

Emanu-El ^S_F

CHRONICLE VOLUME CLXXV, NO. 27 | APRIL 2020 | 7 NISAN - 6 AYYAR 5780

Happy Passover!



Experience Passover Pull-Out!

LITERACY PROJECT

Homeless Prenatal Program

Spanish Book Drive: Change a Child's Story

Donate new children's books IN SPANISH! All donations benefit the Homeless Prenatal Program!

This month, we are honored to support the Homeless Prenatal Program's new literacy project, which seeks to ensure that their clients' children are able to experience the benefits of book ownership while also enacting the idea that literacy is as important as shelter, food/nutrition, health, and other basic services. We would love for you to add a note about why the book you're donating is so special, so we can pass that along to the families in the program.

If you need some inspiration, please choose a book through our Amazon wishlist: www.tinyurl.com/hppbookdrive.

Contact the Temple front office for drop-off instructions: (415) 751-2535.



SPANISH
BOOK DRIVE
change a child's story

DONATE NEW CHILDREN'S BOOKS **IN SPANISH**
MARCH THRU APRIL 2020
All donations benefit The Homeless Prenatal Program

This month, we are honored to support HPP's new literacy project, which seeks to ensure that their clients' children are able to experience the benefits of book ownership while also enacting the idea that literacy is as important as shelter, food and nutrition, health and other basic services.

We would love for you to add a note about why this book is so special to you to pass along to the families at The Homeless Prenatal Program (HPP).

If you need some inspiration please use our Amazon wish list
www.tinyurl.com/hppbookdrive

The Homeless Prenatal Program (HPP) is a non-profit focused on serving and supporting homeless and low income families experiencing homelessness in San Francisco.

HPP & THE DRIVES COMMITTEE THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS

In light of health concerns sparked by COVID-19, we are livestreaming our Shabbat services. Friday night Kabbalat Shabbat services will be livestreamed at 6:00 pm. On Saturday mornings, we are offering Torah study concluding with Mourner's Kaddish, online only. Please continue to check our website at www.emanuelsf.org for the latest updates.



SHALOM RAV FROM OUR RABBI

By Richard and Rhoda Goldman Senior Rabbi Jonathan Singer

In my neighborhood, they're getting better at masking the micro receivers that have been placed by the various cell phone companies to give us the best possible reception. When they first came out, the large bulky devices were eyesores, but with progress, they have been made at times to look like trees, or now as simple extensions of street lights.

While the issue of privacy is of paramount importance in our country today, the notion of receivers being all around us is not something that is surprising from the perspective of traditional Judaism. As we read in the Torah, the giving of the law was a result of an encounter, not of an individual, but of the Jewish people — and not necessarily those of a genetic particularity, but those of whatever background who were willing to travel with us at the time, place themselves at the bottom of the mountain at Sinai, engage the Holy, and receive the Torah.

The common notion is that Moses ascended Mt. Sinai, and remained there for 40 days, and in the presence of the Holy received the tablets with the values that are essential to civilization as we know it carved into the stone. However, the Talmud teaches that, while Moses took the tablets in his hands, the people surrounding the mountain received it.

The voice of the Holy, a Midrash proclaims, was divided into 70 languages so that the whole world might understand it. All who were at Sinai — young, old, men, women, children, and infants — heard and understood according to their capacity. And that continued with the radically moving notion that the prophets heard Torah as do we today! What that ancient text imparts is that each of us is a receiver of the Holy. Pieces of Torah exist in every fellow traveler who joins the Jewish people.

I love the notion that, if one opens oneself, if one truly listens, then Sinai is always happening, God's wonder is always flowing, and you can choose to receive it and then

share it. In a sense, this is what can happen at your Seder table. As you share the Haggadah and tell the story of our redemption, opening your home to guests who come from different perspectives and attitudes, you can make room for each person to teach their Torah concerning the meaning of redemption, the willingness to march toward freedom in times of oppression, and how we can support each other along life's journey.



"I love the notion that, if one opens oneself, if one truly listens, then Sinai is always happening, God's wonder is always flowing, and you can choose to receive it and then share it."

Without the receivers, those willing to liberate themselves at the first Passover and march towards Sinai, a mixed multitude the Torah tells us, there would be no Torah. The same is true today. If we are to flourish as a people, we have to understand that the Torah is ours to receive and transmit. We are still a mixed multitude and Sinai does not happen without our joining together and being welcoming. Judaism doesn't continue without you, and it is enriched when you talk and engage and learn from the Torah of those around you.

Use the Passover guide included in this Chronicle to get ready for the holiday. Join us for an online class that will help you organize your Seder, pull out your Haggadah and go online to find songs and games, and help Jewish ideas flourish as you share at your table, helping each other to transmit and receive the wonder and blessings of Jewish life.

Chag Pesach Sameach! Happy Passover!

SAVE THE DATE

Emanu-El's 171st Annual Meeting

***Vote for New Directors to Emanu-El's Board
Tuesday, May 28, 6:00 pm***

This meeting is your chance to weigh in on Emanu-El's leaders by considering whether to elect new Directors to the Board. Hors d'oeuvres and more will be provided. Please note that this meeting will end before 7:00 pm, which is when Shavuot begins, so please plan to stay and celebrate Erev Shavuot after the meeting.

Special thanks go out to the members of the Nominating Committee — Barrett Cohn (Chair), Donny Friend, Erika Coplon, Jill Einstein, Bob Rosner, Caroline Kahn Werboff, and Alan Greinetz — for their hard work in putting forth this year's very qualified new candidates. At our last Annual Meeting, on November 17, 2019, new bylaws adopted by the Congregation changed our governance cycle such that Annual Meetings are now scheduled for April/May. Thus, we are on the tail of the 2019 Annual Meeting and plan to focus on the business of electing new Board Directors.

Were YOU Confirmed at Emanu-El in 1970?

Friday, May 29

If your Emanu-El confirmation was held in 1970, we'd love to honor you at your 50 year Confirmation Reunion, and then host you for dinner following the Confirmation service. Please send your contact information — as well as any of your classmates' info — to confirmation50@emanuelsf.org. And be sure to mark May 29 on your calendars! We promise you a great time!



TZEDEK COUNCIL

Thank You!

On Monday, February 24, 2020, our Tzedek Council chairs attended the opening of the Homeless Prenatal Program's new housing unit, the Jelani House, a home for pregnant and expecting mothers. And to their surprise, they saw lying on each bed the "Mazel Tov" bags that we donated to the Homeless Prenatal Program this past December at our Giving of Light program. Thank you to all who participated in this effort! We couldn't have done it without you!

We are thrilled to see our donations in use and used in such a special way. Thank you ALL for your donations, your time, and mostly the care you've shown for our San Francisco families during their time of need. Together, we can truly impact the lives of others. It takes a community, and we thank you for being part of that community.



YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION

We encourage all YFE families to participate in a Seder this year. One mitzvot of the holiday is retelling the story of the liberation of the Jewish people. As the Haggadah says, "All people in every generation should see themselves as having experienced the Exodus from Egypt." The Seder reminds us that "we were slaves and we were freed from Egyptian bondage." For some younger family members, sitting through a long, "boring" Seder is a form of bondage. This year, try making your Seder more interactive and engaging by including some of the following ideas (and let us know your favorite!):



- Give your guests "homework." Ask them to prepare a presentation for the Seder.
- Mark your Haggadah in advance, with the parts you'll read and those you'll skip.
- If possible, use other areas of the house for all or part of the story. Make a tent with sheets and sit on pillows or bean bag chairs. Come to the table for dinner.
- Gear the telling of the story to your children by using puppets, funny songs, children's picture books, flannel board with felt pieces for the characters, or coloring/activity pages.
- Use props. Throw ping pong balls for hail. Put a few drops of red food coloring in the bottom of a pitcher, and at the right time, fill it with tap water so everyone can see water turn to blood.
- Provide goodie bags for the kids filled with plastic frogs or frog stickers, cotton balls for boils, sunglasses for darkness, etc.
- Ask your guests to tell their own family story.
- Ask everyone to come up with their own "fifth" question.
- Ask guests to name the plagues they see in the world today after listing the ten plagues from the Haggadah.
- Before opening the door for Elijah, ask everyone to choose someone they'd like to invite to the Seder (past or present) and explain why they chose that person.

Then after the Seder comes the challenge of making school lunches without bread. Here are a few alternatives to try:

- Passover rolls or bagels with everyone's favorite spreads or fillings
- Mini kugels in cupcake cups
- Lunch meat or cheese rolls with vegetables and dip or mustard
- Cheese sticks or cubes
- Matzah sandwiches
- Leftover charoset

The entire YFE staff wishes everyone a meaningful, happy, and delicious Pesach!

TRANSITIONS

A Fond Farewell With Our Gratitude

For the past nine years we have been blessed with the excellent rabbinic leadership of Rabbi Carla Fenves. She has served us with professionalism, commitment, warmth and caring, all the while sharing her deep love of Torah, and her dedication to the Jewish people.

Rabbi Fenves' wonderful husband Cantor David Frommer, who has served our country in the Armed Forces as Reservist Jewish Chaplain, has made the decision to go on active duty beginning this July, thus requiring the Fenves Frommer family to relocate. We know that Rabbi Fenves will continue to bring her blessing as a Jewish leader to the larger community wherever she lives, and that Cantor Frommer as a military chaplain will bring great pride to our people.

We hope you can join us for a special Shabbat Service on June 5th honoring Rabbi Carla Fenves for her nine years of dedicated service to the Emanu-El community, which she dearly loves and who loves her.



Dear Emanu-El Community,

It is with a mixture of sadness and excitement that I share with you that I will be leaving the congregation this summer.

After much reflection about who we are as a family and as Jewish leaders, my husband David has decided to enter active duty Army service. He has served as a chaplain in the National Guard for twelve years and his passion for and commitment to serving soldiers has only grown over that time. I am very proud of him and I am looking forward to this adventure for our family.

However, it will be very hard to leave a congregation and city that I love so dearly. I have endless gratitude for this community. This is where I grew from student to rabbi. You patiently helped me evolve into a teacher of Torah. During our nine years here, you have also supported us through the birth of our three children, the loss of a parent, deployments overseas, and countless other moments of tremendous meaning in our lives. We are particularly thankful for the incredible experience that our family has had at the Temple preschool. The education there has given them a strong Jewish foundation, a love of the outdoors and lifelong friendships.

The synagogue leadership has been beyond supportive of us as we have considered this transition. We hope to take the remaining months of the school year to spend quality time with as many of you as possible. And we hope that we can host many of you for Shabbat at an army installation soon.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Carla Fenves
Rabbi Carla Fenves

Introducing Our New Rabbi

As difficult as it is to see our beloved Rabbi Fenves and her family relocate to the East Coast this summer, we are fortunate to have hired our newest Rabbi, Sarah Joselow Parris. Rabbi Parris previously served as our Director of Congregational Engagement, meeting with more than one hundred congregants for coffee and getting to know their relationship to the Emanu-El community. As impressed as we were by her history degree with honors from Harvard, and so many other honors on her resume, it was ultimately her intellect, teaching abilities and passion for thinking about new ways to connect Jews to Judaism that made her the obvious choice for our congregation.

Rabbi Parris will continue her work on the engagement team through June 30th, even as she shadows Rabbi Fenves for the smoothest possible transition. In the fall, we will all have a more formal opportunity to welcome Rabbi Parris as a member of the Clergy team. Stay tuned for those details.

We invite you to reach out to Rabbi Parris (sparris@emanuelf.org) to have a coffee with her and meet the newest member of our Rabbinic team.



Dear Emanu-El Community,

It is with much excitement that I share this news that I will be Emanu-El's newest Assistant Rabbi. When I first visited Emanu-El last March, I immediately recognized the power and beauty of this community. Today, I feel even more sure that this place is special, and I am so honored to be joining your clergy team this July. I feel lucky to have found such a diverse community of thoughtful, committed, and caring modern Jews who are deeply connected to their place of worship, and I am grateful to have found my rabbinic home here at Emanu-El.

