

# THE Jewish Georgian

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## MJCCA News

**HARRY MAZIAR CLASSIC RAISES MORE THAN \$400,000.** The Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta (MJCCA) presented its annual golf tournament, the MJCCA BB&T Harry Maziar Classic (BB&T HMC), on June 5, at the Atlanta Country Club, in Marietta.

Each year, the MJCCA BB&T Harry Maziar Classic honors an outstanding member of the MJCCA whose philanthropic and volunteer commitment has helped shape Atlanta's vibrant Jewish community. This year's tournament honored Doug Kuniansky, president, MK Management Company. The tournament, which included 140 golfers, raised a record-breaking \$400,000+, through sponsorships, contributions, and a silent auction, to support MJCCA programs and scholarship funds.

"This year, the MJCCA was proud to honor Doug Kuniansky for his philanthropic leadership," said Joel Arogeti, chair, MJCCA's Board of Directors. "The Kuniansky family name has long been associated with dedication to Atlanta's Jewish community. Doug is well known and highly respected in the Jewish community as a passionate and committed philanthropist and fundraiser.

"Through his long-standing dedication," continued Arogeti, "Doug has helped enable the MJCCA to foster and ensure a vibrant greater Atlanta Jewish community and impact the lives of more than 60,000 people each year."

Kuniansky's volunteer commitments at the MJCCA have included serving as president of the advisory board, chair of the governance board, and interim CEO. He chaired the Development Committee for five years and was recognized by the Jewish Community Center Association for innovative fundraising. He has served on numerous other committees at the MJCCA, including the Governance Task Force, Capital Campaign, Strategic Planning Task Force, and Angels Campaign, as well as the BB&T HMC Host Committee, on which he served for the past six years. Doug has also served on the boards of the Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta, Jewish Family & Career Services, and The Berman Jewish Home. He is an active member of Temple Sinai.

The BB&T HMC was chaired by David Kusiel. BB&T was the 2017 title sponsor; 2017 presenting sponsors were The Ron and Lisa Brill Family Charitable Trust; Lynne and Howard Halpern; The Douglas J. Hertz Family Foundation, Inc.; Debbie and Doug Kuniansky; The Marcus Foundation; PGA Superstore; Southern Company; and The Van de Grift Family.

"Proceeds from the annual BB&T HMC tournament enable the MJCCA to provide scholarships to ensure that our innovative programs are accessible to everyone in our community," said Arogeti. "The MJCCA currently has the highest user rates in its history and serves more than 60,000 people

every year through its preschools, sports leagues, summer camps, programming for people with special needs, cultural programs and events, and more."

Additionally this year, the BB&T HMC welcomed 100 women to its Mindful Living event, which coincided with the tournament. This workshop, co-chaired by Dorita Arnold and Viki Freeman, provided practices and techniques to enable women to live their best, most balanced lives. Mindful Living guest speakers were Lena Franklin, a mindfulness-based psychotherapist, meditation instructor, and international wellness guide, and Meghan Klein Toups, a licensed professional counselor and certified holistic health coach.

2017 MJCCA BB&T Harry Maziar Classic Tournament Winners were:

- Putting contest—Isador Mitzner
- Longest drive (male)—Michael Parks
- Longest drive (female)—Jennifer Glazer Malkin
- First-place team net score—David Kurzweil, Bob King, Keith Fleming, and Jeff Wilks
- Second-place team net score—Howard Hyman, Alec Sutton, Jay Strongwater, and Bruce Morris
- Third-place team net score—Adam Beckman, Eric Tanenbaum, Ryan Halpern, and David Lorberbaum
- Fourth-place team net score—Jack Halpern, Benjamin Halpern, Cary Halpern, and Bill Brown

The 2017 BB&T HMC Host Committee members were Dorita Arnold, Billy Bauman, Adam Beckman, David Birnbrey, Ron Brill, Steven Cadranel, Michael Coles, David Dermer, Michael Dinerman, Michael Feldman, Paul Freeman, Viki Freeman, Steve Ginsberg, Lisa Greenberg, Howard Halpern, Lynne M. Halpern, Scott Jordan, Lois Kuniansky, Michael Kuniansky, Rick Lenner, Mark Lichtenstein, Harry Maziar, Todd Maziar, Josh Rosenberg, and Garrett Van de Grift.

For more information, contact Erika Barnes, at 678-812-4144 or [erika.barnes@atlantajcc.org](mailto:erika.barnes@atlantajcc.org), or visit [atlantajcc.org/golf-tournament](http://atlantajcc.org/golf-tournament).



**Tournament namesake Harry Maziar (from left); Doug Kuniansky, David Kusiel, and Joel Arogeti (Photos: Eagleshotz)**



**Doug Kuniansky (left) and Harry Maziar**

**BRILL INSTITUTE ADDS NEW COURSES FOR 2017-2018.** The Lisa F. Brill Institute, Atlanta's largest adult Jewish education program, offers classes to more than 450 students, at the MJCCA and 13 partner locations across metro Atlanta. Courses are taught by some of Georgia's most outstanding Jewish scholars, rabbis, and Emory professors, with a range of daytime and evening options.

"We are thrilled to provide an array of new courses with gifted teachers and presenters for people of all ages and denominations, looking to study Jewish topics," said Talya Gorsetman, the Brill Institute's new director. "Our classes positively and inclusively enlighten people who are interested in exploring their Judaism. Whether you are just beginning to delve into Judaism or simply want to deepen your knowledge, we have a class for you."

Fees vary by class, and some classes offered at synagogues are for members only. For registration, a complete list of classes and locations, or other information, visit [atlantajcc.org/brill](http://atlantajcc.org/brill), or call Laurie Rose at 678-812-3723.

Five new courses have been added for 2017-2018: "The Star and the Crescent: The Long Relationship of Judaism and Islam"; "Jewish Denominations: Addressing the Challenges of Modernity"; "The Lower East Side: A Window into American Jewish Immigrant Culture"; "Comparative Religions"; and "A Hidden World Discovered: The Cairo Geniza."

Other courses include: "Derech Torah: An Introduction to Judaism"; "The Saga Continues: The Books of Samuel"; "The Meaning of the Bible"; "2017: A Year of Anniversaries for Israel"; "Melton Year 1: Rhythms and Purposes of Jewish Living"; "Melton Year 2: Crossroads of Jewish History & Ethics of Jewish Living"; "Main Ideas From the Prophets"; "The Holocaust as Reflected in Diaries and Memoirs"; "Loving Yiddish Through Song"; "Foundations of Jewish Family Living"; "Jews in America: Insiders and Outsiders"; "The Book of Job: A New Perspective"; "Do You Believe



**Explore Jewish life and learning at the MJCCA Brill Institute**

in Miracles?"; "The Tradition Lives On: Mikvah in the 21st Century"; and more.

Course locations include: MJCCA's Zaban Park, Temple Emanu-El, The Temple, Young Israel of Toco Hills, Congregation Beth Shalom, Congregation Etz Chaim, Atlanta Jewish Academy, The Davis Academy, Temple Sinai, Congregation B'Nai Torah, Metro Atlanta Community Mikvah, and Congregation Shearith Israel.

**PERIMETER GYMNASTICS CROWNED REGIONAL CHAMPIONS.** With more than 1,000 other gymnasts competing, two MJCCA Perimeter Gymnastics team members were crowned regional champions at the Region 8 Xcel Regional Gymnastics Championships, in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. The competition, held May 11-14, attracted gymnasts from North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana.

Hannah Brett won vault in the Xcel Platinum Level with a 9.625, and Miyah Jones earned the gold on Xcel Gold bars with a 9.55. Both are eighth-graders at Peachtree Middle School.

"I started with MJCCA's Perimeter Gymnastics 10 years ago, and the wonderful coaches have helped me persevere through so much and have helped me grow," says Hannah. "Two years ago, I came in second on vault, so when I won this year, it was just the best thing that has ever happened to me."

Hannah was crowned a state champion on vault three times before qualifying for regionals in 2017.

"When I joined Perimeter Gymnastics two years ago, it was so nice to be a part of a program where my coaches and teammates genuinely care about me," Miyah says. "When you learn a new skill, and the entire group of gymnasts and coaches stop what they are doing and watch you, it is an amazing feeling."

This was Miyah's first time competing at the regionals. Earlier this year she came in first on bars and second on floor at the state championships.

"Vault has always been Hannah's best event, and I am thrilled that she performed so well at her biggest competition," says Stacey Harris, director, MJCCA Perimeter Gymnastics. "I am so proud of Miyah; she hit her routine beautifully at the state meet and again at the regionals."

MJCCA's Perimeter Gymnastics participants train on top-of-the-line Olympic gymnastics equipment in the Besser Gymnastics Pavilion at Zaban Park, on four events: vault, bars, beam, and floor exercise. For more information visit [atlantajcc.org/gymnastics](http://atlantajcc.org/gymnastics), or call 678-812-4045.



**Hannah Brett and Miyah Jones jump for joy after earning top awards (Photos courtesy of the MJCCA)**