



CAPE
SA JEWISH BOARD
OF DEPUTIES

PUBLIC BALLOT NOMINEES

ELECTION 2020

*#Standing Up,
#Opting In*



JUSTIN ASHER

Justin Asher is an entrepreneur at heart and enjoys giving back and getting involved at any opportunity, enforcing his drive for social impact.

Justin matriculated from Herzlia High School and received a BA Marketing Communications degree (AAA School of Advertising) and is completing a BA LLB (UNISA).

He has worked in the retail sector, advertising agencies and start-ups. He hosted the SMME Opportunity Roadshow in Cape Town for three years and was a keynote speaker at the NAAMSA Automotive Conference at Kyalami.

Communal involvement:

Justin is the chairman of the Rygersdal Football Club (based in Rondebosch) since 2014 and is Junior Chairman of Cape Town Tygerberg Football Association. He founded the Kimberly Rose Cancer Foundation after losing his sister to cancer. He has been involved in Jewish leadership initiatives like the first edition of Ignite!, the Keshet - The Julia Koschitzky Seminar for Keren Hayesod International Young Leadership (held in Israel) and attended the Launchpad Retreat.

Motivation: Joining the Cape Board would allow me the opportunity to represent young Jewish members of the

community like myself who may not have been actively involved since leaving a Jewish high school. I believe that the community should be inclusive for all and this would allow me the opportunity to open dialogue for the important discussions which divide us while paving the way to maintaining a modern and relevant Board for the future generation.



JACQUI BENSON

Jacqui Benson is the 2nd generation owner of Les Collectables, a specialist shop in restored brass hardware, fixtures, antiques and collectables. She has been an entrepreneur since her school days, gaining accolades in scholar competitions. Jacqui matriculated from Herzlia High (1994), followed by Shnat Netzer (Machon) and completed a B.Soc Sci (Human Resource Management) and a Post-Grad Diploma in Enterprise Management at UCT. She has been fulfilling her passion to make a difference in the world, by training and leading personal development programmes and seminars, coaching hundreds of people of all ages and walks of life.

Jacqui has completed 13 Two Oceans Half-Marathons.

Communal involvement:

A member of Netzer (formerly Maginim) Jacqui was Rosh Cape

Town, Rosh Machaneh, and a madricha for an RSY-Netzer(UK) tour to Israel and in 1999 chaired the SAZF Youth Council. She is a keen volunteer and supporter of Souper Troopers, an organisation that cares for the homeless. She attended Launchpad (2018), and is an advocate for LGBTIQ+ people both in the Jewish and the broader South African community and in this connection has given and organised talks and presentations to numerous organisations on LGBTIQ+ advocacy and education, including the SAJBD, CJSA, the SAUPJ and UCT, and had numerous articles published.

Motivation: I am proud to be part of our dynamic and diverse Jewish community but believe that it is time that the voices of the marginalised and unaffiliated Jews of our community are represented and included as we navigate the future of our community post Covid. We have a lot to offer society as a whole, but we can only do that, if we bring an awareness of who we are and where we are now, and instil a new energy into our communal leadership.



ANN HARRIS

Ann Harris is a retired lawyer. She came to South Africa in 1987 with her late husband Chief Rabbi Cyril Harris.

Mrs Harris is a graduate of University College London. She



qualified as a barrister and a solicitor and practiced as a solicitor in the City of London for more than twenty years. She was a partner in the firm of Adlers. In South Africa she joined the staff of the Campus Law Clinic at Wits University where she worked for 10 years, acting as the Clinic's Director for 3 years.

Communal Involvement:

Mrs Harris was a Founder Board Member of Afrika Tikkun which invests in the development of disadvantaged youth from cradle to career and has won many awards for its work.

Mrs Harris serves as President of the African Jewish Congress which helps the small Jewish communities of twelve African countries to retain their links with world Jewry, give them a viable and vibrant Jewish spiritual lives and co-ordinate the fight against Antisemitism. She is the Vice Chairperson of the Small Jewish Communities Association, made up of country communities formerly under the National Board. Mrs. Harris is a Trustee of the Cape Town Holocaust and Genocide Foundation and Chair of the Chief Rabbi Harris Memorial Foundation.

She has 2 sons, 6 grandchildren and 2 great grand children

Motivation: Now that I am living in Cape Town, I would like to use the knowledge and experiences I have gained to benefit our Jewish community both here and in our small country communities. There is

such great poverty and need in the wider community that I would also like to promote Board involvement in Afrika Tikkun and similar outreach organisations.



