



Creating a kehillah kedosha, a holy community, with music and Torah

Cantorial Skills

- Lead all services: weekday, Shabbat, High Holiday, Festival, shiva minyanim
- Chant Torah, Haftarah, Megillot
- Blend old and new melodies with nusach to enrich the tefillah experience
- Nurture b'nai mitzvah with individualized instruction and expectations
- Lead and co-lead lifecycle events
- Create and conduct volunteer adult and youth choirs
- Teach music, tefillah, Judaics, and Hebrew to Pre-K - 7th grade
- Teach, lead singing, and perform for Jewish and interfaith community events
- Host Shabbat meals for current and potential congregants
- Co-lead community and women's seders
- Work collaboratively with clergy, staff, lay leaders, and congregants
- Lead services, teach, and perform in person and online

Ahavath Achim - Hebrew Congregation, Wichita, KS

2021-present

- Teach adults 1:1 to better lead or participate in services
- Lead and teach innovative weekday tefillot and music in the religious school

Congregation Beth Sholom-Chevra Shas, Jamesville, NY

2011-2020

- Co-pioneered groundbreaking weekday tefillot for 2nd - 7th grades
- Developed classes and taught in the Religious School
- Boosted adult readers of Torah and Shir Hashirim by 25%
- Founded Shabbat Afternoon Mishnah Study

Keneseth Israel Congregation, Louisville, KY

2002-2008

- Increased post-b'nai mitzvah lehnung and/or service-leading by 50%
- Boosted readers of Torah and Megillat Esther by 100%
- Designed interactive Selichot services, increasing participation by 300%
- Launched new Book of Jonah reading, increasing participation by 1200%
- Introduced Pre-K - 7th grade Jewish music classes
- Established, budgeted, produced, and performed in 4 concerts



Cantor Paula Pepperstone

Wichita, KS

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Teaching and Educational Leadership

Online Educator - Hebrew, Music, Tefillah, Jewish Values

Temple Beth El, Rochester, NY	2021-present
Congregation Beth Shalom, Clearwater, FL	2020-2021
B'nai Shalom of Olney, Olney, MD	2020-2021

Director

Epstein School of Jewish Studies, Syracuse, NY **2013-2020**

- Directed transition to Zoom (classes, social time, activities, and meetings)
- Increased enrollment by 63% over 7 years
- Developed incentive program increasing participation as madrichim by 1200%
- Increased 11th- and 12th-grade registration by 500%
- Introduced 4 new electives annually
- Convened 15 representative community members to assess and redesign courses
- Wrote and implemented 6 grants for special projects
- Managed School budget
- Organized and chaperoned three 10-day trips to Israel for 9th- and 10th-graders

Educator Highlights

Syracuse Community Hebrew School, Syracuse, NY **2014-2020**

- Utilized learning centers and differentiated learning to teach grades 5 and 7

Camp Ramah New England, Palmer, MA **Summers 2013-2019**

- Tutored upcoming b'nai mitzvah and creatively taught Judaics

Congregation Shaarey Tikvah, Beachwood, OH **2008-2011**

- Incorporated active learning techniques to teach tefillot
- Engaged K - 7th learners in Mini Minyan/Jr Congregation with different modalities

Camp Ramah California, Ojai, CA **Summers 1997, 1998**

- Taught Judaics and drama, directed play and camper chorus



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Education

Jewish Theological Seminary, New York, NY

Master of Sacred Music and Diploma of Hazzan

2002

Schechter Institute, Jerusalem

1999-2000

Indiana University; Bloomington, IN

Certificate in Jewish Studies

1995

Bachelor of Music (Voice Performance) and Minor in Theatre and Drama

1994

Professional Development Highlights

Cantors Assembly and JTeen Professionals conventions

Chanting Circle Facilitation, Cantors Assembly-Rising Song Institute

2020-2021

Project Zug Elul Cycle, Hadar, New York, NY

2020, 2021

Executive Seminar, Hadar, New York, NY

2020

Rising Song Intensive, Hadar, New York, NY

2016

Conservative Yeshiva Summer Program, Jerusalem

2015

Songleader Boot Camp National Conference, St. Louis, MO

2012

Community Involvement Highlights

Co-launched Jewish chant circle, Syracuse, NY

2019-2020

Syracuse-Area Jewish Educators (Chair 2014-2016)

2013-2017

Cantors Assembly (Executive Committee 2007-2010)

2002-present

Specialized Skills

- Singing in English, Hebrew, Yiddish, Ladino, French, German, Italian
- Performer of hazzanut, classical music, Broadway, and American Songbook