



**PRESS RELEASE**

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**GLBT Jewish organization is awarded a generous Cutting Edge Grant from the Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles**

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JQ International Los Angeles—a new organization that serves individuals in their 20’s and 30’s in the Los Angeles gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) Jewish community with religious, cultural, educational and social action programming in a nondenominational atmosphere—is pleased to announce a generous Cutting Edge Grant from the Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles. The purpose of the grant—\$120,000 over two years—is to develop quality programs and to strengthen and expand JQ’s membership, volunteer leadership, collaborative relationships, and infrastructure of staff, services and programs to the community.

“When we launched JQ as a volunteer-run organization in 2005, we knew there was a great opportunity to serve young GLBT Jews with Jewish activities in a healthy, safe, and positive environment,” said Asher Barry Gellis, JQ’s Executive Director. “Even we were surprised at how quickly we were forced to grow to accommodate the profound need for what was a formerly neglected demographic. This grant comes at the best possible time. Our infrastructure is stretched beyond its ability to keep up with the popularity of our programs, but now, with the generous support of the Jewish Community Foundation, we will be able to build our capacity to foster a healthy environment that encourages Jewish values, practices, and community action within the young GLBT community.”

As the Los Angeles Jewish community is placing greater emphasis on reconnecting with the GLBT Jewish community JQ International was an ideal candidate for this Cutting Edge Grant. “We’ve designed the Cutting Edge Grants to inspire social entrepreneurs and creative thinkers to develop projects that explore fresh approaches to solving social problems and enriching the community’s quality of life,” said Marvin I. Schotland, president and CEO of the Jewish Community Foundation.

This grant represents a significant step towards welcoming the GLBT Jewish community to participate as a dynamic and valuable asset with the rest of the Los Angeles Jewish community.

With the beginning of a new Jewish year, the ever growing diversity of Los Angeles’ Jewish community has been engaged in new and innovative ways thanks to the valiant efforts of JQ International’s new lay leadership and well invested funding by philanthropic organizations. The partnership between JQ International and the Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles is another step towards ensuring a healthy and bright future for an inclusive Los Angeles Jewish community.

*About JQ International*

JQ International is a membership-based organization dedicated to the advancement of Jewish equality of sexuality and gender identity via social and educational programming, community service and activism. Committed to providing quality programs and services catering to GLBT Jews in their 20’s and 30’s, JQ International creates an atmosphere that fosters understanding and tolerance under the realization that all Jews are a dynamic force in American society and a valued asset in the Jewish communal and spiritual worlds.

Visit JQ International online at [www.JQish.org](http://www.JQish.org)

JQ International is proudly funded by



*About The Foundation*

Established in 1954, the Jewish Community Foundation is the largest manager of charitable assets and the leader in planned giving solutions for Greater Los Angeles Jewish philanthropists. The Foundation currently manages assets of \$790 million and ranks among the ten largest Los Angeles foundations (based on assets). In 2007, The Foundation and its 1,200-plus donors distributed \$77 million in grants to more than 1,700 organizations with programs that span the range of philanthropic giving.