

## **Winnick Family Foundation Commends Bloomfield Science Museum Work with Israel's Youth**

*Three young international science stars won top honors at the science competition hosted by the Bloomfield Science Museum in Jerusalem for work in water purification and behavioral science. The Winnick Family Foundation acknowledges the museum's commitment to arouse scientific curiosity and to deepen the understanding for all of the natural world and human.*

**LOS ANGELES CA – August 25, 2009** – Three Israeli teenagers – 17-year-olds Shira Ahissar and Yadid Algavi, along with 16-year-old Shahar Gvartz – became international celebrities in Israel earlier this summer when they brought home top prizes in the “World Series” of science fairs, the prestigious Intel International Science and Engineering Fair competition.

The three science stars won the right to represent Israel by first scoring top awards in Israel's national competition sponsored by Bloomfield Science Museum in Jerusalem – an institution supported the past five years by the Winnick Family Foundation. The Bloomfield Science Museum is one of the flagship projects of the Jerusalem Foundation which has an unmatched, 40-year track record in nurturing philanthropy projects in Israel.

Said Eyal Sher, Director, Arts and Culture Department, at Jerusalem Foundation: “The Winnick Family Foundation's contributions and sponsorship of the science museum measurably enrich the next generation of Israeli youth, and we are greatly appreciative of it.”

The Yadid Algavi and Shahar Gvartz team, which placed first in Jerusalem, won fourth place worldwide in the category of research teams for their use of a simple home microwave oven to remove lead contaminants from water. The judges gave special recognition to the team's inexpensive technique which can be immediately applied to the cleaning of waste water for industry, urban gardening, agriculture and electric power generation.

Shira Ahissar, who placed second in the Bloomfield event in Jerusalem, won second place worldwide in the behavioral science category for her research on logical thinking in people with schizophrenia. All three met with and were honored by Israel's President Shimon Peres before leaving for the international finals, held this Summer in Reno, Nevada.

Said Foundation founder [Gary Winnick](#): “In a conflicted world hungry for peace, science and technology are the great levelers. The constant goal of the Bloomfield Science Museum is to arouse curiosity among all, without distinction, who visit there and to deepen their understanding of a natural world and human technological capabilities – shared by all who share this planet.”

Added Winnick: “These brilliant young teens went up against sharp competitors from 50 countries in the world's toughest science, math and engineering contest for teens – and brought home top honors. Their remarkable gifts, deep insight, and fierce commitment to innovation, however, belong to the world. Our Foundation is deeply honored to play a small part in supporting them by supporting the vision and the accomplishments of the Bloomfield Science Museum.”



## **About the Winnick Family Foundation**

The Winnick Family Foundation encourages project-specific programs but also selectively supports capital campaigns and unrestricted gifts to grantee organizations. There is a preference for projects in Los Angeles and New York – or those having an international component.

Foundation naming grants include:

- Winnick Family Clinical Research Institute at Cedars Sinai Hospital
- Winnick House and Arnold S. Winnick Student Center at the C.W. Post campus of Long Island University
- Winnick International Conference Center at the Simon Wiesenthal Center / Jerusalem
- Winnick Children's Zoo in Los Angeles
- Winnick Faculty Scholar at the Graduate School of Business at Stanford University
- Winnick Hall at the Skirball Cultural Center
- Arnold & Blanche Winnick Popular Library and Karen Winnick Children's Gallery at the Los Angeles Central Library
- Winnick Hillel House at Syracuse University
- Winnick Board Room at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City
- Winnick Winners Mentoring Program for the Los Angeles Unified School District
- Winnick Fellows at UCLA School of Medicine
- Winnick Gallery at Yeshiva University Museum, Center for Jewish History

Karen and [Gary Winnick](#) and the Foundation have endowed university and high school literacy and scholarship programs at Brown University, at Mrs. Winnick's alma mater Syracuse University, and at [Gary Winnick's](#) alma mater, Long Island University.

They have also funded the transformation of the on-campus C.W. Post mansion administrative center – renamed Winnick House – as well as the main cafeteria which is now named in honor of Mr. Winnick's late father.

In California, the Foundation has supported educational programs at the California Science Center, the Museum of Contemporary Art, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, KOREH L.A., the Los Angeles Zoo, L.A.'s Best Afterschool Program, the Wonder of Reading, the Fulfillment Fund and Noah's Ark at the Skirball Center.

Among the many other Foundation grantees are the Special Olympics, The Center for Jewish History, Children's Scholarship Fund, Partnership for Better Schools, Teach for America, The Gettysburg Foundation, The National Parks Foundation, Best Friends Animal Society, The Los Angeles Police Foundation, Shoah Foundation, and the Center for Public Leadership at Harvard University.

# WINNICK FAMILY *Foundation*

The Foundation also supports charities operating outside the United States, including the International Medical Corps, Flora and Fauna, World Wildlife Fund, the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust, the Israel Museum, the Israel Philharmonic, the Jerusalem Zoo, Heifer International and the Bloomfield Science Museum at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. For more information on the Foundation and its work, visit <http://www.winnickfamilyfoundation.com> on the Web.

## **Contact**

Rosalie Zalis  
Executive Director  
Winnick Family Foundation  
310-499-5430  
[rzalis@pacificcap.com](mailto:rzalis@pacificcap.com)  
<http://www.winnickfamilyfoundation.com>