



Academic Convocation

TRIBUTE JOURNAL

Thursday, November 9, 2023

כ"ה בַּחֶשֶׁן תשפ"ד

3:30 p.m.

The Jewish Theological Seminary
3080 Broadway • New York, NY 10027



JTS



Our Mission

To promote excellence among educators committed to Conservative Jewish education by advancing professionalism, encouraging leadership, pursuing lifelong learning and building community.

Our Vision

To serve educators in their efforts to strengthen the Conservative Movement and inspire greater Jewish learning. To be the leading advocate for the welfare of the Jewish educator and for best practices in Jewish education.

Our Values

Spirited and honest intellectual exploration of sacred texts, fluency in Hebrew, joyful participation in Jewish holidays and rituals, a deep commitment to Israel and the Jewish People, and egalitarian practice, academic excellence, innovation, collaboration, professionalism, lifelong learning, and integrity.

Although the statements above reflect an organization that prides itself on strengthening Jewish education, supporting its members and the students who benefit from the learning, the JEA is more than words on a page.



Rabbi Robin Foonberg,
Executive Director

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www.jewisheducators.org

Rabbi Larry Brandspiegel
President

Dr. Cathy Berkowitz
Executive Vice President

Dr. Melissa Ser
Vice President,

Communications/Marketing

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Vice President,
Membership

Deborah Deutsch
Vice President,
Conference/Professional Development

Jason Cathcart
Vice President,
Finance/Treasurer

Aviva Tilles
Secretary

November 9, 2023
25 Marcheshvan 5784

Dear Honorees and Guests,

We are thrilled to celebrate today with our cherished and deserving colleagues as they receive the degree of Doctor of Pedagogy, honoris causa, bestowed by the Jewish Theological Seminary.

The Jewish Educators Assembly is the professional organization for Jewish educators in our movement and provides professional support for synagogue educators, early childhood educators, youth directors, and clergy-educators. We are the address for professional development and discourse surrounding Jewish Education in the Conservative movement, incubating innovation and collegiality for over seven decades.

During these past few years, educators have demonstrated their creativity, their flexibility, and their dedication to their students as they helped their communities navigate the Covid-19 pandemic. They quickly responded to the crises with new learning modalities, supporting the emotional needs of their students, while retaining the highest level of learning possible. Jewish educators continue to support children and their families as we face new challenges ahead.

We stand on the shoulders of our esteemed honorees, who have been long standing members of the JEA, sharing their wisdom, serving on our Board of Directors, chairing our annual conferences, and providing mentorship to young educators entering the field. We are grateful for your contributions to Jewish education, for your influence and impact on generations of young Jews, and for your continued support of our JEA colleagues.

Todah Rabah and Mazal Tov!
Bivracha,

Rabbi Larry Brandspiegel

Rabbi Robin Foonberg

Rabbi Larry Brandspiegel, CJE
President

Rabbi Robin Foonberg, CJE
Executive Director

October 19th, 2023
4 Cheshvan 5784

Dear Honorees and Guests,

As I write this note, rockets are puncturing Israel's sense of security, sending everyone to safe rooms and shelters, and increasing fear and anxiety. Moments like this illuminate with great clarity the crucial role of educators in society. Though school was canceled, teachers reached out to their students virtually, sending notes and gathering briefly to connect; youth leaders checked in on their groups. Whether they studied a text, prayed together or chanted a song, these educators remained exquisitely attuned to the emotional needs of their students/community members. My granddaughter's teacher asked students to: "Draw how you feel". In my grandson's class, the teacher brought them together unexpectedly on Zoom. Appearing in uniform, he explained that his unit had been called up. He couldn't leave without saying goodbye.

That's what Jewish educators do—connect Jews to the larger story of the Jewish people, help children process their experiences, provide a wide variety of resources for children so that they can find their way into our tradition, give them the opportunity to hone skills so that they will eventually be able to draw nourishment from it on their own, model Jewish values, and cultivate the sense of klal Israel and a connection to Medinat Israel.

JTS feels privileged to acknowledge thirteen Jewish educators for their outstanding commitment to this endeavor and for their distinguished careers. Each of them has dedicated their life to serving the Jewish community through their work in Jewish education. They have impacted generations of children and families, leaving a legacy of learning and love for Judaism.

May they continue to find much fulfillment in this sacred career, and may we join together in an outpouring of appreciation for their crucial work.

Sincerely,



Dr. Shuly Rubin Schwartz
Chancellor



November 9, 2023
25 Cheshvan 5784

Dear Honorees:

On behalf of USCJ, we want to wish you a hearty Mazal Tov on your tremendous achievement of receiving the honorary degree of Doctor of Pedagogy! We applaud you for your hard work and dedication to the field of Jewish education.

Throughout your illustrious careers, you have demonstrated persistence and commitment to your students and Jewish education as a whole. We are so proud and grateful for the legacy you have created through many years of educating young Jews. As you receive this honor, we know you will go forth and continue to be passionate members of your communities, sparking that same passion in others. Your wisdom, creativity, and Torah knowledge only serve to strengthen those around you and the Movement as a whole.

We wish you much success in your future and a proud rest in retirement. You deserve it.

May you and your families continue to go *mihayil l'hayil* - from strength to strength.

Warm regards,

Rabbi Jacob Blumenthal
Chief Executive Officer

Andy Schaer
International President



The JEA Officers and Board salute our esteemed colleagues on receiving this great honor!

Officers

Rabbi Larry Branspiegel, *President*

Dr. Cathy Berkowitz, *Senior Vice President*

Dr. Melissa Ser, *VP Marketing/Communications*

Debbie Deutsch, *VP Conference/Professional Development*

Rebecca Gordon, *VP Membership*

Jason Cathcart, *VP Finance*

Aviva Tilles, *Secretary*

General Board

Rabbi Julie Schwarzwald * David Cohn * Steve Kerbel

David Schwartz * Sharon Solomon * Rabbi Suzanne Brody

Babette Cohn * Dr. Lawrence Katz * Samantha Hoffman

Rabbi Jeffrey Myers * Rabbi Shira Rosenbaum * Lisa Richman

Dr. Teri Rube Hochberg * Rabbi Paul Freedman

Regional Presidents

Dr. Eliyahu Krigel - New England

David Schwartz - Midwest

Charlie Sherman - Chicagoland

Babette Cohn - Seaboard Region

Rabbi Paul Freedman - Israel

Executive Director

Rabbi Robin Foonberg



The Jewish Educators Assembly is proud to pay tribute to our members who are receiving degrees of Doctor of Pedagogy, *honoris causa*, in recognition of their years of devoted service and significant contributions to the field of Jewish education.

Jill Greene Epstein
The New Kallah Project
Rockville, MD

Harriet Gefen
Education Director
Congregation Sons of Aaron
Woodmere, NY

Dr. Alicia M. Gejman
Education Specialist/Consultant - Retired
Cambridge, MA

Betty Golub
Director of Youth/Family Programs - Retired
Knoxville, TN

Nancy Gorod
Parpar Jewish Education Group
Marietta, GA

Steven H. Kerbel
Steven Kerbel Educational Consulting
Rockville, MD

Ben Zion Kogen
Head of School - Retired
Kellman Academy
Reseda, CA

Michelle Koningsberg
Education Director - Retired
Temple Beth El of West Hartford
West Hartford, CT

Alexa Kulp
Education/Congregation Programs Director
Westchester Jewish Center
Mamaroneck, NY

Rabbi Nogah Marshall
Educational Director
Congregation Beth El
Voorees, NJ

Rabbi Howard Rosenbaum
Congregation Beth El - Retired
Temple Beth El of West Hartford
West Hartford, CT

Sharon Rosenberg Safra
Associate Director
Ramah Day Camp of Greater DC
Rockville, MD

Mary Sheydwasser
Education Director
Pine Brook Jewish Center
Montville, NJ



Pine Brook Jewish Center
Chevra Agudas Achim Anshy Pine Brook
Established in 1896

**The Congregants, Staff, and Faculty
of the Pine Brook Jewish Center
honor our Educational Director**

Mary Sheydwasser

for her dedication to Jewish Education.