BARBARA MILLER

Barbara Miller is a fundraiser at Ikamva Labantu and a trustee on the Board of Sakha Isizwe, an empowerment and skills development organisation operating in Delft and Blikkiesdorp.

She was educated at Herzlia School, at the Cape Peninsula University of Technology (teaching), Judaic Studies (UNISA) and achieved a Diploma in Counselling (UNISA).

She has had a successful career in community development work, beginning as founding Executive Director of the Cape Town office of Afrika Tikkun for 12 years, followed by a 10-year tenure as senior manager at Etafeni Day Care Centre Trust, Nyanga.

Communal involvement:

Barbara was a counsellor at Nechama; a founding member of the Egalitarian Minyan; a long-time member of a Rosh Chodesh Group and a member of the Jewish LGBTIQ and their Allies group. She served on the Programming Committee and was co-chair of Limmud and currently serves on the Va'ad Poel of the Jewish Democratic

Initiative. She was counsellor, facilitator, trainer and member of the LifeLine Board; she facilitates weekend workshops at the Healing of the Memories, established by Father Michael Lapsley, enabling participants to take first steps towards healing from traumatized discrimination during Apartheid and served on their Counselling Working Group; she also served on the Executive Committee of Klipfontein Multi-Sectoral Action Team, an umbrella networking and support body of NGOs.

Barbara Miller lives with her partner, Stephen Paul, and has two daughters and four grandchildren.

Motivation: A proud South African Jew who is a deep, considered thinker, my interest in serving on the Jewish Board of Deputies is to bring Jewish and other voices of diversity into the room, as a woman, as a social activist and as a pursuer of human rights. My roots as a descendant of German Jewish refugees has given me a deep compassion for the victims of racism, balanced by my recognition of a need for social action. I want to encourage those Jews on the edge of the community to join in the mission of the Board, to build new bridges where none exist and strengthen existing ones. I would like to inculcate the skills and experience I have gained from the Jewish and non-Jewish non-profit sector to build the capacity of Board and its lay leadership.





DAWN NATHAN-JONES

Dawn Nathan-Jones is a social entrepreneur, business coach and professional speaker.

Dawn attended the Durban Girls High School. She studied Business Administration and completed her EDP at Wits Business School and GIBS business school respectively.

She was one of the early pioneers of the Imperial Car Rental company, known more recently as Europcar, co-founding the car rental businesses Imperial, Europcar, Tempest and other car rental and tourism brands and businesses in the Group and becoming its CEO. She has served as president, SA Vehicle Rental and Leasing Association and was a member of the Tourism Business Council and the ASATA board and is on the Board of One SA with Mmusi Maimane. In 2016 she was the only female Shark in the M-Net reality show, Shark Tank South Africa.

Dawn was the recipient of the Woman of the World Award, an initiative of Chabad, Rebbetzin Rochel Goldman; the Transnet Boss of the Year Award and the Nedbank Business Woman of the Year Finalist in 2006 and 2008.

Communal involvement:

Dawn is an ORT Jet mentor and has been guest speaker at many Jewish organisations in Johannesburg and, since her move to Cape Town three years ago, to local organisations including WIZO- Bnoth Zion Association. She was a major

partner/donor to Miracle Drive, was the founder of the Women in Leadership category of the SA Jewish Achievers Award, and has been the judge of many Leadership and business categories. She is the Executive Director and major shareholder in Over the Rainbow, a social enterprise company, specialising in providing training, mentoring and investment opportunities to small business and entrepreneurs. She is also involved in social enterprise projects that are based in rural communities, that focus on education and teaching the youth the mindset and skills of entrepreneurship.

She has a son at Herzlia.

Motivation: I am passionate and dedicated to the South African Jewish community and as a new comer to Cape Town I feel I can use my business wisdom, leadership insights, wide network and entrepreneurial experience to add value and make a difference to the Board. I am not afraid to challenge the status quo and use my persuasive skills to bring people together. I believe in the spirit of harmony and co-operation when engaging with stakeholders, be it the board, donors, government, non-profit organisations, political parties, business, interfaith organisations, or the community. Being able to listen and holding dialogues are the essence of bringing about change and finding common grounds to build on. Throughout my career I have embraced most situations with humility and respect and I believe this will continue to hold me in good stead in the future.



RAYMOND TREVES SCHKOLNE

Raymond Schkolne was the Chief Human Resources Officer for Sanlam Investments Group for eighteen years, after nine years at Old Mutual including Head of Remuneration & Benefits.

During five and a half years in Israel, he led the "Galilee Lavender" factory and Kibbutz Tuval's Public Services having been Human Resources & Organisation Study Practitioner at Eskom for four years prior to Aliyah.

