

RSB
STIFTUNG

RENÉ & SUSANNE
BRAGINSKY
STIFTUNG
ZÜRICH

REPORT 2022

SUPPORTING THE ARTS DURING THE PANDEMIC

Our Foundation's goals include not just the promotion of social and scientific projects, but also the support of cultural initiatives. Reviewing the more than 35 years of our Foundation's charitable activities, I realize that while we always provided funding to cultural institutions, we nonetheless had a clear emphasis on scientific and social topics. This holds particularly true in the past two years of the hopefully soon-to-be over COVID-19 pandemic. During this time, we felt it appropriate to focus predominantly on organizations which sought to offset the pandemic's often dramatic consequences for the weaker members of our society.

Nonetheless, we still made sizeable donations to several important cultural institutions in Switzerland and Israel. We did this based on our belief that maintaining an active cultural life is particularly important in difficult times. This is evidenced by the impressive number of "visitors" which opera houses, theaters as well as

museums reached with their newly created digital offering in the past months. Digital concerts, such as those staged by the Tonhalle Zurich, likewise attracted a lot of interest. In short: The cultural sector has proven its resilience, flexibility, and willingness to revisit established approaches.

In the past year, among others, we supported the following cultural institutions: The Israeli Opera in Tel Aviv, the Schauspielhaus Zurich, the Lucerne Festival and the Tel Aviv Museum of Art. All of them received donations for specific productions or exhibitions.

In addition, we also made allowances for smaller cultural establishments, such as the Theater Rigiblick in Zurich, the Davos Festival with its successful promotion of young talents and the Jewish Museum of Switzerland in Basle. We selected the kind of projects and initiatives, where our donations would have a direct impact;

carefully considering and weighing the requests against each other. In this process, we sought to reach decisions with as little bureaucracy as possible. Thanks to the dedicated and professional efforts of our administrative office, we succeeded in this endeavor.

I am convinced that a rich cultural life can make an important contribution to restoring some level of normalcy to our lives and providing stimulus and thereby increased well-being. After this prolonged phase of purely virtual activities, each visit to a museum, play or concert feels like a particular pleasure. I, at least, have come to appreciate such events more fully.

I am thus very pleased that our family as well as our Foundation Board have decided to continue to incorporate the promotion of cultural activities into our charitable activities. Accordingly, both this year and next, we will make sizeable donations to the Opernhaus Zurich, with whom we have cooperated for decades.



René Braginsky
President of the Foundation Bord

PERFORMANCE REPORT 2021

It has been a busy year for our Foundation, overshadowed by the pandemic. Our administrative office diligently reviewed numerous requests submitted to our Foundation in 2021. The Foundation Board again held two meetings to decide on the proposals prepared by the administrative office. In addition, the Board also took care of statutory business (annual financial statements, annual report, audit report, voting).

In total, the Board granted CHF 3.2 million (previous year: CHF 4.3 million) to specific projects. This amount was distributed across the Foundation's three main areas of focus:

In the area of "Social Affairs", we provided total funds of CHF 550.000. With this amount, we were able to support several larger and smaller social projects in Switzerland and Israel. Among others, donations went to Swisscontact, Helvetas, Pro Juventute, the Jerusalem Foundation Switzerland and the WIZO Group Zurich.

In the area of "Education and Science", we donated a total of CHF 860.000, with which we supported the scientific efforts of the Tel Aviv Museum of Art and the Weizman Institute of Science. In addition, we made our yearly donation to the ETH Zurich.

"Other" activities accounted for CHF 1.8 million. In particular, we continued our cooperation with Keren Hajesod. This Israeli foundation has been running successful hands-on education and integration programs with Jewish immigrants for many years. We also supported the Schauspielhaus Zurich, the Children's Hospital Zurich, the Lucerne Festival and the Foundation Davos Festival, as well as Keren Kayemeth Leisrael (Switzerland).

The Foundation Board is also tasked with measuring the success of its charitable contributions. We therefore regularly assessed both the impact of our work (effectiveness) and the economical use of funds (efficiency).

We also devoted considerable attention to various financial issues, including a regular review and – if necessary – adjustment of our investment policies. In addition, we monitored the activities of our administrative office.

Given persistently volatile financial markets and following a record gain in the previous year, our Foundation recorded a negative investment result. As of 31 December 2021, our capital amounted to CHF 60.9 million. We apply Swiss GAAP FER 21 accounting standards to our annual financial statements, which were developed specifically for non-profit organisations.

Our Foundation will maintain its current level of donations, i.e., between CHF 3 million and CHF 4.5 million a year, even if this results in a reduction of the Foundation's assets over the long term.

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to the members of our Foundation Board and especially to our

Managing Director, Eduard M. Rosenstein, whose profound experience ensures our Foundation's professional operation.

Susanne Braginsky, Member of the Foundation Board



FACTS AND GOALS

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The René & Susanne Braginsky Foundation was founded in Zurich in 1986. Operating on an exclusively non-profit basis, our Foundation supports and promotes projects and institutions active in areas where public sector services are insufficient or non-existent.

Our contributions seek to empower people to help themselves. We prefer to work alongside established organizations; individual donations are only granted in rare cases.

Our Foundation's geographic focus is on Switzerland (with an emphasis on the Zurich region) and on Israel. We assist both Jewish and non-Jewish causes and institutions.

SOLIDARITY WITH THE UKRAINE

The brutal war that Russia is waging against the Ukrainian population is claiming lives daily and causing immense suffering. Against this background, our Foundation donated considerable funds to the relief efforts of the Jewish agency and the ICRC in the Ukraine. The Jewish Agency supports the large Jewish community in this country. Meanwhile, the ICRC is leading efforts to ensure that the relief supplies actually reach the war-torn country and its people.

GOALS

Our Foundation deliberately pursues a broad range of charitable goals:

- To promote social, scientific and cultural projects
- To care for the elderly, handicapped, infirm or needy
- To supervise and promote the training of children and young adults
- To foster leisure activities for children and young adults
- To support healthcare institutions
- To assist religious institutions

These objectives enable us to focus on the areas of social affairs and healthcare as well as to promote culture and science. In the area of education, we work closely with the limited non-profit company "Haus der jüdischen Jugend AG", which is wholly owned by the Braginsky family and primarily supports the Jewish primary and secondary school NOAM in Zurich.

FINANCIALS

In keeping with the growth of our organization's capital over the past few decades, we are in a position to make donations in the range of CHF 3.0 million and CHF 4.5 million every year.

	2021	2020
	CHF	CHF
Contributions	3 200 000	4 300 000
Capital	61 000 000	66 000 000

FOUNDATION BOARD

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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

Dr. h. c. Eric Stupp

Attorney, partner at Bär & Karrer

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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