



Coalition for
Jewish Learning

MILWAUKEE
JEWISH FEDERATION

Salute to JEWISH EDUCATORS

MARCH 19, 2023 • 3-5 PM



2023 TRIBUTE BOOK

Watch a livestream of the event at [YouTube.com/CoalitionforJewishLearning](https://www.youtube.com/CoalitionforJewishLearning)

Thank you, Educators!

THE CONGREGATION SHALOM COMMUNITY, STAFF, AND CLERGY ARE SO
THANKFUL FOR THE EDUCATORS AND SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS WHO WORK
HARD TO PROVIDE A HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION TO OUR COMMUNITY!

"REVERE YOUR TEACHER AS YOU REVERE HEAVEN."

- ELEAZAR B. SHAMMUA. MISHNA: ABOT, 4.12

*A special congratulations to Congregation
Shalom's 2023 award recipients:*

MARILYN FRANKLIN - TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD



ERICA FISHBACH - TEACHER IMPACT AWARD

JUSTIN ALTMAN - SCHOOL SUPPORT AWARD



Kel Hakavod

TO SUSIE ROSENGARTEN, A DEVOTED CONGREGATION SHALOM TEACHER,
FOR RECEIVING THE DOUBLE CHAI AWARD FOR 36 YEARS OF TEACHING
IN THE JEWISH EDUCATION!



2023 PROGRAM

Salute to JEWISH EDUCATORS

Sunday, March 19 • 3 pm • MilwaukeeJewish.org/Salute

Reception And Registration	
Musical Performance	A Band'n All Hope: <i>Kolmeike, Le Chajem Rebbe</i>
Welcome	Roger Carp, <i>Coalition for Jewish Learning Advisory Board</i> Tzipi Altman-Shafer, <i>Jewish Education Community Planner</i> Joan Lubar, <i>Milwaukee Jewish Federation Chair</i>
D'var Torah	Natalie Black, <i>Congregation Sinai</i>
Chai Awards	Lora Vexler, <i>Jewish Beginnings</i> Stephanie Brauner, <i>Bader Hillel Academy</i> Debbie Intravaia, <i>Congregation Beth El, Sheboygan</i>
Double Chai Awards	Susie Rosengarten, <i>Congregation Shalom</i>
Video	
Lifetime Impact Award	Dr. Sherry Blumberg
Teacher Impact & School Support Awards	Supplementary Schools • Preschools • Day Schools
Musical Performance	A Band'n All Hope: <i>Tumbalalaika</i>
Gill Incentive For Teachers (Gift) Award	Moria Lehman, <i>Milwaukee Jewish Day School</i> Stephanie Brauner, <i>Bader Hillel Academy</i> Leah Stein, <i>Friendship Circle</i>
Jerry Benjamin Inspiration Award For Informal Jewish Education	Toni Davison Levenberg, <i>Executive Director of the Steve & Shari Sadek Family Camp Interlaken JCC</i>
Video	
Binah Graduates	Carrie Barbakoff, <i>Congregation Emanu-El Waukesha</i> Dena Krinsky, <i>Yeshiva Elementary School</i> Michelle Petrova, <i>Milwaukee Jewish Day School</i> Heather Spencer, <i>Gan Ami</i> Jennifer Walker, <i>Gan Ami</i>
Levy Family CJL Jewish Educator Of The Year	Marilyn Franklin, <i>Congregation Shalom</i>
Closing Prayer	Rabbi Jessica Barolsky, <i>Congregation Emanu El B'ne Jeshurun</i>
Musical Performance	A Band'n All Hope: <i>Lebedik Un Freylekh, Havenu Shalom Alechim</i>

2023 PROGRAM

Salute to JEWISH EDUCATORS

The Coalition for Jewish Learning takes great pride in the participation of ALL Milwaukee area Jewish schools in today's program. Special thanks are due to the educational directors of these 18 schools as their cooperation was essential and greatly appreciated.

Agudas Achim-Chabad Pelz Hebrew School	Chabad Hebrew School of Glendale & River Hills	Jewish Beginnings	Sinai Religious School
Bader Hillel Academy	Emanu-El B'ne Jeshurun Religious School	Mequon Jewish Preschool	Torah Academy of Milwaukee
Bader Hillel High School	Emanu-El of Waukesha Religious School	Milwaukee Community Hebrew School	Yeshiva Elementary School
Beth El Congregation (Sheboygan)	Gan Ami Early Education Programs (Whitefish Bay & Mequon)	Milwaukee Jewish Day School	Yeshivas Ohr Yechezkel Wisconsin Institute for Torah Studies the Harri Hoffman Family High School
Beth Israel Ner Tamid School of Jewish Studies		Shalom Religious School	

Special thanks to the Synagogue Educators Council and the Salute to Jewish Educators planning committee.

CJL Advisory Board

Dr. Sherry Blumberg	Sherry Malmon
Roger Carp	Rick Paler
Leon Cohen	Susie Rosengarten
Marsha Fensin	Karen Torem
Yael Gal	Nancy Weiss-
Molly Beth Kranitz	McQuide

Past Chairs

Leon Cohen	Cindy Levy
Roger Carp	Susie Rosengarten
Debbie Carter	Jennifer Saber
Berkson*	Bonnie Shafrin
Eve Dicker Eiseman	Louise Stein
Moshe Katz	Karen Torem
Molly Beth Kranitz	

**Of blessed memory*

CJL Staff

Tziporah Altman-Shafer, Jewish
Education Community Planner and
Director of Israel and Overseas
Nicole Boico, Administrative Assistant
Jennifer Saber, Teen Philanthropy Coordinator
and Keshet Inclusion Specialist

Synagogue Educators Council (SEC)

Brian Avner, Natalie Black, Carrie Barbakoff,
Allie Berry, Susan Cosden, Mussie Deren, Chava
Edelman, Debbie Intravaia, Dinie Rapoport

CJL thanks the Committee that Planned the Salute to Jewish Educators:

Brian Avner, Carrie Barbakoff, Leon Cohen,
Chava Edelman, Marsha Fensin, Dana Hartenstein,
Deborah Intravaia, Molly Beth Kranitz, Sherry
Malmon, Rick Paler, Martina Rojo-Heffernan,
Devorkie Shmotkin, Rivkie Spalter

The Coalition for Jewish Learning (CJL), the education department of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation, promotes and advances Jewish education in the greater Milwaukee community, provides a support system for the community's institutions of Jewish learning, and forges coalitions to ensure excellence in Jewish education.



Israel Center
MILWAUKEE
JEWISH FEDERATION



Mazal Tov

MJDS Staff!

MILWAUKEE JEWISH DAY SCHOOL

Moria Lehman

**Gill Incentive for Teachers
Award (GIFT)**

Hebrew/Jewish Studies Teacher

Your dedication to academic excellence and Jewish values prepares children
for a lifetime of success, leadership and engagement with the world.