**Mary, your unwavering commitment and the
compassion you have brought to the
PBJC Religious School, along with your tireless
efforts, have inspired and enriched the lives of
countless students and families.**

**May you continue to be an inspiration
to the entire community.**

*Yasher
Koach!*



מזל טוב

MAZEL
TOV!



**USCJ is pleased to recognize these outstanding educators
for their years of service and contributions
to the field of Jewish Education:**

Jill Epstein
Harriet Gefen
Dr. Alicia Gejman
Betty Golub
Nancy Gorod
Steve Kerbel
Ben Zion Kogen
Michelle Konigsburg
Aleza Kulp
Rabbi Nogah Marshall
Rabbi Howard Rosenbaum
Sharon Rosenberg Safra
Mary Sheydwasser



USCJ

Seek meaning
together

We strengthen kehillot. We are the network that ensures there are thriving centers of Jewish practice across North America, Israel, and beyond that celebrate both tradition and contemporary life. Together, we demonstrate what an authentic and dynamic Judaism looks like, inspire people to be a part of it, and advance its critical role in the world.

uscj.org



“You exceed them all.”
(Mishle 31:29)

“My Torah knowledge and yours
is actually hers.”
(BT Ketubot 63a)

MICHELLE / IMA / SAVTA,

We are so proud of all of your
accomplishments!

Thanks for sharing your creativity,
wisdom and kindness with us.

Mazal Tov!

With all our love,

Randy

Ashira, Tim, and Arya

Eitan, Alex, Matan, and Leor

Hillel, Sarah, Jonah, and Ilana





*In honor of
Mary Sheydwasser*

*Salim & Karen Alfaks
and Family*

WE HONOR MARY SHEYDWASSER

You have earned the respect, admiration and gratitude of the thousands of students you shepherded and inspired towards a Jewish journey that will endure throughout their lives and motivated dozens of religious school educators with your innovative and creative pedagogical techniques and programs.

You have inspired all who know you and you are a credit to your parents, of blessed memory.

We are so very proud of you!

Your loving husband, children, in-laws and grandchildren

May you continue to grow from strength to strength!

Mazel tov to you and all your fellow honorees!

"בטח אברך...
יהי רצון שכל נטיעות שנוטעין מפך יהיו
כמותך"
-תלמוד בבלי

"...What can I bless you with?
May all trees planted from your seed be as fruitful as you are!"
-*Talmud Bavli, Taanit 5b*

Dearest Harriet/Mom/"Ta",

Your family and community are the fruits that have been blessed by your dedication to Jewish learning and its values. May you continue to inspire with your passion, warmth, and wisdom.

With much love and pride,
Your Gefen, Greenberg, Grashin, and Feferholtz Family



Mazel Tov!



To a wonderful husband,
Dad, and Saba

Benzy Kogen

We are so proud of your important
contributions to our community, our
family, and the Jewish future.

With love,
Gail, Mira, Josh, Dov,
Rebecca, Michal,
Vered, Arava, Aria, Zoey,
Caleb, Eden, and Noah



Mazal tov to all the doctoral honorees.

It is a pleasure to be your colleague -
and more so to be your friend.

Happy to be continuously learning with you,

Rabbi Larry and Dr. Laura Brandspiegel and family

כתר שם טוב עלה אל גביהן

The greatest achievement is the crown of a good name.

Mishnah Avot 4:17

To our Leader, Teacher, Friend and Inspiration

HARRIET GEFEN

Your commitment to SULAM and dedication to all children,
but most particularly those with special needs
are the jewels in the crown of your good name.

With much respect and appreciation

SULAM-LI

President – Dena Stein

Vice President – Lauren Gartenstein

Treasurer – Lauren Balberg

Secretary – Arliene Reich

Educational Director - Libby Adler

and the Sulam Board



To My Esteemed Colleagues



Jill Epstein
Harriet Gefen
Dr. Alicia Gejman
Betty Golub
Nancy Gorod
Steve Kerbel
Ben Zion Kogen
Michelle Konigsburg
Aleza Kulp
Rabbi Nogah Marshall
Rabbi Howard Rosenbaum
Sharon Rosenberg Safra
Mary Sheydwasser

מי שעוסק בצרכי צבור באמונה

Who engages in the needs of the community with devotion

I am so proud and happy to celebrate and salute your accomplishments this day. Each of us shares a special bond and a special friendship built on the sacred work that we have done together in Jewish education. Each of you has left your own mark on your individual communities and on the broad field of Jewish education. You have touched and inspired more children and families than you will ever know.

Yasher Kochachem!

With much affection,
Eddie

Dr. Edward Edelstein CJE
JEA Executive Director Emeritus



*In Honor of
Mary Sheydwasser*

Jamil Hasbani



B'NAI ISRAEL CONGREGATION

extends mazal tov to

JILL EPSTEIN

STEVE KERBEL

SHARON ROSENBERG SAFRA

and all who are receiving their degrees of
Doctor of Pedagogy, *honoris causa*.

*Thank you for your years of dedication and
contributions to education at B'nai Israel
and beyond.*

B'NAI  ISRAEL

ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND



CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL

YOUR INTOWN SYNAGOGUE

Nancy,

Thank you for your many years of service to Shearith Israel, the future of the Jewish people everywhere.

You have taught countless students, and I'm grateful to be among those who have learned much from you.

May we be blessed with many years ahead of friendship and learning together.

Mazel Tov on this well deserved honor.

Rabbi Ari Kaiman on behalf of all of Shearith Israel



Aleza:
Mazal Tov on this well deserved honor!

Your commitment to Jewish education, to WJC,
and to all of your many, many students is
simply incredible!

You exemplify what Jewish educational
leadership is all about. Your passion for Judaism
and the way that you live it each day is
inspiring to us and to our larger WJC
community.

Wishing you many more years of service,
happiness and success.

With much love,

Your WJC Family

The Center of Our Jewish Lives



Mazal Tov

to our Friend, Colleague, Teacher,
and Inspirational Educator

Rabbi Nogah Marshall

“May you be blessed and strengthened
as you have blessed and strengthened
your many students.”



*Rabbi David Englander
Hazzan Alisa Pomerantz-Boro
Rabbi Aaron Krupnick
and Your Congregation Beth El Family*

“THE TRUE GUARDIANS
OF A COMMUNITY ARE
THE TEACHERS”
TALMUD

Benzy you are a true guardian of
learning and friendship.

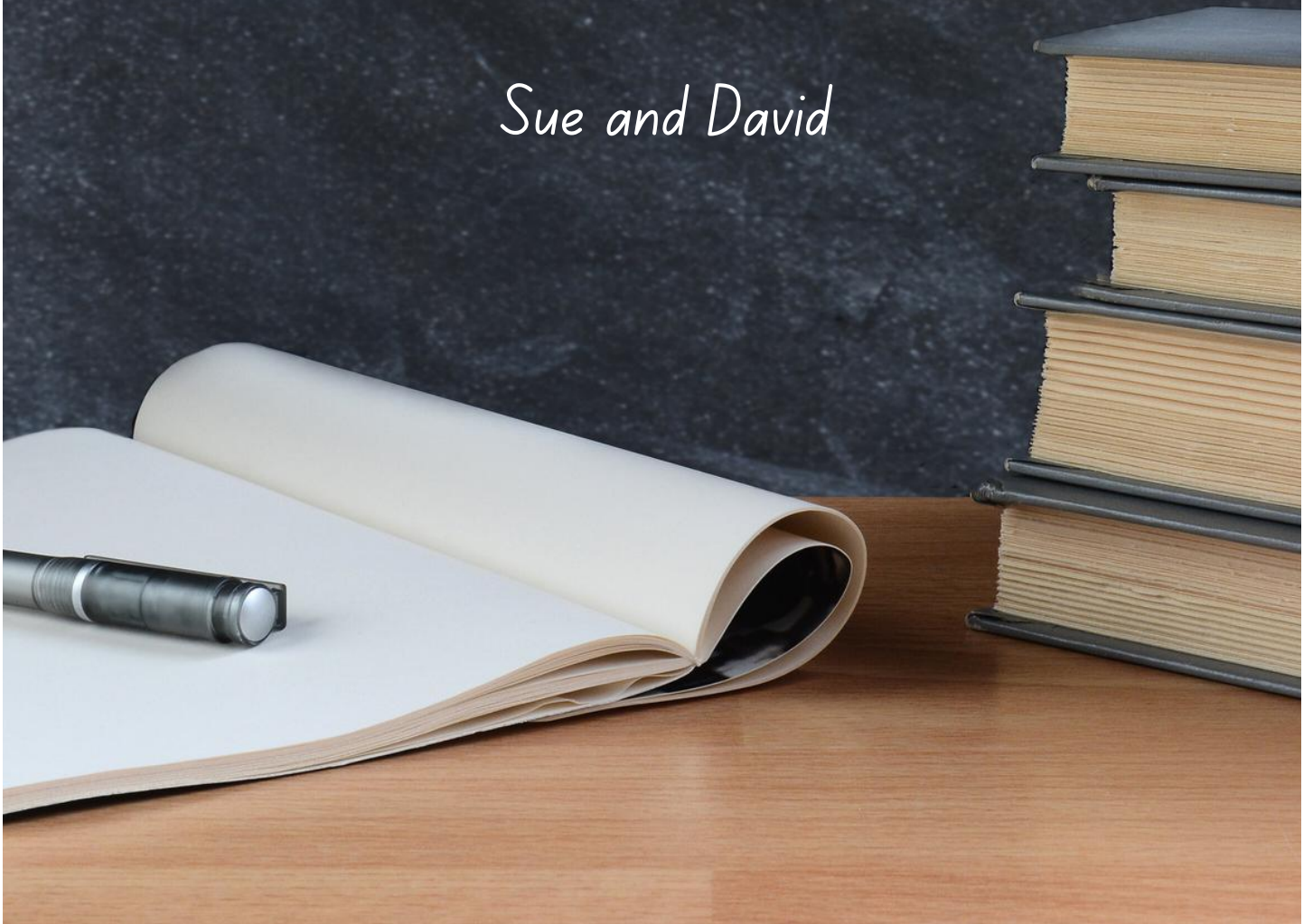
Sylvie and Mark Deutsch
Nancy and Dave Perren
Tina and Gary Orkin

*"Better Than a Thousand Days of Diligent Study
is One Day With a Great Teacher" (proverb)*

*Congratulations
Rabbi Howard Rosenbaum
on Your Well-deserved
Honorary Doctor of Pedagogy*

With Love and Admiration

Sue and David



Dear Jill,

You inspired us by having such ambitious dreams,
and then putting in all the hard work to achieve them.

We are proud of all you have accomplished
in the field of Jewish Education and
in receiving this great honor.

Mom and Dad are smiling and kvelling!

With much love,

Ilene, David, Renee, Alana, Emily and Joy
Debbie, Elliott, Jamie, Laurence, Becca, Ariella and Maya
Linda, Bruce, Josh and Ben
Ira, Mary, Alex, Hali and Lauren
Andy, Bobby, Bella, Terry, Kyle, Jack and Hunter



“Are you related to Steve Kerbel?”



It is our honor and privilege to always
answer “YES”

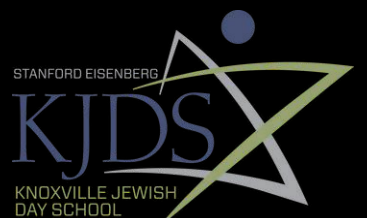
Mazal tov on this well-deserved recognition.

We love you.

Judy, Abby, & Michelle Kerbel
Mat, Benji & Noam Barkan



*Mazel tov,
Morah Betty!
From your friends at:*



In celebration and gratitude
Rabbi Nogah Marshall

Gifted educator, profound Jewish exemplar, life-time learner

Cherished daughter, sister, aunt, and friend

Rabbi Charles and Leah Sherman

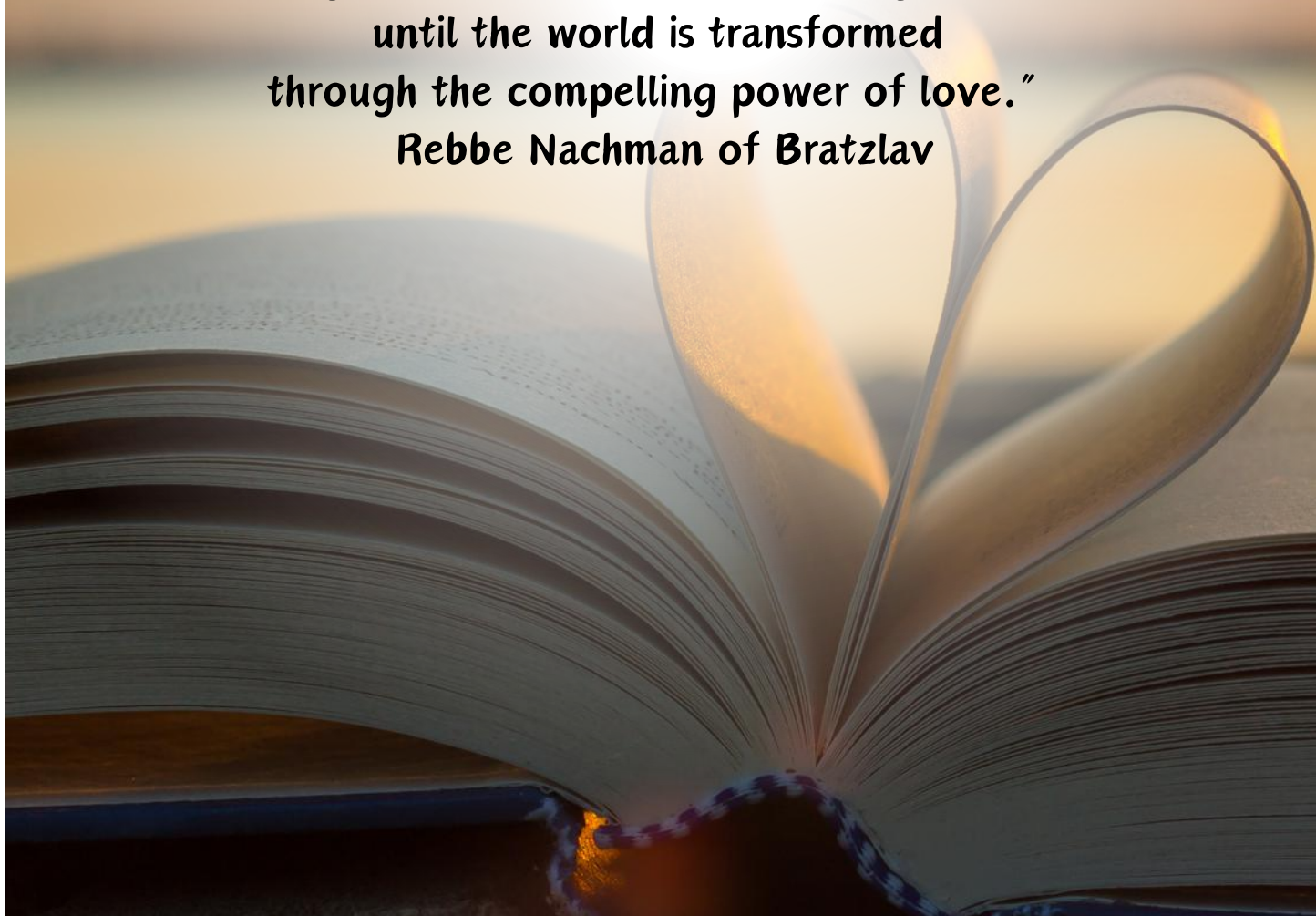
David and Orah Barnett

Rabbi Erez Sherman and Rabbi Nicole Guzik

Jamie and Nitza Stopnitzky

**“Let the good in me connect with the good in others,
until the world is transformed
through the compelling power of love.”**

