

THE NORTHWEST CURRENT

Wednesday, March 8, 2017

Serving Communities in Northwest Washington Since 1967

Vol. L, No. 10

Jewish Primary wins two faculty awards

Two faculty teams from the Jewish Primary Day School of the Nation's Capital recently won national awards for excellence in Jewish education.

The Kohelet Foundation recognized two teacher-led projects from the 16th Street NW school: a community library initiative and a children's voter guide. Both teams of educators received the \$36,000 Kohelet Prize, giving the school two of the six national awards the foundation offered, according to a news release.

The school's Kindergarten General Studies team — comprised of Lisa Davis, Xani Pollakoff and Vas Pournaras — won the "Award for Development of

Critical and/or Creative Thinking" category for their Community Library Project from the 2015-2016 school year. A cross-grade, multi-disciplinary team — comprised of Hanina Goldstein, Mindy Hirsch, Kelly McAllester, Vinny Prell, Melissa Rickabaugh and Devorah Yeganeh — won the award for the "Real-World Learning" category for Kids' Voices Count, a voter guide that involved teachers, students and parents.

The Kohelet Prizes, awarded for the first time this year, celebrate "extraordinary accomplishment" in progressive Jewish education across six core categories, according to the foundation. A panel of judges featuring experts in education, psychology and neuroscience selected the winners.