

## ADRIAN A. DURLESTER, M.T.S.

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### OBJECTIVE

Administrative or managerial position that utilizes my extensive life-long experience in Theatre, Music and/or Jewish Education

### EDUCATION

Master of Theological Studies, Vanderbilt University Divinity School, Nashville, TN 2002  
BFA, North Carolina School of the Arts (School of Design & Production) 1977  
Bronx High School of Science, Bronx, NY 1973  
Manhattan School of Music, Preparatory Division (1969-1973)  
The Juilliard School, Pre-College Division (1960-1969)

### PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS & RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

- Performance facilities manager, production and stage manager, theatrical set/lighting/audio designer, technical director, producer
  - 17 years of successful management of performing arts facilities; managing and designing theatrical productions
- 25+ years in Jewish Education with 10+ years as a Director of Education/Lifelong Learning
  - Successfully administered educational programs for congregations and supplemental schools in small and large communities
  - Have taught and worked across the Jewish denominational spectrum, and at all age levels
  - Experience at Jewish summer camps and other informal educational settings
- Decades of experience as a Music director, songleader, performer, educator, conductor
- Lifelong experience as pianist, musician, musical director, choral director, songleader, arranger, and music educator with expertise in Jewish music, classical, folk, opera, musical theatre, G&S.
  - (trained at The Juilliard School and Manhattan School of Music pre-college divisions)
- Chaired 27<sup>th</sup> Annual CAJE Conference (Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education)
- Wide-ranging technology skills – hardware, software, networking, social media
  - On the forefront of using technology and social media in Jewish Education and Music
  - Currently writes a column on technology in Jewish Education for the Torah Aura Bulletin Board

### CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Aug 2014-present     Musician-In-Residence, Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Hartford (CT)  
*Full time teaching position-music to grades EC2-4, K through 8; Hebrew learning specialist.*  
Aug 2014-present     Choir Director, Farmington Valley Jewish Congregation, Simbury, CT (also  
Religious School teacher, grade 6, B'nai mitzvah tutor, Sept 2015-present)  
Aug 2014-present     Family Shabbat Service Leader, Beth El Congregation, West Hartford, CT (also  
religious school teacher, second grade, 2014-2015)

### EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

1981- 1988             Resident Stage Manager/Technical Director, Beickman Performing Arts Center,  
Concord Community Schools, Elkhart, IN.  
1988-1998             Production Manager, Festival Concert Hall, North Dakota State University,  
Fargo, ND.

1998-2001 Director of Music, Religious School Teacher, Web Maven , Congregation Micah, Brentwood, TN. (*URJ affiliated*)

2000-2001 Teacher of Judaics & Hebrew (Grades 1,2) Music (whole school) Akiva (Jewish Day) School, Nashville, TN

2001-2003 Director of Education, Beth El Hebrew Congregation, Alexandria, VA. Also Music and Choir Director, IT support. (*URJ affiliated*)

1997-2007 Torah Aura Productions, Los Angeles, CA. Editor, C.Ha and Bim Bam

2003-2008 Director of Education & Congregational Life. Bethesda Jewish Congregation, Bethesda, MD. Also Music and Choir Director, IT support (*Unaffiliated*)

2008-2010 Religious School Teacher, B'nai Mitzvah Tutor, Music Specialist, Jewish Community of Amherst, Amherst, MA. (*JRF affiliated*)

Temporary Acting Religious School Principal (spring 2010)

June-August 2010 Media Specialist, Olin-Sang-Ruby Union Institute Camp, Oconomowoc, WI. (Also Summer 1998, 1997)

Jan-April 2011 Substitute Religious School Music Specialist & Family Service Music Leader Society for the Advancement of Judaism, New York, NY. (*JRF affiliated*)

June-Aug 2011 Jewish Music Specialist, 92<sup>nd</sup> St. Y Camp Yomi Day Camp, New York, NY.

Aug 2011-July 2012 Lower School Music Teacher, A.J. Heschel School, New York, NY.

July 2012-Aug 2014 B'nai Mitzvah Tutor, Beth Emet-the Free Synagogue, Evanston, IL. (*URJ aff.*)

Oct 2012-Aug 2014 Early Childhood Music Specialist, JCC of Chicago (Various Locations)

Feb 2013-Aug 2014 B'nai Mitzvah Tutor, B'nai Jehoshua Beth Elohim, Deerfield, IL (*URJ aff.*)

Sep 2013-May 2014 Music Director, Shir Hadash Congregation, Wheeling, IL (*JRF affiliated*)

2001-present Freelance Editor, Teacher, Tutor, Presenter, Consultant, Musician, Performer

### **OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**

Hava Nashira Jewish Songleading Workshop, OSRUI, Oconomowoc, WI (1992-present)  
 Instructor, Introduction to Judaism Course, Mid Atlantic Council of the URJ (2004-2005)  
 Chair, CAJE 27, San Antonio, TX (2002) Evening Program Chair for CAJE 23, 26 (1998, 2001)

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development ; Guild of Temple Musicians; National Association of Temple Educators; National Association for Music Education; Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education (1992-2009)  
 United States Institute for Theatre Technology (1974-1998)

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES**

Limmud Chicago: Volunteer/Presenter (2012, 2013)  
 Jewish Folk Arts Festival of Greater Washington Organizing Committee (2002-2006)  
 Co-producer, Washington, DC Jewish Community Israel@60 Celebration Concert (2008) and 350 Years of Jewish Music in America Celebration Concert (2005)  
 Cultural Arts Committee, Gordon Jewish Community Center, Nashville, TN (1998-2001)  
 Panelist, Grants Program Selection Committee, North Dakota Council on the Arts (1995-1996)

REFERENCES ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST