ILAN-LAEL
FOUNDATION
CONNECTING PEOPLE, ART & NATURE

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WE TAKE **THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX** TO A WHOLE NEW LEVEL!

The Ilan-Lael Center is available for:

- **Executive Retreats**
- **Creative Retreats and Workshops**
- **Healing Retreats**
- **Private Tours**

connecting people, art & nature

HIDDEN LEAVES

VOL 8 - ISSUE 2

FALL
2021

A publication of Ilan-Lael Foundation

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PHOTO: Courtesy of the Hubbell family

Above: James and Anne Hubbell on their wedding day in 1958

Below: Harvest moon rise over Volcan Mountain from Ilan-Lael

Time to come down from the mountains to the sea for a time, and watch the sunset beckoning stony shivers along the shore of our Pacific, connecting us to our special friends and family, imagining when we will all be wise enough to take the hint ("Pacific Ocean" — ocean of peace).

Time to open one's heart to family and explore where this space eventually takes us.

We will never leave Ilan-Lael (a tree that belongs to God). We are rooted in its soil and stones; our friend, old and not yet born.

A hope: always look for the space between the chaos. If you can imagine it, you can build it.

Much love and magic,
—Jim and Anne

The Evening of One's Life

PHOTO: Peter Jensen

Cover
The Boys' House, Ilan-Lael Foundation
PHOTO: John Durant

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A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Baton Is Passed…

What a difference a season makes! When we last reached out in this forum we were taking our first tentative steps out of Covid confinement. The success of our 2021 programs and the positive encouragement we have received from visitors, guests, students, and the Ilan-Lael community give us great hope — even as significant changes are afoot.

James and Anne Hubbell, who we all cherish and admire, have reached a season of change in their lives. Both are now in their nineties. Jim has lived with Parkinson's disease for more than a decade, and although he has been able to continue making art, the remote and rustic beauty of his mountaintop home has posed increasingly significant challenges for his safety and mobility. In September, Jim and Anne made the difficult decision to move away from Ilan-Lael to live in San Diego where they could be closer to care, and the loving embrace of family and friends.

Those of us at ILF knew this day would come. We anxiously watched as Jim navigated his changing physical ability, and at the same time were awed by his creativity that never faltered. He put his creative energies into Ilan-Lael, creating the Chapel, the Ilan-Lael Center and the Caretaker's Cottage. He designed three Pacific Rim Parks in The Philippines, Taiwan, and China. He participated in numerous exhibitions, and received recognition and awards for his accomplished career. Despite his illness, these years saw Jim accomplish more than many of us will in a lifetime.

"Dostoevsky said, 'truth and beauty can change the world.' This is something we believe in and that Ilan-Lael is pursuing every day."

Throughout this time, Ilan-Lael Foundation worked at Jim's side. We were the tool that supported his building projects, curated his shows and exhibitions, and took under our wing the stewardship of the Pacific Rim Park program, which we will continue and eventually meet James's vision of a park in almost every country.

We created a safe, permanent Archive for James's thousands of works, and began a thorough cataloging of them all, with photos, dates, materials, and year-of-creation — all tracked down and included.

We opened Ilan-Lael to the public with classes and workshops, meetings and retreats, tours and gatherings. People came to be inspired by unusual architecture, stunning views, and the tranquility of a place where beauty is both noun and verb.

Earlier this year, James and Anne's son Drew Hubbell, took the reins of the Ilan-Lael Foundation. Along with his brothers Torrey, Lauren, and Brennan, Drew represents the next generation of the Hubbell family who are bringing their passion and commitment to Ilan-Lael. They, more than most, recognize the power and awesome responsibility of putting this wonderful asset to work to improve our communities and our world.

Jim has been an artist with a singular vision. But when it came to the Foundation, he always believed in community. "We can't do anything without friends," he often told me. Working by his side, I appreciate it more than ever. We hope you will continue to support us, generously and regularly. Dostoevsky said, "truth and beauty can change the world." This is something we believe in and that Ilan-Lael is pursuing every day.

We will always find Jim and Anne at Ilan-Lael, so connected to us and to this magical place called Ilan-Lael.

