

Erica Forman

Statement of Candidacy for CBST Board of Directors 2019

I HAVE BEEN A MEMBER OF CBST FOR 26 YEARS.

CBST EXPERIENCE: I served for a period on the Mishkan Committee before the current synagogue location was secured. In addition, on a pro-bono basis along with colleagues from law firm, I've handled various legal matters for CBST over the last many years, including acquisition of the condominium units that now comprise CBST's building.

OTHER COMMUNITY SERVICE / PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Current Chair of the Board of the Bella Abzug Leadership Institute, a not-for-profit organization providing leadership, debate training and related programs for girls and young women, founding Board member of the same. Current Board Member of Stonewall Community Development Corporation, a not-for-profit organization seeking to provide affordable housing for LGBTQ seniors, founding Board member of the same. Past Board Member and Officer of Women in Housing and Finance, a professional organization for individuals concerned and associated with affordable housing. Past Board Member of Beverly Willis Architecture Foundation, a not-for-profit organization seeking to raise awareness of and respect for women in the building industry.



SPECIAL SKILLS: Real Estate • Law

PERSONAL STATEMENT: I believe a CBST Board member's role and responsibility is to address current issues and needs confronting CBST, and thoughtfully and comprehensively plan for the future. Key current issues are the operating budget, including costs for building maintenance and repair, staffing, programming, and securing regular funding to meet the budget. For the future, the CBST Board will need to consider how to not only sustain the current level of programming, staffing and funding; but also how to increase programming, staffing, and funding to support growth. We need to consider how to creatively expand programming to increase membership, as well. Towards the end, we may want to consider how we present ourselves so that we reach additional potential younger members. And we want to consider more aggressively, reaching out to older members and encourage planned giving. An important role of the Board, as well, is to consider succession planning for various levels of synagogue roles. Finally, though the synagogue is newly constructed, be able to have funds available for the future when needed. My background as a lawyer, experience with other community and not-for-profit organizations, and strong organizational abilities, are leadership qualities I would contribute to the Board.

Erica Forman
(Signed)

10/31/2018
(Date)

Lisa Green

Statement of Candidacy for CBST Board of Directors 2019

I HAVE BEEN A MEMBER OF CBST FOR 24 YEARS.

CBST EXPERIENCE: In 1994, I was appointed Editor of the members monthly **CBST Newsletter**. I developed topics of interest, invited members to write. Included were announcements for upcoming services, events, classes, etc. I and a fellow congregant prepared a layout for printing. With the increase of technology, the Newsletter was discontinued in favor of a CBST created a website. / In 2014, I served on the **Re-Imagine Committee** and examined CBST's children's programming (Limmud). We created a structure and goals for the full academic year. The work presented a challenge at the time, as CBST was preparing to move; and so, we created a plan with two very different space in mind – that of Bethune St and our new home. / For the past year, I participated in the **Strategic Planning Task Force**, broadly focusing on: programs & services; infrastructure support; and fiscal health. We reviewed the prior strategic plan, determined what goals had been met, and what needed to be strengthened, expanded, or discontinued. We conducted focus groups and hosted a large meeting at our annual retreat, before developing a comprehensive online survey to obtain input from our entire congregation. Next, we will analyze this data and begin the process of creating a new strategic plan.



OTHER COMMUNITY SERVICE / PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE: I began as a corporate attorney; and after 7 years became a legal services lawyer, representing indigent individuals in civil legal matters. I then served as a Deputy General Counsel for the NYC Dept. of Health & Mental Hygiene. After 15 years in private and public law, I earned a Master's degree in Non-Profit Management and Public Policy Analysis, and have worked in a variety of executive positions providing social services to low-income, homeless, and disabled individuals. I am currently a Sr. Vice President at The Bridge, and oversee the development and operations of over 1,300 units of supportive housing for people in need.

SPECIAL SKILLS: Personnel/HR • Finance/Accounting • Social Services • Law • Administration Management • Organizational Development

PERSONAL STATEMENT: The fundamental role of the Board of Directors is to ensure that an organization is fulfilling its stated mission, complying with all applicable legal regulations, and following its own by-laws. However, I think that simply performing these duties is not enough. To best serve as a Board member, one should also have a deep connection and passionate commitment to the organization itself. I believe qualities derived from my background in law, in managing non-profit agencies while working with other boards, and my genuine love and understanding of CBST would allow me to contribute significantly and meaningfully to the leadership of our amazing synagogue. CBST has grown tremendously on many levels over the past 45 years -- in size, scope, sophistication, education, and programming. Yet, the work is never done and the direction of continued growth is just as crucial today. I hope to have the opportunity to participate in CBST's future, not just as long-time congregant, but also as a dedicated member of the Board.

Lisa Green
(Signed)

10/31/2018
(Date)

Kenneth Karpel

Statement of Candidacy for CBST Board of Directors 2019

I HAVE BEEN A MEMBER OF CBST FOR 9 YEARS.

CBST EXPERIENCE: Shabbat/HHD Welcoming Team; Social Justice / House of Peace: NYU Islamic Center; New Sanctuary Accompaniments; Numerous Protest Actions; Ner Tamid Team, Co-chair; SPARK/Engagement Team, Member

OTHER COMMUNITY SERVICE / PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Upon receiving my architectural degree in 1968, I entered the Peace Corps, serving as a municipal architect in Gafsa, Tunisia, until 1970.

My career in architecture has been devoted to public service. In 1973, after two years working for a private firm, I moved to the NYC Board of Education Division of School Facilities, ultimately becoming Chief Architect. When the New York City School Construction Authority was created in 1989, I was among the first group hired, eventually becoming Vice President for Architecture and Engineering. I retired in 2002 and continue to work as an architectural, capital planning and project management consultant.

Since 2002 I have been an active member of The Lotus Garden, a unique rooftop community garden on the Upper West Side, serving as president from 2006 to 2012, and continuing to serve as a board member and chair of the membership committee.

SPECIAL SKILLS: Strategic Planning • Administration Management • Architecture/Engineering

PERSONAL STATEMENT: CBST has embraced, challenged, and nurtured my Jewish, spiritual, LGBTQ, socially conscious, and political identities – and it's where I met my husband, Ira, over 40 years ago!

I welcome the opportunity to more actively support and contribute to CBST – to help ensure its sustainability as a spiritual community dedicated to repairing the world, and its responsiveness to a diverse membership. The strategic engagement and retention of new members is critical to these goals, and I will continue to take initiative in this area.

As we continue to adapt to our new(ish) home, and both its positive and negative attributes become more apparent, my professional experience as an architect and manager will benefit CBST.

As a creative problem solver, who sees both the details and the big picture, I offer a collaborative leadership and management style. My technical and analytic proficiency is underpinned by excellent communication skills – listening, summarizing, and synthesizing – which are crucial to facilitating meaningful dialog among congregants, board members, clergy, staff, and the wider community.



Kenneth Karpel
(Signed)

10/31/2018
(Date)

Harold Levine

Statement of Candidacy for CBST Board of Directors 2019

I HAVE BEEN A MEMBER OF CBST FOR 7 YEARS.

CBST EXPERIENCE: Board Member (May 2018 to present); Founding Co-Chair, House of Peace Jewish-Muslim Outreach Initiative; Founding Co-Chair, Democracy Action Team; Team member, Strategic Planning Survey/Research Team; Chair, Ad-Hoc Leyners' Advisory Team; Member, committee to review worship in anticipation of the move to 30th St; Chair, task force to review Siddurim and other printed material; Survey development and analysis for move to 30th St. and family retreats. Special events photographer; photographer for Families with Kids trip to Israel; Member, CRR selection committee (2013); Board representative, fact-finding trip to the Texas border ICE detention facility.



RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL / COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE: **Professional:** I am president of Levine & Partners, Inc., founded in 1990 as an independent marketing consultancy to serve a wide variety of clients in the for-profit and not-for profit arenas. Major projects serving the LGBT and Jewish communities have included sponsorship & marketing for the Gay Games in NYC in 1994, sponsorship for the AIDS Memorial Quilt display in Washington, DC in 1996, a 15-year project sponsored by GlaxoSmithKline to promote vaccination of hepatitis A and hepatitis B for gay and bisexual men, and a nearly 10-year assignment for a consortium of Jewish genetic disease organizations to promote early and complete genetic screening for persons of Jewish heritage intending to have children. **Community:** Or Olam, the East 55th St. Synagogue, NY Board Member (2015/2016), lay service leader, marketing committee chair, ritual committee co-chair; Central Synagogue, NY, lay service leader and founding chair, Ambassador outreach program; Graduate, Davening Leadership Training Inst. (DLTI), 2014/2015

SPECIAL SKILLS: Fundraising • Education/Health/Social Services • Marketing • Jewish Worship/Ritual

PERSONAL STATEMENT: As a long-term CBST member, with extensive volunteer experience at the congregation, I have worked closely with clergy, staff and board members on a wide range of projects and teams. I have also served as a board member for the past six months, filling out the term of a vacated board seat.

I believe it is the duty of a board member to ensure the strength and security of the congregation for future generations, fiscally solid and ever-growing.

My recent involvement with the strategic planning process has given me a nuanced understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing the congregation: full utilization of our space on 30th St; balancing worship, social justice, learning and community; and serving a diverse population, all while remaining financially stable.

I would bring to the board a deep love of Judaism and CBST, a strong commitment to social justice, familiarity with Jewish worship in many forms, and deep personal relationships with clergy, staff, board and many other members.

Harold S. Levine
(Signed)

10/26/2018
(Date)

Noemi E. Masliah

Statement of Candidacy for CBST Board of Directors 2019

I HAVE BEEN A MEMBER OF CBST FOR 26 YEARS.

CBST EXPERIENCE: As a longtime member of CBST. I served on the Mishkhan Committee in several of its early years. I participated in the early planning of the Shabbat Shira concerts. More recently, I served on the Social Justice Committee, specifically working to establish an immigrant legal clinic and in its efforts to participate in the Sanctuary movement. I am a CBST Chorus groupie.

OTHER COMMUNITY SERVICE / PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

It was my honor to serve on the Lambda Legal Board for seven years, two (1995-1996) of which I served as Co-chair. I am a co-founder of Immigration Equality and served on the Board in its early years. I also served as Trustee of the American Immigration Council from 2009 to 2015. As a member of the American Immigration Lawyers' Association since 1987, I have served in countless numbers of committees, both at the national and local level. I have spoken on panels and written articles relating to many aspects of the US immigration laws. I have received numerous awards for my years of activism in the fight against the discriminatory impact of the US immigration laws, and on same-sex binational couples and their families.



SPECIAL SKILLS: Fundraising • Social Services • Strategic Planning • Law • Administration Management • Organizational Development

PERSONAL STATEMENT: Having served in a number of boards, it is time I serve on this one. I have long loved the synagogue and its commitment to serving its community's needs and interests (spiritually, culturally, politically, and socially) and to its emphasis on *tikkun olam*. I hope to contribute to both of these missions.

If elected, I pledge to actively assist the Board to meet its fiduciary duties and organizational obligations on behalf of the membership. Considering the normal myriad of views held by the congregation, I will work diligently to help it reach healthy consensus. Our community's devotion to its well-being as our spiritual home, our intelligence and, very importantly, our good sense of humor demands this of us.

Maintaining the religious mission of the synagogue, this I will leave to our phenomenal religious visionaries.

CBST should continue to strive to be a leader in the much-needed social justice movement and to be the 30th Street Y. We have the heart, the smarts and the talent and the know-how. It's my turn to help us get there.

Noemi E. Masliah
(Signed)

10/31/2018
(Date)