

Rabbi Amy R. Scheinerman Received Doctor of Divinity at HUC-JIR Graduation Ceremony in New York



Rabbi Amy R. Scheinerman, rabbi at **Beth Shalom Congregation**, Carroll County, Maryland, received a Doctor of Divinity, *honoris causa*, from the **Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR)**. The degree was granted at HUC-JIR's New York Graduation ceremony on Thursday, April 30, 2009 at Congregation Emanu-El of the City of New York.

In addition to her pulpit, Rabbi Offner is columnist for the *Jewish Times of Baltimore* and the *Carroll County Times*, and serves as chaplain for the **Howard County Police**, **Carroll County Hospice**, and the **Jewish Hospice Network**.

Rabbi David Ellenson, Ph.D., announced HUC-JIR alumni recipients who were awarded honorary Doctorates of Divinity, Music, Jewish Religious Education, and Jewish Communal Service, as well as the Founders' Medallion, in recognition of their 25 years of distinguished professional service.

Rabbi Ellenson said, "Rabbi Scheinerman's life has been one of dedication – her devotion to Jewish learning has led to her broad-based involvement in Jewish education. As chaplain, she counsels those incarcerated and gives comfort to the terminally ill; as a columnist, she uses the power of the written word to share Jewish insights with the community at large. Her extensive involvement in the **Baltimore Board of Rabbis** has brought rabbis of all persuasions together to learn from each other."

Rabbi Scheinerman received her bachelors degree from Brown University, has studied at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and Princeton Theological Seminar, and was ordained in 1984 at HUC-JIR/New York. She has served Conservative, Reform, and unaffiliated congregations, and has taught in a wide variety of venues. Rabbi Scheinerman has been involved in Jewish education across the spectrum, from preschool programming and family education, through education for the elderly and also those beset by Alzheimer's. She maintains a popular website at <http://scheinerman.net/judaism>, which serves as an educational vehicle without borders. Rabbi Scheinerman has served as a volunteer chaplain for the Howard County Police and hospice chaplain in a variety of venues. She is involved in numerous interfaith endeavors, including joint projects with many church communities to provide food and social services to the poor. She has written numerous columns for the Jewish Times of Baltimore and is a regular columnist for the Carroll County Times. In addition, Rabbi Scheinerman serves as a vice-president and chair of the Public Affairs Committee of the Baltimore Board of Rabbis, and as vice-president for programming of the Greater Carolinas Association of Rabbis.

For more information on the HUC-JIR Graduation, Investiture, and Ordination ceremonies in New York, Los Angeles, and Cincinnati, please visit <http://www.huc.edu/newspubs/pressroom/article.php?pressroomid=271>.

*Founded in 1875, **Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion** is the nation's oldest institution of higher Jewish education and the academic, spiritual, and professional leadership development center of Reform Judaism. HUC-JIR educates men and women for service to American and world Jewry as rabbis, cantors, educators, and communal service professionals, and offers graduate and post-graduate programs to scholars of all faiths. With centers of learning in Cincinnati, Jerusalem, Los Angeles, and New York, HUC-JIR's scholarly resources comprise renowned library and museum collections, the American Jewish Archives, biblical archaeology excavations, research institutes and centers, and academic publications. HUC-JIR invites the community to an array of cultural and educational programs which illuminate Jewish history, identity, and contemporary creativity and which foster interfaith and multiethnic understanding. Visit us at www.huc.edu.*

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