

Perspective

FALL 2024

DONALD BERMAN
JEWISH ELDERCARE
CHSLD JUIF

★ DONALD BERMAN
MAIMONIDES
Going further in geriatric care
À l'avant-garde des soins gériatriques



DONALD BERMAN MAIMONIDES



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Wealth Management

GOLF 2024

A Message from the Co-Chairs

Bad weather did not dampen any spirits at the 2024 RBC Wealth Management Donald Berman Maimonides golf tournament which was held on a rainy Monday May 27, 2024 at the Royal Montreal Golf Club. Attendees played the renowned championship Blue Course, host of 9 Canadian Opens and the recent 2024 Presidents Cup.

Together, we raised an incredible \$250,000 to fund the Centre for Research in Aging. Thanks to a generous anonymous donor, we reached this milestone!!!!

Organizing one of Montreal's premiere fundraising events is no easy feat, and would be impossible without our truly dedicated team of volunteers who are eager to return year after year.

On behalf of the residents of DBM, thank you to everyone who helped make the 2024 tournament a great success. It is thanks to our loyal donors

and sponsors that Donald Berman Maimonides Geriatric Centre is able to provide *More than Care.*



Pictured, from left to right: Golf Co-Chair Steve Kusters, Foundation President Randi Gitnick, and Golf Co-Chair Danny Baum,



Steve Kusters, Danny Baum
Co-chairs, Maimonides RBC Wealth Management Golf Tournament 2024

On our cover



Representatives from our Presenting Sponsor RBC Wealth Management pose with the Golf Co-chairs at the 2024 Donald Berman Maimonides RBC Wealth Management Golf Tournament on Monday May 27, 2024. Pictured are, from left to right: Golf Co-Chair Steve Kusters, Suzy Knafo (Assistant Branch Director, RBC Dominion Securities) Nadia Brenhouse (Branch Director, RBC Dominion Securities), Golf Co-Chair Danny Baum.

Perspective

FALL 2024

Published by the Foundations of **Donald Berman Maimonides Geriatric Centre** and **Donald Berman Jewish Eldercare Centre**, *Perspective* keeps readers informed of developments and maintains a strong liaison between the Centre and the community at large.

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Please note that our extensions have changed and now have a "7" before them.

Donald Berman Jewish Eldercare and Donald Berman Maimonides Geriatric Centre are member institutions of the

Centre intégré universitaire de santé et de services sociaux du Centre-Ouest-de-l'île-de-Montréal

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Mitch Kendall with golf co-chairs



Modus Operandi's Randi Gitnick with golf co-chairs



Britton Electric's Rocco Tassone with golf co-chairs



Levy Salis's Shlomi Levy and Francis Haley with golf-co-chairs



Olymbec's Richard and Sylvia Stern with golf co-chairs



Thank you to our Presentation Sponsor RBC Wealth Management for the incredible support year after year.



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Pictured, from left to right, Tournament co-chair Steve Kosters, Nadia Brenhouse (Branch Director, *RBC Dominion Securities*), Suzy Knafo (Branch Director, *RBC Dominion Securities*), Danny Baum, Tessee Kalamaras, Stephanie Thompson, Warren Salzman, Andrea Pugliese

Gustav Levinschi Foundation

Norm Hacker with golf co-chairs



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A big thank you to the Golf Committee and our generous volunteers



1



2



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7



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13

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Randi Gitnick

Volunteer Candids

1. Goldie Gutberg, Susan Ackerman, Phyllis Sohmer, Anne-Marie Ayoung-Carr
2. Olymbec's own cheering squad: Sabrina Hancock, Christina Spano, Vanessa Reis
3. Marla Hirscheimer, Irena Kazhdan, Valerie Ohayan
4. Susan Ackerman, Susan Herscovitch
5. Carol and Steve Kosters
6. Dr. Mabelle Wilchesky, David Goldapple
7. Josh, Terry and George Landau
8. Marilyn Solomon, Jerry Herskovitz
9. Gordon Baum, Barbara Flam
10. Karen Ship, Linda Sohmer, Phyllis Sohmer, Ellen Black
11. Karen Feig
12. Volunteers Elliott Levine (left) and Jerry Zigman (right) with friends
13. David Baum, Fiore Lalla

We'd also like to thank the following volunteers who are not pictured: Phil Abbey, Randi Deskin Landau, Barbra Gold

Congratulations to our Top Golfers!

