



2014 ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Friend,

2014 was a pivotal year for the Forward, a year of strategic thinking, research, design and planning that reaffirmed our unwavering commitment to both serve and reflect a diverse American Jewish community – with unflagging journalistic excellence, provocative cultural exploration and lively Yiddishkeit. At the same time, it resulted in bold changes that will help us deliver on that commitment for generations to come.

In some ways, the year began for us the previous October with the Pew Research Center's groundbreaking "Portrait of Jewish Americans." Our insightful coverage of the report and its implications showed exactly what readers expect from the Forward. Beyond that, it prompted us to carefully consider how the Forward itself should respond to Pew's findings, how our journalism could remain relevant and essential to generations of American Jews whose experiences and challenges are quite different from our parents' and even our own. >>

We engaged readers, staff and contributors, Forward Association members and outside experts to reflect on our legacy and mission, and to examine how people use and interact with media today. Together, we conceived a new Forward, more effective at connecting Americans of all ages and affiliations (even if that is no affiliation) with their Jewishness, while continuing to fearlessly scrutinize those who represent and claim to represent us as a community.

While the most visible changes – our bold new logo, redesigned website, and reimagined newspaper – wouldn't be unveiled until early 2015, the ideas behind them increasingly informed our work in 2014. More distinct voices and deeply personal narratives appeared in our pages, like Josh Nathan-Kazis's account of his quest for Spanish citizenship based on his Sephardic heritage, and Tuvia Tenenbom's chronicles of Jewish life in all its absurdity. We launched new features to address the challenge of finding meaning and community, and the aspiration to live in a way that reflects our Jewish history, values and tastes: The Seesaw, a contemporary twist on the Forward's beloved Bintl Brief, offering advice for navigating interfaith relationships, and Wondering Jew, exploring the range of rituals and meaning American Jews find in the annual cycle of holidays.

At the same time, we continued to set the gold standard of Jewish journalism, with unmatched reporting of the Gaza War and its human toll on both sides of the border; enlightening political and diplomatic analysis from editor-at-large J.J. Goldberg; unflinching coverage of dangerous circumcision practices, far-flung Jewish communities and insular Hasidic enclaves; diverse views of culture both controversial and inspirational, from "The Death of Klinghoffer" to a celebration of Leonard Cohen; and vibrant conversations, commentary and videos sustaining the *mameloshn* in the *Forverts* newspaper and to a growing audience on yiddish.forward.com.

All this was made possible by the financial support of our members. The Forward is a nonprofit, public media organization; it remains truly independent, beholden to powerful individuals or institutions, only because it can rely on those, like you, who cherish a uniquely welcoming home for our many Jewish voices.

The Forward made unprecedented investments in 2014 to expand our coverage, improve our products and engage new readers. We thank you for your donations, which made those investments possible, and hope you will invest with us to sustain these efforts and ensure the Forward's future.

Warm regards,


JACOB MOROWITZ
Chair of the Board



Thank You

The Forward Association gratefully acknowledges the individuals and organizations listed below and later in this report, whose gifts made between January 1 and December 31, 2014, helped sustain the Forward as a vibrant, independent Jewish media organization for readers today and for future generations.

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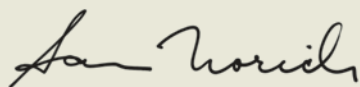
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[List continues on page 12 >>](#)



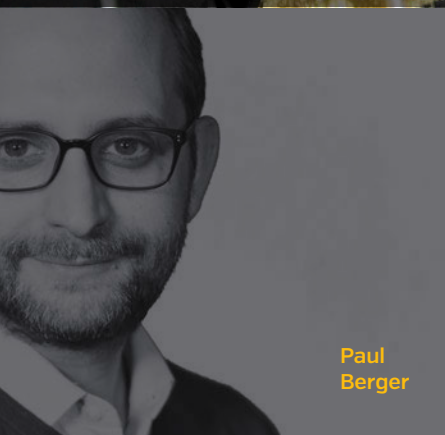
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DECEMBER 3, 2014

Hasidic Enclave Keeps Its Secrets Amid Elusive Rebbe's Tight Control

FRIMET GOLDBERGER



Paul
Berger

OCTOBER 14, 2014

The End-of-Life Battle Over Jewish Souls

PAUL BERGER

MARCH 10, 2014

How Do I Tell My Russian Host Family I'm a Jew?

