

Celebrating 30 Years!

**THE MILWAUKEE JEWISH
COMMUNITY CHORALE PRESENTS**

*Emunah, Tikvah,
v' Simcha*

Faith, Hope, & Joy

In concert with community cantors & guests

Thursday, May 15, 2025 at 7:00 PM

CONGREGATION SINAI

8223 N Port Washington Rd, Fox Point

— and live-streamed —

milwaukeejewishcommunitychorale.org

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR ENID BOOTZIN BERKOVITS

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Hazak, Hazak
to the Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale.

May the Chorale continue to go
from strength to strength.



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Honoring the memory of Roberta Forman

The Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale board of directors initiated The Ilene Wasserman Legacy Award in 2022 to honor those who have made an exemplary contribution to promote Jewish music.

*We are honored to present this year's legacy award to the family of **Roberta Forman**, in grateful memory of Roberta's longtime dedication, enthusiasm, and generous support for the Chorale and for Jewish music and culture.*

Roberta Forman was a very active member of the Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale from 1996 until her untimely passing in 2016. She loved Jewish music and wanted everyone to participate. To that end, Roberta provided a scholarship so a Chorale member could attend the North American Jewish Choral Festival in upstate New York in 2012. Roberta commissioned the choral arrangement of the prayer, Lo Yareu by Stephen Richards. Roberta even packed all the Chorale's music for moving from Congregation Beth El when Congregation Beth El closed.

Roberta was the proud mother of three daughters, Susan, Rachel and Arlene, as well as the grandmother of seven grandchildren, Abigail, Rosalie, Mira, Maxwell, Jonah, Ethan and Adam. She was devoted to her family. She loved Israel. In 2015, Roberta took thirteen members of her family to Israel. This was always her dream.

Roberta was born in Milwaukee and grew up in Whitefish Bay. She received her Bachelors degree from UCLA, and her MSW from UWM.

In addition to her love for Jewish music, Roberta enjoyed the outdoors. She volunteered at the Riveredge Nature Center for many years. She loved to camp, kayak, canoe, hike, explore and play.

Because of her deep connection to the Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale, members of the Chorale sang to Roberta during the last days of her life. May Roberta's memory continue to be for a blessing.

Participating in the Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale gave our Mother, Roberta Forman, much faith, hope, and joy. We are truly touched that you have chosen to honor her this year.

Thank you!