1st

FIRST PLACE BEST BALL - CHAMPION

The threesome of Golf committee member **Murray Shulman** was the day's winner. Pictured with the event co-chairs are **Adam Lester**, **Michael Tock** and **Murray Shulman**.



2nd

SECOND PLACE BEST BALL

The foursome of **Steve Kosters**, **Mitch Kendall**, **Alan Marcovitz** and **Brian Udashkin** took home second place honours.



LONGEST DRIVE MALE

The Longest Drive Male was won by **Zack Brzezinski**.



LONGEST DRIVE FEMALE

The Longest Drive Female was won by **Carrie Bogante**.

A big thank you to our Golf Donors!

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Edward Wiltzer
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Foundation



Take your best shot!

The 11th annual **BMO Private Wealth / Scotia 1832** Donald Berman Jewish Eldercare Centre Hockey Tournament was held on Sunday April 14, 2024 at a new venue this year: Hockey Etcetera. Six teams played 3-on-3 hockey in a round-robin format. We raised an outstanding **\$95,000 – the most ever!!!** Monies raised at Hockey 2024 will fund **Project L’Chaim** to help us combat our residents’ loneliness and isolation by supporting therapeutic recreation programs like outings and music to bring life to their living now.

Congratulations to **Team Olymbec** for winning our very own STANLEY HYMAN CUP for the first time!!! For more information, please contact Lisa Kasner at 514-738-4500 #72125.

1. Team *Olymbec*’s Mike Matthews Phil Hudon, Nick Martin, Avi Steinberg, Noah Dayan, Pana Eframidis, Jake Meltzer, John Todi, Mike Zbriger
2. Ryan and Richard Stern
3. Joel and Avi Milgram
4. Bernie and Ricki Backman, Dean Perlis, Addie and Eva Backman
5. Team *BMO*’s Dimitri Tsiouras, Matthew Bergeron-Wood, Nicolas Tremblay, Guillaume Dulude
6. Director SAPA Long-Term Care, Jennifer Clarke, Reg, Jolene, William and Carter Mabe
7. Team *Franklin Empire*’s Shawn Hattem and family
8. Winning team *Olymbec*
9. Team *Franklin Empire*’s Lenny Verrilli and family
10. *Olymbec*’s Mike Matthews, Ryan and Richard Stern
11. Team *Olymbec*’s John Todi and family
12. Team *Olymbec*’s Nick Villeneuve and family
13. *Olymbec*’s Sabrina Hancock, Ryan and Richard Stern, Mike Matthews, Vanessa Reis and Christina Spano



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All proceeds go towards **PROJECT L'CHAÏM**. Help us combat our residents' loneliness and isolation by supporting therapeutic recreation programs to bring life to their living now.

Thank you to all our players!



THE WINNERS: TEAM OLYMBEC

Top, left to right: Mike Matthews, Phil Hudon, Noah Dayan, Mike Zbriger, John Todi. Bottom, l-r: Nick Villeneuve, Mike Ballard, Jacob Meltzer, Nick Martin, Pana Eframidis. Goalie lying down: Noah Itovitch. Missing: Avi Steinberg



TEAM RICHTER

Top l-r: Chris Newton, Jeremy Maron, Jean-Eric Laniel, Justin Dankner, Shawn Rozansky. Bottom l-r: Zack Brzezinski, Kris Schicchi, Tim Maag



TEAM FRANKLIN EMPIRE

Top l-r: Cowan Austria, Avi Milgram, Shawn Hattem, Mike Blunden, Cannon McCarthy, Jeff Hattem, Alex Kelemen. Bottom l-r: Lenny, Tal Finkelstein, Jean-Luc Hervieux, Harley White.



