



Jewish Federation[®]
OF LOUISVILLE



2022

ANNUAL REPORT



2022-2023 Incoming Board Members

Nominated to serve 3-year terms commencing in FY23:

Corey Shapiro
Kevin Trager

Re-elected to serve a 3-year term commencing in FY23:

Linda Spielberg

Nominated to serve as officers of the Board of Directors for FY23:

David Kaplan - Chair
Becky Ruby Swansburg - Vice Chair
Beth Salamon - Vice Chair
Jeffrey Goldberg - Treasurer
Robin Miller - Secretary
Ralph Green - Immediate Past Chair

Appointed to serve on the Board of Directors in accordance with the By-laws:

Ariel Kronenberg - Program Cabinet Chair
Rabbi David Ariel-Joel - President of the Louisville Board of Rabbis and Cantors

Jewish Community of Louisville 2022-2023 Board of Directors

David Kaplan – Chair
Becky Ruby Swansburg – Vice-Chair
Beth Salamon – Vice-Chair
Jeff Goldberg – Treasurer
Robin Miller – Secretary
Ralph Green – Immediate Past Chair

George Polur
Madeline Abramson
Chris Brice
William Altman
Ross Cohen
Jasmine Farrier
Amy Landon
Linda Spielberg
Corey Shapiro
Kevin Trager

Rabbi David Ariel -Joel - LBRC Chair
Ariel Kronenberg - Program Chair

Jewish Federation of Louisville and Trager Family JCC Senior Staff

Sara Klein Wagner
President &
Chief Executive
Officer

Stacy Gordon-Funk
Senior Vice
President & Chief
Philanthropy Officer

Thomas Wissinger
Vice President &
Chief Operating

Paul Norman
Chief Financial
Officer

Alison Roemer
Senior Director,
Jewish
Journeys

Tricia Siegwald
Senior Director,
Festivals
and Special Events

Susan Kwasny
Senior Director,
Health & Wellness



ANNUAL MEETING

2022

Dear JCL Family,

"To be a Jew is to keep faith with the past by building a Jewish future."
-Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks z'l was an inspiring and insightful teacher. This quote resonates with this special moment in time for our Jewish Community of Louisville. While the world around us may feel overwhelming and fractious, our Jewish community provides a connection to keep us grounded together by our past and our future. We have much to be proud of as we continue to nurture our Jewish future serving the community.

Our vision statement was truly our guiding light this past year, *Inspiring meaningful lives while transforming our Jewish future*. Each and every day we are engaging with people of all ages and backgrounds at our new Trager Family JCC. Our Jewish Federation continues to ensure the viability and sustainability of the core needs of our community.

We are so grateful to our generous donors who supported the Federation this year and stepped forward to care for Jews in Ukraine and Israel, as well as refugees from Afghanistan who relocated to Louisville in late 2021. We also saw our mission work in action when our global Jewish community supported our neighbors here in Western Kentucky following the devastating tornados that tore through nearby communities.

The Federation's continued support of JCRC has allowed us to fight against anti-Semitism and advocate for anti-hate legislation at the local and statewide levels. This support has also ensured that our community is able to care for the most vulnerable and those who are still in need as a result of the long-term effects of the pandemic.

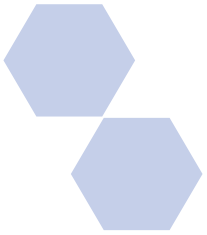
Tonight we celebrate the many successes of the past year, and our donors and volunteers of the JCL who work passionately to change lives. We celebrate the once-in-a-lifetime opening of the Trager Family JCC and the walk across the parking lot that we took together from the last JCC to our new home.

Jewish life and history has taught us many lessons. As Rabbi Sacks taught and we aspire to do each day, it is our time and moment to use all we have learned to build the Jewish future we envision. We are extremely proud that we keep the following Jewish values at the forefront of our work.

