



The Jewish Grad Organization



IMPACT REPORT

2023-2024



Welcome



Welcome Letter from **Rabbi Dave Sorani, CEO**

Dear Friends of JGO,

As we reflect on this past year, we are filled with gratitude for the JGO community we continue to build and strengthen together. This year, our Jewish Graduate Organization has been a vibrant hub of connection and growth, a place where Jewish grad students from diverse backgrounds come together to share traditions, celebrate Jewish life, and deepen their sense of purpose and identity.

Since October 7th, life on grad campuses has presented new and significant challenges for our students and this has created an environment where many feel isolated, vulnerable, or misunderstood. In response, our organization has worked tirelessly to provide a safe, supportive space where grad students can find comfort, understanding, and unity. We are committed to ensuring that every Jewish student feels empowered and supported in navigating these times.

As we close out this year, I am incredibly proud to reflect on the remarkable growth and progress JGO has achieved, thanks to your unwavering support. This year has been one of tremendous development, expanding our reach and strengthening our impact in ways we could only envision a few years ago.

From increasing the number of grad students we serve to launching new, transformative programs, our growth has been a testament to the dedication of the JGO team, the resilience of our community, and the generosity of supporters like you. Together, our organization has not only grown in numbers but also in our ability to fulfill our mission, making a difference in more lives than ever before.

Our achievements this year span beyond metrics; they are reflected in the personal stories of those we serve, the partnerships we have forged, and the sustainable initiatives we have implemented. This growth inspires us daily and fuels our commitment to creating lasting, positive change.

As you read through this report, we hope you'll feel as proud as we do. Together, we are building a brighter future for the Jewish community, and we look forward to reaching even greater heights in the coming year.

Thank you for being an integral part of this journey. We look forward to sharing more milestones and moments with you in the year ahead.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dave Sorani'.

Dave

Year in Review

2023-2024



155

CAMPUSES

10K

STUDENTS



15K

ATTENDANCE



Year in Review

2023-2024



650+
EVENTS

\$2.5M
BUDGET



2023-2024 HIGHLIGHTS

650+ student-led events on campus, from Jewish celebrations to industry speakers.

700+ Shabbat Across America attendees across 5 locations for healing and solidarity after October 7th

181 Shabbat & Holiday programs for graduate students

166 Fellows across 3 cohorts completed JGO's prestigious Sloan Fellowship

2 sold-out JELCONS (Jewish Executive Leadership Conference) in NYC and LA

Supporting Graduate Students

TODAY'S CHALLENGES ON CAMPUS



Rising Antisemitism

It's open season for Jew hatred on campus. 68% of JGO students personally experienced antisemitism on campus last year.



Weak Identity

Record disengagement among Gen Z plus lack of education about Judaism and antisemitism make it difficult for Jewish students to defend themselves.

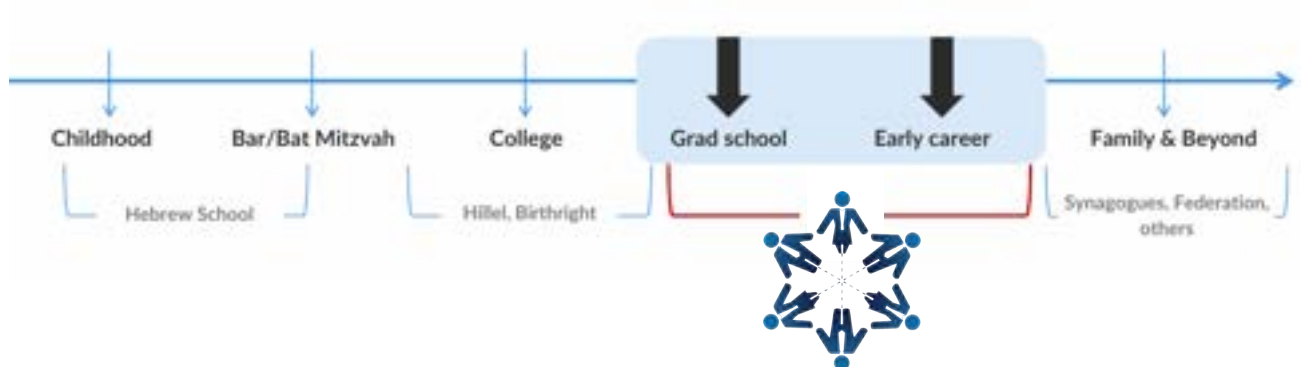


Admin Inaction

Jewish students are alienated by inadequate responses of administrations to the rise in antisemitism and thus feel unsafe expressing their Jewish identity.

JGO FILLS THE GAP

JGO helps bridge the gap in the American Jewish ecosystem between college and career, a critical development stage in which 10+ years may elapse where young adults are offered little Jewish programming tailored to their station in life.



A Year Like *No Other*



The disturbing and dramatic rise of antisemitism in recent years—especially on campus—has been one of our Jewish community's most pressing issues, well before the horrors of October 7.

On October 7, antisemitism at graduate schools burst out into the open. Since that day, our team has worked around the clock taking concrete action to support our students, promote Jewish pride and stand up to the alarming trend of Jew-hatred on campus. Today, it seems like everyone is talking about the challenges Jewish students face on campus. But very few organizations are actually on the front lines, directly assisting those students on campus. And those who do are overwhelmingly servicing the undergraduate population. Only JGO is solely focused on advocating for the rights of Jewish graduate students according to their unique needs and concerns.

As we reflect on the past year, we are proud of how we quickly responded to the needs on campuses, reaffirming our commitment to instilling Jewish pride during a critical time. Faced with unprecedented challenges, we doubled down on our mission, expanding our programming and reaching new students who had never been involved before.

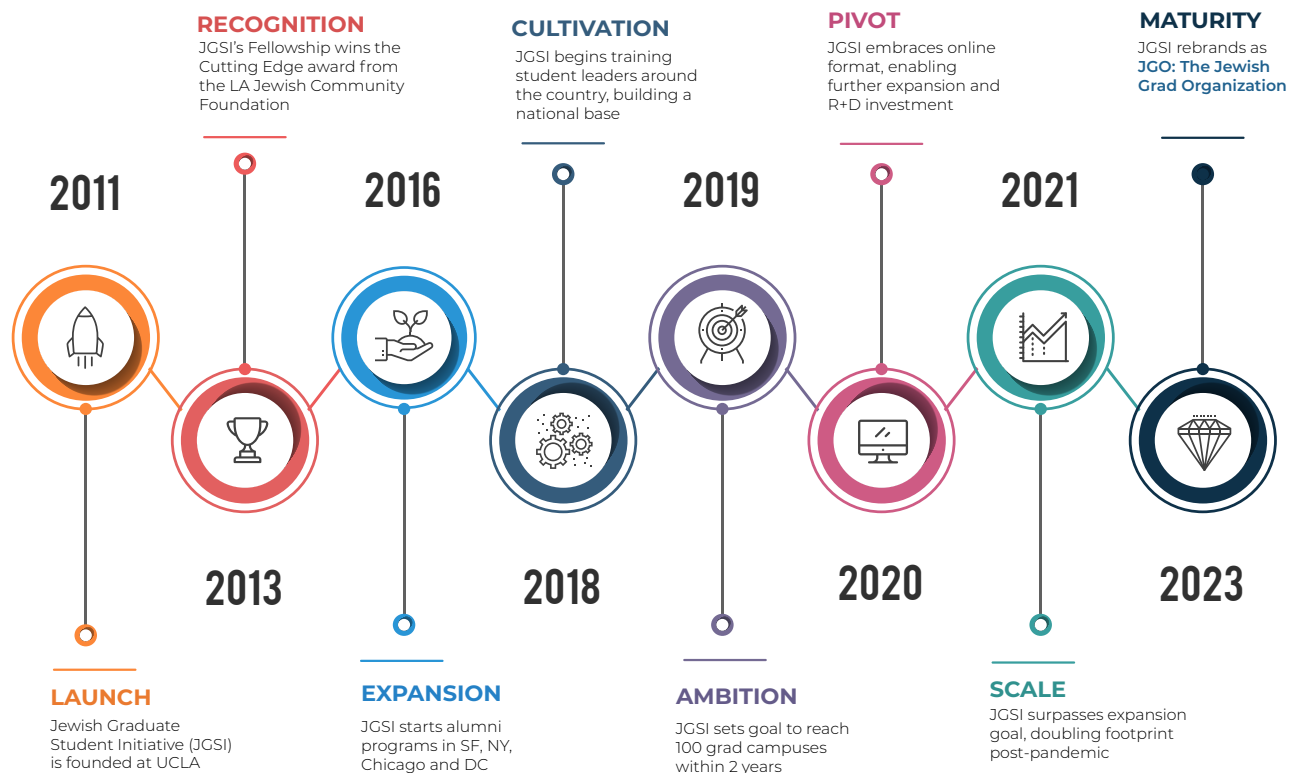
Our Bar Mitzvah Year

This year marks a significant milestone for us—our Bar Mitzvah year. Just as a Bar Mitzvah represents coming of age and taking on new responsibilities, we have embraced this pivotal moment to grow and evolve. We made the change from JGSI (Jewish Graduate Student Initiative) to JGO: The Jewish Graduate Organization. Over the past year, we have not only increased our programming but also diversified our offerings to better meet the needs of our students.

For our Bar Mitzvah, we're celebrating YOU! Your involvement has been instrumental in helping us expand our reach and enhance our programs. Mazel tov to all of us on this journey together!

As we celebrate this milestone, we are hopeful about the future and remain committed to empowering the next generation with a strong sense of Jewish identity and pride.

JGSI IS NOW JGO - LOOK HOW MUCH YOU'VE HELPED US GROW!



Campus Corner



MAIZE & JEW

Ross School of Business
University of Michigan

Campus Corner

WHAT OUR STUDENT LEADERS HAVE TO SAY



David Shumunov,
Co-President, JLSA,
Brooklyn Law School '26

"JGO has enabled my e-board and I to host meaningful events and create a community for our students - hailing from all over the country. We've even started an amazing mentorship program, connecting 2nd and 3rd year students with 1Ls and providing them with guidance on navigating law school and the profession."

Fun Fact: I've wanted to be a lawyer since I was 9, and in about a year and a half, I'll finally be one!



Susan Radov
Co-President, JBA,
Northwestern Kellogg '25

"The best part about (JGO's) Partners Summit was meeting and brainstorming with inspiring Jewish leaders who bring synergy to our clubs, along with having a safe space to discuss the impact of antisemitism and anti-Zionism on our community."

**Fun fact:
I speak Mandarin & French!**

Campus Corner



Mishela Kravets,
Co-President, JLSA,
UC Davis Law '25

"JGO is not only a network, it is a lifeline for students during times when educational institutions are placating the loudest voices, instead of those that are trying to abide by institutional rules. As the Jewish Law Student Association President, I was able to consult with JGO about navigating antisemitism on campus, creating events for our members, and having outreach with a broader network. In the past year, we have had a 150% increase in the organization's membership, put on over 15 events, and collaborated with top legal firms to generate professional relationships. JGO is essential to maintaining unity and strength for the Jewish student community."

Fun fact:
I am originally from Kyiv, Ukraine!



Yuval Efrat
Co-President, JSA,
Harvard Business School '25

"Working with JGO had helped us as leaders of a Jewish community turn our vision into actions! For example, it enabled us to host a variety of high holidays events on campus, launch our club's first ever retreat, and invite great speakers on campus!"

Fun Fact:
Prior to college, I took a gap year and travelled in South America for 9 months.