Karin Damico

Teacher Impact Award
Second Grade Teacher



Doug Haaning

School Support Award
Technology Specialist

From your **MJDS** family!

MILWAUKEE JEWISH DAY SCHOOL

2023 Levy Family CJL Jewish Educator of the Year

ABOUT THE AWARD

Our community is blessed with superb Jewish educators and CJL wishes to highlight their contributions and thereby elevate the status of Jewish educators in Milwaukee. This annual award enables our community to show gratitude for all the time, effort and care our best educators give to their students.

The award recognizes nominees who:

1. *Have been engaged in Jewish education for a minimum of five years in Milwaukee.*
2. *Demonstrate leadership within the field of Jewish education.*
3. *Inspire students with a love for Jewish learning.*
4. *Personify the Jewish ideals of love of learning and search for knowledge.*
5. *Have contributed to the elevation of the status of Jewish educators within the Jewish community.*
6. *Engaged in the delivery of Jewish content on an ongoing basis.*

This award is sponsored by Mark and Cindy Levy, who have been dedicated to Jewish education for many years. Cindy was a long time member of the CJL advisory board. Mark and Cindy are very involved at their synagogue, Congregation Emanu-El of Waukesha. As supporters of Jewish education in Milwaukee, they wanted to elevate the status of our high quality educators in Milwaukee by funding this Jewish Educator of the Year Award. The Levy Family CJL Jewish Educator of the Year Award comes with a \$1,000 cash gift.

Past Educators of the Year Awardees

1982	Ateret Cohn*	1996	Devorah Shmotkin	2010-11	Samara Sofian
1983	Miriam Ben Shemuel*	1997	Adina Altshull	2011-12	Dr. Sherry Blumberg
1984	Elaine Sanderson*	1998	Tamar Loewenberg	2012-13	Rabbi Yosef Perlman
1985	Merzy Eisenberg	1999	Dr. Larry Hurwitz*	2013-14	Karen Torem & Tzipi Altman-Shafer
1986	Rabbi Nachman Levine	2000	Rabbi Shabse Werther	2014-15	Sara Minash
1987	Michael Fefferman	2001	Rabbi Raphael Wachsman*	2015-16	Mishy Pittleman & Susie Rosengarten
1988	Stisha Steigman	2002	George Strick	2016-17	Marsha Fensin
1989	Eve Joan Zucker	2003	Cindy Cooper	2017-18	Ellie Gettinger
1990	Laura Greene	2004	Marge Eiseman	2018-19	Debbie Silberman*
1991	Bess Mendelsohn*	2005-06	Leah Robbins	2020-21	Yael Gal-Ben-Yitzchak
1992	Cantor Karen Berman	2006-07	Aimee Bachar	2021-22	Rivkie Spalter
1993	Michael Morgan	2007-08	Sharon Cohen		<i>*of blessed memory</i>
1994	Simon Kops*	2008-09	Wendy Cohen		
1995	Harriet Bocksbaum	2009-10	Jody Margolis		

2023 Levy Family CJL Jewish Educator of the Year

Marilyn Franklin

Marilyn Franklin was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to Ruth and Julius Kohler. She grew up on the “West Side,” a very Jewish part of the city at that time. Her desire to teach in a congregational school developed because of the comfort she felt being a part of such a close knit community. Marilyn’s grandparents were Orthodox Jews. They had a strong influence on her Jewish life as did her Conservative parents; the entire family shared many observances together both in the synagogue and home. As a young girl, Marilyn attended Garfinkel’s Hebrew School learning not only Hebrew and Yiddish, but also gaining the true meaning of “Yiddishkeit;” something that has remained with her to this day.

Always wanting to be a teacher, Marilyn graduated from the University of Wisconsin—Madison School of Education with a BS in Secondary Education and taught junior high English for several years.

Though being a stay-at-home wife and mom was enjoyable, she missed being in the classroom. Marilyn reached out to Congregation Shalom; by chance, the religious school was in need of a second



grade teacher who could inspire the love of Judaism in young children. It was then that Marilyn began her now 50 year tenure.

At the same time she also found another rewarding niche. Active in public education, she won election to the local elementary school board in 1977 and was elected and still is a member of the Nicolet School Board since 1988. Always cognizant of Jewish students in the schools, she continues to be an advocate on their behalf.

Marilyn and her husband David live in Fox Point. Their family includes Scott, Amber, Melanie, Laci, Andy, Alla, Alex, and Julianna.

2023 CJL Lifetime Impact Award

ABOUT THE AWARD

Six times before, the Coalition for Jewish Learning has recognized a member of the Milwaukee Jewish Community with a Lifetime Impact Award. This award is given to someone who has dedicated his or her life to improving Jewish Education. People receiving this award have contributed to Jewish education throughout many decades of work.

Dr. Sherry Blumberg

Sherry Blumberg (nee Sherry Sacks), began teaching in Jewish settings when she was 17. She has her Masters in Jewish Education and her Ph.D. in Jewish education from Hebrew Union College. She has served as congregational educator in both northern and southern California, Illinois and Wisconsin and as teacher of children in Arizona, Milwaukee, and New York. She was the first full time woman hired to teach at HUC, New York and served for 14 years on the faculty. She has taught in Reform, Conservative and Orthodox settings. She has co-published works on Teaching about God and Spirituality as well as being on the Editorial Committee for the Women's Torah Commentary. Today she teaches 3 Women's Torah



Classes, and substitutes when needed in various places. She has also taught at UWM, Cardinal Stritch, and two Catholic seminaries.

Sherry was married to David Blumberg z'l, lawyer and cantorial soloist. They have an adopted son, Joshua, and three foster daughters.

Former CJL Lifetime Impact Award winners: Dr. Doris Shneidman, Dr. Steve Baruch, Rabbi Nachman Levine, Jerry Benjamin*, Eve Joan Zucker and Elaine Sanderson*
**of blessed memory*

2023 Jerry Benjamin Inspiration Award for Informal Education

ABOUT THE AWARD

The Coalition for Jewish Learning recognizes that important Jewish education also happens in INFORMAL settings. Informal education includes camps, youth groups, art programs, environmental education, Jewish travel programs, and all other types of Jewish education happening outside of a classroom environment. This award is named after Jerry Benjamin, past president of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation, co-founder of CAJE, the Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education. This award is a tribute to his passion about Jewish education.