Tikkun Olam	Torah	Areyvut	Klal Yisrael
Repairing the World	Through Learning, Teaching & Growing	Caring Unconditionally for One Another	Unity of the Jewish People

Ralph Green
Board Chair,
Trager Family Jewish Community
Center
and Jewish Federation of Louisville

Sara Klein Wagner
President & CEO,
Trager Family Jewish Community
Center
and Jewish Federation of Louisville



AUG
2021

Federation, JHFE Commission Brandeis to Study Jewish Louisville

In a move that should produce a valuable tool for planning the community's future, the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence (JHFE) and the Jewish Federation of Louisville have commissioned a comprehensive population study, done by the Maurice & Marilyn Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies at Brandeis University.

"The numbers and ideas that emerge will empower local organizations to make decisions, determine strategic priorities and allocate resources over the next decade," said JHFE President & CEO Jeff Polson. "As the community's makeup continues to evolve, this research will help organizations confidently and effectively respond to the needs of individuals and families ... and to be even more inclusive, welcoming and engaging."



Jewish Heritage Fund



Capital Campaign Surpasses 500 Donors

SEPT
2021

The Jewish Community Center and Jewish Federation of Louisville are thrilled to announce that more than 500 individuals, families and foundations have generously contributed to the Capital Campaign for a new JCC.

"We could never have reached this point without our dedicated donors. Because of their generosity, over \$42.5 million has been raised and we are still going," said Stacy Gordon-Funk, Senior Vice President & Chief Philanthropy Officer. "These efforts are a testament to a community that sees the vision for a JCC that will be here for generations to come."



Dignity Grows™ Launches as Women's Philanthropy Initiative

OCT
2021

We are very excited to launch Dignity Grows in Louisville. Dignity Grows™ provides monthly personal and menstrual hygiene products to women, girls and individuals assigned female at birth, who cannot afford them. Dignity Grows™ embodies the Jewish values of Tzedakah (righteousness) and Tikkun Olam (repairing the world). "We will be raising funds to support this cause and will be having packing parties to assemble the totes," shared Shannon Rothschild, the Jewish Federation of Louisville's senior manager of women's philanthropy and outreach.



Women's Philanthropy packs Dignity Grows™ tote bags.

Jewish Louisville Assists Afghan Families

OCT
2021

Jewish Louisville is helping to settle and acclimate new arrivals from Afghanistan as the city prepares to accept hundreds of people recently evacuated from the war-ravaged country.

The Jewish Federation of Louisville is coordinating the effort.

“It is very heartwarming to see the energetic response from the Jewish community,” said Jeff Jamner, JCC creative consultant for arts & ideas, who is heading the effort for the Federation.



The activity was part of a community-wide effort by synagogues and agencies to support Afghans, recently evacuated from their country, who are being resettled in Louisville.

OCT
2021

CenterStage Wowed with ‘Joseph’

CenterStage just had its first opening night since February 2020, but it wasn’t in its usual location.

The Oct. 4 opening of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* was held before a smaller, though sold-out, masked and socially distant crowd at Farmington Historic Plantation.



A cast scene from Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.

JCRC Serves as a Bulwark Against Rising Tide of Antisemitism

NOV
2021

Beth Salamon, JCRC Chair

We know that antisemitism is on the rise again. There has always been hate coming from the extreme political right.

I truly believe that the JCRC’s work in our community and around the country can combat this hatred. When antisemitism occurs in schools around Louisville, principals call on us to educate students and help change the school culture. We have relationships with the Black community, the Asian community and the Muslim community through our Muslim-Jewish alliance.

When Hitler quotes in the Kentucky State Police training materials were exposed last year by the duPont Manual High School newspaper, we helped facilitate new training and cultural awareness for our law enforcement. Through community relations and working together with coalition partners, the Jewish people of America will continue to have a safe and prosperous place in this country.



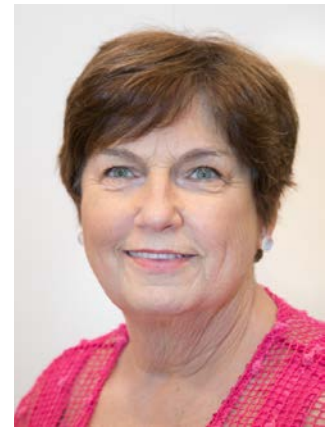
Beth Salamon

Louisville Jewish Film Festival Returns to Cinema

DEC 2021

Despite the pandemic that has now lasted two years, the Louisville Jewish Film Festival (LJFF) is slowly reentering the cinema.

