

Temple Israel of Great Neck
2026 Gala Dinner Dance

AN
ENCHANTED
EVENING



honoring the past and present members of
Temple Israel Players
and their legacy of engaging our congregation

June 14, 2026

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Temple Israel Players

THANK YOU
FOR ALL YOU DO TO
SUPPORT AND STRENGTHEN
OUR SYNAGOGUE COMMUNITY.

MAZAL TOV!

Sondra and David S. Mack

A Message from Lillian Cohen & Jon Kaiman

GALA CO-CHAIRS

We stand in the blackout, the glow from the house peeking beneath the drawn curtains. We run through lyrics one last time while listening to the hum of friends and loved ones finding their seats. They're reminded to silence their phones and not to crinkle their wrappers. We're reminded that the moment we've worked so hard for is finally here.

The orchestra begins the overture, and our hearts begin to race as we fight to catch our breath. Are we excited or terrified? Probably a little of both. The curtain starts to rise. It's showtime.

Months of preparation are coming to fruition, and we're ready to leave it all on the stage. But some of it comes with us too, becoming part of who we are. New bonds have formed, old friendships have strengthened, and unforgettable memories have been made. And most of all, there's the profound feeling that we're a part of something truly special.

Temple Israel Players doesn't just give us a stage to perform on; it gives us a place to belong. For those searching for community in Great Neck, members quickly find their place within this treasured group at Temple Israel. Involvement with The Players often becomes a gateway to deeper involvement within the synagogue itself - our home away from home.

Year after year, we embark on a new journey together, and the process of putting on a show becomes the ultimate equalizer. Age, profession, prior stage experience—none of it matters. We are all in this together. Friendships span generations effortlessly, united by a shared love of theater, music, and community.

Beyond the camaraderie, The Players also provide a refuge from the stresses of everyday life. When you step into the rehearsal space, you leave your worries at the door and immerse yourself in another world for a few hours—a world filled with music, laughter, and dance. And if those worries happen to follow you inside, your second family is there to meet you with compassion, encouragement, and unwavering support. We have experienced that support firsthand during difficult times, and we've also had the privilege of celebrating some of life's happiest moments alongside our Players family.

Temple Israel Players has a long and rich history, and it is a true privilege to be part of it. The directors, producers, cast, crew, musicians, and volunteers give so much of themselves each year to bring these productions to life. But what this group gives back to its members and to the entire Temple Israel community is immeasurable.

Temple Israel Players

A LIVING LEGACY OF COMMUNITY, CREATIVITY, AND CONNECTION

Temple Israel Players is a theater group with more than 50 years of history, made up entirely of Temple Israel members ranging in age from 8 to 88 and beyond. How did it all begin? According to Eileen Putterman z"l, a co-founder and driving force for decades, the spark for the troupe came from Rabbi Waxman z"l. Among those who helped bring that inspiration to life was Stan Goldfarb z"l, remembered as a co-founder whose early involvement and long-standing commitment helped shape the identity of the troupe. Sadly, many of the early visionaries who transformed that initial spark into a thriving theater community are no longer with us to retell how it all came to be. What we can discern from past newsletters and programs suggests that the earliest efforts emerged in the 1960s with productions by Sy Kleinman (a 1950s Broadway producer and songwriter and Temple Israel member) such as *Carmen Shapiro* and the *Persian Purim Passion Play*, followed by revivals of Broadway musicals under the direction of Jerry Goldstein z"l (Eileen Putterman's brother).

The first concrete evidence of The Players that was found is the 1973 program for *Milk and Honey*, a Broadway musical set in the early days of Israel—an especially fitting choice for a synagogue theater group. A handful of additional productions follow in the 1970s, and the troupe opens the 1980s with *Fiddler on the Roof*, a show they commit to revisiting roughly every ten years. Its enduring appeal comes not only from its large, multigenerational cast and devoted audiences, but also from its deep connection to Jewish history and its universal story of family, change, and children leaving home.

The remainder of the 1980s appears to be a quiet period, though the reasons are unclear. There may have been a production entitled *Broadway Review of 5725* (another Sy Kleinman production), but this cannot be officially confirmed through research. The Players reemerge in 1991 with *Hot Sake with a Pinch of Salt*, which effectively launches the steady rhythm of near-annual musical productions that continues through the present day.

Over the decades, The Players have become one of Temple Israel's most cherished communities—and its only truly multigenerational one. Children, teens, adults, and seniors rehearse side by side, learning from one another and forming bonds that last long after the final curtain. Many families have participated across two or even three generations, making the troupe a living thread in the fabric of synagogue life.

More than a theater troupe, Temple Israel Players has become a family within the synagogue—a community defined not just by age diversity, but by the spirit of collaboration and shared purpose. Casts form deep friendships, parents and children perform together, and spouses often share the stage as well, creating memories that become part of their family story. Members work hard together toward a common goal, supporting one another through long rehearsals, shared challenges, and the exhilaration of opening night. That experience creates a bond that endures for a lifetime—*once a Player, always a Player*.

Behind every production is an extraordinary network of people—producers, directors, set builders, sound and lighting technicians, costume designers, prop masters, musicians, stage managers, make-up artists, ticket, ad and concession sellers, ushers, graphic designers, and Temple Israel staff—whose dedication is the quiet engine that keeps the troupe thriving. Their creativity and commitment elevate each show far beyond “synagogue theater,” producing performances that surprise and delight audiences year after year.

While the repertoire ranges from classic Broadway to contemporary musicals to shows with Jewish resonance, the impact is always the same: The Players bring people together. Whether on stage or in the audience, members connect through the shared love of theater, fostering lasting relationships and a deeper connection to Temple Israel.

