

51 Years of Pardes Celebration
Day of Learning
October 24, 2023

Read on behalf of Rick Zitelman, President of The Zitelman Family Foundation

September 19, 2022 was the first time our family had the privilege to sponsor the Day of Learning at Pardes in honor of its 50th anniversary.

As we stated last year, the mission of The Zitelman Family Foundation is “*to support the unity and continuity of the Jewish people through relevant and meaningful Jewish wisdom and education*”. There is no better match than Pardes.

We were not able to be there last year, but provided some words to share with everyone, including the following:

“...and today is the beginning of the next 50 years of Your Torah, Your Journey. We are all on journeys through life. Where will that journey take *you*?”

Not one of us could have imagined the journey that we are currently on.

We read every year in the Pesach Haggad, “In each and every generation they rise up against us to destroy us. And the Holy One, blessed be He, rescues us from their hands.” Our generation is no different. This time is no different. Every time they try, we unite together as family – brothers and sisters – and come out stronger and more unified.

We thank Pardes for being a high quality Jewish learning community, providing world class educators and education - and most importantly a home of continuity and unity.

For those of you who have made the decision to stay in Jerusalem and continue to study with Pardes, kol hakavod. It is not an easy decision. We applaud your decision.

For those of you that continue to learn online, you have made a statement that Jewish learning in and outside of Israel is critical to you and critical to the continuity of the Jewish people. We applaud your decision.

To all of you – teachers, administration and students, Chazak. Chazak and ending with a quote from Jackie Frankel – “Strong at home. Strong abroad. Strong together”.