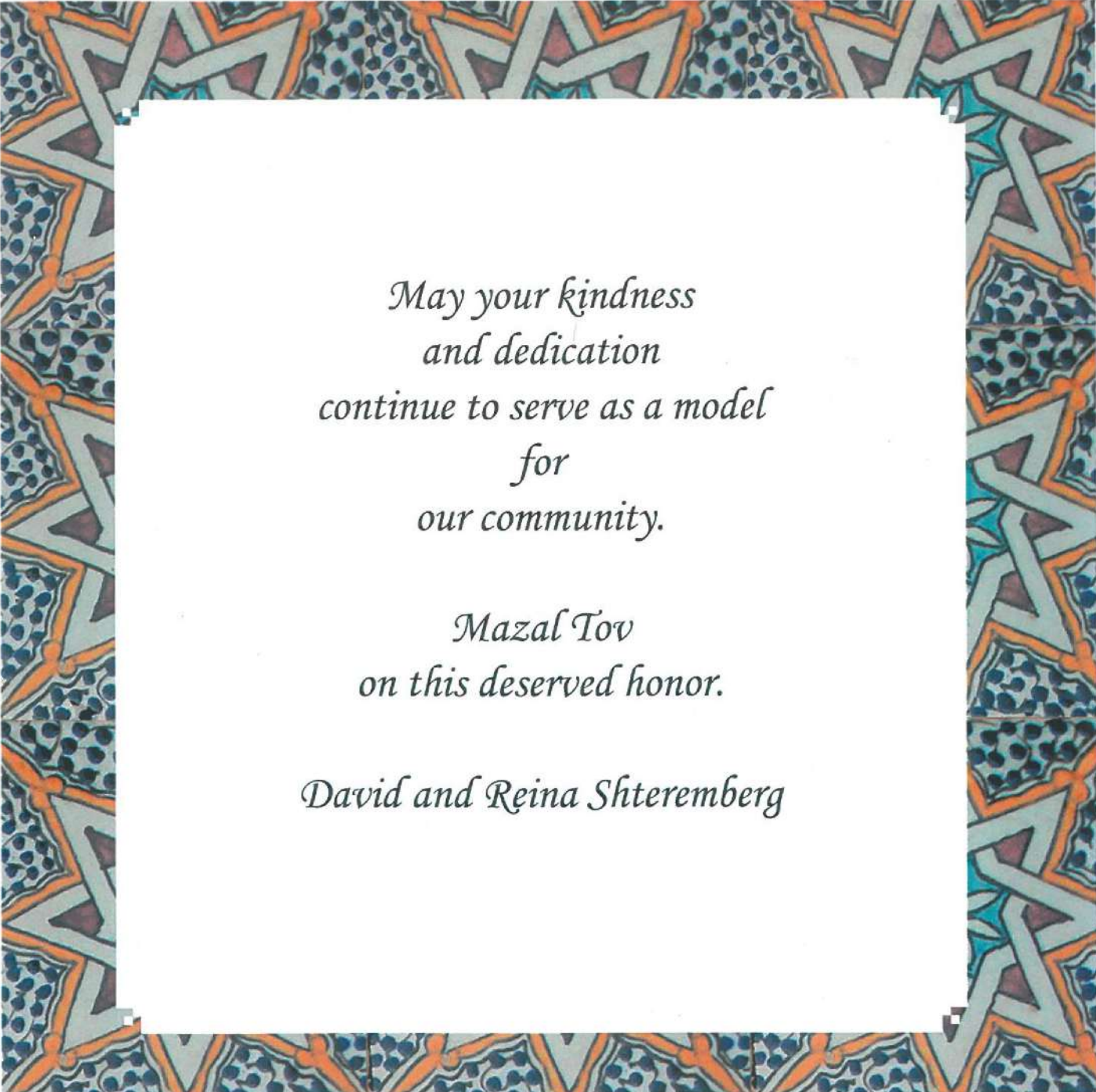




*Our lives have been enriched by having a father
like you. To your children and grandchildren you
are an inspiration of life's achievements, giving
back to the community and unconditionally supporting
Eretz Israel. You are the light
and strength of our lives
and we are very proud of you.*

We love you !!!!!

