JBI International Hosts “80 & 8” Celebration At The Harmonie Club

JBI Internation (established as the Jewish Braille Institute) held its “80 & 8” Celebration at The Harmonie Club in Manhattan. It was a festive celebration of two milestones: eight decades of JBI’s success in fulfilling its unique mission to serve the cultural and educational needs of the blind and visually impaired and the 80th birthday of Honoree and JBI Board Chair Judy E. Tenney.

The 235 guests who helped raise $600,000 were greeted by the Master of Ceremonies, Larry King, via video, since he was unable to attend that evening. Fortunately, his sister-in-law, actress and JBI Board Member Ellen David, did a marvelous job of filling his shoes. Paul Sperry, a renowned tenor, who also generously volunteers his time and talents narrating JBI Talking Books, delighted guests with musical entertainment.

The day’s festivities began when JBI rang the Opening Bell of the New York Stock Exchange in celebration of eight decades of service and of the “new JBI” that is emerging from the much needed and almost completed renovation of its headquarters building. JBI is now much better positioned to serve the blind, as well as the rapidly increasing population of older men and women who find themselves forced to adjust to severe vision loss.

Judy Tenney, Honoree, JBI Chairman, and Arthur Emil

Barbara B. Friedman, JBI Honorary Chairman, and Dr. Ellen Isler, JBI President and C.E.O.

Danny Morse, Mrs. Frederick P. Rose, and Sally Melzer

Dr. Ellen Isler, JBI President and C.E.O., and Councilman David Weprin

Betty Osman, Eugene Grant and Al Osman

Master of Ceremonies Ellen David, Martin Zeiger, and Elaine and Irving Welbrum

Billie Tisch and Jim Rosenfield

Dr. Ellen Marson and Laura Schor

Stanley Diamond, Lore Dickstein, Morton Wolitzer and Dr. Ethel Person

Nicki and Harold Tanner

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