CHUGIM #1  FRIDAY MORNING @ 10:00 am – 11:15 am

Debbie’s Music & the Myriad Paths She Paved  Ellen Dreskin
Join us in singing and reflecting on some of Debbie’s older and/or lesser-known pieces, choral and otherwise, that broke ground for so many of today’s contemporary Jewish composers.

Five Great Jewish Texts About Music  Noam Katz
It's time to nurture our minds and spirits with some fascinating (and probably unfamiliar) texts about the power and place of music in Jewish tradition. From Torah to Talmud, Chasidic wisdom to Leonard Cohen, we will dive into some delicious passages that we can use in our own work as Jewish musicians, educators and "teachers of text."

Methinks Thou Dost Protest … Not Enough  Julie Silver
Let’s write a protest song together, in the time allotted, with everyone participating!

Shabbos Zmiros: Shabbat Table Songs  Noah Aronson
Let’s sing through lots of Shabbat table songs both new and old. Come ready to learn and open to sharing some hidden gems with the group. Bring a recording device!

"Yes...and"  Michelle Citrin
This expression is a beloved philosophy in the improvisational world that builds awareness, trust in ourselves, flexibility and encourages collaboration. Through fun vocal games and exercises, we will invite our creative spirit to come out and play. We all have a song to sing. Sometimes we just need space and the invitation to let the sound come out. Say yes, and join us!

CHUGIM #2  FRIDAY MORNING @ 11:45 am – 1 pm

Sacred Chant 101  Michelle Citrin
Prayer is meant to lift up our spirits, but with so many words of prayer on a page, it’s easy to ‘autopilot’ through worship and completely miss the magic hidden within the text. With the practice of chant, we focus our awareness and intention on one sacred phrase at a time. This way, we have the chance to absorb the depth and meaning of what we’re actually saying. In this workshop, we will learn how to engage the mind, body and spirit to lift words of prayer off the page and into our hearts.

The Art and Process of Songwriting for the Synagogue  Noah Aronson
This course is designed for those who are interested in learning how to write their own Jewish liturgical music and will provide practical tools to those interested in setting out on this wonderfully creative path.

Making a CONCERTed Effort on Stage  Julie Silver
The planning process – creating a set list, engaging the audience, improvising, and all the while, maintaining the flow!
Fun and “Do-able” Repertoire for Your Volunteer Choir

Merri Lovinger Arian

Let’s sing through some sweet 2-part arrangements of music that will enhance your congregational worship experience!

Contemporary Songs for Religious School Kids and Teens

Noam Katz

If your repertoire is still dominated by the soothing sounds of the '70s...if you are ready to launch into the 21st century and lead Jewish music that is compelling and relevant for today’s kids and teens, then THIS elective is for you! We will share a lot of recently written repertoire that is being sung widely in camp and youth group, religious and day schools. Time to energize and expand your knowledge of the newest Jewish tunes.

Just Who Do I Think I Am: Conversations about Being a Shaliach Tzibbur

Ellen Dreskin

Join in conversation about one’s personal take on the act and practice of leading communal prayer. What are our expectations? What is our role? What are our responsibilities? Bringing our most transparent and authentic selves to the table.

POTPOURRI OF OUR GIFTS AND PASSIONS

FRIDAY AFTERNOON @ 4 – 5 pm

Teaching Hebrew thru Israeli Children’s Music

Sara Goodman

Hebrew fluency is not needed. What I do is teach Israeli children’s songs, and teach how to extract Hebrew words and lessons from them. What would the songsheets look like? What follow up curriculum would I do to reinforce the words? What songs could I clump together to create a more dynamic lesson while strengthening the vocabulary? If the song is all Hebrew, how do I choose what words to focus on, etc.

Songwriting / A Feedback Circle - “My 2 Shekels”

Sue Horowitz

Songwriters! Bring your compositions to the next level. Share your new song and receive gentle and constructive feedback from the group. Novice writers to seasoned pros-all are welcome!

Mash-ups of Sacred and Secular Music

Cantor Shanna Zell

This will be a workshop on how to creatively and mindfully use secular music (either on its own or blended with our liturgy) in a worship setting.

Engaging Seniors in Prayer, Song and Text Study

Rabbi Tami Crystal

Senior citizens in Synagogues, Nursing Homes, Rehabs and JCCs (including those with physical or cognitive limitations) require special techniques and approaches to engaging them in prayer, song and interactive groups. Come learn how to actively involve them in regular prayer, age-directed prayer groups, song sessions and more in varying settings. We will discuss the planning, the special materials and the necessary attitudes and skills for reaching those who have often been isolated or self-isolated from the generational majority.