The background of the entire image is a close-up of a water droplet just as it has hit a surface, creating a series of concentric ripples. The water is a deep, vibrant blue. Above the water, the sky is a soft, warm gradient of orange, yellow, and light blue, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall mood is serene and inspiring.

The Genesis Prize

Celebrating Achievement. Inspiring Change.

The Genesis Prize

fosters Jewish identity, inspires Jewish pride, and
strengthens the bond between Israel and the Diaspora.

**“The Prize is much more than an
award. It is a catalyst for change.”**

—Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg
Lifetime Achievement Award Honoree 2018





“The most prestigious award in the Jewish world”

—Haaretz

“The Jewish Nobel Prize”

—TIME Magazine

“The Genesis Prize is going to people who will use it for good works. It is dedicated to improving the lives of other people.”

—The Right Honourable Tony Blair
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom (1997-2007)

The annual one-million-dollar award

celebrates Jewish talent and achievement by honoring individuals for their professional accomplishments, commitment to Jewish values, and contribution to improving the world.



“Our obligation is to give meaning to life, and in doing so, to overcome the passive, indifferent life.”

—Elie Wiesel
Founding Member, Genesis Prize Committee

Genesis Prize Laureates are dedicated to the Jewish value of *tikkun olam*, making the world a better place, one cause at a time.

Each year, the Genesis Prize Laureate pledges his or her \$1 million award to [support a meaningful philanthropic initiative](#). In the Laureate's honor, the foundation develops a unique grant-making program to promote the philanthropic theme, attract additional donors, and motivate the global Jewish community to effect positive change.





Yuli-Yoel Edelstein
Former Speaker of the Knesset & Prisoner of Zion
Founding Chairman, Genesis Prize Committee



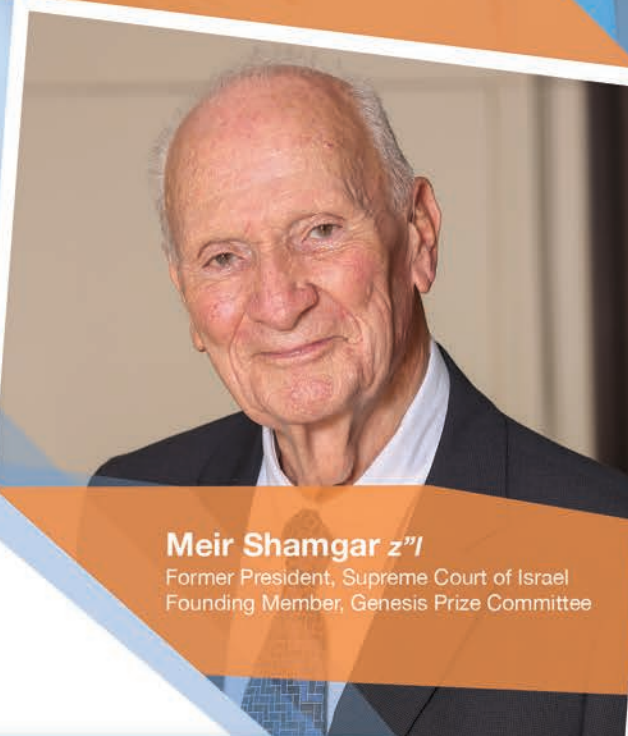
Morris Kahn
Founder, Spacell & Founder and Chairman, Aurec Group
Member, Genesis Prize Committee



Tova Strasberg-Cohen
Retired Justice, Supreme Court of Israel
Founding Member, Genesis Prize Committee



Elie Wiesel z"l
Nobel Laureate, author & political activist
Founding Member, Genesis Prize Committee



Meir Shamgar z"l
Former President, Supreme Court of Israel
Founding Member, Genesis Prize Committee



German Khan
Co-Founder, The Genesis Prize Foundation



David Hatchwell Altaras
President, EXCEM Grupo & Former President,
Jewish Community of Madrid, Spain
Member, Genesis Prize Selection Committee



Isaac Herzog
Chairman, Jewish Agency for Israel
Chairman, Genesis Prize Selection Committee
Former Chairman, Labor Party & Opposition Leader



Michael Fridman
Co-Founder, The Genesis Prize
Foundation

Peter Aven
Co-Founder, The Genesis Prize
Foundation



Fiamma Nirenstein
Former Member of Parliament, Italy (2008-2013) & Journalist
Member, Genesis Prize Selection Committee

“Our forebearers left us a set of values which, if understood correctly and applied diligently, can give you the ultimate prize in life—a sense of fulfillment and self-actualization.”

