



# HADASSAH

N'AWLINS STYLE

January 2016 Shvat 5776

## *Please Join Us for the Installation of Hadassah's New Officers and Board*

Sunday, Jan. 17, 2016, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
Home of Lee Kansas, 95 Spanish Fort Blvd.  
New Orleans

Enjoy a delicious brunch with great food and drink  
Couvert: \$36 per person

RSVP with checks by Jan. 12 to Charisse Sands,  
4721 Carthage St. Metairie, LA 70002-1410

For more info, contact Charisse at  
504-231-6464 or [annsands@aol.com](mailto:annsands@aol.com)

### **SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2016**

<b>President</b>	<b>Charisse Sands</b>
<b>VP Programming</b>	<b>Joy Feldman</b>
<b>VP Fundraising</b>	<b>Fran Simon</b>
<b>VP Education</b>	<b>Cindy Denn</b>
<b>Membership Chairman</b>	<b>Barbara Polikoff-Katz</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Arlene Hines</b>
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	<b>Helen Stone</b>
<b>Corresponding (Social) Secretary</b>	<b>Carrie Pailet</b>
<b>Ex-Officio President</b>	<b>Ilana Reisin</b>

## A Message from your President



Charisse Sands

I am very honored and excited to be the incoming president of the New Orleans Chapter of Hadassah. Our chapter has always supported a vibrant community of learners and leaders, and I am humbled to be in a position to continue to shape this inspirational group of women.

The beginning of the year is always a cause for reflection and reinvention.

It is a fresh opportunity to consider pivotal questions: Who are we? How are we bonded together? What is our purpose?

If someone were to ask our *k'hilah*, our community, those questions, I believe we would answer as follows: We are the women of Hadassah! We are sisters. We trace our ancestry back to Jacob and the four mothers of his children. We are

genetically linked through portions of our mitochondrial DNA, which remain unchanged from generation to generation.

As members of Hadassah, we share common goals. We believe in K'lal Yisrael, the continuity of the Jewish people and the existence of a thriving, prosperous, safe state of Israel. We advocate for issues near and dear to our hearts, issues that affect Israel, women, children, and our families. We plan and implement programs on a variety of topics, which are fun, interesting, and educational. Fulfilling our strong belief in Tikkun Olam, we raise greatly needed and appreciated funds to support our Hadassah hospitals and medical research facility in Jerusalem, Hadassah Academic College, Youth Aliyah programs in Israel, and our U.S.-based health initiatives: Every Beat Counts, Check It Out, and more.

Hadassah truly offers something for everyone. Find your passion and become one of the educated, involved, amazing women of Hadassah.

Looking forward to seeing you soon,  
Charisse Sands

## AND THOUGHTS FROM YOUR OUTGOING PRESIDENT

"In Israel, in order to be a realist, you must believe in miracles."

David Ben Gurion

Soon after I moved to the United States from Israel, I joined Hadassah. My involvement was initially quite limited. Everything changed when I was one of fifteen women selected to participate in the Hadassah Leadership Academy (HLA). Through the HLA, I learned about the power of community and the real impact that Hadassah has on supporting medical care and research in Israel. This program left a lasting impression on me and gave me a strong sense of commitment to its vision and values.

Over the course of the next 10 years, I have been inspired to increase my participation and to play my part in supporting Hadassah's mission. I am so thankful for all that Hadassah has given to me and for the opportunity to spend the last two years as the local chapter president. It has truly been an honor.

We have accomplished a great deal. By co-sponsoring programs with Chabad, the Jewish Community Center, Congregation Beth Israel, and Shir Chadash Sisterhood, we have enhanced our engagement in the local community and laid the foundation for long-term partnerships. Further, as members and active participants in the Legislative Agenda for Woman (LAW), we now have the opportunity to take part in advocacy initiatives that bring about positive changes in the lives of women, children, and families in Louisiana.

We have also raised a great deal of money. Our fundraising events benefited pace-setting research discoveries that positively affect advancements in research into breast cancer, ALS, Parkinson's, and heart disease at Hadassah hospitals in Israel. And by raising additional revenue through our directory advertisements, we were able to help furnish the intensive care units at the Sarah Wetsman

Davidson Hospital Tower.

We increased the number of Founders and Keepers of the Gate, and the numbers of annual and life members are growing by the day. Above all, "we speak up for Israel and step up for Hadassah."

While I am sad that my term as president has come to an end, I am excited for all the wonderful things to come, and I am so thankful that I made the decision to join this great organization, which has given so much to Israel and to our local community.