I look forward to partnering with, and learning from, Rabbi Fenves over the next few months and I am humbled to be following in her footsteps as the Emanu-El rabbi focused on early education and young family engagement. I have really enjoyed getting to know our pre-school community through the CEEP Chavurah Project small groups pilot, and I am excited to expand my portfolio to include teaching, pastoral care, and ritual leadership.

I believe in the power of one-to-one connections, and I am eager to help all members of our congregation find new meaning in their relationships with Judaism, with each other, and with Emanu-El. It has been a pleasure getting to know so many of you this past year; I look forward to connecting with others, and I will work hard to serve this congregation and our members and families as they navigate their Jewish lives.

My husband Zachary and I are both so grateful to be in community with all of you. It is an honor to support you and your loved ones as one of your rabbis for years to come.

Shabbat Shalom,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rabbi Sarah Parris". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Rabbi Sarah Joselow Parris

Dear Emanu-El Community,

Our whole reality has shifted. So much has changed in one month. We are sitting in our homes and thinking of each and every one of you and praying that a sukkat shalom, a shelter of peace and protection, surrounds you.

Now is the time to listen to our hearts and to give of ourselves for the greater good. Let our sense of responsibility for the health of all move us to make the difficult moral decisions that this unprecedented time in our world demands.

We are sending virtual hugs out into our community throughout the Bay Area and beyond. We know that we are in the midst of a long, hard journey. We hope that you know that we are with you.

Your Clergy

Emanu-El ^{SF} Experience Passover!

SPECIAL PULL-OUT SECTION



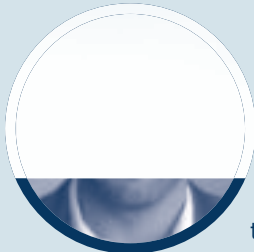
Please note: Our offices will be closed in observance of Passover on April 8, 9, and 15.

In light of health concerns sparked by COVID-19, all events are subject to postponement or cancellation.

*We are offering new ways to reach out and create community,
even though our ability to meet in person is limited.*

Please visit our website at www.emanuelsf.org to get our most current updates.

Emanu-El^{SF} Preparing for your Seder



Removing the *Chametz* RABBI RYAN BAUER

It is my family tradition to clear out the final *chametz* from our house before we start the Seder. Traditionally, we would take a candle and a feather and search out the final crumbs of bread, brush them into a pan, and then burn them outside. But in my home, we expand the definition of *chametz*, and ask “what personal *chametz* do you want to get rid of?” We hand out paper and pencil, write down what part of our souls need cleaning out, and take them outside to set aflame. We let our *chametz* turn to smoke and be carried away by the wind, so we can truly wish for this year to finally journey as free men to our own Jerusalem.



A Vegetarian Seder? Yes You Can!

SENIOR RABBI BETH SINGER

For decades, our family has hosted a delicious, crowd-pleasing vegetarian Seder that features Deborah Madison's spinach/ricotta roulade from her Green's cookbook. This beautiful rolled souffle — stuffed with ricotta cheese (I buy Kosher-for-Passover ricotta online at seattlekosher.com), spinach, and sautéed onions — sits beautifully on a long oval platter, surrounded by baby yukon gold potatoes. Every year, our children and our guests look forward to our spinach roulade, along with veggie matza ball soup, salads, and the true symbol of our freedom (drum roll please): an entire artichoke for each person! *B'tay'avon* — may your Pesach be sweet and delicious.



Chametz Removal

Passover Shopping

Vegetarian-Friendly Dinner

Seder Plate Contents

SHOPPING FOR PASSOVER SENIOR RABBI JONATHAN SINGER

Out with the old and in with the new! Passover is a basis for spring cleaning. As we remove *chametz* from our homes, we can shop for not just Kosher-for-Passover foods (foods with a Passover symbol on them), but also new spices, new sponges, and yes lots of matzah to sustain you throughout the week.



What to Include on the Seder Plate

RABBI SARAH JOSELOW PARRIS

Beyond the standard *charoset* and *maror*, there are many modern Seder plate additions that you can use, representing different causes and communities. Tomatoes, artichokes, pinecones — you name it, someone has probably put it on their Seder plate! Take a look around online and find one that resonates with you. My family always includes an orange, which represents solidarity with the LGBTQ+ Jewish community.



