



JEWISH ORTHODOX FEMINIST ALLIANCE

Executive Committee

Dr. Mindy Feldman Hecht, EdD, Jofa Board President, lives on the Upper West Side of Manhattan with her husband and children. She is an active member of Darkhei Noam and is deeply committed to the promotion of partnership minyanim. Mindy received her doctorate in Applied Exercise Physiology at Teachers College, Columbia University, where she researched innovative ways to improve school-based physical activity and cognitive outcomes in underserved populations. She currently serves as a full-time lecturer in the Biobehavioral Sciences Department at Teachers College, Columbia University. Mindy also serves on the Advisory Board of Hip Hop Public Health, a nonprofit that promotes health literacy. Previously, she served as the Chief Compliance Officer for Uri L'Zedek's Tav HaYosher (Ethical Seal) Restaurant program in NY. Mindy graduated from Columbia University with a BA and has a Master's in Public Health from the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia. She is also an alumna of Migdal Oz.

Rachel Berke, Treasurer, is a past President of the Akiba Academy of Dallas Board of Trustees and was a Trustee of Yavneh Academy of Dallas. She currently practices corporate and real estate law. Previously, Rachel was an attorney at the New York and Dallas offices of Fulbright & Jaworski LLP (now Norton Rose Fulbright) and in-house counsel for both Blockbuster Inc. and TXU Energy. Rachel is a graduate of Yeshiva University's Stern College for Women and Cardozo School of Law.

Rabba Dr. Carmella Abraham is a physician and member of the Orthodox clergy. She has taught Torah and Talmud in both formal and informal settings, ranging from the Drisha Community Beit Midrash and Jofa conferences, to Jewish community centers, synagogues, and college Hillels. She also serves on the board of Uri L'Tzedek. Carmella earned her BA degree from Barnard College and her medical degree from the Mount Sinai School of Medicine. At Mount Sinai, Carmella did her residency in Internal Medicine and Fellowship in Women's Health. Afterward, she practiced at the Mount Sinai Women's Health Program with a dual appointment in Medicine and Ob-Gyn. In 2017, she was ordained by Yeshivat Maharat. Carmella currently works at a pharmaceutical company in Medical Affairs, specializing in Women's Cancers.

Allie Alperovich is a partner at Ropes & Gray. Allie and her husband, Dr. Jeremy Simon, live in New York City with their daughters Emma and Hannah. Allie is actively involved in Jofa, is a member of its executive committee, and serves on the Jofa Journal editorial board. Allie and her family are longstanding members of Darkhei Noam on the

Upper West Side, where Allie served as treasurer and co-chair (twice). She also serves on the board of American Friends of Itim.

Sarah Blechner is a Senior Manager of Marketing and Creative Strategy for Charter Communications. She has worked in marketing and advertising for over 15 years, with experience in branding, creative strategy, digital and social marketing, direct response, and event marketing. In the past, she was the Marketing lead for the Jofa conference, creating a campaign that generated word of mouth buzz and press coverage.

Sarah and her husband Josh are from New Rochelle, NY, and they are part of the leadership of the local partnership minyan, Kol Echad. Sarah was part of the founding committee for The Women's Initiative for Jewish Studies, an organization within the Young Israel of New Rochelle. Her children, Leora, Eli, and Aliza, attend SAR Academy. Sarah was a member of the Board of Education from 2014-2017. She's been a parent liaison and has served on multiple committees contributing marketing expertise.

Carolyn Hochstadter Dicker runs her own law firm, specializing in business and bankruptcy law. She also enjoys engaging with students as an Adjunct Professor for Thomas Jefferson University's Center for Digital Health, teaching a course on the Legal Aspects for Entrepreneurship. Carolyn sits as an Arbitrator and Mediator for the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, handling commercial disputes. In the international space, she helps clients navigate U.S. law and especially loves to work in their language of choice, including Hebrew, French, Arabic, and German. Carolyn's firm is certified as a woman-owned business enterprise, and she sits on the Certification Committee of WBEC-East. Carolyn has served on Jofa's Board of Trustees and Journal Editorial Board for over a decade. It is in the Jofa spirit that Carolyn has taken on leadership roles as President of Lechu Neranena, her local partnership minyan, and on the Boards of Kohelet Yeshiva and the Philadelphia Israel Chamber of Commerce. She received her J.D. and M.A. from Columbia University, and her B.A. from Barnard College, where she met her ever-supportive spouse, Adam Dicker. They are the proud parents and grandparents of Michal, Josh, and Benny; Shimshon and Zoe, and Yehuda.

Pam Scheininger, past Jofa Board President, works as a Court Attorney Referee in New York County Family Court, and is an adjunct professor at CUNY's New York College of Technology. She is also past president of Yavneh Academy in Paramus, NJ, and Netivot Shalom in Teaneck, NJ; past chair of the Netivot Shalom Youth Committee, and past president of the Parents' Association at Yavneh Academy. Pam earned a B.A. in political science from the University of Toronto, and a Juris Doctor from Columbia University School of Law. She has studied at Midreshet Lindenbaum, and is a 2011-2013 Northern NJ Berrie Leadership Program Fellow. Pam lives in Teaneck with her four children.