Toni Davison Levenberg

*Steve and Shari Sadek Family Camp
Interlaken JCC*

Toni Davison Levenberg is looking forward to her 18th summer at Camp Interlaken JCC in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where she serves as the Executive Director. Originally from Philadelphia, PA, she has actively been involved in camping and informal Jewish education since she was a camper at JCC Camp Arthur-Reeta. Toni has a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from the University of Florida and a Master of Arts in Jewish Professional Studies from the Spertus Institute of Jewish Learning and Leadership. Prior to working at Camp Interlaken, Toni was the Assistant Director of House in the Wood Camp serving inner-city Chicago children, the Sales & Operations Manager of Camp CHI's Perlstein Resort & Conference Center, and a Software Engineer with two large technology consulting firms. Toni has participated in a number of professional leadership programs during her tenure such as the Lekhu Lakhem program through the JCC Association's Mandel



Center for Jewish Education, and Toni graduated from the Foundation for Jewish Camp's prestigious Executive Leadership Institute in 2019. Toni has been active with the

Wisconsin and Illinois sections of the American Camp Association and with the Midwest Jewish Camp Directors. She has been on the board of the National Council of Jewish Women – Milwaukee Chapter and currently serves as a member of the Women's Philanthropy Board for the Milwaukee Jewish Federation. Toni has been a mentor for the Jewish Changemaker's Program, a mentor for the Foundation for Jewish Camp's mentor program, and she is a member of the Advisory Committee for The Customer Experience Certificate Program at The University of Wisconsin. Toni lives in Milwaukee, Wisconsin with her husband Jonah and her children Jaron (11) and Nava (8).

Former winners of this award: Lenny Kass, Rabbi Avreimi Schapiro, Joshua Richman, Rachael Badt, Debbie Intravaia, and Dalilah Bernier.



Coalition for
Jewish Learning

MILWAUKEE
JEWISH FEDERATION

PROGRAMS OF THE COALITION FOR JEWISH LEARNING

LOMED (Learning Opportunities for Milwaukee Educators)

Professional development classes for teachers in all our Jewish schools. Teachers can earn a \$300 stipend each year for participation.

BINAH (Building Inquiry-based Network through Hevruta)

a yearlong intensive cohort learning program for teachers, currently in its third cohort.

Kesher Inclusion Project

Supporting teachers in our synagogue schools in teaching students with disabilities.

Teen Philanthropy

A community-wide program that engages Jewish teens in a communal giving and learning effort to achieve our goal of Tikkun Olam, "repairing the world."

School Census

Annual school census to track the population getting a Jewish education in Milwaukee.

Salute to Jewish Educators

Annual event to celebrate all our local educators.

Camp Scholarships and One Happy Camper

Supporting children from Milwaukee at Jewish overnight camps nationwide. (Funded by the Jewish Community Foundation)

Monthly Newsletter

Providing Jewish and educational resources for the community.

2023 Gill Incentive for Teachers (GIFT) Award

ABOUT THE AWARD

The Gill Incentive for Teachers (GIFT) is an award designed to stimulate and encourage teachers to translate their unique educational ideas and initiatives into effective classroom projects. This award is for a project completed during the current school year in one of these areas:

- *School/classroom culture*
- *Teaching/learning materials*
- *Creative lessons*
- *Enrichment activities, including special one-time class/school projects*

1991	Monica Cohen & Deb Hacker, <i>Congregation Emanu-El of Waukesha</i> ; Henri Zvi Deutsch, <i>Congregation Anshai Lebowitz</i>	2006	Beth Goldstein, <i>Congregation Sinai and Martin Gutnik, Hillel Academy</i>
1992	Laura Greene & Bonnie Shafrin, <i>Congregation Shalom</i> ; Simon Kops*, <i>Congregation Emanu-El B'ne Jeshurun</i>	2007	Beth Goldstein, <i>Congregation Sinai (First Place)</i> and Jennifer Saber, <i>JCC Parenting Center (Second Place)</i>
1993	Rabbi David Brusin, <i>Milwaukee Jewish Day School</i> ; Susan Conn, <i>Beth El Ner Tamid Synagogue</i> ; Susan Atlas, <i>Congregation Emanu-El of Waukesha</i>	2008	Dr. Sherry Blumberg, <i>Congregation Sinai and Nadine Siegman Congregation Sinai & Congregation Emanu-El B'ne Jeshurun</i> and Jennifer Saber, <i>Congregations Shalom & Sinai</i>
1994	Sheryl Selby, <i>Jewish Community Center Early Childhood Department</i> ; Nadine Siegman, <i>Congregation Shalom</i> ; Rivkie Spalter, <i>Hillel Academy</i>	2009	Roger Carp, <i>Congregation Shalom (First Place)</i> and Laura Greene, <i>Congregation Shalom (Second Place)</i>
1995	Laura Greene, <i>Congregation Shalom</i> ; Nina Taus, <i>Milwaukee Jewish Day School</i>	2010	Tzipi Altman-Shafer, <i>Milwaukee Jewish Day School and Cantor Marsha Fensin, Congregation Emanu-El of Waukesha</i>
1996	Rabbi Yacob Gil, <i>Hillel Academy</i> ; Carol Ross, <i>Congregation Shalom</i> ; Liza Wiemer, <i>Congregation Beth Israel</i>	2011	Lori Fisher, <i>Congregation Emanu-El of Waukesha</i>
1997	Roger Carp, <i>Congregation Shalom</i> ; Kate Mann, <i>Congregation Sinai</i>	2012	Jennifer Saber, <i>Congregation Shalom</i>
1998	Terri Beauleau, Harriet Bocksbaum & Judith Ross, <i>Jewish Family Services Child Development Center</i> ; Nadine Siegman, <i>Congregation Shalom</i>	2013	Roger Carp, <i>Congregation Shalom</i>
1999	Cindy Cooper, <i>Congregation Sinai</i>	2014	Rabbi Shari Shamah, <i>Gan Ami</i>
2000	Liza Wiemer, <i>Congregation Beth Israel</i> ; Yoel Turgeman, <i>Hillel Academy</i>	2015	Gilah Saltzman, Ahuva Jarcaig, Karen Torem, Miriam Leff, Rabbi Hersch Hiller, <i>Yeshiva Elementary School</i>
2001	Therese Dorfman, <i>Congregation Emanu-El of Waukesha</i>	2016	Bader Hillel Academy Teachers
2002	Roger Carp, <i>Congregation Shalom</i>	2017	Diane Boland, <i>Congregation Beth Israel Ner Tamid</i> , Yonina Schluskel, <i>Torah Academy of Milwaukee</i>
2003	Tzipi Altman-Shafer, <i>Milwaukee Jewish Day School and Chavah Kintis, Congregation Shalom</i>	2018	Leah Emmer & Chaya Mann, <i>Bader Hillel Academy</i> , and Yael Stein <i>Congregation Beth Israel Ner Tamid</i>
2004	Nadine Siegman, <i>Congregation Shalom</i> and Judy Slyper, <i>Hillel Academy</i>	2019	The Mequon Jewish Preschool Team: Rivkie Spalter, Rabbi Sholom Ber Munitz, Kreinie Tiefenbrun, and consultant Dr. Naama Zoran
2005	Robin Boroda, <i>Hillel Academy</i> and Mary Beaumont-Wishne, <i>Yeshiva Elementary School</i>	2020	Jodie Honighman, <i>Milwaukee Jewish Day School</i> , Sherry Miller and Tamara Miller, <i>Congregation Emanu-El B'ne Jeshurun</i>
		2021	Roger Carp, <i>Congregation Shalom</i>

**Of blessed memory.*

2023 Gill Incentive for Teachers (GIFT) Award

This year's first GIFT award goes to Stephanie Brauner of Bader Hillel Academy and Leah Stein of Friendship Circle for their project, ***Towards Inclusion—Jewish Disability Awareness Month***. Through this project, students learned about Jewish Disability Awareness Month. Each class learned about person-first language, truths and myths about disabilities, and different types of disabilities.

