

*You are cordially invited to the*  
**Sinai Free Synagogue Gala Garden Party**  
with a Silent Auction  
Saturday, June 1, 2024 at 5:00



**Honoring**  
**Cantor Amy Goldstein**  
and recognizing  
Dr. Neil Calman and Dr. Michael Lahn

Over the past 6 years, Amy Goldstein, our Honoree, has become an integral part of our Sinai Free Synagogue community. As Cantor, she has graced us with beautiful music. She has introduced new songs that have become standards for our community, including her own compositions. Under her direction, the choir has expanded in size and sings in multi-part harmony. She is inclusive, finding a way to incorporate anyone with an interest in singing or playing an instrument into our services. She is a font of creative ideas. As Religious School Director, she worked with the children to create a child sized sanctuary with its own painted ark where she leads the children in a weekly musical service.

Amy comes from a musical family, and her family background informs everything she does. Her step-grandfather and great uncles comprised the Epstein Brothers Orchestra, the most famous Klezmer band of the time. Her mother, Harriet Epstein Daar z'l, sang in the band. Her father, Cantor Jacob Goldstein z'l, was described as a musical prodigy at the age of 7. Young Jack Goldstein became a star soloist, conductor, and composer. All five Goldstein children were singers, performing together throughout Amy's childhood.

When Amy was 13, her brother, Benjamin z'l, asked her to sight-read an aria from La Traviata. It required her to sing in a higher register than she had ever sung. The result surprised both of them and led to the start of her formal music education: a full scholarship to Julliard's pre-college division, then the North Carolina School of the Arts and Manhattan School of Music, where she studied with renowned American soprano Adele Addison.

As a Cantor's daughter, Amy learned through observation. As an adult, Amy studied at the Jewish Theological Seminary and the Academy of Jewish Religion, taking a break when she had each of her sons. Michael, now 17, is graduating from High School and Isaac is 14. Both boys are musical. Michael is a professional-level drummer and plays guitar; Isaac studied at the Manhattan School of Music and is a concert pianist. Currently, Amy is taking exams from the Cantors Assembly to receive cantorial certification.

"The biggest help was Rabbi Mo. I was motivated by how human and helpful he was. I especially appreciate his ability to mentor. He helped me ease into the dual role of cantor and school director. I've been fortunate to have great mentors in senior leadership. The Congregation is so welcoming, compassionate, and close. I grew here and learned how to be part of making a community function, tripling my passion for being clergy and connecting me even more to Judaism."

We recognize Dr. Neil Calman and Dr. Michael Lahn as medical advisors and active participants on our Covid Task Force, keeping us safe during the worst of Covid. They continue to advise us on infectious diseases.



**Dr. Neil Calman** is a family doctor. He founded and runs the Institute for Family Health, a not-for-profit organization which has 31 locations from New York City to the Hudson Valley and Ellenville. The organization offers 500,000 patient visits a year for primary medical care, behavioral health care, and dental care to people who are seen without regard for their ability to pay. He is, also, a Professor and Chair of the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health at Mount Sinai Hospital and an elected member of the National Academy of Science, Engineering and Medicine.

Neil had not been a temple member since his Bar Mitzvah. When his mother, a Holocaust survivor, was a resident at Sunrise, he discovered SFS right next door and often brought her to services. He became connected to our congregation, joined and is now a Vice-President. His medical knowledge helps keep us safe. His love of music has enhanced services and entertains us, including tonight!

**Dr. Michael Lahn** practices emergency room medicine at the Jack D. Weiler Hospital of Montefiore Medical Center in the Bronx. “It is a really busy emergency room with tremendous patient crowds,” he explained. “At the height of early Covid, it was Ground Zero for a while, with refrigerated trucks outside to serve as emergency morgues when so many patients died.” The Lahn family joined SFS about 20 years ago. All three Lahn children went through our Religious School and became B’nei Mitzvah.



Mike and his family have organized multiple trips for adults and teens to Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic through *Bridges to Community*, a volunteer service organization where Mike is a Co-Chair. They form long-term relationships with communities affected by poverty, listening and responding directly to their needs. They work side by side with the residents, constructing houses and providing medical support and health education. This work has been Mike’s passion for many years.

## Honorary Committee (in formation\*)

Lisa & Rabbi Morris Barzilai  
Michael Irving Bernstein  
Brenda & Jeffrey Bleustein  
Deborah Bloom  
Cindy & John Brockell  
The Calman Family  
Elizabeth Spiro & Tim Costello  
Joan & Mort David  
Madelyn & Michael Davis  
Jennifer & David Fondiller  
Cynthia S. Einhorn &  
Dr. Martin Friedmutter  
Anita & Larry Genser  
Arlene & Clifford Gibbs  
Janet Gutterman  
Jean & Morton Hertz  
Harriet Kaplow  
Patricia Jeanett Kobetts

Barbara & Ira Korner  
The Lahn Family  
Linda & Walter Levine  
Fran & Marvin Lifson  
Rabbi Max Maccoby Fund  
Laura & Mark Mendley  
Joel Miller  
Renata & Jethro Miller  
Eileen & Ronald Oleet  
Sarah & Jonathan Proesel  
Ann & Rod Rolett  
Michael Schramm  
Jennifer & Bill Schulman  
Rona & Bob Sterling  
Claudia & Joel Wald  
Myra & Marshall Watnick  
Zeichner Ellman & Krause LLP

\*If you wish to join the Honorary Committee, please inform the office.