

Rabbi Sharon Barr Skolnik

8234 Diamond Cove Circle ♦ Orlando, FL 32836

rabbisharon1@gmail.com ♦ (216) 408-0098

www.rabbisharon.com

Creative and enthusiastic rabbi with strong interest in teaching, pastoral counseling and guidance, and inspiring others to develop deep, personal Jewish connections. Diversified background includes extensive experience with adults, teens, children and families.

EDUCATION

The Jewish Theological Seminary, New York, NY

Rabbinic Ordination and M.A. 2009

Machon Schechter, Jerusalem, Israel

JTS in Jerusalem, 2007-2008

Brandeis University, Waltham, MA

B.A. (cum laude, honors) Near Eastern & Judaic Studies,

Hebrew Language and Literature 2004

Southwest Orlando Jewish Congregation Orlando, FL (2012-present)

- Developed and co-led (with my husband, Rabbi Hillel Skolnik) engaging and interactive twice-monthly Tot Shabbat program (called “Shabbat Sha-Bang!”) for children ages 2-5 and their families, infused with songs, Torah, stories, puppets, themed art projects, and fun.
- Created and taught formal women’s Torah study within synagogue walls
- Conceived of and facilitated “Newish Jewish” informal home-based class for select group of women interested in deepening their connection to Judaism through text study, hands-on creations, cooking, community and interactive discussion.
- Designed and led High Holiday services for children ages 2-5, and K-2nd grade, filled with personal tefillot, interactive stories, singing, games and bibliodrama.

The Jewish Academy of Orlando Orlando, FL (2013-2015)

- As Judaic Curriculum Coordinator, enhanced and developed curriculum for students in grades K-8, and consistently collaborated with Judaic Studies Program Coordinator on events celebrating holidays, Israel and Hebrew language.
- Advised, mentored and oversaw Judaic Studies staff members
- Envisioned, established and taught in-depth Torah study classes for Middle school - using layered approach of Torah, traditional and modern commentaries, Midrash, creative writing, art, poetry, and hands on creations - inviting questions and embracing student-centered learning.

The Rosen JCC of Orlando Orlando, FL (2017-present)

- Co-led (with my husband, Rabbi Hillel Skolnik) inviting and exciting, musical weekly Shabbat experience for 170 Pre-school children, their teachers and families, using songs, stories, puppets, and hands-on fun to bring joy and meaning to Shabbat celebration.

Private Bar/Bat-mitzvah tutoring (2000-2018)

Congregation Ohev Shalom Maitland, FL (2012)

- Developed curriculum and taught course on “Blessings” in adult Yeshiva program

Shelter Rock Jewish Center Roslyn, NY (2010-11)

- Created and taught women’s Torah study class entitled, “Talkin’ Torah in High Heels”

Ansche Chesed Congregation New York, NY (2004-5, 2006-7, 2008-10)

- Leader of Tot Shabbat services for children ages 0-4 twice a month (2004-5)
- 7th grade teacher: taught and helped develop creative curriculum (2006-7, 2008-9)
- 6th grade teacher: taught and developed creative “Prophets” curriculum (2009-10)
- 8th grade teacher: taught and developed creative “Chesed” curriculum (2009-10)
- Talmud for Teens teacher: taught high school students several key topics (2009-10)
- AC Tzedakah Foundation leader: led group of B’nei mitzvah students in study of Jewish philanthropy, and the decision to donate to a particular organization.

Forest Hills Jewish Center Forest Hills, NY (2006-7, 2008-10)

- 6th-8th grade teacher: taught prayer, Torah, Israel today, and other topics
- Developed inventive curriculum for and led Legacy Heritage B’Yachad Shabbatot – where I engaged parents in lessons and deep open conversations about God, and led an interactive and accessible family service.

Camp Ramah in the Berkshires Wingdale, NY (summers of 2004-6, 2008)

- In-bunk counselor for campers entering 6th grade (2004)
- Head of Va’ad Tefillah (prayer planning group) which created and organized innovative and successful prayer rituals for campers
- Rosh Edah (Division head) for approx. 85 campers entering 6th grade (2005)
- Program Coordinator: guided and collaborated with counselors on programming, ordering supplies, scheduling, organizing materials (2006)
- Head of Resource Center and Programming (2008)

Temple Ohabei Shalom – Ansin Religious School Brookline, MA (fall, 2002-spring, 2004)

- As Teacher of 5th grade *tefillah*, with focus on grammar, God and our own spiritual needs

Temple Hillel B’nai Torah West Roxbury, MA (fall, 2002-spring, 2004)

- 4th and 5th grade Hebrew and prayer teacher
- Leader and coordinator of bi-monthly, spirited youth Shabbat service

Brandeis Jewish Education Program Waltham, MA (fall, 2000-spring, 2002)

- Teacher and private tutor for 5th graders (2000-2001)

Congregation B’nai Jeshurun Cleveland, OH (summer 2002, 2006-10)

- Rabbinic Intern responsibilities included: delivering sermon, acting as a *mashgiach*, educational programming, etc. (2002)
- On High Holidays, developed and led interactive and creative family services, evocative teen programming, and adult education (2006-10)