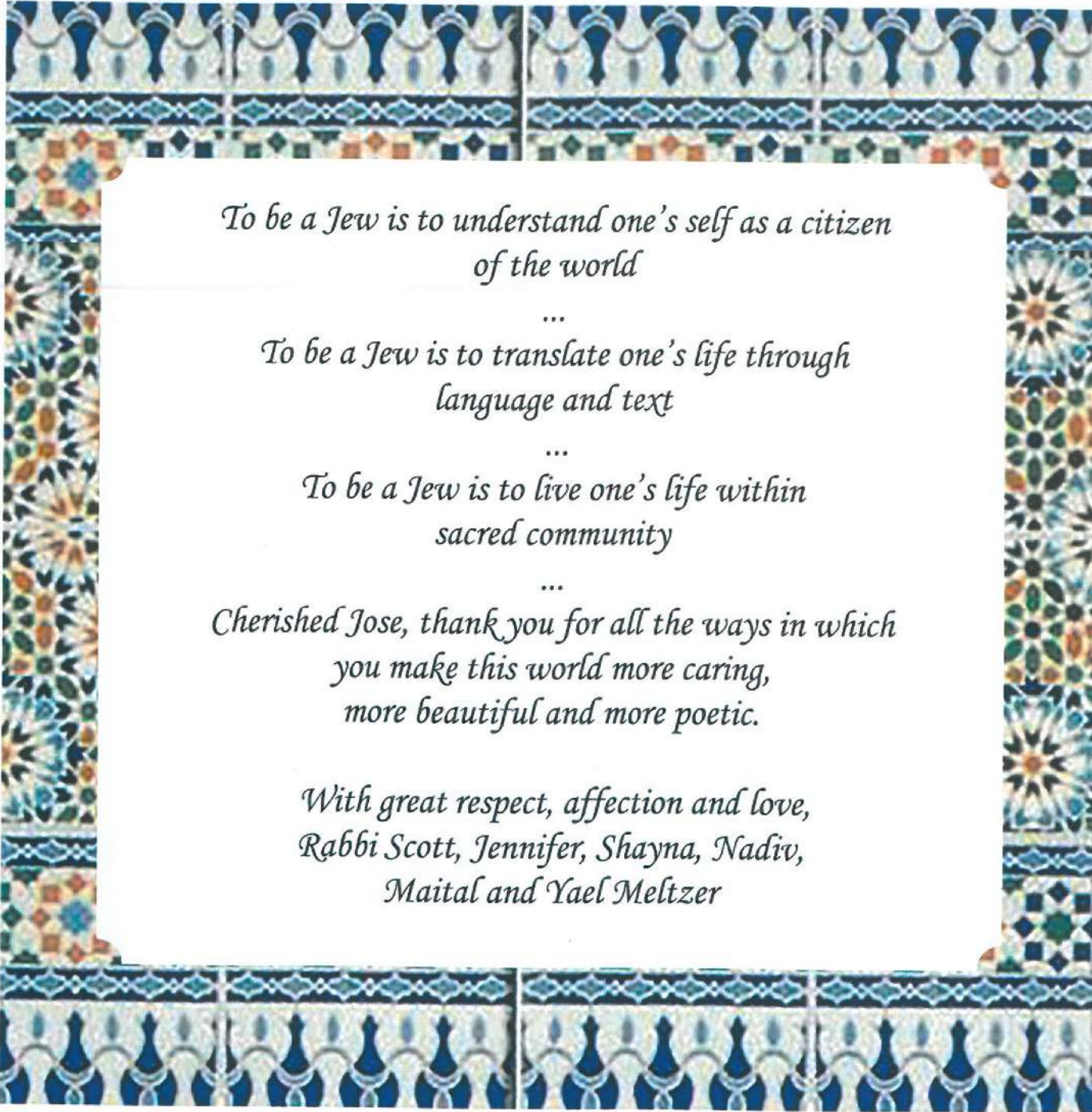
*Rafael, Karla, Gregorio, Melissa, Jaye, Jaime, Denisse,
Ilan, Mariel, Shelly, Oz, David, Gabriel, Daniel, Jose,
Eduardo, Yosi,
Andrea, Natalia, Isaac, Nicole
y Ariel Joseph*



*May your kindness
and dedication
continue to serve as a model
for
our community.*

*Mazal Tov
on this deserved honor.*

David and Reina Shteremberg



*To be a Jew is to understand one's self as a citizen
of the world*

...

