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JEAN
SHAFIROFF

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Cover Photo
ANDRÉ COURRÈGES Mini Green Jacket
OSCAR DE LA RENTA Black and White Ruffled Dress
CHRISTIAN LOUBOUTIN Black Shined Heel

JEAN SHAFIROFF

On Successful Philanthropy

By June Edging | Photos by Michael Panicola

Phileantropist and humanitarian Jean Shafiroff is a woman of action with a boundless passion for giving. Nearly every day of the year, Jean is working in some capacity—as a volunteer fundraiser, board member, chair or co-chair of a gala, among other roles—for numerous organizations across New York City, the Hamptons, and outside the United States. For Jean, commitment to giving means that being idle is not an option. As she puts it, “I believe we all have an obligation to help those in need. I can’t stand idly by.” Jean’s work on behalf of the causes she believes in is more than a full-time job; it is her passion. If something needs to be done for a cause Jean believes in, Jean won’t

hesitate. Recently, Jean even traveled to Costa Rica, a trip she took for the second time to meet with and support different animal rescue groups, bringing back a total of five dogs as gesture of good will—all before returning to New York City and attending Fashion Week! In her over 20 years of philanthropic work, Jean has been a vital contributor to the success of many charitable organizations and graced the cover of numerous magazines. Jean can now add to her impressive list of accomplishments that of published author: her new book, *Successful Philanthropy: How to Make a Life By What You Give* goes on sale March 8, 2016 from Hatherleigh Press/Random House.



PETER COPPING FOR OSCAR DE LA RENTA Deep Red Silk Gown
VAN CLEF & ARPELS Diamond Earrings

In *Successful Philanthropy: How to Make a Life By What You Give*, Jean aims to inspire a passion for giving in others. A comprehensive, powerful, and practical guide featuring an introduction by Georgina Bloomberg, *Successful Philanthropy* provides direction for the reader on how to get involved in philanthropy on every level, from the steps involved in how to choose a charity; how to be a volunteer fundraiser; what charity boards look for in their board members; how to follow your passions to find a charity that will be of interest to you; and more. *Successful Philanthropy* also offers profound inspiration and insight. Jean reminds us that we each have the ability to give back in our own unique way, and our efforts to improve the lives of others and the world around us can make positive change a reality. Giving is also rewarding and personally enriching, and helps us fulfill our true potential as human beings. When we build a life around the giving, we find self-fulfillment and change the world for the better.

Practical, inspiring, and thought-provoking, *Successful Philanthropy* is already being praised by many as a one-of-a-kind guide from a philanthropic insider—Jean herself. Indeed, the book's guiding tenants are based on Jean's own personal experience, which is extensive to say the least. Jean has over 20 years' experience and is a board member for seven charities, including The New York Women's Foundation, New York City Mission Society, French Heritage Society, The Courne Council of the Museum of the Fashion Institute of Technology, The Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services and The Southampton Animal Shelter. Jean works as a volunteer fundraiser, chairs and co-chairs galas, sponsors lunches, and hosts events. She is also adept at the fine art of making the connection between potential donors with the appropriate charity. Jean's tremendous contributions have helped raise significant sums of money to directly benefit those in need making her a vital asset to the success of numerous organizations. As Elsie McCaigie Thompson, President of the New York Mission Society, states, "When it comes to giving, Jean Shaloff leads the pack. To anyone who wants to fundraise, volunteer, or show support by giving, I must stress: Jean's book should be your bible, your roadmap to success in the world of philanthropy." Jean's book is a comprehensive guide to giving for anyone seeking to give back, whether they are experienced or just starting out. Among the many topics included in the book are details on what charity boards look for; effective fundraising for a charity; the specifics of joining a board; appreciation of donors and volunteers; and more.



OSCAR DE LA RENTA Black and Gold Striped Strapless Dress

Successful Philanthropy also solidifies Jean's place at the vanguard of a new generation of philanthropists. Jean is helping to redefine philanthropy with a new, modern understanding that encourages everyone to become philanthropists. As Jean states in her book, "Philanthropy is not an exclusive club. It is open to all." A modern definition of philanthropy "casts aside the notion that only the wealthy can be philanthropists." As is outlined in her book, to be a philanthropist, "Give what you can, whether it means donating finances, time as a volunteer, or sharing your skills and knowledge. All of these gifts are incredibly valuable and define you as a philanthropist."

Jean's new interpretation of what it means to be a philanthropist sets her apart as a visionary and resource for a whole new generation of philanthropists. As Ava Oliveira, CEO of The New York Women's Foundation puts it, "Jean Shattoff's vision for philanthropy, as outlined in this book and carried out in her own life...sets forth a path for philanthropists, new and old, to reflect on their values and discover their own philanthropic identity."

Jean knows that a lifetime of successful philanthropy must be guided by what we're most passionate about. As she states, "Practicing philanthropy can be done on a number of different levels. It means we can follow our passions to help our world and all those in it." For Jean, those causes include working on behalf of underserved populations in need in New York City, Southampton, and elsewhere in the world; initiatives to ensure quality healthcare; advocating for the well-being and safety of animals who otherwise can't speak for themselves; and women's rights and welfare.

Successful Philanthropy guides the reader through a step-by-step process for identifying the cause of their choice based on their own personal passions, and then helps them find the right charity.

It's all part of the importance of teaching others to give back. Jean notes, "Many people are never exposed to giving back; they don't even think about it." *Successful Philanthropy* invites everyone to think about how giving plays a role in their life, and then gives them the tools they need to act. "Not too many people talk about how giving back needs to be taught," she says. Jean believes strongly in the importance of teaching the next generation of philanthropists in schools and at home. A new generation of givers is key—to the present and the future. "When we all work towards a common goal," writes Jean, "We can achieve far more than if just a small percentage of the population is involved."

Jean is personally committed to turning hope into reality for those in need. *Successful Philanthropy* is a powerful and inspiring call to action for others to do the same. "The invitation for us to give back is there, every day. It provides us with the opportunity to share with others and with the world. It offers us a choice—the most significant choice we face in our lifetime: to live with blinders on, ignoring the suffering and needs around us, or to step up and take action."

With her book, Jean hopes readers will "say yes to the chance to be a philanthropist and make giving a part of our lives. We cannot put off giving indefinitely. We must all try to do something. The time to get involved is now!"