**Philanthropy & Nonprofits** 

## Lubar, Marcus and Selig honored with inaugural Herb Kohl Service Award





Linda Gorens-Levey of General Capital on stage with Greg Marcus and David Lubar KENNY YOO/MBJ



By Logan Hanson – Reporter, Milwaukee Business Journal Jun 11, 2025

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## AT A GLANCE

- The Milwaukee Jewish Federation honored three business leaders with the inaugural Herb Kohl Service Award.
- Sheldon Lubar, Stephen Marcus and Allan "Bud" Selig received the awards Wednesday during the organization's annual economic forum event.
- The event featured Kickstarter co-founder and former CEO Yancey Strickler as its keynote speaker.

The Milwaukee Jewish Federation honored three local business leaders as the inaugural recipients of the Herb Kohl Service Award.

The new annual award recognizes individuals for their work bettering the city or state in allyship with the Jewish community. The organization said the award reflects the spirit of service that defined the late Kohl's legacy.

This year's recipients were Lubar & Co. founder and Chairman Sheldon Lubar, Marcus Corp. Chairman Emeritus Stephen Marcus and former Major League Baseball Commissioner Allan "Bud" Selig. They received their awards in front of a crowd of 550 at the Milwaukee Jewish Federation's annual economic forum event, held Wednesday at The Pfister Hotel in downtown Milwaukee.

Business leader and philanthropist Lubar, the federation said in a news release announcing the award, has devoted his career to entrepreneurship, public service and community development.

Marcus, a leader in the area's hospitality and entertainment industries, is heavily involved in philanthropic endeavors and community development.

That's also the case for Selig, the nonprofit said. The organization noted that he was recognized in 2013 with the B'nai B'rith International Distinguished Humanitarian Award, recognizing his commitment to diversity, tolerance and community improvement, the release says.

Lubar, Marcus and Selig each gave speeches on their work, their relationships with Kohl and the importance of giving back to the community.

Kohl, the former U.S. senator and longtime owner of the Milwaukee Bucks, passed away in late 2023 at the age of 88. A Milwaukee native, Kohl was known as one of the area's most active philanthropists, founding the Herb Kohl Educational Foundation in 1990, which has since awarded more than \$40 million to Wisconsin students and educators. His namesake nonprofit, Herb Kohl Philanthropies, continues that legacy by supporting several initiatives aimed at serving Milwaukee and other Wisconsin communities.

Wednesday's event also included a keynote address by Kickstarter co-founder and former CEO Yancey Strickler. He shared his journey, the challenges he faced as the CEO of the crowdfunding platform, the importance of resilience and self-reflection and outlined some of his plans in business.