



Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
Mandel Social Leadership MBA Program

2013-2014 | Cohort 2

YEARBOOK

May 2015





Greetings from Pierre Kletz, the head of the program

Dear Graduates of cohort 2,

A graduation ceremony is always an occasion for making assessments.

This year's innovation can be summed up in one word: institutionalization. The members of the first graduating class of the Mandel Social Leadership MBA Program were top-notch students and socially committed citizens – they acted as pioneers who wished to institute beyond the MBA degree a unique pattern of social leadership.

The members of the second cohort are also excellent students, but are different from their counterparts in the first graduating class because they are living proof that the Mandel Social Leadership MBA Program has already become deeply rooted:

- As these lines are being written, the members of the third cohort of the Mandel Social Leadership MBA Program have already completed their studies, the members of the fourth graduating class have already finished nearly half of the program, and we are currently selecting the candidates for the fifth cohort.
- Many indicators attest to the fact that the Mandel Social Leadership MBA Program has become solidly established: the constantly increasing number of candidates, a curriculum that is continually evolving, but which has arrived at a state of maturity, a consistently improving process for the selection of candidates etc.

Moreover, the constant and perceptive commitment to the Program of a major player in the philanthropic world – and I am referring here to the Jack, Joseph, and Morton Mandel Foundation – attests to the fact that the nonprofit sector recognizes the importance of the Social Leadership MBA at Ben-Gurion University for the creation of a cadre of competent managers for non-profit organizations.

The Mandel Foundation's commitment is also reflected in the fact that, thanks to the Foundation, a building is being erected on the campus of Ben-Gurion University, a building that will be ready for occupancy in less than two years

and which will furnish high-quality infrastructures for the activities of the Mandel Social Leadership MBA Program.

Fundamentally, the Mandel Social Leadership MBA Program continues to base itself on the same principles – it was created for those who are convinced that the necessary condition for the success of large-scale projects is impeccable management.

The program is also founded on the refutation of the fallacious argument that there is a fundamental contradiction between the public good and the interests of the business world.

The graduates of the second cohort of the Mandel Social Leadership MBA Program studied in a program that consists, in equal parts, of instruction in the field of business administration and the acquisition of knowledge regarding nonprofits. In order to avoid the creation of a dichotomous approach, several bridging courses between the two domains have been totally integrated into the Mandel Social Leadership MBA Program.

The mini-graduation ceremony has perpetuated a tradition that began with the first graduating class and which attests to the program's originality. The graduates of the Mandel Social Leadership MBA have delivered the key note presentation: they are social leaders and they have messages, convictions and knowledge that they expressed in the lesson given with the mini-graduation culmination and that they develop and implement in the life of our society.

Now the new graduates have joined the Mandel community, a community of action populated by educators and social actors who are committed to creating change both as individuals and as part of a community.

I hope each and every one of you soon finds your unique path to leave your personal-organizational mark and make the world a better place. Keep your eyes on the stars, and your feet on the ground.

Warmest regards,

Pierre Kletz

Head of the Mandel Social Leadership MBA program

The Valedictory Address delivered by Tali Tessler and Naama Yardeni

Dear guests and fellow graduates,

When we started the Social Leadership MBA of the Mandel Foundation here at Ben-Gurion University, we had no idea what we were getting into. However, there one was thing we all shared and it was clear to us all: We are people who work, volunteer and do for the sake of society and others. During the very brief meeting we held to get to know one another that Prof. Pierre Kletz held right at the start of the program, we discovered that we come from very full and different worlds: social activists, educators, jurists and social workers; people who had been emissaries of Israeli society abroad and those who were active here in Israel, in the periphery or the center, in NGOs and organizations, at demonstrations, universities and local governments.

During the 16 months of the program, we were privileged to meet people and leaders from civil society and the public and third sectors who shared their acts of leadership and inspired us. We met them among the diverse lecturers, at meetings we were invited to at the Mandel Foundation-Israel and during the course we took on vision and organizational learning. Many of those we met are graduates of the leadership programs of the Mandel Foundation, people who have established organizations or entered existing ones, where they made changes, people of vision and practice who shape Israeli society and redefine what giving, social change and leadership are.

We've shared many exciting experiences: a seminar during which we were challenged to ask ourselves who we are and what we're doing here; we tried to draft a vision and share it with the group. For some of us, this was not an easy task. Despite the difficulties we encountered consolidating as a group, there were moments when we could clearly feel the things that united us. Thus, for example, somewhere in the city of Greensboro, North Carolina, we spent a very special evening with a very special man, and suddenly we felt as if all the barriers between us had broken down, and we found ourselves becoming a close-knit group, that we were all partners sharing an important journey. We realized that even if our visions are different, ultimately each of us is driven by the same inner point within us that causes us to constantly seek out the act – which we discussed at length and tried to understand – the act of leadership.

Some of us do this by means of urban renewal in Lod, or through art and music, or by creating steps to enable a sustainable life. There are also those who do this by rehabilitating

prisoners, making education more accessible, using the arts to advance peace and educating to the values of equality and solidarity in order to eliminate abuse. Others help populations that suffer from under-employment. Some of us turn to young people as a driving force to improve society. Among us are those who strive to advance a free life filled with love and acceptance and those who act to accept the other by shaping accepting communities and through education, and by offering support to the victims of sexual abuse.

Some of us wish to impact Israel's priorities so that they include the needs of weakened populations too, or to create a society founded on mutual social responsibility. Among us are those who seek to give every human being the opportunity to reach the centers of power, to study and develop, to lead the future generation to active social and civic involvement, to empower local leadership and strengthen solidarity. Some of us devote our lives to feminist education or the struggle for animal rights and education to compassion. For others, it is activities that cross population sectors and corporate responsibility. Some work to enhance workers' rights, or to find creative solutions to improve the economy, such as by establishing a cooperative bank or labor unions.

But all of us aspire to lead to excellence and to find our personal pinnacle. We all want to create a better society and underlying everything is that same act, the act of leadership.

We arrived agitated, fresh from the social protests of the summer of 2011. We were critical, incisive, we knew what was right for Israeli society and were filled with a passion to act. Very soon, reality slapped us in the face and we discovered that things were far more complex than we had imagined. At the seminar on building a personal vision, we learned to stop, look from the side, ask questions, hold an internal dialogue with ourselves and with the group. We discovered that not everything is clear, we learned how to act in situations of uncertainty, in a fog. For the first time in our lives, we understood what our destiny in life was, our vision. Afterwards, we changed it, adapted it and rewrote it again and again.

The program gave us an opportunity to do something that we would otherwise apparently not have been able to do. In addition to the many managerial tools we acquired and the new world that was opened to us, we are completing the program armed with a vision. Even if we make changes to it later, we will always have a framework to define us, drive us and make us better managers. We are determined to succeed, to work in the field for the sake of Israeli society, but also to run organizations and lead good changes. And who knows? Perhaps we'll even become leaders.



The Exhibition: Dimensions of Vision: From Imagination to Reality

Leadership is first of all doing. It cannot be summed up in words, only through action on the ground.

The graduate exhibition of the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Social Leadership MBA program is made up of 23 installations, expressing the vision of the graduates of Cohort 2 of the program.

One of the most important steps in the context of the act of leadership is to create a vision. A vision is the dream or picture of the future that determines the horizon and path towards a better social reality.

The exhibition will enable observers to get to know the graduates of the program through movement in the expanse, and allows visitors to become familiar with their visions and values. The sides of the cube present different dimensions from the world of art and philosophy that inspire the act of leadership. In these dimensions, the graduates express their own personal philosophy and social credo.

The exhibition offers a platform to present the process that the graduates experienced together in the program. Each installation represents a milestone for them on their shared journey, upon completion of the academic-theoretical chapter, and the continuation of their continual personal and professional development. This is done both conceptually and practically, through the use of concepts and symbols. The variety of works creates the rich human mosaic represented by the program's graduates.



Chen Amir

In her last position, Chen worked as the director of public relations and fundraising at the Daniel Center, the Movement for Progressive Judaism, and today she is undergoing professional retraining in order to become a high school teacher of civics in the context of studies for a teacher's certificate in the School of Education of Tel Aviv University. Chen believes that education, especially civic education are the foundation for an active, involved and impactful civil society.

Chen is involved in pluralistic Jewish education and strengthening ties with the Diaspora. She served as an emissary to a Jewish community in Palm Beach, Florida on behalf of the Jewish Agency for Israel. During the time she served as an emissary, she was involved in Zionist education, especially among youth and young adults, as well as young families. Chen was also involved in the world of philanthropy while in the United States and participated in fundraising efforts for the community's Israel programs.

