



MANHATTAN
BROOKLYN
STATEN ISLAND
BRONX
QUEENS

nyjtl2024

ANNUAL GALA

Empowering Education and Opportunity Through Tennis

PROGRAM

MAY 1, 2024

01

A LETTER FROM THE CEO AND BOARD CHAIR

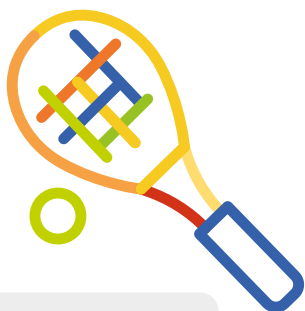
Dear New York Junior Tennis & Learning Family and Friends,

Welcome to a very special occasion for New York Junior Tennis & Learning, and thank you for celebrating **FIVE BOROUGHES, ONE CITY, ONE GOAL** with us.

Tonight, we have the opportunity to reflect on the past year and to spend quality time with you knowing that we are all working to build a better New York City for thousands of under-served young people each day. At NYJTL, we know that the future of our city lies in the hands of our youth. This is why we invest in the education and wellness of almost 90,000 young people across all five boroughs and 100 sites to ensure that they are well-positioned for success.

Tennis provides the vehicle for this journey, helping young people develop in the areas of critical thinking, self-direction, positive attitude, competitive spirit, and resilience that all contribute to one's character development. Founded in 1971 by Arthur Ashe, NYJTL is proud to be the largest youth tennis and education nonprofit in the country — one that can make all of these character traits come alive in our youth. Through our free programs, children learn how to carve their own pathways and grow into the best version of themselves.

- Our **Community Tennis Program** provides free access to tennis and instruction in schoolyards, gyms, parks, community centers, and playgrounds throughout the year.
- Our **ACES Afterschool Program** provides academic enrichment, homework help, and character development to students in NYC public schools, ensuring they are staying engaged, active, and learning alongside their peers even during school breaks and over the summer.
- Our flagship home at the **Cary Leeds Center for Tennis & Learning** has become integrated into the fabric of The South Bronx. This first-class facility provides athletic, academic, and other resources to serve the families of the poorest congressional district in the nation and is the only DYCD Saturday Night Lights Tennis site, bringing youth and police officers together through tennis to strengthen relationships between law enforcement and the community.
- Our **Scholar Athlete Program**, now expanded to a cohort of 75, provides intensive tennis, education, and life skills instruction for students beginning in third grade, giving undiscovered talent a chance to shine and have a clear pathway to a college education.



01

A LETTER FROM THE CEO AND BOARD CHAIR - CONTINUED

- Our **School Time Tennis Program** trains physical education teachers to teach the fundamentals of tennis in school and introduces the game for tens of thousands of young students.

Our programs in schoolyards, gyms, classrooms, parks, playgrounds, and community centers help children chart their own paths and realize their full potential. Today, there are tens of thousands of New Yorkers across our city who are applying the life lessons they learned as NYJTL participants to make their communities stronger.

This transformational impact is made possible by our 500 dedicated NYJTL staff members, including our inspiring coaches and educators who equip every child we serve with the tools they need to thrive as scholars, athletes, and productive citizens of New York. This transformation is made possible by our funders, like you, without whom we couldn't carry out our mission.

Tonight, we honor Steven Simkin, Zina Garrison, and Jim O'Neill for their dedication to tennis and the development of our city's youth, and celebrate those at NYJTL who make it happen. Their contributions, like yours, remind us why we do this. When we speak to the children and families of our programs, we are filled with hope and excitement. We thank you for your generosity, which ensures that NYJTL will continue this important work.

Sincerely,

Bob Horne & Udai Tambar

Bob Horne and Udai Tambar
BOARD CHAIR AND PRESIDENT & CEO



NYJTL BOARD MEMBERS

BOARD OFFICERS

BOB HORNE, CHAIR
MARTIN S. GOLDBERG, VICE CHAIR
TORY KIAM, VICE CHAIR
STEVEN SIMKIN, VICE PRESIDENT
BRUCE MANSON, TREASURER
POLLY SCOTT, SECRETARY
UDAI TAMBAR, PRESIDENT & CEO

