



## LAUNCHING JEWISH PROJECTS RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR INNOVATION

Here are a few projects that benefited from early AVF support: Keshet, Mechon Hadar, The Kitchen, the Kavana Cooperative, Kevah, Sefaria and YidLife Crisis.

## FAST FACTS

**\$245,000**  
distributed in grants

**501**  
Bronfmanim have donated to the fund over the past 10 years

**59**  
Callers participated in 3 years of annual phonathons

**25%**  
of Bronfmanim gave to the AVF in 2014



## LEADERS IN THE FIELD

The Alumni Venture Fund was the first of its kind: a peer-to-peer grant program for and by alumni. Over the past 10 years, Jewish organizations have turned to us for advice on how to start their own alumni giving circles. We led panels, facilitated connections, and inspired leaders: in both Israel and North America.

## Leveraging our powerful network...



## PEER SUPPORT

Along with funding comes support from the Bronfman community. Donors join grantee boards, advise on crowd-funding campaigns, strategize about social media efforts, help with business plans, contribute to curriculum, recruit volunteers and attend events.

## ...and contributing our dollars and shekels:



## A COLLABORATIVE FUND

This year marks the second year of fundraising from our Israeli Bronfmanim. Together, we've launched a cross cultural fund (the only one of its kind)!

## OUR DYNAMIC APPROACH



Bronfmanim & their families and friends donate throughout the year

Applications are due each autumn. All Bronfmanim are eligible to apply!



North American and Israeli alumni boards read and review each application

The reviewers discuss each application and, together, determine what should get funded



Grantees receive advice and connections

Six months later, grantees report back: how's it going? What impact has been made?



## ACTION!

The Bronfman Venture Fund aims to **grow** projects that serve the wider community and perpetuate the spirit of BYFI, **inspire** Bronfmanim to put their talents into action and **leverage** the power of peer support with capacity building from our network.

## FAST FACTS

**200+**  
projects supported

**143**  
Bronfmanim inspired to lead,  
including 20 Israelis

**27**  
Fellowship classes have  
(at least 1) grantee!



## THE VOTES ARE IN

Twice in our ten years, we turned to you to find out which grants you found most inspiring. Our Alumni Choice Awards went to Keshet: Mobilizing Jewish Youth for Equality (2011) and Encounter's Pilot Project for Israelis (2013).

## With ten years of grants & support from the community, Bronfmanim have made an impact in:

### DIRECT SERVICE FOR VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

- A reading and literacy program for 50 female parolees in East Cleveland (Books@Work)
- An alternative spring break that brought 12 college students to the Makah Indian Reservation
- An organization dedicated to recording and preserving testimonials of Rwandans (Voices of Rwanda)

### MAKING JEWISH RITUALS ACCESSIBLE AND INCLUSIVE

- An online store that, within its first year, sold 75 sets of tzitzit designed for women
- A dynamic new machzor for high holiday services for a "spiritually alive" Jewish generation in San Francisco - which drew a crowd of 250 in its first year (The KITCHEN)
- An online setting for girls to take their Bat Mitzvahs into their own hands - for unaffiliated and interfaith girls, too (MyBatMitzvahStory.org)

### INVESTING IN ARTISTIC EXPRESSION FOR CHANGE

- The translation and production of a play about the HIV-AIDS crisis for an Israeli audience ("The Normal Heart")
- A creative writing group for eleven high school-aged adoptees to explore transnational adoption in the Jewish community (Beginning & Belonging)
- A film festival in St. Louis that drew 50 students into conversations about the Arab Israeli conflict (Washington University Jewish Film Festival).

## What's next for the Venture Fund?

A diverse array of alumni-led projects receive funding each year. In 2013, we especially solicited projects in the ARTS and in 2014, in memory of Edgar M Bronfman's commitment to improving the world for the next generation, we focused on ADVOCACY. What's next for 2015? You tell us!

To vote for our next theme, please visit: <http://tinyurl.com/AVF2015>

INNOVATION IN JEWISH RITUAL

BRIDGING DIFFERENCE

MENTAL HEALTH / EMOTIONAL WELLNESS

POVERTY