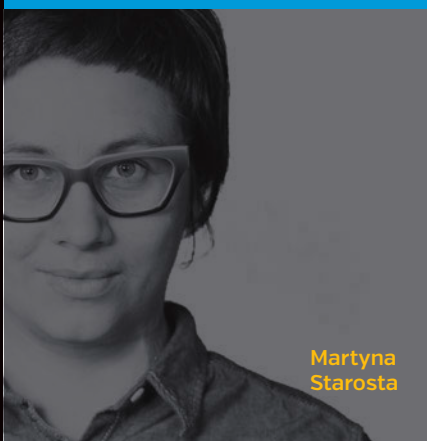
PAUL BERGER



JULY 6, 2014

Families of Slain Israeli and Palestinian Teens Turn to Each Other for Comfort

SIGAL SAMUEL



Martyna
Starosta

FEBRUARY 24, 2014

Shalom, Bloomington

MARTYNA STAROSTA



July 24, 2014:

257,000
page views

a one-day record

news

MARCH 27, 2014

Rabbi Performs Controversial Metzitzah B'Peh Circumcision Rite – Law or No

PAUL BERGER

forward.com page views **+476%** in five years

2014

25.9 million page views

2009

4.5 million page views

Larry
Cohler-
Esses

5

Naomi
Zeveloff

OCTOBER 5, 2014

Needy Israeli Brides Find Wedding Day Nirvana Courtesy of Charities

NAOMI ZEVELOFF

NOVEMBER 30, 2014

Chasing Ghosts, Reviving Spirits: The Fall and Rise of Poland's Jews

JANE EISNER

SEPTEMBER 18, 2014

A Song of Love and Memory for Leonard Cohen at 80

EZRA GLINTER

Liza
Schoenfein



BEGAN JULY 8, 2014

Our Promised Lands (A 50-State Series)

VARIOUS AUTHORS

1,275

culture articles
published in 2014



OCTOBER 20, 2014

The Resurrection of 'Klinghoffer'

ADAM LANGER

6

JANUARY 26, 2014

Can Sephardic Jews Go Home Again – 500 Years After the Inquisition?

JOSH NATHAN-KAZIS



Adam
Langer



JANUARY 22, 2014

**Chef Micah Wexler
Brings Deli
Revolution to
Los Angeles**

LEAH KOENIG

2009

14

2014

2,803

Donors to
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Abigail
Pogrebin

JUNE 5, 2014

**A Funny Thing
Happened to Me
on the Way to the
Rolling Stones
Concert**

TUVIA-TENENBOM

NOVEMBER 25, 2014

**Food Chains
Ask Who Picks
Your Food**

RACHEL KAHN-TROSTER

JULY 15, 2014

**Mom in the
Bomb Shelter –
The Sisterhood**

DEBORAH MEGHNAGI BAILEY

culture

2.9
million

visits to forward.com
from 97 different social
media sites in 2014

digg

t

p

e

f

i

bird

DECEMBER 14, 2014

Dear Santa, Please Stay Away From My Little Boy

SUSAN KATZ MILLER, HAROLD BERMAN, JIM KEEN

OCTOBER 7, 2014

Why Hamas Never Wanted War – and Knows It Lost

J.J. GOLDBERG

J.J.
Goldberg

BEGAN SEPTEMBER 17, 2014

Wondering Jew

ABIGAIL POGREBIN

opinion



Jay
Michaelson

JULY 15, 2014

A Gaza Mother Amid the Airstrikes – The Sisterhood

EMAN MOHAMMED

BEGAN FEBRUARY 24, 2014

The Seesaw – Answering All Your Questions About Interfaith Life



Jane
Eisner

Facebook users
clicked through to
forward.com

**2.1
million**

times in 2014

JUNE 2, 2014



Why Is It So Hard To Convert to Judaism?

JANE EISNER

JULY 10, 2014



How the Gaza War Started – and How It Can End

J.J. GOLDBERG

Yiddish Forward

פֿאַרװערטס



Rukhl
Schaechter

Forverts published

1,844 original articles

488 blog posts

107 videos and

268 podcasts

in Yiddish in 2014



Shiva: Short and Not
So Somber, Please

17 יאנואר 2014

שיבֿעה־זיצן:
קורץ און נישט
צו טרויעריק

שרה־רחל שעכטער



First Gay Wedding in
a British Synagogue

14 דעצעמבער 2014

ערשטע
„גיי־חתונה אין
אַ בריטישער שיל

דזשאָרדין קוציק

Hasidic Women's Dresses and
Masochistic Fantasies

28 אויגוסט 2014

חסידישע
פֿרויען־קליידער
און מאַזאָכיסטישע
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Jordan
Kutzik

