B’NAI TORAH CONGREGATION PRESENTS:

The Eleanor & Paul Weiner z’l Cultural Arts Series

Concert & Cultural Arts Series 2020
Dear Friends,

We are excited to welcome you to B’nai Torah’s Annual Cultural Arts and Music Series. Year after year, this Series has been a great source of pride for our congregation. We welcome thousands of members, neighbors and friends into our shul, and we showcase some of today’s best Jewish musical talents right here on our stage! I am grateful that we can continue this beautiful tradition that enriches our programming and brings such joy to our community. Your support – in terms of your presence and your patronage – makes it happen. Thank you!

We are also grateful to have the extraordinary Cantor Magda Fishman leading this Series in her first year serving as B’nai Torah’s Senior Cantor. In just a few short months since joining our family, Cantor Fishman has moved us with her beautiful voice and soulful davening. Some have compared her voice to that of an angel! I know that she will continue to do great things as she not only grows the Concert Series, but also as she continues to bring her unique and beautiful spirit to the musical experience that B’nai Torah has become known for through the years.

The Series this year will once again take us on a musical journey through Jewish life and culture. Some performances will take us back in time with traditional klezmer, cantorial and Yiddish favorites, and some will take us into an exciting contemporary Jewish musical world with new or reimagined songs. The Series provides for all generations with performances as rich and diverse as the Jewish tradition.

I look forward to seeing you at all the concerts and events and sharing joyous moments together at our wonderful synagogue!

B’Simchah Rabah,

Rabbi David Steinhardt
Dear B’nai Torah family -

Over the years, the Concert & Cultural Arts Series has remained an important part of this magnificent synagogue – a true handprint on the heart of B’nai Torah – and I feel honored to continue this wonderful tradition. I am grateful to the cantors before me who established this Series, as well as the rabbis, professional staff and lay leaders – past and present – who believe in and support this Series, allowing it to grow and continue to enrich this beautiful community.

While I have had the honor and privilege of performing on this stage on several occasions, this is my first year serving as B’nai Torah’s Senior Cantor. A special thank you to Rabbi Steinhardt and Rabbi Englander for their incredible support, and to Elysa Stark and her team who worked hard, and with grace and care, to ensure my transition into leading this Series was a smooth one.

The first concert is truly special for me, as I will feature music of Barbra Streisand, along with my dear friend and colleague, Cantor Shirah Lissek. Both Cantor Lissek and I grew up learning from the style, interpretation and kavanah (spirit) of this American icon, and we can’t wait to kick off the series with this exciting performance.

We will continue the musical journey with the wonderful Maestro Aaron Kula and his band for Second Avenue to Broadway: A Jewish Legacy featuring the music of famous Jewish composers. Then we will be transported back in time for the American Jewish Radio Hour LIVE featuring traditional klezmer and Yiddish songs performed in an
American jazz style as heard on WEVD radio. The final performance will be another one not to be missed as The Great NY Cantors - Yaakov (Yanky) Lemmer, Chaim Dovid Berson and Netanel Hershtik - sing beautiful cantorial music with a contemporary twist and wonderful orchestral arrangements as seen on PBS. And of course, we will also enjoy a moving performance of the theater production The Interview, a touching story about family, memory and the resilience of the human heart.

So come and listen! Come and join in song! Bring your family, neighbors and friends - the door is open for all. From all places and all cultures, music truly unites us.

My wish for all of you is to always sing a new song to G-d, and to this world. May each day be a new song, and may we continue for years and generations to come to appreciate the music of our rich culture and tradition.

Many blessings,

Cantor Magda Fishman
JANUARY 15: 7:30 p.m.

Opening Night!

“A TRIBUTE TO BARBRA STREISAND”

CANTORS MAGDA FISHMAN AND SHIRA LISSEK

B’nai Torah’s very own Senior Cantor MAGDA FISHMAN will be joined by Cantor SHIRA LISSEK for a concert in tribute to a legendary American artist, woman and Jew - Barbra Streisand!

There is no denying the immense impact that Streisand has had on America’s culture and identity during her six-decade long career. From Broadway to Hollywood, and concert arenas to recording studios – millions worldwide have been touched by this iconic artist.

Fishman and Lissek, two of this generation’s most exciting singers and Cantors, perform and interpret Streisand’s songs with their unique exquisite musical gifts and tremendous spirit.
Cantor Magda Fishman started her musical training at the age of 10 and was recognized early on for her extraordinary talent. Prior to joining B’nai Torah, Cantor Fishman served as the Cantor of Temple Beth El in Stamford, CT. She received her Cantorial and Sacred Music degree from JTS. Upon coming to the US from Israel, Cantor Fishman studied contemporary and classical music at the Manhattan School of Music and studied acting at The Tisch School of the Arts at NYU and the William Esper Studio for professional acting. Cantor Magda has performed on stages all over the world impressing and enchanting audiences everywhere with her unique singing ability, musical diversity, and soulful trumpet playing.

