

**RSB**  
**STIFTUNG**

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RENÉ & SUSANNE  
**BRAGINSKY**  
**STIFTUNG**  
ZÜRICH

**REPORT 2018**

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## EDUCATION IN ACTION!

Our family Foundation (whose activities are reviewed in this report) and its sister organization "Haus der jüdischen Jugend" (a charitable corporation) both support projects in the areas of education, social affairs, culture and science as well as mid- to long-term initiatives. In 2017, the two organizations between them donated roughly CHF 9.5 million.

We aim to fund projects and initiatives that are likely to achieve a maximum impact within a reasonable time-frame and whose success is measurable. These two criteria were certainly met by the new gym of the Jewish NOAM school in the Zurich Enge quarter. At the end of last year, we celebrated the gym's opening in a festive ceremony and it has now successfully been in use for several months. Leading educators argue that physical education is not only essential for the physical well-being of students, but that it also has a positive impact on their emotional development and their "joie de vivre". Thus, our gym, which is used intensively not only by NOAM

students but also by several sport clubs, offers a tangible contribution to a holistic education. We are therefore very pleased with this successful building project.

Since the beginning of our charitable work, my family and I aimed to support projects and organizations in Switzerland and in Israel – the two countries our family calls home. We have always paid particular attention to education projects. For many years now, we have had a partnership with the renowned Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel, which is among the leading universities worldwide. This distinction also applies to the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) in Zurich, which we have also supported for several years. We are very pleased that the research conducted by Professor Klaas Enno Stephan and his team at the Institute for Biomedical Engineering is attracting great interest. We have been a significant sponsor of his work in Zurich from the very beginning and will continue to do so in the future.

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There is no doubt that a wide gap exists between these leading universities with their global reach and the NOAM school's gym in Zurich. However, it has always been important to us to support education in its entire range. Indeed, we are convinced that education on all levels enables equal opportunity. Our family Foundation and its sister organization "Haus der jüdischen Jugend" will therefore continue to seek out meaningful educational projects. This necessitates a close collaboration with institutions pursuing similar goals. We have made great progress in this regard during the past years, thanks in part to the thoughtful work of our Foundation Board, the Board of Directors and the managing director.

I would like to thank anyone and everyone who, together with us, is striving to improve education and overcome obstacles in order to implement specific projects!



*René Braginsky*  
*President of the Foundation Board*

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## PERFORMANCE REPORT 2017

Our Foundation has had a successful year. The Foundation Board held four meetings in 2017 to review the many requests submitted during the course of the year. The Board also took care of statutory business (annual financial statements, annual report, audit report, votes).

The Board granted roughly CHF 3.7 million in total (previous year: CHF 3.4 million) for specific projects. The amount was distributed across the Foundation's three key focal points.

We provided the area of "Social Affairs" with funds of CHF 434 000. With this amount, we were able to support and enable many social projects in Switzerland and Israel.

The area of "Education and Science" received CHF 1,760,000. The ETH Zurich was once again the focus of this support. In the fall of 2011, we decided to enable the creation of a new Chair at the ETH Zurich in the

field of medical technology, for which we would provide funds of CHF 10 million over the subsequent years. We fulfilled this obligation with the closing payment of CHF 1 million in 2017. Our Foundation will continue to support this Chair, which is jointly managed by the ETH, the University of Zurich and the University Hospital of Zurich. In addition, we also made major contributions to support academic research at the National Library of Israel in Jerusalem and to other projects at the University of Zurich.

"Other" activities accounted for CHF 1,480,000, including our ongoing collaboration with Keren Hayesod. This Israeli foundation has undertaken successful hands-on education and integration programs with Jewish immigrants for many years. We also supported the Zurich Opera House, the Schauspielhaus Zürich and the Foundation against Racism and Anti-Semitism with considerable amounts.

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The Foundation Board is also tasked with measuring the success of its charitable contributions. We therefore regularly assessed both the extent and impact of our work (effectiveness) and the economical use of funds (efficiency). Finally, we also devoted considerable attention to various financial issues, including investment policies, which are regularly reviewed and adjusted if necessary. We also monitored the activities of the administrative office.

Thanks to an excellent financial result in 2017, our Foundation is in a secure position financially. As of 31 December 2017, our capital amounted to CHF 52 million. We apply Swiss GAAP FER 21 accounting standards, developed specifically for non-profit organisations, to our annual financial statements.

Our Foundation will maintain the current level of donations, i. e. between CHF 3 million and CHF 4.5 million a year, even if this means diminishing the Foundations' assets over the long term.

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to all those who support us in this work. Special mention should be made here of the Foundation Board members and especially Eduard M. Rosenstein, who expertly manages our Foundation with great oversight and tremendous commitment.

*Susanne Braginsky*

*Member of the Foundation Board*





*The new NOAM gymnasium nestled between the Gabler and the NOAM school buildings.*

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# FACTS AND GOALS

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The René & Susanne Braginsky Foundation was founded in early 1986 in Zurich and celebrated its 30th anniversary at the end of 2015. Operating on an exclusively non-profit basis, our Foundation supports and promotes projects and institutions where public sector services are insufficient or simply non-existent. Our contributions seek to empower people to support themselves and we prefer to work alongside established organisations; we only provide individual donations in a few exceptional cases. Our Foundation's geographic focus is on Switzerland (with an emphasis on the Zurich region) and Israel. We assist both Jewish and non Jewish initiatives and institutions.

## GOALS

Our Foundation deliberately has a very broad range of charitable aims:

- To care for the elderly, handicapped, infirm or needy
- To supervise and promote the training of children and young people
- To support healthcare establishments
- To encourage leisure activities for children and young people

- To support religious institutions
- To promote social, scientific and cultural projects

These objectives enable us to set priorities in social affairs and healthcare as well as in promoting culture and science.

## FINANCIALS

In keeping with the encouraging growth of our organisation's capital over the last few decades, we are in a position to make contributions in the range of CHF 3 million and CHF 5 million each year.

	2017 CHF	2016 CHF
Contributions	3 700 000	3 400 000
Capital	52 000 000	50 200 000

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# FOUNDATION BOARD

## FOUNDATION BOARD

### **Dr. h. c. René Braginsky**

Businessman, Honorary Councilor of the ETH  
Zurich, President

### **Susanne Braginsky**

Vice-president

### **David Braginsky**

Lawyer and investor

### **Prof. em. Dr. med. Felix Gutzwiller**

Specialist in preventative medicine and Former  
Member of the Council of States

### **Eric Stupp**

Attorney, partner at Bär & Karrer

## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

### **René und Susanne Braginsky-Stiftung**

Grütlistrasse 68  
CH-8002 Zurich

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## MANAGING DIRECTOR

### **Eduard M. Rosenstein**

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## AUDITOR

MOORE STEPHENS EXPERT (ZURICH) AG

Glattbrugg / Zurich

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