—Michael Fridman
Co-Founder, The Genesis Prize Foundation

Founders & Committee Members

The Genesis Prize was **established in 2013** as a partnership between The Genesis Prize Foundation, the Office of the Prime Minister of Israel, and the Jewish Agency for Israel. Currently, the Genesis Prize is bestowed annually as a collaboration between The Genesis Prize Foundation and the Jewish Agency for Israel.

Celebrating Achievement

Throughout the generations, remarkable Jewish leaders have propelled humankind forward by discovering cures for diseases, advancing causes of freedom and human rights, composing musical masterpieces, and developing technology to improve society. Genesis Prize Laureates are counted among the world's most prominent figures working to better our world today.

The Genesis Prize honors individuals who have attained **international renown** in their chosen professional fields, are proud of their Jewish heritage, care about the future of the Jewish people and the State of Israel, and **inspire young people** to make the world a better place.

A collage of portraits of various Jewish leaders and laureates, including Albert Einstein, Isaac Newton, and modern figures like Bill Clinton and Oprah Winfrey. The portraits are arranged in a collage-like fashion, with some overlapping and others separate. The colors of the portraits vary, with some in black and white and others in color. The overall theme is celebrating achievement and the contributions of Jewish leaders to the world.

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Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg z"l

Lifetime Achievement Award Honoree 2018

"I am a judge, born, raised, and proud of being a Jew. The demand for justice, for peace, and for enlightenment runs through the entirety of Jewish history and Jewish tradition. I hope I will have the strength and courage to remain steadfast in service of that demand."

Genesis Lifetime Achievement Award Ceremony
Tel Aviv, Israel, July 4, 2018



United States Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg received the Genesis Lifetime Achievement Award in 2018 for her groundbreaking work as a champion of civil liberties, women, and disadvantaged minorities.