Chen has a BA in political science and international relations from the Open University and as a certificate as an organizational advisor from Tafnit, the management school of the Open University. She is a graduate of the Social Leadership MBA program in cooperation with the Mandel Foundation.

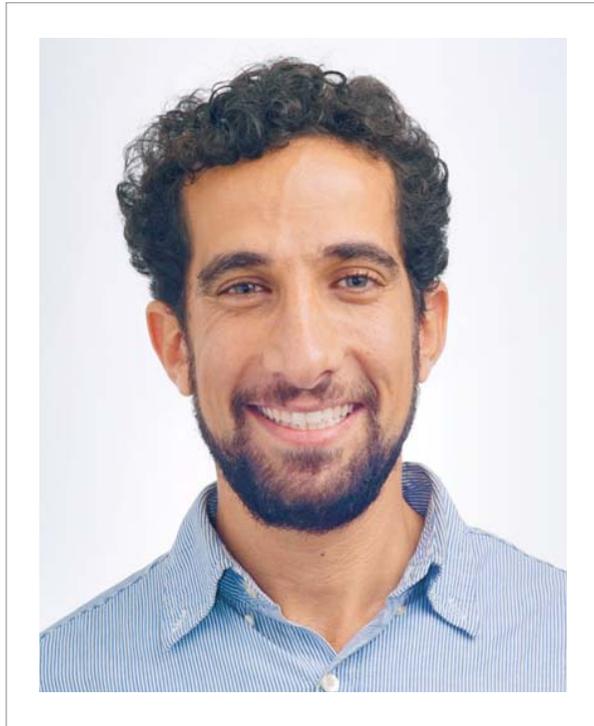
Vision

To lead, influence and provoke a meaningful dialogue based on values, and to educate the generation of the future to active social and civic involvement through civic education and community engagement.



“ He who cares for days, sows wheat. He who cares for years, plants trees. He who cares for generations, educates people”

(Janusz Korczak).



Noam Aricha

Noam currently serves as the personal assistant to the CEO of the Kfar Saba municipality.

Noam served as an emissary of the Jewish Agency for Israel in Georgetown University, Washington D.C. for two years. When he returned to Israel, he managed a marketing team to identify and recruit new emissaries for the Jewish Agency in the southern district and led consultation processes in the context of Nova, an NGO that provides consultation services to social organizations.

Noam has a BA in management and Middle Eastern studies from the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. He is a graduate of the Social Leadership MBA program in cooperation with the Mandel Foundation.

Vision

To advance free living filled with acceptance and love; to develop a relationship with myself, with others and processes, with tolerance and patience to add good to the world.

“

Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow. The important thing is to not stop questioning”

(Albert Einstein).

INSPIRING PICTURE

Photo by: Joshua Earle





Yitzhak Bodner

Yitzhak runs the young people's center in Efrat, which works at providing increased access to jobs, higher education, culture and leisure to young people aged 21-35. Yitzhak is also the director of a department in the Halacha Education Center, an NGO involved in the writing and dissemination of Jewish curricula for schools outside Israel.

Yitzhak served in the past as Efrat's youth coordinator and was among the founders of the youth headquarters and youth council in the community. He also coordinated a group of young people who were terror victims for One Family, and taught in a yeshiva high school preparing students for their matriculation exams. Yitzhak believes that the younger generation in Israel holds huge potential and that we are obligated as a society to develop and channel these boundless energies and forces in order to improve the face of Israeli society.

Yitzhak has a BA (cum laude) in education and a teacher's certificate from the Herzog College. He is a graduate of the Social Leadership MBA program in cooperation with the Mandel Foundation.

Vision

To advance Israeli society in the areas of education, employment and housing, and to forge ties between all parts of Israeli society.

“

He has showed you, O man,
what is good; and what the Lord
requires of you, only to do justly,
and to love mercy, and to walk
humbly with your God”

(Micah 6:8).

INSPIRING PICTURE

Photo by: Yehoshua Diroven





Noa Bielitsky

Noa has devoted and continues to devote her life to various organizations that focus on assisting needy populations and to projects that advance the principles of environmental, social and economic sustainability. Noa participated in the founding of Bar-Kayma, a social cooperative restaurant and bar that combines a place to hang out with a community center. It works to advance areas such as urban agriculture, cooperative consumption, civic organization, giving to the community, culture and art. At the same time, Noa served as a therapeutic counselor in the Department for the Advancement of Children and Youth in the municipality of Tel Aviv. In this context, she forged therapeutic ties with at-risk youth and their families and gave them close guidance and personal supervision with an eye to empowering and integrating them into those frameworks most suited to them. In the past year, Noa spent time in the United States to study how various communities conduct themselves around similar values and joint activities. As part of the study process, she participated in a number of social projects in California, such as the establishment and operation of urban and community gardens and the production of cultural events that advance art and young artists.

Noa has a BA in behavioral sciences (summa cum laude) from the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. She is a graduate of the Social Leadership MBA program in cooperation with the Mandel Foundation.

Vision

To create a better world that encourages a sustainable lifestyle, and enable learning, creativity and self-fulfillment based on harmony with the environment and society, while implementing values such as human dignity and liberty, openness, fairness, tolerance and social solidarity.

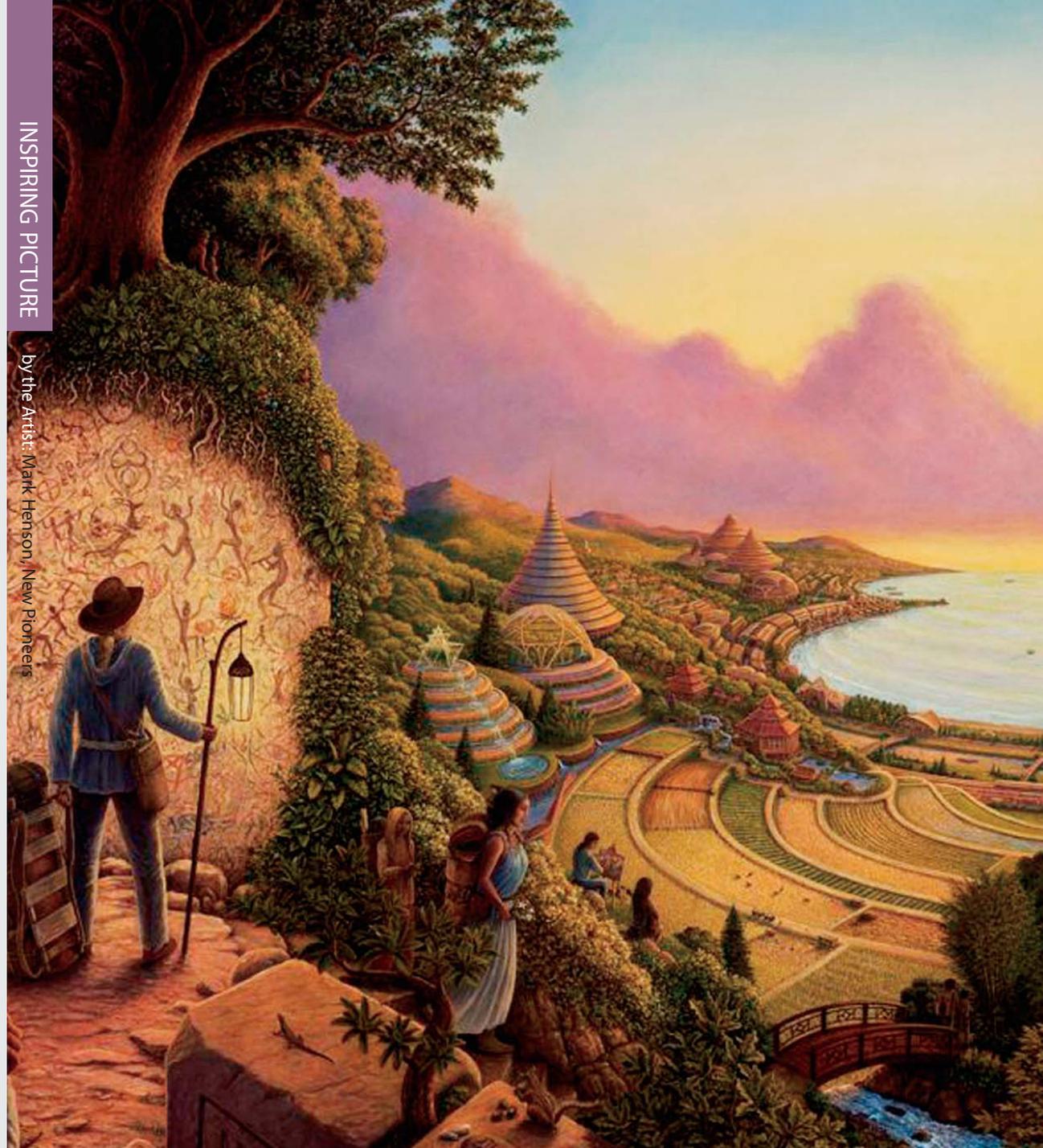
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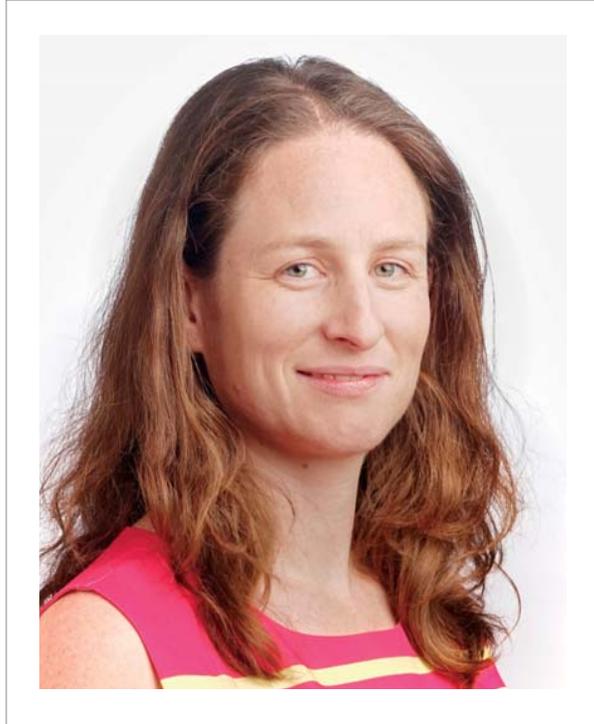
It is time to develop a big 'US', rather than the old 'us and them' [...] We should include the entire world in our concern, wishing all humanity well. If we can do that, there will be no room for hatred, thinking of others as enemies. And we will achieve this through education, not through prayer.”

(Tenzin Gyatso, 14th Dalai Lama).

INSPIRING PICTURE

by the Artist: Mark Henson, New Pioneers





Avital Blonder

Avital is the founder and director-general of Jindas, an NGO for urban renewal in Lod. She is a social activist in a variety of organizations that engage in education, equal rights, advancing dialogue between Jews and Arabs and strengthening the involvement of civil society in Israel.

Avital established and ran the student branches of the Paamonim organization as well as of the Mozes Wolfowitz Foundation, working with young people that lack strong family support.

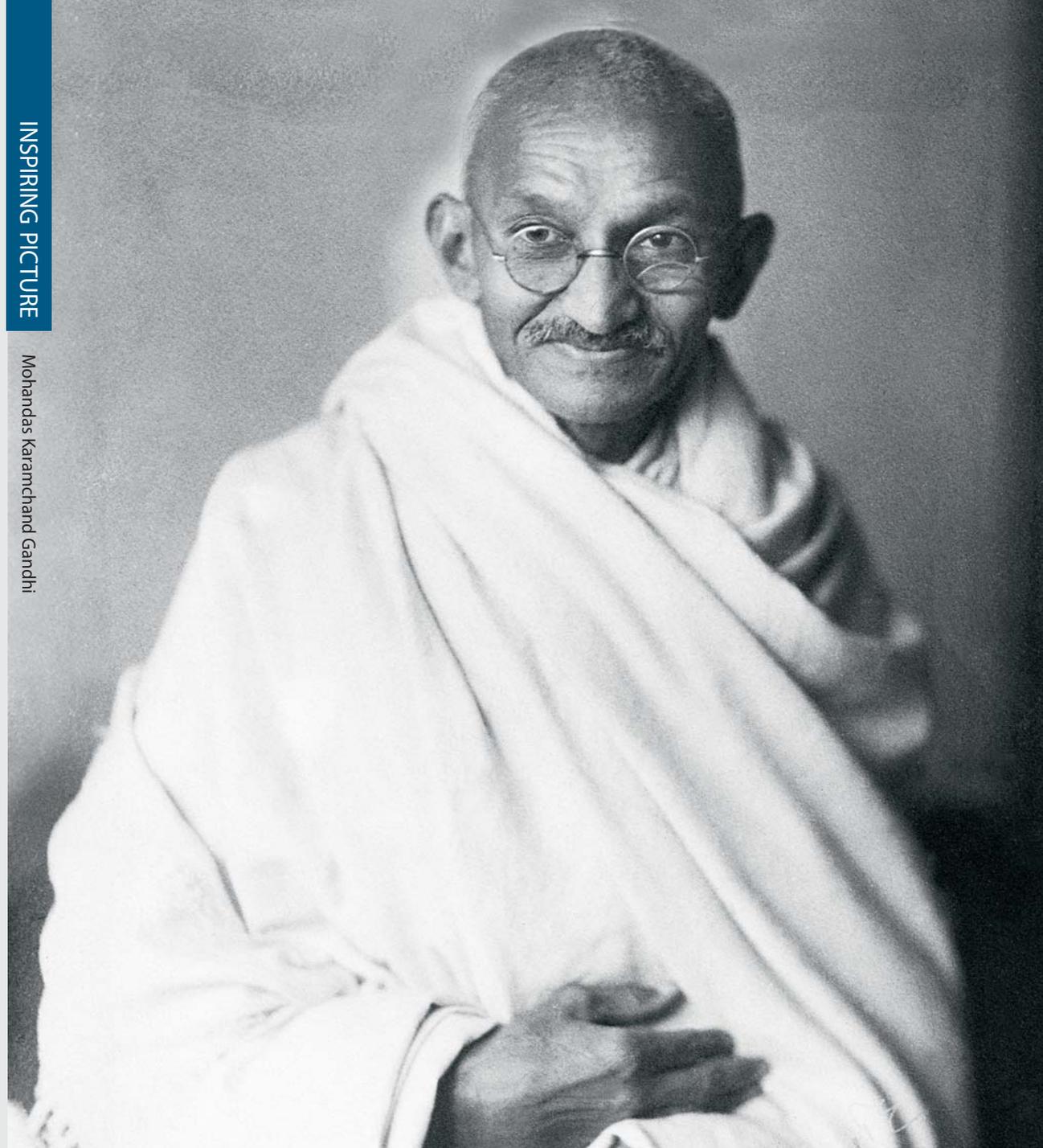
Avital has a BA in psychology and interdisciplinary studies from the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. She is a graduate of the Social Leadership MBA program in cooperation with the Mandel Foundation.

Vision

To generate and make a difference in the lives of many by realizing the potential that lies in them, while maintaining sensitivity, humanity and faith in the infinite capabilities of people.

INSPIRING PICTURE

Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi



“ Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go”

(T.S. Eliot).



Elad Ben Aroche

Elad is a musician, producer of artistic events and cultural entrepreneur. He is one of the founders of the Jerusalem Cooperative to Advance Fringe Music that provides accessible, affordable and varied music to the general public. Elad is part of a process to establish a national NGO aimed at making diverse music and art accessible to different audiences beyond the Tel Aviv center, and to enable Israeli artists to create and earn a livelihood from their art, by means of public relations, the production of art events and festivals, and by helping artists in the creative process. He writes a cultural opinion and review column in the online magazine Mirpesset, and is working on recording an album of his own.

Through his activities, Elad seeks to change the reality in which certain cultures are not given equal exposure to other cultures for political, social and economic reasons, and because the dominant culture in Israel dictates the tone regarding what ought to be part of the public expanse.

Elad has a BA in Middle Eastern studies, politics and governance from the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. He is a graduate of the Social Leadership MBA program in cooperation with the Mandel Foundation.

Vision

To lead, advance and develop local and original fringe culture based on the artists' mother tongue.

“

The limits of my language means
the limits of my world”

(Ludwig Wittgenstein, Tractatus
Logico-Philosophicus).

לשפה



Doreen Gabbai

Doreen is in charge of national guidance in Ofanim, an NGO for the advancement of equal opportunities in education for children from the communities in Israel's periphery. She coordinated and developed the Kidma program for adult education that makes it possible for immigrants and the elderly to complete their basic education. The program is part of the Social Involvement Department of the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in cooperation with the Section for Adult Education in the Ministry of Education. In the context of her position, she has been very active in expanding the program in order to open the gates of the university to numerous and varied populations.

In the past, Doreen facilitated an empowerment group for women as part of Itach-
مَعَكَ (Maachi) – Women Lawyers for Social Justice,” whose aim is to provide tools and knowledge in the area of law and social justice.

Doreen aspires to continue her work to increase the accessibility of knowledge and education for weakened populations that lack opportunities, out of her belief in the existence of a just society that provides all its members with the opportunity to learn and develop.