Stephanie Brauner

Bader Hillel Academy

Stephanie is the School Counselor at Bader Hillel Academy. Before moving to Wisconsin, she taught in Florida and New York. She is currently enrolled in the University of Wisconsin-Superior Master's Degree in School Counseling program. She has an Advanced Graduate Certificate in Gifted Education, a Master's Degree in General and Special Education, and a Bachelor's Degree in History. Stephanie has been teaching for eighteen years and strives to provide support, resources, and advocacy about the importance of social emotional learning and inclusion for our students, families, staff, and community. During the summer months, you can find Stephanie at Camp Gan Israel as the Camper Care Specialist. Stephanie and her husband, Seth are the proud parents of Jeremy and



Zachary. They love to travel the country and the world, go to baseball games, and go to Disney World. Stephanie is thankful for the amazing partnership Bader Hillel Academy has with the Friendship Circle and is honored to be recognized along with Leah for this meaningful award!

2023 Gill Incentive for Teachers (GIFT) Award

Then Middle School students met with Leah Stein, co-director of Friendship Circle via zoom. They also shared a pre-recorded video of employees from the Friendship Circle with disabilities to help build students' empathy and inclusion skills. After the lesson and presentation, staff observed students showing more kindness, empathy, and inclusion towards peers and staff.

Leah Stein

Friendship Circle

Leah Stein, MS SpEd, born and raised in New York City, has been honored to work with individuals with disabilities for over 16 years in various capacities. After receiving a Masters degree in special education and administrative education, Leah worked in the New York Board of Education, as a cognitive and behavioral therapist. Experiencing one-on-one life struggles with children with varying abilities, Leah saw the importance of socialization and the lack of this vital treasure in the lives of people with special needs. Leah moved to Milwaukee in 2016 to direct the Friendship Circle of Wisconsin, an organization that gives friendship and support to individuals with disabilities and their families. Friendship Circle is a division of Lubavitch of Wisconsin. Leah



and her husband, Rabbi Levi Stein also established Friendship Bakery, Cafe and Art Studio, an employment training program for adults with disabilities. Leah is inspired daily by the power of friendship, inclusion and the amazing community of Milwaukee.

2023 Gill Incentive for Teachers (GIFT) Award

This year's second GIFT award goes to Moria Lehman of Milwaukee Jewish Day School for her project, *Jewish Studies elective class on Israel's declaration of Independence*.

This project was a Jewish Studies class for 5th-7th graders. Through in-depth reading of Israel's Declaration of Independence, accompanied by other supporting texts, students learned the history of the Jewish connection to Israel. Then they learned the second part of the declaration, that includes the values upon which the state of Israel is built. They explored the values and researched modern conflicts around those values in the state of Israel today. The whole curriculum was created by the teacher. She felt there was a need for a new approach for Israel education in our upper school classes, so she created a whole new curriculum that used one text as the basis for both historic learning and student-led research. A lot of the work was student owned especially in the second half of the course where the students chose their own values and chose a conflict in modern Israel based on their interests.

Moria Lehman

Milwaukee Jewish Day School

Moria Lehman grew up and spent most of her adult life in Israel, in the city she loves most, Jerusalem. As a teenager, Moria was active in a youth movement and in non-formal education. Her first teaching experience was in the army where she served as a teacher-soldier in a youth village for new immigrants. Moria studied in the Hebrew University in Jerusalem where she got her BA in theater and interdisciplinary studies, and her MA in nonprofit management. Moria received a teaching certificate in theater, literature and Jewish Studies from "Kerem" institute for teachers in Jerusalem and worked as a teacher in a high school.

Moria moved to Milwaukee 4 years ago with her family when her husband became the



community Shaliach. Since then she's been teaching Hebrew and Jewish Studies in MJDS, which also became a school and a nurturing community to her three kids, Nadav, Ronnie and Yuval.

2023 Teacher Impact & School Support Awards

ABOUT THE AWARD

The Teacher Impact Award is given to a teacher who has made a special impact on their school community. This is not a "best teacher" award but rather recognition of a teacher who has made special contributions in an area such as mentoring, innovating, or helping others.

The School Support Award is given to a non-teacher (administrator, volunteer, high school aide) who has provided something special to their school.

The recipients of these awards were chosen by each school. The Coalition for Jewish Learning expresses its appreciation for the extraordinary support that these individuals give to Jewish education.

BADER HILLEL ACADEMY

Judy Pierson

TEACHER IMPACT AWARD

For her knowledge of curriculum, pedagogy, creativity, dedication, and belief in children.

Lesley Boaz-Sharon

SCHOOL SUPPORT AWARD

For her dedication to BHA through volunteer activities and for spearheading our conservation and sustainability efforts.

BADER HILLEL HIGH

Rabbi Dovid Rechavel

TEACHER IMPACT AWARD

For his innovative curriculum for learning of parsha, gemara and halacha that promotes student agency and skills. Also for Rabbi Rechavel's dedication in so many ways to making this the best school for our students!

2023 Teacher Impact & School Support Awards

BADER HILLEL HIGH

Mitchell Lechter

SCHOOL SUPPORT AWARD

For volunteer basketball coaching and mentoring. Thank you for helping them in life by helping them on the court.

CHABAD HEBREW SCHOOL OF GLENDALE AND RIVER HILLS

Leah Berendt

TEACHER IMPACT AWARD

For one on one attention to students.

CONGREGATION BETH EL RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Craig Buechel

SCHOOL SUPPORT AWARD

For dedication to the education of the students and strong support of the school.

CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL NER TAMID SCHOOL OF JEWISH STUDIES

Jacob Rosenberg

TEACHER IMPACT AWARD

Jake is an outstanding teacher at CBINT's Shul School. He teaches our 5-7th grade class and he has made wonderful connections with his students throughout the year, creating a classroom environment that is enriching and supportive of our values as a supplementary Jewish school.

2023 Teacher Impact & School Support Awards

CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL NER TAMID SCHOOL OF JEWISH STUDIES

Terri Gingold

SCHOOL SUPPORT AWARD

Terri volunteers at our school on the first and third Sundays every month to do story time with our younger grades. She has spent countless hours making our children's library a warm and inviting space where families and children can enjoy a wide variety of Jewish books.

