



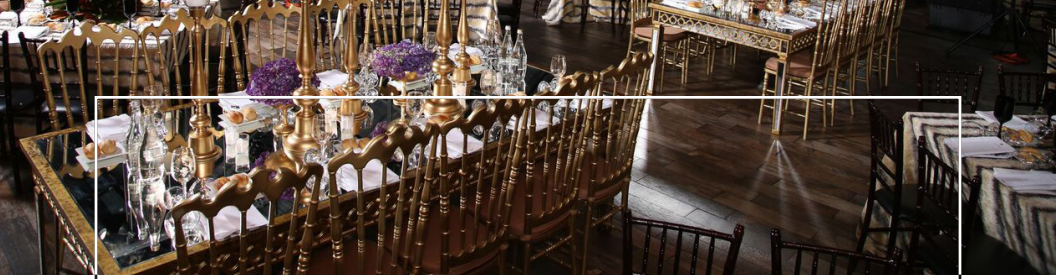
dror^v

wings towards freedom

5th

ANNUAL
FREEDOM & UNITY
VIP BENEFIT DINNER

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**INFINITE HOURS SUPPORTING
DROR – ENABLING THE
ORGANIZATION’S CONTINUATION
OF ASSISTING INDICTED &
INCARCERATED JEWS – פדיון
שבויים – SAVING LIVES!**

A grand dinner attended by
**gracious donors, dignitaries, community
advocates and Dror volunteers**

- Intriguing panels depicting Dror’s activities & delinquency preventative steps
- A 24 hour Charidy Campaign
- amassed generous contributions to enable Dror to continue their worthy cause.

Dror is an organization which assists indicted and imprisoned Jews and their families who face the adversity and challenge by offering support, legal counsel, therapy, kosher meals, women’s retreats, family weekend getaways, children’s outings, transportation to visit loved ones in prison, delinquency

prevention seminars and more.

Two days filled with momentum, inspiration and admiration encapsulating Dror’s organization attended by Dror’s activists, volunteers and generous benefactors; awed all in attendance.

Contributions started pouring in from the previous Tuesday throughout the week, up



until Thursday. The pinnacle was a lavish banquet dinner attended by dignitaries, community activists, Dror's volunteers and beneficiaries. The banquet was held at a grand Brooklyn ballroom where prominent activists and loyal personalities were dutifully honored.

An elaborate high-class dining experience was presented by Gershy and Chaim from Stem's with elaborate prop rentals from Mr. Treitel from Luxe Event Rentals and Décor. Mr. Ari Roth from White Glove contributed to the elegant décor along with masterfully plated exquisite food presentations.

The evening's Guest of Honor was the renowned *askan* and community activist Mr. Joel Friedman, who is renowned for his dedication assisting imprisoned Jews – *Pidyon Shevuyim* in all essence, and various *Bikur Cholim* activities. Many *Rabbanim*, associates and acquaintance came to show respect to Rabbi Friedman for his magnanimous deeds.

A special token of appreciated was awarded to Rabbi Richtman, a Dror activist who has assisted imprisoned Jews for over three decades by serving as the Riker's Island Chaplain, where unfortunately many *Yidden* have been housed over the years. The Attorneys of Valor for the year were Murray & Stacey Richman; their infinite dedication to the organization is an asset to Dror. Stuart A. Klein, Esq. received the Annual Service Award which was accepted by thunderous applause



from the grateful audience.

Also honored at the dinner were the talented "Yedidim" choir led by their beloved Mr. Yanky Orlansky; a choir which dedicates countless hours to bringing joy to *Yidden* in unfortunate situations – especially to the families whose loved ones are languishing in prison.

The dinner was graced by many dignitaries and government officials including Acting District Attorney Eric Gonzalez, Brooklyn Boro President Eric Adams, Assemblyman Dov Hikind, Councilmen David Greenfeld and Chaim Deutsch. Community activists and organizations such as Hatzalah, Shomrim, Misaskim, Chesed Shel Emes, Chaveirim and various community leaders came to show





their respects towards Dror and its dinner honorees that assist the Jewish community as a whole.

The evening's chairman, Mr. Shaya Fuchs, captivated the audience as he masterfully weaved thru the evening's program as he welcomed all in attendance, summarized Dror's activities and eloquently called upon all honorees, speakers and dignitaries. He also elaborated on Dror serving as a parent figure to families who are lacking a parental presence due to an imprisoned loved one.

The talented speaker Rabbi Motty Zeiger, a Dror *askan*, led a team of panelists who elaborated on different facades of Dror. The dinner's poignant climax was hearing recorded *tefillas* from two imprisoned *Yidden*, Hashem should grant them release shortly: Shalom Mordechai Halevy Ben Rivka and Mordechai Yitzchok Ben Faiga Yehudis, who in the name of all imprisoned *Yidden* thanked Dror and asked everyone to show their support.

The head of Dror, the renowned Rabbi Yoel Labin, delivered a moving speech and welcomed everyone in the name of his esteemed grandfather, the founder of Dror,

Rabbi Efraim Stein, who couldn't attend the evening's gathering due to illness, and R' Yoel asked all to send *refuah shleima* wishes.

