



Rabbi Debra Cantor

Rabbi Debra Cantor is the spiritual leader of Congregation B'nai Tikvoh-Sholom in Bloomfield, Connecticut. Earlier, she served as rabbi of the historic Kane Street Synagogue in Brooklyn, New York, and Congregation Tifereth Israel in Andover, Massachusetts.

A member of the first JTS Rabbinical School class to include women, Rabbi Cantor was ordained in 1988. She graduated from Brandeis University with a BA in Near Eastern and Judaic Studies.

Rabbi Cantor has an extensive background in Jewish education, with particular expertise in adult learning, teacher training, synagogue change, leadership development, and Jewish outreach. She served as executive director of Camp Ramah in New England and as an education and synagogue consultant for the Bureau of Jewish Education of Greater Boston and Adjunct Lecturer at Hebrew College.

In 1993, Rabbi Cantor was honored with the NYC Comptroller's Award for Outstanding Women. She has been an active member of the Rabbinical Assembly, serving on numerous committees, and was the founding chair of the RA Task Force on Women. She currently serves as a member of the Rabbinical Assembly's *Va'ad HaKavod* (Ethics Committee).

Rabbi Cantor has lectured widely and has contributed articles to several publications. She is an Adjunct Lecturer for The Hartford Seminary's "Building Abrahamic Partnerships" program and is a member of the board of the CT Council for Interfaith Understanding. Since 2009, Rabbi Cantor has worked with Christian and Muslim colleagues to develop and teach a model religion curriculum at the Covenant Preparatory School in Hartford. She also teaches at the Jewish Teen Learning Connection of Greater Hartford. Rabbi Cantor is an active member of the board of the Jewish Community Relations Council and serves as rabbinic advisor for the Women's Philanthropy division of the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford.