

## **2023-24 Board of Trustee Nominating Committee**

Temple Isaiah's Bylaws define the charge of the Nominating Committee and its process. Please refer to Bylaws' Sections 4G and 6E for the complete text. The 2023-24 Nominating Committee was co-chaired by Allison Samek, the Immediate Past President, and Ken Friedman, a current member of the Board of Trustees. Other committee members included:

- Suzanne Solig (President), ad hoc
- Deborah Moses (Executive Director), ad hoc
- Terry Pullan
- Jessica Dabney
- Rachel Kallick
- Richard Isakow
- Wendy Plottel
- Martha Sklar
- Orli Belman
- Beth Mohammed

Note (1) at certain points in the committee's deliberations, Richard Isakow recused himself from any discussions or deliberations that might have involved his wife's potential re-nomination.

The 2023-24 Committee had to fill one (1) Officer Vacancy (VP of Social Justice), three (3) Board seats that will become vacant on June 30, 2024 and consider for renomination four sitting Board members who were eligible for another term. Following are the nominee slates for each individual category:

### **Officer Nomination**

- VP, Social Justice – David Chiu (his nomination opens up a fourth board seat vacancy)

**Board of Trustees: Slate of Renewing Members** (Members who completed their first term and asked to be reconsidered for a second 3-year term)

- David Felman
- Steve Fox
- Ilana Isakow
- Jeff Misthal

**Board of Trustees: Slate of New Nominees** (4 seats including David Chui's seat)

- Brit Finney-Conlon – 1st three-year term after stepping down from VP, Social Justice
- Jonathan Lonner
- Jeff Yaroslow
- Sheri Hirschfeld

Note (2) The normal Board term is three years; all four of these nominees will be eligible for a second three-year term.

## **BIOS**

### **Executive VP Social Justice**

#### *David Chiu*

David Chiu has been a member of Temple Isaiah since 2014 and a Board member since 2019. He is also a member of the Green Team, Torah Study, the Adult Education Caucus, and was one of the creators of Civics in the Synagogue. David's other social justice work includes activism with Am Tzedek, HIAS, the Religious Action Center, and Reclaim Our Vote on issues of refugees, housing affordability, and voting rights. In addition, David started a now-thriving group for fellow millennial/Gen Z Isaiaans. In pre-COVID times, he served as a Shabbat greeter and coordinated the Torah Study bagel pickup. In 2019, David was awarded Temple Isaiah's Emerging Leaders Award.

Proud of his Chinese and Litvak ancestry, David has created educational programming for Isaiaans on both aspects of his heritage. He has, as a member of a SoCal Jews of Color group, advised the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles on issues of diversity. Professionally, David and his screenwriting partner have created content for companies such as Amazon Prime. He has also individually written, directed, and curated for The Braid, formerly Jewish Women's Theatre, including writing a piece that was performed for the Los Angeles City Council.

### **Renewing Board Members**

#### *David Felman*

David Felman was born and raised in Los Angeles (not far from Temple Isaiah), where he lives with his wife Erin and two children, Benjamin and Brianna, both Isaiah Preschool attendees (past and present). David has participated on various Isaiah Board committees, and Erin has served in leadership roles on the Preschool Parent Association and Preschool Advisory Committee. David has over 20 years of financial operations, transactions, and investments experience, as a board member, chief financial officer, investment banker, and institutional investor. He is Chief Financial Officer of College Health Enterprises, a private healthcare services company, and oversees the founding family's investment and philanthropy office. David served as Chief Financial Officer of Jewish Family Service LA, the oldest charitable organization in Southern California, after serving as a Board member and Finance Committee Chair. For his work, David was recognized as CFO of the Year by the Los Angeles Business Journal for nonprofits. Previously, David was an investment banker at Morgan Stanley, Moelis & Co., and Greif & Co., and served on the investment staff at Stanford Management Company, which manages Stanford University's endowment. David serves on the Board of the Friars Charitable Foundation, which supports social services and the arts in Los Angeles. David was previously recognized on the Los Angeles Business Journal's "LA 500" list of the 500 Most Influential People in Los Angeles. David holds a B.A. in Economics and Political Science with Distinction and Honors from Stanford University, and an M.B.A. in Finance and Entrepreneurship from UCLA Anderson School of Management, where he graduated as a Carter Fellow.

### Steve Fox

Steve Fox joined the Temple in 1968 with his first wife, Ginnie Z"L. By then he had a BA in Political Science, 3 weeks in law school, and a BS and MS in Electrical Engineering. For his entire professional career, 35 years, he worked for the Hughes Aircraft Co. Soon after he joined the Temple, he served as head of the Young Marrieds and that led to a variety of board and executive board positions.

A long fast forward: two children-- Lisa and Jude-- and 2 of 3 grandchildren are now TI alumni, one even having taught in the Religious School as her grandmother did. (Talk about quelling!) He is currently married to Tina Fox, hoping someday to see a great grandchild on the bimah. His major temple activities/passions at this time are the Green Team, playing piano at jazz services, Jewish learning, and communal service.

### Ilana Isakow

Ilana Isakow has been a member of Temple Isaiah since 2014 when her oldest son Jack was in the Teddy Bear program at the preschool. He was later joined by his brother Max and Ilana was actively involved in the school serving on the PPA, as challah lead and room parent. Her kids continue their Jewish education at the temple's religious school. Ilana also was on the planning committee for Temple Isaiah's 70th Anniversary Gala. Jewish values have been an important part of her life since growing up in suburban Chicago and meeting her husband Richard at Hillel services while at Michigan State University. Ilana has nearly 20 years of experience working in the wholesale fashion industry for PVH, Speedo and most recently Levi Strauss. She currently serves as co-president of the PTA at Overland Avenue Elementary School and is an active volunteer.

### Jeff Misthal

Jeff Misthal and his wife, Jaime Zadra, joined Temple Isaiah in 2016 with their two children, Zachary and Zoey. Zachary will become a Bar Mitzvah in August of 2024 and Zoey will become a Bat Mitzvah in 2027.

Jeff has been serving on the Budget Committee since 2024. With his finance background, Jeff began his career in investment banking and then transitioned to leading finance teams for both publicly traded and privately held technology companies.

## **New Board Nominees**

### Brit Finney Conlon

Brittany Finney-Conlon is a 5th generation Angeleno and a proud Irish-Jew, along with her husband, James Finney-Conlon. Brit has served on the Board since 2020 and has participated in various Isaian leadership opportunities prior to joining. Brit graduated Cum Laude from Brandeis University in 2017 with a dual B.A. in Global Studies and Anthropology, and then in 2018 with her M.A. in Global Studies, concentrating in refugee integration. Currently, Brit works at the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles as a Donor Relations Associate, helping build Jewish communities and engaging in donor stewardship. At Temple Isaiah, Brit is heavily involved in Am Tzedek as a community organizing leader with OneLA and just finished her term as VP, Social Justice. Brit also enjoys attending Torah Study classes, weekly Shabbat services, partaking

in Isaiah's Small Groups, and engaging with her "mostly-millennial" young adult group. In her free time Brit enjoys hiking, visiting her family in the South Bay, and spending time with James and their two cats.

### Jonathan Lonner

Jonathan Lonner is Founding Principal of Burns & Bouchard, Inc., which provides commercial and residential development consulting services to local retailers, charter and private schools, small builders, municipalities, non-profits, and real estate investment trust companies. Prior to forming Burns & Bouchard, Jonathan opened and led a Southern California office for USA Properties Fund Inc., a Roseville-based tax credit builder, to increase their reach into local acquisition and development. Previously, Jonathan worked as the Vice President of Development for Lee Homes where he handled the predevelopment activities of the firm.

Jonathan holds a Bachelor of Science in Design from Arizona State University and graduated with honors from the University of Southern California with a Master of Urban Planning and a Master of Public Administration. He received a Merit Award from the California Planning Foundation, Certificate of Merit for Leadership from USC and was recognized by the Anti-Defamation League for completion of its Salvin Leadership Institute. Jonathan is a two-time past President of the Building Industry Association's Los Angeles/Ventura Section, and a past Chair of the LAX Coastal Chamber of Commerce.

Jonathan and his wife, Kristen, have been members of Temple Isaiah for 13 years. Brody (age 15) became a Bar Mitzvah in 2022. Finn (age) 11 will become a Bar Mitzvah in 2025. Both attended Isaiah pre-school, religious school, and sang in the pop-up choir. Kristen is a former Vice President of Development at Temple Isaiah. In his free time Jonathan is the Scoutmaster for Troop 50 in West Los Angeles and volunteers for AYSO as a referee.

### Jeff Yaroslow

Jeff Yaroslow has been a lifelong member of Temple Isaiah, from his time in Mazel's Red Caboose preschool class, to his Confirmation class with Rabbi Zoe Klein Miles during her inaugural year at Isaiah, culminating with the marriage of Jeff and his wife, Dani Yaroslow, in 2016. He has continued the Temple Isaiah tradition, L'dor V'dor, with his son who attends the preschool and is loving his time in the Guppies classroom. His career began as a video editor, but he quickly realized he had an affinity for building the systems, workflows, and technology that comprise the production & post-production spaces. Currently, he serves as the VP of Technical Operations at Integrated Media Technologies, a systems integration & consulting company, where he is responsible for advising some of the largest studios and professional sports teams in Southern California. When he's not nerding out at work, he enjoys playing on the Temple Isaiah softball team, or on one of his three other softball teams -- or making his own homemade smoked salmon. He is excited and honored to continue his Isaiah journey by joining the Board and looks forward to talking tech, playing ball, or smoking salmon with his fellow Isaiaans.

### Sheri Hirschfeld

Sheri Hirschfeld grew up in Mar Vista, down the street from her husband, Michael. Whereas she has traveled throughout the world, she still resides on the Westside of Los Angeles. She has two children, Ben and Arielle, both of whom grew up at Temple Isaiah, started with Mommy and Me

classes and continued on through Confirmation. She joined Temple Isaiah 38 years ago when her son was 2, and now her grandson, Rowan, enjoys going to Grandparent and Me classes with his "Gaga" and "Ginka." Her granddaughter, Asher, isn't far behind. Most of Sheri's working life has been centered around design, starting with clothing, then shoes, and finally in interior design where she has worked for over 40 years, most of which was spent managing tile and stone showrooms. She was an Architectural Commissioner for the City of Beverly Hills for 6 years. She currently owns and operates her own interior design business and doesn't seem to be slowing down as she "matures."