Doreen has a BA (cum laude) in politics and governance and sociology from the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. She is a graduate of the Social Leadership MBA program in cooperation with the Mandel Foundation.

Vision

To diminish gaps in education and to make knowledge and education more accessible, to build a just society that provides all people with the opportunity to reach the centers of power, to study and develop.

“

One book, one pen, one child,
and one teacher can change the
world”

(Malala Yousafza).

INSPIRING PICTURE

Photo by: Doreen Gabbai





Tal Goldman-Shachar

Tal is a social worker who runs strategic programs in the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews. She is in charge of constructing and developing programs to address the needs of people in a state of crisis, and is responsible for collaborations between organizations that can provide solutions for weakened populations.

In the past, Tal coordinated a project involving individual social work to change the policy of the war on poverty, headed by Prof. Michal Krumer-Nevo in cooperation with the Department of Social Services of the Be'er Sheva municipality. Before that, she served as the chairman of Osim Shinooy – Students for the Future of Social Work and Welfare Services in Israel. At the same time, she was head of a team in the Unit for Social Involvement of the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, aimed at increasing the involvement of the university's students among various populations.

Tal aspires to impact the public sector in areas of strategy and policy change, with an eye to creating a direct line of communications between the NGOs and the entire Third Sector in Israel.

Tal has a BA in social work from the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. She is a graduate of the Social Leadership MBA program in cooperation with the Mandel Foundation.

Vision

To impact the political-social strategy in Israel so that it will create priorities to make the weakened populations and their needs part of its agenda.

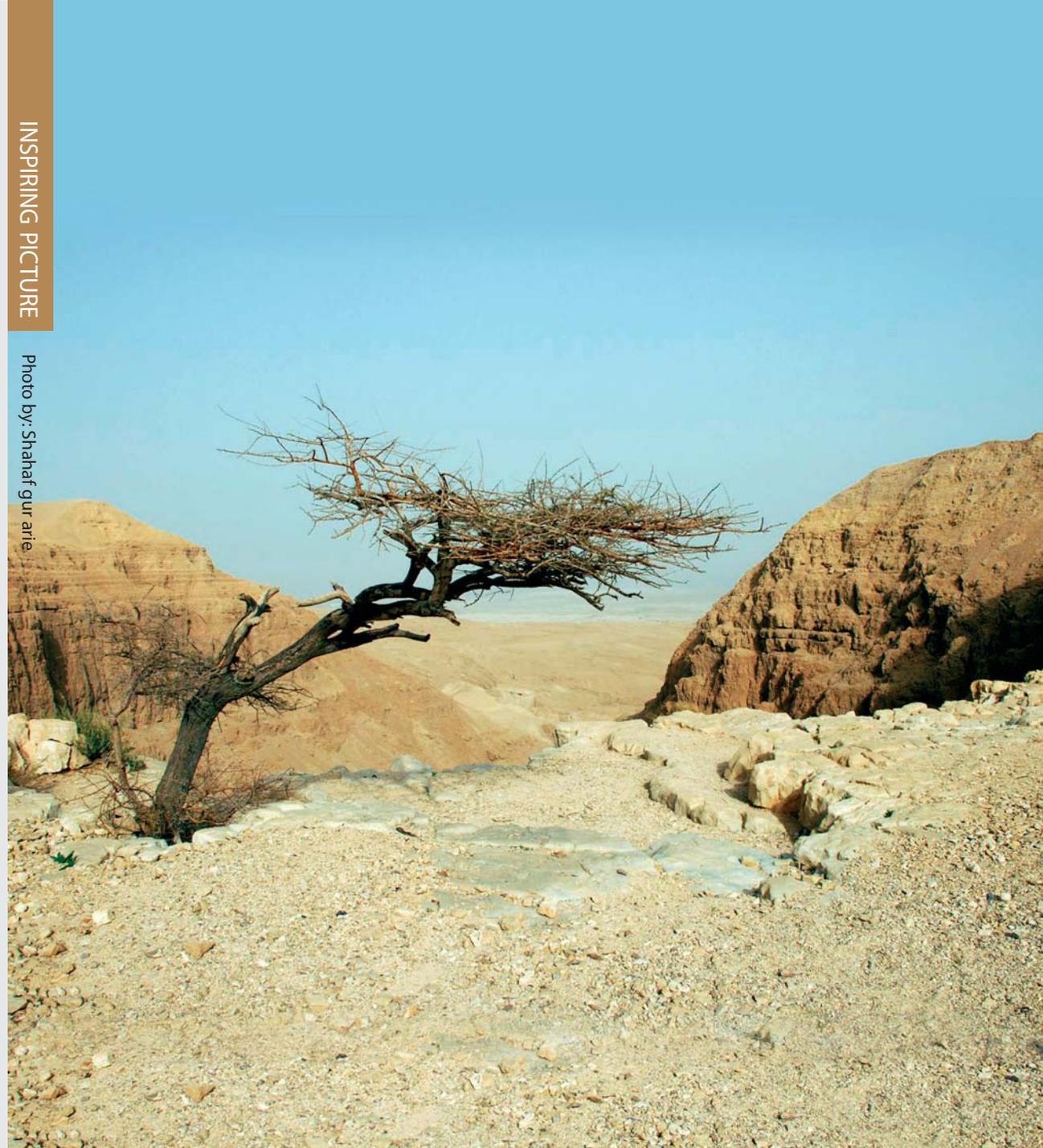
“

Man – a microcosms; the world
– a macro-anthropos”

(Rabbi Yitzhak Luria).

INSPIRING PICTURE

Photo by: Shahaf gur arie





Sagie Grunhaus

Sagie serves as head of a section in the armaments department in the Air Force. In this position, he is responsible for managing numerous projects involving the Air Force's technological force building. Since he graduated from flight school in 2005 and up to the present, he has served as a combat pilot in a wide variety of positions, including deputy commander of a squadron in the Ramon Air Force Base.

In 2013, he began to volunteer in El Kav Hagova, an NGO that helps at-risk youth by means of sport orienteering. Sagie is currently a member of the NGO's board of directors and is a regular volunteer. In the future, after his discharge from the Air Force, Sagie is interested in doing management work through which he can lead people to excellence. The combination of technological and social areas is close to his heart.

Sagie has a BA in management and information technology from the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, which he acquired during his pilot's training course. He is a graduate of the Social Leadership MBA program in cooperation with the Mandel Foundation.

Vision

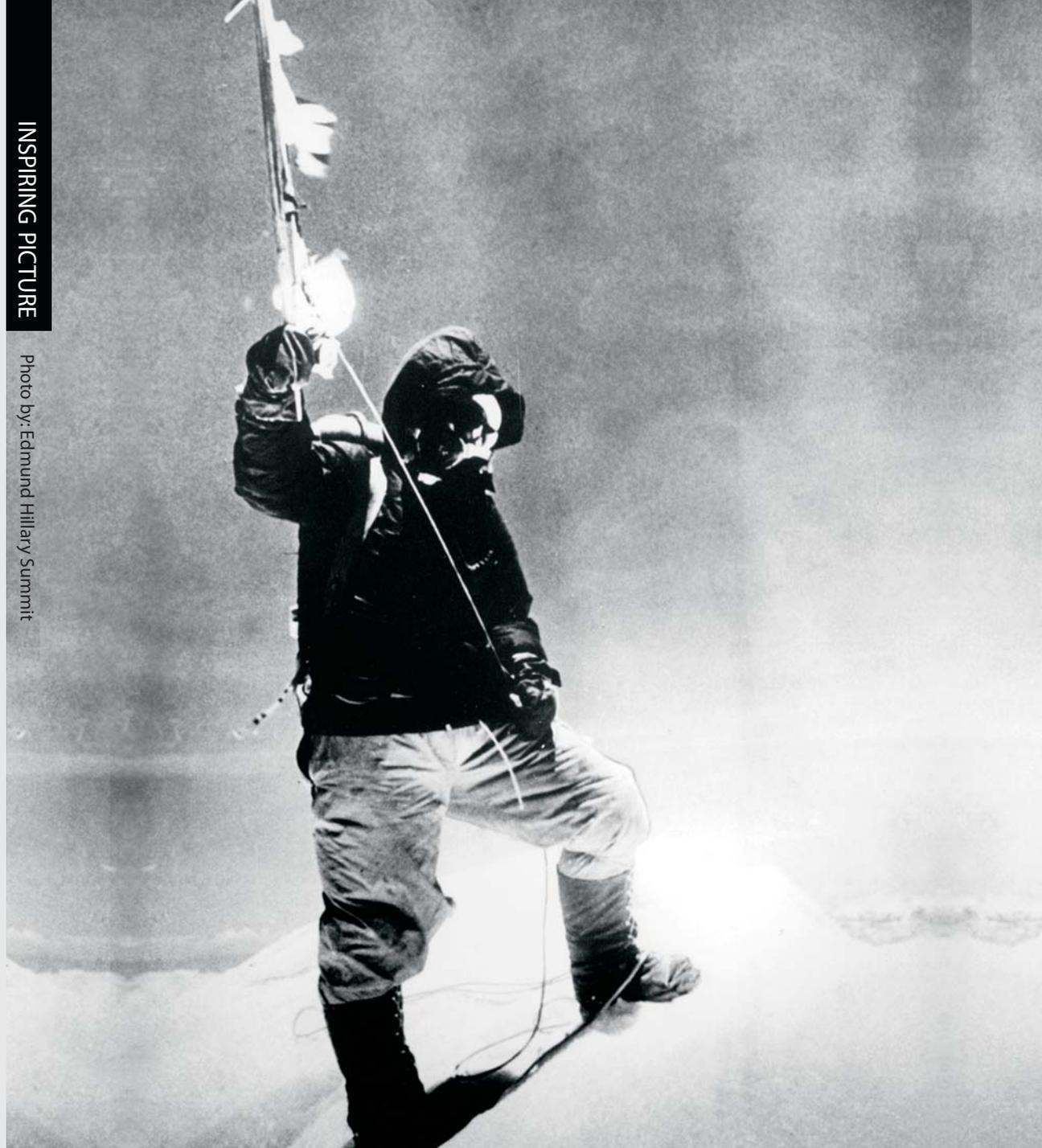
To lead people to excellence, to have faith in themselves and to reach their personal pinnacle.