—Marianne Gerdes

Ilan-Lael's Wish List

Community Programs

- **Fund an Art/Architecture Intern at Ilan-Lael: $7500**
- **Pacific Rim Park "Peace Through Art" Program: $1000**
- **Artist-In-Residence Scholarship: $10,000**
- **Build a Bench at Ilan-Lael: $3500 ***
- **Garden & Nature Education Programs (Grades 5 thru 12): $5000 ***
- **Student Art & Architecture Education Program (Grades 5 thru 12): $5000 ***
- **Fund an Ilan-Lael Artist (1 year): $25,000**
- **Fund an Artist Apprentice (6 months): $15,000**
- **James Hubbell Museum Exhibition Sponsorship: $2500**
- **2-Passenger Ilan-Lael Visitors Shuttle Van: $50,000 ***

Capital Build Out

- **Visitor Parking & General Circulation Plan/ Build: $100,000**
- **Landscape Rehabilitation: $100,000**
- **Sculpture Trail Walk: $100,000**
- **Outdoor Kitchen and Picnic Area: $100,000**
- **Storage Building: $350,000**

Endowment

- **Building Maintenance Fund: $1,000,000**
- **James T. Hubbell Archive: $1,000,000**
- **Fund a Program in Perpetuity: $1,000,000**
- **Executive Director's Chair in Perpetuity: $1,000,000**

★ ***naming opportunities, living or in memoriam***

GROWING UP A HUBBELL

And Now Taking The Reins

PHOTO: Courtesy of Steven and Nancy Cline

James and Anne Hubbell have four sons, Torrey, Drew, Lauren, and Brennan. Recently, Drew Hubbell, second-oldest, was asked by the board of non-profit Ilan-Lael Foundation to be its second president, following in his father James's footsteps. (Torrey and Brennan are also active Ilan-Lael board members, and Lauren is director emeritus.)

Drew brings a complementary career path to the board. He leads the firm Hubbell & Hubbell Architects, and collaborated for many years with his father, merging art and architecture in ecologically and aesthetically mindful ways. His firm specializes in sustainable architecture, green building materials and the use of alternative building materials such as straw bales, insulated concrete forms, adobe, and sprayed concrete construction.

Locally, Drew helped pioneer the use of alternative building materials, and has been a key figure in educating public agencies about their benefits, in order to gain acceptance and permits for these materials. Drew designed the first permitted straw bale structure in San Diego County, and his firm designed the first permitted straw-bale commercial building in the City of San Diego.

Drew and his wife Pam have two sons, Connor and Dylan, and a daughter, Aeliana.

PHOTO: Pam Hubbell

An interview with architect Drew Hubbell, Ilan-Lael's New President

Everyone who visits your parents' home wants to know: what was it really like to live there, to grow up there?

So many wonderful memories. One would be walking home from Spencer Valley School, the one-room school house at the end of Orchard Lane, with my brothers. Our parents would drop us off in the morning, but after school they allowed us to walk the mile home. Sometimes it would take us until dusk because there was a lot of exploring to do: throwing rocks in the pond…shooting bow-and-arrows with a neighbor friend… climbing trees in the apple orchard. In the fall, we could eat our fill of apples on that walk home. It was pretty fun.

I knew our house was unique, but we grew up around organic architects like Ken Kellogg, and so many talented artists and craftspeople working with dad — a world of uniqueness. It wasn't until high school, when I went off to a boarding school in Claremont, California, and lived in a concrete box dorm, that I realized what a special and unique place our home was.

Which led to architecture?

By the time I was in college, architecture as a career was in the back of my mind. I came home from college to visit during the time dad was fashioning the Doors of Abu Dhabi. They had doors and stained glass everywhere. The studio was a big space, but every corner had someone carving or sanding … he brought together so many wonderful artisans. The doors are some of the most beautiful works he's ever done. To come home to that scene from a world of dormitories and classrooms was amazing.

Artisans from all over the world have been drawn to dad. Some stayed for weeks, months, even years. San Diego architect Robert Thiele lived in a camper here for a couple of years as a young man just starting out. He was like an older brother.

One summer I interned with architect Wayne Donaldson, whose office was in San Diego's Gaslamp Quarter above San Diego Hardware. I really enjoyed that summer, and after that I went to architecture school at University of Arizona. I worked with Wayne as a project architect for six years. His focus was on historic restoration and he had a construction firm. I have a passion for sustainability and green building, coming from my parents and upbringing at Ilan-Lael, where everything is about the environment, so I went off on my own and formed Hubbell and Hubbell with my father.

Ilan-Lael Foundation began in 1983. What were the early days like?

Wayne's office was the meeting place for Ilan-Lael's board in the early days — the '80s. Wayne was on the board. I wasn't involved very much at the time, but was aware of what they were doing. Kay Kaiser was bringing out Hidden Leaves at the time with dad, and the foundation was doing lectures, working with arts organizations and neighborhoods … a lot of smaller intellectual things around the city trying to affect how the city would grow and integrate the arts into its future. It was a powerful time.

