



# PETER BLUM

Honorary Trustee and Past Chair

**“ We just welcome everybody. ”**

*Photo by Aaron Bristol*

## WHERE IN THE Y...?

Peter Blum grew up in Peoria, Illinois and as he tells it, practically lived at the Y when he was a child.

“I played all the sports. They had a swimming pool and I learned to swim. When I moved to Florida, I said we ought to start a YMCA!”

In 1969, Peter, along with a few other community leaders including David and Betty Jo Ashe, came together to plan the construction of a YMCA in Boca. After a great deal of perseverance and hard work, their dream turned into reality and the YMCA of Boca Raton was officially incorporated in 1972. In 2000, the YMCA was renamed to the Peter Blum Family YMCA.

As a founder and major fundraiser for the Y, Peter has remained engaged for over 50 years and is responsible for bringing on many major donors to support the Y, including the DeVos', William Ziff, and Eugene and Christine Lynn.

*“The Y has probably saved 100,000 lives teaching young people how to swim. We just welcome everybody. It’s a safe place, it’s affordable, it’s a family center. It’s more than I ever thought.”*

**For more information about the YMCA of South Palm Beach County, visit: [YMCASPBC.ORG](http://YMCASPBC.ORG).**