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Hebrew College ordains ten new rabbis and three new cantors

NEWTON, MA — Hebrew College <u>honored</u> more than 30 rabbis, cantors, and Jewish educators during <u>Commencement and Ordination Ceremonies</u> in June, which included the ordination of 10 rabbis and three cantors. The graduates, who completed their final year-and-a-half of coursework online, will go on to work in Reform and Conservative synagogues, hillels, schools, and pastoral care settings across the United States.

"We have learned this year in such deep ways—ways we never would have imagined—that even when we are not physically together, we do not stand alone. We do not journey alone," said Hebrew College President Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld. "Today, we celebrate the hope for renewal that becomes possible when we watch carefully for the lights that are kindled by those around us and add to that light by kindling our own fires."

Degrees conferred included Master of Arts in Jewish Studies, Master of Jewish Education, Master of Jewish Liberal Studies program, and Master of Jewish Education-Pardes Educators Program. Students presented their masters theses on June 3. Commencement was livestreamed on June 6 on the Hebrew College YouTube channel. Ordination ceremonies followed at Hebrew College and were also streamed on the College's YouTube channel.

Hebrew College also bestowed honorary degrees on <u>Rabbi Nancy Flam</u>, a pioneer in the field of Jewish healing and contemporary spirituality, and <u>Melila Hellner-Eshed</u>, a senior research fellow at the Shalom Hartman Institute, both of whom offered messages to the graduates.

Placements include Rabbi Samuel Blumberg as rabbi at Temple Beth Am in Framingham, Mass.; Rabbi Max Edward as associate rabbi of Temple B'nai Abraham in Livingston, N.J.; Bridget Connor-Feldbaum as director of youth engagement at Temple Reyim in Newton, Mass.; Rabbi Justin Held as Director of Jewish Education at the University of Minnesota Hillel and Herzl Camp in Minneapolis, Minn.; Shoshana Rosenbaum as a faculty member and beit midrash instructor at Hebrew College; amongst others. Cantor Ken Richmond of Temple Israel in Natick, Mass. is now a rav-hazzan.

Hebrew College is an innovative national institute for Jewish learning and leadership based in Newton, Massachusetts. We are dedicated to Jewish literacy, creativity, and community, and a world of dignity and compassion for all. Our students are future rabbis, cantors, and educators, and people at every stage of life who love to learn. Together, we are infusing Jewish life with substance, spirit, beauty, imagination, and a sense of purpose. Learn more at https://hebrewcollege.edu/