

CANTOR JULIE BERLIN

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EXPERIENCE

Temple Beth-El – Cantor, San Antonio, TX

July 2008 – Present

As the first cantor of the largest and one of the oldest synagogues in south Texas, helped the congregation innovate in many ways, including the following:

- **Worship Initiatives**
 - Created a Temple band to accompany worship services monthly and on select holidays
 - Grow congregation steeped in classical Reform worship style to evolve, incorporating a wider variety of classical and contemporary compositions
 - Recruit and train a substantial cadre of lay worship leaders
 - Doubled volunteer choir participation for Shabbat and High Holy Days
 - Initiated adult learning experiences within the context of the worship service to educate the congregation about liturgy
 - Instituted the use of piano alongside and often in place of organ in an historic sanctuary with a large pipe organ that had been the primary instrumental accompaniment for more than 125 years
 - Recruit and supervise accompanists and other instrumentalists
- **Congregational Relationships**
 - Lead pastoral care initiative and coordinate ongoing pastoral efforts for all clergy
 - Stabilized congregation during multiple years of instability and significant rabbinic transition
 - Initiated program to connect with college students to maintain a relationship with congregation and its clergy throughout the year
 - Oversee all aspects of annual Women's Seder
- **Educational Programs**
 - Oversee B'nai Mitzvah program, including assigning dates, supervising B'nai Mitzvah tutor, teaching students, and leading service rehearsals
 - Teach sixth grade Hebrew class in preparation for Bar/Bat Mitzvah studies
 - Lead Religious School *T'filah* for various grades
 - Teach music to preschool class on Sundays
 - Teach Adult Education courses in Jewish music and chanting Torah
 - Launched monthly Rosh Chodesh group for women to study and connect with other Jewish women
 - Initiated monthly learning series for volunteer choir on Zoom during pandemic
- **Cultural Initiatives**
 - Created Sunday Concert Series, inviting congregants of all ages to share their musical talents with the congregation
 - Coordinate annual *Shabbat Shirah* program, inviting leading Jewish musicians as weekend Musician-in-Residence
 - Created Summer Concert Series during the pandemic to support local professional musicians and to provide enrichment for our congregants
 - Created Jewish Music Month learning series on Zoom during pandemic, featuring several distinguished Jewish musicians and culminating in a Saturday night Zoom concert with a well-known Jewish music group

○ **Community Collaborations**

- Work in partnership with Music Minister at Antioch Baptist Church for annual MLK Shabbat exchange, teaching music together to volunteer choirs for a Shabbat service and a Church service
- Collaborated with Choir Director at St. Mark's Episcopal Church and Director of Youth Orchestras of San Antonio (YOSA) to present two performances of *Chichester Psalms* by Leonard Bernstein with participation of St. Mark's Choirs, Temple Beth-El volunteer choir and YOSA Philharmonic Orchestra

Temple Solel – *Cantor*, Paradise Valley, AZ

1998 - 2008

First cantor to serve this 700-member congregation with a diverse membership, a 125 student Preschool, and 250 student Religious School

- Established the Liturgical Arts Fund to bring Jewish musicians to the community
- Instituted annual Cantor's Concert
- Created youth choir and teen choir to sing at services monthly and at community events
- Supervised Preschool Director and Preschool program

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

American Conference of Cantors

- Convention Co-Chair, Chicago 2022
- Board Member 2018 - Present
- Mentor Fourth Year HUC-JIR Cantorial Student 2021 – 2022
- Convention Co-Chair, Minneapolis 2013

Youth Orchestras of San Antonio

- Board Member 2019 - Present
- Governance Committee 2021 - Present
- Inclusion and Accessibility Committee 2019 - Present

Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio

- Board Member 2015 - Present
- Education Committee 2015 - Present
- Yom HaShoah Planning Committee 2017 - Present

Any Baby Can of San Antonio, *Board Member*

2009 - 2013

URJ Greene Family Camp, *Faculty*, Bruceville, TX

2008 - 2016

EDUCATION

**Hebrew Union College –
Jewish Institute of Religion**

New York, NY

Master of Arts in Religious Education 1997
Cantorial Ordination 1996
Master of Arts in Sacred Music 1996

University of Illinois

Champaign-Urbana, IL

Bachelor of Science in Music Education 1992

REFERENCES

Available upon request