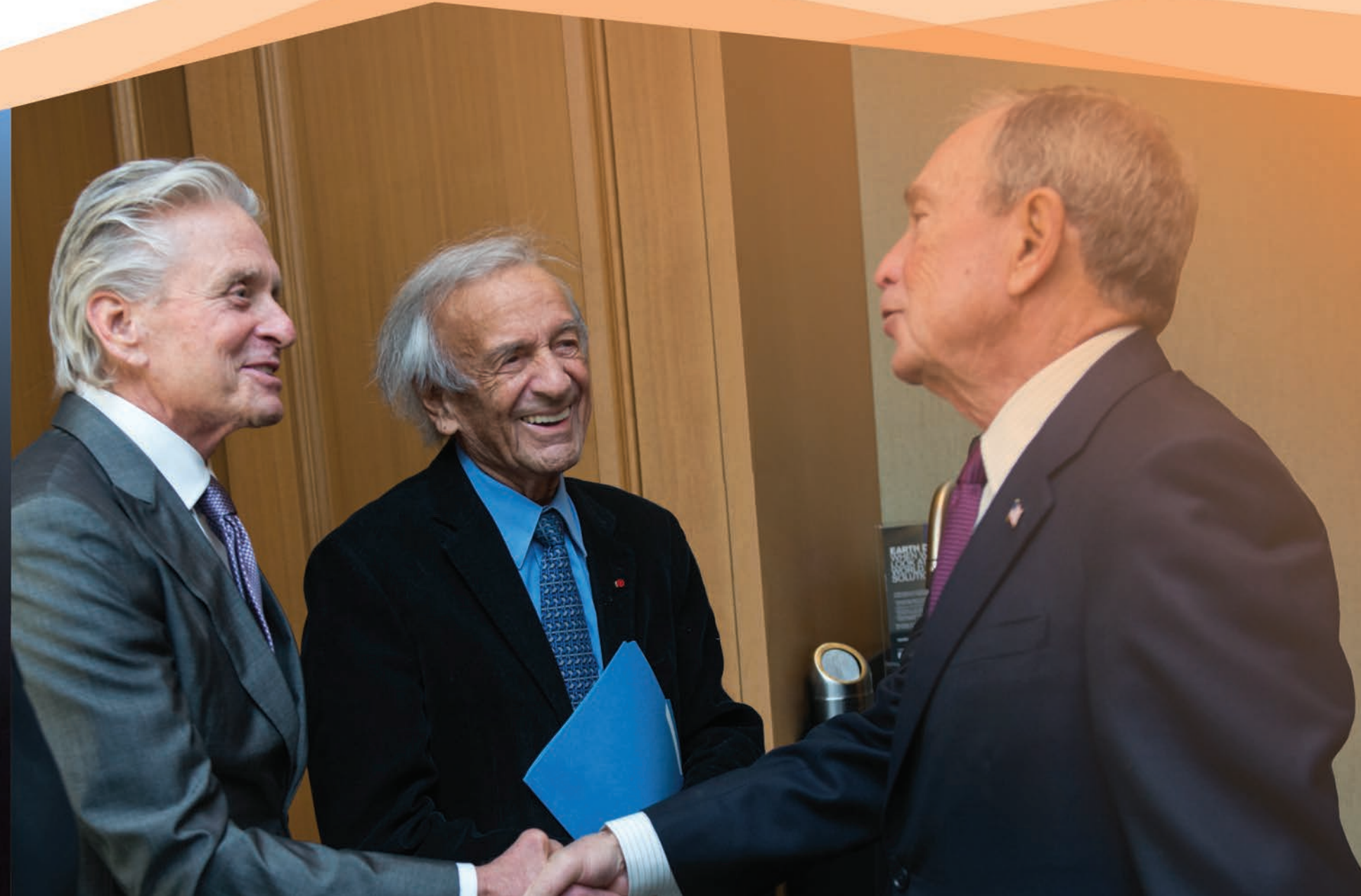
Michael Bloomberg, 2014 Laureate

Businessman and Prominent Philanthropist

"My parents instilled in me Jewish values and ethics that I have carried with me throughout my life. The Genesis Prize embraces and promotes those same values and ethics—a common thread among the Jewish people worldwide that has helped move humankind forward for centuries."

"We are proud to count Michael Bloomberg as a friend and leader, dedicated to *tikkun olam*. As young Jews across the world prepare to take part in shaping their communities, they look to you as a role model and are inspired—I am certain—by the Jewish values you advocate."

—Shimon Peres
President of the State of Israel (2007-2014)





Michael Douglas, 2015 Laureate

Actor, Producer, and Peace Activist

"The idea of *tikkun olam* is something that has always been an indelible part of our family. Working with the Genesis Prize, I feel like I am helping to repair the world."

Itzhak Perlman, 2016 Laureate

Violinist and Advocate for Individuals with Disabilities

"I am humbled and honored to receive the Genesis Prize. The physical prize is wonderful, but what I will cherish even more is the opportunity The Genesis Prize Foundation has given me to make some of my dreams come true—to help others the way I was helped."





Sir Anish Kapoor, 2017 Laureate

Sculptor and Human Rights Activist

"The Genesis Prize has ambitions that are generous, open-hearted, and humane. It seeks to broaden the context of Jewish identity and calls upon Jews and non-Jews to work together to influence some of the big issues of our time."

Natalie Portman, 2018 Laureate

Actress and Social Activist

"It is such a privilege to be counted among the outstanding laureates whom I admire so much. I express my heartfelt gratitude to The Genesis Prize Foundation, and the global platform it provides to make a difference in the lives of women in Israel and beyond."





Robert Kraft, 2019 Laureate

Philanthropist and Owner of the New England Patriots

"My father, of blessed memory, would be very proud to know that his son is receiving the Genesis Prize in the city of Jerusalem. It would mean as much to him—if not more—than winning a Super Bowl."