TEAM SHAPIRO GROUPE

Top l-r: Jordan Prizant, Reggie Mabe, Oliver Paiement, Jesse Feldman, Justin Di Girolamo. Bottom l-r: Evan Schneiderman, Corey Moses, Jordan Busner, Benji Elbaz.



TEAM VENTEC WARRIORS

Top l-r: Patrick Bettan, Anthony Tedone, Stephano Musacchio, Leslie Woods, Marco Sangiulione, Johnny Narducci. Bottom, l-r: Yaron Shwager, Sandro Ventura, Manny Gonzalez, Max Climan.



TEAM BMO

Mathieu Simard, Nicolas Tremblay, Guillaume Labbe, Matthew Bergeron-Wood, Francois Castonguay, Jacob Bloom, Dimitri Tsitouras, Guillaume Dulude, Alex Barriault, Samuel Boileau

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Marcel Braitstein

Daniel Tannenbaum

Richard Vineberg

Alon Wexler

Michael Woloz

Wenjuan Zhang

Bradley Zrihen

HOLD THE DATE

for next year's tournament!

Sunday

April 27, 2025

@ HOCKEY ETCETERA

14. Steve Moses and Team *Shapiro Groupe's* Evan Schneiderman
15. Team *Ventec's* Captain Sandro, Dalia, Sarina and Julia Ventura
16. Co-Chair Avi Milgram, Karen Flam, Randi Gitnick, Co-Chair Zach Brzezinski
17. Gary Newton, Chris Newton of Team *Richter*, Cora and Sage Newton
18. Team *Franklin Empire's* Cowan Austrie and family
19. *Olymbec* coach Mike Matthews, Andrea, Lucas and Liv Matthews and Ted Matthews
20. Team *Franklin Empire's* Alex Kelemen and family
21. Team *Ventec's* Lesley Woods and family
22. Joel, Elle and Blake Milgram
23. Team *Ventec's* Johnny Narducci and family



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2024 Golf Foursomes





Thank you to our golfers!!



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- 1. Joseph Paperman, Brian Leibgott, Lorne Price, Frank Price, Norman Levine, Norm Hacker
- 2. Saul and Mark Gutberg
- 3. RBC's Suzie Knafo and Nadia Brenhouse
- 4. Allen and Sandy Quallenberg, Marcy, Danny, David, Carlye Baum
- 5. Francis Haley, Mike Perreault, Fiore Lalla, Randi Gitnick, Denis Kurdi, Richard Salis
- 6. Marty Lash, Mark Hornstein
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- 8. Steve Satov, Lorne Casoff, Rob Hirscheimer
- 9. Jessica and Harrison Nadler
- 10. Evan Stern, Brandon Rudie, Max Kadanoff, Alex Kohan, Josh Kastner, Dylan Hacker, Zach Vaitzner, Matt Cabral





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- 11. Britton Electric's Rocco Tassone, Morris Vesely, Vince Tassone, Mitchell Hopps, Rudy Folini
- 12. Johnny Mestel, Jamie Goren, Danny Baum, Neil Horowitz, Marty Levitt
- 13. Evan Savelson, Dylan Savelson, Dante Di Schiavi from new sponsor Placements Borsa
- 14. Manulife's Suzanne Alepin, PPI's Andrée Couture
- 15. Barry Cohen, Brian Scherzer
- 16. Brian Scherzer, Steven Segal, Mitch Kendall, Moe Liebman, Howard Nemeroff
- 17. Debbie and Eddie Prorok
- 18. Lee Shulkin, Alex Dekhter, Eric Kimmel
- 19. Mitchel Hopps, Steven Schouela
- 20. Mark Goldman



MISSIVES graduate!