Susan Sellman
Rachel Hyman
Arlene Bass Asher

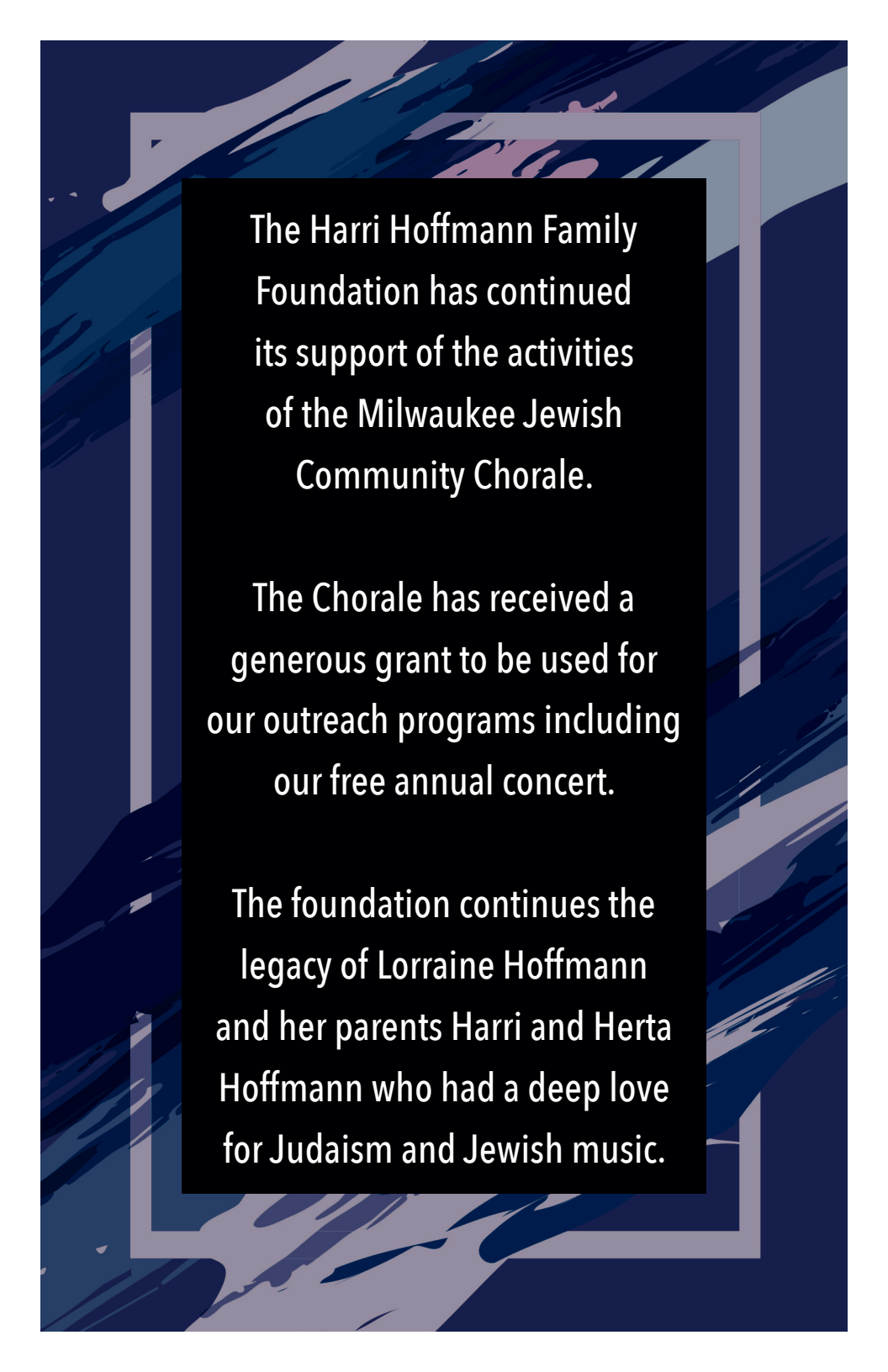
Our History

Inspiration for the Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale came from Cantor Ronald Eichaker, formerly of Congregation Emanu-El B'ne Jeshurun. The idea grew a volunteer choir that performed at the 1994 convention of the Conservative movement's Cantors Assembly. That performance was part of the celebration honoring Milwaukee Jewry's 150th anniversary. The organization's first president was Libbie Peckarsky z"l.

The Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale has grown musically since its inception. Performing to rave reviews at the North American Jewish Choral Festival in Hudson, New York, the Chorale also accompanied the Milwaukee Jewish Federation's mission to Israel for the celebration of the 3,000th anniversary of King David. Other Chorale performances include Lincoln Center in New York City, a live performance on Milwaukee Public Radio, and a performance with the Arch Diocesan Choir in celebration of 50 years of Nostra Aetate. The Chorale has also participated in the American Cantors Conference in Chicago and is a part of Zemer Am, a day-long choral festival in which we join our voices with Chicago area synagogue and community choirs.

The Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale also has established itself as a provider of Jewish music to the Wisconsin Jewish community, performing for the Chaverim Program at the JCC, the Ovation Communities such as Chai Point, and destinations throughout Wisconsin with its Outreach program. The Chorale continues to add to the beauty and solemnity of the annual Yom Hazikaron (Israel's Memorial Day) ceremony. In addition, we have had the pleasure of singing in the Summer Evenings of Jewish Music series.

Now we are in our 30th anniversary year of singing in harmony. The Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale looks forward to spreading the joy of Jewish music for many years to come. Thank you for your support and love of Jewish music.



The Harri Hoffmann Family
Foundation has continued
its support of the activities
of the Milwaukee Jewish
Community Chorale.

The Chorale has received a
generous grant to be used for
our outreach programs including
our free annual concert.

The foundation continues the
legacy of Lorraine Hoffmann
and her parents Harri and Herta
Hoffmann who had a deep love
for Judaism and Jewish music.

*With great appreciation, the Chorale thanks Vicki Saichek
for a generous gift in memory of her parents,
Dr. Robert and Shirley Saichek*



*In Memory Of
Dr. Robert & Shirley Saichek Z"l*

Shirley was the former director of the Beth El Ner Tamid Synagogue Adult Choir.

Shirley was an outstanding musician: an inspiring and dedicated Choir Director, a creative composer and arranger, and an excellent pianist. She had a beautiful mezzo-soprano voice that was heard in many concerts throughout our community. Shirley helped found the Wisconsin Jewish Music Council that preceded our Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale. She was passionate about Jewish music, and taught and mentored many, encouraging excellence in others.