Dad was getting involved in Baja California. Up until that point, everything he did was personal — meaning his art was personal and a great deal of work was for individual clients. Christine Brady was starting a schools in Tijuana to serve a "colonia" neighborhood, and she interviewed dad to design the buildings. He has always had a passion for helping people that are not as privileged…and he saw the need in Tijuana. He'd been raised in a fairly wealthy family, and had five different fathers, so it brought out something in him.

He went down every week, sometimes twice a week, for years to design and build the schools, often leading crews of volunteers. Today, with the difficulties crossing the border, this seems impossible, but he did it back then. We hosted week-long classes in permaculture, some with Bill Rowley of Laguna Beach, and green building methods. It was much like "Soil and Soul," the workshop collaboration with Milenko Matanovic and Sarah Livia Brightwood that built Kuchumaa Passage at Rancho La Puerta. Looking back, I see that it led to Pacific Rim Park [which has created seven park/workshop projects around the Pacific Rim to date]. Kyle Bergman, who is on Ilan-Lael's board of directors, worked on every park with dad, and some in Tijuana, also.

Oh, we had fun. At Colonia Esperanza there was a dirt basketball court big enough for three-on-three, and after we started playing regularly all the best players in Tijuana would show up to challenge us and each other. We had amazing games that lasted into the evenings.

Moving on to today, are you concerned that Ilan-Lael is so identified with your parents? As they move into a new phase of life, no longer living "on the hill," will Ilan-Lael lose its "North Star?"

Yes, of course … some. They have been such a strong influence for so long, and they are an integral part of everything at the property. But dad has made such an effort to support the board and its efforts to protect the property and ensure its future. Now they're no longer there, and the process of continuing with Ilan-Lael beyond their lives, and making it flourish, really is at hand.

One of the big assets we have is the new Art Center, where we can host people and go beyond simply leading tours of the property. Visitors can truly experience the place for a day or more, take classes, attend a conference. The conference idea has great potential. Dad has always said he'd like to see something here akin to Camp David, where different people with different (and differing) views can come together and discuss things — and maybe come up with solutions that help the world. Our longtime friend Cathy Conheim, a therapist who practices in La Jolla, has a studio designed by dad that transforms her clients. She says her clients are often people who are arguing, and when they step inside her studio they forget why they're arguing! That's what art, nature, and architecture can do.

Our new Healing the Healers program is also a great success. Nurses, doctors, caregivers can get away to Ilan-Lael, a place where nature and art fill their day … and they are transformed.

Will Ilan-Lael continue to be a place of creation, a studio alive with the sound of blacksmiths hammering, wood being carved, and the like?

I strongly believe it will happen. I don't know if Ilan-Lael will be doing it, or an individual artist or artists that come in and stay will take the lead, but the studios are a great resource and should not be just part of a tour. We are connected to a community of artists that has grown up around my parents. Back when I was growing up here, Julian was a lot of cowboys and farmers. There were some artists, of course, but now many artists and authors have congregated here. It's not all because of my parents, but they were an influence.

Your passion is sustainability. What will best sustain ILF in the years to come?

Our biggest need is to establish an endowment. It will help ensure that the foundation has a sound financial footing, we won't be challenged to make payroll and maintenance needs, and that revenue from activities and programs need not be used to cover expenses, but will help fund new programs and ideas. We have received important grants over the years and have many loyal, very generous supporters, for which we're grateful. Now it's time to have a strong endowment.

The Ilan-Lael Foundation was created after we lost so much in the Cedar Fire. We could not have rebuilt without the help of others, and the foundation allowed my parents to envision a future when Ilan-Lael won't be sold after their lifetimes, but will always serve and belong to the community.

I remember climbing an amazing black oak here when I was young. Its branches spread wide: I think dad used it to create the tree drawing in Ilan-Lael's logo. It was lost in the Cedar Fire, but I know its roots still run deep in a different way, and the tree image sustains us. We are connected to the earth, but Ilan-Lael will always reach for the sky.

Above, left: Drew Hubbell bent and welded trusses for the sculpture studio in 1982.

Below: the Hubbell family, c. 1960s
PHOTO: XXXXXXXX

NEWS *from the* HILL & BEYOND

For more in-depth news stories and photos, visit ilanlaelfoundation.org/NEWS

PHOTO: Laurel Costa

James Turns 90!

A milestone event

We hope you saw the online campaign to wish James a happy 90th birthday. One hundred friends donated over $16,000 to ILF in honor of this milestone event, and as a thank you each received a signed copy of James' new biography, "Trust Life," published in October. James wants you all to know he is humbled and grateful for your friendship.