Congratulations to the 2024 MISSIVES who graduated in July. The 25 eager students ranging in age from sixteen to twenty-two, could be seen roaming the halls this summer in their recognizable blue shirts.

MISSIVE (Maimonides Intensive Summer Session for Individual Volunteer Experience) is a unique summer volunteer internship program for students, many of who are contemplating a career in a healthcare-related profession.

The 4-week summer experience provides exposure to a multidisciplinary environment with a geriatric population. Besides attending weekly workshops and seminars with healthcare professionals, the students volunteer in a placement that best suits their interest. Some of the placements this year were in Recreational Therapy, Art Therapy, Nursing, Rehab and Social Services.

This cohort is a really special one, having had the benefit and the guidance of 4 experienced Mentors (former MISSIVES). New this year is a partnership with FOHA (The Future of Healthcare Association).

This program is hugely successful. Over 90% of past MISSIVES who applied to Medical School have been accepted!!! Thanks to the Foundation for the funding to make this program possible!

New Piano hits the right note

A beautiful Baldwin Baby Grand piano was recently donated to Donald Berman Maimonides by Beatrice Beaudinet.

Residents will get to enjoy performances in the synagogue by visiting musicians. "This piano is wonderful for our residents. Since they can no longer go out to concerts, this is a way to bring the concert to them," says Lucy Bridgeman, Therapeutic Recreation Specialist.



In the Garden...

THERE'S A BUZZ AT DBM

Something buzzworthy is happening at Donald Berman Maimonides this summer. The Centre is collaborating with local beekeeper Yoav Sasportas from Apiguru who has set up two beehives in the garden—Each is home to up to 55,000 honey bees. They are protected with a fence to prevent residents or staff from getting too close.

“Honeybees are important pollinators for flowers, fruits, and vegetables” says Sasportas, adding, “Donald Berman Maimonides is making significant improvements for future generations by preserving bees and other pollinators with the on-site beehives.”

Residents will reap the rewards of fresh honey produced by the bees at harvest time in the Fall, perfect timing for Rosh Hashanah when it is customary to dip apples in honey for a sweet New Year. The program is being funded by the CIUSSS and the DBM Foundation.

COMMEMORATIVE BENCHES LEAVE A LASTING LEGACY

As part of the garden beautification project at DBM, new eco-friendly benches have been installed all over this green space. Two benches were recently dedicated in memory of loved ones.

A bench in the DBM garden was personalized with a tribute plaque thanks to the James Weniger Memorial Fund. The plaque was in memory of Sam Weniger, Rachel and Sam Birenbaum who were residents and Rose Birenbaum.

Another bench in the front of the building was donated by Yossi in memory of brothers Nathan and Hyman Black. Nathan was a resident.

Bench donations provides individuals the opportunity to pay tribute to a family member or honour a special occasion or person with a lasting legacy. For more information, contact Lisa Kasner at 514-483-2121 ext 71845.

UPGRADED GARDEN AREA

The garden area at Donald Berman Maimonides has gotten a beautiful upgrade. New asphalt and another 100 feet of wheelchair-accessible pathway has been added. A second gazebo has also been installed.

“Residents can enjoy the area with their families for social activities. They now have shaded private spaces and can access more of the property,” says Sabrina Uddin, Supervisor of Material Installations, adding “Our residents are so fortunate to have 2.5 acres of green space attached to the property.”

Pollinator gardens for bees and butterflies enhance the outdoor area along with over forty newly-planted trees.

Funding from both the provincial government, the Users’ Committee and the Donald Berman Maimonides Foundation has made this work possible.



DID YOU KNOW?

- Honeybees are capable of stinging but unlike wasps, they are generally not aggressive and will not sting unless provoked.
- In their short life, each bee produces approximately a teaspoon of honey.
- The life span of worker honey bees ranges from five to seven weeks. The first few weeks of a worker’s life are spent working within the hive, while the last weeks are spent foraging for food and gathering pollen or nectar.