Tricia Kling Siegwald, senior director of festivals & special projects at the Jewish Community of Louisville, has announced that the 2022 festival, slated for February, will screen two films at the Speed Art Museum. The rest of the film lineup will be shown virtually only. In all, this year's festival includes 11 movies and documentaries, two free short-subject films and, in a new twist for the LJFF, a six-part drama series.



Marsha Bornstein, director of the LJFF since 2005, announced her retirement in 2021.

BBYO Events

DEC 2021

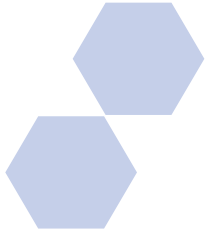


Major Gifts Event

DEC 2021

The Jewish Federation of Louisville held its annual Major Gifts event featuring Oren Segal, Vice President of the Center on Extremism for the Anti-Defamation League.





Jewish Louisville Helps Tornado Survivors

JAN 2022

Jews in Louisville and elsewhere are stepping up to help the people in the tornado-ravaged region of western Kentucky.

The death toll from the tornados, which flattened several communities, causing millions of dollars in damage, now stands at 77, according to the office of Gov. Andy Beshear.

The Tornado Relief Fund, which was set up by the Jewish Federation of Louisville immediately after the disaster, has raised more than \$100,000. The Federation has also identified the Kentucky Red Cross as its chief partner in the relief effort.



Keneseth Israel teamed up with Louisville BBYO and the JCL to assist with tornado relief efforts in Bowling Green Tuesday.

JAN 2022 SCN, SAFE Louisville are Examples of Commitment to Jewish Security

Sara Klein Wagner President & CEO, Jewish Community of Louisville

Our Louisville Jewish community began partnering with SCN a few years ago. It has guided us through the creation of SAFE Louisville, providing security assessments and essential training.

This security effort is being taken very seriously by Jewish agencies and institutions throughout North America. Security is considered such an important issue that last year, JFNA launched the LiveSecure initiative to raise \$54 million to support SCN and put funds into each of our communities.

I am proud of our SAFE Louisville committee, which is co-chaired by Bill Altman and Ben Vaughan. This is critical work and focuses on every member of our community.

Our JCL board approved a recommendation from SAFE Louisville to partner with SCN to recruit and hire a regional security director for Jewish Louisville. We are so fortunate to do this work that is being supported by the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence and Jewish Federation of Louisville, moving forward we will have the opportunity to receive LiveSecure funds.

Governor, Community Leaders Cut the Ribbon on Trager Family JCC in Louisville

MAR
2022

In a sign of just how big a deal it was, Gov. Andy Beshear attended the ceremonial ribbon cutting Thursday, March 10th, for the Trager Family Jewish Community Center, the first JCC to be built here in more than 60 years.

Four generations of the Trager family, the leading patrons of the three year-old, \$43-million project, were on hand as dignitaries and community leaders alike spoke about getting the community to this moment, and the new center's significance to JewishLouisville and the greater community.

Rabbi Ben Freed of Keneseth Israel, the newest pulpit rabbi in the city, affixed a mezuzah to the main entrance of the building, and dignitaries cut a ribbon on the walkway as a group of children – the future– sat in front of them.



Jewish leaders and Gov. Andy Beshear cut the ribbon on the new Trager Family Jewish Community Center during a March 10 dedication ceremony as Early Learning Center children sat in front.





Memories from the March 10 media ribbon cutting at the Trager Family JCC. From top left to right: Gov Andy Beshear tours the new building; Frank Weisberg adds his memories of the old JCC on the walls of the patio gallery; Donors and members ceremoniously walk from old JCC to new Trager Family JCC.

Bipartisan Effort Launched to Stiffen Kentucky Hate Crime Laws

MAR 2022

Sara Klein Wagner, president and CEO of the Jewish Community of Louisville, said passage of the hate crime bill, Introduced at least twice before, is “long overdue.”

Wagner described as “raw” the experiences the families of the Kroger victims have lived through, noting that many other families have endured similar attacks.

“That’s why this legislation is real and that’s why it’s needed,” she said. “We know that we need to hold people accountable. We know that we need to deter the perpetrators from committing crimes, and if it stops just one person, then it’s worth every effort.”



