

# Lauren Michelle Furman

788 Columbus Ave Apartment #11K New York, NY. 10025  
818-970-9176\*laurenfurman@gmail.com  
www.laurenfurman.com

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Bright, dynamic spiritual leader who works collaboratively to support and enhance synagogue life through my voice and creativity. Passionate builder of sacred relationships through teaching and living Torah.

## Professional Profile

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- Flexible, accessible vocalist and high-level musician who engages congregants in moving worship.
- Cultivates meaningful relationships on and off of the bimah with congregants, co-clergy, and collaborators.
- Dedicated to empowering congregants and lay leadership.
- Energetic self-starter whose core values include: honesty, integrity, tikkun olam, chesed, kehillah, kavod, ruach and limmud.

## Core Competencies

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Music	Education	Pastoral/Administrative
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Guitarist and Pianist</li><li>• Composer</li><li>• Choral Conductor for junior and adult choirs</li><li>• Innovative and sensitive musical programmer</li><li>• Collaborator with instrumental and vocal ensembles</li><li>• Empowers musical lay leaders</li><li>• Invites congregation into singing</li><li>• Creates spiritual and deep worship experiences</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hebrew High and Confirmation teacher</li><li>• Guide to 400+ B'nai Mitzvah Students</li><li>• Jewish Adult Educator</li><li>• Cantillation trainer for youth and adults</li><li>• Developer of comprehensive and engaging religious school curriculum</li><li>• Teacher of Torah through music, words, education and outreach</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Perceptive and intuitive listener</li><li>• Musical and spiritual facilitator of lifecycle rituals</li><li>• Deep, empathetic pastoral care through hospital visitation</li><li>• Encouraging, gentle mentor</li><li>• Team Player</li><li>• High-level, efficient and organized leader</li><li>• Direct and honest communicator</li></ul>

## Professional Experience

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- **Temple Beth-El, Jersey City, New Jersey**  
*Student Cantor, July 2012-Present*
- **Temple Har Sinai, Pennington, New Jersey**  
*Student Cantor, July 2011-June 2012*
- **Temple B'nai Israel, Southbury Connecticut**  
*Student Cantor, July 2009-June 2011*
- **Brooklyn Heights Synagogue, Brooklyn Heights, New York**  
*B'nai Mitzvah tutoring, September 2010-June 2011, September 2012-Present*
- **Shaaray Tefilah, New York, New York**  
*B'nai Mitzvah tutoring, September 2012-Present*

## Professional Experience Continued

- **Central Synagogue, New York, New York**  
B'nai Mitzvah Tutoring, *September 2010-June 2011*
- **Health Care Chaplaincy, New York, New York**  
Chaplaincy Intern, St. Luke's Hospital *June-August 2010*
- **Temple Israel of the City of New York**  
Mitkadem Tutor, *September 2009-June 2010*
- **Stephen Wise Free Synagogue, Brooklyn Heights Synagogue, Congregation Beth Elohim, New York**  
Soloist Appearances, *September 2009-Present*
- **Temple Judea, Tarzana, California**  
Cantorial Intern, *June 2011-August 2011*  
B'nai Mitzvah Tutor, Substitute Cantorial Soloist, *2004-2008*
- **Temple Beth Shalom, Santa Ana, California**  
Adult Education, *2007-2008*
- **Temple Isaiah, Los Angeles, California**  
Cantorial Intern, *2007-2008*
- **Temple Beth Shir Shalom, Santa Monica, California**  
Substitute Cantorial Soloist, *June –August 2007*
- **Temple Emmanuel of Beverly Hills, Beverly Hills, California**  
Substitute Cantorial Soloist, *June-August 2007*
- **Professional Opera Singer, Los Angeles, California**  
Various roles with regional opera companies, *2001-2004*

## Community and Outreach

- Outreach to 20's and 30's in Jersey City Community through Hebrew Union College Be Wise Grant Competition
- Weekly assistant to woman with degenerative eye condition
- Volunteer Shabbat and Chanukah services at Cabrini Nursing Home

## Education

- **Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, DFSSM**  
Master of Sacred Music, *May 2012* \*Candidate for Ordination, *May 2013*  
Thesis: *M'Chorban L'Binyan, From Destruction to Rebuilding: Lament as a Petakh Tikvah, a Doorway of Hope*
- **Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Los Angeles, California**  
Cantorial Mechina Program *2004-2008*
- **University of Southern California**  
Bachelor of Music, Vocal Arts Performance: Opera, *2001*

## Awards

- **DFSSM:**  
*Abraham and Anna Helman Memorial Prize for Academic Excellence, Lavine Scholarship, Josef Freudenthal Memorial Prize for Excellence in Composition, Jodi Sufrin Prize, Israel Goldstein Master of Hazzanut, Grant Winner: HUC-JIR Be Wise Grant Competition for Communal Outreach*
- **University of Southern California**  
Merit Scholarship