Campus Corner

JGO CLUBS ACROSS NORTH AMERICA

GREATER LOS ANGELES

Caltech
Chapman Law
Loyola Law
Pepperdine Caruso
Southwestern Law
UC Irvine Law
UCLA Anderson
UCLA Law
UCLA Medicine
USC Cinematic Arts
USC Gould
USC Keck
USC Marshall
USC Social Work

GREATER NEW YORK

Albany Law
Albert Einstein Medicine
Brooklyn Law
Cardozo Law
Columbia Business
Columbia Law
Columbia Medicine
Columbia Social Work
Cornell Johnson
Cornell Law
CUNY Baruch
Ferkauf Psychology
Fordham Gabelli
Fordham Law
Hofstra Law
NYU Grossman
NYU JGrads
NYU Law
NYU Nursing
NYU Stern
Pace Law
Rutgers Law Newark
Rutgers Medicine
Seton Hall Law
St. John's Law
Stony Brook Medicine
SUNY Downstate Health
SUNY Optometry

Syracuse Law
Touro Law

CHICAGO / MIDWEST

Chicago Kent Law
DePaul Law
Indiana Kelley
Iowa Law
Loyola Law
Northwestern Feinberg
Northwestern Kellogg
Northwestern Pritzker
UChicago Booth
UChicago Law
UIC Law
University of Illinois Law

GREATER PHILADELPHIA

Delaware Widener Law
Drexel Law
Penn State Law
Rutgers Law Camden
Temple Law
UPenn Carey
UPenn Wharton
Villanova Law
DC / MD / VA
American University Law
George Mason Scalia Law
Georgetown Law
Georgetown McDonough
GW Law
GW Medicine
Johns Hopkins Carey
Johns Hopkins Nursing
UMaryland Law
University of Baltimore Law
University of Richmond Law
UVA Law
UVA Darden
Virginia Tech Grad Studies

NEW ENGLAND

BU Law
BU Questrom
Harvard Business

Harvard Kennedy
Harvard Law
MIT Sloan
New England Law
Northeastern Law
Quinnipiac Medicine
Suffolk Law
Tuck at Dartmouth
Tufts Veterinary
UConn Law
UConn Medicine
Yale Law
Yale Medicine
Yale SOM

BAY AREA

Golden Gate Law
Santa Clara Law
Stanford GSB
Stanford Law
UC Berkeley Haas
UC Berkeley Law
UC College of Law, SF
UC Davis Law

CENTRAL EAST

CMU Tepper
Duquesne Law
Michigan Dentistry
Michigan Law
Michigan Ross
Ohio State Moritz Law
Pitt Law
UCincinnati Law
Wayne State Law

SOUTHEAST

Duke Fuqua
Duke Law
Emory Goizueta
Emory Law
Emory Medicine
Emory Rollins
FIU Law
FSU Law
FSU Medicine

GSU Law
Nova Southeastern Law
SMU Dedman
St. Thomas Law
Tulane Law
UF Law
UF Medicine
UF Warrington
UGA Law
UMiami Herbert
UMiami JGrads
UMiami Law
UNC Chapel Hill Business
UNC Medicine
USouth Carolina Law
UT Austin Law
UT McGovern Medicine
Vanderbilt Law
Vanderbilt Owen

CANADA

McGill Law
Osgoode Hall Law
Ottawa Law
Queen's Law
Toronto Law
Toronto Rotman
Universite de Montreal
Windsor Law

