

Congregants Write About Cantor Jeff Warschauer

Our family is in unanimous agreement that you have done an outstanding job at The Jewish Center. Our kids love and trust you. They've enjoyed the various musical activities that you've led, the childrens' choir especially. In fact, your presence and projects have been, and continue to be, a big part of our family's, and in particular, our childrens', connection to TJC. O.M.

You are an inspiring musician and teacher. We are very grateful and fortunate to have had the opportunity to learn from and celebrate... with you as our cantor. S.L.

You have been so wonderful, and such a steady, calm, warm presence during these very challenging past 2 years. I will miss your music, singing, and warmth. A.R.

You really stepped in and helped everything run as smoothly as possible in the midst of the unexpected death of Rabbi Feldman and all the problems with the Covid pandemic. Most importantly from my perspective, my grandchildren love you and your music and nothing is more critical to me than that. C.C.

I absolutely loved your singing and the way you involved everyone... 100% joy!!
N.T.

You have been absolutely great and have saved us through these tough times.
M.V.

You have given us hours of joy with your songs. Jeff, we needed you when [Rabbi Feldman] died and the pandemic arrived 4 months later. You were there! F.Z.

I wanted to thank you so much for helping to make last weekend so special. We are so grateful to know you and we admire you so much. We are so proud of A... He did so great. S.L.

I wanted to reach out and say thank you for all you have done for my family personally... You were instrumental in helping our kids become bar and bat mitzvah, and we will always be grateful for that. You made that day (and the time

preceding) memorable, and special. Without you, it would not have been special and certainly it would not have been the success it was. You were our congregational leader throughout an unprecedented pandemic and were a source of guidance for our community. I wanted you to know that when I told Z and E that you were leaving at the end of the year they were truly sad and asked if there was anything they could do to convince you to stay. It filled my heart with pride when I heard their words, and I wanted to share with you so you knew how important and special you are to them. J.E.

His musicianship is incredible and his warmth and sense of humor both make kids and adults feel comfortable. His Friday evening services are beautiful, relaxed and inspiring. S.L.

I find Cantor Jeff to be both accessible and wonderfully engaging. I love his unique experience, his background and sense of humor. He was a rock during our B'nai Mitzvah prep and has become a beloved "go-to" for our whole family. Cantor Jeff brings warmth and a sense of celebration to services. Though I'm a fan of the traditional tunes, I love it when he introduces something new. I also find his Jewish knowledge - both religious and cultural - to be a breath of fresh air...

We faced a slew of Bat Mitzvah challenges, from Covid, to a last minute date change, to learning weekday tunes, to home technology. Throughout it all, Cantor Jeff was a calming and seasoned expert in all things normal and unexpected, and in many ways our shelter from the storm. For our older child (who is also very involved in the shul), Cantor Jeff nurtured his unique perspective on his religion and culture and inspired him to lean in to his Judaism... to the benefit of both our son and the shul. Cantor Jeff is not your standard run-of-the-mill hazzan, but the mix of creativity, humanity, empathy and modesty he injects is exactly what TJC needs, and has glued our family more tightly to the shul. D.N.

We want to thank you for supporting our entire family and for creating the environment that lead to a wonderful Bar Mitzvah. We had many touching moments throughout the service. We enjoyed ourselves, and we enjoyed seeing J reach this mountaintop with great spirit and maturity. Afterward, the feeling we all had was exactly what one would hope for: a joyous bliss, a feeling that a great leap had been made, and a new connection to our Jewish roots and Jewish community. To add to that, in the days

since, all of our extended family has reached out overflowing with “naches,” claiming the event was simply the “best” bar mitzvah ever. Even an elderly relative who could not attend (no internet), called us yesterday to say that she received so many calls from relatives who were overflowing with awe, themselves blissed-out by the event, that, in her mind, it must have been the most extraordinary b'nei mitzvah. The atmosphere you created as cantor has transcended the physical realm, and can be felt by people who were not even there! Once again, our sincerest thanks. C.W.

Just wanted to let you know how much we were touched by L's Bat Mitzvah service yesterday. It's the first online Bat Mitzvah we watched and you helped to make it such a magical and special occasion for her and her family. S.L.

You guided us through a rocky, mountain path during a snow storm and a solar eclipse, and you brought us through to blessings the likes of which we never imagined. We're forever grateful for that gift, Cantor Jeff, and especially for having you in our lives. Z will feel you near, inspiring her for the rest of her life. J, V and I will too. D.N.

I like coming here. I like Cantor Jeff. G. (age 5 1/2)

I like the Jewish Center because I like singing with Cantor Jeff. M. (age 5)

I like Cantor Jeff because he is the funniest person in the school. B. (age 5)

Z. (age 8): “Is Cantor Jeff here today?”

Teacher: “I do not believe he is here today. Why? Did you want to say hi?”

Z.: “Yeah. Cantor is my best friend. I just wanted to say hello.”

We thoroughly enjoy the spirit and spirituality that you bring to our congregation through your music and singing at our services. Your musical talents, and your efforts to make the music accessible to all who are in attendance are very much appreciated. Our Shabbat afternoon jam sessions are joyous events, with you leading us in making music. **You extend our knowledge by offering many new melodies, as well as responding to requests from the group for their favorite selections and styles of music. S.W.**

Your contributions to our services are outstanding, and we thank you most strongly for the wonderful experiences we have under your cantorial leadership.

We have found your versatility in bringing new melodies to Congregation Beth El, and your ability to cheerfully adapt to any type of congregants' musical wishes, most impressive. We feel emotionally uplifted during the services you lead, and believe that is due in large part to your special ability not only to put prayers in spiritually moving context, but perhaps most significantly to provide congregants with the motivation and capability to participate. Your talents in all aspects of cantorial responsibilities are unique and extraordinary, and it is our great good fortune to have them at our synagogue on Shabbat. R.W.

I find Jeff to be very energetic and enthusiastic about teaching new melodies to many of our traditional prayers. He is the type of person who would attract a new young membership. S.G.