Rebbe Nachman of Bratzlav



וְהֵינּוּ דְאָמַר רַבִּי חֲנִינְא: הֲרַבָּה
לְמַדְתִּי מֵרַבּוֹתַי, וּמֵחֲבִירַי יוֹתֵר
מֵרַבּוֹתַי, וּמֵתַלְמִידַי יוֹתֵר מִכֻּלָּן

And this is what Rabbi Hanina said: I have learned much from my teachers and even more from my friends, but from my students I have learned more than from all of them.

Babylonian Talmud, Ta'anit 7a

To my dear colleagues,


Our lives and careers have intersected in so many ways: at camp, at conferences, staffing USY, at JEA board meetings and conferences, in Israel, at smachot and in your own synagogues.

We celebrate today the shared learning, support and friendship.

עֵזֶל טוֹב

With great respect for your achievements
- Steve Kerbel





*Congratulations Benzy for a life
dedicated to Jewish teaching,
learning, and service.*

Charles and Marya Shapiro



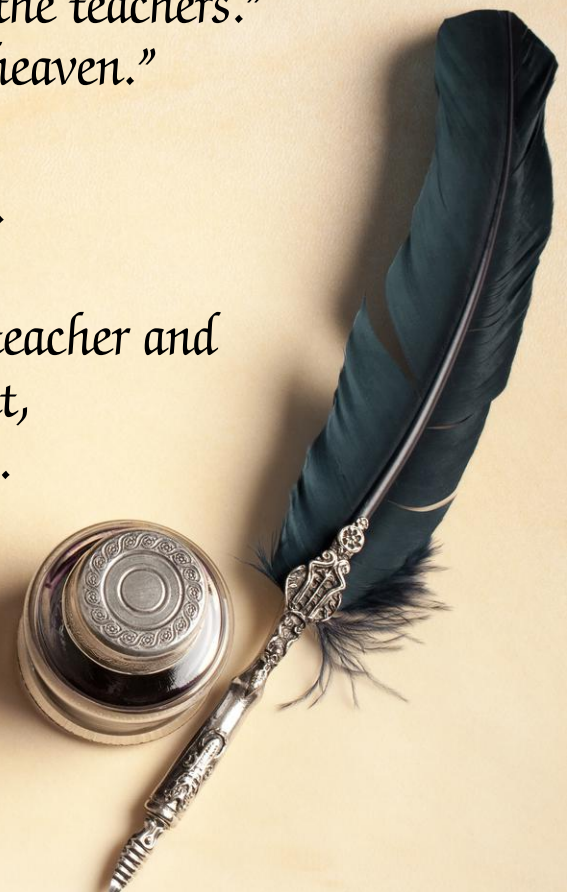
*“The true guardians of a community are the teachers.”
“Revere your teacher as you would heaven.”*

Mazal Tov, Howard.

*For fifty years you have exemplified a teacher and
educator who is caring, patient,
dedicated, caring and creative.*

*I am so proud of you
today and everyday.*

Love, Cheryl



MAZAL TOV TO
Steve Kerbel

FOR RECEIVING A DEGREE OF
DOCTOR OF PEDAGOGY, HONORIS CAUSA
FROM THE JEWISH EDUCATORS ASSEMBLY
AT THE 2023 JEWISH THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY CONVOCATION



CONGREGATION BETH EL
OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY



"The advancement of learning is the highest commandment"
Maimonides

With sincere gratitude to my colleagues
who have dedicated their lives
in instilling in our children
a love of our Jewish heritage
and devotion to Eretz Yisrael .

May you continue to go from strength to strength
in educating the next generation of Jewish students.

Mazal Tov!

Harriet Orentlicher Gefen

To Our Dear Friend and Colleague Ben Zion Kogen,
What a delight it is to be sharing this auspicious occasion with you.
We are amongst those proud of your many accomplishments and blessed to be
in your sphere.

You bring deep and meaningful learning to your teaching
while showing our community what a true mensch looks like.

May you continue to grow in wisdom.

May your words and deeds live long among us.

Yishar Koakh and a Hearty Mazal Tov!

With Love and Blessings from the
Conejo West Valley Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning
Revital Goldreich, Michael Raileanu, Pamela Rooks, Rabbi Adam Schaffer



Honoring Jill Epstein

"Much have I learned from my rabbis, even
more have I learned from my colleagues,
but from students I have learned more than
from anyone else."

*(Rabbi Chanina ben Dosa - 1st Century bce Jewish
Scholar)*

EP

JENNI & MATT & ETHAN
MARK & BRENDAN

Mazal Tov to all who are receiving their degree of
Doctor of Pedagogy, *honoris causa*.

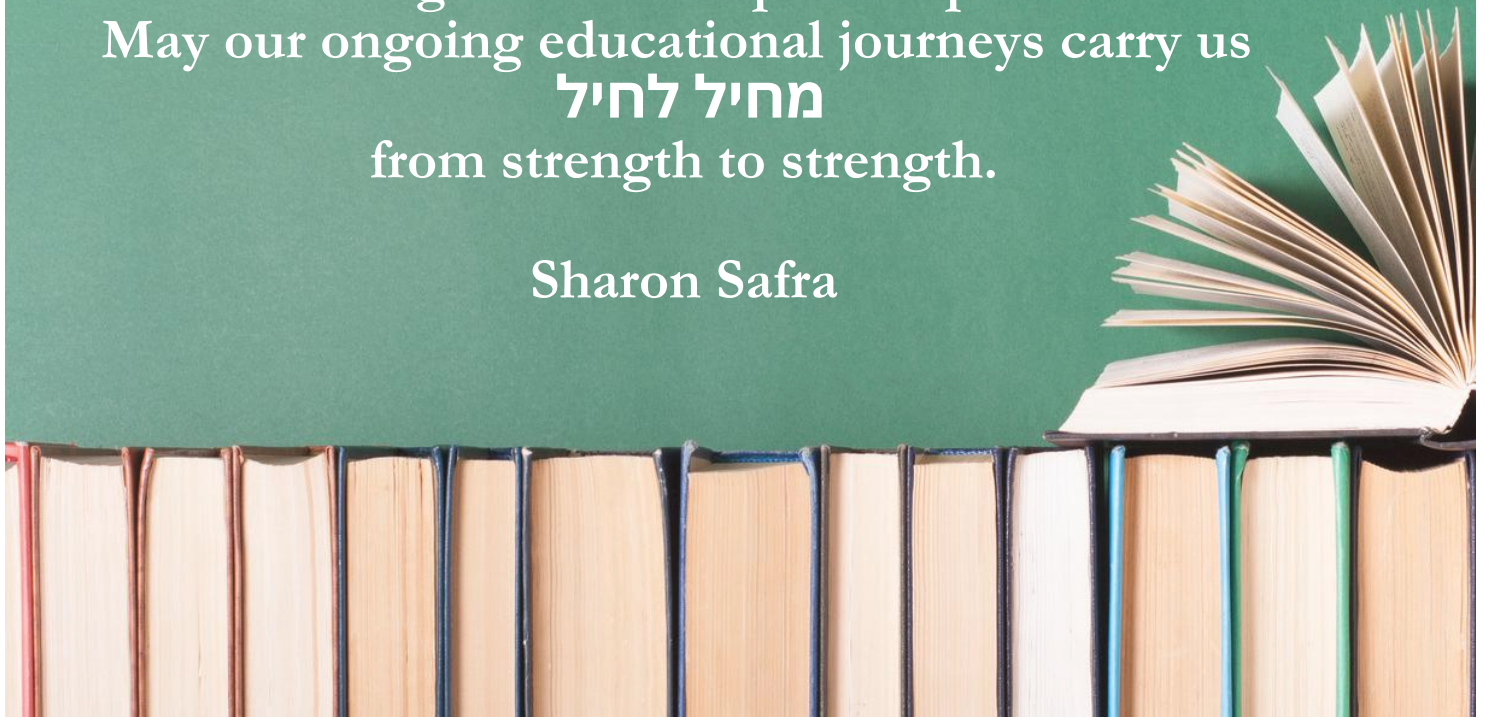
I couldn't be prouder to see my name listed
among such accomplished peers.

