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FREE

MJCCA News

CHERNAK IS NEW CPO. Hope Chernak has been named chief program officer (CPO) of the MJCCA. Hope has been a part of the MJCCA



Hope Chernak
(Photo: Jennifer Sami)

staff for the past year, serving as the executive director of JUMP-S P A R K, the Atlanta Jewish Teen Initiative (A J T I). AJTI is a partnership program with the MJCCA, Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta, and the Atlanta Rabbinical Association.

"I am pleased to welcome Hope to her new capacity at the MJCCA," said MJCCA CEO Jared Powers. "Hope's combination of experience working within the Jewish community, her passion for sports, and her extensive background in Jewish education makes her a perfect fit for this position."

"I am thrilled to accept this position as CPO of the MJCCA," said Hope. "One of my primary objectives as incoming CPO is to enhance the MJCCA's comprehensive array of programs and services, which includes building on the already exceptional outreach programming for the greater Atlanta community."

Before moving to Atlanta, Hope spent 15 years in New York City, serving as the managing director of the North American Federation of Temple Youth (NFTY) and as the director of Youth and Informal Education & Israel Programs at Temple Shaaray Tefila. Hope grew up in Orlando, Florida, and spent eight summers on staff at Camp Coleman. Her career in Jewish communal work began at age 16, at the Roth JCC of Greater Orlando, as a day counselor.

Hope brings a unique enthusiasm for sports to this role. She was a collegiate athlete, receiving scholarships for basketball, soccer, and cross country. She earned a B.S. in business administration, with a concentration in management and marketing, at Webber International University. She went on to earn an M.A. in religious education, at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, and the title Reform Jewish Educator. Hope was a 2016 recipient of the Grinspoon North American Award for Excellence in Jewish Education.



Stephanie Lampert

LAMPERT DIRECTOR OF SCHIFF SCHOOL. Stephanie Lampert is the new director of the MJCCA Schiff School, a new preschool housed at Temple Emanu-El.

Schiff School," said Jared Powers, MJCCA CEO. "Stephanie is a highly experienced educator and also a longtime member of the MJCCA community."

Stephanie has served as a pre-kindergarten lead teacher at The Epstein School since August 2007. During her tenure at Epstein, she developed and implemented individualized and integrated Judaic and general studies curricula, integrated new technologies, and was instrumental in coaching and training colleagues.

"Stephanie is a skilled educator, adept at bringing lessons to life through a balanced curriculum and preparing students for 21st century learning," added Powers. "She is able to manage diverse learners and experienced with modifying, adapting, and enriching curricula to meet the needs of each student individually. We are fortunate to have someone with her range of expertise and passion for education at the helm of the MJCCA Schiff School."

Stephanie who began her teaching career at LaBelle Elementary in Smyrna, teaching kindergarten and first grade, has also taught Sunday School for many years. She earned a B.S. in Communications from the University of Texas and a M.Ed. in Early Childhood Education from Georgia State University. Stephanie assumed her new position at the beginning of June, 2018.

"I have dedicated the majority of my career to Jewish education, fostering Jewish life, and building community among families," said Lampert. "As a JCC preschool graduate and a longtime member of the MJCCA community. I am thrilled to bring my expertise and passion for education to the MJCCA Schiff School."

FALL YOUTH SPORTS. Registration is now open for all MJCCA Fall Youth Sports, including soccer, flag football, basketball, dance, gymnastics, tennis, and aquatics for children from Pre-K to 8th grade. To register, visit atlantajcc.org/youthsports, or call 678-812-4060.

"Whether your child is looking for the excitement of competitive team sports, the camaraderie of recreational sports, or just a fun way to stay fit and active, the MJCCA offers a range of exciting sports programs that are sure



MJCCA's Soccer Camp

to be a perfect fit," said MJCCA Director of Athletics Operations Stephanie McCormick.