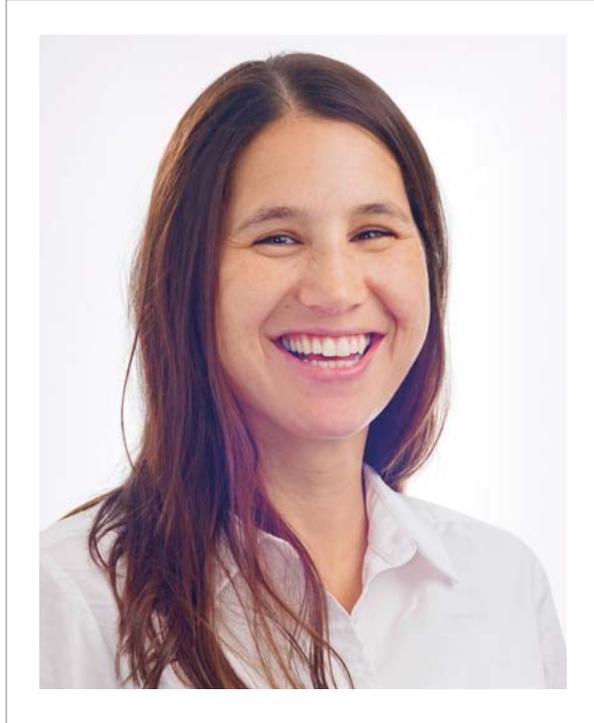
“ Anyone can be a victim. Anyone can be a king. The easy choice is to be a victim. The difficult choice is to be a king”

(Gabi Nitzan, Badulina).

INSPIRING PICTURE

Photo by: Edmund Hillary Summit





Mor Deitch

Mor coordinates the legal mentoring in the organization Koach La Ovdim – Democratic Workers’ Organization and is responsible for 30 volunteer lawyers who help workers to organize all over the country.

In the past, she was among the founders of Osim Shinooy – Students for the Future of Social Work and Welfare Services in Israel, and headed it. Mor was among the leaders of the social workers’ struggle in 2007-2009. During the summer 2011 protests, she coordinated teams of volunteers that worked in cooperation with people from the academia, politicians and social activists to advance housing policy in Israel.

Mor aspires to be a part of social change in Israel, both in civil society as well as in politics to effect a change in public policy, especially by diminishing social gaps and advancing weakened populations.

Mor has a BA in social work from the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. She is a graduate of the Social Leadership MBA program in cooperation with the Mandel Foundation.

Vision

To help communities fulfill their aspirations, improve their lives, correct the injustices of the past, change existing social orders and develop innovative solutions to the challenges surrounding them.

“

Be the change that you wish to see in the world”

(Mahatma Gandhi).

INSPIRING PICTURE

Google Copyright Free Image





Avital Hepher

In recent years, Avital has led groups in the Ben-Gurion Heritage Institute and in the Man & Mind Center. She gives workshops and lectures on subjects related to Israeli society, leadership and social skills, Zionism and social activism. In addition, Avital is currently taking part in The Rothschild Cube – Center for Effective Social Action.

In the past, she initiated and coordinated Seniors Lead, a social entrepreneurship program for pensioners, and an academic course for students of management, with the support of the Be'er Sheva municipality and the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. Avital has a background and experience in guiding in the context of the Scouts movement (as a guidance coordinator and age-group coordinator), and from her military service as a guidance officer. She recently returned from being an emissary to Jewish and Israeli communities in the United States as part of the staff of the Friendship Caravan delegation of the Scouts movement.

Avital has a BA (cum laude) in State of Israel studies and sociology-anthropology from the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. She is a graduate of the Social Leadership MBA program in cooperation with the Mandel Foundation.

Vision

To create a group of young people and adults in the Negev whose goal is to empower local leadership, increase social involvement, encourage solidarity and strengthen the sense of belonging to Israeli society.

“

If you want to build a ship, don't drum up people to collect wood and don't assign them tasks and work, but rather teach them to long for the endless immensity of the sea”

(Antoine de Saint-Exupéry).

INSPIRING PICTURE

by the Artist: Vladimir Kush, "Fauna In La Mancha"





Limor Hashavia

Limor runs the volunteer organization of Appleseeds Academy, an NGO that works to bridge socio-economic gaps in Israeli society by diminishing the country's digital divide.

In previous positions, she was a project manager for the southern district and coordinator of students in the Ben-Gurion University's Rothschild Ambassadors organization, an leadership development organization that aims to train the future generation of Israel's business, public and social leaders. Limor was a member of the "developing social network" team, in the context of which she participated in the establishment of the adult organization of Rothschild Ambassadors. Before that, she coordinated and guided in the Jewish Spirit program to teach Jewish heritage in Israel's public schools.

Limor has a BA in Middle Eastern studies and politics and governance from the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. She is a graduate of the Social Leadership MBA program in cooperation with the Mandel Foundation.

Vision

To diminish gaps in Israeli society by making education accessible and empowering the individual.

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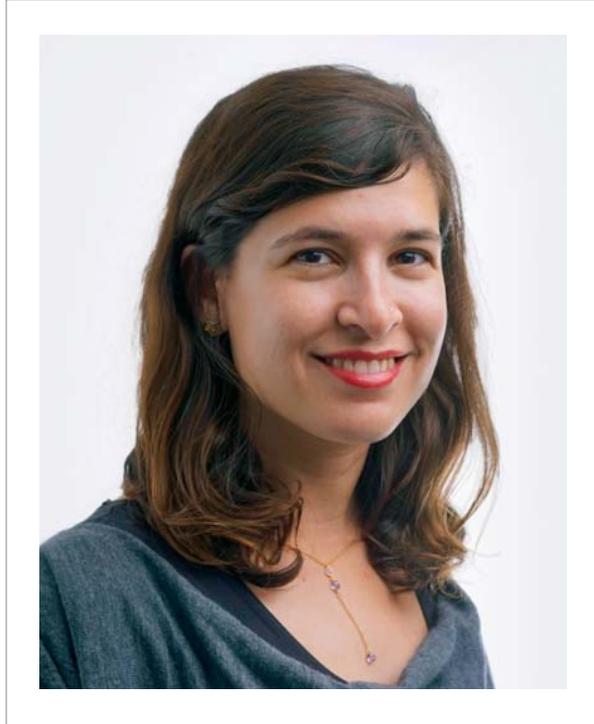
A man, as a general rule, owes very little to what he is born with – a man is what he makes of himself”

(Alexander Graham Bell).

INSPIRING PICTURE

Photo by: Boaz Hashavia





Tali Tessler

Tali is currently the parliamentary advisor to MK Tamar Zandberg of Meretz, and a volunteer for the hotline of the Rape Crisis Center in Tel Aviv. Before that, Tali was a teacher in the Branco Weiss high school in Be'er Sheva, a school for at-risk youth. She worked in the education department of the Rape Crisis Center in Tel Aviv, and gave workshops to prevent sexual violence in schools. She currently volunteers on the hotline. Tali also wrote in the women's portal On Life, of the Haaretz group and volunteered to counsel youth on subjects related to sexuality in Open Door – Israeli Association for Family Planning.

