When Ted and I arrived in Harrisburg back in 2000, we knew very little about Jewish day school. As we made friends, we noticed that the people we most admired as role models for our young family were deeply committed to The Silver Academy and to Jewish education. We watched their children grow into amazing teenagers and young adults, and knew that we wanted our children to have that very same foundation—an outstanding education that fostered confidence in their Jewish identity.

Fifteen years later, our three daughters thrive in Jewish schools, and we are as proud of their academic achievements as we are aware of the people they are becoming. As I meet new families in our community who are just discovering the beauty of The Silver Academy, either as prospective parents or through the educational journeys of their young children, I feel we have come full circle. The generations before me made it possible for our children to experience the gift of a Silver Academy education. Now, we feel a keen sense of responsibility to make sure our school endures to nurture future generations of Jewish children in our region.

As a supporter of The Silver Academy, you are linked to generations of families who understand the value of Jewish day school. Your generosity provides the timeless gift of education to children who will one day pay it forward as leaders on their college campuses and in their local communities. This report is our heartfelt thanks to you, the community, alumni and friends for all that you do to make our school a rich, vibrant and inspired place of learning and growth.

The Silver Academy is an institution committed to transparency in all areas of operation. Within this report, you will find our key financial and operating data and a summary of our strategic vision. We hope you enjoy reading the report and, as always, we welcome your feedback. We value your dedication to our community and thank you for the unique role each of you has played in making this a dynamic and thriving year.

Andrea Lieber, PhD.
President, Board of Directors, The Silver Academy
In many ways, this famous Jewish phrase completely sums up my job and experience at The Silver Academy. My first year at the school coincided with my son starting kindergarten. We are on this journey together and I am so excited to see where it will lead.

When I think about the phrase “from generation to generation”, my first thought is that adults impart knowledge to children. In reality, and specifically at The Silver Academy, it is a two way street. The students come with a thirst for knowledge, they challenge us as much as we challenge them.

One of the highlights of last year was the Earth Harp Concert on March 15th. The concert was so much more than just a show, though what a show it was! The Earth Harp weekend brought together The Silver Academy family, school groups from Harrisburg and community organizations from throughout the area. At the concert, all ages were represented – from my two-year-old daughter to men and women from the greatest generation. L’dor V’dor.

I am proud of the academic achievements of our students. As you can see later in the report, the scores on the standardized tests are well above the national median. We are so fortunate that we are not dictated by test scores alone. Our dual curriculum offers students the chance to master a full Judaic studies curriculum, which instills critical thinking, analysis and middot tovot (good character). We have started the 2015-2016 school year with renewed enthusiasm and are excited for the year ahead.

The relationships that are built in this school are genuine and they are lifelong. Among the students, teachers and community members we now share a unique bond as proud and educated Jews.

I am so grateful for your ongoing support.

Rachel Zilbering
Principal
An Annual Report is far more than pie charts, graphs and numbers. Clearly those are essential to the telling of a school’s story and the information offered in these pages presents a wonderful story of progress and optimism, born of hard work and commitment. Yet it is incumbent upon all of us to drill down even more deeply to the narrative behind the numbers — to the character of a school. Balanced budgets, growing annual funds and successful endowment campaigns are indispensable; yet they are also the means to an even more important end.

So what do we hope to accomplish at The Silver Academy? To offer our students the best academic environment, one in which their intellectual curiosity is nurtured and supported — that is a great place to start. To inculcate Jewish pride while we provide sophisticated knowledge of Jewish history, liturgy and language — that is a central tenet of what we offer our students. To build a community of mutual respect, where students and teachers may come from different affiliations and backgrounds, but where genuine respect is the watchword of the day. We are an institution that celebrates both diversity and unity.

This is the beautiful picture that is being painted every day at The Silver Academy. We hope that you will read through these pages and capture a glimpse of that portrait. It is as much your painting as it is the teachers’ or even the students’ — because we would not be able to create it without your partnership. For that, we thank you — for the trust and support and your own unwavering commitment to Jewish education.

With your continued support I look forward to even more progress in the coming year as we go from strength to strength!

Kol tuv (All the best)!