Dr. Robert Saichek was brought up in a home surrounded by Jewish music. He encouraged and appreciated his wife Shirley's endeavors in Jewish music and continued to support the Chorale until his death in 2021.

Vicki continues her parents' legacy with her ongoing support of the Chorale's mission to enrich the musical quality of life in Wisconsin and beyond.

*May the memories of Dr. Robert and Shirley Saichek always be a blessing as
they continue to inspire us to share Jewish music.*

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Thank You

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Robin Gerson
Samantha Haake
Mara Kleiman
Wendy Lambert
Julie Magidson
Kathleen Matts Cabrices
Laurie Moeckler Rittberg
Mimi Rozansky

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Barbara Neville

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Ydelle Litwack
Marlene Loeb
Toby Lukoff
Harriet Matz
Diane Graham Pagenkop
Nancy Sandler

BASSES:

Phill Askot
Paul Kohler
Howard Shimon
Michael Taibleson

WE REMEMBER:

zichronam livracha...may their memories continue to be a blessing.

Ruth Beder
Fred Chester
Otto Feller
Roberta Forman
Simi Frank
June Freeman
Charlotte Gellerman
Libby Jenkins

Marilyn Jacobs
Helen Kaplan
Shirley Krause
Laila Rosen
Miriam Rosenberg
Marty Silverman
Jim Stillman
Nita Zukrow

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Congregation Shalom Choir, Milwaukee



Sopranos: Robin Gerson, Wendy Lambert, Rusti Moffic,
Debbie Orman, Wendy Traeger

Altos: Linda Berlin, Ashley Rupp

Tenors: Steven Borenstein, Fred Stein

Basses: Ben Merens, Howard Shimon



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For membership information contact:

Enid Bootzin Berkovits
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Enid Bootzin Berkovits



Enid Bootzin Berkovits is a founding member of the Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale. She holds a Bachelor of Music in Music Therapy from Alverno College in Milwaukee and has studied masters level choral conducting and voice performance at Northwestern University, DePaul University and The Wisconsin Conservatory of Music. Ms. Bootzin Berkovits has performed with the Skylight Opera Theatre, The Milwaukee Opera Company, Carousel Productions, and the Milwaukee Repertory Theatre.

Her soprano voice continues to be heard in concerts and recitals throughout the area. Ms. Bootzin Berkovits has directed synagogue and church choirs in the Milwaukee area.

She is a past president of the MacDowell Club in Milwaukee, past president of Wisconsin area Jewish National Fund, and is currently serving on the national board of the Guild of Temple Musicians. She also works for Hearts To Home Senior Care as a Care Manager and Community Service Representative.



Cantor David Barash



Cantor David Barash is celebrating his 33rd year in the cantorate and his 24th year at Congregation Emanu-El B'ne Jeshurun in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. David loves engaging congregants through Jewish music: working with adult and children's choirs; conducting the CEEBJ congregational band; directing annual Purim spiels; leading participatory Shabbat, Festival, and High Holy Day services; and teaching all kinds of subjects ranging from Prayer Aerobics to Moods and Modes in the Music of the High Holy Days. He is instrumental in organizing the congregation's annual Salute to Song & Spirit concerts, and this year they are presenting Shalom Ireland: A Fusion of Jewish & Irish Music on Sunday, June 8.

Cantor Barash is a chaplain with the North Shore Fire Department, and serves on the board of the Lux Center at Sacred Heart Seminary, and the clergy auxiliary board of the Milwaukee Jewish Free Loan Association. He is an active member of the Arava Institute's Israel Ride Marketing Team.

David is happily married to Debra Gorra Barash and between them, they have 4 children, Natan and Rafi Barash, Janet (Nick) De Voe and Louise (Nick) Rasmussen; and 4 grandchildren, Wilson and Graham De Voe, and Hailey and Annabelle Rasmussen.