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e-newsletter
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57%

from 2013 to 2014

2014 מערך 16

עסקלוסיווער אינטערוויו מיט המן הרשע

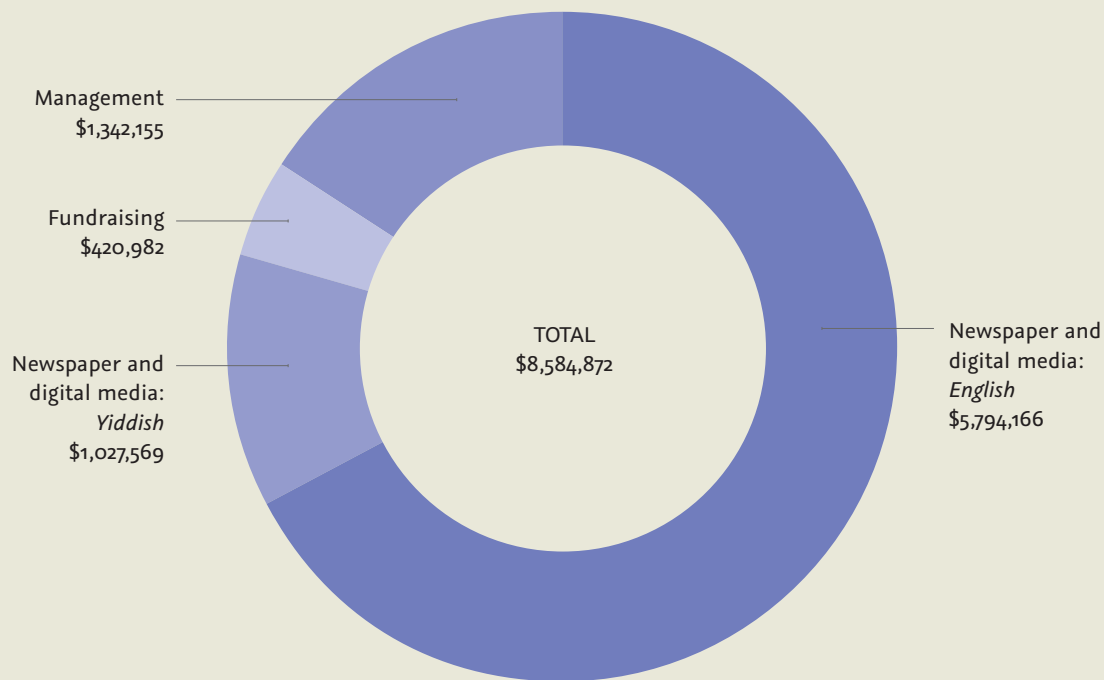
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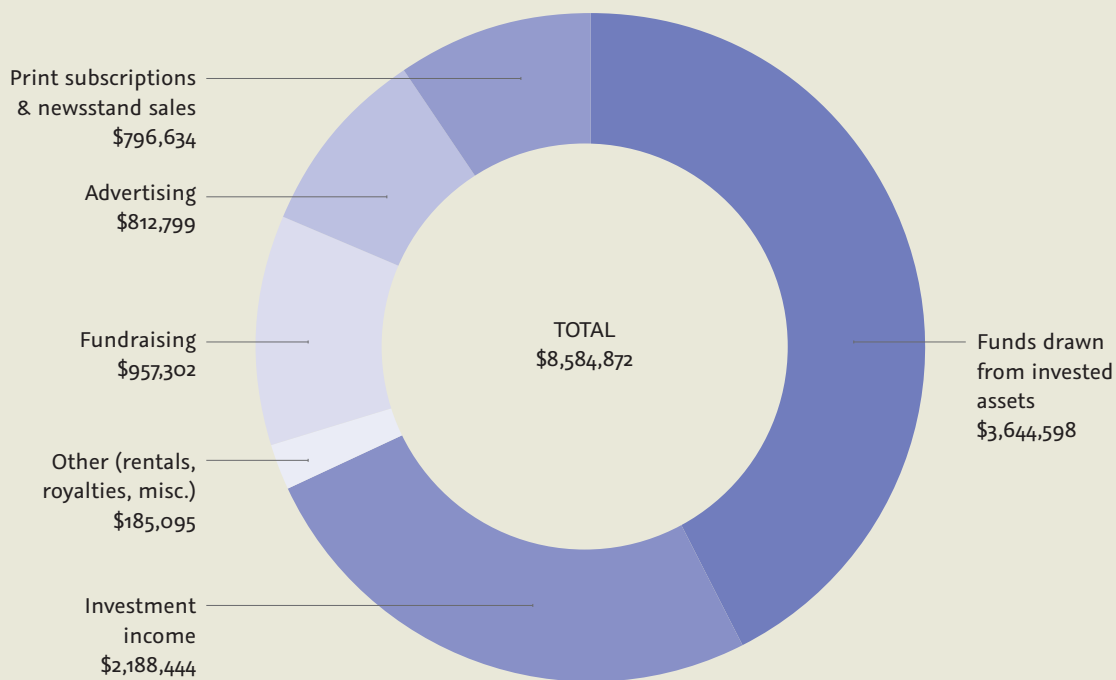
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