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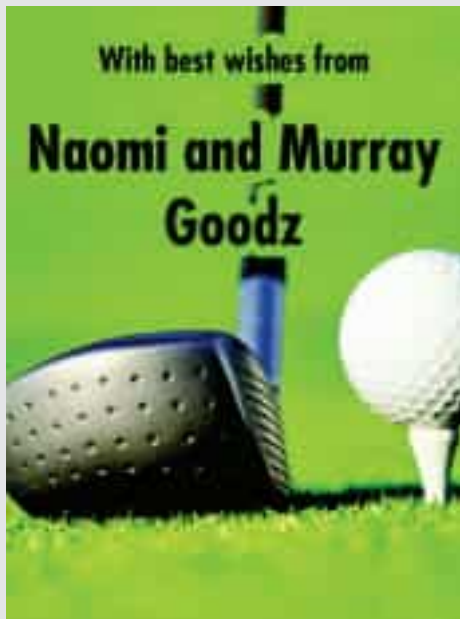


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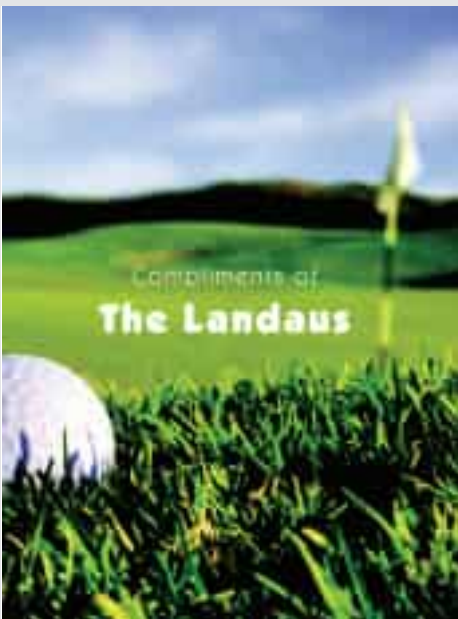
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Bringing colour to our residents



BEAD BUDDIES STRAND RESIDENTS TOGETHER

“Bead Buddies” is a group of residents who meet every two weeks to create jewelry and enjoy each other’s company.

Arlene Mones, a volunteer who coordinates the program along with Art Therapist Pascale Godbout, says “The residents are always so proud of their creations. I really love being a part of this program!!!”

The jewelry is sold at Boutique Evie every two weeks, our on-site store catering to our residents for a little

“retail therapy”. They also sell other donated items like purses, knick-knacks and clothing. Monies raised support the “Bead Buddies” program and helps fund a popular bi-annual tea party for participants and their families.

The beads are provided by the DBM Foundation. If you would like to donate beads or other items, please drop by Boutique Evie to see Arlene every second Thursday afternoon.

“The residents are always so proud of their creations. I really love being a part of this program!”

— Arlene Mones, Volunteer

QUILTS BRING JOY

Thank you to the West End Quilters Guild for recently donating nine beautiful lap bed quilts for residents at Donald Berman Maimonides to enjoy. Stephanie Desgagne, DBM site director says “We are grateful to bring some color and joy to the residents. This is very appreciated.”

The West End Quilters Guild is made up of over 30 individuals who love to quilt. Their projects benefit those in the community needing support.



Pictured above: “Bead Buddies” at work, and Arlene Mones selling the beaded creations at Boutique Evie

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BATTLE OF THE BANDS



A Legacy of Giving

The family of the late **Max Konigsberg**, a beloved Foundation Board member, recently donated a beautiful picture of Max and Shirley Konigsberg.

It hangs proudly in the Konigsberg Family Room on the main floor at Donald Berman Maimonides and ensures their legacy here is strong.

Bistro Olson's Wall of Memories

We just added a bunch of photos to the Battle wall leading to Bistro Olson at Donald Berman Maimonides.

Drop by to see pics of all the battle performers over the years!



