

Cantor Yosi Weintraub

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“Engaging and enlivening the spirit with heartfelt, accessible davening and song”

Cantorial Ordination: *January 2012, ALEPH: Alliance for Jewish Renewal*

Professional Cantorial Service:

As High Holidays Hazzan:

- 2017 – 2018 : **Temple Beth Shalom**, Spokane, WA
- 2013 – 2015 : **Rutland Jewish Center**, Rutland, VT
- 2012 : **Beit HaChidush**, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 2011 : **Congregation Beth Israel**, Worcester, MA
- 2010 : **Temple Emanuel**, Franklin Lakes, NJ
- 2009 : **Roosevelt Island Jewish Congregation**, New York City, NY

All aspects of service leadership, including *Selichot, Maariv, Shacharit, Torah/Haftarah, Musaf, Kol Nidrei, Yizkor, Avodah, and Neilah*, plus *nusach* mentoring and guidance for lay leaders

Other:

- 2014 – 2016 : **Hazzan, Temple Beth Israel**, Waltham, MA (part time)
Service leadership and Torah reading for Shabbat and Festivals
Occasional service for **Congregation Mishkan Tefila**, Chestnut Hill, MA
Temple Reyim, Newton, MA, **Temple Beth Shalom**, Spokane, WA
Congregation Beit Am, Corvallis, OR

2008 - 2009 : **Cantorial Intern, Beth Israel Congregation**, Woodbury, NJ:

Led regular Friday night and some holiday services, including divrei Torah

Professional Memberships: *New England Board of Cantors; OHALAH: Association of Jewish Renewal Clergy*

Lay Synagogue Service:

- 1997 – present : *Regular service in all capacities as sheliach tzibbur, davening leader, and Torah reader for Shabbat and holidays – Beit Am, Corvallis, Oregon, Bnai Or of Boston, Temple Beth Israel Waltham, MA, Nehar Shalom, Boston, Germantown Jewish Center and Pnai Or of Philadelphia, Temple Beth Israel and Congregation Ad Olam, Eugene, Oregon*
Davening styles spanning a broad range from “traditional” to “contemporary”, always with high regard for accessibility and congregational participation
- 2003 – 2005 : *Siddur editor, liturgist and co-leader for Learner’s Minyan, Temple Beth Israel, Waltham, MA*
- 1999 – 2000 : *Religious school teacher, and leader of school-wide music program, Beit Am, Corvallis, Oregon*

Related Education:

- 2007 – 2011 : **Cantorial Ordination Program** of ALEPH: Alliance for Jewish Renewal
Principal teacher and director of studies: Hazzan Jack Kessler;
teachers included Rabbi Daniel Siegel, Rabbi Elliot Ginsburg, Rabbi Ruth Gan Kagan,
Cantor Jeff Klepper, Rabbi Hanna Tiferet Siegel, and Rabbi Marcia Prager
- 2011 – 2012 : **Pastoral Care / Chaplaincy Internship**, Brigham & Women’s Hospital, Boston
- 2007 – 2009 : **Complete Liturgical Cycle Studies**, Gratz College, Philadelphia, with Hazzan Dr. Saul Wachs
- 2006 – 2008 : **Davening Leaders Training Institute** with Rabbis Marcia Prager and Shawn Zevit,
and Hazzan Jack Kessler
- 2001 – 2014 : **Text and Hasidic studies**, Hebrew College, Boston, with Rabbis Nehemia Polen, Art Green, et al;
Personal cantorial mentoring in traditional European nusach with Cantor Morris Hollender, z”l
- 1996 – 2000 : **Private nusach study** with Cantor Lyle Rockler, z”l, Corvallis, Oregon

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Other Professional Experience:

- 1988 – present : Research and Development Manager / Software Manager /**
Senior Electronics and Software Engineer, Lucidyne Technologies, Corvallis, Oregon
- 1985 – 1987 : Graduate Fellow and Teaching Assistant,** University of South Florida, College of Engineering
- 1980 – 1985 : Software Developer and Consultant,** self-employed
- 1972 – 1980 : Systems Analyst / Senior Technical Analyst,** GTE Data Services, Tampa, Florida

Secular Education:

- 1987 Master of Science, Electrical Engineering,** University of South Florida; Tau Beta Pi, Engineering Honor Society; Frank Cohen National Fellowship, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
- 1972 Bachelor of Arts, Mathematics,** University of South Florida;
Phi Kappa Phi, National Honor Society; Pi Mu Epsilon, Math Honor Society, Outstanding Senior

Personal:

Favorite activities include singing, sailing, guitar playing, hiking, bicycling, tennis, carpentry, studying torah, mussar, and hasidut ... and above all, appreciating the beauty and wonders of life.

Some reflections from Rabbis and Community Leaders:

“... again, many thanks for your contributions to these High Holidays!! Without you, it would have been impossible to touch people the way they were touched. People felt inspired and moved.”

“And thank you very much for being *chazzan* in our community during the High Holidays and the beautiful atmosphere you create.”

“Thanks again for your great cooperation and inspiration. You brought a lot of Ruach to our beautiful old shul.”

“Thank you very much ... We certainly appreciate your beautiful voice and professionalism.”

“I particularly appreciated your ability and willingness to change our previous plans on the fly in order to tune in to the mood of the congregation at any moment and to sing pieces of the liturgy we hadn't specifically planned that I thought on the spur of the moment would work well.”

“... our sincerest thanks and appreciation for your work with us over the *yamim tovim*. Your unpretentious and sincere style made it very clear that your forte really is as a facilitator and guide for others.”

“We particularly appreciated what you added to our service for young children and their families on Rosh Hashanah, making a few of the non-Jewish parents who had never been in a synagogue before feel at home.”

“... those who participated in *Seder HaAvodah* described this experience in particular as a spiritual highlight.”

“All of us, especially me, have also been most favorably impressed with Yosi's character, true sincerity, honesty and general *menschlichkeit*. We have found him to be highly likable and most importantly, an *ish yashar*.”

“I just want to say that I personally enjoyed davening with you very much. Your sincerity and spirituality inform all that you do, including of course your davening. This made my own davening experience better, and I was also very pleased to see how easy it was to communicate by signal across the bimah with you!”

“Yosi has blessed our community in countless ways. He has a generous spirit, a caring presence, and has served our particular community and the wider Jewish community with deep dedication and devotion. In addition to his vast professional skills in cantorial singing, leyning, nusach – all with great kavanah - the community also appreciates the insightful and meaningful Torah that he shares informally and formally.

Finally - but perhaps most important - Yosi is a true mensch. He is an empathetic soul, enjoys the quirks and delights of our human community, and is someone I and many others may always rely on.”