Cantor Richard Newman



Born in Birmingham, UK, Cantor Richard Newman has been a lover of music all his life. Before beginning his cantorial training, Richard worked as a professional musician in London, having gained his masters in music at Trinity College of Music, London in 2011. Richard has worked with leading conductors, including Matthew Willis and Steuart Bedford, in concert and operatic work throughout the UK and Europe, and has been fortunate to study with the likes of Carla Rae Cook, Anton Belov, Candace Goetz and Arlene Shrut. He has appeared on TV, radio, and numerous recordings over the years. Before moving to the US, Richard was a regular soloist with the Zemel Choir in London, the UK's premier mixed voice Jewish choir, and was a regular service leader at Belsize Square Synagogue, London. While pursuing his cantorial training in New York and Jerusalem, Richard had the good fortune to study privately with a number of wonderful cantors from across the Jewish denominational spectrum, including Jacob Mendelsohn, Israel Goldstein, and Benjie Schiller. While studying in New York, Cantor Richard performed as a soloist at a number of concerts around the city, and had the honor of serving for four years as the cantorial intern at Congregation Emanu-El of New York City, where he was able to experience some of the great Jewish musical repertoire of the past 200 years.

He continues to strive to use the power of music to help adults and children find meaning and enjoyment in their lives, both within and outside of the religious world.

Richard also holds a law degree and a masters in science. He has been the cantor at Congregation Sinai since 2017.



Hazzan Michele Rozansky



As a child, Mimi always knew what she wanted to become: a musician and a healer. Over the years, she has accomplished both her goals.

Hazzan Mimi received a B.S. degree in Physical Therapy at UW-Madison. She recently became semi-retired and continues to work in her private practice in Mequon since 1995 at Orlanu Therapies. She specializes in working with children and adults who live with chronic pain and/or post-traumatic stress.

She is a co-founder of Congregation Shir Hadash, the first Reconstructionist synagogue in Milwaukee, where she served as Cantorial Soloist for twenty-six years.

In 2014, Hazzan Mimi returned to school at Aleph Cantorial Seminary to achieve her second goal. Aleph: Alliance for Jewish Renewal, based in Philadelphia spans all denominations of Judaism, embracing the joy of Hasidism, the innovations of Havurah, and the collective wisdom of centuries that inform Jewish Renewal.

Her most significant training with Aleph was the two-year Davenning Leadership Training Institute, where Rabbis and Cantors study and learn the artistry of designing meaningful, experiential prayer services. In 2020, Hazzan Mimi received her Smicha (ordination) at Aleph.

Mimi considers her greatest strength to be her creativity in working with other musicians, including ensembles, bringing together music and prayer, and blending genres such as Folk, Traditional, Choral, Kirtan, and Renewal.

Hazzan Mimi works part time at Congregation Shalom in Milwaukee.



Hazzan Jeremy Stein

Hazzan Jeremy Stein joined Congregation Beth Israel Ner Tamid in July of 2009. A native of Pawtucket, Rhode Island, Hazzan Stein studied flute and arranging at Berklee College of Music in Boston, Massachusetts. After graduating, he toured with his jazz/rock band Flutopia. In addition to performing with his band, Hazzan Stein played on film scores, composed radio jingles, and performed at countless Jewish weddings.

In 2009, Hazzan Stein graduated from the H. L. Miller Cantorial School and College of Jewish Music at the Jewish Theological Seminary. While in Cantorial School, Hazzan Stein combined his passion for jazz, folk and pop with his love of Jewish music, composing melodies rooted in Jewish musical tradition with a modern flair. For his efforts, Hazzan Stein was awarded the Max and Sol Feld Prize in composition two consecutive years. In his final year at JTS, Hazzan Stein traveled to London and Israel to conduct field research for his thesis comparing the musical traditions of the Jews of Yemen and Aden.

Hazzan Stein's performances have taken him to such stages as Carnegie Hall the Original House of Blues in Boston. He has performed many times with The Zamir Choral Foundation, sharing the stage with perennial Jewish performers Theodore Bikel and Debbie Friedman. Hazzan Stein is a passionate, dedicated teacher and enjoys working with congregants of all ages. In 2015, Hazzan Stein completed a Master of Jewish Education through the Davidson School at the Jewish Theological Seminary. His thesis was entitled "Sacred Destination, Many Paths: Differentiated B'nei Mitzvah Teaching" in which he explored approaches to teaching B'nei Mitzvah students with different learning styles. Hazzan Stein recently released the album *On The Roof: Jazz Impressions of Fiddler* featuring himself on flute and Mitchell Shiner on Vibraphone. Profits from the album benefit select social justice organizations in Milwaukee.

