

# Robert H. Jackson Center



## *Stewardship Report* 2001–2007

*But freedom to differ is not limited to things that do not matter much. That would be a mere shadow of freedom. The test of its substance is the right to differ as to things that touch the heart of the existing order.*

~ U.S. Supreme Court Justice Robert H. Jackson

*West Virginia State Board of Education v. Barnette, 1943*

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND BOARD CHAIR

Dear Friends:

It is with infinite gratitude and high spirits that we issue this report. The Jackson Center is established on a firm foundation and is poised to take on new challenges with strength and confidence.

The Jackson Center was established to honor and advance the legacy of distinguished native son, lawyer and judge Robert H. Jackson, a man whose character and achievements evoke words such as justice, fairness, and integrity. The Center honors him and advances his legacy so that each succeeding generation will have access to his work and ideas, and be inspired to apply his considerable body of work and its underlying principles to contemporary concerns and situations.

Since its inception, the Jackson Center has been blessed with dedicated volunteers and staff, and generous and loyal donors. The Center has also been given its share of providence, which is somewhat necessary for any successful venture.

This report chronicles the infancy of our organization including the remarkable programs and personalities that have been part of the first seven years. It is extraordinary that a sitting Chief Justice of the United States, pioneers of the civil rights movement, award-winning authors, and many others have accepted our invitations and participated in our events. Perhaps even more remarkable is the success of the first International Law Dialogs, which brought together many past and present chief prosecutors of the international criminal tribunals—all for the purpose of expressing solidarity for the rule of law and to declare unified defiance against the evils of our world.

From the financial perspective, few fledgling non-profits are able to raise more than \$6 million in six years, renovate an historic building, and provide for first class archival storage, exhibits and programming—all without incurring any debt. There are few like the Jackson Center, and for that we thank you.

We thank you for your financial support. We thank you for your unending encouragement. We thank you for your hours of dedicated service. We thank you for realizing with us a dream of establishing a Center dedicated to the principles of justice, fairness, and the rule of law. We thank you for joining our efforts to place Jackson's ideals at the forefront and make them available for reflection and application in today's world.

We look forward to a long relationship with you as we together advance the legacy of a remarkable man and his remarkable principles.

Sincerely,



Adam C. Bratton  
Executive Director

Gregory L. Peterson  
Board Chairman

## ROBERT H. JACKSON



Robert H. Jackson served as an Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court from 1941 until his death in 1954.

Jackson first went to Washington, D.C., at the request of

President Franklin Roosevelt, who appointed Jackson as General Counsel at the U.S. Treasury Department's Bureau of Internal Revenue. Jackson later served in the Department of Justice as Assistant Attorney General, Solicitor General and Attorney

General, before his 1941 appointment to the Court by FDR.

Jackson was absent from the Court's entire October Term '45, when he served, at the request of President Harry S. Truman, as U.S. Chief Prosecutor at the Nuremberg trials.

Jackson's service in the nation's capital and in the international criminal court brought him recognition and acclaim. His work, including his eloquent written and spoken words on matters of enduring principle, remains central to U.S. constitutional law and international law to this day.

Jackson's impressive standards of public service and his ideas on the Constitution and the law developed during his early years in rural New

York and Pennsylvania. Born in Spring Creek Township, Warren County, Pa., he moved with his family to Frewsburg, N.Y., and later to Jamestown, where he worked diligently to become a highly respected lawyer.

His writings and actions have come to personify the American ideal of fairness and justice for all.

The Jackson Center is dedicated to advancing the legacy of Justice Jackson through education and exhibits, and by pursuing the relevance of his ideas now and in the future.

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*We must summon such detachment and intellectual integrity to our task that this Trial will commend itself to posterity as fulfilling humanity's aspirations to do justice.*

~ Robert H. Jackson  
Opening Statement before the  
International Military Tribunal

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# THE FOUNDING

In 2001, attorney Gregory L. Peterson, community leaders and philanthropists Carl Cappa and Elizabeth Lenna Fairbank, and the Gebbie Foundation combined their visions and resources to establish the Robert H. Jackson Center.

The founders believed that the legacy of Robert H. Jackson, a distinguished “hometown hero,” needed to be remembered and his ideas advanced for the benefit of future generations.