CONGREGATION EMANU-EL B'NE JESHURUN

Beth Clement

TEACHER IMPACT AWARD

For being an outstanding and dedicated learning guide for our youngest learners. Beth was a model learning guide for hybrid education and creates a safe and inspiring environment where our learners are excited to attend each week to connect with the content, each other, and with her. Beth led exciting chugim for all of our learners on Jewish games and for our youngest learners creating ritual objects for Shabbat and other holidays.

Michael Saldana

SCHOOL SUPPORT AWARD

For creating a safe and supportive environment for learning. Michael was the primary reason we could offer a hybrid learning program last year and he was an incredible source of technical support for each of our learning guides and our Director of Lifelong Learning. Michael goes above and beyond for our learners, our families, our learning guides, and our staff. Michael even has helped in medical emergencies. Michael is a very important part of our Romemu team and models the values of Romemu, especially being welcoming, showing compassion, and reaching higher.

2023 Teacher Impact & School Support Awards

CONGREGATION EMANU-EL OF WAUKESHA

Cantor Martin Levson

TEACHER IMPACT AWARD

For your spiritual, musical and educational contributions that you have made to our school and greater synagogue community.

Elizabeth Hamlin

SCHOOL SUPPORT AWARD

For your willingness to lend a helping hand whether it's in the classroom, for a program or to advise the greater synagogue community.

CONGREGATION SHALOM

Erica Fishbach

TEACHER IMPACT AWARD

In recognition of her outstanding work in her kindergarten classroom. Erica has worked with an extremely large class and kept her students engaged and excited to learn week in and week out. We are so lucky to have her on our teaching staff!

Justin Altman

SCHOOL SUPPORT AWARD

In recognition of his outstanding work as a madrich in our school, particularly in assisting our teachers with any technology needs in their classrooms. Justin is also always ready and willing to help wherever else help is needed in the school on Sunday mornings.

2023 Teacher Impact & School Support Awards

CONGREGATION SINAI

Cindy Cooper

TEACHER IMPACT AWARD

In recognition of her dedication to the children and Jewish values, Cindy inspired the children to create an abstract interpretation of climate change and care for nature in the form of artwork. A masterpiece that will be displayed and admired in our school for years to come.

Jeri Danz

SCHOOL SUPPORT AWARD

Jeri is the heart of the school, planning and making sure things happen as they should.

GAN AMI EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM

Rachel Wittliff

TEACHER IMPACT AWARD

Rachel has dedicated her professional career to Jewish Early Childhood Education. She is a Gan Ami JCC Whitefish Bay Educator and Site Coach responsible for mentoring and coaching new educators. Rachel's light ignites her students, the families and the staff. Mazel Tov to Rachel on this amazing award.

Cindy Gorman

SCHOOL SUPPORT AWARD

Cindy was hired as the Gan Ami JCC Whitefish Bay receptionist, but what she does far exceeds her job description. Each day, she warmly greets our families and then moves from classroom to classroom supporting the teachers in so many ways. Cindy's warmth and giving spirit make our school a better place. Mazel Tov Cindy, on this amazing award!

2023 Teacher Impact & School Support Awards

JEWISH BEGINNINGS LUBAVITCH PRESCHOOL

Pam Goldner

TEACHER IMPACT AWARD

For always being there for other teachers, staff members and parents.

Janine Bridgeford

SCHOOL SUPPORT AWARD

For deeply caring about our school, volunteer professional development sessions with our teachers, and serving on the board.

MEQUON JEWISH PRESCHOOL

Courtney Dandy

TEACHER IMPACT AWARD

"The true guardians of a community are the teachers." — Talmud

Courtney brings love and commitment to our children, faculty and community. She sees the potential in all children each and every day. Courtney is inclusive and welcoming with her colleagues and values reflection as an important tool in growth. Courtney's love for toddlers is evident in her classroom and she works hard to provide innovative opportunities for them to learn. She invests herself to make her classroom look beautiful as well as supporting other classrooms' aesthetics too. Courtney sees the whole school as her landscape for giving and caring. When it happens that a teacher needs to leave school early, or if a class is asking for more staff support, Courtney finds a way to be there to help. Her culinary talents add her signature to meal prep and treats for special occasions.

2023 Teacher Impact & School Support Awards

MEQUON JEWISH PRESCHOOL

Janet Levy

SCHOOL SUPPORT AWARD

Nearly every day they arrive at MJP with a joyful attitude, ready to support and help the school in any and every way needed. From participating in planning meetings, envisioning events and programs for our school, to helping with the practical needs, greeting parents and children and organizing and supporting the details of the projects we are working on at preschool. Janet and Queenie embody the idea of walking with us, step by step as we reach together the places MJP strives for.

Janet has worked as part of the MJP Administrative team since 2005. She is part of the visionary team of MJP, envisioning the next steps for our school and always thinking about the stewardship of MJP, how to make every parent, educator and volunteer feel valued. She is a trailblazer, leading the path for us with her many ideas about how to increase our visibility in the greater community, and is always seeking opportunities for our school to partner with other groups in our community. Janet arrives at MJP nearly every day, eager to support our mission in any capacity, asking what is needed and offering her help. Janet embodies the idea of School Support. Janet loves MJP and MJP loves Janet! So much of who we are today is because of the dedication, commitment, and faith that Janet has in the power and potential of MJP.

Queenie Weesen

SCHOOL SUPPORT AWARD

Queenie has many talents. Her biggest attributes are her compassion for others and her strong work ethic. Together with Janet, Queenie has joined the MJP team as a volunteer who participates and supports us. Queenie is a hard worker who from the moment she enters MJP she does not stop searching for ways to support us sharing her warm, energetic attitude and overflowing love.

2023 Teacher Impact & School Support Awards

MILWAUKEE COMMUNITY HEBREW SCHOOL

Sarah Miriam Fuchs

TEACHER IMPACT AWARD

Sarah's big smile and genuine enthusiasm for her students make her a much-loved teacher at MCHS. Her students eagerly ask to sit next to her, and seeing her is a highlight of their day! Her love of the students permeates the lesson, and the students walk away from class with those positive feelings infusing their feelings about their Judaism.

Shoshana Levy

SCHOOL SUPPORT AWARD

Shoshana is always ready to take care of the details of any program that comes up - she is thorough, and thinks through all the things that might be needed, carefully adjusting so that everything is just right! We rely on her for making sure every Hebrew school special event at MCHS is a hit!

MILWAUKEE JEWISH DAY SCHOOL

Karin Damico

TEACHER IMPACT AWARD

Karin has taught lower school classes at MJDS for nearly 15 years. In addition to currently serving as the Second Grade Lead, she is the head of the Sunshine Committee, a group that supports staff in both simchas and difficult times. The committee is a key element to the feeling of mishpacha among staff. Karin has known many of our students since their first day and Eva, a current eighth grade student, remembers her fondly. "Gev. Damico is an amazing teacher who is kind and caring! She teaches in a fun way that everyone can understand."

