

RABBI NEAL A. KATZ

nkatz@uttyler.edu

CURRENT	Rabbi of Congregation Beth El Tyler, TX	July 2003 - Present
WORK EXPERIENCE	Congregation Meir Chayim, Student Rabbi McGehee, AR	2002-2003
	Congregation Beth El , Student Rabbi Tyler, TX	2000-2002
	Congregation Aitz Chayim , Student Rabbi Great Falls, MT	1999-2000
	Camp Ben Frankel, Student Rabbi/Songleader Carbondale, IL	1999-2001
	Temple Sinai, Youth and Social Action Director Washington, D.C.	1995-1998
	NFTY in Israel song-leader/counselor based in Jerusalem	1994, 1995, 1998
EDUCATION	Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion Cincinnati, OH <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ordained, May 2003• Master of Arts in Hebrew Letters (MAHL), May 2003	1998-2003
	George Mason University Fairfax, VA <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Graduate Work in Counseling, August 1996-May 1998• Bachelor of Arts in Government and Politics, May 1995	1991-1998
	NFTY College Academic Year (CAY) Kibbutz Tzora (classes at HUC-JIR Jerusalem) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Junior year abroad	1993-1994
TEACHING	University of Texas at Tyler <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Taught an undergraduate course titled “Introduction to Jewish Philosophy” in the Fall of ’07, and then began to teach the “Introduction to Judaism” in the Fall of ’13	2007-present
	Tyler Junior College <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Taught an undergraduate course titled “Introduction to Judaism”	2005-2007
	Local Churches, Schools, Civic Clubs <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I have been invited to about 90 communities around East Texas to teach on topics from basic Judaism, Holocaust studies, Israel, interfaith work, politics, and more.	2003-present

AWARDS/ RECOGNITION

Leadership Tyler Distinguished Alumni Award

- Received in 2017 from Leadership Tyler

Philosophical Society of Texas

- Nominated in 2013 to a lifetime appointment

W.C. Windsor Award for Outstanding Community Service

- Received in the Fall of 2012 from the City of Tyler Chamber of Commerce

Martin Luther King, Jr. Award for Non-Violent Social Change

- Received in January 2008 from the Tyler Ministerial Alliance

T.B. Butler Award for Outstanding Citizen

- Received in the Fall of 2005 from the City of Tyler Chamber of Commerce for bringing together the Jewish and Muslim Community of Tyler to work on a Habitat for Humanity house.

Irving J. Fain Award for Social Justice

- Received in the Spring of 2005 from the Commission on Social Action of the Union for Reform Judaism for my congregation's work with Habitat for Humanity
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SELECTED COMMUNAL LEADERSHIP/ BOARD SERVICE

Texas Freedom Network | current board member and former Board chair

Tyler Loop | local non-profit journalism project

Art of Peace | celebration of UN Intl. Day of Peace

Hospice of East Texas | local non-profit hospice serving 23 counties

Hospice of East Texas Foundation | oversight for hospice endowment

MOSAIC Counseling Center of Tyler | non-profit counseling center

Discovery Science Place | local children's science museum

Leadership Tyler | graduate of Class 19 and Diversity Day panelist for 18 years

Tyler Ministerial Alliance | interfaith clergy group

Tyler Area Chamber of Commerce

Cancer Foundation for Life | supporting cancer survivors post-treatment

P.A.T.H. (People Attempting to Help) | non-profit emergency services agency

Tyler Area Partnership for Education | collective engagement project

Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration | event organizer (six years)

KVUT radio | community radio station based out of UT Tyler

City of Tyler Parks and Recreation Board

UT Health Northeast | former member of Institutional Review Board (IRB) and the Ethics Committee

JEWISH LEADERSHIP

SWARR - Southwest Association of Reform Rabbis

- current Board President (2024-2025)

Recharge Reform

- current planning committee member/Israel Rabbinic Fellow mentor

Greene Family Camp in Bruceville, TX

- faculty member for eleven summers - 2004-2014

URJ Six Points Sci-Tech Academy in Byfield, MA

- faculty member for two summers - 2015-2016

Texas Jewish Historical Society

- former board member