General Board

Benham Dayanim is a partner at Paul Hastings, where he chairs both the firm's Advertising, Gaming, and Promotions practice, and its Privacy and Cybersecurity practice. Behnam has had extensive leadership experience in the Jewish community. He is currently treasurer and member of the executive committee of the Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington, and treasurer and member of the boards of both Start Up Shul and PORAT. Behnam is a past president of the board of Berman Hebrew Academy; was founding chair of the Lay Advisory Council to the Beltway Vaad of Greater Washington, and served as a national vice president and member of the executive committee of the Orthodox Union. He is also an actor, appearing in the feature *Renegades: The Requiem* (Parts 1 and 2). Behnam and his family live in Silver Spring, MD.

Paula Eiselt is a Peabody award and duPont-Columbia award-winning, Primetime Emmy-nominated, two time Sundance Film Festival director and Jury Prize winner, film director known for her journalistic rigor in telling timely and intelligent cinematic stories led by strong-willed characters. Her films have screened at over 100 film festivals worldwide including Sundance, SXSW, and Hot Docs, and distributed on platforms such as Hulu, Disney+, HBOMax, PBS's POV, and Arte. Her award-winning documentary features include, *93Queen* (HBOMax/POV) and *Aftershock* (Sundance/Hulu/Disney+), and most recently, *Under G-d* (Sundance 2023/POV Shorts).

Aftershock premiered at the 2022 Sundance Film Festival in the U.S. Doc Competition and was awarded the Special Jury Award: Impact for Change. The film was acquired by Disney's Onyx Collective and ABC News Studios and released on Hulu and Disney+ in July 2022. Most recently, *Aftershock* was named a 2023 Peabody Award winner, a 2024 Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Award winner, and was nominated for a 2023 Primetime Emmy for Exceptional Merit in Documentary Filmmaking. Other awards include the Full Frame Film Festival's Kathleen Bryan Edwards Award for Human Rights, NIHCM Television and Journalism award, as well as two Critics Choice Documentary awards nominations, including Best Documentary Feature.

Paula's most recent release, *Under G-d*, premiered at the 2023 Sundance Film Festival in the Documentary Shorts Competition and was acquired by PBS's POV Shorts. Released in July 2023, *Under G-d* has been awarded with the Local Jury Award at the 2023 Palm Springs International ShortFest and the Juried Prize Winner of the 2023 PBS Short Film Festival, to date.

Paula's award-winning documentary feature debut *93Queen*, a co-production with ITVS/PBS and Arte/SWR, premiered at Hot Docs and was released theatrically across the U.S. and Canada, including a six week hold over at NYC's IFC Center. Previously

streaming across HBOMax's U.S. and Latin American platforms, 93Queen was broadcast nationally on PBS's POV, as well as internationally on ARTE in France and Germany, UR in Sweden, yes DocU in Israel, and CBC in Canada. 93Queen played at over 75 film festivals worldwide and was selected for the U.S. State Department's American Film Showcase.

Previously, Paula was a Concordia Studio fellow, Sundance Producers Summit fellow, IFP/Gotham Filmmaker Lab fellow and Wyncote fellow. Her work has been supported by numerous film institutions including, ITVS, Sundance Institute, Just Films | Ford Foundation, New York State Council of the Arts, International Documentary Association, Jewish Story Partners, among others.

In 2022, Indiewire named Paula one of 22 Rising Filmmakers to Watch and she is a 2022 DOC NYC 40 Under 40 honoree. Paula is a graduate of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts with a double major in Film Production and Cinema studies. She lives in New Jersey with her husband and their 4 children. She is a member of the Television Academy.

Dr. Laura Shaw Frank is the Director of the Contemporary Jewish Life Department at the American Jewish Committee, where she works on Israel-Diaspora relations, Israel education, Jewish literacy, and American Jewish communal life. A longtime Jewish educator, Laura held administrative and educational positions at Yeshivat Maharat and SAR High School prior to her work at AJC. Laura has lectured widely across the country at conferences, synagogues, university Hillels, and adult education institutes, and has published articles on subjects including Israel education, Jewish marriage and divorce in America, modern Orthodoxy, and Orthodox women's leadership. Laura holds a PhD in Jewish history from the University of Maryland, College Park, and undergraduate and law degrees from Columbia University. A proud founding board member of Jofa, Laura lives in Riverdale, NY, with her family.

Blu Greenberg, Jofa's Founding President, has been active in Jewish feminism for four decades. She was Conference Chair of both the first and the second International Conferences on Feminism and Orthodoxy. She chaired the NY Federation Task Force on Jewish Women and the AJC National Jewish Family Center, and was president of the Jewish Book Council. Dialogue is another long standing passion, and she has participated in various inter- and intra-faith projects. Blu serves on the editorial board of Hadassah Magazine and the advisory board of Lilith. Blu is married to Rabbi Irving Greenberg; they have five children and 23 grandchildren.