Cantor Shira Lissek is one of this generation’s most exciting singers and cantors who performs and interprets liturgical and popular songs with her extraordinary musical talent. Cantor Lissek is the Associate Cantor of Park Avenue Synagogue in NYC, and her voice reaches thousands of people each week through the live streaming of their Shabbat services, where she sings alongside renowned cantor Avi Schwartz. Cantor Lissek earned a Master’s in Music from the Manhattan School of Music and a Bachelor of Music from Indiana University School of Music. Prior to embarking on her cantorial career, Shira sang on prestigious concert and opera stages. Cantor Lissek is no stranger to B’nai Torah; she performed to rave reviews during the Divas of Hazzanut concert and we are delighted to have her with us again.
FEBRUARY 5: 7:30 p.m.

“AMERICAN JEWISH RADIO HOUR”
AARON KULA AND THE KLEZMER COMPANY JAZZ ORCHESTRA

Aaron Kula  
Lisanne Lyons  
Sarah Amengual  
Paul Offenkranz
Welcome to a LIVE radio show broadcast from Boca Raton. The concert offers vintage sounds of live radio from New York City and Brooklyn Jewish radio stations such as WEVD, WVFW, WBBC, and WCNW. Music includes many standard Klezmer and Yiddish songs played in an American Jazz style, reflecting the American music of that period. The production is designed as if the audience is stepping into the past and attending a studio broadcast. The show will be performed as an “on air variety show.” Audiences will be treated to vintage commercials for Jewish products, short stories from the Bintel Brief, and popular songs by some of the most famous composers including Secunda, Ellstein, Rumshinsky, Tarras, Schwartz, Olshanetsky and more. The Jewish song book will include new arrangements of Yiddishe Moma, Eshes Chayil, Raisins and Almonds, Momele, I Love You Too Much and others from the Yiddish Theater and Second Avenue.

The performance will be led by Musical Director Aaron Kula, Klezmer Company Jazz Orchestra and three professional actor/singers; Lisanne Lyons, Sarah, Amengual, and Paul Offenkranz singing in Yiddish, English and Hebrew.
FEBRUARY 26: 7:30 p.m.

“THE INTERVIEW”
Theater Presentation directed by SHARI UPBIN
Written by FAYE SHOLITON

Shari Upbin  Peggy Linker  Nancy Wood
Jason Pierre  Renee Rogoff
Bracha Weissman has transformed herself into an emotional recluse - her identity defined by the loss of her family in the Nazi death camps she miraculously survived. Her attachment to the past has estranged her daughter Rifka, who wants to get on with the life of a modern-day mom in California. Bracha’s armor begins to crack when Ann Meshenberg appears one day to take her oral testimony for a video archive. Ann, the daughter of Holocaust survivors, has her own agenda: the need to ask a stranger what she could not ask her parents.

You will be moved by this touching story about family and memory – and the resilience of the human heart. The Interview is a powerful documentation of a horrific historical event, and the deeply felt response to it throughout generations.
MARCH 11: 7:30 p.m.

“FROM SECOND AVENUE TO BROADWAY: A JEWISH LEGACY”

AARON KULA AND THE KLEZMER COMPANY JAZZ ORCHESTRA

Aaron Kula  Sarah Amengual  Laura Turnbull

Avi Hoffman  Oscar Cheda
Broadway Musicals are an integral part of American culture and it all began in the Lower east side of Manhattan on Second Avenue with the Yiddish Theater. Aaron Kula leads a concert that explores the unique role of Jewish composers and lyricists in the creation of the modern American musical. Some of the greatest composers and writers of Broadway were Jewish including Irving Berlin, George and Ira Gershwin, Jerry Herman, Lorenz Hart, Richard Rodgers, Oscar Hammerstein II, Sheldon Harnick, Jerry Bock, Leonard Bernstein, Stephen Sondheim, Jule Styne, John Kander, and many others.

These remarkable songwriters were purveyors of what we think of today as the Broadway sound, but they were also telling stories that nod to Jewish strains from “Yiddishkeit” (all things Jewish). The Lower East Side theaters ultimately led these Jewish composers to create a range of shows that tapped into the American consciousness including Porgy and Bess, West Side Story and Cabaret. This concert is performed with a 10-piece Broadway orchestra and four actors. The journey to Broadway from the Yiddish Theater will start with Yiddish songs and move up town with songs from Fiddler On The Roof, Porgy and Bess, West Side Story, Funny Girl, Hello Dolly, Cabaret, and Sound of Music.

Aaron Kula will lead the concert with members of the Klezmer Company Jazz Orchestra and feature a professional cast.
MARCH 18: 7:30 p.m.

“THE NEW YORK CANTORS: AN EVENING TO REMEMBER”

YAAKOV (YANKY) LEMMER, NETANEL HERSHTIK, AND CHAIM DOVID BERSON
As seen on PBS, three of the world’s most highly acclaimed Cantors! Yanky Lemmer, Netanel Hershtik, and Chaim Dovid Berson – all rising stars in the American Jewish music scene - come together for this moving concert of Jewish sacred and secular music.

Some of the most beautiful songs in the Jewish musical history are prayers sung by cantors during Shabbat services. For this concert, these ancient songs have been given splendid new arrangements by the accomplished Dutch composer/arranger Bob Zimmerman. Featuring Shabbat songs, favorite music evoking memories of Jewish tradition and its rich musical culture, and songs with a nod to Broadway, this spiritually uplifting concert will fill your hearts and souls with the joy of music!

