

## **2024-2025 Board of Trustees 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 2024-2025 Nominating Committee was co-chaired by Allison Samek, the Immediate Past President, and Rachael Kallick, a current temple member. Other committee members included:

- Suzanne Solig (President), ad hoc
- Deborah Moses (Executive Director), ad hoc
- Terry Pullan
- Jessica Dabney
- Rachael Kallick
- Richard Isakow
- Wendy Plottel
- Martha Sklar
- Orli Belman
- Jeff Yaroslow
- Susan Bartholomew

Note at certain points in the committee's deliberations, Jeff Yaroslow recused himself from any discussions or deliberations that involved his nomination for VP of Communications.

The 2024-25 Committee had to fill three Officer vacancies: (President, Executive VP and VP of Communications) and three (3) Board seats that will become vacant on June 30, 2025 and consider for renomination four (4) sitting Board members who were eligible for another term.. Following are the nominee slates for each individual category:

### **Officer Nominations**

- President – Debra Silverman
- Executive VP – Eric Shabsis
- VP, Communications – Jeff Yaroslow (his nomination opens up a fourth board seat vacancy as he's a current board member)

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

- Katie Berman
- Ken Friedman
- Beth Mohammed
- Beth Raanan

**Board of Trustees Slate of New Nominees** (4 seats including Jeff Yaroslow's seat)

- Sherrie Zacharius
- Shireen Oberman
- Ann Weinman
- Richard Birnholz

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

## **BIOS**

### **President**

#### **Debra Silverman**

Debra and her husband Chris have been active members of Temple Isaiah for 16 years. Their boys both celebrated their bar mitzvah at Isaiah – Isaac in the sanctuary and Jude in Jerusalem on an Isaiah family trip to Israel. It is a community that the Silverman-Hebert family holds close in their hearts.

A native of Cincinnati, OH, Debra holds a BA in Interdisciplinary Studies from Miami University and a PhD in English Literature from the University of Southern California. She's worked in the film & TV industry for many years, beginning as a researcher for the visual effect division of Sony Pictures, followed by a stint as a freelance researcher on a variety of WWII-era movies, then as the head of the rights & clearance department of MGM. She's currently the global head of credits and legal delivery at Apple Original Content.

For the past two years, Debra has served as Executive Vice President of Temple Isaiah's Board of Trustees. She previously served as a Trustee and as the VP, Social Justice. The recipient of Isaiah's inaugural Tzedek Award, Debra is active on many Temple committees. On the weekends you'll find her riding her Peloton, biking or hiking outdoors, gardening, knitting, baking, cooking, reading, hanging with family & friends or binge watching her favorite shows.

### **Executive Vice President**

#### **Eric Shabsis**

A second-generation Angelino, Eric grew up in Culver City and attended Culver City public schools. His family worshiped at Temple Akiba, where Eric was Bar Mitzvahed, where Eric's father, Howard, served on the board for over 35 years, and sang in the choir.

Today, Eric and his wife, Tracy, have been active members of Temple Isaiah since 2008; Tracy serving as chair of the Preschool Advisory Committee (PAC) and a member of the Temple Isaiah Board for over 10 years. Both of their children are graduates of the preschool and were Bar/Bat Mitzvahed by Rabbi Dara.

As a college student, Eric was active in campus Jewish life at Hillel, a member of Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity, an attendee at AIPAC Conferences in Washington, D.C., and as a student leader on a UJA Mission to Israel. It was also during college that Eric gained a love for Jewish cooking. He hosted (and cooked) weekly Shabbat dinners and an annual break the fast, which by his senior year was attended by over 100 students from all corners of the Berkeley Jewish community.

Eric graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, and Harvard Kennedy School. Subsequently, Eric was the Budget and Policy Director for the Mayor of Los Angeles and Political Director of the Los Angeles City Firefighters Union. In 2006, Eric established an advocacy firm,

*know/how* (formerly Eric Shabsis Public Affairs), that engages local communities and collaborates with elected and appointed officials and staff in support of major projects.

Eric served on the Board of the Westside Neighborhood Council for six years and was Vice President of Friends of Overland (FOO), Overland Elementary School's Booster Club. He and Tracy were co-chairs of L.A. Couples through the Jewish Federation and were founding parents of The City School.

Eric's most important roles are as husband to Tracy and father to Jonah, a student at American University in Washington, D.C., and Sammie, a high schooler at deToledo Jewish Community High School. He is immensely proud of them, their accomplishments, and the *menschlichkeit* individuals they are.

## **VP Communications**

### 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 and 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 school. 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 serving as VP Communications and looks forward to talking tech, playing ball, or smoking salmon with his fellow Isaiaans.

## **New Board Nominees**

### Sherrie Zacharius

Sherrie Zacharius (and her family) has been an active member of Temple Isaiah for over 40 years. Sherrie was Chair of the Social Action Committee in the 1990s, when, among other programs, for several years she organized the Temple's initial participation in Mitzvah Day, the Westside Thanksgiving Day meal and clothing drives, and Temple blood drives. Sherrie worked at The Aerospace Corporation (a Federally-funded Research and Development Corporation based in El Segundo) for 37 years, rising to Vice President for Technology. Since her retirement in 2019, she has been involved in Temple facilities and voter engagement work and traveled to Israel and the American South with the Temple. She collects Chanukiot and enjoys researching family genealogy. In 2022, Sherrie and her husband (David Levine) received the Temple's Lifetime Achievement Award.

### Shireen Oberman

Shireen Oberman has been a member since 2021 when her daughter, Margaux, and son, Theodore started pre-school. A lifelong Angeleno and former Jewish Communal professional, Shireen found the perfect home in Temple Isaiah. In addition to being the chair of the Preschool

Parent Advisory Committee the past two years, Shireen has provided a variety of lectures in the pre-school. Under the guidance of Rabbi Zoe, Shireen started a small group for Isaiahs currently in treatment or survivors of Cancer. Shireen and her husband, Pierre, are also active members in the religious school and can be found every Sunday morning enjoying bagels and cream cheese with the Isaiah community.

After 12 years of working in nonprofit, Shireen moved full time to private practice as a therapist and psychoanalyst. She also teaches in the graduate psychology program at Antioch University. She is honored and excited to join the board.

#### Ann Weinman

Born & raised in Chicago, Ann moved to LA in mid-college. Ann has five children and two grandchildren. Ann graduated Loyola Law School in 1980 at the age of 44. She spent her career in labor law and retired as an Administrative Law Judge with the state labor board. Ann has been a member of Temple Isaiah for 55 years, joining in 1970,

Ann celebrated her Bnai Mitzvah in 1985 and previously served on Temple Board in 1980's and Isaiah Women Board in approximately. 2010. She currently serves on Social Justice Committee, writes postcards & registers voters, attends two weekly Torah study classes and two Temple book groups, and has sung in Hasherim since 1980.

#### Richard Birnholz

Richard has served as a long-term Board Member and on the Executive Committee as Vice President of Development. In that capacity, he oversaw Temple Isaiah's ongoing development efforts to ensure that Isaiah grew and thrived.

Richard has been a Temple member since 1998. His two sons attended Isaiah's preschool and religious school and had Bar Mitzvahs with our tremendous Clergy.

Richard is a partner of Irell & Manella LLP, where he practices intellectual property litigation.