

Cindy Reich, RJE, to Receive Doctor of Jewish Religious Education at HUC-JIR Graduation Ceremony in Los Angeles

Cynthia Reich, RJE, Educational Consultant, will receive a Doctor of Jewish Religious Education, *honoris causa*, from the **Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR)**. The degree will be granted at HUC-JIR's Los Angeles Graduation ceremony on Monday, May 18, 2009. HUC-JIR is the nation's oldest institution of higher Jewish education and the academic, spiritual, and professional leadership development center of Reform Judaism.

Communal leaders, relatives, and friends will gather at the Los Angeles Campus, 3077 University Avenue, for the HUC-JIR Graduation Ceremonies of the 134th academic year.

Rabbi David Ellenson, Ph.D., announced HUC-JIR alumni recipients who will be 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.

Cindy Reich is a Jewish Educational consultant, affiliated with several national organizations. Through the Melton Research Center for Jewish Education's "Jewish Day Schools Standards and Benchmarks Project" she has consulted with Associated Hebrew Schools in Toronto, Hannah Senesh Community Day School in Brooklyn, and Sager Middle School of the Solomon Schechter School of Metropolitan Chicago. Reich is also a consultant for the RE-IMAGINE Project of New York, a project of the Experiment in Congregational Education sponsored by UJA-Federation of New York, and served as the coordinator of its professional learning pilot. For fifteen years she worked at the Talmud Torah of St. Paul, serving for eight of those years as principal of the day school. In addition, Ms. Reich was director of education at Bet Shalom in Hopkins, MN and Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester in Rye, NY. Reich holds masters' degrees from HUC-JIR and the University of Southern California, an AB in Religious Studies, *magna cum laude*, from Brown University, and a certificate in Program Evaluation from the University of Minnesota. She and her husband, Rabbi Harold Kravitz, have three children.

Rabbi Ellenson said, "Cindy Reich's devotion to the ideals of *Tikkun Olam* have directed the course of her life. Her dedication to the community-at-large and especially to Jewish education and continuity has found expression as a Jewish educational consultant. As co-chair of the Rhea Hirsch School of Education Alumni Association, she demonstrates her abiding commitment to her alma mater."

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.*

##