

Tikkun Fellowship 2017



Inna Peschanskaya – “The Candles of Chanukah”

Inna has been working on a theatrical performance with 12 Russian-speaking Jewish children ages 5-12 to introduce them to the holiday of Chanukah in a fun and playful way, learn its history and traditions. The classes began on October 3, 2017 and took place twice a week. The teachers included a musician Klara Melamed, Sergey Mezhericher and others. The play took place after RJD’s large Chanukah celebration event for young families on Sunday, December 17th at Congregation Jeremiah and was viewed by 35 families. The survey filled out by Inna is included with this report.

BIO: Inna Peschanskaya came to Chicago in 1999. She graduated musical college in Belarus, Grodno. Inna also graduated Oakton community College with honor and received diploma of social worker. She is known in Community as the leader and organizer of many social projects involving both adults and children.





Felix Markman – “The Jewish contribution to Jazz”

The Jewish Contribution to Jazz was a series of concerts dedicated to historic Jewish figures in American Jazz featuring performances of songs written by greats like George Gershwin, Irving Berlin, Jerome Kern, and Billy Joel. The target audience was the Russian-speaking Holocaust survivors, clients of the CJE Holocaust Community Services. The concerts were designed to introduce Jazz to those unfamiliar with the genre and underscore the important role Jews played in its evolution. The program was composed of a set of 10 songs performed by Felix on the bass guitar. Felix has had three concerts for 78 RSJ Holocaust survivors total.

BIO: Felix Markman was born in Ukraine at fall of Soviet Power in 1991. His family was incredibly fortunate to immigrate to the United States of America in 1993 with the help of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society. Felix’s family first acclimated to life in America in Skokie Illinois before moving to Buffalo Grove in 1995 where Felix attended K-12 education, graduating from Stevenson High School in 2009. Felix graduated from the University of Illinois in 2013 and has since been working in the software industry. His interests include Ice Hockey, Business/Economics/Finance/Entrepreneurship/Technology and... of course, Jazz.