2023 Teacher Impact & School Support Awards

MILWAUKEE JEWISH DAY SCHOOL

Doug Haaning

SCHOOL SUPPORT AWARD

As the MJDS Technology Specialist, Doug provides incredible support for staff and students, often when a tech issue occurs at the exact wrong time. His calm demeanor and quiet confidence quickly diffuses frustrating situations as he efficiently solves problems. Head of School Aaron Lippman said, "Doug is a kind, patient and incredibly curious person, living our core values of wonder and empathy every day. I am grateful for the many ways he adds value to our school community."

PELZ HEBREW SCHOOL

Chana Feller

TEACHER IMPACT AWARD

For your dedication to your students and school!

Chaya Goldstein

SCHOOL SUPPORT AWARD

Thanks for your dedication to our students and school!

TORAH ACADEMY OF MILWAUKEE

Shulamis Halpern

TEACHER IMPACT AWARD

Mrs. Halpern has brought the meaning of our daily prayers to life in her teaching of tefillah to our students. Her passion to connect with our Creator is evident in every class that she teaches and in each interaction with her students.

2023 Teacher Impact & School Support Awards

TORAH ACADEMY OF MILWAUKEE

Beth Meister

SCHOOL SUPPORT AWARD

Mrs. Meister has worn every hat possible in her service to TAM. She is an alum, a mom of current and past students, the secretary of our Board of Directors, was our title 1 teacher for a few years and quite significantly, is our carpool coordinator. Beth says “yes” to TAM, whenever she is called upon.

YESHIVA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Emily Lohr

TEACHER IMPACT AWARD

For mentoring, coaching, and guiding newer teachers this year.

Gilah Saltzman

TEACHER IMPACT AWARD

For mentoring, coaching, and guiding newer teachers this year.

Esther Bulgatz

SCHOOL SUPPORT AWARD

For being available for classroom support and substituting many grades, meeting many school needs at different levels with great flexibility and ability.

WISCONSIN INSTITUTE FOR TORAH STUDY

Amelia Schmidt z’l

SCHOOL SUPPORT AWARD

For her long time dedicated service to the Yeshiva and its students. May her memory be for a blessing.

2023 Chai & Double Chai Awards

ABOUT THE AWARDS

In addition to recognizing the experience of all our teachers, it is the tradition in Milwaukee to recognize teachers who have been working in Jewish Education for 18 and 36 years.

CHAI



**Stephanie
Brauner**

Bader Hillel Academy



**Debbie
Intravaia**

*Congregation Beth El,
Sheboygan*



**Lora
Vexler**

Jewish Beginnings

DOUBLE CHAI



Susie Rosengarten

Congregation Shalom

2023 Upcoming BINAH Graduates

ABOUT THE AWARD

BINAH (Building an Inquiry-based Network as Hevruta) is a professional development cohort that strengthens the skills of Jewish educators. It is open to teachers at local Jewish schools. It is a one year program that meets monthly for: Hevruta text study, video observation, analysis of student work, and analysis of curriculum. CJL is proud to recognize the third cohort of the BINAH program.



**Carrie
Barbakoff**

*Congregation Emanu
El Waukesha*



**Dena
Krinsky**

*Yeshiva Elementary
School*



**Michelle
Petrova**

*Milwaukee Jewish
Day School*



**Heather
Spencer**

*Gan Ami Early
Childhood Education
Program*



**Jennifer
Walker**

*Gan Ami Early
Childhood Education
Program*

**Mazel Tov to all the
Award Winners!**

*from Toby and
Mark Lukoff*

*From Coach Lechter,
To a Compassionate and
Brilliant Teacher, Rabbi
Dovid Rechavel. L'Chaim!*

**Erica Fishbach — for
giving your students an
engaging introduction
to Jewish learning!**

Grandpa & Marilee

**Sherry Blumberg
—in recognition of your
talents & dedication to
Jewish Education.**

Gene & Marilee Bass

**Cindy Cooper, Terri
Gingold, Pam Goldner,
Debbie Intravia —
Mazel Tov !!!!**

Gene & Marilee Bass



**Kol Hakavod to Cantor
Martin Levson and
Elizabeth Hamlin.**

from Ann Meyers

**Congratulations to
Marilyn Franklin, a
talented and committed
Jewish educator.**

Sandy and Scott Stern

**Jake, so proud of your
commitment & passion!
Yasher Koach!**

Love, Mom

**Mazel Tov to all Shalom
Jewish Educators and
Sherry Blumberg!**

Felice Bruskin

**Mazal tov Beth.
A well deserved award.**

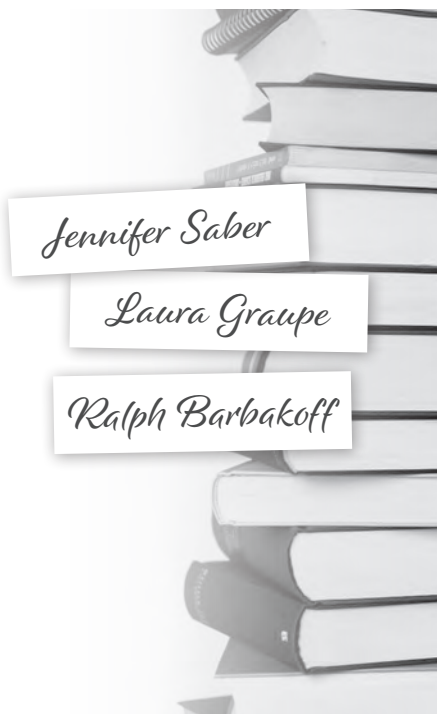
Love, Aunt Linda

**Mazel Tov Craig and
Debbie! Thank you for
all you do.**

*Congregation Beth El,
Sheboygan*

**Mazel Tov to all
the well deserving
honorees!**

Sue and Allan Carneol



**Congregation
Emanu-El of Waukesha
congratulates our 2023
award recipients:**

**Cantor Martin
Levson, Educator
Carrie Barbakoff,
Parent Elizabeth
Hamlin**



**Mazel Tov and Kol
HaKavod to our
Dedicated, Amazing
Educators! You bless
our community
every day!**

Sue and Rick Strait

**Wishing Mazel Tov
to our Father and
Grandfather Mitch
Lechter - there
is no one more
deserving!**

*Love, the Cohens
& Tarica-Lechters*

**Mazel Tov Sherry
Blumberg on your
Lifetime Impact Award!**

*Audrie Berman and
Mark Mendelsohn*

**Mazel Tov Sherry
Blumberg, Beth Clement,
& Michael Saldana!**

Sherry Malmor

**We are so proud
of you, Erica
Fishbach.
Mazel Tov for
receiving the
teacher impact
award!**

*Susan, Jeff, Nathan,
Ryan, Brian, Michael*

**Mazel Tov to
Erica Fishbach
on receiving the
teacher impact
award.
We are proud
of you!**

*Caren and Don, Jeff,
Nathan and Ryan,
Samantha, Stanton and
Sadie, Sara and Mitchell*