Raymond matriculated at Theodor Herzl School in Port Elizabeth before studying at UCT and UNISA: (B. Bus. Sc. (Hons); Datametrics Diploma; BSc. (Information Systems & Operations Research). He was a Springbok Scout and served as a Commissioned Officer in the South African Navy, and in Tzahal (Israel Defence Force).

Communal involvement:

In 2019 he co-chaired Cape Town Limmud and fundraised to restore the desecrated Wellington Jewish Cemetery. In 2018 he was a founding member of the Jewish Democratic Initiative (South Africa). From 2004 to 2009 he was a member of the Western Province Zionist Council. He has been a sustained participator since 2007 in the United Jewish Campaign's donor Tele-Campaign to help raise funds to support our community and is a committee member of the Hermanus Hebrew Congregation. He was also Treasurer (1979) and Rosh (1980) of Habonim Cape Town.



He is married to Sheryl with two "Sabra" children and two grandchildren

Motivation: Our Cape Jewish Community faces complex challenges. To thrive, it requires competent, values-based leadership that enhances a culture of respect, transparency and inclusiveness. Every part of our diverse community should experience being represented by our leadership bodies. Confidence in leadership is vital in order to manage crises effectively, to safeguard the Community's rights, wellbeing and continuity and to contribute meaningfully to South African society. I believe that my specific professional expertise, life experience and track record equips me to make a fresh and distinctive leadership contribution.



**MICHELLE
STEIN**

Michelle Stein is Head of Philanthropy at the Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa at the V&A Waterfront.

Michelle matriculated from Herzlia and gained an MA from the University of Cape Town

After moving to the UK, she worked in fundraising for over ten years for charities spanning faith, international development, arts and heritage. These included the British Museum and Commonwealth Secretariat where she worked with some of the biggest philanthropic families in the UK. She is also a fundraising consultant and has trained fundraisers in the UK, Europe, Australia and South Africa.

Communal involvement:

Michelle is a long-standing Limmud volunteer. She helped organise Limmud UK events for several years and trained Limmud volunteers across Europe for Limmud International. She was on the organising committee of two independent minyanim in London, the Golders Green partnership minyan and Grassroots Jews, which organises community run services for over 500 participants over Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur. In Cape Town she has joined the team organising the monthly Egalitarian minyan and is on the programming committee for Limmud Cape Town.

She is a graduate of the UK's Adam Science Foundation Leadership Programme.

Motivation: Having recently relocated back to Cape Town, I would like to bring my communal experience to bear for a Jewish community I feel deeply passionate about. For the Cape Town Jewish community to survive and thrive, we need younger and diverse voices on the Board and people with a broad range of experience. I would love to use my skills in a meaningful way to ensure younger people in the community feel invested in our community's success.



**ARIEL
SUMERUK**

Ariel Sumeruk is the owner and CEO of a Digital Advertising and Analytics agency.

Ariel grew up in Israel, moving to South Africa when he was 14, attending High School in East London followed by a MA in

Cosmology at University of Cape Town and work as a Quantitative Analyst at a Derivative Trading Firm.

In 2000, following his passion for academia, Ariel relocated to the USA where he completed his PhD in Physics from University of Texas, returning to South Africa in 2006 where he became immersed in the digital world, becoming Head of Business Intelligence and later MD of a Digital Advertising company.

Communal involvement:

While at UCT, Ariel was actively involved with SAUJS. Ariel has been involved with ORT JET over the last 5 years using his skills to help emerging businesses. Ariel is a member of the 2020 Eliot Osrin Leadership Initiative cohort, and a member of the Muizenberg Hebrew Congregation.

Ariel is married and has three children.

Motivation: Having been part of the Cape Town Jewish Community for the past 30 years, I have actively participated and benefited from many community activities and institutions. For quite some time, I have wanted to give back more to the community and apply my knowledge of strategy and analysis to help our community thrive. I feel this is especially important in how our community manages to negotiate the post-Covid realities that face us.

*#Standing Up,
#Opting In*





CAPE
SA JEWISH BOARD
OF DEPUTIES

ELECTION 2020

All individual members who are registered on the communal database will be eligible to vote for a maximum of three (3) nominees in the digital public ballot election, which will run from **27 July 2020 to 18 August 2020**. The five (5) nominees who receive the majority of this vote will be announced on **21 August 2020**, and will serve for two (2) years (2020-2022) as members of the Cape SA Jewish Board of Deputies.

Now is the time to make your voice heard!

*#Standing Up,
#Opting In*