

## **THE JEWISH CENTER**

Having recently celebrated our centennial, The Jewish Center is a vibrant and dynamic synagogue and social center located in the heart of Manhattan's Upper West Side. Ambitious from its founding, The Jewish Center and its iconic building have served as a launchpad for many of the most talented Jewish leaders of the past 100 years.

Famous for its unique blend of tradition (yes, top hats are still worn by clergy and officers!), yet warmth and adaptability, The Jewish Center inspires its members and embraces the broader Jewish community through vibrant prayer, serious Torah study, spiritual inquiry, charitable endeavors, appreciation of world culture and an abiding commitment to the State of Israel.

A flagship for Modern Orthodoxy in New York City, The Jewish Center offers a full complement of classes, lecture series, social programming for all ages and stages of life, along with a full schedule of weekly and Shabbat services.

## **THE ROLE OF CHAZZAN**

The Chazzan is a critical part of our culture and what sets The Jewish Center apart from many of our peers. While the quality of your voice, your knowledge of nusach, overall musical ability, or the critical acclaim you may have received is of great interest to The Jewish Center, equally as crucial is the quality of your person—your demonstrated integrity, honesty, midot, and adherence to our traditions—that you are a true mensch.

Taking into account that this is a part time role – the Chazzan is expected, in conjunction with the Rabbis of the community, to actively and enthusiastically represent the community to its members, attending to their families' religious, educational, spiritual and emotional needs.

At the core of your role as Chazzan, you will officiate throughout the year at evening and morning services on Shabbat and Yom Tov, as well as other important days and festivals throughout the Jewish year, as agreed upon

As part of your community outreach, it is preferred that you will offer hospitality at your home during the course of the year (for either Shabbat or Yom Tov meals) for members of the community and visitors (where possible – costs of which may be reimbursed, depending on the scale of such efforts).

We have a wonderful tradition of additional programming such as a Shabbat of Song, a pre-Selichot concert, youth havdalot, etc. and we would hope that the successful candidate would help build on these beautiful traditions.

On a voluntary basis, and in conjunction with payment arrangements or sponsorships where appropriate, the Chazzan is encouraged to offer classes, bar mitzvah lessons, concerts and music-centered Shabbatonim or events, a youth choir as well as to develop other forms of programming that may be appealing and beneficial to the community. Participating in funerals and minyan/shiva coverage is also greatly appreciated and encouraged.

## JC Chazzan Job Posting

You shall be entitled to make external bookings for private arrangements provided that these do not interfere with your commitments to The Jewish Center.

### THE IDEAL PERSON

The successful candidate for the Chazzan role will provide the community with a positive and engaging role model of Modern Orthodox Jewish life. The candidate should be able to demonstrate a high standard of musical ability, a willingness to learn the traditional melodies of The Jewish Center, excellent organizational skills, flexibility and a high level of initiative, pragmatic and strong interpersonal skills, the ability to work as part of a team as well as manage personal deadlines and workload, a working knowledge of Orthodox Judaism, the Jewish community and Jewish values and empathy with The Jewish Center's mission and purpose.

### COMPENSATION

Commensurate with experience, demonstrated skills and availability, The Jewish Center is prepared to offer a competitive compensation package and contract term. The Jewish Center is flexible regarding vacation time, which generally consists of Pesach, three Shabbatot during the months of July and August, as well as two Shabbatot during the year (non-consecutive).

### THE APPLICATION PROCESS

All interested parties are strongly encouraged to write to [Chazzansearch@jewishcenter.org](mailto:Chazzansearch@jewishcenter.org).

For immediate, serious and confidential consideration, please include **ALL** of the following:

- 1) a letter explaining the reason for your interest
- 2) a résumé
- 3) a link to at least two recordings that you feel best exemplify what you are able to bring to this role from a musical perspective

**Responses that do not include all of the requested materials will not be seriously considered.**

The Jewish Center appreciates your interest and looks forward to the possibility of reviewing your experience and your recordings.