Hiding the Afikomen

RABBI SYDNEY MINTZ



The custom of hiding the *afikomen*, so the children at the Seder will “steal” it and then demand a reward, is based on a Gemara in which Rabbi Eliezer taught that one should “grab the matzah” so the children won’t fall asleep. It’s a great way to keep kids focused during a long night, and it gives them the responsibility of continuing the Seder only when the *afikomen* is found and returned. Today, if there are enough people at the Seder table, it is fun to hide the *afikomen* on a person at the table and have the kids interview each person after giving them a hint as to who has it (where they were born, a special attribute, etc.). And of course, don’t forget to give a “reward” to the child who finds the *afikomen*, or even reward all the kids!!

Involving the Kids

RABBI CARLA FENVES



Kids often need to keep busy with their hands in order to sit for a long period of time. We try to put engaging activities at each child’s seat. One year, I made a packet of coloring book pages that followed the themes of the Seder. Another year, we designed a Passover Bingo card with pictures of different parts of the Seder. We want our kids to be with us at the table absorbing the energy for as long as possible.



Welcoming Guests to Seder

RABBI JASON RODICH



When I was a child, I ran out the door and screamed “where is she!”, looking for Elijah. My family loves to tell this story, and I want to invite that enthusiasm for guests at all of our Seders. Each year we say, “let all who are hungry come and eat.” May our Seders be places of community and inclusion.

Childrens' Involvement

Seder Activities

Afikomen Traditions

Welcoming Elijah and Others

Songs for Seder

Options for Seder Activities

CANTOR MARSHA ATTIE

At our Seders, we like to invite everyone to bring something to share that inspires us to think about the meaning of freedom. It could be a short story, a poem, a song, a dance, a joke, a picture, a skit, a news article, or a question. Anything to get us thinking and feeling about the theme of our Passover celebration of freedom.



Seder Songs

CANTOR ARIK LUCK

Q: What is on The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel’s playlist to get her sufficiently hyped up for Passover? (Hint: It isn’t “Lose Yourself” by Eminem!)

A: Check out “Passover Medley” by the Barry Sisters on YouTube for a solid start. And for the truly hard core, order yourself a vinyl copy of the Moishe Oysher Seder on eBay, essential for any nostalgic Passover prep work. (CDs are also available, but you won’t find this on any streaming service. It’s strictly old school or bust...!)



Four More Questions for your Seder Table

The Passover Haggadah teaches us “In every generation one is obligated to see oneself as one who personally went out from Egypt.” This practice is one way that we pass down the values learned from the Exodus story every year — the dignity of all people and the value of freedom. So here are additional questions for your Seder:

1. Does your family have an Exodus story that you can share at your Passover table this year? Share it with the youngest generations.
2. Emanu-El has long been committed to uplifting the dignity of all residents of our city, which expresses the universal values of Passover. What is one way you can help people in our city move from places of difficulty to places of freedom?
3. Passover is about experiential learning. What would you add to the Seder plate to help teach an important value for our world today?
4. After the Passover meal, we say words of gratitude and praise. What is something you have been able to leave behind in your own “Egypt” this year that you are grateful for?

Emanu-El^{SF}
Experience Passover!

Condolences to Our Members Who Have Suffered Recent Losses

Amy Seff (Jonathan) on the death of her father, and Olivia and Kyle Seff on the death of their grandfather, **Robert Theodore Levine**

Anna Bell (David) and Ava, Adam, and Andrew Bell on the death of their cousin, **Kevin Patland**

Ruth DeHovitz on the death of her husband, Ruth DeHovitz (Aaron Braun) on the death of her father, and Benjamin, Rachel, Nathan, and Rachel Braun on the death of their grandfather, **Bernard DeHovitz**

Andrew Weissman (Deborah Carini) on the death of his brother, **Jeffrey Weissman**

Sharon Levins (Alan) on the death of her father, and Emily and Amy Levins on the death of their grandfather, **Leonard Hurwitt**