May our ongoing educational journeys carry us

מחיל לחיל

from strength to strength.

Sharon Safra



Sharon,

**Mazal tov on this well-deserved recognition
by the Jewish Educators Assembly. We are so
proud of all you've done to enhance so many
Jewish lives, and grateful to be your partners
on this fabulous journey.**

We love you.

Mickey, Rebecca, Ethan, and Gila



Mazal Tov!

Jill Epstein, Harriet Gefen, Dr. Alicia Gejman,
Betty Golub, Nancy Gorod, Steve Kerbel,
Ben Zion Kogen, Michelle Konigsburg, Aleza Kulp,
Rabbi Nogah Marshall, Rabbi Howard Rosenbaum,
Sharon Rosenberg Safra, Mary Sheydwasser

*Thank you for your lifetime of
dedication to Jewish education,
Jewish children, and to the future of
the Jewish people.*

We stand on your shoulders.

*With Gratitude,
Rabbi Robin Foonberg*

Mazal Tov to all our Honorees

מזל טוב לכל תלמידינו



With appreciation and gratitude,
Dr. Melissa Ser

Mazel Tov, Steve Kerbel,

on earning your degree of Doctor of Pedagogy,
honoris causa



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Congregation Emanuel, Statesville, N.C.,
appreciates the many ways in which you
have inspired our community's development.

www.congregationemanuelinc.org 

JEA SWAG SHOP



CAFEPRESS.COM/JEWISHEDUCATORS

אל תקרא בניך אלא בוניך

*Don't read Banayich as your children,
instead read, bonayich as your builders
(Talmud Berachot)*



Mazel Tov to the best Rabbi,
Educator, and Ima.
We love you,
Scott, Eyden and Karni



Ben Zion Kogen

On behalf of all of us at Los Angeles Jewish Health: residents, participants, patients, families, and staff, we offer heartfelt congratulations to Benzy Kogen as he receives the degree of Doctor of Pedagogy, honoris causa from the Jewish Educators Assembly and the Jewish Theological Seminary.

Benzy's passionate work as an educator has benefited countless individuals and his singing voice has brought joy to our seniors at Los Angeles Jewish Health. We are delighted he is receiving this well deserved honor.

Mazel Tov!! מזל טוב

Rabbi Karen Bender
Chief Mission Officer

Rabbi Ronald Goldberg
Campus Rabbi Eisenberg Village



וכך אמר להם הקב"ה לישראל בני אהובי
כלום חסרתני דבר שאבקש עכס ופה אני
עבקש עכס אלא שתהיו אוהבין זה את
זה ותהיו עכבדין זה את זה ותהיו יראים
זה עזה
(תנא דבי אליהו רבה)

*"This is what the Holy One said to Israel: My children,
what do I seek from you? I seek no more than that you love
one another and honor one another; and that you have awe
and reverence for one another."
(Tanna de'Vei Eliyahu Rabbah)*

To my dear fellow
colleagues and honorees,

I am thrilled and honored to be standing
with you on this special day. I admire
each and every one of you and your
commitment to our work.

With much Kavod,
Nancy Gorod

Mazel Tov!

**Congratulations to my JEA
friends and colleagues on
receiving the well-deserved
JTS Doctor of Pedagogy
degree, Honoris Causa. It
fills me with great pride to
share this honor celebrating
our joint commitment to
delivering excellent Jewish
education to our learners.
Mazel tov!
Alicia**

*"I believe that Judaism made an
extraordinarily wise decision when it
made teachers its heroes and lifelong
education its passion..."*

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks

Ben Zion Kogen has shared his passion
for teaching from New York to LA,
and cities in between; at Ramah Camps,
schools, synagogues, Melton, and
with his friends and family.


Mazel Tov to our friend and teacher!
Love, The Alpert and Gilboa Families

Mazel Tov, Nancy/Emal!

The person who has taught
so many with patience,
kindness and depth.

We are so proud and blessed.

Love,
Randy, Natan and Ilana



Wishing mazel tov to our
dear friends and colleagues,

Jill Epstein,
Nancy Gorod,
Steve Kerbel,
Michelle Konigsburg,
and
Sharon Rosenberg Safra.

Thank you for all that you
have taught us, and may
you continue to inspire us
all with your passionate
dedication to Jewish life
and learning.

Mazel tov!

Rebecca Ravski &
Rabbi Mitchell Berkowitz

חינוך סימפוניה בלתי-גמורה

Education is an unfinished
symphony

Welcome, to my Friends &
Colleagues who are continually
composing...

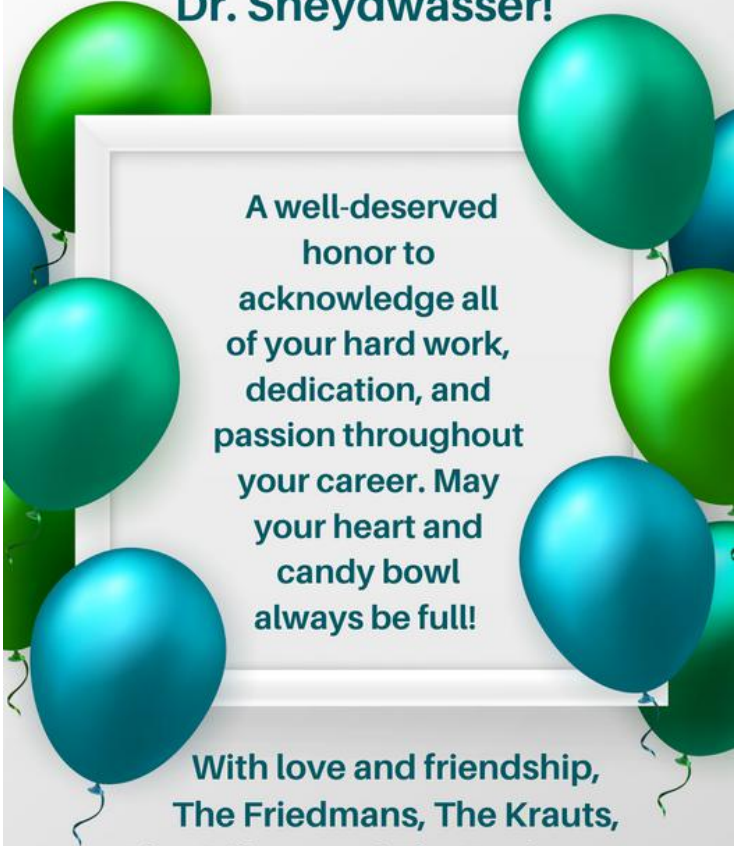
Our newest Doctors!