Ask any alum of The Players, and they'll tell you: the memories stay with you. The friendships, the backstage chaos, the inside jokes, the nerves before opening night, the applause, the pride—these moments become part of people's lives. For more than half a century, Temple Israel Players has not only entertained, but enriched, inspired, and united our community.

A Message from Rachel Geula

PRESIDENT, TEMPLE ISRAEL OF GREAT NECK

This year, as we honor the Temple Israel Players, we celebrate far more than a theater group. We celebrate a community within our community, a place where friendships are formed, talents are discovered, and memories are made that last a lifetime.

For more than fifty years, The Players have brought joy, laughter, music, and creativity to Temple Israel. Their productions entertain us, but their true gift is something even more meaningful. They bring people together. They create camaraderie, connection, and a sense of belonging that enriches synagogue life in countless ways.

I was never involved in theater as a young child. In 2013, however, my sister Lillian and I decided to give it a try and auditioned with The Players. Lillian was the brave one. She auditioned for a lead role (Hodel) while I was perfectly happy joining the ensemble.

As the weeks went by, we attended rehearsals together and slowly became part of a wonderful group of people. New friendships formed naturally. Then came "hell week," when rehearsals grew longer and more frequent and we found ourselves spending more and more evenings at Temple Israel.

My husband, Kiumarz, was not thrilled that so many of my nights were being spent away from home. I kept telling him, "You know, you can always join us!" One evening he finally showed up at rehearsal. The backstage crew quickly put him to work pulling curtains and moving props. They were so happy to have an extra set of hands that before long they found him a costume and put him on stage as a Russian villager.

Who would have imagined that Kiumarz would be performing alongside Lillian and me? It was unexpected, hilarious, and unforgettable. To this day, we all look back on that production with tremendous affection and gratitude.

Although Kiu and I did not participate in future productions, we have not missed a show since. The Players have become one of the most cherished parts of Temple Israel life.

As we honor the current cast, crew, directors, producers, musicians, and volunteers, we also recognize the generations who came before them and built this remarkable tradition. I cannot write this tribute without giving a special shout-out to Eileen Putterman z"l, whose heart and soul helped sustain the troupe for so many years. Who could forget her basement filled with costumes and theatrical treasures? If you needed something for a production, chances are you could find it there.

Kol hakavod to the Temple Israel Players, past, present, and future. Thank you for enriching our synagogue, strengthening our friendships, and reminding us that when a community creates together, something truly magical happens.

A Message from Executive Director Jamey Kohn

Dear Friends,

A rabbi once taught me that for many synagogues, the primary draw for recruiting and maintaining membership is the clergy. People like the rabbis' sermons and their presence at life-cycle events. They appreciate the cantor's voice and melodies. This can, however, present a challenge for those who are not regular shul-goers and may only experience these services a few times a year. For a synagogue to thrive, it needs additional draws that sustain engagement. The Players have proven to be overwhelmingly successful in this endeavor for decades.

Temple Israel of Great Neck's beloved theatrical troupe is made up of some of the most talented, dedicated, and passionate individuals. From December through March/April each year, I watch these folks tirelessly rehearse after long and exhausting workdays and school days, often while also caring for their families. I see sets being built on Sundays and evenings. I walk downstairs to the Crystal Ballroom late at night after a meeting expecting to turn off the lights and instead find a dozen Players still rehearsing. They are memorizing lines, practicing and practicing, and then practicing some more. The troupe performs to packed audiences with smiles on their faces—singing, dancing, and dressing up in costumes. And from what I hear, some of the first words uttered after the last curtain call are, "What show are we doing next year?"

It is rare that a synagogue group will grow synagogue membership. The Players do just that. In my time at Temple Israel, I have seen several families join specifically so they can be a part of The Players. Moreover, I strongly believe that the active participation of our Player-involved members is what maintains their synagogue affiliation. The best way to keep a member is to keep them engaged—and The Players is the ultimate example of member engagement.

It is my understanding that the troupe has been performing at Temple Israel for over fifty years, and in my humble opinion, they are as strong as the original cast. I hope for them to "break a leg" in their next performance (which I can't wait to find out), and I look forward to continuing to assist them in any way possible. I extend my thanks and gratitude to these incredible people.

B'Shalom,
Jamey Kohn

A Message from Rabbi Howard Stecker

A stage. A good story. A group of dedicated actors, musicians and crew. A receptive audience. These are the basic, but essential, ingredients for creating the magic known as live theater. The Temple Israel Players have been bringing this magic to our community for over half a century and tonight we say thank you in an official, celebratory way.

If The Players succeeded only in putting on outstanding quality performances year after year, *dayenu*. If they succeeded only in bringing together multiple generations in pursuit of a common goal, *dayenu*. If they succeeded only in creating strong bonds between participants and our synagogue, *dayenu*. If they succeeded only in fostering a sense of family among participants, *dayenu*. If they succeeded only in giving the clergy a few minutes each year to “ham it up” (if you’ll pardon the expression), *dayenu*. The Players have done all this and more, consistently and with unwavering dedication. Their success onstage is surpassed only by the depth of relationships they have forged offstage.

To The Players past and present, we say, “Thanks for the memories.” Thanks for creating a challenging, yet safe, space for generations of performers. Thanks for entertaining and inspiring us. Thanks for enabling us to feel more deeply, to laugh more unapologetically, and to think more imaginatively about how the world is and how it might be.

The shows must go on, since we all need more magic in our lives.

Mazal tov today and well into the future,
Rabbi Howard Stecker

A Message from Rabbi Daniel Schweber

Sing to God with a harp and horns. Let the sea creatures and land animals roar
“Bravo.” Then the rivers will applaud in exultation and the mountains will
echo the songs they heard (as they leave the performance).