Sara Klein Wagner addresses a press briefing for the hate crime bill.

We're Open! New Trager Family JCC

APRIL
2022





Israeli Street Fair

MAY
2022

A beautiful, sunny day greeted 2,000 guests at the Israeli Street Fair on Sunday, May 15, at the Trager Family JCC.

“We’ve been hearing raves all day long,” said Tricia Kling Siegwald, who coordinated the event. “Everyone has been thrilled.”

While the JCC has had Israeli festivals in the past, this one stood out as the largest and most diverse.

“What we tried to do here when we created this event is something for everyone,” Siegwald said. “You look around, you see all these different ages.”

Faux streetlamps with signs bearing names of actual Israeli avenues freckled the parking lot, directing foot traffic to highlights of the fair, like Meesh Meesh Falafel by Chef Noam Bilitzer, who grew up on a farm in Israel.

“It’s nice bringing everybody together. This might be the most amount of Jewish people we’ve seen together since we’ve been in Louisville,” Sharon Salvatore said.

Zachary Salvatore, 8, said his favorite part was the Challenge Tent in the Kibbutz Hangout, which was set up like an escape room, except that contestants had to answer questions to finish.

Zachary said he learned when Israel first became a state.



Yale Spizzwinks First Performance in Shapira Family Auditorium

MAY 2022

The Yale Spizzwinks, the oldest underclassmen a cappella group in America, featuring Louisville's Jake Latts (baritone), sang for an appreciative crowd on Monday, May 16, in the Shapira Foundation Auditorium at the Trager Family JCC.

It was the first live performance in the venue since its opening.



The Yale Spizzwinks, the oldest underclassmen a cappella group in America, and featuring Louisville's Jake Latts (baritone), sang for an appreciative crowd on Monday, May 16, in the Shapira Foundation Auditorium at the Trager Family JCC.

MAY 2022

Partnership2Gether

Partnership2Gether (P2G) Western Galilee is an extraordinary global platform promoting people-to-people relationships through cultural, social, medical, educational, and economic programs. Louisville is one of 16 cities in the United States partnered with Israel's city of Akko and the Matte Asher region (located in the Western Galilee) and Budapest, Hungary.



Young adults gather with Marcy Paul, U.S. Consortium Director, who visited Louisville to meet with different groups to share more about Partnership2Gether.