The New York Cantors, all serving synagogues in New York, are: Brooklyn-born Yaakov (Yanky) Lemmer, Head Cantor of the Lincoln Square Synagogue in New York City; Netanel Hershtik, Cantor at The Hampton Synagogue, Westhampton Beach, New York; and Chaim Dovid Berson, Chief Cantor at the prestigious Kehilath Jeshurun Synagogue on the Upper East Side of Manhattan.

In March 2018, PBS aired this concert to a vast and enthusiastic audience of Jewish music lovers with such success that the program continues to be featured during Jewish holidays and PBS fund-raising drives. Millions of North American television viewers have become fans, and after this show you surely will as well!
We thank our generous sponsors:

**Benefactors:**
Eleanor and Paul Weiner (z’l)*
Barbara and Jeffrey Rosenberg*
Carla and Bruce Weiner

**Platinum Sponsors:**
Meryl and Ron Gallatin*

**Gold Sponsors:**
Phyllis & Leonard Attman
Lowell Glazer
Toby & Carl (z’l) Sloane
Eda & Cliff Viner*

**Silver Sponsors:**
Sandra & Malcolm Berman
Donna & Gerry Kramer*
Marilyn & Jack Pechter*
Amy & Fred Weiss*

**Bronze Sponsors:**
Robyn & Joseph Bier
Anne & Norman Jacobson*
Joan & Myron (z’l) Kaufman
Debra & Jerry Kramer*
Kronish Funeral Home
Ruth Taubman
Selma & Dan Weiss*
Dorothy Wizer

**Patrons:**
Liza Baum & David Baum
Rhoda & Henri Bertuch
April & Roger Leavy*
Sylvia & Robert Robbins
Marcia Ruderman

*Ner Tamid Society Member*
Friends of the Concert Series:

Rosalyn Abrams
Nancy Aronson
Sippy & Morris Artzi
Paula & Michael Berezin
Anita (z’l) & Sam Berman
Sandra & Richard Birdie
Holly & Jerry Budney
Cherie & Richard Chosid
Ellen & Ed Cohen*
Rabbi David & Stephanie Englander
Susan & Marvin Finkelstein
Phyllis & Ab Flatt
Shula Fleischer & Robert Schattner*
Gail Franklin
Heni & Henri Galel
Carol & Michael Gleiberman
Marvin Golberg
Bea & Leo (z’l) Gold
Michelle and Ted Goodwin
Myrna & David Gross
Donna Grossman
Rhoda & Jerry Grossman
Charlotte & Arnold Haskel
Ivy & Bill Hurwitz
Beatriz & Harold Jacobsohn
Felice & Neil Kantor
Melanie Jacobson Katzell
Judith Kay & Norman Schlanger
Sue Kirshner

Larry Korpeck
Doris Brooks Kuperstock*
Toby Levi*
Noreen & Edward Levine
Carol & Morris Lewitter
Elizabeth & E.J. Leizerman
Marsha & Howard Liebman
Blanche Meisel
Maruka & Bernard (z’l) Mirochnik
Beth & Joseph Mishkin
Tamara & Richard Morgenstern
Barbara & David Orth
Miriam Preminger*
Jewel & Alan Prince
Gerald Robinson
Linda & Maxwell Rosenbaum
Lynne & Howard Schechter
Phyllis (z’l) & Cliff Seresky
Susan & Harvey Smith
Shirley & Allan Solomon
Dale & Richard Sonenklare
Roseanne & Ed Sopher
Andrea & Art Stark
Rabbi David & Dr. Tobi Steinhardt
Suzanne & Stanley Stier
Shari Upbin
Myriam Weinstein
Joan & Barry Winograd
Claire Zimmers
With Appreciation to Our Dear Friends:

Rabbi David Steinhardt
Rabbi David Englander
Cantor Magda Fishman
Cantor Boaz Davidoff

Helene Ballen, Executive Director
Ed Sopher, President
Elysa Stark, Director of Programming and Membership
Claudia Sternberg, Graphic Designer
Gustavo Moscoso, Director of Maintenance
Paul The Soundman, Sound & Lights
Shari Upbin, Theater Director
Marge Browner-Marks, Concert Chair
The B’nai Torah Maintenance Staff

B’NAI TORAH CHOIR
Cantor Mitchell Martin, Choir Conductor

SOPRANO
Sandra Gottfried
Myrna Gross
Gail Franklin
Robyn Lamp
Leah Levin
Shirley Schnurbach
AviGail Whiting

TENOR
Bob Baseman
Erick Crow
Mark Glickman
Leonard Miller
Lois Radding
Arlene Stolzenberg
Sammie Wolfe

ALTO
Nina Cohen
Pamela Feldman
Andrea Gralnick
Donna Grossman
Naomi Lippa
Adriana Portales
Sharon Weinstein

BASS
Daniel Caplin
Ethan Cohen
Jason Goldstein
Len Lefkowitz
Joe Levitan
Mark Samarel