

ADRIAN A. DURLESTER, M.T.S.

18 Carriage Dr.
Simsbury, CT 06070
(347) 762-0223

E-mail: adrian@durlester.com
Website: www.durlester.com

OBJECTIVE

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

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

- 27+ 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
- 5 years direct experience as a full-time teacher of Music, Hebrew, Judaics in Jewish Day Schools
- 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, working with professionals, community theaters, college and K-12 students
- 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 27th 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

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Sep 2016-present	Substitute Teacher, Simsbury Public Schools, Simsbury, CT (K-12)
Aug 2014-present	B'nai Mitzvah & Hebrew Tutor, Choir & Music Director, Educator, Farmington Valley Jewish Congregation-Emek Shalom, Simsbury, CT
2001-present	Freelance Editor, Teacher, Tutor, Presenter, Consultant, Musician, Performer

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Aug 2014-July 2016 Musician-In-Residence, Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Hartford (CT)
Full time teaching position-music to grades EC2-4, K-8; Hebrew learning specialist, Drama, Choir.
Oct 2016-Mar 2020 Hebrew Teacher, Hartford Regional URJ Intro to Judaism Class
Sep 2013-May 2014 Music Director, Shir Hadash Congregation, Wheeling, IL (*JRF affiliated*)
Feb 2013-Aug 2014 B'nai Mitzvah Tutor, B'nai Jehoshua Beth Elohim, Deerfield, IL (*URJ aff.*)
Oct 2012-Aug 2014 Early Childhood Music Specialist, JCC of Chicago (Various Locations)
July 2012-Aug 2014 B'nai Mitzvah Tutor, Beth Emet-the Free Synagogue, Evanston, IL. (*URJ aff.*)

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

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

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

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

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)

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

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

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

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

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

1990-1998 Director of Education and Music, Temple Beth El, Fargo, ND. (*URJ aff.*)
(also religious school teacher, tutor)

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

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

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