Offerings include soccer, flag football, and basketball youth leagues; dance (ballet, jazz, tap, and hip-hop); gymnastics (competition teams, boys' gymnastics, tumbling, and cheerleading classes); tennis (league play, private or group lessons, and clinics); and aquatics (private lesson, group lessons, and the Zaban Sharks year-round swim team).

HARRY MAZIAR CLASSIC. The MJCCA recently held its 10th annual golf tournament, the MJCCA BB&T Harry Maziar Classic, honoring Garrett Van de Grift, at the Atlanta Country Club, in Marietta. The tournament, which included 132 golfers, raised a record-breaking \$500,000 through sponsorships, contributions, and a silent auction, to support MJCCA programs and scholarship funds.

The 2018 golf tournament was chaired by Doug Kuniansky and co-chaired by David Kusiel. The Host Committee included Ted Blum, Russ Breier, Matt Brill, Ron Brill, Steven Cadranell, Michael Coles, Michael Dinerman, Seth Einstein, Steve Ginsburg, Howard Halpern, Scott Jordan, Doug Kuniansky, David Kusiel, Rick Lenner, Mark Lichtenstein, Harry Maziar, Todd Maziar, Josh Rosenberg, and Phil Yagoda.

"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," said MJCCA CEO Jared Powers. "Proceeds from the annual BB&T Harry Maziar Classic golf tournament enable the MJCCA to provide scholarships for individuals and families in need, ensuring that our innovative programs and vital services are accessible to everyone in our community."

"The BB&T Harry Maziar Classic is the MJCCA's only annual fundraising event," said Event Chair Doug Kuniansky. "This year, the 10th annual golf tournament brings the total raised to \$2.5 million over the past 10 years, something that we are extremely proud of."

Each year, the MJCCA's golf tournament honors an outstanding member of the MJCCA whose leadership and dedication has helped shape Atlanta's vibrant Jewish community. This year, the MJCCA honored Garrett Van de Grift, CEO of Red Wizard Group, a collection of closely held companies in a diverse range of business lines.

"We were so pleased to honor Garrett at this year's Harry Maziar Classic, for his outstanding dedication to the community," said Kuniansky. "A board member and past president of the MJCCA, Garrett's vision and leadership have helped enable the MJCCA to impact the lives of so many in our vibrant Jewish community."

The title sponsor was BB&T. Presenting

sponsors were The Ron & Lisa Brill Family Charitable Trust; Greenberg Traurig; Lynne and Howard Halpern; The Douglas J. Hertz Family Foundation, Inc; Debbie and Doug Kuniansky; The Marcus Foundation; PGA TOUR Superstore; Chad Rosenberg; Josh Rosenberg-Bernstein; The Van de Grift Family; and Helen and David Zalik.

In conjunction with the golf tournament, 60 women attended a Positive Living event, chaired by Leah Blum, Rita Breier, and Cheryl Rosenberg, with guest speaker, Dr. Marshall Duke.

"We are grateful to the golf tournament participants, whose donations through this event support the mission of the MJCCA, helping ensure that scholarships are available to families in our community," said Powers.

For more information, visit atlantajcc.org/golf, or contact Erika Barnes at 678-812-4144 or erika.barnes@atlantajcc.org.



2018 Tournament Winning Team: Evan Fishman (from left), Steve Kuranoff, Ron Eichel, and Mark Rosenberg (Photos: Eagleshotz)



Ken Winkler (from left), Harry Maziar, Garrett Van de Grift, Doug Kuniansky, and Jared Powers

ATLANTA HAWKS BASKETBALL CAMP. More than 90 campers enjoyed the MJCCA Day Camps' Atlanta Hawks Basketball Camp in early June. Hawks player Antonius Cleveland made a special appearance at camp. The Hawks-led practices focused on fundamental skills and key topics including jump shots, dribbling, passing, rebounding, free throws, defense, and court positioning. Visit mjccadaycamps.org for more information.



MJCCA's Atlanta Hawks Basketball Camp

"Stephanie Lampert is the perfect person to take the helm of our new preschool, the MJCCA