WESTERN US

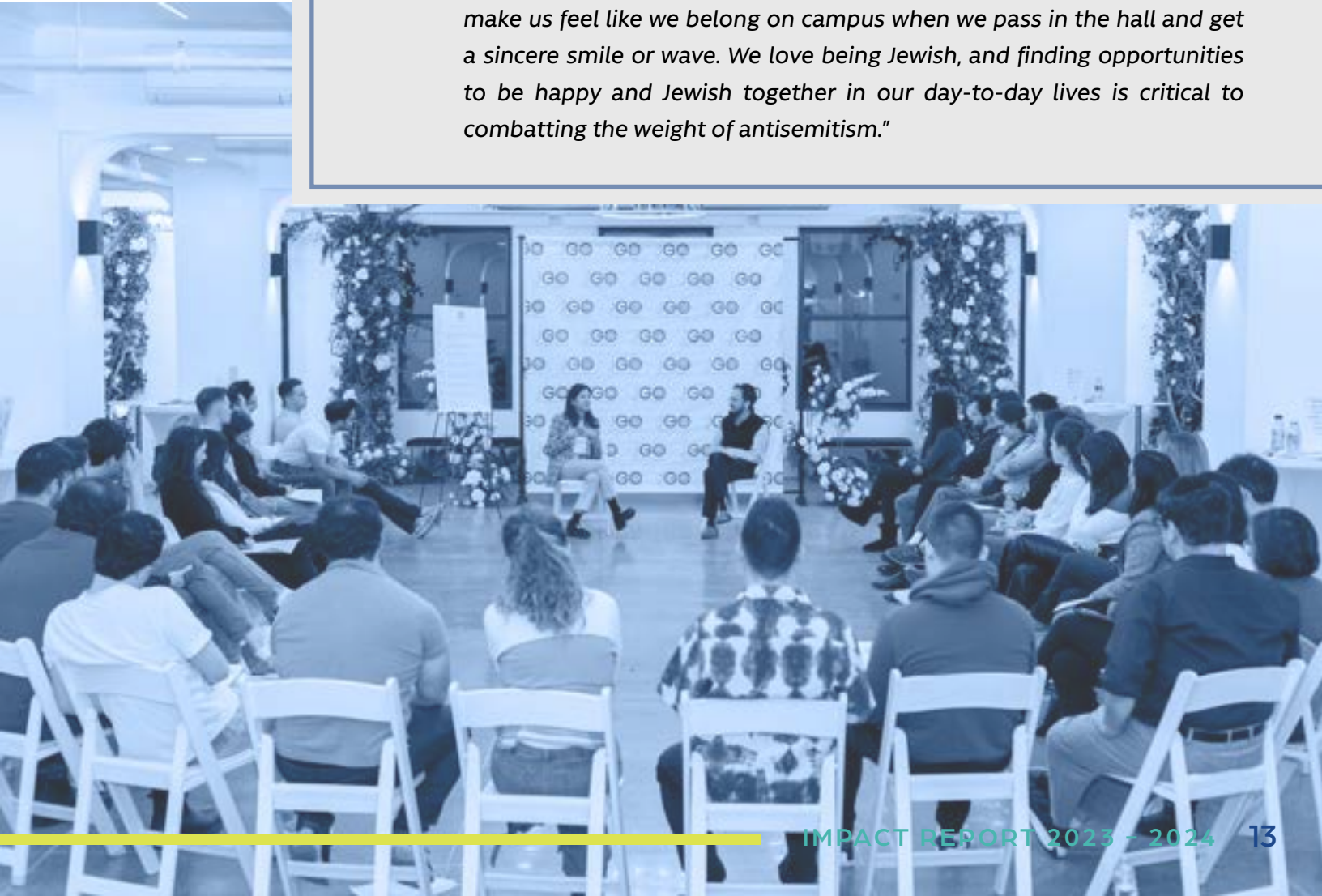
Arizona State Law
Seattle U Law
UArizona Law
UCSD Grad Schools
University of Oregon
JGrads
University of Oregon Law
University of San Diego Law
University of Washington Law
UNLV Boyd Law

Campus Corner



Charlotte Aaron, Past Co-President, JSABL, Berkeley Law '24

"JGO programming is critical to ensuring Jewish students, in the face of constant hostility, have a community to feel physically and psychologically safe in. All day we are forced to engage with peers who have said extremely hurtful and discriminatory things and who explicitly support, encourage, and celebrate terror against our people. We put on smiles and act cordially, because there is no other choice, but it's exhausting. Through JGO, Jewish students are able to create space to be together, to mourn and cry together, and to be proudly Jewish together! JGO sponsors social and religious events that give us opportunities to develop relationships with other Jewish classmates who we don't necessarily see in class, but who make us feel like we belong on campus when we pass in the hall and get a sincere smile or wave. We love being Jewish, and finding opportunities to be happy and Jewish together in our day-to-day lives is critical to combatting the weight of antisemitism."