Tali has a BA in Middle Eastern and African studies and political science. She is a graduate of the Koteret School of Journalism of Tel Aviv University and is currently completing her teacher's certificate in history at the Open University. She is a graduate of the Social Leadership MBA program in cooperation with the Mandel Foundation.

Vision

To change education in Israel so that it is based on the values of morality and equality and on feminist values; to be part of an education system that does not emphasize militaristic, nationalistic, consumer or material values; to strengthen the understanding that criticism and freedom of speech are more important than anything else to create a truly democratic society; to be part of the struggle for a just and sustainable life in the State of Israel.

“

Feminism is the radical notion
that women are people”

(Cheris Kramarae and Paula Treichler).

INSPIRING PICTURE

Photo by: Tali Tessler





Naama Yardeni

Naama is a youth coordinator in Latet Youth and is the liaison between the organization and about 200 NGOs that receive services from it. Naama also volunteers as a counselor in Open Door – Israeli Association for Family Planning, which provides counseling and information to young people on the subject of sexuality and healthy relationships. Naama has been active in a wide variety of organizations that provide assistance and support to young people: She managed the club of the Shema NGO in Be'er Sheva, a framework that embraces young people who are hard of hearing and deaf and provides them with a variety of content presented experientially; she volunteered in the nighttime mobile units of Jemilla, which seeks out homeless youth and provides them with an alternative solution, mentoring and counseling on a variety of subjects; she served as a counselor in Tafnit, which helps teenagers at risk of dropping out of school, to complete their matriculation examinations in special classes held in Be'er Sheva high schools. Naama has also worked in the Graduate Unit of the Mandel Foundation-Israel.

Naama has a BA in behavioral sciences from the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. She is a graduate of the Social Leadership MBA program in cooperation with the Mandel Foundation.

Vision

To help kids and teenagers consolidate their identity based on self-efficacy, critical thinking and tolerance.

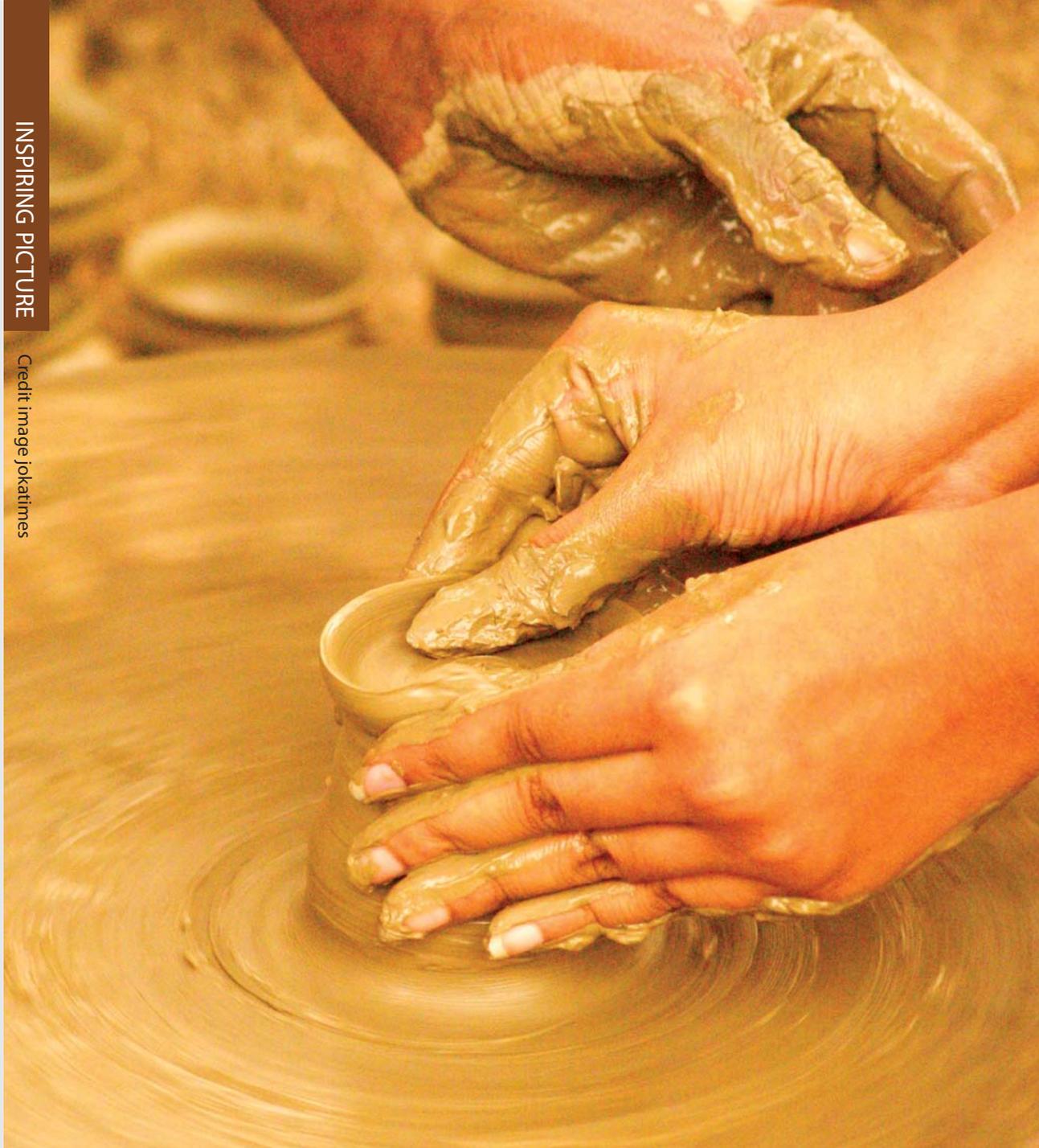
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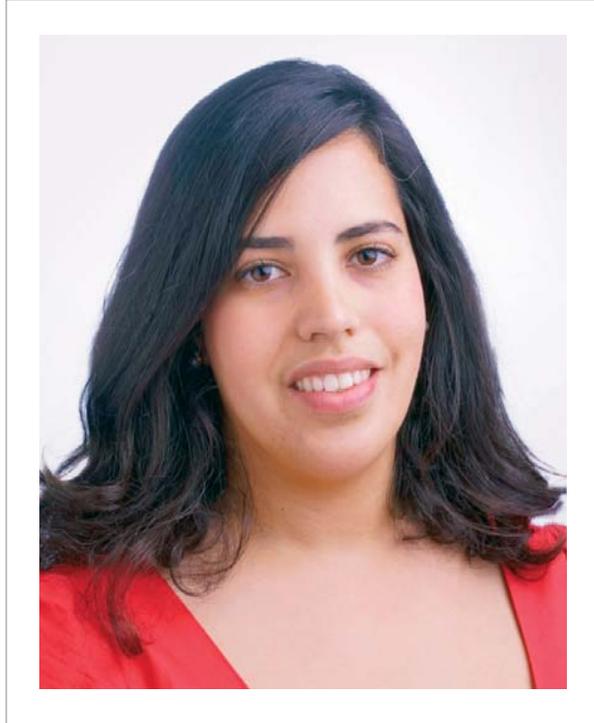
I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel”

(Maya Angelou).

INSPIRING PICTURE

Credit Image Jokarimes





Shir Mnuchin

Shir currently leads a national initiative to create jobs for university students majoring in the humanities in commercial companies, governmental entities and public organizations, and to thereby open the door to their integration in the economy when they complete their studies. In 2014, she led a personal lecture campaign throughout the United States on the subject of narratives of identity, during which she was hosted by 70 universities, Third Sector organizations and Israeli consulates. Before that, she was involved in recruiting and screening emissaries for the Jewish Agency for Israel and she established an academic program to train students going abroad as emissaries, in cooperation with the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. In her position as liaison coordinator of the Student Union, she established an absorption framework for students from abroad in the university, a project that enjoyed the support of the university's president, as part of university's internationalization process.

Shir aspires to continue to strengthen ties between the government and business sectors to leverage social change.

Shir has a BA (cum laude) in State of Israel studies and politics and governance from the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. She is a graduate of the Social Leadership MBA program in cooperation with the Mandel Foundation.

Vision

To work for Israeli society in social-welfare and education by creating partnerships between sectors, and by advancing the subject of corporate responsibility as a guiding philosophy for large and small organizations and businesses in Israel.

“

If you want to go fast, go alone.