Thanks for your dedication &
leadership

With admiration and affection,

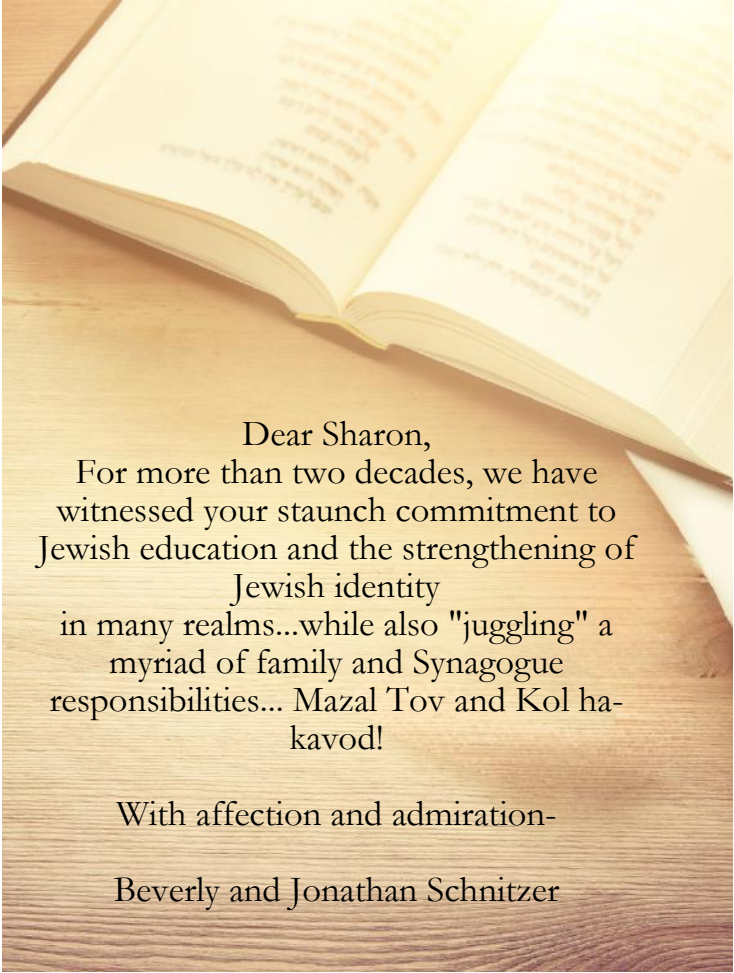
Lonna

**Congratulations
Dr. Sheydwasser!**



A well-deserved
honor to
acknowledge all
of your hard work,
dedication, and
passion throughout
your career. May
your heart and
candy bowl
always be full!

With love and friendship,
The Friedmans, The Krauts,
The Stillers, and The Zuckermans



Dear Sharon,
For more than two decades, we have
witnessed your staunch commitment to
Jewish education and the strengthening of
Jewish identity
in many realms...while also "juggling" a
myriad of family and Synagogue
responsibilities... Mazal Tov and Kol ha-
kavod!

With affection and admiration-

Beverly and Jonathan Schnitzer

Mazel Tov!

Mazel Tov and Best Wishes
to my son,
Rabbi Howard Rosenbaum
as he receives an honorary
doctoral degree in pedagogy
With Pride, Joy, and Love
Lila Rosenbaum

Mazel Tov to the 2023 Jewish
Educators Assembly members
receiving a Doctor of Pedagogy,
honoris causa, from Jewish
Theological Seminary in honor of
your years of devoted service and
contributions in the field of
Jewish Education.

From the Rabbis,
Board of Trustees,
Staff,
and Members
of



Congregation
ETZ CHAIM

creating meaningful Jewish experiences

Marietta, GA

Benzi,
Congratulations and mazel tov
on receiving this well-deserved
and wonderful honor.

Your friends:
Beth, Linda, Jennifer, Phyllis,
Mike, Mitch, Jeff, Merrill, and
Belinda

עשה לך רב וקנה לך חבר

Find yourself a teacher and acquire for
yourself a study partner

HARRIET GEFEN

You have been a good friend, a good neighbor,
a good partner and we have learned from your
knowledge and experience.
You have been a pillar of our Greater Five Towns
community in so many ways.

Mazel tov on this well-deserved honor!



Claudio Kupchik
Rabbi

Edward Edelstein
Executive Director

Bob Fischman
President

**WE ARE EXCITED TO JOIN IN
CELEBRATING (SABA) STEVE.**

**OUR FAMILY IS HONORED TO
LEARN FROM YOU BOTH
FORMALLY AND INFORMALLY.**

**WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR
FRIENDSHIP.**

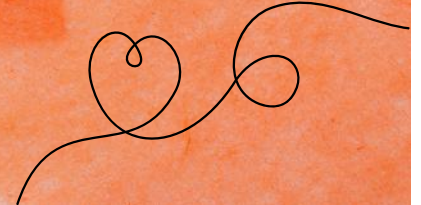
**RACHEL WEINTRAUB,
SCOTT REITER,
E, ELIANA & DALIA**

**MICHELLE, OUR FAMILIES HAVE BEEN
BEST OF FRIENDS SINCE THE 1980s.**

**YOU ARE BOTH AN EXCEPTIONAL
EDUCATOR AND FRIEND.**

**MAZEL TOV ON THIS
WELL-DESERVED HONOR!**

**RHEA, LEO, HANAN, DEBORAH,
DINA, AVI, SHIRA, JON
AND OUR 3RD GENERATION OF FANS
OF
DR. MICHELLE KONIGSBURG.**



As a proud partner of the JEA, we are *kvelling* all over the deserving Honorees.

Shulware is committed to helping synagogues and Jewish organizations like
JEA streamline their operations,
Upgrade your synagogue/organization management and school management
with

 ShulCloud™
Upgrade your synagogue financial management with
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In Honor of

our BSO colleague and friend, Jill
Epstein,

local friends Steve Kerbel and
Sharon Rosenberg Safra,

and fellow JTS-TI student and
friend, Ben Zion Kogen.

מזל טוב

Rabbi Philip and Sharon Pohl

Congratulations to:

**Jill Epstein
Steve Kerbel
Sharon Rosenberg Safra**

**and all of the
other honorees**

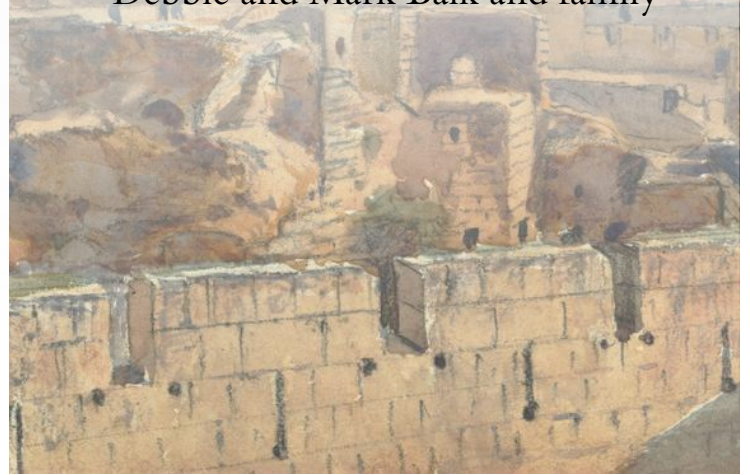
**On their outstanding
contributions to the field
of Jewish Education**