Off-Campus Signature Programs



JELCON

The Jewish Executive Leadership Conference, sponsored by the Redstone Family (“JELCON”) is a unique forum where C-level Jewish executives across various industries share their wisdom with Jewish grad students and young executives. For years, JELCON has provided young Jews career inspiration, superb networking, and Jewish pride.



What does JELCON do?

- Strengthens our community by engaging Jewish business professionals and binding them to one another through their common interests and Jewish heritage
- Provides a broad audience with deep insights into a variety of careers, industries, and markets, thereby creating a repository of invaluable business expertise
- Combats negative stereotypes by proudly displaying living examples of Jewish ethical leadership— in business, in philanthropy, and in humanitarianism

Off-Campus Signature Programs

JGO SLOAN FELLOWSHIP

JGO's Fellowship for Ethics and Leadership is an award-winning, groundbreaking Jewish learning and leadership training program that has inspired the next generation of Jewish leadership for hundreds of young adults.

Over the course of a semester, three cohorts of select grad students and young professionals across North America immerse in deep reflection on Jewish ethical values and communal responsibility catalyzed by intensive, purposeful Jewish learning experiences, dynamic presentations by Jewish philanthropic leaders, and introductions to Jewish charities.

The Fellowship has been especially successful in providing context for meaningful Jewish expression for those not previously engaged with Judaism, helping them rediscover Jewish ideas and traditions that resonate with their lives and ambitions.



The JGO Fellowship By the Numbers (since inception)



21

Cohorts
(including
LA, NY,
Online)



205

Group
Sessions



172

Speakers &
Mentors
Engaged



895

Fellows



26,860

Hours of Jewish
Learning

Off-Campus Signature Programs

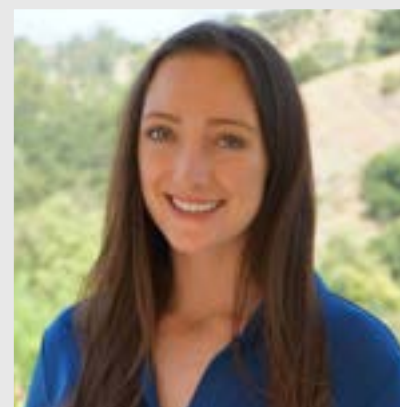


JEWISH EXECUTIVE WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP (JEWL)

JEWL is a cutting-edge initiative of JGO, exclusively by women, for women. This competitive program empowers an elite cohort of female Jewish graduate students, alumni, and young professionals—together with top female Jewish executives, attorneys and nonprofit leaders—

Emily Dinino,
Founder & CEO: ThermoShade
UCLA Anderson School of Management '22

"At a particularly challenging time for the Jewish community, the JEWL program has brought me so much joy and pride. The speakers articulated so beautifully how being Jewish has guided them through their lives and careers. This program has encouraged me to get more involved with the Jewish community in Los Angeles and I feel that I now have the friends and the resources to do so."



Off-Campus Signature Programs



through mentorship, leadership training, education, and community service. We are cultivating the next generation of Jewish women executives, lay leaders, and philanthropists.

Participants meet for eight sessions featuring unparalleled access to an exclusive set of Jewish female leaders from both the executive and nonprofit worlds.



**Ari Kruger, Director, Member Experience, Tia Inc.
UCLA Anderson School of Management '21**

"JEWL served an especially powerful role for me at this moment in my life where I'm facing many identity transitions as a new mother and as I explore next steps in my career. The element I was most delightfully surprised by was the connection of each week's conversation topics to Jewish values. I realized that much of the meaning I've been looking to find in my career I would actually much more realistically find in reconnecting to my Jewish spirituality. It also made me start to consider how I will bring Judaism into my household as we grow our family"

Off-Campus Signature Programs

CONNECT

Connect, our signature legal networking mixer and charity cocktail hour, hosted across the U.S. and Canada, inspires connections between Jewish legal professionals and business executives at all stages.



Alumni Corner

POST-GRADUATE INVOLVEMENT

Involvement in JGSI doesn't end when students graduate. Our participants are at a unique inflection point in their lives.

The majority of our participants are not involved with any other Jewish organization. JGO serves as their Jewish lifeline.

Following graduation, career mobility makes it difficult for alumni to commit to a traditional synagogue-based model, and they continue relying on JGO as their sole Jewish connection.

Since 2019, we have offered all participants to "opt-in" to JGO alumni programming post-graduation. There are more than 2,700 individuals who have signed up, and the list is growing every day.

WE DISCOVERED SOME INTERESTING TRENDS:

~80%

OF OUR ALUMNI

settled in just 5 key markets

57%

OF OUR ALUMNI

were either not involved or only marginally involved in JGO during grad school

This indicates strong demand for alumni programming among those who are less affiliated.

We have big plans for our Alumni Network in 2024-25!



**Gabriel Slamovits, Associate, McCarter & English
Past President, Jewish Students Group, NYU Law '19**

Fun fact: Gabe has a knack for lyrical adaptation.

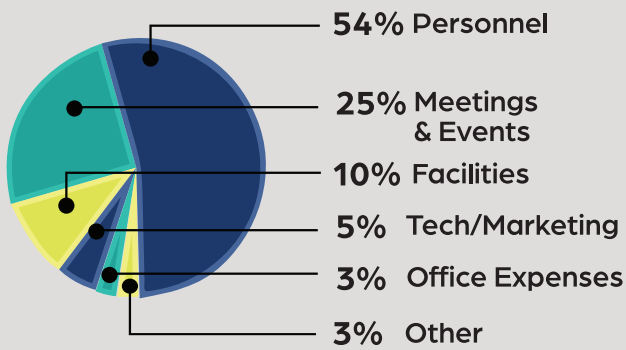
"As President of NYU's Jewish Law Students Association (JLSA), I worked closely with JGO to expand JLSA's outreach and programming, creating mentorship programs, networking receptions with alumni, a speaker series, and monthly Shabbat dinners regularly attended by 60-100 students. JGO was instrumental in helping me achieve my goal of hosting the first-ever Shabbat dinner for Jewish graduate students from all of NYU's 13 schools. We sold out with a wait list; over 200 NYU graduate students came together to celebrate Shabbat in a beautiful NYU Law event space."