Then Acting District Attorney Eric Gonzalez, a longtime friend of Dror who leads his office with justice and has strong ties to the Jewish community, stepped up to the podium. Mr. Gonzalez applauded the organization and praised their Dinah branch which conducts symposiums promoting order and law in the country by discussing delinquency prevention and explains legal business conduct. He also thanked the guest of honor Rabbi Friedman for his dedication to the community.

A fascinating panel depicting Dinah in detail was presented by Mr. Labin and the respected Judge David Schmidt – a longtime legal chairman for the Dinah project. Mr. Labin explained that the *Pidyon Shevuyim* campaign shouldn't be confused as just helping *Yidden* in despair –it is strongly focused on delinquency prevention by



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conducting our lives legitimately and not to ignore law and order of the land. Judge Schmidt explained important aspects of what the law demands of us and our children.

Veteran psychologist and longtime Dror activist, Dr. David Pelcowitz kept the audience spellbound as he discussed the terrible impact of prison life on the prisoner's wife and children. He also praised Dror for their wonderful activities easing these families' plights and greeted those who were assisted by Dror who were in attendance at the dinner.

The prominent *askan* Rabbi Berish Freilech was asked to deliver some words of inspiration. He congenially welcomed

the crowd and praised the honored guests in attendance, applauding Rabbi Richtman and the success of all lawyers who assisted countless of Jews. Then, Rabbi Freilich praised the guest of honor, Rabbi Yoel Friedman, elaborating that Rabbi Friedman is walking in his father's footsteps; Rabbi Mordche Friedman, of blessed memory, who was a renowned *askan*, and from the first Hatzalah volunteers in Kiryas Joel and the founder of "Shabbos Homes" which he opened at the Arden Hill Hospital. Together with Rabbi Freilich, they founded the famous "Mincha Area" where thousands of *Yidden daven Mincha* when traveling.

Rabbi Freilich reaped immense satisfaction by calling upon R' Mordche's son Yoel, whose father showed him as a child the essence of *chesed*. Rabbi Friedman serves as chaplain in the law enforcement department. When a *Yid* is unfortunately arrested, Rabbi Friedman is the one to ensure he is warmly assisted. He is also active in Bikur Cholim's in various hospitals, as well as running the Bikur Cholim room in Orange County Regional Hospital, where thousands of *Yidden* have benefited from his generosity. Rabbi Yoel Friedman together with his brother Mr. Avraham Yakov Friedman, continue the beautiful legacy their father entrusted them with, praised Rabbi Freilich as he acknowledged all who came to pay their respect, business colleagues, *askanim* and community leaders who are recipients of his gracious activities.





The guest of honor thanked Yedidim for supporting Dror and delivered moving words about his involvement with Dror and the impact it made on incarcerated *Yidden* and their families. He also thanked all who came to show their respect. Rabbi Friedman read a beautiful letter he humbly received from the revered Spinka Rebbe *Shlit"u*, who acknowledged R' Yoel's special *askanos*.

In the name of Yedidim, Mr. Yoel Hersh Fuchs, explained that Yedidim is proud to be in association with such a wonderful organization as Dror and they feel privileged to be able to bring joy to the unfortunate. Yedidim Choir of course added spirit to the evening's entertainment with song and specially composed chorus's pertaining to Dror's cause. Famous singer Beri Weber kept the place rapping accompanied by the famous child soloist Moshe Holzman who kept the audience enamored. Thanks to A. Berko Productions for presenting entertainment par excellence.

An ensuing film presentation was shown depicting the challenges of incarceration both to the individual and his family. The dinner's program was live streamed along with

Dror's Charidy campaign and was viewed by hundreds of viewers who partook in the dinner's program from beginning to end from the comforts of home. It is to be noted that viewers were so impressed that it prompted them to contribute via the ongoing Charidy campaign. Thanks to the viewers and matchers for helping Dror reach its goal.

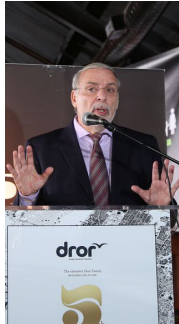
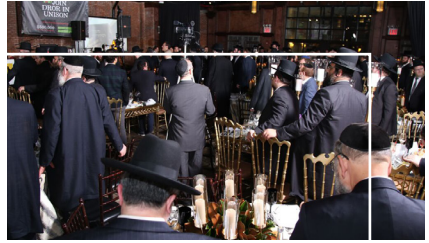
During and subsequently following the dinner, a full-fledged 24-hour Charidy campaign operated. Thanks to three matchers who undertook matching each dollar donated towards Dror. Each \$100 donation equaled to a \$400 donation. The campaign branched out to all generous contributors which made the campaign an ultimate success by achieving its goal of raising over half a million dollars.

With all the contributions amassed throughout those few days of camaraderie and support towards Dror, the worthy organization will have the strength to persevere with their noble activities on behalf of incarcerated and indicted *Yidden* and their families. May the unfortunate be redeemed shortly.



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