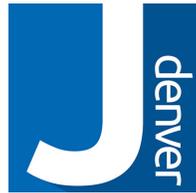


**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



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**Staenberg-Loup Jewish Community Center Announces Honorees for  
Virtual Annual Celebration on October 24, 2020**

*Don Kortz to receive Robert E. Loup Hineni Award; Stuart Bombel to receive the Gerald S. Gray Service and Leadership Award; Tributes made to Art Kleinstein and Steve Wilson*

**DENVER, Colo., August 11, 2020** – The [Staenberg-Loup Jewish Community Center](#) (JCC Denver) just announced the honorees for the 2020 JCC Virtual Annual Celebration being held on Saturday, October 24. Don Kortz will receive the Robert E. Loup Hineni Award and Stuart Bombel will receive the Gerald S. Gray Service and Leadership Award. In addition, the JCC Denver will pay tribute to Art Kleinstein, a longtime supporter of the JCC who recently passed away and Steve Wilson, Executive Artistic Director of the Mizel Arts and Culture Center who will be moving on from that role in September.

“We look forward to honoring Don and Stuart, our award recipients, as well as Art and Steve, for their dedication and support of the JCC over the years,” said Lara Knuettel, chief executive officer of the JCC Denver. “We are grateful to have such amazing people in our community that believe in the JCC and have dedicated themselves to ensuring the success of our beloved Jewish Community Center.”

Don Kortz will receive the Robert E. Loup Hineni Award for his accomplishments as the chairman of the JCC Board of Directors over the past two years. During this time, he was instrumental in building a strong foundation for the JCC Denver that has allowed the organization to confidently look towards the future.

The award acknowledges local, community leaders whose interests and support span an array of important agencies, recognizing those whose philanthropy and volunteerism has a local, regional and often global impact.

Stuart will receive the Gerald S. Gray Service and Leadership Award for his extraordinary dedication of time, expertise and money contributed to JCC, which includes dramatically reshaping and refreshing critical spaces at the facility including the outdoor pool, preschool terrace and The Backyard.

The Gerald S. Gray Service and Leadership Award acknowledges volunteers who are dedicated leaders within the JCC Denver community. The award was named after two-time

JCC Board President and long-time JCC board member, Jerry Gray, who spent his entire adult life actively involved in Jewish life as a JCC community leader.

The JCC Denver will pay tribute to Art Kleinstein, who supported the JCC in a variety of ways including through the Mizel Arts and Culture Center, annual poker tournament and others. Mr. Kleinstein was a member of the film selection committee for the annual Denver Jewish Film Festival.

The JCC will also honor Steve Wilson for his 26+ years at the Mizel Arts and Culture Center. Mr. Wilson has facilitated artistry of all kinds and at all levels in our community. He supported a thriving Denver Jewish Film Festival for 15 years; helped create and run the Neustadt JAAMM Festival, a world class music and literary festival; and he earned two Henry Awards for the Denver Children's Theatre which he ran for 22 years, among many other notable successes. He will be leaving the Mizel Center in September.

Goldie Cohen and Gary Levine and the co-chairs of the virtual Annual Celebration. Carol and Larry A. Mizel are the honorary co-chairs. Virtual tickets and sponsorship opportunities will be available for purchase in August at <https://www.jccdenver.org/celebrate/>.

#### **ABOUT STAENBERG – LOUP JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER**

The [Staenberg-Loup Jewish Community Center](https://www.jccdenver.org/) (JCC Denver) serves the metro-Denver area through educational, social, cultural, fitness, sports and other programs that are rooted in Jewish values. The JCC Denver's mission is to create a vibrant and inclusive family and social gathering place, guided by these timeless Jewish values. The J's four program areas focus on connection, community and well-being and include: a robust fitness, sports, tennis and aquatic center; Early Childhood Engagement, including an Early Learning School and a variety of programs for families; the Mizel Arts and Culture Center which offers JAAMM Fest (Jewish Arts, Authors, Movies & Music), Denver Jewish Film Festival, Wolf Summer Theater Academy, Art Academy and adult art classes; summer camps including Ranch Camp and Camp Shai; intergenerational and older adult programming like the Grandparent Connect Group and Jewish Aging Mastery Program (JAMP). The JCC Denver is located at 350 S. Dahlia St. in Denver. For more information visit [jccdenver.org](https://www.jccdenver.org/), call (303) 399-2660, and connect with us on Facebook and Instagram @jccdenver.

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