

Shema Kolainu Legislative Breakfast

Shema Kolainu-Hear Our Voices, a school and center for children with autism, recently hosted their Annual Legislative Breakfast in the Renaissance Ballroom in Brooklyn, N.Y. A primary goal of this event was to educate legislators about the urgency of autism care and research, raise support and awareness and share ideas about working toward combating autism through effective public policy and legislation.

Shema Kolainu was honored to have U.S. Senators Hillary Rodham Clinton, and Charles E. Schumer serve as the honorary breakfast chairs. The breakfast was sponsored by Gristedes.

John A. Catsimatidis, chairman and CEO of Red Apple Group, Inc. served as breakfast chair.

Greetings from Mayor Michael Bloomberg were related by Nazli Parvizi, commissioner of the Mayor's Community Affairs Unit.

Councilman Simcha Felder commended Shema Kolainu on being the "unsung hero of our community," and presented the Shema Kolainu Ha-koras HaTov Award to Bruce Rudolph, director

ic Leader in 2006, he has made a great difference; never sitting with what was, always coming up with new initiatives.

State Senator Marty Golden shared his thoughts with the audience and discussed how Shema Kolainu is able to get results for parents all across the borough.

Bronx Borough President Adolfo Carrion conveyed how our larger society is in denial about the widespread impact of autism and the effect it has on families. He thanked Shema Kolainu for being leaders in recognizing autism and forcing legislation and budgeting in the right direction.

Borough President Carrion presented the Legislative Leadership Award to New York City Council Member Bill de Blasio for his dedication to the community, who commended Joshua Weinstein for his pioneering work, saying how when he took on this cause it was not easy or popular.

Adding his voice of congratulations to Shema Kolainu, Assemblyman Dov Hikind presented the State Leadership Award to New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli, noting that not only was he doing a great job as comptroller, but also doing it from the heart; "A genuine mensch."

Comptroller DiNapoli affirmed the groundbreaking work Shema Kolainu does, and expressed hope that research catches up with the excellent social service Shema Kolainu provides; "We don't have a cure, but thankfully we have Shema Kolainu."

Joshua Weinstein presented the Shema Kolainu Appreciation Award to Charles J. Antonucci, CEO and president of the Park Avenue Bank for his endless support of community initiatives and specifically Shema Kolainu and board member Milton Weinstock presented the Shema Kolainu Autism Leadership Award to Councilman David I. Weprin, New York City Council Finance Chair. Councilman Weprin spearheaded the Autism Initiative, which provides millions of dollars in funds to autism.

Symbolic checks were presented to Shema Kolainu from State Senators Kevin Parker and Diane Savino. Both senators expressed their staunch support for Shema Kolainu, and committed to continue advocating on their behalf.

Shema Kolainu opened in 1998 and located in Brooklyn, is a non-profit, non-denominational organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life of children with autism in the five boroughs of New York. Renowned for their unique and pioneering approach based on the science of Applied Behavior Analysis, they offer education and other services in the field of autism care.

This event was coordinated by The Friedlander Group. For more information on Shema Kolainu please visit their website at www.shemakolainu.org.



(L-R) Benjamin Krasna, Deputy Consul General of Israel; Ezra Friedlander, CEO, The Friedlander Group; State Senate Democratic Leader Malcolm Smith; Malcolm Hoenlein; NYS Comptroller Tom DiNapoli; Assemblyman Dov Hikind; Peter Rebenwurzel; Joshua Weinstein; Bronx Borough President Adolfo Carrion; Councilman Bill de Blasio; Yitzchak (Jules) Fleischer; Milton Weinstock; Menachem Lubinsky; John Catsimatidis; Michael Miller, executive vice president and CEO, JCRC; State Senator Diane Savino.

In addition, communal, civic and religious leaders, community philanthropists, and elected officials, were in attendance to pay tribute to several outstanding public officials and community leaders for their dedication in furthering the mission of Shema Kolainu.

Menachem Lubinsky, the dynamic president and CEO of Lubicom Marketing Consulting acted as the master of ceremonies for the breakfast. Lubinsky praised the 10 years Shema Kolainu has been in existence, and attributed the groundbreaking work they do to the vision that founder Joshua Weinstein had from when Shema Kolainu opened its doors for just three students.

of New York City Department of Design and Construction.

Peter Rebenwurzel, vice president of Shema Kolainu introduced Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz, who presented the Community Tribute Award to Yitzchok (Jules) Fleischer, community liaison to State Senator Diane Savino, for his service to the community.

Malcolm Hoenlein, executive vice chairman and CEO of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, presented the Legislative Leadership Award to New York State Senate Democratic Leader Malcolm A. Smith. Hoenlein said that since Senator Smith's appointment as Democrat-

and religious nationalist public that has been opening the door to Christianity and allowing it to slowly but surely influence the Israeli reality.

The Christian conquest is much more dangerous than the Muslim conquest because it is not direct. It is not violent. Embracing and supportive, it connects with Israel against the Muslim enemy. It supports a Jewish Land of Israel in its entirety – even speaking up for the sanctity of the connection between the Nation of Israel, the Land of Israel and the Torah of Israel. It just forgets to specify *which* Nation of Israel and *which* Torah.

Because they hide their motives and offer large sums of money to causes that are important and often crucial for Israel, it is easy to become ensnared. It took me a bit of time to realize their true intentions and, in the meantime, I also received a small number of contributions from Christian sources. They insinuated that they were Noahides (non-Jews who have accepted the seven commandments that God gave to Noah). They declared that they were not part of any church and that the crucifix offends them. They simply forgot to mention that for them, God is actually the Christian deity and the Nation of Israel is actually one that believes in that deity. Thank God it took me a relatively short time to figure out what was going on, and I cut off all ties with them.

The Christians are careful to hide their true intentions. They will not usually display the crucifix and will not mention the name of their deity in conversation with Jews. They simply "love" us – "no strings attached." But their goal is clear: to immigrate to Israel by the millions, to become citizens, and to convert us all, God forbid.

On the surface, why should we care? What difference does it make if huge sums of money for Israeli welfare causes are from Christian sources? "When

Moshiach comes, we'll ask him what religion he is," the cynics wink. But this is not a matter that can be laughed off. Money talks. The organizations that feed the hungry children of Israel will eventually control their minds.

Slowly but surely, more and more Christian institutions are being built in Israel. They have infiltrated almost every Jewish organization and they have infiltrated the political Right. Acting MKs and candidates for the Knesset from all the rightist parties have been busy running to churches in the U.S., hugging the most despicable missionaries, and giving their activities in Israel and their beliefs the legitimacy so crucial to success. Big money from these groups has been blinding the eyes of many Likud candidates, Orange MKs and rabbis – even strictly kosher haredi rabbis.

It is hard to blame the Likud candidates for taking their money. If well-known rabbis and MKs with large skullcaps and beards see nothing wrong with Christian support, why should the less religiously knowledgeable Likudnik be more stringent than they are?

Missionary activity in Israel is growing by leaps and bounds. But what mayor or politician will fight the missionaries after receiving millions from the very same "Israel-loving" organizations?

It is astounding how a history of 2,000 years of bloodshed evaporates in the face of large sums of cash. The children of Beit El will not pay the price of this abomination any time soon. The price will first be paid by the children in poor neighborhoods and in families whose Jewish identity is not well developed.

But all Jews are responsible for one another. If we do not open our eyes and reject these Christian groups and their money, we will all eventually pay the price.

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No Strings Attached

"He had recently become more religious," the reporters explained, as they described the second Jerusalem Muslim who attempted to use a bulldozer to murder Jews.

The Israeli public is already used to terror attacks in the name of Allah. These attacks are euphemistically described as "nationalistically motivated." But everybody knows in whose name the terrorists stage their murderous assaults. The Arabs who piloted the Boeing jet into the Twin Towers did not yell "Long live Saudi Arabia!" and the murderous tractor driver did not declare, "Long live the Arab nation!" Every Israeli knows what Arabs shout as they murder. They shout the Muslim motto, *Allah hu akbar*. They act in the name of their god. Their terrorism is not nationally motivated. It is religiously motivated.

As opposed to the Left, the nationalist camp – especially Israel's national religious camp – is capable of understanding and dealing with this fact. But it is specifically this camp that is rapidly falling under the influence of a religious threat even more dangerous than Islam. It is specifically the nationalist

To learn about Moshe Feiglin and Manhigut Yehudit (Jewish Leadership), visit www.jewishisrael.org.