Natan Sharansky, 2020 Laureate

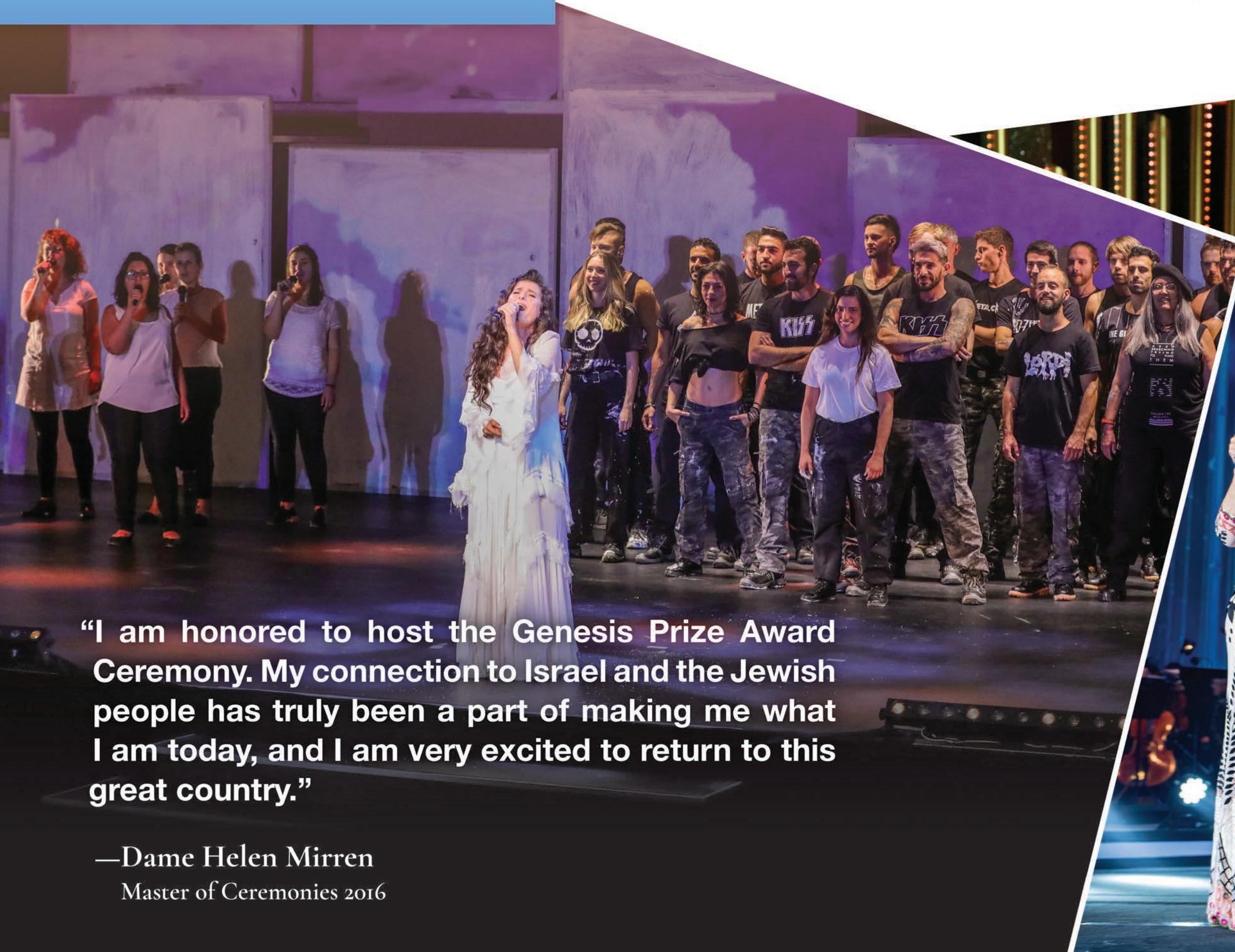
Legendary Advocate for Freedom, Democracy, and Human Rights

"I am humbled by this honor and thank The Genesis Prize Foundation for recognizing my work to promote democracy, rule of law, and human rights. As my personal hero President Ronald Reagan said, 'Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. It has to be fought for and defended by each generation.'"



Award Ceremony

The Genesis Prize is traditionally awarded at a gala ceremony in Jerusalem. In the presence of guests from around the world, the ceremony honors the Laureate, promotes his or her chosen philanthropic initiative, and celebrates great Jewish contributions to the Laureate's professional field.



"I am honored to host the Genesis Prize Award Ceremony. My connection to Israel and the Jewish people has truly been a part of making me what I am today, and I am very excited to return to this great country."

—Dame Helen Mirren
Master of Ceremonies 2016



"The Genesis Prize has been called the Jewish Nobel Prize. Shows what I know—I thought the Nobel Prize was the Jewish Nobel Prize. Does anyone else ever win that thing?"

—Jay Leno
Master of Ceremonies 2014 and 2015

"I'm not Jewish and I've never been to Israel. So, who better to MC the Genesis Prize Award Ceremony? I am incredibly excited to be in Jerusalem to host such a wonderful event."

—Martin Short
Master of Ceremonies 2019



Julian Edelman
Star wide receiver for the New England Patriots and NFL's 2019 Most Valuable Player

Wladimir Klitschko
Two-time world heavyweight boxing champion

Vitali Klitschko
Three-time world heavyweight boxing champion and Mayor of Kiev

Martin Short
Award-winning comedian and actor

Inspiring Change

The philanthropic initiatives made possible by Genesis Prize Laureates have created lasting impact by funding almost 200 programs in 16 countries, benefiting hundreds of thousands of people in Israel, the United States, and around the world.

Supporting **Social Entrepreneurship**

Welcoming **Intermarried Families in Jewish Life**

Improving the Lives of **Individuals with Special Needs**

Helping to Alleviate the **Refugee Crisis**

Advancing **Women's Equality**

Combating **Anti-Semitism**

Fighting the **Coronavirus Pandemic**

Striving for **Racial Equality**





Social Entrepreneurship

Michael Bloomberg, 2014

Michael initiated the Genesis Generation Challenge, a global competition to advance the Jewish value of *tikkun olam* and promote better, healthier living across the globe. Nine teams representing eight countries won grants, including: Sesame Enable, which develops hands-free technology for individuals with disabilities; Sanergy, which implements sanitation solutions in Kenya; and Building Up, which trains and employs public housing residents to retrofit their units with water-efficient utilities.

Welcoming Intermarried Families

Michael Douglas, 2015

Motivated by his lifelong feeling of estrangement from the Jewish community, Michael directed the \$1 million award, as well as an additional \$1 million donated by philanthropist Roman Abramovich, to 28 global initiatives welcoming intermarried families. Michael joined human rights activist Natan Sharansky on university campuses to speak with students about inclusion, religious pluralism, and pride in Israel.





Supporting Individuals with Disabilities

Itzhak Perlman, 2016

Moved by Itzhak's lifelong dedication to creating a more inclusive society—and aided by an additional \$1 million donation by Roman Abramovich—43 grant recipients around the world fostered greater social and cultural integration of people with special needs. Among the grant recipients were ALEH Negev-Nahalat Eran, a rehabilitation village for disabled children and adults; Respectability, which fights stigmas and advances opportunities for those with disabilities; and Na Laga'at Theater, which integrates deaf-blind people into society and grants them the opportunity of self-expression.



Alleviating the Refugee Crisis

Sir Anish Kapoor, 2017

Anish's advocacy for displaced individuals galvanized the Genesis Prize and philanthropist Morris Kahn to distribute grants to seven organizations helping to alleviate refugees' suffering and promote a wider Jewish communal response to the global refugee crisis. The grantees were HIAS, Multifaith Alliance for Syrian Refugees, Hillel International, International Rescue Committee, Help Refugees, Ziv Hospital in Israel, and the School of Peace in Greece.





Advancing Women's Equality

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, 2018

Inspired by Justice Ginsburg's legacy of advancing gender equality, The Genesis Prize Foundation awarded \$1 million—doubled to \$2 million by philanthropist Morris Kahn—to fifty organizations representing Jewish, Arab Israeli, Druze, and Bedouin women in Israel, and Jewish women in the United States. These organizations work to create socio-economic opportunities for women, empower women to resist violence, encourage female students to study STEM subjects, and educate women from minority groups about their rights.