*To be a Jew is to translate one's life through
language and text*

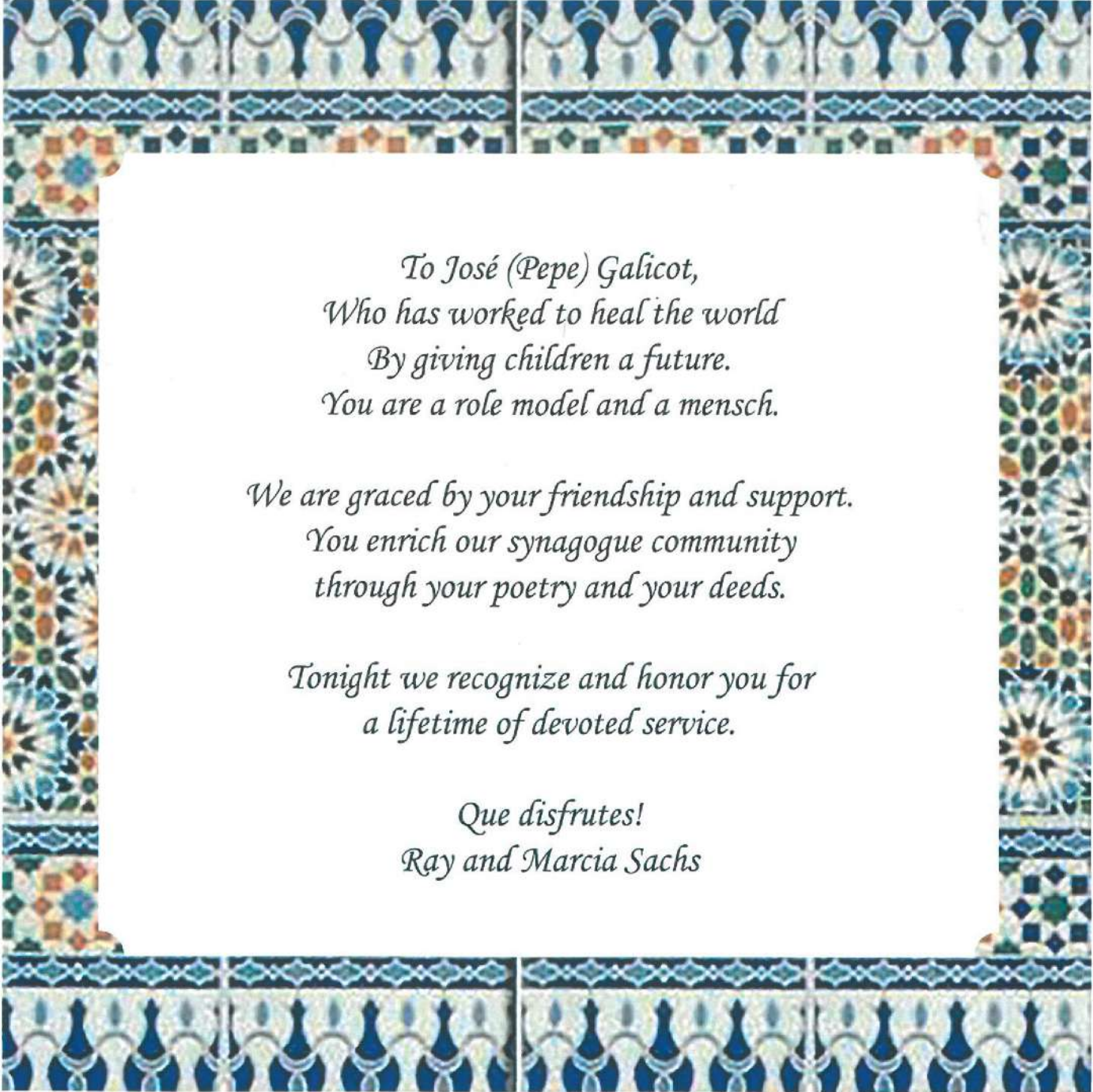
...

*To be a Jew is to live one's life within
sacred community*

...