Life & Legacy Gets Four Year Extention

JUNE 2022

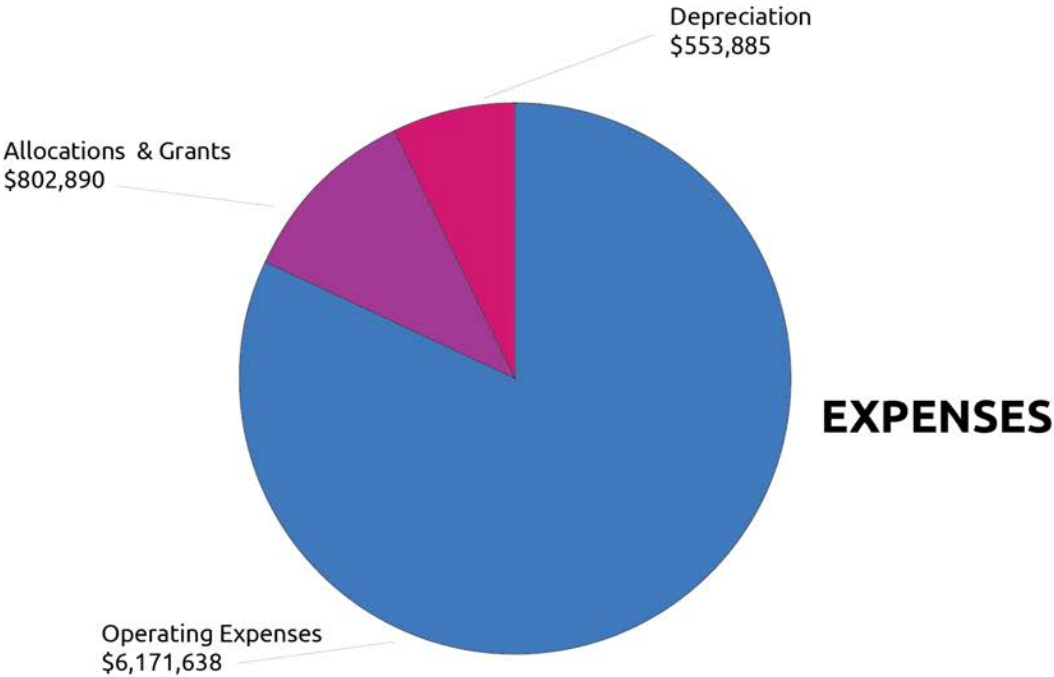
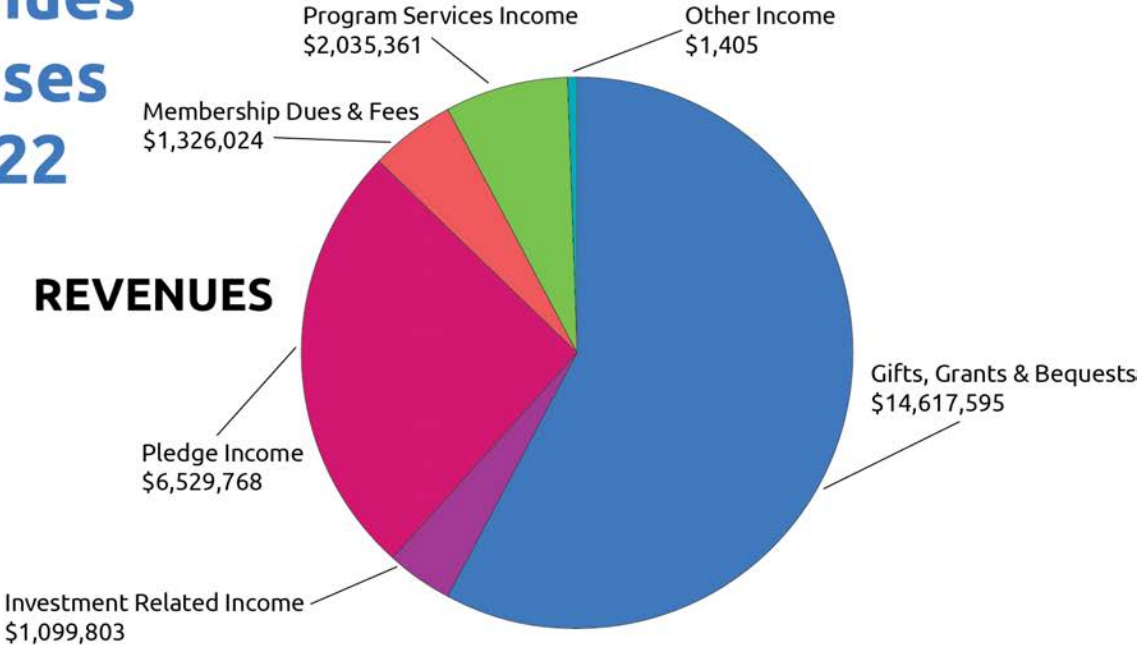
As LIFE & LEGACY – a national four-year program that encourages after-life gifts to Jewish organizations through incentive grants – surpasses the 500-commitment mark in Louisville, leaders here have learned that it's not a four-year program after all.

The Harold Grinspoon Foundation (HGF), which initiated LIFE & LEGACY, is extending the program for participating communities by an additional four years.

In Louisville, LIFE & LEGACY has generated 514 after-life commitments as of May 19, supporting nine local synagogues, schools and agencies to date – the equivalent of \$12.2 million in future estimated gifts, according to the local coordinator, Jennifer Tuvlin. In turn, those gifts have released \$372,324 in incentive grants from HGF.



