

# Illiana News

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## *Israel's Atar Trio performs for Campaign Kick-off*

The Atar Trio, featuring Ofer Shelley, pianist, Tanya Beltser, violinist and Marina Katz, cellist, will perform a blend of classical, contemporary, folk and jazz music at 8 p.m., Saturday, March 28 at the Jewish Federation Community Building as part of the 2015 Annual Campaign Kick-off, "A Little Night Music."

The evening features cocktails, appetizers and entertainment. Tickets are \$18 per person. RSVP to the Federation office at 219-922-

4024 by March 23.

The Jerusalem-based trio started its U.S. tour as guests of the University of Virginia where Composer Judith Shatin is the William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor. The trio will perform Shatin's "View from Mount Nebo" as a centerpiece of its tour.

Shelley, born and raised in Israel, graduated from the Rubin Music Academy in Jerusalem. In 1994 Tanya Beltser immigrated to Israel

from Ukraine and Marina Katz from Latvia. Both studied at Rubin.

"Not all of the music we will perform is strictly classical. A lot is jazzy," says Shelley. In addition to Shatin, the trio will play Paul Schonfield's "Café Music" and Benjamin Yusupov's "Trio for Violin, Cello and Piano."

"All the composers are alive," says Shelley. "For a performer it is a special experience being able to work with a composer. I cannot email Beethoven and Schubert. But with Judith, I can discuss the music and it gives an interesting perspective."

Board Secretary Judy Katz, Western Galilee Partnership and Israel Committee Chairperson, and board member Karyn Brodsky, will oversee the entertainment portion of the event and the trio's master classes scheduled with area youth during its visit. Carol Karol, Judy Rooth and Ann Pekarsky, Co-Campaign Chairs, will oversee the Campaign portion of the evening.

"I'm excited we are combining these two major events," Judy Katz said.

Karol underscored the tone of the evening is meant to be a celebration of the relationship between Northwest Indiana and Israel, in particular the Partnership Region, located in the Western Galilee.

**From l. : Tanya Beltzer, Marina Katz and Ofer Shelley, members of the Atar Trio, based in Jerusalem.**

