Winnick Hall at Skirball Center Will Host Photo Exhibit Honoring Civil Rights Movement

The “Road to Freedom” exhibit will open in Winnick Hall at the Skirball Cultural Center on November 19 and remain on view through March 7, 2010. Among the local events portrayed are the picketing of the Kress Store in Pasadena in 1960, the march on Pershing Square on March 14, 1965, and the conflict in Watts in 1965.

LOS ANGELES, CA – NOVEMBER 4, 2009 – Winnick Hall, the largest exhibition space at the Skirball Cultural Center in Los Angeles, will feature “Road to Freedom,” the grandest presentation in decades of photography from the Civil Rights Movement.

Said Gary Winnick, founder and CEO of Pacific Capital Group: “Our family’s hope in funding the construction of Winnick Hall was to provide a permanent venue large enough to feature major national exhibits on Jewish heritage and American democratic ideals. This is an ideal exhibition for that space. Jewish activists were committed to the Civil Rights movement from its very earliest days. It is absolutely fitting that the Hall now feature this splendid remembrance of the sacrifices and the heroism, black and white together, that made Martin Luther King’s dream a reality and American society infinitely richer.”

“Road to Freedom” will open at the Skirball Cultural Center in Winnick Hall on November 19 and remain on view through March 7, 2010. The exhibition will display approximately 170 photographs by more than thirty-five photographers drawn principally from the permanent collection of the High Museum of Art in Atlanta, Georgia. Many of the images included in the exhibit were never before displayed in public.

The Winnick Hall exhibit will include a new section featuring the role of Southern California in making civil rights history, with new loans from the Charles E. Young Research Library at UCLA, the J. Paul Getty Museum, and the Getty Research Institute. Among the local events portrayed are the picketing of the Kress Store in Pasadena in 1960, the march on Pershing Square on March 14, 1965, and the urban conflict in Watts that broke out in the summer of 1965.

Added Gary Winnick: “The Skirball Center works tirelessly to welcome and inspire people of every ethnic and cultural identity in American life. My family and I are very proud that the Center chose Winnick Hall to present these indelible, historic images -- from Rosa Parks’ famed act of resistance on a Montgomery bus to Dr. King’s soaring speech in front of the Lincoln Monument and beyond. These stunning, unvarnished, often startling photographs along with additional artifacts and memorabilia – bringing to life again one of the most significant and invigorating movements in American history -- will be available beginning November 19 to the families of Southern California,”

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.

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

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