(A theatrical interpretation of Psalm 96)

Dear TIGN Thespians,

Irving Berlin (aka Israel Isidor Beilin) was a son of a cantor, so he learned early on that “There is No Business Like Show Business.” (*Annie Get Your Gun*) His typewriter must have been stuck the day he composed the song because he used ‘w’ instead of ‘l’ for shul. Or perhaps Berlin was prophetic enough to know that a synagogue is better off singing prayers and singing on stage.

Acting troupes and synagogue communities achieve very similar goals. A group of people gather and bond together as they connect to their inner souls through song and dance. Synagogues and theater groups both succeed thanks to the hard work of volunteers. For decades, Temple Israel has had the best of both worlds, a synagogue community with its very own strong theater community often led by the same people. Eileen and Mickey Putterman z”l come to mind.

Tonight we pause to pay tribute to the past, present and future of the Temple Israel Players. It is a pleasure to enter the synagogue building on dark winter evenings to the sounds of intense rehearsal. And when we see the fruits of that hard labor blossom on stage in spring, the most appropriate word is *naches*; it captures feelings of pride, joy, admiration and awe in one Yiddish word.

Speaking of languages and idioms. I am not a fan of ‘break a leg’—I much prefer the Hebrew expression *מִחֵיל אֶל חֵיל*—may you go from strength to strength. Todah Rabbah and Mazel Tov to the entire TIGN Players leaders and community from backstage, on stage, orchestra pit and the front of the house. I can’t wait to see the 5787 production.

B’Shalom,
Rabbi Daniel Schweber

A Message from Hazzan Brian Shamash & Family

To our incredible honorees and the entire Temple Israel Players family,

Our hearts are full of gratitude as we celebrate the magic, dedication, and spirit you bring to Temple Israel of Great Neck.

We watched you open your arms and welcome our daughter, Maya, and so many others into The Players. You cultivated her love for community theater and enveloped her and others in a cohesive, caring group. You have built a vibrant community within our greater community, a sacred space where every voice matters and every soul is supported.

Through the hours of rehearsals, the shared laughter, and the collective triumphs, you have taught our children through esteemed elders and reminded us all of the profound words from *Into the Woods* to live by: "*No one is alone.*" You show us daily that while the journey through the woods of life can be winding, "*it takes care, it takes patience and fear and despair*" and "*best to take the moment present—as a present for the moment.*" Most importantly, it takes each other to make the journey beautiful.

By stepping into the spotlight and dedicating your time, energy, and hearts, you have beautifully fulfilled the ancient calling of communal responsibility:

כָּל מִי שֶׁעוֹסְקִים בְּצָרְכֵי צְבוּר בְּאַמוּנָה

May all who faithfully occupy themselves with the needs of the community find their own lives enriched with endless joy, harmony, and fulfillment.

May the Holy שְׁכִינָה continue to rest upon your creative endeavors, and may the passion you share on stage continue to illuminate our congregational family for years to come.

חֲזַק חֲזַק וְנִתְחַזֵּק:

May we always strengthen each other as we go forward.

With love and appreciation,
Hazzan Rav Shamash, Emily, Ella, Maya, and Ethan

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Haley Spitzer

ON HER
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WITH
TEMPLE ISRAEL PLAYERS

• • •

WE'LL SEE YOU AT THE OSCARS!

The Talmud teaches “where there is song, there is prayer.”

Berakhot 6a.7

The Hebrew words for song (שירה) and prayer (תפלה) are connected mystically and spiritually because they share the same numerical value of 515 according to Gematria, the ancient system by which Hebrew letters and their corresponding numbers are tools for interpretation.

Dear Temple Israel Players,

We are grateful that you have raised your beautiful voices in song and brought joy to our congregation for over fifty years.

You serve as an effective and important entry point for congregants to feel welcome in our prayer community.

To each of you, we declare:

A blessing on your head! Mazel Tov! Mazel Tov!

Susan & Dennis Brustein

Lori & Paul Freudman

Shahnaz & Neil Goldman

Maddy & Rob Gould

Ronni Birnbaum Kopelowitz & Wally Kopelowitz

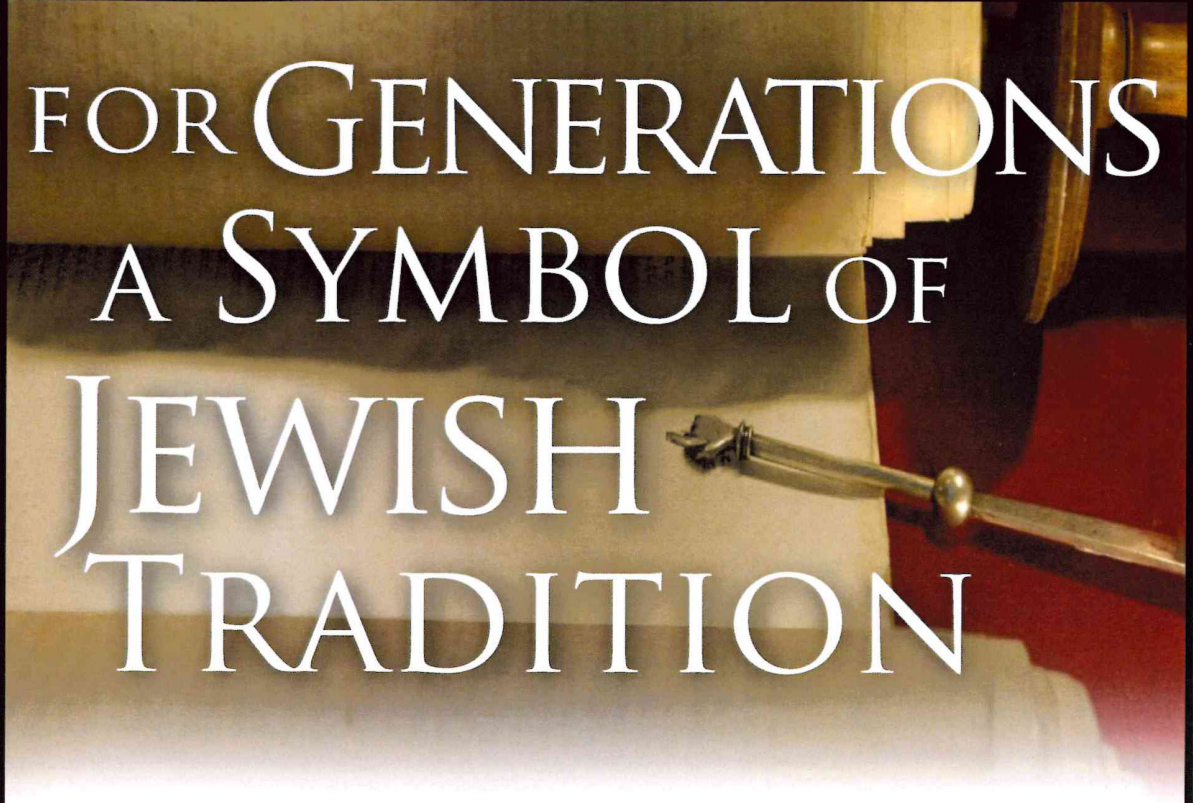
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Cheryl Eisberg Moin & Seth Moin

Lori & Peter Oppenheimer

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**Mazal Tov
to all our honorees.**

**Thank you
for entertaining us
throughout the years.**

Suanne and David Scherr

*Congratulations to
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MAZEL TOV

TO

Temple Israel Players

AND TO

Debbie Volk

WE ARE CONSTANTLY AMAZED
BY HOW MUCH YOU TAKE ON
AND HOW MUCH HEART
YOU PUT INTO ALL THAT YOU DO.
WE ARE PROUD TO CALL YOU
OUR SISTER AND OUR AUNT.



Diane, Elliot, Sophie and Brooke

With gratitude to our
Temple Israel Players
family

Thank you for all the years of
laughter, friendship and joy.

May we continue to tell stories,
make beautiful music, and
create cherished memories
for many years to come.

*Lillian, Jason,
Charlotte, Noah, Ethan & Daniela*

Congratulations to Temple Israel Players



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*Congratulations
to the honorees!*

Janet Fernandez, CPA P.C.
Vinny, Christina, Tyler,
Valerie, and Charly

Mazal Tov to the

Temple Israel Players

Thank You for Many Years of
Memorable Performances!

Sheryl & Martin Fine

Mazel Tov

TO

Temple Israel Players

whose work enriches the synagogue community
with creativity, camaraderie, and connection.

And to our daughter,

Debbie Volk

your leadership, your dedication,
and the love you give to every production
shine so brightly.

We are endlessly proud of the light you bring to this stage.

May you continue to find joy in this work
for many years to come.

Eve and Mel Fishman

BRAVO TO TEMPLE ISRAEL PLAYERS

Celebrating
the past and present members
whose talent, dedication, and passion
have enriched our congregation
for generations.

Thank you
for the laughter, memories, friendships,
and extraordinary sense of community
you have created
through the magic of theater
and performance.

Your legacy continues to inspire all of us.

With admiration and appreciation,
Rachel and Kiumarz Geula and Family

**Mazel Tov
to
The Players!**

Linda and Seth Horowitz

Mazal Tov
to
The Players

Mindy and Ron Horowitz

Temple Israel Players

is dear to our hearts.

It was our introduction to
involvement with Temple Israel and
has served for the last 50 years as
a beautiful way for members of our synagogue to
involve themselves with community theatre.

We are proud to honor
all of the participants in Temple Israel Players
over the years and especially to
honor the memory of

Milton and Eileen Putterman, z"l,
who recognized, supported and guided
Temple Israel Players from its inception.

Elise and Richard Kestenbaum

With appreciation to
Temple Israel Players
for all that you do for
Temple Israel of Great Neck
and our community

Parvaneh and Parviz Khodadadian

In 1996, we saw our first
Temple Israel Players production,
Guys and Dolls.

Ken's mother, Shirley Kobliner, z"l,
was making her stage debut as a "Hot Box Girl."
She was in her early 60s.

Ken's father, Harold, z"l, always beaming with pride,
bought a bunch of tickets and invited friends and
family to the show and to celebrate afterwards.
He did this for every show that Shirley appeared in.

28 years later — in 2024 — Miriam stood on the same stage,
making her "standing in the background" debut with The Players.

On stage with Miriam in 2024, 2025, and 2026
were several cast members who Shirley shared the stage with,
including Shirley's fellow "Hot Box Girl,"
Marylin Goldberg.

...

Congratulations to Temple Israel Players.
Here's to many more years of sharing the stage.

Miriam and Ken Kobliner

THE PRODUCERS OF

Temple Israel Players

ARE IMMENSELY PROUD AND DEEPLY APPRECIATIVE

OF THE

*cast, crew, directors, musicians,
Temple Israel staff and many others*

WHO WORK TOGETHER TIRELESSLY

AND POUR THEIR TALENTS, HEARTS AND COUNTLESS HOURS

INTO EACH SEASON'S PRODUCTION.