B' Shalom,  
Ilana Reisin

## BE A HERO TODAY!

The Hadassah Heroines & Heroes program is open to all new and existing members and associates. By committing to make an annual donation to Hadassah of \$100, you can join this critically important group of Hadassah supporters. Please contact Carrie Paillet at (504)906-4324 or [carrie4604@aol.com](mailto:carrie4604@aol.com) to become a Heroine/Hero today!

## Gumbo Ya-Ya's

On the first Sunday of every month, the Gumbo Ya-Ya's (New Orleans Hadassah's walking group) will meet at Lakeside Shopping Center in the middle of the mall by the food court at 11:00 a.m. We'll walk and schmooze and afterwards, get a nosh or drink if desired. All are invited—friends, family and men. Questions? Contact Charisse Sands at 504-231-6464 or [annsands@aol.com](mailto:annsands@aol.com).

**Gumbo Ya-Ya's walking group dates for the spring are March 6, April 3, May 1, and June 5.**

# B'ruch Habaim: Welcome to the Chapter's Newest Members

## Life Members

Joyce Giordano  
Judith Kiefer  
Leslie Loeb

## Child Life Members

Emma Dunn

## Annual

Mary Chana Collins  
Anne Freedman  
Jane Katz  
Kathleen Chink Lepow  
Malkie Rivkin  
Jennifer Schneider

Lilach Taylor  
Karen Turkish  
Jenny Sklar Winters

## Transfers to our Chapter

Patricia McMillan

Give the gift of membership to family and friends, or encourage them to join Hadassah. An annual membership is \$36, life membership is \$212 and an associate membership (for males) is \$212. If you have an annual membership, consider upgrading to a life membership.

Questions? Contact Barbara Polikoff-Katz Membership Chair, at [barbara.polikoff@gmail.com](mailto:barbara.polikoff@gmail.com).

## THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO HAS STEPPED UP TO TAKE ON LEADERSHIP ROLES!

### PROGRAMMING

Neat Eats!  
Gumbo Ya-Ya's walking group

Joy Feldman  
Joyce Ellis

### EDUCATION

Advocacy  
American Jewry Update Spotlight  
Legislative Update Spotlight  
Readers Circle

Teri Gross/Ilana Reisen  
Natalie Seltzer  
Michele Allen-Hart  
Mary Collins

### FUNDRAISING

Major Fundraiser Coordinator  
Keepers of the Gate  
Heroines and Heroes  
JNF/Tree Certificates  
Group Certificate Account Mgr  
Tzedakah Boxes  
Greeting Cards  
Yahrzeits

Rachel Blackman Frank  
Patty and Evette Ungar  
Lauren Goodman  
Sue Daube  
Dana Wallen  
Sue Daube  
Dorlene Alaynick  
Sandra Chass Goldsmith

### MEMBERSHIP

Records Administrators

Lazelle and Becky Alexander

### COMMUNICATIONS/MARKETING

Bulletin Editor

Gail Chalew

These positions remain unfilled. No experience necessary; just your commitment and interest.

#### Programming

Every Beat Counts

#### Education:

Chagall Windows Art Project  
Environment Update Spotlight  
Hadassah Medical Research Update  
Spotlight  
International Jewry Update Spotlight  
Israel Update Spotlight

#### Fundraising:

Auction Coordinator  
Sponsorship Coordinator

#### Family Fun Day Coordinator

Bling  
Major Gifts  
Tower Campaign Coordinator  
Chai Society  
Child Chai Society Coordinator  
Directory Administrator  
Advertising Coordinator  
Give NOLA Coordinator  
Certificates

#### Membership

Associates  
New Member Party Coordinator

#### Coordinator for Life & Associate Member Circles

Communications/Marketing  
Copy Writer/Marketer  
Scrapbooker  
Social Media Manager  
Special Projects:  
Health & Wellness Expo

Contact Charisse Sands at 504-231-6464 or  
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HADASSAH



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More than 100 festively dressed and “hatted” Hadassah supporters went down the “rabbit hole” and enjoyed a champagne jazz brunch, music, and a silent auction at the Mad Hatter Tea this past October. Held in memory of Libbye Katz Gordon at the Pavilion of the Two Sisters in City Park, this fundraiser celebrated the great work of Hadassah. Some of the bedecked party-goers, starting with Chair Rachel Blackman Frank (pictured next) show off their beautiful millinery (*photo credit: Gary Michael Smith, Crescent City Jewish News*).