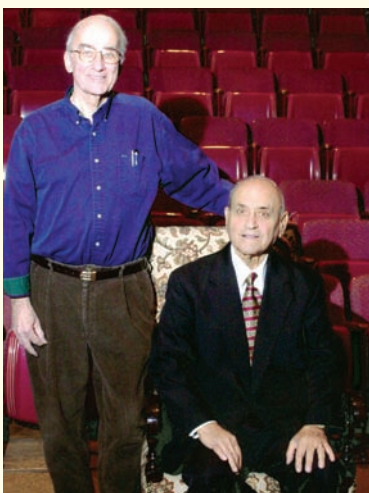
Carl Cappa, Elizabeth Lenna Fairbank and Greg Peterson meet in 2001 to discuss the establishment of the Robert H. Jackson Center.



to purchase the Scottish Rite Consistory building, also known as the Alonzo Kent Mansion.

Dr. Daniel Bratton, who served as the first executive director until his death in 2001, is credited with crafting the Center’s mission and vision that continues to guide it today.

Rolland Kidder, who succeeded Dr. Bratton, agreed to serve as executive director for five years, and was integral in establishing the Center’s opera-



The late Daniel Bratton and Carl Cappa

A building to house this new organization was needed and arrangements were made with the Jamestown area Masonic Orders

tional structure, rehabilitating the physical plant, and securing the required funding, which totaled more than \$6 million.



Elizabeth Lenna Fairbank helped Executive Director Rolland Kidder raise the flag at Appreciation Day, May 8, 2003.

When Rolly retired in December 2006, Donald Greenhouse was selected to serve as Interim Director while a search for a full-time Director was underway. Don oversaw the organization and its programmatic activities,

including a visit by U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor.

Following an extensive search, Adam C. Bratton was hired as the Center’s first full-time executive director, beginning in October 2007.



Donald Greenhouse, Adam Bratton, Wanita Bratton and Rolland Kidder

In addition to those already mentioned, there have been many other “founders” of this organization. Supporters who gave their time, energy and resources to an experiment that was not yet tested, and individuals who did the necessary groundwork to create an institution that is now gaining recognition on a national stage. These “founders” will forever be a part of the tapestry that is the Jackson Center.



Harold Jackson Adams, a nephew of Robert Jackson, was a founding member of the Jackson Center and served on the Board of Directors until his death in January 2007.

# THE BUILDING

After purchasing the Scottish Rite Consistory building in April 2001, the Jackson Center began the first phase of building renovation that included new roofs, new steel support for the auditorium roof and repointing of masonry. Work on the building's interior began with renovation to the Grant Room and the executive director's office. Since then, building activity has quickly moved ahead to include an amazing number of projects including:

- ❧ Carl Cappa Theater renovation including seating, acoustic, safety and technology improvements
- ❧ Completion of exhibit, research and archive rooms and handicapped accessible restrooms on the mezzanine level
- ❧ Remodeling the lower level banquet room, installing handicapped accessible restrooms and updating kitchen
- ❧ Dedication of the Jamestown Bar Association Continuing Education Room
- ❧ Completion of the Stanley and Sarita Weeks formal parlor
- ❧ Completion of Robbins media room where visitors can view selections from a video library of Jackson-related titles
- ❧ Installation of flagpole, flagpole base and sidewalk
- ❧ Installation of new windows manufactured by Hope's Windows of Jamestown
- ❧ Completion of concrete ramp on Prendergast side of the building for handicap accessibility
- ❧ Installation of elevator
- ❧ Installation of sandstone/bronze signage



Early exterior work included repointing of masonry and a new roof. Energy-efficient windows were later installed



The Stanley and Sarita Weeks Room



State-of-the-art Cappa Theater



Rotating exhibits are displayed in the Gallery



Rolly Kidder, Assemblyman Bill Parment and carpenters during recent renovation



Rendering of the Prendergast Avenue side of the Jackson Center.

# THE LEGACY

**THE LEGACY OF ROBERT JACKSON** is at the heart of all programming and educational initiatives at the Jackson Center. Jackson first built a reputation as a leading trial, appellate, municipal and corporate lawyer in western New York State before moving to the national and international arena where he negotiated the creation and charter of the International Military Tribunal, established individual criminal responsibility of national leaders, built evidentiary record of Nazi crimes, including the Holocaust and established precedents that are the foundation of modern international law. Jackson had neither a college education nor a law degree, but was a man of great intellect, ability and ambition, and who was an independent thinker, an eloquent writer and a charismatic speaker.

