

Biographies of the Nominees for the 2018-2019 Board of Directors



David Ogul (President)

A native of Los Angeles whose first job was selling programs at Dodger Stadium, David is a regular at the daily minyan and Saturday Shabbat services and has been active at Tifereth Israel Synagogue since becoming a member in 2004. He has been a professional writer since 1980, and his newspaper experience includes 11 years as an award-winning assistant metro editor at The San Diego Union-Tribune. David now operates Ogul Communications, a successful public relations and marketing firm focusing on higher education and with a clientele consisting primarily of colleges and universities throughout Southern California.

David loves the Dodgers and Lakers (tolerates the Padres; despises the Giants), enjoys a nice glass of red wine, and is the guitarist in the Shir Chadash band. A graduate of San Diego State University, David has three absolutely amazing children, 20, 27, and 29, and lives with the love of his life and woman of his dreams, Sharon, in San Diego.



Lawrence A. Casper (Administrative VP)

Larry has served as a Director and has been on the Security and Religious Life Committees. Larry's son, Seth, is a student at Community Jewish High. He is an Assistant U.S. Attorney and, in addition to his commitment to TIS, Larry also participates in a fifth grade school teaching program and in court-related student mock trial and other programs. Larry was formerly a Jewish youth group advisor and is a graduate of Brandeis University. Larry's wife, Stacy, is a College English Professor at UCSD and daughter, Liana, is a student at NYU-Tisch pursuing dramatic/play writing. If you want to find Larry quickly, try the daily minyan (or the golf course).



Norman Kort (Finance and Development VP)

Norman was raised in South Africa in an Orthodox Jewish home. He graduated as an Electrical Engineer and in 1981 emigrated to San Diego. He worked for Cubic Transportation Systems on transit fare collection systems around the world until he happily retired in 2015. He is very proud of his two children, a daughter Jessica, MBA, married to David, and a son Andrew, BA Environmental Science. He married Dr. Annette Feigenbaum in 2007 and in 2011 they moved to Del Cerro where they were warmly welcomed by all at Tifereth Israel Synagogue. Norman has been a regular participant in services and shul events, has served on the Religious Life Committee since 2015, participated in Men's Club events, stacked chairs, and even helped Annette plate the Shabbat cookies. From July 2016 to date he served as a Board member and on Tifereth Israel's Finance Committee and the Rabbinic Search Committee. He served as Secretary on the 2017-2018 Executive board and looks forward to contributing even more to the growth and success of this wonderful community and congregation as the Finance and Development VP.



Dr. Debbie Mishek (Religious Life VP)

Debbie grew up in Los Angeles at Temple Beth Am. She earned a degree in biochemistry from Pomona College and then graduated from UCSD Medical School. Debbie has lived in San Diego since 1984. She is a developmental/behavioral pediatrician and enjoys helping children successfully navigate school and life. Her husband Steve is an airline pilot. They are empty nesters but are lucky enough to have their children Sarah and Daniel living in the San Diego area.

Debbie has been actively involved in the Jewish community most of her life. She sang in a Jewish choir for over 15 years and feels that music is a great way to connect to spirituality and God. Debbie and Steve love celebrating Shabbat and inviting people over to share in the experience - they are trying to spread Shabbat dinners throughout the congregation. She is an avid walker and loves to bake. She was in charge of parent education at Francis Parker School.

Debbie looks forward to having the opportunity to continuing to serve on the Board with the ultimate goal of continuing to build community and connections.



Dr. Eva Friedberg Isaak (Congregational Services VP)

Eva joined the Tifereth Israel family in 2011 when her oldest daughter started attending Silverman Preschool. Originally from the San Fernando Valley, Eva grew up at Adat Ari El synagogue, was active in USY, attended Hebrew High School and Camp Ramah. She holds a BA from UC Berkeley, and both a MA and PhD from UC Irvine in Visual Studies. Currently, Eva works with her husband, Ari, growing their business as the Business Manager/ CFO of Evari GIS Consulting. She is also on Adjunct Faculty at Woodbury University School of Architecture where she

occasionally teaches courses in art and architecture history, urban studies and landscape. She has published and lectured on the history and politics of urban design and architecture, in particular on the American Jewish environmental designer, Lawrence Halprin. In her free time, she loves gardening and hiking with her daughters Hazel (8) and Sherrie (6), both enthusiastic students at Abraham Ratner Torah School.