Annette & Bernie Forseter

**"The true guardians of a
community are the teachers"**
Talmud Yerushalmi, Hagigah 1:7

In Honor of
our Brother and Uncle,
Steve Kerbel,
For continuing our family legacy of
guarding communities

Rabbi Paul and Melissa Kerbel and family
Debbie and Mark Balk and family



**"Riches and wealth are in his house;
his righteousness endures forever."**

(Ps. 112)

**This refers to one who studies Torah
and teaches it. -Ketubot 50a**

**Larry and Marilyn Katz thank all
the honorees for sharing the riches
and wealth of your knowledge
with our people.**



CAJE

A subsidiary agency of the
Greater Miami Jewish Federation

The Board and Staff of the
Center for the Advancement of Jewish Education of
Miami Extend a Hearty Mazel Tov to

Michelle Konigsburg

In honor of her Doctor of Pedagogy degree awarded by
the Jewish Educators Assembly and the Jewish
Theological Seminary of New York

מזל טוב

Thank you for your outstanding dedication and
excellence to Jewish Education.

Sara Bejar

Chair of the Board

Rabbi Efrat Zarren-Zohar

Executive Director

CAJE-MIAMI.ORG

Dear BZ! What a long, wacky, wonderful, blessed journey it's been!

I am grateful for the friendship, and all that I have learned from you! To the next 45 years!

Craig
"ein safam"
Taubman

Mazal Tov
to our esteemed
colleague and friend

הרבנית חרית געפן

Harriet Gefen

May you go from
strength to strength!

Rabbi Bruce and
Rachel Ginsburg

MAZEL TOV, STEVE!

Thank you for enhancing countless lives through your dedication to Jewish learning and community.

You embody Heschel's vision of a *Text Person*. "It is the personality of the teacher which is the text that the pupils read: the text that they will never forget."

This is a well deserved honor. We are thrilled for you and your family!

*Your friends at the Haberman
Institute for Jewish Studies*



Mazal tov to
Sharon Rosenberg Safra
and to all the other recipients for your
well-deserved honor! Your dedication and
hard work have enriched the Jewish
community.

Linda and Barry Rosenberg
Clara and Mark Safra



KOSHERWINE
.COM



Steve

Your achievements have left an indelible mark on the Israeli wine industry. Congratulations on this well-deserved honor

The KosherWine.com
Team

USCJ and the Rabbinical Assembly
Extend Wishes of
Mazal Tov to JEA's new
Doctors of Pedagogy,
honoris causa

A Special Mazal Tov to
USCJ Board Member and Leader

Ben Zion Kogen

Thank you JEA for Your Partnership!



**Marci Harris-Blumenthal and
Rabbi Jacob Blumenthal**

**Wish a Mazal Tov to
JEA's newest Doctors of
Pedagogy, honoris causa**

**Special Mazal Tov to Our
Seaboard USY Friends**

**Steve Kerbel and
Sharon Rosenberg Safra**

**May you all go
מחיל לחיל**

"May you be blessed and strengthened as you have
blessed and strengthened your students."
(Kaddish d'Rabanan)

Kol HaKavod, Sharon Rosenberg Safra and Rabbi
Howard Rosenbaum, on receiving degrees of
Doctor of Pedagogy, honoris causa,
from The Jewish Theological Seminary!

Mazal Tov! We celebrate this occasion with you.

Fondly,

Anita, Edward, Sherri and Zahava Finkel

Rabbi Elazar ben Shamua taught:
The dignity of your student should be as precious
to you as your own;
the dignity of your colleague should be as precious
to you as your reverence for your teacher;
your reverence for your teacher should be as great
as your reverence for God.

We celebrate all of our honorees who embody these
sage words from Pirkei Avot 4:15,
and thank them for their dedication to God, Torah
and Klal Yisrael.

Mazal Tov to all of you on this distinctive honor.

Rabbi Hazzan Jeffrey Myers
Tree of Life Congregation
Pittsburgh, PA



Tree of Life

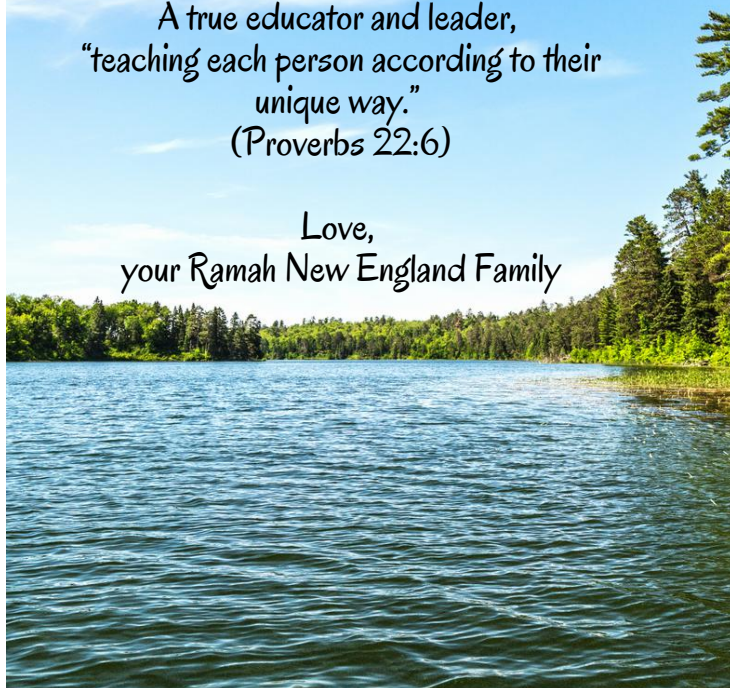


Mazal Tov

Sharon Rosenberg Safra on this milestone!

A true educator and leader,
"teaching each person according to their
unique way."
(Proverbs 22:6)

Love,
your Ramah New England Family



MAZAL TOV

Michelle Konigsburg,

We congratulate you on this
momentous occasion! You are a
fearless leader, compassionate
guide, and lifelong learner.

We are grateful for your leadership
from the creation of SULAM,
throughout the pandemic, and on
to its next chapter.

BETH EL TEMPLE
WEST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT



MAZAL TOV

Rabbi Howard Rosenbaum,

We send our congratulations for
this well-deserved achievement.
Your inspired leadership has
served Jewish families in our
community and beyond.

We are grateful for your decades
of service in Jewish education and
your devotion to teaching the
next generation.

BETH EL TEMPLE
WEST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT



To our friend Howard Rosenbaum,
Mazel Tov. We are proud of your
achievements and thank you for
your many years of dedication to
Jewish education.

Fondly,
Jennifer and Richard Bullock
Linda Gotlib
Amy and Brian Opitz

Dr. Alicia Gejman

Kol Hakavod and Mazel Tov!

You are a master educator and we
are all proud!

Rabbi Michael Schwab
NSS Beth El

“It takes a big heart to help shape little
minds” -unknown

From Swing and Study to Power of Women,
from the smallest to the tallest,
Michele inspires everyone lucky enough to
be with her.

We love you.
Mazal Tov - The Krausmans

Mazal tov to my friend and
colleague, Steve Kerbel.

I am honored to work and learn
with you.

Kol haKavod on this well deserved
honor.

Elisha Frumkin

Mazal tov to my fellow honorees!

Thank you to the Jewish
Educators Assembly for this
special honor and for your strong
support of Jewish educators as
we fulfill our important mission.

Rabbi Howard Rosenbaum

Mazal tov Benzy.

You are most deserving of this
honor.

May you go from strength to
strength and success to success.

