

**Congregation Beit Simchat Torah  
Lehrhaus Judaica Adult Education  
Adult B'nai Mitzvah Program**

**Overview**

The CBST Adult B'nai Mitzvah program is a 3-year program of study consisting of 6 semesters, culminating in the celebration of becoming b'nai mitzvah in the spring of the 3<sup>rd</sup> year. Classes are taught in liturgy, Jewish history, Torah, theology, Hebrew, and Torah Cantillation. To date, 85 CBST members have been called to the Torah as adult b'nai mitzvah.

**Faculty**

The Adult B'nai Mitzvah program is directed by our rabbis, and is taught by our CBST Rabbis, Master Torah Cantillation teacher Jack Greenberg, Cooperberg-Rittmaster Rabbinical Interns, and guest rabbis and teachers.

**Pre-requisites**

- CBST Membership
- Regular attendance at CBST Kabbalat Shabbat and Shabbat morning services
- All participants in the CBST Adult B'nai Mitzvah program must be Jewish.  
*(If you have questions about this, please speak with the rabbis)*
- **NO** prior knowledge of Hebrew or formal Jewish education required.

**Schedule and Costs**

- Each semester is roughly 6 weeks long, and begins after the High Holy Days.
- Exact schedule of classes will be determined by the instructors.
- CBST celebrates Adult B'nai Mitzvah in small groups of 2-4 students per service in the Spring of the 3<sup>rd</sup> year
- B'nai Mitzvah are responsible for sponsoring a celebratory Kiddush as a group on the morning of their b'nai mitzvah service. Cost for this varies depending on food, catering, size, and staff.
- Cost per semester: \$360 (includes all classes)  
Fees for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> years of the program will include tutoring and meetings with Rabbi Rapport and Cantor Zeidenberg, and will be announced at a later date.

To enroll in the next Adult B'nai Mitzvah cohort, please contact Rabbi Rapport at [rabbirapport@cbst.org](mailto:rabbirapport@cbst.org). Classes begin after the High Holy Days.

If you have further questions, please call 212-929-9498 x875 to make an individual appointment to discuss your circumstances and questions.

## **Outline of Curriculum**

Year 1 / 5778:

Fall 2017

Introduction to the Shabbat evening service

Introduction to Hebrew Language

Intermediate Hebrew Language

Spring 2018

Introduction to the Shabbat morning service

Continuing Introduction to Hebrew Language

Continuing Intermediate Hebrew Language

Year 2 / 5779:

Fall 2018

Torah and its Biblical Contexts

Continuing classes in Hebrew Language

Spring 2019

The Jewish Library: Rabbinic and Medieval Commentaries and Contexts

Cantillation

Year 3 / 5780:

Fall 2019

Spiritual Autobiographies

Cantillation

Spring 2020: Bnai Mitzvah

D'var Torah: Individual meetings and study with the rabbis

Cantillation: Individual preparation of B'nai Mitzvah parshah