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Visitors to Noah's Ark in Skirball Center's Winnick Hall Exceed 250,000

The Winnick Family Foundation provided the \$100,000 seed grant to fund the Noah's Ark project. The Noah's Ark exhibit is on the second floor of the 26,000-square-foot Winnick Hall built in 2004 with a \$5-million grant from the Winnick Family Foundation.

LOS ANGELES CA – February 8, 2010 – More than 250,000 children have visited the Skirball Cultural Center's most popular exhibit, Noah's Ark, which opened less than three years ago on the second floor of spacious Winnick Hall on the main campus in Los Angeles.

Said Gary Winnick, chairman and CEO of Pacific Capital Group: "In less than a decade and a half, the Skirball Cultural Center has become one of the most prominent cultural venues in the United States and the most dynamic Jewish cultural center in Southern California. Its mission is to explore the connections between four thousand years of Jewish heritage and America's own democratic traditions."

Five years in production and occupying the Center's 8,000-square-foot Karen Winnick Gallery, Noah's Ark opened in June 2007 and utilizes the Biblical flood story to educate school children in the value of cultural diversity. The Winnick Family Foundation provided a \$100,000 seed grant to fund the Noah's Ark project which features more than 120 sculptures representing worldwide cultures and crafts.

Gary Winnick stated: "Noah's Ark has been a smashing success, with schools and families across Southern California scheduling their visits months in advance. Children, accompanied by their parents and teachers, enter a floor-to-ceiling wooden ark filled to the rafters with whimsical animals and sculpted figures and are free to play, build, explore, collaborate and learn."

The 26,000-square-foot Winnick Hall was completed in 2004 with a \$5-million grant from the Winnick Family Foundation. The opening of Winnick Hall more than doubled the exhibition space at the Skirball Center. The Hall includes an 8,000 general-exhibitions gallery on the third floor. The third-floor gallery is currently featuring an exhibit of rare Civil Rights Movement photographs which has won critical acclaim as the most significant photography exhibit ever mounted to commemorate this era.

About the Winnick Family Foundation

The Winnick Family Foundation encourages project-specific programs but also selectively supports capital campaigns and unrestricted gifts to grantee organizations. There is a preference for projects in Los Angeles and New York – or those having an international component.

Foundation naming grants include:

- Winnick Family Clinical Research Institute at Cedars Sinai Hospital
- Winnick House and Arnold S. Winnick Student Center at the C.W. Post campus of Long Island University



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- Winnick International Conference Center at the Simon Wiesenthal Center / Jerusalem
- Winnick Children's Zoo in Los Angeles
- Winnick Faculty Scholar at the Graduate School of Business at Stanford University
- Winnick Hall at the Skirball Cultural Center
- Arnold & Blanche Winnick Popular Library and Karen Winnick Children's Gallery at the Los Angeles Central Library
- Winnick Hillel House at Syracuse University
- Winnick Board Room at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City
- Winnick Winners Mentoring Program for the Los Angeles Unified School District
- Winnick Fellows at UCLA School of Medicine
- Winnick Gallery at Yeshiva University Museum, Center for Jewish History

Karen and Gary Winnick and the Foundation have endowed university and high school literacy and scholarship programs at Brown University, at Mrs. Winnick's alma mater Syracuse University, and at Gary Winnick's alma mater, Long Island University.

They have also funded the transformation of the on-campus C.W. Post mansion administrative center – renamed Winnick House – as well as the main cafeteria which is now named in honor of Mr. Winnick's late father.

In California, the Foundation has supported educational programs at the California Science Center, the Museum of Contemporary Art, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, KOREH L.A., the Los Angeles Zoo, L.A.'s Best Afterschool Program, the Wonder of Reading, the Fulfillment Fund and Noah's Ark at the Skirball Center.

Among the many other Foundation grantees are the Special Olympics, The Center for Jewish History, Children's Scholarship Fund, Partnership for Better Schools, Teach for America, The Gettysburg Foundation, The National Parks Foundation, Best Friends Animal Society, The Los Angeles Police Foundation, Shoah Foundation, and the Center for Public Leadership at Harvard University.

The Foundation also supports charities operating outside the United States, including the International Medical Corps, Flora and Fauna, World Wildlife Fund, the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust, the Israel Museum, the Israel Philharmonic, the Jerusalem Zoo, Heifer International and the Bloomfield Science Museum at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. For more information on the Foundation and its work, visit <http://www.winnickfamilyfoundation.com> on the Web.

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