**Honoring Susie
Rosengarten
for 36+ years of
dedication, wisdom,
love, and time, and
commitment to
Jewish education.
The world is a better
place because of you!**

*Much love from your
Mom, Dad, sisters and
their families*

**Mazel Tov to all Milwaukee
Jewish EDUCATORS. You
make a huge difference every
day. Thanks for all you do.**

**Special congratulations to all
the AWARD WINNERS. We are
so glad to have the opportunity
to recognize you today.**

**Thank you to all the SCHOOLS
for welcoming me into
your communities. I love
working with all of you.**

Tziporah Altman-Shafer

**“A teacher affects eternity,
they can never tell where their
influence stops.” —Henry Adams.**

**Mazel Tov to everyone and thank
you for affecting eternity!**

Moshe and Debra Katz

**Mazel Tov
Sherry! Teacher
extraordinaire.
Overflowing
with knowledge.
Respectful of
students. An
asker of creative
questions.
My teacher.**

Idy Goodman

**It is our pleasure to
celebrate together with all
the dedicated educators and
volunteers being recognized
by CJL. We applaud your
hard work, creativity, and
commitment to instilling in
our generations of Jewish
students a deep knowledge
of our heritage and faith.**

**Thanks especially to Sherry
Blumberg and Marilyn
Franklin for leading
our community from
strength to strength.**

*Roger Carp and
Debbie Recht*

**Mazel Tov to our
very own Susie
Rosengarten, a
dedicated educator
and inspiring
colleague!**



Israel Center
MILWAUKEE
JEWISH FEDERATION

*B'kavod, Uria, Tzipi,
Allison, Heni, and Andrea*

**Mazel Tov
Dr. Sherry
Blumberg.
“Honor the
Teacher and Hold
Her in Awe.”**

*With admiration and
gratitude, Congregation
Beth Israel Ner Tamid
Women's Torah Study Class*

*Warm wishes of love and Mazal tov to our special
honorees*

Courtney, Janet, and Queenie

*It means so much to us that you are part of our
MJP family.*





BADER
HILLEL
ACADEMY

**Congratulations
to Stephanie Brauner,
Judy Pierson, and
Lesley Boaz-Sharon
on your well deserved
recognition.**

*We are proud that
you are part of our
BHA family.*

**Thank you to all of the teachers, staff members,
and volunteers that invest so much in the Milwaukee
Jewish Community. We salute all of you!**

Congratulations to our Teacher Impact Awardees, Mrs. Emily Lohr and Mrs. Gilah Saltzman, for mentoring colleagues on staff. They have so graciously shared their knowledge, experience, and expertise to help, guide and support other staff members. Their care and support for others, both staff and students, outside of their own classrooms is something that inspires us all!

Congratulations to our School Support Awardee, Mrs. Esther Bulgatz, for being there for our staff when they need her most. As YES's permanent substitute teacher, Mrs. Green steps in and fills roles large and small, often at the most inconvenient times, to graciously ensure that the students' learning continues without interruption.



Yeshiva Elementary School

Rabbi Shaya Baumann, *Principal*

Mrs. Laura Fischer, *Vice Principal*

Rabbi Tzvi Goldman, *Vice Principal*

Rabbi Aryeh Borsuk, *Director of Advancement*



CONGREGATION SINAI

Kol haKavod from your Sinai Family!



CINDY COOPER
Teacher Impact Award



JERI DANZ
School Support Award

Mazel Tov Marilyn Franklin for being honored with the Levy Family CJL Jewish Educator of the Year Award.

Your dedication, commitment, and love of teaching have made religious education a nurturing and special learning experience for all young children in your classes over the past 50 years. We are so proud of you.

*With love from your family,
David; Scott, Amber, Melanie, & Laci;
Andy, Alla, Alex, & Julianna*

Mazel Tov!

SARAH MIRIAM FUCHS
School Support Award



SHOSHANA LEVY
Teacher Impact Award



Mazel Tov!

• **THE SHUL** •
Welcome Home

Your Shul family thanks you for your contributions
to the Jewish Community and Jewish Education!

Stephanie Brauner

Gill Incentive for Teachers (GIFT Award)
& Chai Award

Mitch Lechter

Bader Hillel High School Support Award

Leah Stein

Gill Incentive for Teachers (GIFT Award)



Jewish Beginnings
LUBAVITCH PRESCHOOL

**JB CONGRATULATES
THIS YEAR'S
JEWISH EDUCATORS!**

A Huge Thank You

**to our Jewish Beginnings teachers and staff whose
devotion and care make everyday at JB the best!**

ABIAH A Band'n All Hope



Traditional and
Modern Klezmer,
Yiddish Theater,
Israeli Dance and
T'filah Band

Available to hire for
parties and events

Mark Levy
414.719.8195

W O M E N — of — **Shalom**

Congregation Shalom's Women of Shalom wish a mazel tov and yasher koach to our very own Susie Rosengarten for receiving the Double Chai Award. We are so proud of your achievements in the Jewish Community in Milwaukee and beyond. You are making such a difference in the world by sending youth on their Jewish, educational journeys!

Congratulations also to Marilyn Franklin for the CJL Levy Family Jewish Educator of the Year Award. Your years of dedicated teaching are so appreciated. The Milwaukee Jewish Community is so fortunate to have you as an educator!

Mazal tov!

Yasher koach and mazal tov to CEEBJ member
Dr. Sherry Blumberg, recipient of this year's
Lifetime Impact Award.

Mazal tov to CEEBJ Romemu Learning Guide
Beth Clement for receiving the Teacher Impact
Award and to Michael Saldana for receiving the
School Support Award. We are so fortunate to
have you both on our team.

We would like to congratulate and honor all the
educators receiving awards and recognition.

We would also like to honor and thank all the
community educators for their commitment to
providing our youth with a quality Jewish
education. Your dedication does make a
difference especially at this time.



Congregation
Emanu-El
B'ne Jeshurun

On behalf of Your Congregation
Emanu-El B'ne Jeshurun Family

🍏 MAZEL TOV 🍏

TO **MARILYN FRANKLIN**, A
DEDICATED TEACHER OF 50
YEARS AT CONGREGATION
SHALOM, FOR RECEIVING THE
TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD!

"Revere your teacher as you revere heaven."

-Eleazar b. Shammua

Mishna: Abot, 4.12



Erica—Mazel Tov on receiving the CJL Teacher Impact Award!