Suzi Alexander (Gary Stolzoff) on the death of her mother, and Simone Stolzoff, Sam Eiseman, and Katie Eiseman on the death of their grandmother, **Katharine Violet Alexander**

Anat Pilovsky (Eran) on the death of her mother, and Jonathan and Michael Pilovsky on the death of their grandmother, **Miriam Ballan**

Julia Kaplan on the death of her aunt, **Bonnie Lewis Rodney**

Natalya Vilikhina (Alexander Popovich) on the death of her son, and Katia Popovich on the death of her brother, **Paul Popovich**

Sheri Kahn on the death of her mother, and Madeleine Kahn on the death of her grandmother, **Susan Kahn**

Amy Torrano on the death of her aunt, and Marissa and Dante Torrano on the death of their great-aunt, **Carol Blumenthal**

Riva Berelson (David) on the death of her brother-in-law, and Serj Berelson on the death of his uncle, **Herb Wiltsek**

Faraz Shooshani (Diane Sharp) on the death of his father, **Yousef Shooshani**

Thomas Frankel (Janet Reider) on the death of his sister-in-law, **Louise Frankel**

Congratulations to Our Members on Their Achievements

Rachel Levin on the publication of her new book: *Eat Something: A Wise Sons Cookbook for Jews Who Like Food and Food Lovers Who Like Jews.*

DEVELOPMENT

Donate Online!

Making a contribution to Emanu-El is a meaningful way to honor friends and family while supporting the synagogue. Please visit our website (www.emanuelf.org/support-us/), select "Donate Now or Annual Giving," and follow the steps to make a gift. You will receive an electronic confirmation, followed by an acknowledgment letter in the mail. If you need assistance, contact Diego Guerrero in the Development Office at dguerrero@emanuelf.org or (415) 751-2541 ext. 177.

Appreciated Stock Gifts

Did you know that you could make charitable gifts—including your Emanu-El Membership Dues and Impact Fund gifts—by donating your appreciated stock? This is a great way to avoid capital gains taxes while supporting the congregation.

If you are making a stock gift, please use the following information:

First Republic Securities Co, LLC

Account Name: Congregation Emanu-El

For Further Credit to Account Number: 33L064574

Clearing Firm: Pershing LLC

Pershing LLC DTC# 0443

Note: Please make the Development Office aware of your stock gift before it is transferred so your donation can be tracked and appropriately directed as you wish. Email Diego Guerrero at dguerrero@emanuelf.org or call (415) 751-2541 ext. 177.

Corporate Matching

Many Bay Area companies will match your gift dollar-for-dollar. Please contact your company's matching gifts coordinator to obtain a matching gift form and determine whether your gift to Congregation Emanu-El can be matched.

Thank you to the following companies for matching our members' donations.



SPOTLIGHT ON LUH MULYADEWI

We want to shine a light on a very special person on our Emanu-El staff, Luh Mulyadewi. Luh is being honored by Jewish Vocational Services (JVS) this year at its annual *Strictly Business Luncheon* fundraiser with a coveted employee of the year award. Luh overcame significant hurdles to build skills, find work, and we wanted to share her story in her own words. A video crew from JVS spent the day following Luh and interviewing her about her professional journey and eventual hire at Emanu-El as a Salesforce Database Administrator.

My Journey into the Salesforce Ecosystem

By Luh Mulyadewi

I was born in Bali, Indonesia. Yes, the tropical island being just 8 degrees south of the equator and known for its iconic rice paddies, beaches, and yoga retreats. Being the youngest in the family with four older siblings, the house was never empty, and I've always had teachers, friends, and advisors growing up.

In 2003, I received a bachelor's degree in Architecture from Bali's Udayana University. Since then, my role has always been in the building design field where I constantly learned new skills and took on new challenges on the go.

I met my husband in Bali when he traveled from the States to Bali for a building project. Never had I dreamed of having a long-distance relationship with someone, let alone with one across the globe, but as Selena Gomez once said, the heart wants what it wants. In the years leading to our marriage, there were numerous discussions on the complexity of international marriage. As a Balinese woman raised in close-knit community culture, I could never imagine how to live without my family around. But, we decided that it was a good opportunity for me to explore living in the States.