Nachum Chasan
Dean of Judaic Studies
The Silver Academy stands as the flagship for Jewish learning in Central Pennsylvania, serving children from all segments of the Jewish Community in a child centered program of educational excellence. The school integrates a secular and Judaic studies curriculum accommodating the needs of every child in an atmosphere based on Jewish values. The Silver Academy prides itself on building relationships within the community while encouraging students to start small, but to learn to think big.

The outstanding and dedicated faculty at The Silver Academy embrace rigorous and relevant expectations, while building strong relationships with their students, their families and the community. Our generous supporters have sustained the policy of our founder, Rabbi David L. Silver z’l that no Jewish child who desires a Jewish education will be denied because of financial hardship. The need for scholarship dollars continues to increase.

This need for continued scholarship money brought the Harrisburg community together to enjoy the music and harmony of William Close. In March of 2015, William Close and the Earth Harp Collective filled 1483 seats at the Forum and raised $150,000. More than ten percent of the audience were guests due to the generosity of corporate and individual sponsors, as well as our other benefactors. The hard work of our committee and the charitable giving of our community is credited for our fundraising success.

Thank you to all of our friends for your incredible support. May The Silver Academy go from strength to strength, continuing to prepare today’s students to be tomorrow’s leaders as we hold our flags high and proud.

Shari Dym
Director of Development
Shofar Factory Program for Rosh Hashanah
Students created their own Shofar from a real ram’s horn. They went through the entire process: from cleaning and carving, to sawing and drilling. Students then learned how to blow the Shofar and sound the traditional notes.

The Arthur L. Goldberg Memorial Lecture
This year Solomon Krevsky, Esquire, founding partner of Clark & Krevsky, LLC, and a graduate of The Silver Academy, enlightened our students with an informative lecture about his experiences as a Civil Rights and Employment Attorney. A special thanks to Mr. Krevsky for sharing his expertise with our students and to Mr. Morton Spector for facilitating and attending this event.

A Whale of a Project
First and second graders worked together to raise money for a very exciting Mitzvah project. Their goal was to raise enough money to adopt a whale, and they exceeded the goal! The money will be put to good use, supporting Pacific Whale researchers and educational programs.
Fifth through eighth grade students visited the Franklin Institute to explore the museum and observe the special exhibit: Body Worlds- Animal Inside Out. They then viewed the National Geographic’s film, Jerusalem, in the IMAX Theater. Next, the students traveled to the National Constitution Center where they saw Freedom Rising - a theatrical production that illuminates the story of the U.S. Constitution.

Thank you to Saul Ewing and Joel Burcat for helping to underwrite the cost of the trip.

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Glee Club Brought us back to the 70’s with Their Rendition of “Survivor”
Mitzvah Girls!
Erin Brodsky, Sarah Merwin, and Sarah Weinstein knitting scarves as a fundraiser! Proceeds from scarf sales helped fund the 7th and 8th grade trip to Israel.

7th & 8th Grade Trip to Israel Highlights
Bedouin Tents • Camel Riding • Masada • Rosh Hanikra: Getting Drenched • Yad Vashem • Tzfat • Making Challah • Floating in the Dead Sea • Latrun • The Blind Museum • Tiberia: Dancing on the boat • Two hour hike in the desert • Rafting down the Jordan River • Visiting with the Hayalim

Lag Ba’Omer Field Day – A Perfect Day!

Math 24 Club
Science Fair
Batsheva Gewirtz and Dalia Shvartsman traveled to Penn State to compete at the state level of the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science (PJAS) competition. They each earned a spot in the competition by placing first in the regional level of PJAS competition.

The entire seventh and eighth grade classes participated in the annual Capital Area Science and Engineering Fair held at the Whitaker Center in Harrisburg.

The Celebration of Learning: singing songs from Matilda.
Silver Academy Faculty & Staff

Sally Jo Bronner
Alison Brandecker
Kate Carpenter
Nachum Chasan
Marina Cherepinsky
Chastity Cottingham-Frye
Jane Dalton
Shari Dym
Susan Gaughan
Rabbi Moshe Yosef Gewirtz
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Ellis Rosenberg
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The Silver Academy Foundation supports the interests of The Silver Academy, and advances traditional Jewish education. Generous contributors started making “endowment fund” gifts to The Rabbi David L. Silver Yeshiva Academy in the 1970s. These gifts and others grew until the school’s board recognized that it would be prudent to place these funds into a separate entity, independent from the school. Founded in 1993 as a 501 (c)(3) organization, the Foundation received its initial funding from these early investments held by The Silver Academy. An independent board manages the Foundation’s assets. These initial investments have been supplemented by additional contributions made by friends of the School. This grew to well over one million dollars in the first decade of our existence.

