

## **Lori B. Sagarin, RJE, to Receive Doctor of Jewish Religious Education at HUC-JIR Graduation Ceremony in Los Angeles**

**Lori B. Sagarin, RJE**, Director of Congregational Learning at **Temple Beth Israel**, Skokie, Illinois, 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.

For the past 5 years Sagarin has served on the advisory board of NEXTBOOK, the foundation for Jewish Culture, and leads monthly book groups for them at the Evanston Public Library. She also serves as a national consultant on Nextbook's One Book, One Congregation project.

Prior to coming to Chicago twenty-one years ago, Sagarin served as the Director of the Commission of Reform Jewish Education of the Central Agency for Jewish Education in St. Louis. In 1988 she and her husband moved to Chicago where she became the Director of Education at North Shore Congregation Israel in Glencoe.

Sagarin is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison in Hebrew and Education and has a Masters from the Rhea Hirsch School of Education at HUC-JIR. She is married to Rabbi James L. Sagarin and they have two children, Eliana age 16 and Benjamin, 10.

Rabbi Ellenson said, "Lori Sagarin has shared the meaning and message of Judaism with Temple Beth Israel for more than a decade. She is a vibrant member of the Reform movement, as she serves on various educational commissions and advisory boards, including her alma mater, and as president of the National Association of Temple Educators."

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](http://www.huc.edu).*

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