*Cherished Jose, thank you for all the ways in which
you make this world more caring,
more beautiful and more poetic.*

*With great respect, affection and love,
Rabbi Scott, Jennifer, Shayna, Nadiv,
Mital and Yael Meltzer*




*To José (Pepe) Galicot,
Who has worked to heal the world
By giving children a future.
You are a role model and a mensch.*

*We are graced by your friendship and support.
You enrich our synagogue community
through your poetry and your deeds.*

*Tonight we recognize and honor you for
a lifetime of devoted service.*

*Que disfrutes!
Ray and Marcia Sachs*



*Dear Jose,
Mazal Tov and Todah Rabah
We are grateful
for
Your generosity and dedication*

...


Your long-standing support of our community

....

Your wonderful family

....

*The Officers and Board of Directors
of Ohr Shalom Synagogue*



*Congratulations
Pepe
on this well-deserved honor.*

*We are proud to count you
as a friend.*

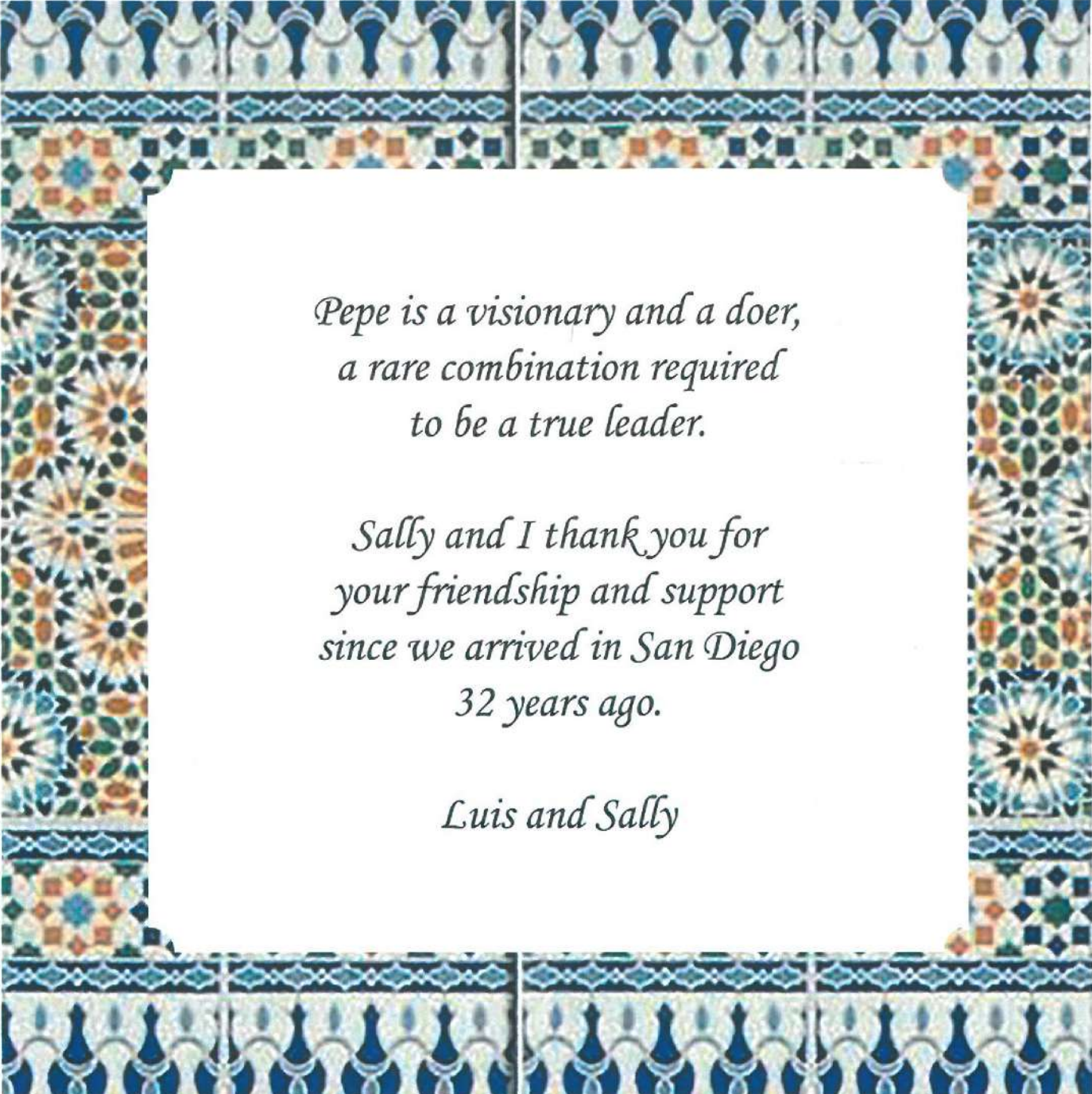
Becky and Jerry Gumpel



Hazak! Hazak!

All good wishes!


Beverly Schmier and family



*Pepe is a visionary and a doer,
a rare combination required
to be a true leader.*

*Sally and I thank you for
your friendship and support
since we arrived in San Diego
32 years ago.*

Luis and Sally



*Thank you
for all your good works here
and in Tijuana.*

*You are a true pillar
of the community.*

*Carlos and Esther Michan
and family*



Learning for life.

San Diego Jewish Academy Salutes José Galicot

Pepe's Values are Our Values

Menschlichkeit

Doing the right thing, having integrity

Klal Ysrael

Being part of the Jewish community and people

Torah

Study and learning for life

Avodah

Prayer and spirituality

Gemilut Hasadim

Kindness to others

Ahavat Adonai

Love of God, knowing we are never alone

Israel

Love for and connection to Israel

Pepe also embodies the spirit of community and entrepreneurship.

He is a dedicated family man, an accomplished poet and businessman, and a kind-hearted philanthropist who fulfills the mitzvah of tzedakah. He is beloved

by all who know him. May our shared values endure, and Pepe, may you continue to be an inspiration to the Jewish community and the community at large.

Kol Hakavod!

SAN DIEGO JEWISH ACADEMY

*To our friend Pepe Galicot
Hazak u Baruch*

*May you be blessed with many years
and much success in all your worthy endeavors*

Raulf & Sharon Polichar

*We are pleased to join with Ohr Shalom
in honoring*

Jose Galicot

*We are deeply inspired by his constant demonstrations
of enthusiasm, concern, dedication and generosity toward
his community and his people.*

Ivan and Lynn Mendelsohn

We are proud to call Jose Galicot our friend. We congratulate you on receiving this exemplary recognition of your good works in our community. As a husband, father, grandfather, journalist, poet and philanthropist you have brought honor to our synagogue and community. You have touched everyone whom you have met.

*Congratulations to our friend
and his loving family.*

The Heyman and Casuto Families

Gracias José, for all that you have done for our community and the world. Nos encanta tu poesía...

- Ilan y Lynn Awerbuch

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*Thank you for your many contributions to Ohr Shalom:
Your poetry, your generosity
and your wisdom.*

Susie and Eli Meltzer

*Congratulating you
on this well-deserved honor.*

*Lots of Love,
Sarita and Samy Zands*

*Pepe, you are a beloved member of our
Havurah Rishonim.
We take special pride in saluting you and
appreciate greatly all that you have done
for our synagogue,
Israel and the San Diego-Tijuana community.*

*Doreen and Morris Casuto,
Vicky and Eddy Cohen, Silvia Gold,
Michal and Alberto Hamui, Stan Heyman,
Fanny and Ruben Rosental,
Stella and Tito Salzmann,
Roberta and Marty Shoman,
Eva and Enrique Zagursky.*

*Thank you, Gracias,
and Todah Rabah
for all you do for the
San Diego community,
for Mexican communities
and for the Ohr Shalom community
and Israeli communities.*

Al and Marilyn Shelden



*Jose, it hasn't been easy
to form the right words to
honor and pay tribute to you
for being such an incredible
friend and supporting the
Ken Jewish Community
during what seems a
lifetime.*

*You have been a catalyst of change in the lives of
countless children in our Maccabi Tikvat Major
program. Your consistent support and assistance
has been, for us, a warm and bright ray of light.
Being that our needs are many, your aid has always
helped us greatly.*

*From every member of the Ken Family, Thank You
for your partnership as we continue our efforts to
educate our children in the steps of your legacy.*

*The Ohr Shalom Religious School
families honor
Jose Galicot
for his commitment
and dedication to Ohr Shalom.
Yasher Koach!*

*Recognising Pepe for his years
of service to the community.*

Hazak Ve'Ematz

Ruben and Fanny Rosental



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Felicidades

*por un merecido reconocimiento,
por toda tu entrega,
esfuerzo y dedicación
hacia nuestra comunidad.*

*Estamos orgullosos de ver tu compromiso
que tienes para
fortalecer y enriquecer nuestra comunidad
para todas las futuras generaciones.*

*Con admiración y cariño,
Eva y Strul Goldstein*

*We thank you and admire
you for your dedication*

*You make a difference
in our community*

Ruben and Jave Artenstein

Pepe

*Congratulations for a
well deserved honour*

Esther & Mario Modiano

Mazal Tov!

**Stuart Rubenstein, MD, FAAP
Certified Mohel
Chief of Pediatrics**

**Scripps Memorial Hospital
www.brisforbaby.com**

Email: rubenstein@brisforbaby.com

Telephone: (858) 793-4563



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for all Jewish
Affiliations

We applaud all you do to help our people.

Love

Julie Phillips and Don Wright

An honor well deserved.

Vivien and Jeffrey Ressler

Yasher Koach!

May you live long to more Ma'asim Tovim.

Ruben and Susanne Lisker

You are a man of vision, charity and boundless energy. Your understanding of the border and its importance for this region and, indeed, for the improvement of U.S.-Mexico relations is unsurpassable. Thank you for all you do.

Jeff and Joan Davidow

Mazal Tov!

**With best wishes,
The Yanofsky Family**

**In honor of Don Jose,
Mazal Tov, Yasher Koach y Muchas Felicidades!**

Deborah Suissa & Tomas Marquez

**Querido Pepe:
Muchas felicidades por tan merecido homenaje.
Nos sentimos muy orgullosas de poder
considerarnos tus amigas.**

Las Estudiosas de los Lunes

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Thank you Pepe for the many mitzvot
you have done for Ohr Shalom,
in San Diego, in Mexico, and in Israel.

Adat Amigos Havurah

In honor of Jose Galicot and his love for
music and poetry.

With best wishes from
The Ohr Shalom Choir

Sisterhood appreciates the generosity and
dedication Jose and Janche have shown to
our Ohr Shalom Family.
Your love for our Shul and Jewish community
is a stellar example to us all.

Kol Hakavod!

Honor a quien honor se merece y muy bien
merecido!

Con mucho carino,
Vicky y Eddy Cohen

Kol Hakavod Pepe!

With love,
Salo y Rosita Arya

Mazal Tov and Yasher Koach.

George and Susan Kaplan

Best wishes and congratulations to
our honoree.

Stephen Blum

Mazal Tov!
Con mucho carino

Shime and Linda Rosenthal

Mazal Tov
With our very best wishes,

Samuel and Hela Levine and family
Yoav and Livy Levine and family

Pepe:

Mazel Tov for the Tribute that you are receiving.
Thank you for your dedication to the
Community and for making a difference
in the lives of others.
We can change the world if we all help
each other.

Sandy and Goyo Goldstein

We celebrate you and honor you!
Mazal Tov!

Carolina and Isidoro Behar and family



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Branch Manager
Vice President

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With Best
Wishes



Ezra Hanono
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Thank you for your commitment, generosity
and leadership to the International
Jewish Community.

Hazak Ve'Ematz

Rachel Millstone

Mazal Tov !



Maxine Weseley, MS
(619) 251-8543
mweseley@gmail.com

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We Honor and Celebrate You!

Sarah Artenstein

Steven and Pam Auerbach

Vanina Bunton

Mauricio and Lily Deicas

Danny and Linda Kucinski and family

Meg and Allan Goldstein

Barbara Haislip

Enrique Moscona

Augusto and Angeles Muniesa

Yale Strom and Elizabeth Schwartz

Eileen Wingard

Jane Zeer





Acknowledgments

Thank you to everyone who so lovingly devoted their time and effort into making this a truly special occasion!

Melissa Galicot, Chairperson

Laura Araujo

Rene Beiza

Ana Galicot

Joy Heitzmann

Susie Meltzer

Ivan Mendelsohn

Lynn Mendelsohn

Zeji Ozeri

Ray Sachs

Deborah Suissa

Event and Invitation Design: Karla Caloca

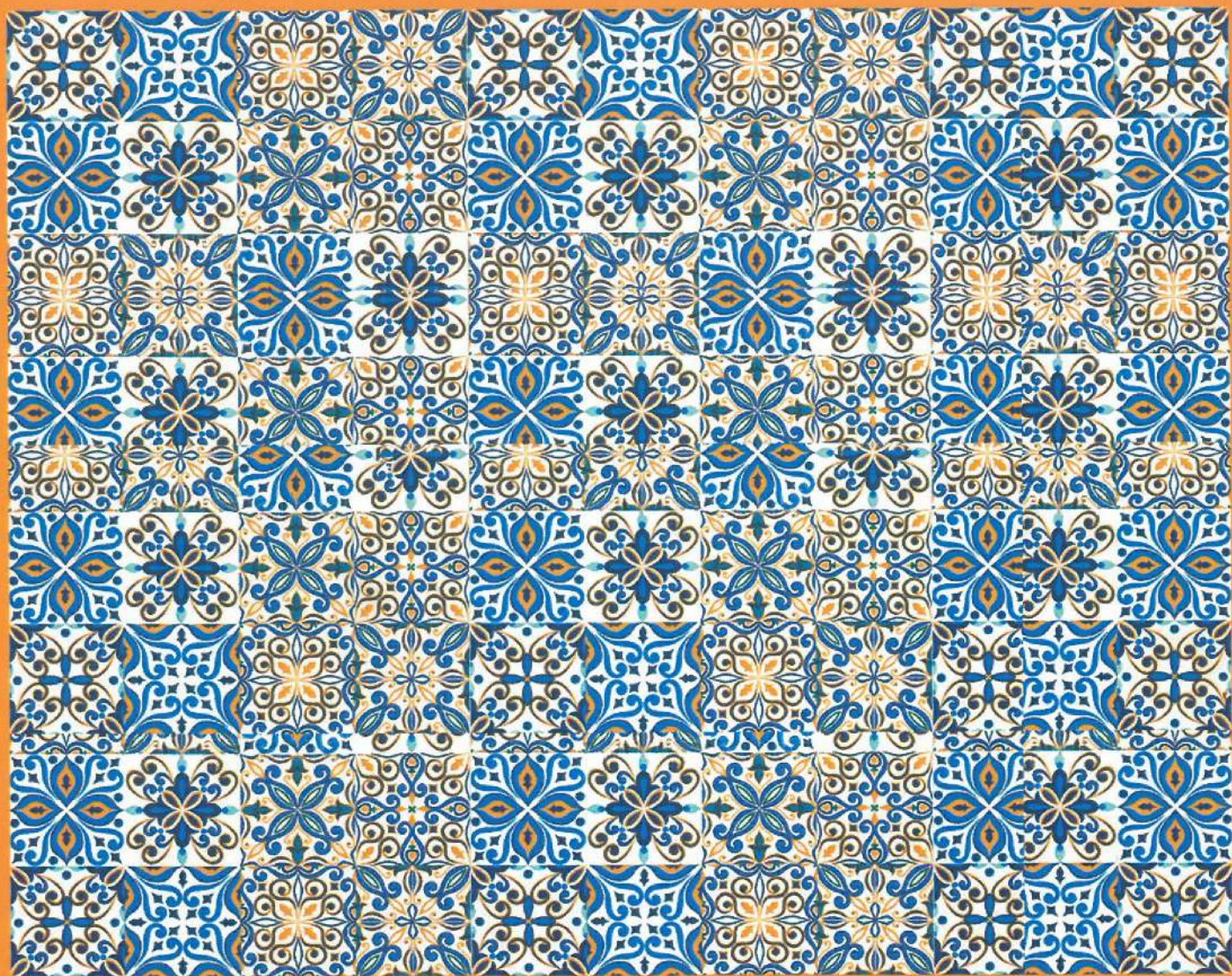
Tribute Journal Design Layout: Allyson Darroch

Tribute Journal Printing: Ken Fine, Fletcher Hills Printing

We extend our gratitude to everyone who attended, placed a greeting in this Tribute Journal and donated items for the drawing.

Until next year!





11TH ANNUAL LIGHTS OF OHR SHALOM