Statement of Revenues & Expenses 2021-2022



Change in Unrealized Net Investment Gains: \$4,094,072	Fund Balances Beginning of Year: \$41,693,258	Fund Balances End of Year: \$63,868,873
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2022 Award Winners

Blanche B. Ottenheimer Award
Stephen Reily and Emily Bingham



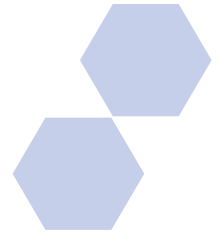
Ronald and Marie Abrams Volunteer of the Year Award
Leon Wahba



Lewis W. Cole Memorial Young Leadership Award
Michael and Mollie Weisberg



2022 Award Winners



Joseph J. Kaplan Young Leadership Award
Andrew and Helene Trager-Kusman



Elsie P. Judah Memorial Award
Emily Podgursky



Julie E. Linker Community Relations
Young Leadership Award
Farrah Alexander



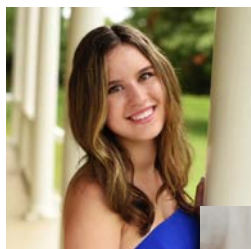
Arthur S. Kling Award
Kristy Benefield and Susan Kwasny



Corporate Friend Award
Northwestern Mutual



2022 BBYO Teen Awards

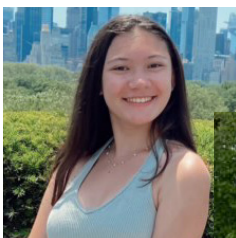


JOSEPH FINK BBYO COMMUNITY SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP JENNA SHAPS AND KATY ROEMER

A recent graduate of Kentucky Country Day School, **Jenna** will attend Indiana University this fall as a media advertising major. She was active in BBYO locally as *morah* (vice president of recruitment), *s'ganit* (vice president of programming), and *n'siah* (president). Jenna also served as regional *mazkirah/gizborit* for the 2020-21 term and as *n'siah* for the 2021-22 term for the Kentucky-Indiana-Ohio Region of BBYO. Jenna went to CLTC, IC, Movement Makers and numerous local and regional conventions throughout high school. She was the yearbook editor and volunteered with the lower school at KCD. Jenna is a member of Adath Jeshurun.



A recent graduate of St. Francis School, **Katy** will attend the University of Kentucky this fall, majoring in chemistry. She eventually plans to attend pharmacy school. Katy served as chapter *mo-rah, shlichah* (vice president of Jewish enrichment) and *n'siah*. She attended CLTC, IC and traveled to Israel in 2021 with BBYO. She was involved in numerous local and regional conventions during high school and also volunteered with Americana World Community Center, Gilda's club and the Jewish Community Center's After School Program. Katy is a member of The Temple.



STACEY MARKS NISENBAUM AWARD NILA ROTHMAN AND ADA WEISS

A rising senior at duPont Manual High School, **Nila** has served as her chapter's *gizborit* (vice president of fundraising), and *n'siah*. She tutors at The Temple, where she is a member, and is a leader in Jay Levine BBG.

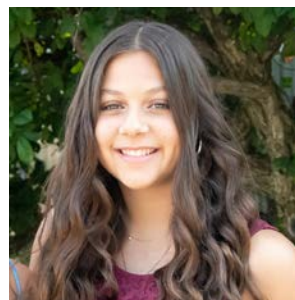


A rising senior at duPont Manual High School, **Ada** has served locally as *gizborit, s'ganit, and morah* and was recently elected regional *morah* for the Kentucky Indiana Ohio region. Ada consistently learns from her international counterparts and volunteers with friends to be a better leader in the region. She is a member of Keneseth Israel and attends Camp Livingston.



ELLEN FAYE GARMON AWARD ALEX SCHWARTZ

A rising senior at Ballard High School, **Alex** has volunteered with J-Serve for two years and with Shabbos. Friends at JFCS, celebrating Shabbat with seniors at Magnolia Springs. He teaches tennis with Rising Stars of Kentucky Tennis, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting youth tennis in underserved communities. Alex won a gold medal for recreational tennis at the Maccabi Games in Los Angeles. He is a member of The Temple and attends Camp Livingston.



STUART PRESSMA STUDENT LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AWARD NICOLE SCAIEWICZ

A rising junior at North Oldham High School, **Nicole** has served as *s'ganit* and *n'siah*. She will again serve as chapter *n'siah* for the fall term. Nicole volunteers with The Temple and works in the Hebrew School. Nicole has built meaningful relationships and continues to improve her leadership abilities through BBYO. She traveled to Israel in June 2022 on a "Passport to Israel" trip. Nicole is a member of The Temple.



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