

THE CORAL GABLES MUSEUM BOARD OF DIRECTORS CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE EVENING'S HONOREES.



**DAVID S. EVENSKY,**  
Principal, Evensky & Katz /  
Foldes Financial  
Wealth Management

Fatherhood and continued family blessings are David Evensky's most cherished accomplishments. He is grateful to his business partners for helping him create South Florida's largest independent Registered Investment Advisor firm. He believes that deficiencies in education and affordability are inhibiting our community's progress but he views obstacles, by definition, as something to be overcome. His approach to them is simply "Get back up!" To address local needs, he gives generously of his time and resources to education, healthcare, social services, community and cultural organizations. Co-founder of the Motivated Youth Program in partnership with the Coral Gables Community Foundation and University of Miami, he was founder of the Young Professionals Network.



**H.T. SMITH,**  
Attorney

Educated in Miami's then-segregated public schools and at the University of Miami, H.T. Smith accomplished the impossible by getting admitted to UM's School of Law even before taking the LSAT. This occurred while he was on combat tour in Vietnam as an officer with the U.S. Army. "The impossible means that something just hasn't been done yet." He sees closing the gap between haves and have-nots as our community's #1 challenge. Inspired by Frederick Douglass's observation that "it is far easier to build strong children than to repair broken men," he led efforts to raise \$4 million for an inner city youth center, then got the county's Parks Department to run it and provide academic and athletic programs. "You must have faith that ultimately your consistent commitment to succeed will get you to conquer all obstacles."

A tireless mentor and community activist, Coconut Grove-born Thelma Gibson knows anything is possible as long as you have a dream. Following her mother's advice to "get the best education you can," she overcame segregation's roadblocks to become a registered nurse and went on to get a bachelor's degree from Columbia University, New York. In 1947 she was assigned to the "colored ward" at Jackson Memorial Hospital despite being qualified for operating room duties. Her 50-year professional career covered multiple nursing positions plus part-time social work at Mount Sinai Hospital. Proud to be named a Founder at the Jewish Home for the Aged (thanks to Irving and Hazel Cypen), she guides initiatives supported by her family's Gibson Memorial Fund. These include a charter school in Overtown and Gibson Plaza, an affordable housing development and intergenerational educational center in Coconut Grove. "If you don't mind working hard, and you have faith, you can achieve anything in life."



**THELMA GIBSON,**  
Retired Nurse  
and Professional Volunteer

Although she shuns the spotlight herself, Judith Weissel's generous mentoring and encouragement have propelled countless people and community projects to success. "My wealth is my family and my friends," says this founding and current member of the Coral Gables Business Improvement District. Described as fair-minded and firm but always kind and diplomatic, she affirms that she is happiest when doing things that help others. "If everyone could put away their personal agendas and we could all work together, we could accomplish so much." A results-oriented leader and family member of Temple Judea's founders, she acknowledges her pioneering Sterling and Weissel families as role models in life and in business. Raised with a mindset of "repairing the world," she is grateful to be able to give back.



**JUDITH WEISSEL,**  
Coral Gables Business Leader