Lisa Hernandez (Education and Youth VP)

Lisa Berman-Hernandez is a life-long member of Tifereth Israel Synagogue. She was one of the first Bat Mitzvahs in the new sanctuary on Tommy Drive. She made the trek from 30th Street, marching alongside the congregants and leading her USY youth group to our new home. She was later confirmed in the same sanctuary and made a pilgrimage to Israel with USY. Lisa met her husband, Angel Hernandez, at Tifereth, where they celebrated their union with the blessings of Rabbi Rosenthal eleven years ago. Their pride and joy, Madeline (Maddie), nine years old, was

named at TIS.

Lisa's great-grandfathers and great-grandmothers, Saul and Bessie Blanc and Louis and Ida Zemen, were some of the original pioneers of Tifereth when it was located on 18th Street. Her grandfather, Max, was a president of the synagogue, and her grandmother, Lillian, was an original member of our

Sisterhood. Lisa's parents, Sharlene and David Berman, have held similar active positions within the synagogue for decades. Sharlene was one of the first Bat Mitzvahs in the history of Tifereth Israel. Currently, Lisa is a partner at the law firm of Bender & Gritz. She previously taught Hebrew school in Chicago.

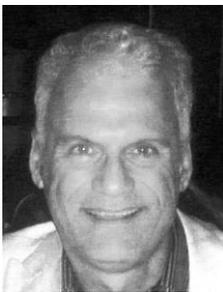


Evan Ziegler (Secretary)

Evan Ziegler has been a member of Tifereth Israel since 1979. Evan was an active member of USY and graduated from the San Diego Hebrew High School. He currently serves on the TIS Board of Directors and attends the morning minyan on a weekly basis.

Evan and his wife Diane have two wonderful children, Sam and Maya. Both kids attended the Silverman Preschool and graduated from the Abraham Ratner Torah School, and both currently attend the Community Jewish High and are active in USY.

Evan and his family enjoy traveling around the world exploring new destinations and cultures. They are also avid San Diego Padre and SDSU Aztec basketball fans.



Jerry Hermes (Immediate Past President)

Jerry Hermes was President from July 2014 to June 2017. After being on our Board in numerous executive and leadership positions during most of the decade of the 1980s, Jerry was on a 17-year hiatus before returning to Board service in 2009 as a Director. Immediately prior to the Presidency, Jerry served as Administrative Vice President for four years during which time he oversaw numerous large projects (parking lot, Sanctuary, wheelchair ramp, security upgrades). He also found the time to be a principal performer for more than a decade of our popular

Purimshpiel shows before retiring from that in 2017. Jerry and his wife Sue have been members of Tifereth Israel since 1980.

Jerry is currently in his 37th year as an independent insurance broker, specializing in property and casualty, workers' comp, and group health insurance sales. Sue and Jerry are looking forward to celebrating their 47th wedding anniversary in the fall.



Brian Abramson (Director)

Brian Abramson has spent most of his professional career as a long-term healthcare administrator in Maryland and California. After graduating with a BA from UCSD and MA from SDSU he met his wife, Rachel, while working in Los Angeles. They moved to San Diego after Rachel completed medical school in Maryland. Their three children, Maya, Justin, and Brandon, are all involved with the synagogue. Maya is in the Shofar Squad while Brandon currently attends Silverman Preschool. Rachel is a practicing pediatrician in City Heights. Brian founded his own business, *Finding Home for Older Adults*, which facilitates the

placement of seniors to appropriate long-term care communities. He also helps seniors and their families find home care for those who wish to stay in their homes.



BarbaraSue Barnes (Director)

BarbaraSue Barnes is a partner and controller for a show management company headquartered in Las Vegas. She was married to Lewis (z"l) for 25 years, mother to Harry (Dani), Pam (Sunny), Mindi (Mark), Jeff, Adrian (Ori) and Wendy, grandmother to Savanna, Race, Jacob, Ben, Tom (Aurianne), David (Rachel), Becca, and Gaby (Avishai), and great-grandmother to Kiwan, Shine and Oona. BarbaraSue joined Tifereth Israel when it was still on Howard Street and four of her children became Bar or Bat Mitzvah at TIS: Harry at the Howard Street synagogue, Pam in the temporary quarters while building our current building, and Mindi and Jeff in our current sanctuary. BarbaraSue was also involved in organizing and running the weekly Tifereth Israel Bingo Night many years ago. It is her pleasure to continue to serve our Congregation.



Cristal Ghitman (Director)

Cristal Ghitman has been a member of Tifereth Israel for the past 15 years. Her children, Malachai Aden and Jacob Ezekiel, both attended Silverman Preschool and are currently enrolled in Abraham Ratner Torah School. Malachai will graduate this year after having been called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah, and the family looks forward to celebrating yet another *simcha* with the Tifereth community! Cristal is a San Diego native, a UCSD graduate, and now works as a National Account Executive with Envysion, a managed video and auditing company. When not working or studying, the family enjoys camping, traveling, football, gardening, cooking and hiking.



Shayna Kaufmann (Director)

Since earning her doctorate in Clinical Psychology in 1992, Dr. Shayna Gothard Kaufmann has worked extensively both as a clinical and forensic psychologist. She has helped hundreds of offenders coming through the system get direction for a better future. In addition, Shayna has worked with victims of trauma at Children's Hospital, published original research in prestigious academic journals, is a sought after speaker, and has taught graduate level psychology for ten years at Alliant and National Universities.

In addition to professional achievements, racing in marathons, triathlons, and century bike rides, Shayna has been practicing Zen Meditation for the past 13 years and is dedicated to her personal growth. She has been happily married since 1999 and is the mother of two powerful and beautiful teen girls.

Her current passion is working with women in midlife helping them access the power and opportunity of this amazing time. Her business, Embracing the Middle, reflects her varied learning and manifests as a clear yet gentle process done within an intimate, supportive environment.



Larry Krantz (Director)

Larry has been a member of Tifereth Israel synagogue since 1988. He is married to wife Kathy and they have 3 children and 4 grandsons. Larry is the owner of Am Israel Mortuary.



Mickey Lackenbacher (Director)

Mickey has been a member of Tifereth Israel Synagogue since 1999. Married to Jackie, they have two daughters who have gone through Silverman Preschool, Torah School and now CJH. Mickey grew up in Quito, Ecuador, South America going to a Conservative / Orthodox synagogue. He studied Economics and Engineering at UC Santa Cruz and UC Berkley before his professional career. It is in university where he started his interest in non-profit organizations. After receiving his Masters in Public and Private Management (MBA) from Yale, he worked for several big name companies before developing a desire to have his own business. Currently working/managing his businesses within several industries in manufacturing, real-estate and marketing, Mickey looks to help provide benefit to different organizations and to make Tifereth Israel Synagogue part of everyone's community.



Dr. Randy Philipp (Director)

Dr. Randy Philipp has been a member of Tifereth Israel Synagogue since 1991, shortly after he and Margaret moved to San Diego. He is currently a professor of mathematics education at San Diego State University and the director of SDSU's Center for Research in Mathematics and Science Education. He and Margaret have two sons, Elliot and Andrew, both of whom attended Torah School and celebrated their Bar Mitzvahs at TIS. Randy has served on the TIS Board of Directors and on the Executive Board as Secretary. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of San Diego State University's Research Foundation and he serves as President of the National Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators (AMTE).



Lindsey Zipkin (Director)

Lindsey Zipkin is the Associate Director of Development at ADL San Diego, where she began in late 2016, though she started her work in the nonprofit sector at the ADL in Los Angeles on their education team. Prior to the ADL, Lindsey was Director of Development for Serving Seniors, a local San Diego nonprofit that works with homeless senior citizens, and also held development roles with agencies like the Jewish National Fund, Susan G. Komen For the Cure, and Southwestern Law School in Los Angeles and Orange County. She holds an MBA in Nonprofit Management from the American Jewish University, and a Bachelors in International Politics with a focus on the Israeli-Arab conflict from Whittier College. Much of her free time is spent with her kids Gemma and Archie, Silverman attendees, and her husband Dru.