Financials

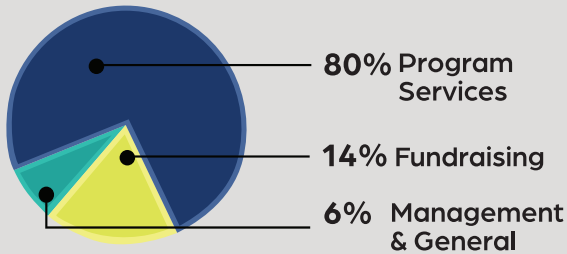
FINANCIAL REPORT 2023

Fiscal year ending 8/31/23

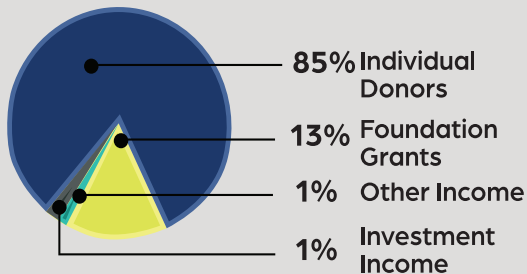
EXPENSES BY CATEGORY



FUNCTIONAL EXPENSE ALLOCATION



REVENUE STREAMS



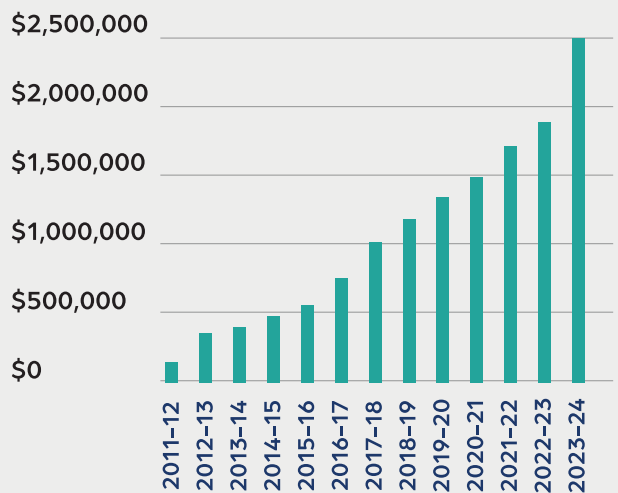
P+L

Total Revenue	\$2,129,738
Total Expenses	\$1,883,496
Net Revenue	\$246,242

BALANCE SHEET

Total Assets	\$3,538,853
Total Liabilities	\$1,337,276
Net Assets	\$2,201,577

BUDGETARY GROWTH



Form 990 and Audited Financial Statements available upon request

Executive Advisory Board

Jane Angel, Occam Global
Jonathan Ansell, Mattel
Joe Asher, William Hill
Philip Barach, Doubleline
Bob Beitcher, Motion Picture and Television Fund
Ben Brandler, Wells Fargo (New York)
Larry Braun, Sheppard Mullin
Robert Cohen, Doubleline Capital
Curtis Chambers, Uber (SF)
Scott Cohen, byte
Scott Cooper, Tegria
Brian Davidoff, Greenberg & Glusker
Philip de Toledo, The Capital Group
Jeff Epstein, Bessemer Venture Partners (SF)
David Feinberg, Sack Properties (SF)
John Frank, Oaktree Capital
*James B. Freedman, Intrepid Investment Bankers
Joel Fried, PRIMECAP Management Co.
Andrew Friedman, Shorenstein Company (SF)
Amy Friedlander Hoffman, Liquid Death
Mark Friedman, Entrepreneur
Scott Friedman, Rare Beauty
Neil Garfinkel, AGMB Law
Doug Goldman, Certain Software (SF)
Steve Green, Kibel Green
Sherry Gunther, POPmedia Brands
Jeri J. Harman, Avante Mezzanine Partners
Stacy Harrison, Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe
Andrew Hauptman, Andell Inc
Jon Hirshberg, JR286
Zachary Hoffman, First Republic Bank (SF)
David Hornik, August Capital (SF)
Stephen Kaplan, Oaktree Capital Management
Ilene Kobert, Subway
Tyler Korff, National Amusements
Michael Kraus, Expak Logistics
Ethan Kurzweil, Bessemer Venture Partners Prof.
Laurie Levenson, Loyola Law School
Estela Wolf Levin, The Capital Group

Glen Lewy, Hudson Venture Partners
Jamie McCourt, US Ambassador to France & Monaco (ret.)
Laurence Midler, CBRE
Adam Miller, Cornerstone on Demand
Steve Miller, Origin Ventures (Chicago)
Dave Mirsky, Pacific Rim Capital
Steven Nichols, K-Swiss
Shelby Notkin, The Capital Group
Larry Platt, Strategy Advantage
AJ Prager, Prager Strategic Group
Adam Reich, Paul Hastings (Chicago)
Steve Robinson, Reimagine
Alexandra Rosen, GoDaddy
Kate Rubenstein, Blackstone
Yoni Saban, Saban Brands Israel, Ltd.
Ted Samuels, The Capital Group
Scott Sandler, The Capital Group
Dave Saxe, Calvera Partners (SF)
Steve Segall, Evercore
Neal Schore, Triton Media Group
Jeff Schwartz, Corbel Capital Partners
James Segil, Openpath
Orrin Shifrin, Equity Commonwealth (Chicago)
Brian Singer, Nobl9 (Boston)
Gary Singer, RSI Holding LLC
Mike Singer, Strategic Partners
Jonathan Skogmo, Jukin Media
Sheryl Skolnick, Optum (New York)
Michael Sorochinsky, Cypress Equity Investments
Howard Stern, Stern and Associates LLC
Josh Ufberg, Atalaya Capital Management
John Usdan, Midwood Trading Co (New York)
Andrea Wainer, Abbott (Chicago)
Ben Walter, JP Morgan Chase
Brian Weinstein, Bad Robot
Rabbi Dave Sorani, JGO

*Chairman



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