We finally moved to San Francisco in 2013. Despite the planning and preparation that I had set, turns out nothing really prepares one for the real world. Leaving my family, everyone and everything that I had known was hard. This new city was so...foreign and cold. Eventually, I adjusted to the weather and the culture, but I must admit that it was challenging for its boldness, directness, and how fast-paced it was compared to Bali. Most things were online. Even when they weren't, things were automated and had minimal human interaction. I'm more of an old-school person and foreign automated systems threw me off.

When I started looking at job advertisements and articles, I was surprised to see the list of requirements. Things were so different. Job applicants were pretty much expected to have the know-it-all and can-do-it-all qualifications. A



resume would only take you so far to the company's email address, if you were using the right keywords. An online presence like LinkedIn and other networks would then qualify you for an interview, if you were lucky. I was having a hard time adjusting my point of view from the job search style in Bali to the one here. In Bali, direct interaction preceded online profiling.

With a mission to further develop and adapt my skills and knowledge to fit the marketplace here, I was introduced to City College of San Francisco and took business courses



Luh being interviewed by the JVS video crew.

there. I wanted to be able to speak the way people speak here and to learn how they present themselves. I learned resume skills and how to create an effective LinkedIn profile. I earned my Administrative Assistant certification along with all five Microsoft Office Specialist certifications (Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint, and Access). City College had become my first professional network and introduced me to the nonprofit world.

Through City College, I got to know JVS. In between private Excel tutoring gigs and extended courses at City College, I attended a job search program at JVS to help polish what I had started at City College: how to put the right keywords in your resume and LinkedIn profile and practicing for job interviews. Getting more familiar with JVS, I realized that I was drawn to the nonprofit sector.

In March 2018, I saw an e-newsletter from JVS about their Salesforce and Business Analysis Training program. Curiosity and determination to learn something new urged me to apply for the program, even though my knowledge of it was limited. I was happy and terrified when I was accepted into the program. Half of the class attendees came from technology and data programming backgrounds. I was overwhelmed in the first six weeks. But, I had never been a quitter and I was determined to succeed, so I worked hard, staying up until 3:00 a.m. during the three month program to study.

JVS taught me a lot of important things on how to represent myself to stand out better. Networking, branding, keywords, and courage. Being a new Salesforce System Administrator gives you a stronger blip on the radar, but it does not necessarily get your foot on the door. I put myself out there and expanded my network, using the momentum to find a good fit. I went through many applications and many interviews with recruiters. It was kind of soul-crushing to read an advertisement for a new

administrator followed by a two- to three-year experience requirement. How could a newly certified administrator have the experience if never given the chance to gain it?

When I applied for the role with Temple Emanu-El, I decided to take the first move and reached out to “sell” myself. Coming from me, I considered it a bold one. I didn’t know what to expect and how the Emanu-El systems worked, but I did know that I would give my all to get up to speed with it.

I am very grateful to the team at Congregation Emanu-El... they trusted me and gave me this opportunity.

Being awarded with the JVS 2020 Employee of the Year Award is a great honor and gives me a platform to share my story with everyone out there who feels stuck in their career journey. With hard work and determination, nothing is impossible.



JVS video crew captures Luh at work.

DONORS

Thank you to all of our donors. The following gifts were received from November 1, 2019 - January 31, 2020.

GENERAL FUND — used where the need is greatest at the Temple

Anonymous

August Benz

*in observance of the Yahrzeit of
Gloria Hartman*

Julie & David Bernard

in memory of Gloria Fischel Hartman

Martin Bloch

in memory of Julius Bloch

Gedalia Braverman

*in observance of the Yahrzeit of
Roy Reinholz*

Alex & Lora Buchler

Richard & Sylvia Dorfman

*in memory of Benjamin and
Edith Dorfman*

Amy & Mort Friedkin

*in memory of
Gloria Fischel Hartman*

David Goldman & Angela Lin

Sonya Gordon

*in observance of the Yahrzeits of
Maxwell Livshin and N. Jean Livshin*

Erika & Alex Grab (2)

Jane Graham

*in observance of the Yahrzeit of
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