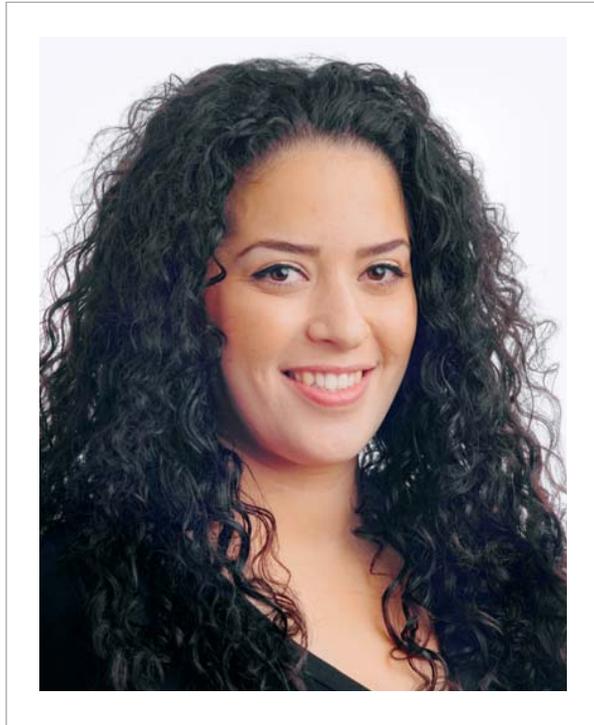
If you want to go far, go together”

(African Proverb).

INSPIRING PICTURE

Shutterstock Image





Hila Sagges

Hila is an area manager for Shekulo Tov, an NGO that specializes in employment rehabilitation among people struggling with emotional challenges. In the past, Hila worked as sign-language interpreter in the community of the Deaf, especially in academic institutions for Deaf students. During her work, she learned that the most significant challenges facing people with handicaps are found in realizing their employment potential, which is why she decided to focus on this area.

Hila wishes to expand her circles of influence in the area of employment integration by means of professional management or the development of employment interventions for populations suffering from under-employment, as well as to expand and deepen the research into their field.

Hila has a professional translator's certificate for Israeli Sign Language. She is a graduate of the Social Leadership MBA program in cooperation with the Mandel Foundation.

Vision

To change the face of Israel's employment market and to integrate populations excluded from it.

“

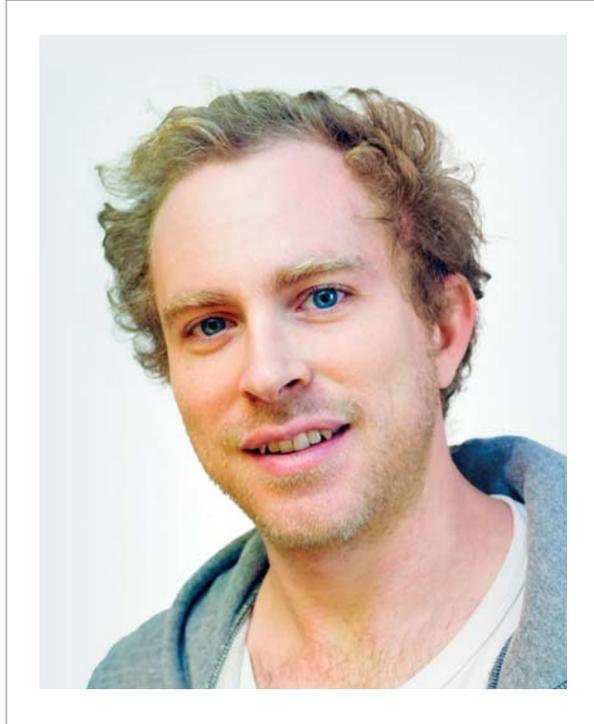
True happiness is not attained through self-gratification, but through fidelity to a worthy purpose”

(Helen Keller).

INSPIRING PICTURE

Photo by: Hila Saggas





Daniel Silverton

Daniel has his own business for branding, marketing and communications and works with companies in Israel and abroad. He believes in the strength of creativity, on both the individual and group level, as a means to empower mutual understanding and develop empathy to those who are distant from us. Daniel immigrated to Israel from London, England in 2010, after having spent many years on social businesses and nonprofits in England, which included the development of art and creativity compounds, in addition to managing an agency for the measurement of social change by means of creativity and entertainment.

Daniel has a BA in social anthropology from London University. He is a graduate of the Social Leadership MBA program in cooperation with the Mandel Foundation.

Vision

To use art and creativity as a means to advance peace and coexistence between people, mainly in encounters with the other.

“

Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up”

(Pablo Picasso).

INSPIRING PICTURE

A mural of the artist Keith Haring





Yifat Pinto-Kahana

Yifat runs a therapeutic day center for adults with mental developmental handicaps in Haifa, under the auspices of Elwyn Israel. In the past, she worked as a social worker with youth and young people and ran a therapeutic center for at-risk youth in Neighborhood E in Be'er Sheva. In addition, she worked as a social worker in the Beit Aviv residence for rehabilitative populations and ran the Community Supports Independent Life for the Handicapped in Be'er Sheva. Later, she managed projects in the Rehabilitation Department of the Be'er Sheva municipality and coordinated a variety of programs that the city offered to people with handicaps.

Yifat has a BA in social work from Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. She is a graduate of the Social Leadership MBA program in cooperation with the Mandel Foundation.

Vision

To establish partnerships in shaping an inclusive community that accepts the other into it and enables them to flourish in it with joy.

By the artist: Rene Magritte



Ceci n'est pas une pipe.

Magritte

“ The world is a good and merry place. I recommend it to everyone. I recommend that those who have not yet been born hurry up and do so. You won't regret it!!”

(Hanoch Levin, “The Boy Dreams”).



Ori Shechter

Ori runs a hostel for released prisoners in the context of the Authority for Prisoner Rehabilitation in Jerusalem. In the past, he served as an emissary of the Jewish Agency for Israel in Belarus and Uzbekistan. In addition, he was active in Aharei, an NGO for the development of young leadership, and in his last position, he was coordinator for the southern district. After completing his BA, Ori dealt with the area of domestic violence in the context of Renewed Dialogue – a therapeutic center for men who behave violently in intimate contexts as a therapist, a group facilitator and coordinator of the center’s evening program.

Ori has a BA in social work (summa cum laude) from Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. He is a graduate of the Social Leadership MBA program in cooperation with the Mandel Foundation.

Vision

To shed light on life in the shadow of society based on seeing the good and the potential in every human being.

“

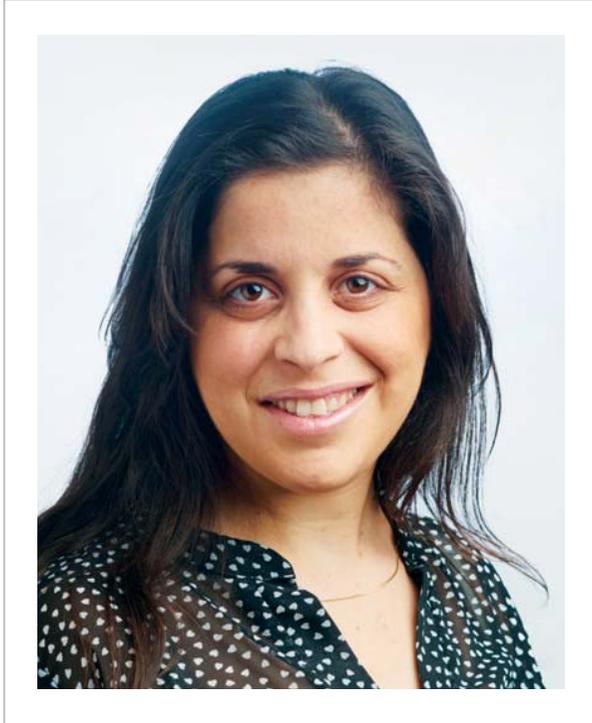
The difference between what we do and what we are capable of doing would suffice to solve most of the world's problems”

(Mahatma Gandhi).

INSPIRING PICTURE

Photo by: Shani Cohen Shechter





Dana Schleifer

Dana is a manager in the Ofek initiative, which is establishing Israel's first cooperative bank, the headquarters of the company shareholders and financial education. The Ofek bank seeks to break up the market centralization of the banking industry and create an alternative option in Israeli society. Dana is also a lecturer at the School of Management of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev on the subject of economic counseling to households. She is active in Lamerhav – founded by the Mozes Wolfowitz Foundation, and mentors young people who lack strong family support. There she established a unit for resource development and partnerships and she is working to strengthen the organization's institutions.

In the past, Dana was in charge of the national student department of Paamonim, an NGO that works to advance economic responsibility on the part of the individual and is involved in providing financial counseling to families and households.

Dana has a BA in psychology and philosophy (cum laude) from the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. She is a graduate of the Social Leadership MBA program in cooperation with the Mandel Foundation.

Vision

To find innovative solutions to improve the economy and society, while engaging broad circles of partners with an eye to high-quality organizational behavior.



