

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

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**OBJECTIVE**

Jewish Education/Lifelong Learning Director/Music Educator/Theatrical Generalist

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- Decades of experience as a Jewish Music songleader, performer, educator
- 18+ years in Jewish Education with 10+ years as a Director of Education/Lifelong Learning
- 17 years of successful management of performing arts facilities and theatrical productions
- Experienced pianist, musician, musical director, choral director, songleader, and music educator with expertise in Jewish music, opera, musical theatre, G&S.
- On the forefront of using technology, social media in Jewish Ed and the performing arts

**RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**

- 50 years as a pianist, with wide-ranging experience as a musical director, choir director, songleader, accompanist, conductor, songleader, and music educator (trained at The Juilliard School and Manhattan School of Music pre-college divisions)
- 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
- Wide-ranging technology skills – hardware, software, networking, social media
- Performance facilities manager, production and stage manager, theatrical set/lighting/audio designer, technical director, producer

**EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

Eff. Aug 2011	A.J. Heschel School, New York, NY. Lower School Music Teacher
June-Aug 2011	92 <sup>nd</sup> St. Y Camp Yomi Day Camp, New York, NY. Jewish Music Specialist
2001-present	Freelance Editor, Teacher, Tutor, Presenter, Consultant, Musician, Performer
Jan-April 2011	Society for the Advancement of Judaism, New York, NY. Substitute Religious school Music Specialist & Family Service Music Leader
June-August 2010	Olin-Sang-Ruby Union Institute Camp, Oconomowoc, WI. Media Specialist (Same position also in summers of 1997 and 1998)
2008-2010	Jewish Community of Amherst, Amherst, MA. ( <i>JRF affiliated</i> ) Temporary Acting Religious School Principal (spring 2010) Religious School Teacher, Bnai Mitzvah Tutor, Music Specialist
2008-2009	Congregation B'nai Israel, Northampton, MA. ( <i>USCJ affiliated</i> ) Director of Youth & Family Education
2008-2009	Beit Ahavah Congregation, Northampton, MA. ( <i>URJ affiliated</i> ) Religious School Teacher

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

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

2002-2008 Agudas Achim Congregation, Alexandria, VA (*USCJ affiliated*)  
 Instructor, Grades 8-10; Co-Director, Shir Tze'ir Teen Choir

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

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

1998-2001 Congregation Micah, Brentwood, TN.  
 Director of Music, Religious School Teacher, Web Maven

1990-1998 Temple Beth El, Fargo, ND. URJ affiliated  
 Director of Education and Music, Web Maven

1988-1998 Festival Concert Hall, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND.  
 Production Manager

1981- 1988 Beickman Performing Arts Center, Concord Community Schools, Elkhart, IN.  
 Resident Stage Manager/Technical Director

### **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)

### **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)  
 Hebrew Teacher, Grades 5 & 7, The Temple-Ohabai Sholom (URJ), Nashville, TN (1999-2000)  
 Staff Specialist, Gordon Jewish Community Center Camp Davis, Nashville, TN (1999-2001)  
 Judaics Instructor, 11th Grade, West End Synagogue (USCJ,) Nashville, TN (1999)

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES**

Member, Amherst Town Meeting (current)  
 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