The Jackson Center has been honored to have Jackson authorities, Supreme Court notables, former Jackson law clerks, scholars, Nuremberg prosecutors and trial participants, distinguished judges and officials, among many others, participate in events focused on making the Jackson legacy available to all for reflection and application in an increasingly complex world where our shared future is at stake. More than 8,500 visitors came to the Center in 2007 and, since mid-2006, the Website has received 1,400,000 hits.

A sampling of our distinguished guests is included below.



Jackson biographers Eugene C. Gerhart and John Q. Barrett



Chief Justice William Rehnquist



The Honorable Sandra Day O'Connor seated center surrounded by Jackson Center Board members.



Ben Ferencz, Whitney Harris and Henry King



Senator Chris Dodd and E. Barrett Prettyman, Jr.



Fred Korematsu



Linda Brown Thompson



Chautauqua County Sheriff Joseph A. Gerace, Assemblyman William L. Parment, Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton and Rolland Kidder.



James Meredith



Budd Schulberg



Ken Starr



Lois Lowry



Geoff Follansbee, John Q. Barrett, Seth Waxman and Tom Becker



Phil Donahue



David Crane and Luis Moreno-Ocampo



Linda Greenhouse



James Patterson



Richard Sonnenfeldt



Ray D'Addario

## THE SUPPORT

The Jackson Center is grateful for the support it has received from you—volunteers, Board members, staff, the community and donors. Your generosity has made possible the programming, capital improvements, archives, exhibits, and day-to-day operations of the Center.

We are blessed with a diverse funding base that is anchored by gifts from individual supporters. Over the years, we have had more than 1,100 individual donors—a number that is steadily growing. We have also seen incredible support from area businesses, foundations, and other organizations. In addition, local,

state and the Federal government have all supported the vital mission of the Jackson Center.

It is only through this broad-based support that we are able to carry our mission forward.

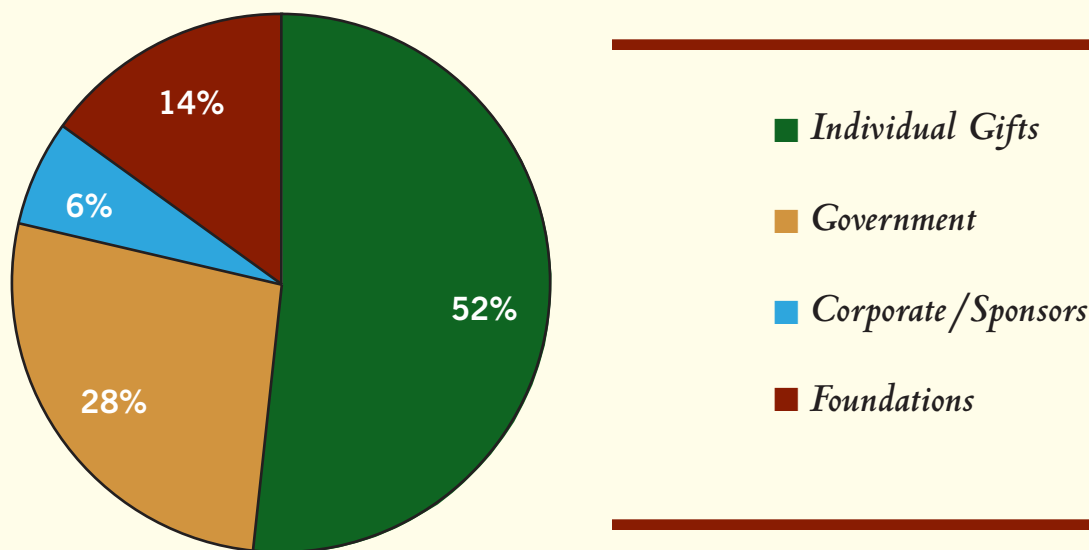
As we celebrate our past achievements we are steadfastly preparing for the future. We know that to advance our programmatic, educational, archival, and other missions, we are required to develop the kind of comprehensive support we have received in the past—and more. The foundation that we all have so successfully built will require new funding directions, such as building on our

endowments, that will secure, for the future, the legacy of Justice Jackson and the Robert H. Jackson Center.

The Jackson Center is appreciative of the past support of its many donors and looks forward to continued and sustained relationships at all levels. We value your trust, and we strive continually to be worthy stewards of your gifts. You, the many good people who have come to know and love the Center and its mission, are the reason we are on a firm footing and ready for the challenges ahead.

THANK YOU.

## DONATIONS TO THE JACKSON CENTER 2001–2007



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