

A Message from the Staff

As members of Beth El Synagogue Center's professional staff, we are grateful for the partnership we share with dedicated and active lay volunteers. Each of us feels pride and a special connection to Beth El and its members, and we feel privileged to be part of this warm, caring, and creative community. Our extraordinary range of synagogue programming is only possible as we partner with wonderful people such as Marjorie and Mark Seidenfeld, Jodi and Rob Scheinfeld, and Ellen and Rick Barlis.

Marjorie and Mark, along with their children Michael, Talia, and Jonah, have been an active part of our community over the last twenty-two years, since joining in October 2016. Mark has served as President of Beth El for the past two years, Executive Vice President and Vice President of Beth El. Mark has also served on numerous committees, including the Board of Trustees, the Executive Council, Men's Club, Finance Committee, Mishpacha (now J-LiFE), the Ritual Committee, chair of Synagogue 2000, the Leadership Development Committee, and Long-Range Planning Group. Mark has been employed as Vice President and Deputy General Counsel at Scholastic Inc. for over twenty-three years. Marjorie is a member of Sisterhood and was co-chair of the Membership Committee and served on the Youth Activities Committee. She also is Beth El's liaison to the New Rochelle Inter-Religious Council. Outside of Beth El, she is the Medical Director of Barnard College's Student Health Service. The Seidenfelds received the President's Ne'emanim Service Award in 2007.

Jodi and Rob Scheinfeld joined Beth El in 1989 along with their 18-month old son Jeremy, z"l. Over the past thirty years their family has grown to include Sarah, Dan, Zach, Corey, and Maya. Rob has served on the Board of Trustees, as a liaison with the day camp, on the Journey Vision Team, as a member of our Human Resources Committee, and on our Clergy Search Committee. Professionally Rob is a patent trial lawyer and partner at Baker Botts, LLP. Jodi volunteers at Beth El, served on the Nursery School Board, Religious School Board, and sang in Beth El's choir Shirat El. She teaches for the Sheldrake Environmental Center and volunteers in the New Rochelle community. Together Rob and Jodi run their JS Foundation for Kids and participate in the JS Publishing Center of the New Rochelle Fund for Educational Excellence.

Ellen and Rick Barlis, members since 2007, in a short time have shown why they are recipients of the Lapid Award. Ellen has served as chair of the Religious School board and co-president of the Religious School Parent Organization. She has also served on the Youth Services, Assistant Rabbi Search, and Director of Youth and Family Engagement Committees. She is currently a member of the Board of Trustees. Rick serves on the Catering Committee and can be found working on various projects for Beth El. They are the proud parents of Anna and Aaron.

All of us on the Beth El team give our warm wishes of mazal tov to the honoree and award recipients this evening.