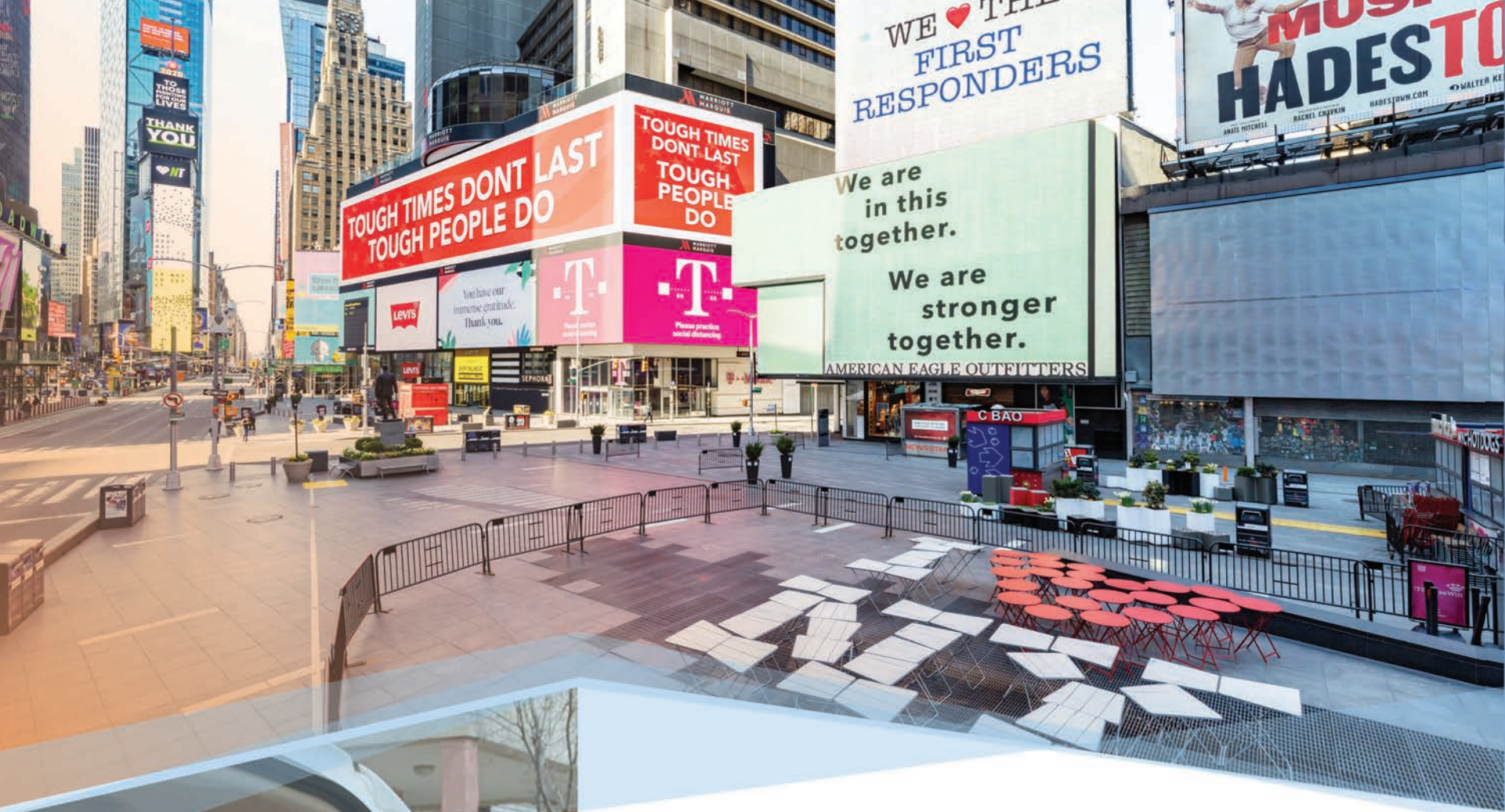


Combating Anti-Semitism

Robert Kraft, 2019

Concerned by the rise of global anti-Semitism, Robert established the Foundation to Combat Anti-Semitism with a personal donation of \$20 million along with two \$5 million donations from other philanthropists, including Roman Abramovich. The \$1 million Genesis Prize funded the "Speak Out for Israel" campaign to counteract efforts to delegitimize the Jewish State with grants to 26 Israeli and international NGOs promoting a positive narrative of Israel.





Fighting the Coronavirus Pandemic

Natan Sharansky, 2020

Natan directed his \$1 million Genesis Prize to fifteen grantees across nine countries working in the humanitarian, social, scientific, and medical fields to help the most vulnerable people impacted by the coronavirus pandemic and advance recovery efforts. The Genesis Prize also honored Israeli companies working to combat COVID-19 and better prepare for future pandemics, highlighting the role of Israel's high-tech sector in this global struggle. The companies donated their prize funds to charities of their choice.

Striving for Racial Equality

The Genesis Prize Foundation, 2020

As protests against racial injustice engulfed the United States, The Genesis Prize Foundation engaged young American Jews on social media, inviting them to guide the Foundation's donations to nonprofits committed to the pursuit of racial equality. The grant recipients were Campaign Zero, The Innocence Project, Jews of Color Initiative, NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, and The Southern Poverty Law Center.



The Genesis Prize

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