Hazzan Stein is a regular volunteer at the Milwaukee Jewish Home and Care Center, visiting and serenading Milwaukee's seniors with classics from Israel, Yiddish theater, and the Great American Songbook. Hazzan Stein lives with his wife Amanda whom he met on his first full day in Milwaukee. They are proud parents of Mirit, Hadas, and Yishai. A lifelong New England sports fan, Hazzan Stein has quickly become an avid fan of the Milwaukee Bucks.



Kai-I Tien

Kai-I Tien is a native of Taiwan where she served as Adjunct assistant professor in several universities in Tainan city from 2006 to 2012.

Kai-I has been active as a collaborative pianist throughout the area since her move to Milwaukee in 2014. When she is not busy with piano, she works as a Mandarin-English medical interpreter.

She started her position as Accompanist in fall 2019, and is delighted to be part of the Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale.



Assistant Director Samantha Haake

Samantha Haake is the assistant director of the Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale and joined as a member in 2016. She began her studies in voice when she was 12 with Benita Wandel, continuing to study privately into college. She holds her BA from Augustana College in music education as well as her Master of Music in flute performance and Performers Certificate in chamber music from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. During her studies in flute she remained passionate about vocal music, always trying to find opportunities to perform as a vocalist whenever possible.

As a vocalist Samantha has performed with the following ensembles: the Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale, the Augustana Collegiate Chorale, the Midwest Young Artists Conservatory Chorale, and the Highland Park High School Choir. With these ensembles she performed master works including: Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*, Verdi's *Requiem*, Mozart's *Requiem*, and excerpts from Mendelssohn's *Elijah*.











2024-2025 Officers

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*The Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale
recognizes with appreciation those who have served
as President of the Board of Directors:*

-  Libbie Peckarsky z"l
-  Audrey Brooks
-  Sharon Fedderly
-  Barbara Abrams
-  Donna Neubauer and
-  Judy Wolkenstein (Co-Presidents)
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-  Anita Bensman
-  Ilene Wasserman z"l
-  Julie Magidson

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www.milwaukeejewishcommunitychorale.org
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The Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale thanks the following for enhancing our annual concert:

ENID BOOTZIN BERKOVITS, Artistic Director & musical visionary

KAI-I TIEN, Accompanist

CONGREGATION SINAI, our host

MERZY EISENBERG for many years of writing concert narration

DICK ALPERT, narrator

CHORALE BOARD OF DIRECTORS for dedicated support of the Chorale

MEMBERS of the MILWAUKEE JEWISH COMMUNITY CHORALE
for their dedication and spirited voices

CANTORS DAVID BARASH and RICHARD NEWMAN,
HAZZANIM MICHELE ROZANSKY and JEREMY STEIN

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Dearest Chorale,

*Thank you for
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music to our
community!*

*Cantor Karen and
Elliot Berman*

Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale Program



ZEMER SHEKAZEH Nurit Hirsh/arr. Shaul Gil'ad

K'AYAL TA'AROG Nick Page

Soloist: Cantor Richard Newman

Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale and Congregation Shalom Choir

CELEBRATE AND SING Dennis Janzer

Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale and Congregation Shalom Choir

WHO SHALL ASCEND Dennis Janzer

Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale and Congregation Shalom Choir

PSALM 8 - Adonai, Adonenu Dan Forrest

Flute: Samantha Haake

Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale and Congregation Shalom Choir

SIMCHU ET Y'RUSHALAYIM Dave Schlossberg

KHOSN KALE MAZELTOV Traditional

Cantor David Barash

AND THE ANGELS SING Johnny Mercer/Ziggy Ellman

Arr. Joshua Jacobson/Art Bailey

Clarinet: Rene Edelstein



INTERMISSION



Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale Program

ILENE WASSERMAN LEGACY AWARD PRESENTATION: IN MEMORY OF ROBERTA FORMAN

HEAL US NOW Leon Sher

Soloist: Howard Shimon

LO YAREU Stephen Richards

PSALM 150 Hazzan Jeremy Stein

Hazzan Jeremy Stein

KIDDUSH Kurt Weill

Soloist: Cantor Richard Newman

HAD GADYA Moishe Oysher

Soloists: Cantors: David Barash and Richard Newman

Hazzanim: Mimi Rozansky and Jeremy Stein

HATIKVAH HANOSHANAH David Burger

AMEN SHEM NORA/YEHALELU SHEMO Sephardic folksongs

Arr. Matthew Lazar

Soloists: Cantors: David Barash and Richard Newman

Hazzanim: Mimi Rozansky and Jeremy Stein

T'FILAH David Burger

Lishlom M'dinat Yisrael

Prayer for the Peace of Israel



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We in the Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale
Sing with feelings
Sing with passion
Sing with commitment
Sing with joy
Sing with love
Sing with inspiration

And sing from our hearts with sincere appreciation
to our audiences who support us.

May the Chorale go from strength to strength.

Merzy & Russ Eisenberg



**Mazel Tov to all of our CBINT Members
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In Memory of my parents, Libby
and Jerry Jankins, who so loved
their time in the Chorale.

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Mazel Tov!



**Thanks to the
Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale
for bringing joyful and meaningful
music to our community!**



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"If I cannot fly, let me sing."

— Stephen Sondheim

I am grateful to be creating
gorgeous music with the Chorale.
Mazel Tov on another year of sharing song!

~Debbie Berg~

Jeffrey A. Warren

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Best wishes to
Toby Lukoff
for continued success with the
Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale

Elliott Katz & Family

Mazel Tov to Toby Lukoff & the
Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale
with much love

Meira, Justin, Madelyn, Ivy, and Olivia Besikof

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הַרְיֵעוּ לַיהוָה כָּל-הָאָרֶץ פִּצְחוּ וְרַנְּנוּ וְזָמְרוּ:

*“Make a joyful noise to Adonai, all the earth:
make a loud noise, rejoice, and sing praise.”*

-Psalm 98:4

To the Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale:
Thank you for sharing your joyful and spirited music today!

Your friends at Congregation Sinai

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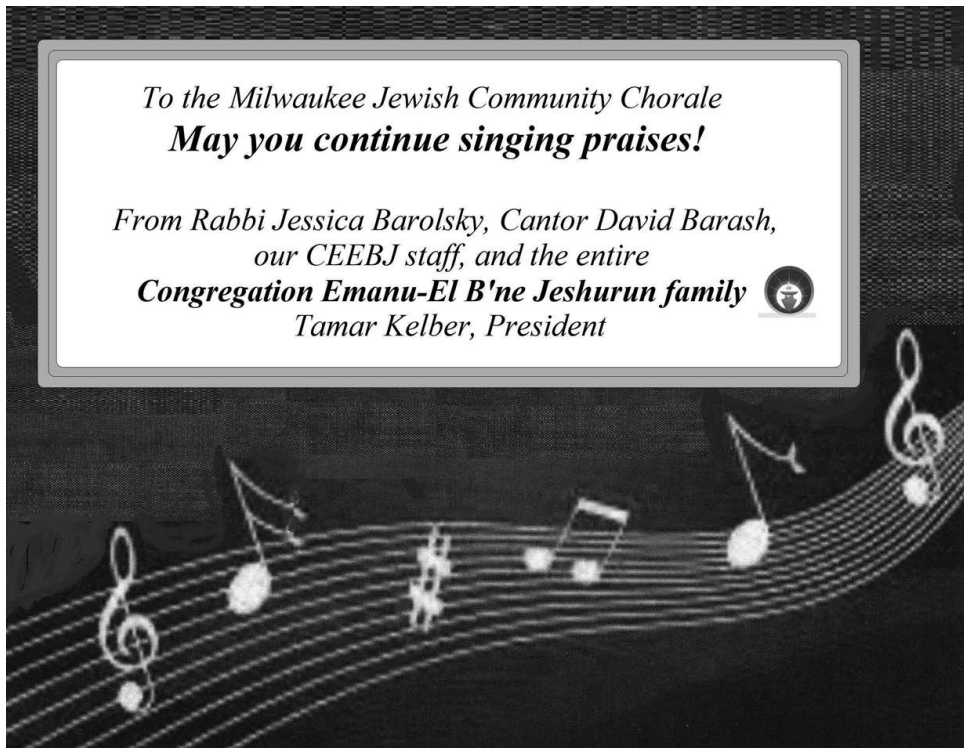


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*To the Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale
May you continue singing praises!*

*From Rabbi Jessica Barolsky, Cantor David Barash,
our CEEBJ staff, and the entire
Congregation Emanu-El B'ne Jeshurun family*

Tamar Kelber, President



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*In
Loving
Memory
of
Ilene
Wasserman
~ Jeffrey Wasserman*

Making Jewish music available to the community has been a true blessing. Our Chorale is like family who enjoys reaching out and sharing our talents. I have enjoyed being part of the "family" since 2012 and look forward to many more years.

In addition, I want to thank our "Music Keeper", Harriet Matz, for her hard work in keeping us supplied with all our treasured tunes.

Diane Pagenkop

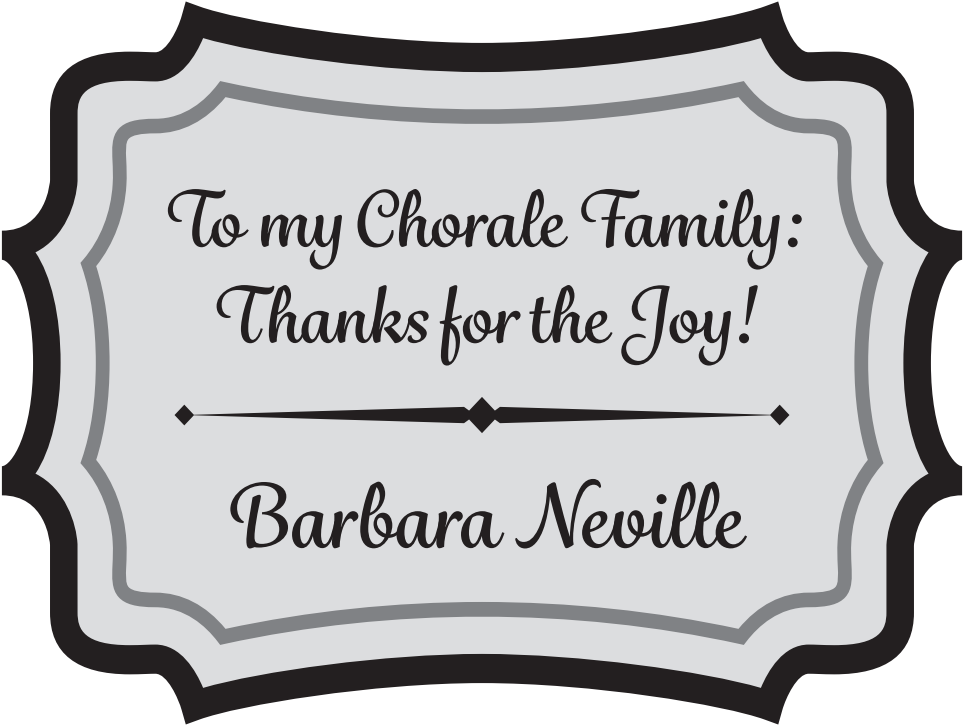
A rectangular card with a grey background featuring faint, flowing musical notes and staves. The text is centered and reads:

FROM OUR SINGING HEARTS TO YOURS.

YOU GIVE US NOTHING BUT JOY.

A decorative horizontal flourish consisting of a central wavy line with two curved, scroll-like ends.

Bob and Donna Neubauer

A large, ornate, light-grey frame with a thick black border. The frame has a scalloped, decorative shape. The text is centered within the frame:

To my Chorale Family:
Thanks for the Joy!

A horizontal line with a central diamond-shaped ornament and small diamond-shaped ends.

Barbara Neville

A rectangular card with a vibrant, multi-colored background (pink, purple, blue, green) featuring faint, flowing musical notes and staves. The text is centered and reads:

Honoring Merzy Eisenberg

A treasured life-long friend --
and extraordinary teacher in
so many ways.

With deepest Love, Sandy Pyer



*In honor of
Julie Magidson*

*with best wishes for a
relaxing retirement
and lots of time in the
beautiful garden*

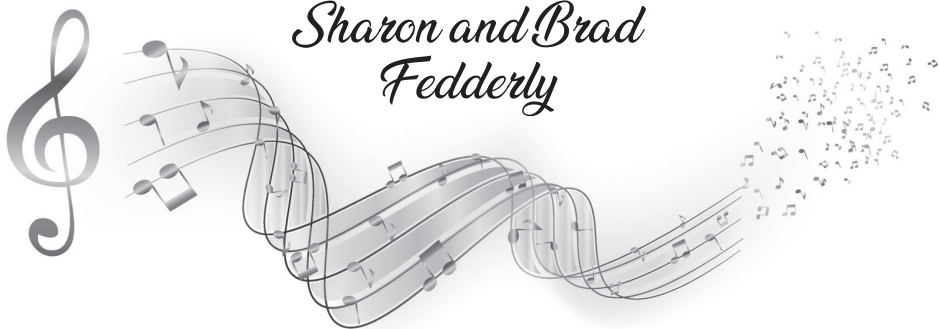
 *from
Cindy, Rosie and Simon*



Mazal tov

to the Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale on
another season of beautiful Jewish choral music.
May the Voices of Harmony continue to delight and
inspire our community for years to come!

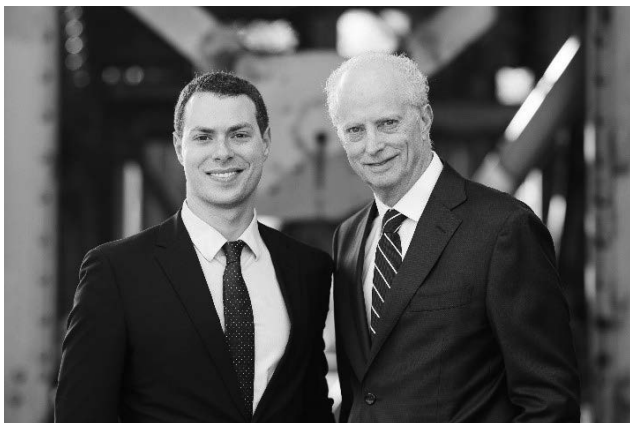
*Sharon and Brad
Fedderly*



CONGRATS!

*Regards from the
Sandler Family*

*Mazel Tov to the Milwaukee Jewish Community
Chorale on a phenomenal performance*



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Mazel Tov

to the

*Milwaukee Jewish
Community Chorale*

Cantor David and Debra Gorra Barash





Do Enjoy -- Our collective souls need and appreciate this! Thank you, MJCC!

אמונה, תקווה, ושמחה

Good musical memories I look back on with a joyful heart... we sang together for 5 years.

Toda Rabah

Sue Marcus Warren - "Soprano" 2015-2020



THE MILWAUKEE JEWISH COMMUNITY CHORALE

THANKS YOU FOR
ATTENDING OUR ANNUAL CONCERT
SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!

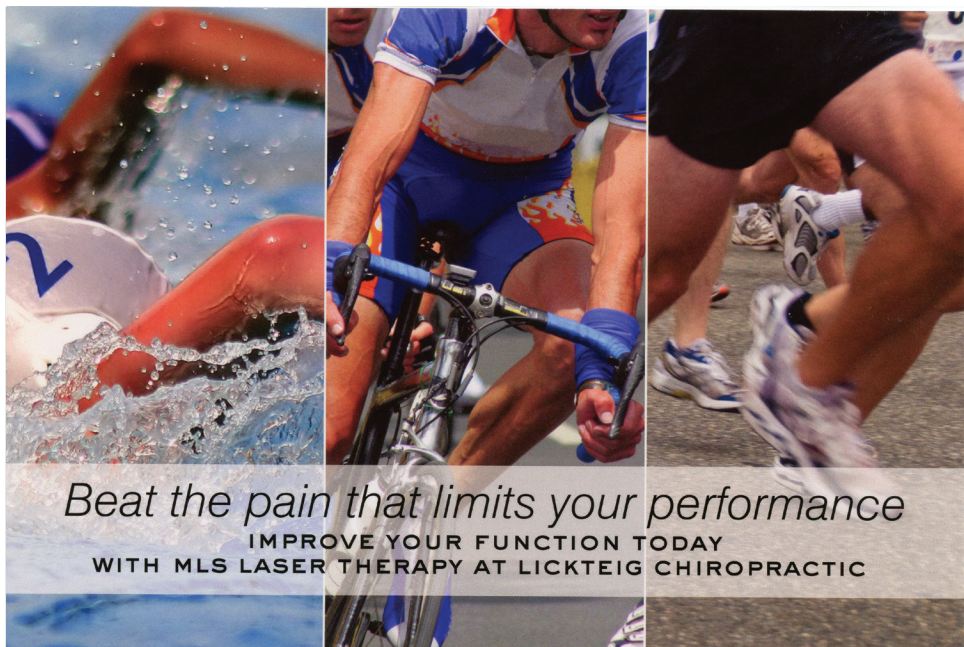
"Music is the language of
the spirit. It opens the secret
of life bringing peace,
abolishing strife."
— Kahlil Gibran —





*Thank you to
Barbara Neville and the
Milwaukee Jewish
Community Chorale for
filling our lives with
beautiful music! Mazel tov
on all of your hard work
and dedication.*

*~ Love, Susie, Joanne,
Stanley,
Howie, Mimi, Jim, and
Lori*



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