Foundation provides bursaries at DBJ and DBM

JUDITH CHINKS FISH SCHOLARSHIP

The **Judith Chinks Fish Scholarship** is given annually to offer a one-year scholarship to a student who wishes to pursue post-secondary studies and who has at least one parent who works at Donald Berman Jewish Eldercare. This annual bursary is tied to the vision and generosity of a woman who espoused the value of post-secondary education. Her family has generously set up a fund through the Donald Berman Jewish Eldercare Foundation in her memory.

One of Judith's granddaughters, **Sarah Goldin** was on hand recently for the ceremony to present the scholarship to TWO worthy recipients this year.

Our first recipient is **Shayne McKenzie**, who is the son of **Maria Barros**, a PAB on 4AHope. Shayne is a nursing student at the Université de Montreal. His letter expressed his desire to help others. He spoke of his work as a paramedic followed by his journey through the nursing program with rotations in various departments from mental health to geriatrics. He praises his single mother for her commitment to family and to her job at DBJ and hopes to follow in her footsteps with a career in nursing.

Our second recipient of the Fish Scholarship is **Bryahna Gabriella Escrupulo** who is studying Nursing at Dawson College. She is the daughter of PAB **Lina Ventura Escupolo** on Hope 3. Bryahna's letter describes her commitment to pursuing a career that will make a meaningful difference in people's lives. She expressed an interest in working for DBJ in the future just like her mother.

CORBER FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

In honour of his past Presidency of the Foundation, **Michael Corber** created the **Corber Family Scholarship**. Every year, a one-year scholarship is presented to a student who wishes to pursue post-secondary studies and who has at least one parent who works at Donald Berman Maimonides Geriatric Centre.

This year, the winner of the Corber Family Scholarship is **Irene Sakellarakos**, who is registered in the Doctor of Pharmacy Program at the University of Toronto. Irene is the daughter of Chief of Nutrition and Food Services **Georgia Graphos**.

Irene's letter spoke of her first volunteer experience in health care at Maimonides when she was just ten which sparked her interest in pursuing a career in health care. While pursuing her Bachelors degree, she also got the opportunity to work part-time as a pharmacy technician in the community and to shadow two pharmacists at DBM. She described her passion about being a pharmacist and her desire to return to Montreal to work in that field upon completion of her program in 2026.

MCGILL BURSARY

For many years, the Foundation has collaborated with the McGill Ingram School of Nursing to recognize a student interested in a career in Geriatrics.

Congratulations to this year's recipient, **Sophie Taché-Green** who is a student in the Nurse Practitioners Program in the Primary Care concentration.



Representing the Fish Family, Sarah Goldin with Judith Chinks Fish Scholarship recipient Shayne McKenzie and his mother Maria Barros, who is a PAB on 4AHope. | Sarah Goldin with Judith Chinks Fish Scholarship recipient Bryahna Gabriella Escrupulo and her mother Lina Ventura Escupulo, who is a PAB on Hope 3.



Accepting for her daughter Irene Sakellarakos was Georgia Graphos, Chief of Nutrition and Food Services. She is pictured with Michael Corber.



Foundation President Randi Gitnick, McGill University recipient Sophie Taché-Green and McGill Nursing Program Director Irene Sarasua

Wishes fulfilled thanks to the Foundation

The award-winning **Moment in Time Program** at DBM, sponsored by the **Simon Chang Foundation for Change**, gives residents the opportunity to have a simple wish come true. Wish requests are reviewed on a regular basis by an interdisciplinary committee.

Some of the latest wishes granted at Donald Berman Maimonides and Donald Berman Jewish Eldercare include birthday celebrations with family, an outing to a football game, and meals from favourite restaurants. "It's incredible that it's the simple things we take for granted that people miss the most," says Josie Di Benedetto, Coordinator of Therapeutic Leisure and Recreation.



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When you invest in the community, everyone gains

The staff at Donald Berman Maimonides does more than treat clients with dignity and respect. Through innovation, training and research, they have raised the standards for geriatric care, and dramatically improved the quality of life of our loved ones.



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