Pam Greenwood initiated Jofa's Joan S. Meyers Torah Lending Project and serves as the program's coordinator. She has mentored many communities regarding the formation of women's tefillah groups. Pam was also chair of the 2017 Jofa Conference.

Pam holds a B.A. from Columbia College, engaged in postgraduate study at Pardes, and completed her M.S. in occupational therapy at Columbia University. She and her husband, Rabbi Matt Greenwood, are the parents of four children, and they divide their time between West Orange, NJ, and Jerusalem.

Gail Katz is Chief Intellectual Property Counsel for the dental platform of Danaher Corporation. Gail has served on the Jofa board for over a decade, and has led the Ta Shma source guide project since its inception. In addition, Gail serves on the Board of B'nai David-Judea Congregation in Los Angeles, CA, where she chaired the committee that raised funds for and recruited Rabbanit Alissa Newborn-Thomas to serve as the shul's first female clergy member. Gail also serves on the Board of Harkham Hillel Hebrew Academy in Beverly Hills, CA, where her interests include working with school leadership on ways to increase female presence and role models on the Judaic studies staff. Gail was a member of the Drisha Institute board and participated in the Wexner Heritage Program in Los Angeles.

Michael Kellman is the Senior Gabbai of the Hebrew Institute of White Plains, a co-founder of Shira Chadasha of White Plains, and one of the first co-chairs of Darkhei Noam in Manhattan. A co-producer of the original Jofa Megillat Esther CD, he has been an active supporter of Jofa since its first conference. Michael consults with companies on how to build better software products. He lives in White Plains, NY, with his wife Idana Goldberg and their three feminist children.

Tamar Lindenbaum is an analyst at Warwick Park Partners, where she focuses on investments in medical technology startups. She attended SAR High School, the Bronfman Youth Fellowship, Midreshet Ein Hanatziv, and most recently, Barnard College, where she was the co-chair of the Beit Midrash program. She graduated from Barnard in 2018 with a BA in History of Science and Medicine, with a thesis about female medical consumers and patient agency. When she's not adventuring, Tamar lives in Brooklyn with her partner, Sabina.

Carol Kaufman Newman has served on the Jofa board since its inception in 1997, and served as its president from 2003-2010. Long a standard bearer in championing women's rights and education initiatives in Orthodox Judaism, she was the founding president of the Drisha Institute of New York. She was also a founder of the Women's Tefillah Group of Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun, and served on the board and as treasurer of the Women's Tefillah Network. Carol holds an MA in Museum Education from Bank Street College of Education. For a number of years she ran the education/docent program at The Yeshiva University Museum of New York.

Noam Stadlan, MD is Vice-Chairman, Department of Neurosurgery at NorthShore University Healthcare system, and Assistant Professor, Division of Neurosurgery, Pritzker School of Medicine, University of Chicago. He specializes in surgery of the spine and has published articles related to spine research as well as authored chapters on surgical technique. He has served as chairman of the ethics committee of the Neurological and Orthopedic Institute of Chicago and as chairman of the Professional Conduct and Ethics committee of the North American Spine Society. He contributed a chapter on the Orthodox Jewish view of abortion to a textbook on the topic of abortion, and a chapter on the definition of death to the volume on that topic published by the International Rabbinical Federation/Koren Publishers.

Dr. Stadlan has also published articles related to brain death in Hakirah and Meorot, and on the blog of the Rabbinical Council of America. He has served as President of Congregation Or Torah in Skokie; on the board of the Halachic Organ Donation Society, and on the board of the Ida Crown Jewish Academy. In 2014, he co-founded DAVAR Skokie, an organization devoted to providing a forum for educational voices vital for the Orthodox Jewish community. He is the proud father of three. His wife, Rabbi Marianne Novak, earned semikha at Yeshivat Maharat, and is a Jewish educator.

Abigail Tambor has volunteered for Jofa for many years – on Jofa’s branding, Shabbat T’lamdeini, the Jofa Journal editorial committee, as co-chair of Jofa’s 6th International Conference Program Committee in 2007, and currently as a Jofa board member. Abigail has served as Board Chair of Yeshivat Maharat, the first yeshiva to ordain women as Orthodox clergy, and she continues to serve on Maharat’s board. She was instrumental in the formation of the Yavneh minyan, a partnership minyan that meets on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. She is married to Shai Tambor and is the proud mother of four children.

Past Presidents

Blu Greenberg, Founding President (See General Board above)

Judy Heicklen earned a BA in Economics from Princeton University, and an MBA from NYU Stern School of Business. She is a Managing Director at Credit Suisse and the mother of five daughters and three sons. She also serves on the Boards of the Center for Jewish Life-Princeton Hillel and the International Beit Din.

Carol Kaufman Newman (See General Board above)

Pam Scheininger (See Executive Committee above)