Brenda Buchweitz Albert

Howard,
Your innovation and dedication to
Jewish education continues to inspire
young and old to live meaningful
Jewish lives--all done with the warmth
and kindness that a mensch like you
brings to the task.

Mazal tov on this well-deserved honor.
Sherry and Dan Lohr

בני

To my students, colleagues, and parents
of my students on this wonderful **כבוד**

Rabbi Nogah Marshall
Steven Kerbel
Michelle Konigsberg
Jill Epstein
Rabbi Jan Caryl Kaufman

מזל טוב

MAZEL TOV

Nancy Gorod

From you Ramah Darom Family

ramahdarom.org

Bringing people together for exceptional, immersive Jewish experiences.



Mazal Tov to Jill Epstein!
Colleague, Mentor, Friend
Thank you from
Sara Geffen Geller

Mazel tov to our friends
Michelle Konigsburg
Sharon Rosenberg Safra
Steve Kerbel
Jill Epstein

We are blessed to know so many
outstanding Jewish educators!

Sarah Bolts and Michael Chernicoff

It is the personality of the teacher
which is the text that the pupils read;
the text that they will never forget.

- Abraham Joshua Heschel

Mazal tov, Michelle!
Love, Brenda & Kevin

Congratulation Michelle Konigsburg
on this wonderful honor.

You are such a valuable educator.

The family is so proud of you!

Love.

Neil J Chonin

We are proud to honor our friend, Benzy
Kogen, for this well-deserved
Honorary Degree.

We are glad that you continue to teach and
share your enthusiasm for Jewish
Education.

Your friends,
Ira and Sharon Packer

Congratulations Betty! We are so
thrilled for you to be honored!!
Your Monday Musar Group -
Barb Levin, Peggy Littmann,
Rosalie Nagler, Jenifer Ohriner
and Dahlia Smith

Dr. Melissa Ser
Educational Graphic Design
Consultant
melissa.ser@gmail.com

Mazal Tov Sharon! The field of Jewish education is so blessed by your contributions, and we're so proud of you. Love, The Kutners

To our favorite educator: what an amazing milestone! We love you & are so proud. We are honored to learn from you every day! Love, Miriam, JP, Shira & Ilana

Rabbi Howard Rosenbaum-Mazel Tov on your well deserved Doctor Of Pedagogy degree! --Phil & Karen Schlossberg

Dear Betty, we've always known you're a special person. You do it all with great dedication and care. Mazel Tov on receiving your degree. With love, Irene and Michael.

Mazel Tov on your Honorary Degree Howard! Love Jimmy, Hilary, Ari, Joshua and Jordan

**Mazel tov to the honorees! Todah for all your contributions to our people.
David "Schwoty" Schwartz**

Mazal Tov Benzy! Susan Salwen

Mazal tov to all of the honorees - Elisha Frumkin

Mazal Tov Mary, we are so proud of you! Rabbi Randall Mark

**Mazel tov to Sharon Safra for her accomplishments as an outstanding Jewish educator! -
Debbie and Dan Stillman**

Mazel Tov to all! Aviva Tilles

Mazal Tov to all of my fellow JEA Honorees! May we continue to go from strength to strength! **חזק חזק ונתחזק! Rabbi Nogah Marshall**

Kol HaKavod to my fellow JEA Honorees-Betty Golub

**Mazel tov to Sharon Rosenberg Safra on this wonderful honor! She is truly deserving of it.
Love, The Lieberman Family**

**Mazal Tov Dr. Alicia Gejman, We thank you for all that you continue to accomplish for
Jewish Education - Alissa C. Zuchman, JTeach**

**To Michelle Konigsburg, a great thought partner and friend: Mazal Tov! - Rabbi Edward
Bernstein**

Mazel Tov, Benzy, on this most deserved honor from Rance and Sheryl Block

With gratitude for all of your wisdom and guidance. Libby and Steve Adler

Mazel Tov Howard, I am so proud of you! - Marlena DeRosa

Yasher Koach to Sharon Safra! A well-deserved honor. Deedee & Jeremy Jacobsohn

**Mazel tov to Steve Kerbel! You choose the wine, we'll lift a glass. Deedee & Jeremy
Jacobsohn**

Mazel Tov Sharon! We are so happy for you! Love, The Libbins

Mazal Tov on this well deserved honor - Gary and Judy Greene

It's an honor to know you, dear Benzy. Your Wise Melton family sends Mazal!

Mazel tov Michelle, on your well-deserved JTS and JEA honor. So Proud of you. Toby

Mazel Tov Michelle! We are so happy for you! Love, The Libbins

Michelle Konigsburg - Mazal tov on this well-deserved honor! From Arlene Fisher

**Mazal Tov to Steve Kerbel and Sharon Rosenberg Safra on receiving Doctor of Pedagogy
Degrees, honoris causa! Dr. Peggy K. Pearlstein**

**Mazal Tov Rabbi Howard Rosenbaum, a well deserved honor! - Rabbi Nathan and
Beverly Rose**

North Suburban Synagogue Beth El is so proud of Dr. Alicia Gejman, our treasured colleague and educator, for this incredible accomplishment

Steve—Mazal Tov! Next degree—Master of Wine! Love, Maury and Debbie

Mazel Tov Sharon! You enrich the lives of our children and families by providing meaning, joy, and connection to the Jewish community. Chazak, Chazak, V'nitchazek! --Fonda and Jeff Lowe

Well deserved Honor, Howard! Mazel Tov - Your PJP partner, Ellen Botwin

Mazel Tov and thank you Rabbi Howard Rosenbaum for being an amazing Educator, mentor and friend Cheryl Cohen Jeffrey Cohen and Family

Congratulations Harriet on a well-deserved honor! - Marcel Buchsbaum

Mazel to Steve Kerbel, educator extraordinaire. Pam Nadell, Ed Farber, Yoni & Orly.

Mazel Tov Sharon! You are an amazing inspiration to all the institutions that you have touched. I'm am sure that your work will inspire others for many years to come. - Haidee Bernstein

Kol hakavod Michelle and colleagues from Sharon and Bruce Yudewitz

Mazel Tov to Howard Rosenbaum and Sharon Rosenberg Safra on receiving this honor.- Karyn Schwartzer and Melissa Mentzer

Mazel Tov, Sharon! Our community is beyond lucky to have you. Marla & Bruce Schulman

Mazel Tov Benzy! A well deserved honor! Love, Ethel & Jan Liebeskind

Mazel Tov to Steve Kerbel from Marie Kramer

Mazel Tov Alicia on this well-deserved recognition and honor. ~ Renee Kaplan

Jill, mazal tov on this much deserved honor. We're very proud of you. - Joel and Allie Greene

**Jill: We're so proud of you and your contributions to Jewish Education.
Love, Ash Family**

Mazal Tov, Rabbi Rosenbaum! We join in celebrating your many years in Jewish education, your dedication to the task, and your joy in pursuing it! Love, Debby and Henry Epstein

To all my friends and former colleagues - Jill, Betty, Benzy, Howard, Steven, Michelle and Mary - Kol Hakovod and mazal tov - Janice

Sharon, Mazel Tov! Well deserved Love, Jaye and Bob Greenfest

**Mazel Tov Sharon on this well-deserved honor. So proud of your accomplishments.
Love, Your Sister**

**Steve, a well-deserved honor; Kiddushin 40b:8 & Avot 1:6 spotlight your contributions.
-Rebecca & Steve Weisman**

**Mazel Tov to our dear friend, Jill Epstein. We are so proud of you.
With love from Suzanne Cutler and the Cutler Family**

קונסַט פֿאַר-תּדוּרַט פּתּחַת הַשָּׁמַיִם



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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

THERE IS SOMETHING NEW BENEATH THE SUN!