



Gratz Insider, April 2016 - Story Continuation

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Honoring Board Chair and Featuring Pulitzer-Prize-Winning Journalist at Gratz College Gala

David Weinstein is a respected attorney committed to service, both in and outside the Jewish community. “David has dedicated his life to family, justice and the Jewish People,” says Mark Goldfus, who is co-chairing the gala with his wife, Beverly Rubman, as well as with Jo and Sander White.

“I’d bet that there are few Philadelphians,” continues Goldfus, “who have both chaired a storied academic institution like Gratz, and have farmed as a pioneer in the torrid Negev heat.”

Although Weinstein and his wife, Elli, have recently become citizens of Israel - splitting their time between Jerusalem and Philadelphia - Goldfus is going back over four decades to when Weinstein lived in Israel with his young family. During that time, he irrigated the land, milked cows, and, in his words, did whatever was necessary to “help build the Jewish State.”

Back in Philadelphia, Weinstein served in positions of lay leadership for decades, primarily for Temple Beth Hillel-Beth El in Wynnewood, where he is now an honorary director. He also grew his legal practice. A member of Weinstein Kitchenoff & Asher LLC, he practices complex commercial litigation, primarily in antitrust and consumer private and class actions.

During his career, Weinstein has pursued cases imbued with the public interest. For their efforts, he and his legal team have received the Human Rights Award of the American Immigration Lawyers Association and the Public Justice Achievement Award of Trial Lawyers for Public Justice. Currently, Weinstein is also one of four court-appointed lawyers in a suit against Hungary and the Hungarian National Railway on behalf of both Holocaust survivors and the heirs of Holocaust victims.

Weinstein’s involvement with Gratz College stems from his own deep and personal commitment to Jewish education. Impressed as a child by his parents’ devotion to Jewish learning, Weinstein was also affected by visits to Jews in the former Soviet Union, which reinforced for him the importance of education to the perpetuation of the Jewish People. Weinstein joined the Gratz College Board of Governors in 2010, and assumed the position of board chair three years later. He will continue his work on the board even after his term as chair ends in June.

Like Weinstein, the gala’s featured speaker, Bret Stephens, also spent time living in Israel - at age 28, as the youngest editor-in-chief ever of The Jerusalem Post. Since then, he has earned, among other journalism awards, the Pulitzer Prize for Distinguished Commentary. As deputy editorial page editor of The Wall Street Journal, Stephens oversees the paper’s international opinion pages and writes a weekly column on foreign affairs. In addition, he appears regularly on Fox News Channel as a panelist on the

political talk show “The Journal Editorial Report.” At the Gratz College Gala, Stephens will be discussing the current situation in Israel and the Middle East, as well as the upcoming elections.

Stephens’ talk at the gala will be preceded by a kosher buffet dinner, with butlered hors d’oeuvres and food stations, and will be followed by dessert.

Preparing for the big night, gala co-chair Sander White reflects on its significance:

Having benefitted from the Gratz College High School program some 55 years ago, I can but marvel at the longevity and the deserved support that the community has given to this unique institution over the years. It is the leadership of talented people like David Weinstein that has made this possible. May he and Gratz College go from strength to strength.

The gala is called for 6 p.m. on Wednesday, May 18, at the Hilton Philadelphia City Avenue. Tickets are \$150 per person. Ads are available in the Tribute Journal, with a submission deadline of May 2. For tickets, ads or more information, visit the [gala webpage](#), or contact Mindy Cohen at 215-635-7300, x155 or mcohen@gratz.edu.