INSPIRING PICTURE

By the artist: Zac Freeman



May everything belong to
everyone that can benefit
from it”

(Bertolt Brecht).



Dan Shapira

Dan is an educator and optimist. He feels very strongly about his ties to Israel, his love of the land and its heritage. Dan loves to work with people and to travel the open spaces. He has considerable experience in guiding and leading educational activities with young people, children and parents in various contexts. In the past, he was the educational coordinator of the communities of the Bnei Shimon Local Council and of the Jewish Agency's Partnership 2gether program.

Dan is currently advancing his values in the context of his position as coordinator of community preventive programs and youth delegations abroad in the Ramat Negev Regional Council. His goal in the context of informal education is to advance mixed communities with an awareness of their needs. In the context of his work, he holds seminars, provides individual and group mentoring and enrichment for educational teams in the settlements of the regional council. Dan also advances focused programs for varied youth groups in order to encourage activism and personal and environmental awareness through involvement and playing a meaningful role in the community. Dan is also involved in connecting international communities with youth delegations.

Dan has a BA in behavioral sciences and interdisciplinary studies from the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. He is a graduate of the Social Leadership MBA program in cooperation with the Mandel Foundation.

Vision

To advance personal and environmental awareness to create a society based on mutual and social responsibility.

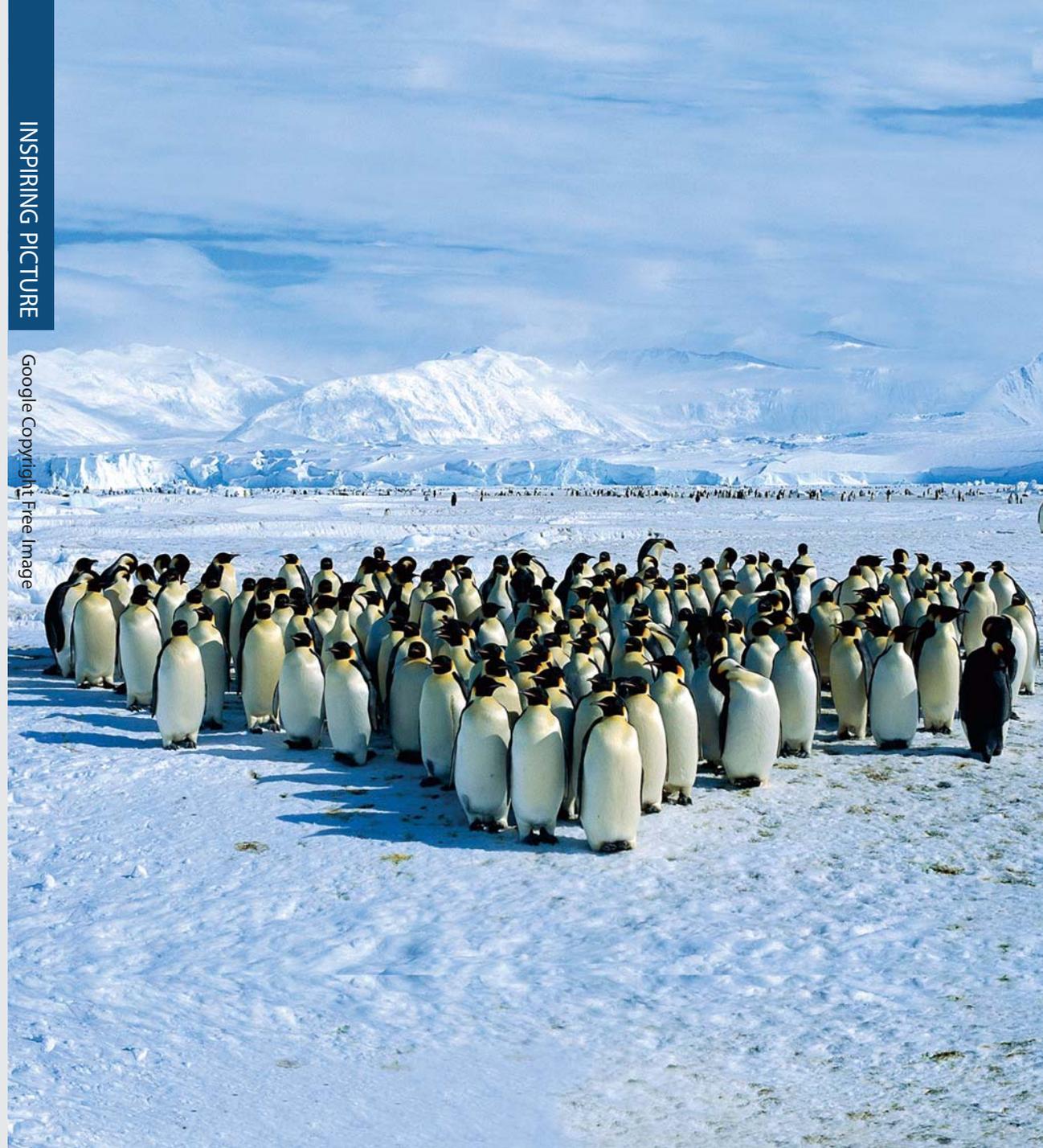
“

There is love in me and it will be
awakened and come / There is
love in me and it will triumph”

(Arkadi Duchin).

INSPIRING PICTURE

Google Copyright Free Image





Hadas Aglamaz

Hadas has worked in recent years in the Third Sector in guidance and guidance development roles, and in pre-school education. She is currently working on developing a leadership and empowerment program for women. She is a vegetarian, a feminist and a seeker of peace. She is one of the founders of Bat-Gurion, a feminist student cell at the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev and is a graduate of the Social Leadership MBA program in cooperation with the Mandel Foundation.

Vision

To diminish social and economic disparities in Israeli society based on a personal feminist philosophy and with the help of education and guidance as central tool in the process.

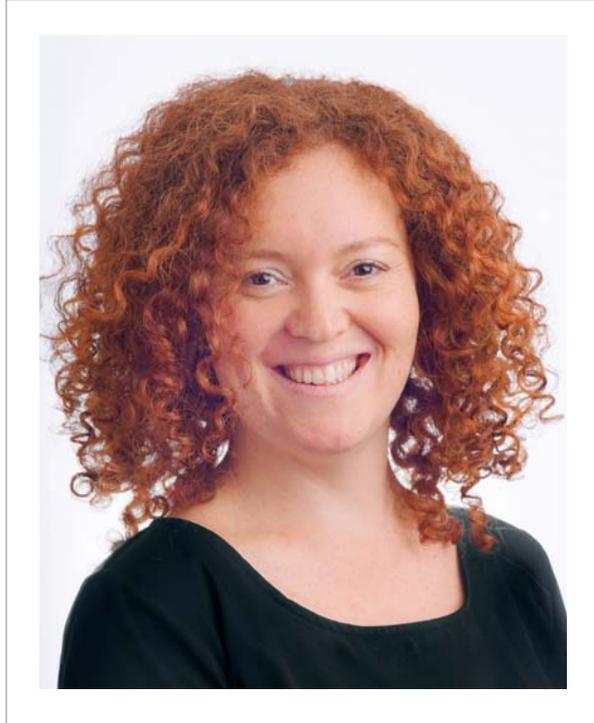
“ Trust the dreams, for in them is
hidden the gate to eternity”

(Kahlil Gibran).

INSPIRING PICTURE

Photo by: Eran Sudai





Shani Aloni

Shani runs a center that provides support for the victims of sexual abuse in Haifa, up the north. In her professional life, she chose to combine law as a tool to advance social change with social work as a means of personal and community empowerment for weakened groups. After completing her law studies, Shani did her internship in legal consultation to the Knesset Constitution, Law and Justice Committee, and from there, she continued on to the field of public policy as the coordinator of governance and public policy for the Israel Medical Association.

Shani has a BA in law and social work from the Hebrew University, Jerusalem. She is a graduate of the Social Leadership MBA program in cooperation with the Mandel Foundation.

Vision

To connect compassion and justice and to bridge the ideal and the reality.



“ The difference between good intentions and great leadership is the courage and commitment to stay the course, no matter how difficult the path”

(Alyse Nelson).



Mandel Social Leadership MBA program graduates

Cohort 2, 2013-2014

Chen Amir
Noam Aricha
Yitzhak Bodner
Noa Bielitsky
Avital Blonder
Elad Ben Aroche
Doreen Gabbai
Tal Goldman-Shachar
Sagie Grunhaus
Mor Deitch
Avital Hepher
Limor Hashavia
Tali Tessler
Naama Yardeni
Shir Mnuchin
Hila Saggés
Daniel Silverton
Yifat Pinto-Kahana
Ori Shechter
Dana Schleifer
Dan Shapira