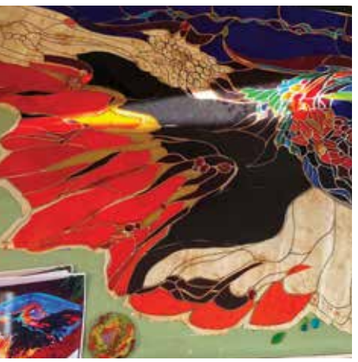


PHOTO: Laurie Dietter

The Findhorn Firebird is Reborn

A happy ending worthy of a Russian fold tale

Last Spring we told you the sad news that one of James's most complex and beautiful stained-glass works was destroyed in a fire at Findhorn, the famed art retreat in Scotland. We're pleased to report that the Firebird-themed artwork has been reborn in Hubbell Studios. We found James's original hand-drawn pattern in our Archive, and our stained-glass wizard Cindy Mushet-Shriver quickly went to work breathing new life into the glass masterpiece. She even went so far as to source glass and baubles from the 1980s to make the new version as authentic as possible. Guests visiting Ilan-Lael for our Autumn Open House have witnessed the progress of the glass, along with its custom wooden frame being built and carved by our woodworker, Dan Thoner.

Lado a Lado Exhibit

30 years of James Hubbell in Baja CA

A major exhibit featuring James Hubbell's many works in northern Baja California debuted in July at the *Galería de la Ciudad Antiguo Palacio Municipal* in Tijuana, B.C., and wrapped on September 24th after a successful two-month run. *Lado a Lado,* "Side by Side,"celebrated James's (and his many collaborators' and volunteers') work from *Pacific Rim Park* in La Playa, to *Colegio La Esperanza* in Tijuana, to the *Kumeyaay Museum* in Tecate, and *Kuchumaa Passage* on the grounds of *Rancho La Puerta* spa and fitness resort, also in Tecate.

"The community was not aware that such a man was working to better our communities," said Edna Mireya Pérez Corona, the City of Tijuana's Secretary of Education, Culture, Libraries, Science and Technology, at the opening ceremony.

The achievements of *Colegio La Esperanza*, a school which Hubbell designed and organized thousands of volunteers to help build, along with its Founder/Director Christine Brady, were lauded in particular:

"Art and education are transformative," said Christine at the show's debut. "Jim Hubbell understood that, and he brought that gift to children in this community. And we are all the better for it."

PHOTO: Laurel Costa

Lado a Lado *exhibit at* Galería de la Ciudad Antiguo Palacio Municipal *in Tijuana.*

Harvest Moon Dinner Fundraiser

A magical evening

Ilan-Lael Foundation friends gathered for a magical evening in our new Art Center courtyard on Sunday, September 19, for a farm-to-table dinner, live music and dancing, and to toast the rising of a bright full moon over the Julian countryside. Special guests Jim and Anne Hubbell were feted with speeches and toasts. The event has thus far raised more than $15,000 for the many Ilan-Lael Foundation building and education projects planned for 2022.

Healing The Healers

A needed program to continue in 2022

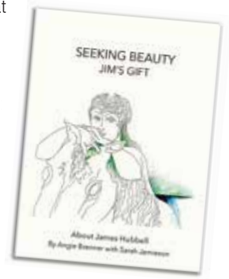
Our important program servicing Covid medical workers continued throughout 2021, and more than 150 people attended our monthly healing sessions. Our art-filled Ilan-Lael center allowed participants to see the world in a new way, while our professional facilitators provided support and self-care techniques that helped participants learn to better cope with the ongoing stress of being on the Covid front line. We hope to continue offering Healing The Healers in 2022, and to date the program has been totally funded through the generosity of our Ilan-Lael community.

A gift of $40 sponsors one health care worker, while a gift of $800 sponsors an entire, one-day class for 20. Please give generously to this needed and worthy program.

James's New Book

Hot off the presses

Finally! A new book celebrates the life of Jim and Anne with stories few know, other than family and close friends. Were you aware that Jim studied at two of the nation's most prestigious art schools? That he moved constantly as a young boy, and that his mother was married five times? His years in the Army in Korea — during the Korean War (he remained a pacifist throughout)? His world travels, including a long trip in Africa? Sketchbook in hand (always), he chronicled these milestones and adventures in journals. All of these moments in a life well-lived are explored in this new book by Angie Brenner, with Sarah Jamieson. Both authors are not strangers to Ilan-Lael, and have worked side by side in the studios here. Listening to James's stories compelled them to tape interviews, and finally to set a personal history to paper.



"Seeking Beauty" is available for purchase on our website at ilanlaelfoundation.org/shop.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Michael and Melei Pinto

Loyal Donors

It was our great good fortune when Michael and Melei Pinto came to know about the Ilan-Lael Foundation. The Pintos, who own properties in Laguna Beach and Warner Springs, became close personal friends of James and Anne Hubbell, as well as dedicated supporters of ILF, giving their time, talent, and treasure in support of Ilan-Lael.

Michael has devoted his life to advancing community through board membership and leadership positions in nonprofit organizations. He's the current president of the California Institute of Integral Studies in San Francisco, and active on several boards including the California State Parks Foundation, Laguna Greenbelt, Protect our Communities, Volcan Mountain Foundation, and the Ilan-Lael Foundation.

Melei Pinto was born in Shanghai, China, and moved to Taiwan after the communist revolution. She is a Confucius scholar doing seminal research in the psychology of Confucius.

The couple first took note of ILF through the Pacific Rim Park project, *Pacific Birth,* built in Taiwan in 2013. Michael soon was lending his expertise to the Ilan-Lael Board of Directors as a passionate supporter, helping to raise funds for the construction of the Ilan-Lael Center. Today, he is ILF's Treasurer and a focused leader, advising and mentoring the Foundation as it matures toward its future. Michael and Melei own a retreat center at their Warner Springs ranch that has hosted Pacific Rim Park guests and events. In addition, they've made significant financial donations to Ilan-Lael, and our Ilan-Lael Center courtyard amphitheater is named in their honor. Thanks Michael and Melei. Your friendship makes our world a better place.

PHOTO: Peter Jensen

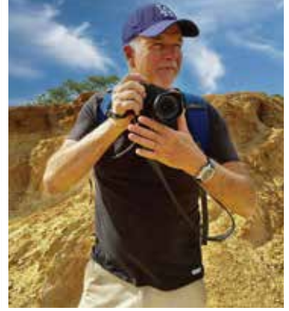


PHOTO: Anthony Friedkin

Far left: Michael and Melei Pinto
Left: John Durant

Photographer John Durant

Talented Volunteer

Longtime friend and collaborator on projects with Jim Hubbell, professional photographer John Durant of San Diego knows Ilan-Lael as well as anybody: he's seen it through the "eye" of his drone, navigated a tripod through the chaparral in search of just the right angle on a building, and visited during optimal weather events, when the gods atop Volcan Mountain promise just the right crystal-clear skies or towering clouds.

In 2013, John and Jim were responsible for groundbreaking photography chronicling the Oceanside Museum of Art exhibit, "In Search of Shadows: James Hubbell Sculpture." The catalog features a closeup detail of many of the sculptures, leading to photographs that are works of art in themselves. The two worked closely together, bringing the sculptures to life on the page in a way that few, if any, museum catalogs have tried before.

Most recently, John did the photography for the photo-murals at *Lado a Lado* in Tijuana, spending several long days last spring on location at sites in Tecate and Tijuana. His photograph of the Boys' House is on the cover of this newsletter.

In his personal life, John expresses his love of nature and art through surfing, bicycling, exploring Baja California, art photography of Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve, and hiking the Reserve (he is a board member of Torrey Pines Conservancy). His contributions to Ilan-Lael's storytelling have been invaluable. Thank you John!

Lado a Lado *Exhibit Sponsors & Supporters*
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Michael and Melei Pinto
Deborah Szekely
Frances Thompson
Dawn Verdugo
Marianne Zanzig

Holiday Gift Ideas

VISIT: ilanlaelfoundation.org/SHOP

"Torrey Pines" Limited Edition Hubbell Gicleé $150 (unframed)

NEW! James Hubbell Sculpture Set of 12 Greeting Cards $20

"Volcan" Limited Edition Hubbell Gicleé $150 (unframed)

Ilan-Lael Cotton Aprons $25

FILMS about James Hubbell and his work! DVD $20 BluRay $25

"Cobalt Sky" Limited Edition Hubbell Gicleé $150 (unframed)

NEW! James Hubbell Horses Set of 12 Greeting Cards $20

Poetry and art by James Hubbell Softcover $20 Hardcover $30

NEW! Hubbell Volcan Mountain Set of 12 Greeting Cards $20

FOR EVERY AGE! A James Hubbell Coloring Book $25

Pacific Rim Park: The Transformative Power of Art $50

Hubbell Landscapes Set of 12 Greeting Cards $20