BOARD DIRECTORS

ALLISON BODENMANN	LAURENCE LEEDS
YVONNE BUYSMAN	DEANNA LLOYD
SUSAN CHAPMAN-HUGHES	STACEY LOCKER
JACQUELINE CORBA	ALICE MAHONEY
ALVIN CRAWFORD, JR.	KUNJ MAJMUDAR
DOUGLAS EISENBERG	RANDY MASTER
HOWARD ENDELMAN	SIDNEY MIGDON
MELANIE HARTZOG	SUMIT NIHALANI
KAREN IKEDA	BRIAN O'CONNOR
CAMERON IRAJ	ZAKIYYAH SALIM-WILLIAMS
DEREK IRBY	MATTHEW SNYDER
NICOLE KANKAM	ERIC SOBOTKA
KYLE KLIEGERMAN	KAREN URBAN
DOUGLAS KOFF	KIM WAGMAN
DEBORAH LARKIN	JASON WONG
FAY ANN LEE	

EMERITI

LEWIS H. HARTMAN, CHAIR EMERITUS
LAWRENCE B. BENENSON, DIRECTOR EMERITUS
CARLOS CUEVAS, DIRECTOR EMERITUS
JIM O'NEILL, DIRECTOR EMERITUS
ROBERT RAHR, DIRECTOR EMERITUS
PETER L. MALKIN, DIRECTOR EMERITUS



04

CHARLES B. BENENSON LEADERSHIP AWARD



The Charles B. Benenson Leadership Award was established in 1986 to recognize individuals who have provided inspirational leadership through nonprofit work to the youth of New York City. The recipients have shown outstanding support of NYJTL's mission to develop the character of young people for a lifetime of success on and off the court.

Steven Simkin is Vice President of NYJTL, a member of its Board of Directors for more than 22 years, a member of its Executive Committee, Chair of its Governance Committee and former Chair of the Cary Leeds Construction Committee, which was responsible for designing and overseeing the construction of the flagship home of NYJTL in the South Bronx.

Steve was Chair of the Real Estate Department at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison for more than 30 years, a law firm he has been associated with for more than 50 years. He maintained an active legal practice in major development projects, acquisitions and financing. His clients included major developers, investors, real estate investment trusts, institutional and private equity lenders, funds, and public and private institutions. He also has significant experience with workouts, restructurings and dispute resolutions integrating litigation, bankruptcy and tax expertise. He regularly spoke at industry symposiums and conferences on lease negotiations and wrote on complex financing issues. His practice also focused on real estate-related litigation and disputes. Steve has broad experience in the area of commercial office leasing, and has been a regular panelist in the annual symposiums conducted by *The New York Law Journal* titled "Mastering the Art of Negotiating the Modern Lease."

As a part of Commercial Observer's "Power 100," Steve was one of the few lawyers named "Legal MVPs," lawyers who were behind the New York market's most exciting transactions. Steve has also been recognized by *Chambers*, *The Legal 500* and *The Best Lawyers in America* and is included in the *International Who's Who in Real Estate Lawyers*, *Euromoney's Guide to the World's Leading Real Estate Lawyers* and was selected by the Real Estate Board of New York as one of the most influential persons in New York City.

Steve is a *cum laude* graduate of both the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School and Law School, where he was an assistant editor of the *University of Pennsylvania Law Review*. Steve was Captain of Penn's Varsity Sailing Team and a former Long Island Sound sailing champion. He has also served as a member of the Executive Committee of the Real Property Section of the New York State Bar Association and on the Advisory Boards of First American Title Insurance Company and Commonwealth Title Insurance Company. In addition to NYJTL, he is on the Boards of the New York University Real Estate Institute and the Orienta Point Association, where he is Vice President.



05

NYJTL LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



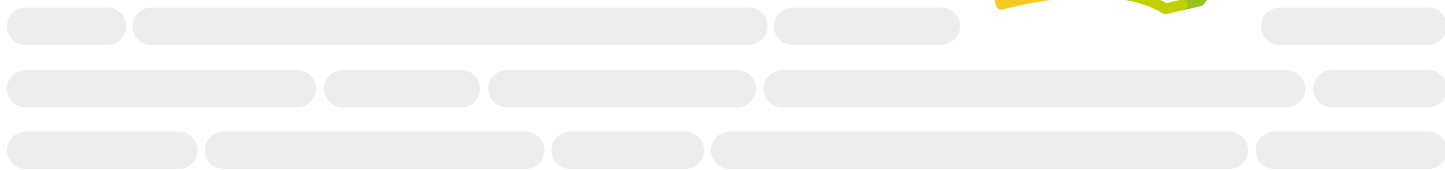
The NYJTL Lifetime Achievement Award provides special recognition to individuals who, during their lifetimes, have made significant and sustained contributions to the mission of NYJTL. The recipients have displayed outstanding commitment to advancing the work of the organization and represent the most influential minds in the fields of tennis and education.

