



19th Annual

TRIBUTE SPRING LUNCHEON

Honoring Dr. Howard Gendelman and Dr. Bonnie Bloch

Happy Hollow Club | April 25, 2022

PROGRAM

WELCOME

David Crouse, Ph.D.

President of the Board, Nebraska Coalition for Lifesaving Cures

HOLLAND FUTURE SCIENTIST AWARDEE

Sarah Alsuleiman

NEBRASKA CURES VISION

David Crouse, Ph.D.

CELEBRATION OF DR. GENDELMAN'S AND DR. BLOCH'S WORK

Video

PRESENTATION OF GIFT

David Crouse, Ph.D.

REMARKS

Dr. Howard Gendelman and Dr. Bonnie Bloch

CLOSING COMMENTS

David Crouse, Ph.D.

A salute to Dr. Howard Gendelman and Dr. Bonnie Bloch



The significance of **Dr. Howard Gendelman's** work cannot be overstated. He is best known for his co-discovery of a cure

pathway for HIV/AIDS and a new approach for treating Parkinson's disease. Along the way, he has also founded two biomedical research journals and trained over 50 scientists who have gone on to distinguished careers. Dr. Gendelman has won many of the awards given by the University of Nebraska in teaching and research along with dozens of awards given at the national and international levels.

Dr. Gendelman arrived in Omaha 29 years ago from Walter Reed Army Institute of Research. His role at the University of Nebraska Medical Center was to launch a neuroscience research laboratory and see patients with infectious disorders. A laboratory of neurovirology was formed, followed by a research center, and a Department of Pharmacology and Experimental Neuroscience. When Dr. Gendelman was named chair, the department was ranked 89th in the nation. Within five years, it was listed in the top 10 NIH-drivers in pharmacology, a position held to this day.

Dr. Gendelman and his group were among the first to see a complete reversal of what was formerly called AIDS dementia. His discoveries went well beyond the confines of HIV and the nervous system. Using parallel scientific approaches, he was able to rebuild a damaged immune system in both

experimental forms of Parkinson's disease and, more recently, in humans with the disease.

Dr. Gendelman is also an entrepreneur, founding or co-founding two biotechnology companies: Brain FIRST and Exavir Therapeutics.

Dr. Bonnie Bloch holds her undergraduate degree from Brandeis University, where she studied philosophy and natural sciences. She then earned her law degree at Boston University prior to completing her medical school studies. During her rotation in internal medicine at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine-Bronx Municipal Hospital, she met Dr. Gendelman in the hospital's intensive care unit.

Devoting her life to family, Dr. Bloch led the Omaha Burke High School Medical Academy program. She guided the development of the Friedel Jewish Academy, first as a board member and then as president. She also served as president of Beth Israel Synagogue, guiding the successful transition to its current west Omaha campus, and as chair of the performing arts committees at the Jewish Federation of Omaha (JFO). While serving as the director of the JFO's community educational program, Dr. Bloch worked with doctors in Israel's western Galilee to field an emergency preparedness program. For these efforts, Dr. Bloch was awarded the JFO's Ruach of Federation and Community leadership awards.