For the last few years, an average of over $150,000 per year has been advanced or loaned to the School for scholarships and to supplement the budget leaving the current assets of the Foundation at a little over $500,000. Members of the Foundation’s Board wish to thank you for your support.

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Terra Nova is a series of standardized achievement tests designed to assess student achievement in reading, language arts, mathematics, social studies, vocabulary, spelling, and writing. The students’ scores reflect their achievement in comparison to all students who took the test nationally. This is expressed as a raw score that is then converted to a percentile. In the 2014-2015 school year, the average percentile score for all subjects, in all grades, was far above the national median.
William Close & the Earth Harp Collective

The Silver Academy hosted a musical workshop by William Close. We were very happy to share the experience with students from Camp Curtain Academy and Education Plus Academy Cyber Charter School.

The donors on these pages represent gifts to the 2015 Silver Academy Annual Campaign. Every effort was made to recognize correctly all our generous donors and honor their listing requests. If there are any inaccuracies or omissions, please call the development office at 717.238.8775.

Special Thanks to the Jewish Community Foundation of Central Pennsylvania.
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School Workshop
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The following individuals and organizations generously donated services and products in order to help make our event a success.

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The following organizations received sponsored tickets to this event.

Tri County Community Action
The Boys and Girls Club
The Caring Place
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Jewish Family Service of Greater Harrisburg
The Jewish Federation of Greater Harrisburg
The Joshua Group
United Way of the Capital Region

The following individuals and organizations provided invaluable support and guidance in the planning of this event.

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Debby Abel
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Teri Berman
Joel Burcat
Aaron Dym
Betsy Leisher Blecker
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Keith Welks

Special thanks to
Stuart Malina, Lori Sherlock and Jeff Woodruff for their help and support of this project.
## The Silver Academy
### Internal Unaudited Operating Income & Expenses

*12 months ended August 31, 2014*

### Income 2013-2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net Tuition</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Scholarship Awards</td>
<td>(38%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EITC Scholarship Awards</td>
<td>(56%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EITC Contributions</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation Grant</td>
<td>4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Expenses 2013-2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries &amp; Benefits</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Expenses</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Educational &amp; Teaching Expenses</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Income 2013-2014 Totals

- **Net Tuition**: $505,847
- **EITC Contributions**: $456,600
- **Contributions**: $163,419
- **Foundation Grant**: $50,000
- **Other**: $32,736

**Total Income**: $1,208,602

### Expenses 2013-2014 Totals

- **Total Salaries & Benefits**: $893,764
- **Education Expenses**: $105,427
- **Administrative Expenses**: $129,864
- **Development Expenses**: $35,981
- **Other**: $63,686

**Total Expenses**: $1,228,722

*Educational Improvement Tax Credit / Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit*
The Silver Academy

Internal Unaudited Operating Income & Expenses

12 months ended August 31, 2015

**Income 2014-2015**

- Net Tuition: 32%
- EITC Contributions: 31%
- Contributions: 7%
- Foundation Grant: 28%
- Other: 2%

**Expenses 2014-2015**

- Salaries & Benefits: 77%
- Administrative Expenses: 8%
- Development: 6%
- Educational & Teaching Expenses: 8%
- Other: 1%

**Total Income**

- Tuition: $1,250,270
- School Scholarship Awards: ($364,740)
- EITC Scholarship Awards: (477,935)
- Net Tuition: $407,595
- EITC/OSTC* Contributions: $402,215
- Contributions: $115,334
- Silver Academy Foundation Grant: $375,000
- Other: $25,491
- **Total Income**: $1,325,635

**Total Expenses**

- Total Salaries & Benefits: $986,707
- Education Expenses: $99,204
- Administrative Expenses: $107,766
- Development Expenses: $10,238
- Other: $72,898
- **Total Expenses**: $1,276,813

*Educational Improvement Tax Credit / Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit*
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