Jim O'Neill retired at the end of 2023 as the Executive Director of Government and External Relations at NYJTL. From 1983 through 1993, Jim had been the Executive Director, and served as interim CEO from 2009-2010.

Jim's years at NYJTL includes creating the Schoolyard Tennis Program, NYJTL's afterschool tennis program, the Middle School Varsity Leagues, the Elementary School Tournament, The Advanced Training Program, and The Mayor's Cup All/Scholastic Championships. As Executive Director of Government and External Relations, he worked to identify and secure new City, State, and Federal funding for NYJTL's Summer and Afterschool programs.

Jim is also a founder of New York Edge. He served as Executive Director, President and CEO from 1992-2016, and as Director of Government Relations from 2016 to 2018.

Jim was part of a Task Force that wrote the original USTA Schools Tennis Curriculum. He has served on many USTA National Committees and was a founder of the USTA's Multi-Cultural Committee. He created and chaired the USTA Advocacy Task Force and has received many awards from the USTA, including the USTA Community Service Award in 1994. In 1998, Jim received the Tennis Educational Merit Award from the International Tennis Hall of Fame, Newport, Rhode Island.



06

2024 NYJTL LEADERSHIP AWARD



The NYJTL Leadership Award, recognizes individuals who have provided inspirational leadership to the youth of New York City. The recipients have shown outstanding support of NYJTL's mission to develop the character of young people through tennis and education for a lifetime of success on and off the court.

Zina Garrison got her start in the Sunnyside neighborhood of Houston, Texas. The youngest of seven children, she started playing tennis at the age of 10, when while her brother was playing baseball, she stumbled upon John Wilkerson's free tennis program in MacGregor Park.

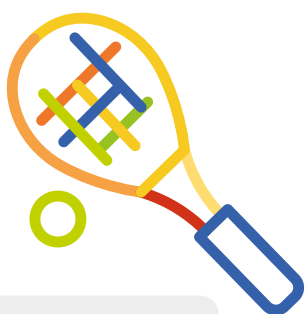
She played in her first tournament at the age of 12, and after making her mark on the tennis world by winning both the Wimbledon and US Open junior titles, she was propelled to #1 in the junior World tennis rankings. In her first year on tour she reached the semifinals at the Australian Open. She remained in the top 10 until 1995 and continued to claim titles and dominate as one of the top professionals in the world.

Zina and her teammate Pam Shriver won the gold medal in women's doubles in the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul. She then defeated Shriver in the quarterfinals of women's singles, which won her the bronze. She reached the peak of her career at Wimbledon in 1990, defeating defending French Open champion Monica Seles and World No. 1 Steffi Graf to reach the final, where she fell to Martina Navratilova.

In 1993, Zina was appointed by President Bill Clinton to serve on the Council of Physical Fitness and Sports. After retiring from tennis in 1996 with 14 top-level singles titles and 20 top-level doubles titles, she devoted her life to giving back to the community in which she had grown up, by founding not only the Zina Garrison Academy, which provides world-class tennis instruction, along with college preparatory classes, wellness and nutrition lessons, interactive garden instruction, and ACE training for inner-city Houston youth, but also the Zina Garrison Foundation for the Homeless.

Zina was named one of Houston's Treasures by The Social Book in 2018, and received a Woman of Substance award in 2020. In that year she was also named a Legend and Leader by CityBook. She is a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority.

She currently lives in Houston, where she leads the Parks & Recreation Department tennis program, and continues to serve as President of the Zina Garrison Academy.





GALA CHAIRS

BOB HORNE

TORY KIAM

SUMIT NIHALANI

BRIAN O'CONNOR

GREGG SCHENKER

POLLY SCOTT

KAREN URBAN

HONORARY CHAIR

LARRY LEEDS



Five Boroughs. One City. **One Goal.**

SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS



VISIONARY SPONSORS

WILLIAM ACKMAN AND THE PERSHING SQUARE FOUNDATION
LAWRENCE B. BENENSON AND THE FRANCES AND BENJAMIN BENENSON FOUNDATION

GOLD SPONSORS

SOL GOLDMAN CHARITABLE TRUST

NEWMARK GROUP, INC.

