Sidney & Lois Eskenazi

Both Lois and Sidney love art. Lois is an accomplished artist who works in pastels, and Sidney is a collector and appreciator of modern art, especially the prints of Joan Miró.

Sidney’s genuine and demonstrated desire is to help others. As a young man who needed mentorship and support after the early death of his father, Sidney has a very personal understanding of the need for advice and support from those who can afford to give it. Lois shares his belief in the responsibility of philanthropy, and together they have made a great team.

The Eskenazis make their gifts because they feel a responsibility as true philanthropists. It is additionally gratifying to them that they are able to do so in areas that have given them so much personal pleasure and that, through their gifts, they can enable others to discover this same pleasure for themselves. The Eskenazis have been donating to Indiana University since setting up a scholarship in 1970. Later gifts included the renaming of the art museum on the campus of Indiana University. Their lasting impact will be felt by the patients who have access to outstanding healthcare at Eskenazi Health to those who swim at the Sid & Lois Eskenazi Water Park on the Jewish Community Campus. Lois and Sidney are exemplary human beings. They demonstrate through their words and deeds the qualities of compassion, personal responsibility, generosity and forward thinking. Among philanthropists in the Indianapolis community, there are few who better personify the Jewish value of “tikkun olam.”

The Eskenazis have three children—Sandy, Dori (David) and David (Julie)—and five grandchildren.