WE ARE ALSO PROFOUNDLY GRATEFUL FOR

Eileen Putterman z"l and Stan Goldfarb z"l

WHOSE VISION, PASSION, AND UNWAVERING COMMITMENT

LAI D THE FOUNDATION FOR THIS SPECIAL TROUPE

AND CONTINUE TO INSPIRE EVERYTHING

IT HAS BECOME TODAY.

MAY WE CELEBRATE ANOTHER

50 years

OF HISTORY TOGETHER!

*Ron Klempner, Mark Putter,
Alex Schoen and Debbie Volk*

Congratulations to the Honorees

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Kenneth Kobliner, Recording Secretary

David Scherr, FJMC Liaison

and the entire Men's Club membership

Congratulations to
Temple Israel Players



Congratulations to
Temple Israel Players
for this wonderful honor.

We thank you
for all your hard work
and look forward
to many more successful and
inspiring years in the future.

*Guity and Anoushiravan Rokhsar
Dr. Brian and Mrs. Doreen Fuchs*

Mazal Tov to
Temple Israel Players
for entertaining and inspiring us
for over half a century.

May the show continue to go on
for years to come.

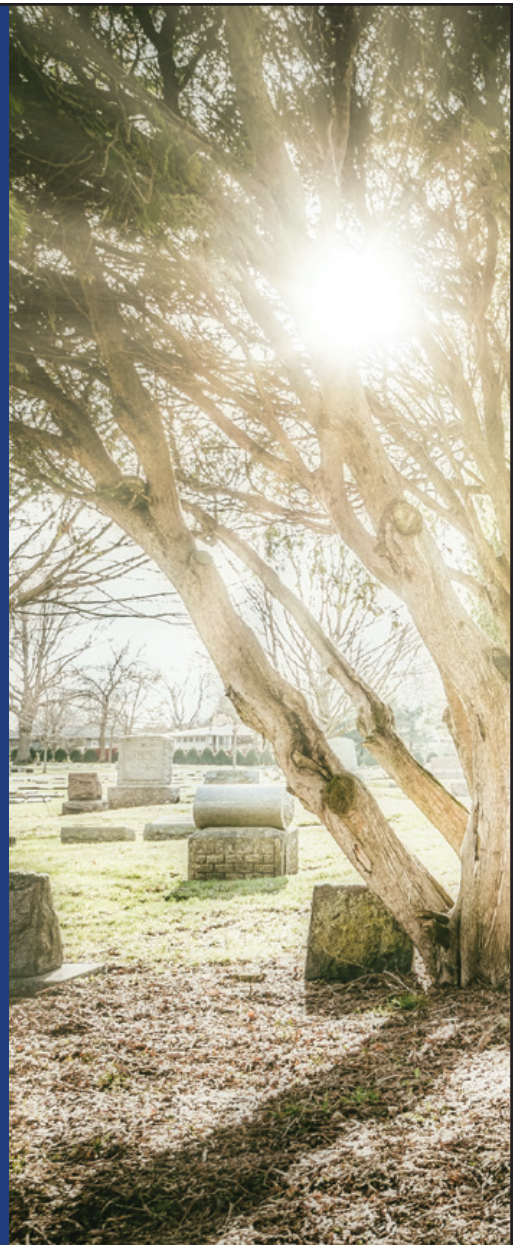
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MAZAL TOV
ON BEING
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OF LONG ISLAND**

Sisterhood
is happy to join in honoring
Temple Israel Players.

Every year we are treated to
a delightful performance
highlighting your talents and passion.

To everyone who has
a big or small part in
the yearly productions,
we thank you and we look forward to your
continued success.

The Sisterhood Family of Temple Israel

IN HONOR OF TEMPLE ISRAEL PLAYERS

“all who involve themselves
with the needs of this community...
may the Holy One reward them...”

(Siddur Sim Shalom: A prayer for those who serve the community)

Wendy Sales & Dr. Arden Smith
“ArWen”

YASHER KOACH
to all
Temple Israel Players
past and present.

Your participation has enriched our lives.
To those in front of and behind the scenes,
we give a heartfelt standing ovation.

Carol Braksmajer
Marylin Goldberg
Jemi & Gary Goldstein
Linda & Brent Greenspan
Anne & Jerry Hirsh
Sherry & Sam Husney
Alise Kreditor & Jeffrey Englander
Susan & Bob Lopatkin
Rita & Mel Ortner
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Bilha & Abe Sheffy
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In honor of
Debbie Volk and Mark Putter
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and Mazal Tov to
The Players!

Joyce and Burton Weston

Congratulations to the honorees and
Mazel Tov to The Players on a well-deserved honor.

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Temple Israel of Great Neck
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the Gala Dinner Dance.

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In Honor of
Lillian Rokhsar Cohen & Temple Israel Players

We proudly celebrate
your talent, leadership, dedication, and
countless contributions to our Temple community.

Thank you for sharing your
time, creativity, and passion
with all of us.

Congratulations on this well-deserved honor.

Mazel Tov!

Arman, Yas, Sophie, Ryan & Ben Rokhsar

Temple Israel Players
Where friends become family!

Robert Aizer

Congratulations to The Players!

NAZY SOLOMON
PROACTIVE INSURANCE AGENCY

Mazal Tov
to all past and present members of
Temple Israel Players.

Your dedication to bringing
entertainment to the community
is commendable.

Marjorie Hoffman

In honor of
**ALL OF THE PRODUCERS,
CAST MEMBERS,
BACKSTAGE CREWS,
SET DESIGNERS,
MUSICIANS, DIRECTORS,
MUSICAL DIRECTORS,
AUDIENCE MEMBERS,
FAMILY MEMBERS, CLERGY,
TEMPLE ISRAEL STAFF, AND
EVERY OTHER PERSON
WHO HELPED BEHIND THE
SCENES TO SUPPORT
Temple Israel Players
THROUGHOUT THE YEARS.
WE APPLAUD YOU!**

• THE PAJAMA GAME • MILK AND HONEY • BELLS
ARE RINGING • NEW FACES OF 5736 • FIDDLER ON
THE ROOF • HOT SAKE WITH A PINCH OF SALT
• MILK AND HONEY • FIDDLER ON THE ROOF •
KISS ME, KATE • GUYS AND DOLLS • BROADWAY
JUBILEE • THE MUSIC MAN • OKLAHOMA! •
FIDDLER ON THE ROOF • CAROUSEL • SOUTH
PACIFIC • THE KING AND I • ANNIE GET YOUR
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Raina & Jamey Kohn

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... and to all of the "Players"

Fran and Marc Langsner

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BRAVO TO THE TEMPLE ISRAEL PLAYERS!

Thank you for enriching our community
with your talent, creativity, and dedication.

Wishing you continued success
and many standing ovations to come!

Audrey and Eric Itzkowitz

Congratulations to The Players



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Mazal Tov to The Players!

Thank you for bringing
love & laughter
to the TIGN community!

xoxo

Brenda & Lance Greiff & Family

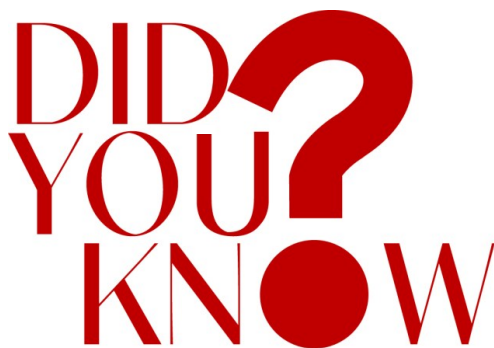
In honor of
Temple Israel Players
and Temple Israel of Great Neck
and all that you have meant to us
these past years

Leonard & Barbara Schultz

Congratulations to
Temple Israel Players!

...

Joseph & Sandra Greenberg
Tal Saraff
Cantor Ellen Weinberg



The cast of Temple Israel Players
is comprised solely of synagogue members

The Players put on 20 consecutive
annual performances starting in 2000
before being temporarily interrupted
by COVID-19 in 2020

Early productions were sponsored by
Temple Israel's Men's Club and Sisterhood

The Players have had 15 different Co-Producers since 1973
and the **same team** for the past 4 years
Stan Goldfarb, Abe Gross, Caryl Whitman, Arlene Levine, Eileen Putterman,
Carol Smolinsky, **Mark Putter**, Lori Freudman, Lois Sazer, Barbara Spun,
Howard Spun, **Ron Klempner**, **Debbie Volk**, Amy David, **Alex Schoen**

The Players have had a total of 7 Directors since 1973
but only 2 Directors in the last 23 years!
Linda Burson (2004-2016) and JoJo Conley (2017-present)

The Players had a whopping 52 cast members on stage
for the 2002 performance of *Fiddler on the Roof*

In the early 90s, shows were held in the Grand Ballroom before moving to
the Crystal Ballroom, which has been The Players' home ever since

The Players had a 12-piece orchestra for the
2024 performance of *Into The Woods*—the largest in its history

The production with the most musical numbers was
Broadway Sail Away (2017) with 37 songs

The production with the least spoken words was
Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (2025)
(The show has no spoken dialogue—it is entirely sung!)

The Players have performed 9 Tony Award Winning Musicals
(*Fiddler on the Roof*; *South Pacific*; *The Music Man*; *The King and I*;
Kiss Me, Kate; *Guys and Dolls*; *Damn Yankees*; *The Pajama Game*; *My Fair Lady*)

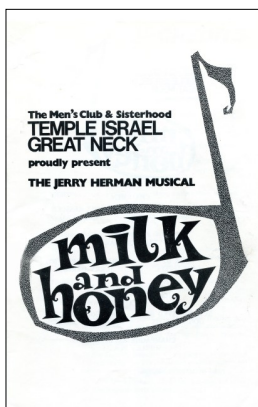
Temple Israel Players

HISTORY THROUGH PROGRAM COVERS

1960s: Sy Kleinman Productions: Carmen Shapiro and Persian Purim Passion Play

Dates Unknown: Broadway Review of 5725, Pajama Game

1973



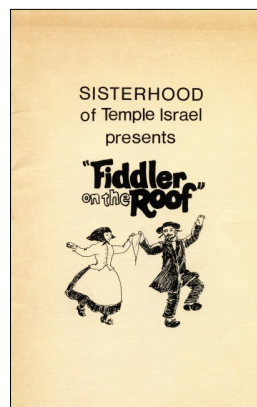
1974



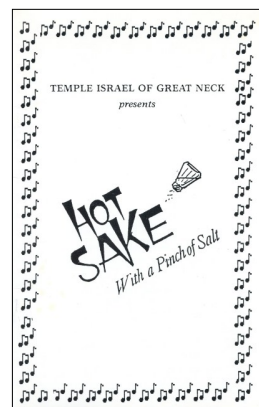
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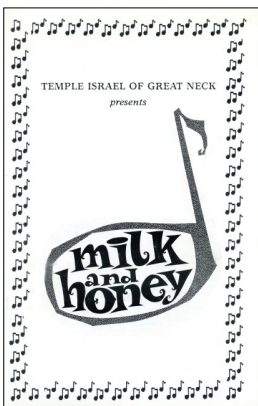
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1991



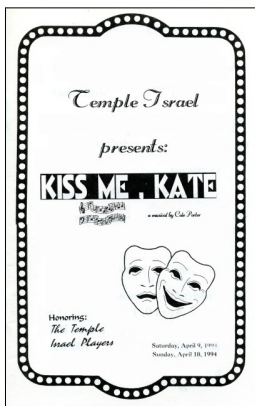
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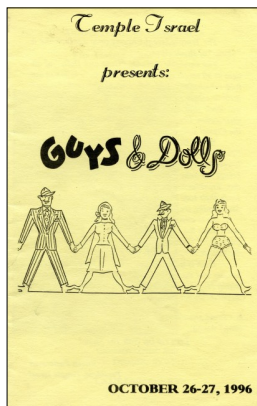
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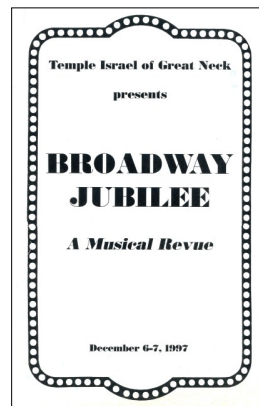
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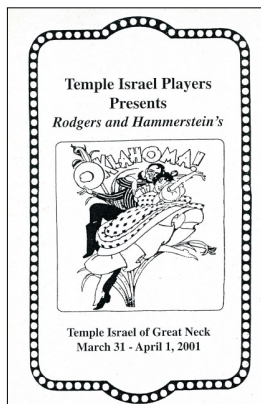
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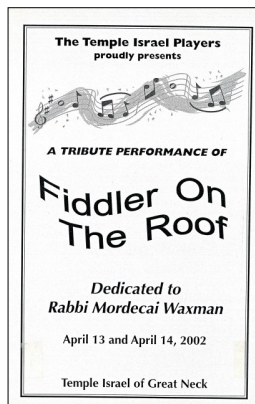
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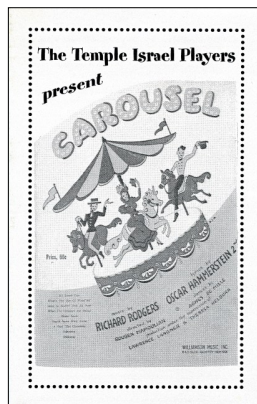
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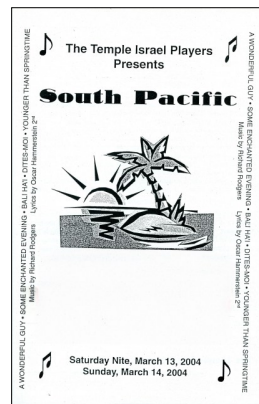
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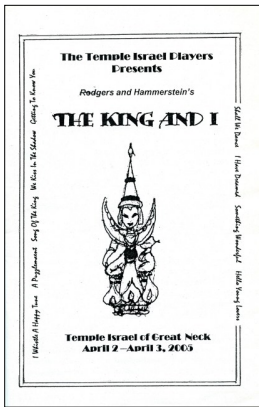
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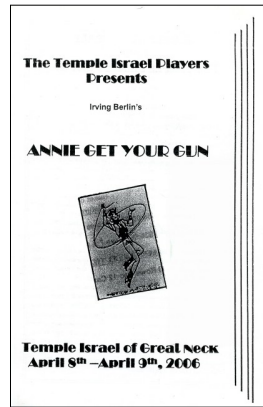
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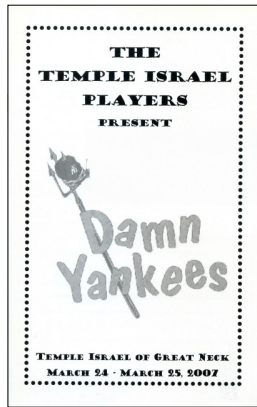
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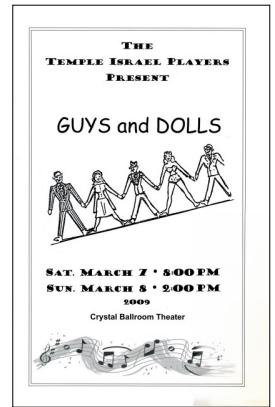
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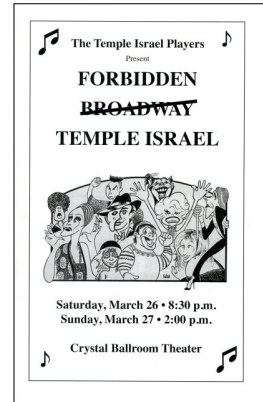
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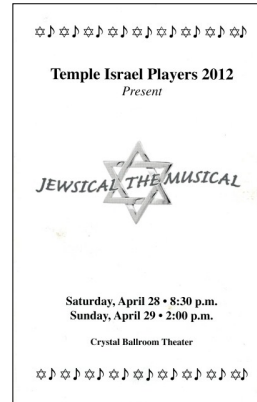
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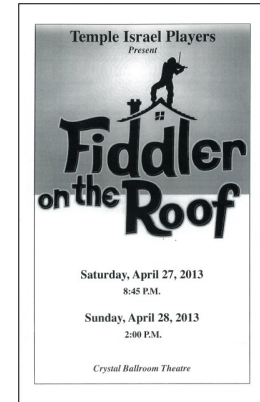
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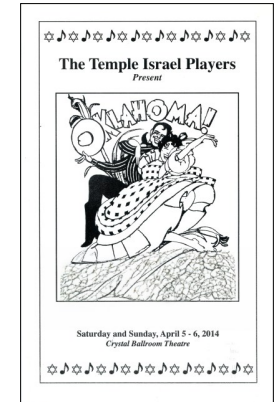
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2013



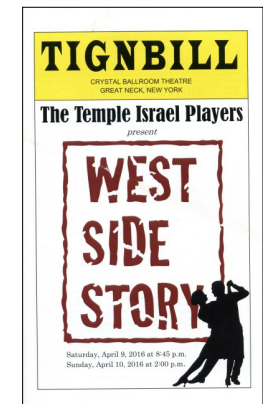
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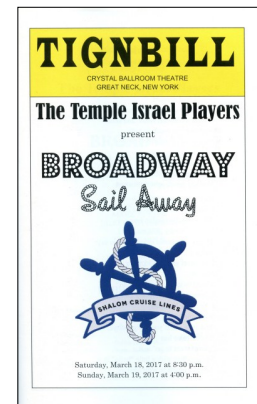
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2016



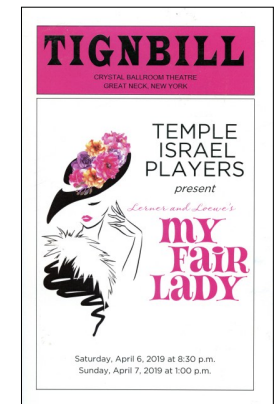
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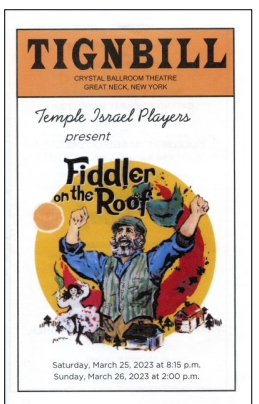
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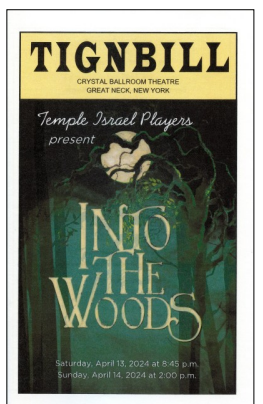
2019



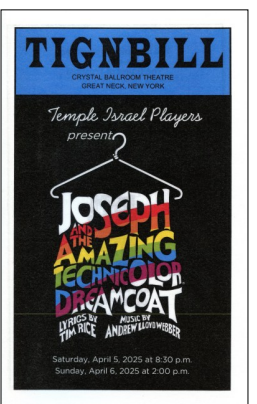
2023



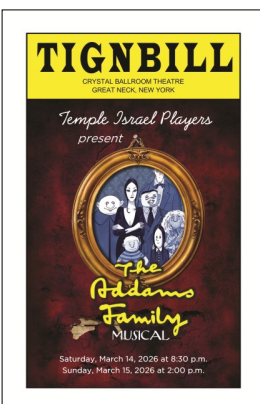
2024



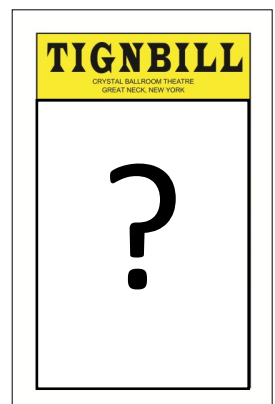
2025



2026



2027



**A Message from the Directors of
Temple Israel Players Productions:
JoJo Conley and Chris McGee**

Just like family, longevity is a blessing. In that regard, Temple Israel Players are twice blessed. For over five decades, The Players have gathered to rehearse and work hard towards putting on a great show. Time and effort, though, are not the only things shared.

Throughout the years, over countless rehearsals, we have shared laughter and tears, warm welcomes and sad goodbyes, and a camaraderie that can only be found when gathered together. Just like a family.

Mazel Tov and bravo to every TIGN Player, ever!

**A Message from the Producers:
Ron Klempner, Mark Putter,
Alex Schoen, Debbie Volk**

Tevye famously wondered what life would be like if he were a rich man. We know he'd build a big tall house with rooms by the dozen, right in the middle of the town. His family would be strutting like a peacock, supervising meals to their hearts' delight. And, of course, sweetest of all, he'd be sitting in the synagogue, praying and discussing the holy books with the learned men several hours a day.

It's pretty clear that we are all wealthy men and women. We get to come to this big tall house, not too far off Middle Neck Road, strut like the most colorful peacocks, enjoy meals after Shabbat services and at fancy galas, and are regularly surrounded by the most learned men and women.

The cast and crew of Temple Israel Players may be the wealthiest of all. We share with each other an abundance of love, support, and camaraderie that no bank account could ever match. That we get to spread our joy to a Crystal Ballroom full of friends and family on two of the most special days of our year is the quintessential vast eternal plan.

Thank you for sharing your vast and most important sense of wealth, today and always. Ya ba dibba dibba dibba dibba dibba dum.

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Gala Co-Chairs

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JON KAIMAN

Committee Members

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MIRIAM KOBLINER
MARC LANGSNER
TOBY NEMIROFF
MARK PUTTER
CAROL SMOLINSKY
BARBARA SPUN
DEBBIE VOLK

HOWARD A. STECKER, *Senior Rabbi*
BRIAN BARUCH SHAMASH, *Hazzan*
DANIEL SCHWEBER, *Associate Rabbi*
JAMEY KOHN, *Executive Director*

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PERFORMANCES
WILL TAKE PLACE IN
SPRING 2027

DETAILS WILL BE POSTED ON [TIGN.ORG](https://tign.org)



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which creates lasting memories
for Temple Israel of Great Neck
and our community.

Best Wishes,

Damaghi Family