DALIA AND LARRY LEEDS
FAMILY FOUNDATION

STEVEN SIMKIN AND PAUL,
WEISS, RIFKIND, WHARTON &
GARRISON LLP

KAREN URBAN AND KIM
WAGMAN

GALA SUPPORTERS

GOLDFARB & FLEECE

DEE AND TOMMY HILFIGER

ELIAS KEFALIDIS

LAURA AND ALAN MANTELL

MARK ASSET MANAGEMENT

PAMELA AND EDWARD PANTZER

BERNARD SCHWARTZ

SILVER SPONSORS

ASSOCIATION OF CHARLES
EVANS HOUSING

DANIELL FAMILY FOUNDATION

WENDY AND DOUGLAS EISENBERG

ERIC D. HADAR AND THE ERIC D.
HADAR FAMILY FOUNDATION, INC.

LAURIE LINDENBAUM AND
ROBERT HORNE

ELENA AND TORY KIAM

DEBORAH SLANER LARKIN

POLLY SCOTT AND
JIM MAHER

DONALD E. NEWHOUSE

THE EDWARD JOHN AND
PATRICIA ROSENWALD
FOUNDATION

GREGG SCHENKER, STEVEN
HORNSTOCK AND RANDY
MODELL OF ABS PARTNERS
REAL ESTATE, LLC

BRONZE SPONSORS

ROBIN K. AVIV

YVONNE BUYSMAN AND
JASON WONG

JANE AND STEVEN KANTOR

MANHATTAN PLAZA RACQUET CLUB

MAYER BROWN LLP

MBRO CAPITAL

ALICE B. MAHONEY

BRUCE MANSON

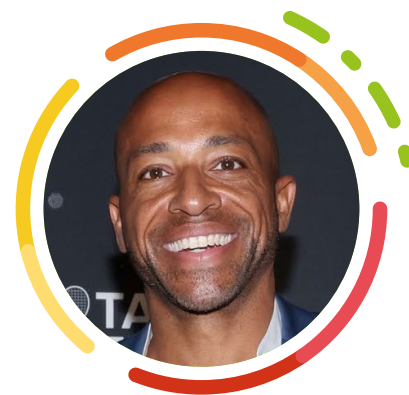
KYLE KLIEGERMAN AND
ROBERT RAHR

DAVID ZASLAV AND WARNER
BROS. DISCOVERY



09

MASTER OF CEREMONIES



Benjamin Nicholas Monroe is an American former professional tennis player. Monroe reached a career-high ATP doubles ranking of No. 30 on 2 October 2017 and won four ATP Tour doubles titles and thirteen ATP Challenger Tour titles in his career. He is a USTA National Tennis Coach, as well as currently a Tennis Channel commentator/analyst for the last 4 years, along with commentating for BBC (Wimbledon), Channel 9 (Australian Open), amongst other networks. In addition to hosting “Taste of Tennis” Players Party in Indian Wells, California and Miami, Florida he is also the Owner/Tournament Director of the All American Cup.

IN APPRECIATION

JENNIFER ARIANAS

CAROL BURDEN

CSA STUDIO

ED GOLDBERG

SACHI KURUP

ALEX LI

NICK MONROE

GREGG MONTEITH

LINNEA MUMMA

SYDNEY PEREIRA

MAYOR YADIRA RAMOS-HERBERT

ZAC ROY

JEFF SIMMONS

KEN SOLOMON GEORGE

SPETSIERIS

JACLINN TANNEY

We thank the following for donating their services and products:

TENNIS CHANNEL



BROOKLYN

STATEN ISLAND

QUEENS

BRONX

MANHATTAN

10

NYJTL PROGRAMS

Community Tennis Program

- Free tennis coaching & equipment
- Delivered in schools and public parks across all five boroughs

CARY LEEDS CENTER FOR TENNIS & LEARNING

- World-class tennis & education facility serves as flagship home for NYJTL programs and hub for local community
- Programs include partnership with NYPD and surrounding public housing residents.

ACES Afterschool and Summer Rising Programs

- Free academic support, healthy living, character building, healthy snacks and tennis instruction
- Comprehensive school-based youth development programs

School Time Tennis Program

- Free training for PE teachers on providing strong fundamentals of teaching tennis in gym class
- Teachers receive free equipment, lesson plans, and 6.5 hours continuing education credit

Scholar Athlete Program

- Grade 3-12 students receive free academic support, life skills and top flight tennis instruction to support college entrance
- Students provided financial assistance transportation and tournament costs





Five Boroughs. One City. **One Goal.**