



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Susi Yarus Meisel and Peter Meisel to receive 2019 Maimonides Award
at 48th Annual ORT Brunch, October 27, 2019
*Bart Bookatz, Eric Rubin, and Mitchell Schneider to be recognized for past service on
ORT America National Board***

BEACHWOOD – Solon residents **Susi Yarus Meisel and Peter Meisel** will receive the 2019 Maimonides Award for Outstanding Community Service at the ORT America – Ohio Region’s 48th Annual Brunch, Sunday, October 27, 2019, 9:30 am at Executive Caterers at Landerhaven.

At the Brunch, the Ohio Region will also recognize **Bart Bookatz, Eric Rubin, and Mitchell Schneider**, three longtime Cleveland ORTists who recently rotated off the ORT National Board, and thank them for their decades of service.

“We are pleased to honor Susi and Peter at this year’s Brunch,” said Greg Marcus, president of the ORT Ohio Region. “They are a true power couple, making valuable contributions throughout the Jewish and general communities, both individually and together. The impact of their dedication and commitment to the greater community can be felt in many important community institutions.”

“We are honored to receive the 2019 ORT Maimonides award, and to be in the company of so many outstanding past honorees,” said Susi Meisel. “I recently had the opportunity to visit the Kfar Silver Youth Village in Israel which will be the beneficiary of the funds raised at this event. It is a remarkable school that offers tremendous opportunities to every student. I am truly honored to help make an impact on the school’s fundraising efforts for the current and future students at Kfar Silver.”

“Maimonides was among the first to recognize the importance of helping people achieve independence through education.” Peter Meisel added, “That makes this award so meaningful to us because of our family’s focus on the importance of education and job training. ORT has been training and educating children and adults for over 139 years. I’m proud to be raising awareness of ORT’s important mission, as they help bridge the gap between aptitude and opportunity, creating impact through education, for students in Israel and around the world.”

Peter Meisel is a principal owner of Carnegie Companies, Inc., a multi-state real estate investment company based in Solon. He received his master’s in business administration from The Darden School, University of Virginia, in 1986 after graduating from The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, in 1981 with a bachelor of science, cum laude, in economics.

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Peter serves in a leadership role on the board of The Cleveland Housing Network. He is past president of the Board of Trustees of Menorah Park Center for Senior Living and Hillel at Kent State University. He has also been actively involved in the Jewish Federation of Cleveland and the Fund for our Economic Future.

Susi Yarus Meisel is a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist and a Certified Diabetes Educator. For over 30 years, Susi's private practice has counseled patients on medically-related nutrition issues. Her goal is to help patients understand the relationship between nutrition and their diagnosis while working towards better health.

An active community and philanthropic leader, Susi is passionate about volunteering on boards where she can make a difference in the lives of others. Her civic and community involvements include: Hanna Perkins Center for Childhood Development; Hawken School Alumni Association; Park Synagogue; Alzheimer's Association of Cleveland; Cleveland Leadership Center's Look Up To Cleveland Advisory Board; Rainbow Babies and Children's Foundation Board and the Jewish Federation of Cleveland.

Susi and Peter live in Solon and have three adult children, Cari, Eric and Leah.

Honorary co-chairs for the event are Barbara Meisel, Audrey & Albert Ratner, Eileen Sill, and Jan & Will Sukenik. Event co-chairs are Lynne & Phil Cohen, Marti & Jeff Davis, Barry Feldman, Sue & Mitch Frankel, Barb & Abe Miller, Gabrielle Miller, Shari & Michael Perlmutter, Kim & Paul Pesses, Kyla & Mitchell Schneider, Charna Sherman, and Nancy Wolf & Aric Greenfield.

Proceeds from the 48th Annual ORT Brunch will support the renovations of the kitchen and dining room at Kfar Silver Youth Village in Israel. New and increased gifts received by ORT before the Oct. 31 deadline will go toward fulfilling a \$1 million challenge, unlocking additional millions in funding from our international partners

Kfar Silver, part of the Kadima Mada network in Israel, serves students of all capabilities, from those with learning challenges to those who are gifted. Renovations at the 60-year-old youth village have been the focus of the Ohio Region's fundraising for the past three years, first supporting the renovations at the science building and now taking on the much-needed work in the kitchen and dining hall. Kfar Silver is home to a diverse student body who have found a home there when other schools have failed them.

"We are very happy to continue the relationship with the students and staff at Kfar Silver, and showing the important work we can do when the community stands behind a central project," Marcus added.

For information about the 48th Annual ORT Brunch or naming opportunities at Kfar Silver, please contact Ohio Region Director Char Rapoport Nance, (216) 464-3022, cnance@ortamerica.org.

The Ohio Region of ORT America is rooted in Jewish Heritage and values.

Our mission is to raise funds to support educational programs that enrich entire communities by teaching marketable skills that empower students of all faiths to attain success and live with dignity.

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