*Love—Aunt Wendy, Uncle Dennis,
Aunt Susan, Uncle Andrew, Aunt Pam,
Jocelyn, Jason, Jacob, and Josh*



Members of the
Advisory Board
of the **Coalition**
for **Jewish Learning**

salute the many teachers and
volunteers who have in so many
different ways devoted time
and energy to uplifting and
instructing Jewish students
in our community.



Coalition for
Jewish Learning

MILWAUKEE
JEWISH FEDERATION

REVERE YOUR TEACHER AS
YOU WOULD HEAVEN.

(Avot 4:12)

**Mazel Tov to all Milwaukee
Jewish Educators. We value and
appreciate our Congregation Beth
Israel Ner Tamid Family Honorees!**

Lifetime Impact Award
Dr. Sherry Blumberg

Teacher Impact Award
**Jacob Rosenberg
Cindy Cooper**

Jerry Benjamin Inspiration
Award for Informal Education
Toni Davison Levenberg

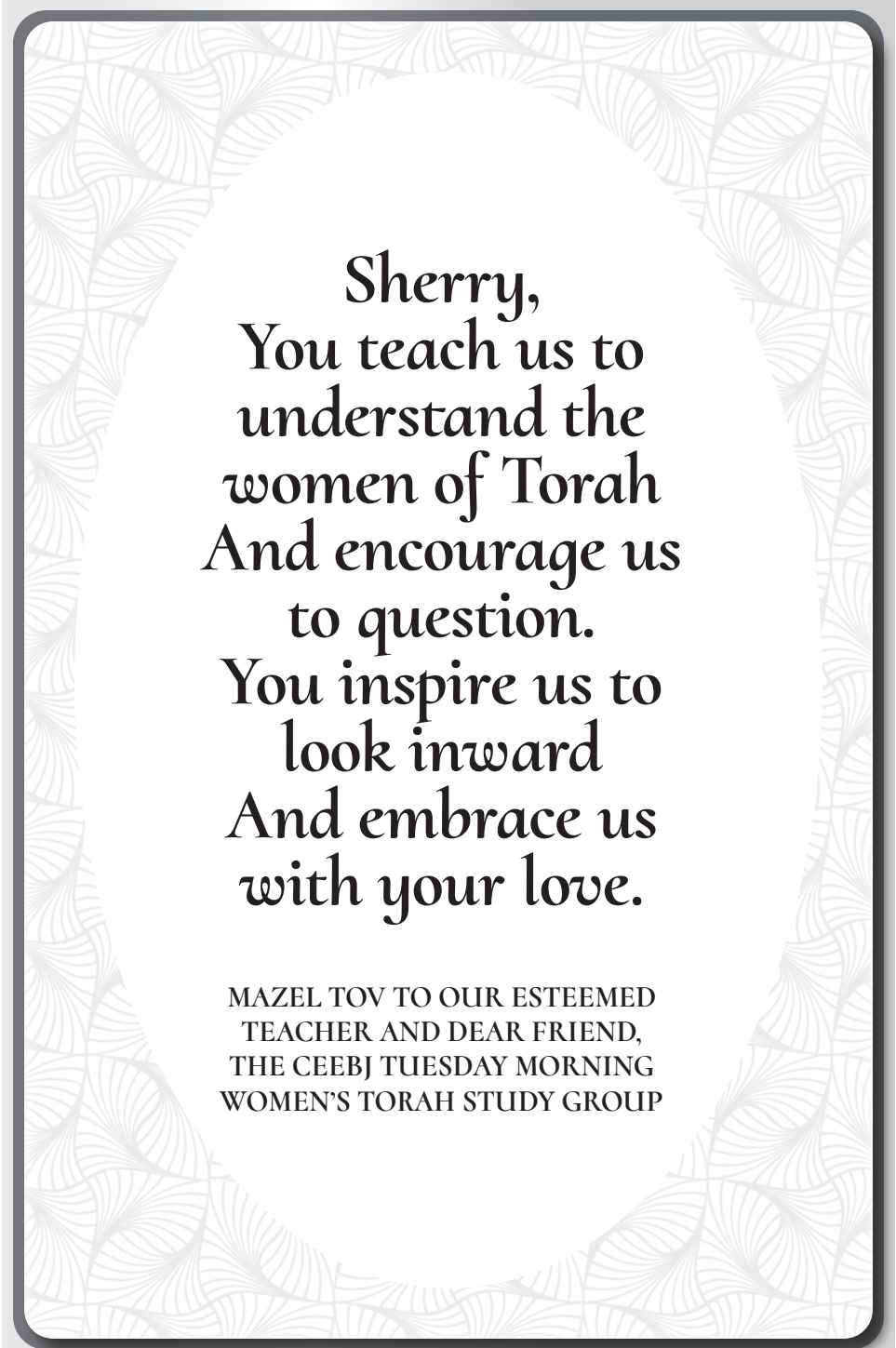
School Support Award
Terri Gingold

Gill Incentive for Teachers
(GIFT) Award
Moria Lehman

Chai Award
Debbie Intravaia



CONGREGATION
**BETH ISRAEL
NER TAMID**



Sherry,
You teach us to
understand the
women of Torah
And encourage us
to question.
You inspire us to
look inward
And embrace us
with your love.

MAZEL TOV TO OUR ESTEEMED
TEACHER AND DEAR FRIEND,
THE CEEBJ TUESDAY MORNING
WOMEN'S TORAH STUDY GROUP



**MAZEL TOV,
JUSTIN ALTMAN!**

**Congrats on your well deserved
honor! We are so proud.**

*With Love, Mom, Dad, and
Jack, Joyce Altman (Nana),
Bev and Marty Greenberg
(Bebe and Poppi)*

Mazel Tov to Toni Davison Levenberg

Executive Director

Steve & Shari Sadek Family Camp Interlaken JCC

Jerry Benjamin Inspiration Award for Informal Education

Mazel Tov to  **Gan Ami
Early Childhood
Education**

Rachel Wittliff - Teacher Impact Award
Cindy Gorman - School Support Award

Kol HaKavod,

**Harry & Rose Samson Family JCC
Board of Directors & Staff**



**Harry & Rose Samson Family
Jewish Community Center**
jccmilwaukee.org

Creating spaces. Building opportunities.
Inspiring Jewish moments for diverse communities.



**MILWAUKEE
JEWISH FEDERATION**

The JCC is a partner in serving the community with the Milwaukee Jewish Federation and is a beneficiary agency of the United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County.



“I have learned much from my teachers, more from my colleagues, and the most from my students”

(TALMUD)

On behalf of the board of directors and staff of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation, we share a mazal tov to all the educators being honored. Thank you for building the future of our Jewish Milwaukee by nurturing and teaching our children.

Joan Lubar,
Board Chair

Miryam Rosenzweig,
President and CEO



MILWAUKEE
JEWISH FEDERATION

The Coalition for Jewish Learning is a program of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation