

# BENJAMIN AARON ROSNER

825 Sierra Oaks Vista Lane, Sacramento, CA · cantorben@gmail.com · 305-785-8834  
www.cantorben.com

## Experience

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### **Mosaic Law Congregation, Cantor**

Sacramento, CA · 2013 - present

- Leads variety of dynamic weekday, Shabbat and holiday services in range of styles and settings, including but not limited to,
  - Traditional Shabbat or weekday minyan service (leading alone or with lay leaders, with a balance of congregational singing and traditional hazzanut)
  - Non-traditional Friday Night Services: playing multiple instruments, singing, and conducting five different ensembles.
  - Shababababa Friday night service (playing guitar, ukulele or banjo; co-lead with education director, Sacramento PJ Library director and Cantorial Intern)
  - Leads or facilitates services with different Jewish traditions (Ashkenazi, Sephardi, Mizrachi, Yemenite, Persian, etc), sometimes engaging guests cantors from out of town.
- Coordinates B'nai Mitzvah Programs
  - Acts as primary tutor to most families teaching nusach, trope and prayers.
  - Supervises additional/supplementary tutors
  - Significantly updated program with revamped handbook, date picking process, and policies to reflect the needs of the 21st century
  - Students continue leading services and chanting Torah after their Bar/Bat Mitzvah
- Cantillation
  - Reads Torah, Haftarah, holiday, and megillot regularly,
  - Assigns all Biblical Readings.
  - Teaches all forms of Trope and relevant Hebrew grammar to Adults privately and in classes
  - Teaches classes on Sofrut (Hebrew Calligraphy and its halachah) and inspects Torahs.
  - Created new Shalosh Regalim Megillot books with graphic designer and my own photography
- Collaborates with lay leaders and KOH Library and Cultural Center to produce a range of educational and community musical experiences
- Founded MLC2030, a group at Mosaic Law Congregation, which creates social, social action and religious programming in and out of the synagogue and in homes for young adults in their 20s and 30s
- Participates in range of life-cycle events and actively pursues pastoral care opportunities
- Represents synagogue at community functions locally and nationally (See CV for details)
- Works with Membership Team; 100 new member-units from 2013 until now.
- Supervised the upgrade of sound systems which can now create separate mixes in multiple rooms, outside and on livestream simultaneously.
- Teaches adult students training to become professional cantors.
- Works with Education Director to create dynamic education of tefillah and Jewish music for students

### **Congregation Beth Shalom, Cantor**

Pittsburgh, PA · 2010 - 2013

- Led variety of dynamic weekday, Shabbat and holiday services in range of styles and settings, including but not limited to,
  - Traditional Shabbat or weekday minyan service (leading alone or with lay leaders, with emphasis on congregational singing)
  - Shabbat Alive Friday night service (with band and/or choir participation during Kabbalat Shabbat)
  - Shababababa Friday night service (playing guitar or mandolin; co-lead with another rabbi)
- Taught davening and leining skills to B'nai Mitzvah and adult students
  - Provide extensive support to B'nai Mitzvah students and their families
- Planned and delivered adult education programs and private lessons in Jewish culture and music
- Read Torah and holiday megillot or assigned readings as needed

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- Collaborated with lay leaders to produce a range of community musical experiences, including pre- and post-shabbat concerts and open mic series
- Engaged unaffiliated and/or unengaged young professionals through collaboration with local Young Professionals' group and personal outreach, including hosting events in my own home
- Participated in range of life-cycle events and actively pursued pastoral care opportunities
- Represented synagogue at community functions

## **Temple Beth Rishon**, Cantorial Intern Wyckoff, NJ · 2007-2010

- Led dynamic Shabbat services in collaboration with other clergy, choir, and assorted musicians
- Performed range of musical settings, including original compositions, in synagogue and community services and concerts
- Taught prayer melodies, and Torah and Haftarah trope to B'nai Mitzvah students
- Educated Sunday School students about holiday, traditional, and folk music
- Developed Sunday School music curriculum for future synagogue use
- Created advanced teen choir and coached individual students for participation in services

## **Door To Door Tutoring**, Tutor New York, NY · 2006-2010

- Taught Hebrew language, liturgy, holidays, and culture to students age 6 to 13
- Prepared students in all areas leading up to their B'nai Mitzvah
- Engaged and educated unaffiliated families

## **The Jewish Center of Sussex County**, Visiting Cantor Newton, NJ · High Holidays 2007, 2009

- Led traditional Shacharit, Musaf, and Maariv services on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur
- Collaborated with Rabbi and lay leaders to provide warm services for intimate Congregation

## **Ohel Ayalah**, Cantorial Student New York, NY · 2006-2007

- Led in-demand High Holiday services designed for unaffiliated Jews
- Conducted large, community-wide Passover Seders
- Helped envision and launch independent Friday night minyan geared toward young adults

## **The Great Synagogue**, Chorister Jerusalem, Israel · 2005-2006

- Participated in this internationally-known choir, under the direction of Naftali Hershtig and Eli Jaffe
- Performed in televised tour concerts in Holland and Germany

## **Hartford Hillel Foundation**, Jewish Campus Service Corps Fellow West Hartford, CT · 2002-2003

- Created educational, social, and religious programming tailored to Jewish students' interests to engage and empower students to participate in Jewish life

## Education

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**Jewish Theological Seminary**, H.L. Miller Cantorial School/College of Jewish Music New York, NY  
Masters in Sacred Music; Diploma of Hazzan, May 2010

**Honors:** Arlene Levy Cantorial Scholarship; Sara and Samuel Katz Memorial Prize in Liturgy and Nusach  
**Israel:** Conservative Yeshiva (2005-2006)

**University of Miami** Coral Gables, FL

Bachelor of Music in Classical Guitar; minor in Jewish Studies, May 2002

**Honors:** Phi Mu Alpha (professional music fraternity)