

Rabbi Julie K. Gordon to Receive Doctor of Divinity at HUC-JIR Graduation Ceremony in New York

Rabbi Julie K. Gordon, Principal of **George Kaplan Afternoon School and Midrasha** and Director of **Talmud Torah/Mount Zion Hebrew Program**, will receive a Doctor of Divinity, *honoris causa*, from the **Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR)**. The degree will be granted at HUC-JIR's New York Graduation ceremony on Thursday, April 30, 2009 at Congregation Emanu-El of the City of New York.

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.

Rabbi Ellenson said, "Rabbi Gordon's devotion to strengthening people's connections to God, Torah, and the Jewish people has been the hallmark of her career. As Chaplain in the Minneapolis Veteran's Hospital for two decades, Rabbi Gordon is a compassionate counselor to those who served our country."

Rabbi Gordon has served the Twin Cities Jewish community in a variety of leadership roles. She was the rabbi at Temple of Aaron in St. Paul, MN. Previously she served Conservative congregations in Green Bay, WI and Brooklyn, NY for a total of 17 years in congregational leadership. Rabbi Gordon was the Spiritual Life Director at the Minneapolis Jewish Day School. She directed Avodah B'Yachad, Service Together, renamed Justice Squared at JCRC. Rabbi Gordon taught as adjunct faculty at the College of St. Catherine.

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.