

# Congregation B'nai Israel

A PROGRESSIVE JEWISH COMMUNITY IN NORTHAMPTON, MA

## Lead Teacher – ALMA Saturday Program

### About Us

Congregation B'nai Israel (CBI) is a 120-year-old progressive, USCJ-affiliated synagogue with approximately 450 member households in Northampton, Massachusetts, the heart of the Western Mass Five College area. We offer a full range of youth and adult education programs including a licensed preschool, religious school, a food-justice farm, and a variety of traditional and alternative religious services. We share a campus with the Lander-Grinspoon Academy, a pluralistic K-6th grade day school. We collaborate closely with and are adjacent to the Northampton Survival Center, our community's local food pantry.

### Role Description / Responsibilities / Required Qualifications

ALMA (religious school) is looking for creative, enthusiastic Jewish educators to serve as Lead Teachers for our Saturday morning religious school program.

Our Saturday program meets from late September through May (excluding holidays and school breaks) from 10 am until 12:15 pm on Shabbat. Our program is built around experiential, engaging Jewish learning. Ideal candidates are educators who enjoy working with children and can bring Jewish ideas, traditions, stories, values, and culture to life through creative, Shabbat-friendly activities.

We are looking for someone who:

- Has experience working with elementary and/or middle school-aged children
- Is excited about experiential Jewish education
- Can develop and lead their own creative lessons and activities
- Is comfortable adapting activities for different ages, interests, and learning styles
- Can create an engaging, welcoming, and positive environment for children
- Is reliable, collaborative, and comfortable working as part of a team
- Can plan activities that are appropriate for a traditionally Shabbat-observant environment

What you will be expected to do:

Lead Teachers plan and facilitate experiential Jewish learning activities during our Shabbat morning ALMA program. Teachers will be invited to bring their own interests, and skills to the curriculum while working within the broader goals and themes of the ALMA program.

Activities might incorporate Jewish stories and texts, games, art, drama, music, nature, movement, discussion, and other creative approaches to Jewish learning.

קהילת בני ישראל

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We are especially interested in creative people who have something they love doing and are excited about finding ways to connect it to Jewish learning.

Prior experience in Jewish experiential education is preferred, but we are also happy to support candidates who have experience working with children and are enthusiastic about developing their skills as Jewish educators.

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## **Hours/ Salary/Benefits**

- Saturdays 9:30-12:13, September through May following the ALMA calendar
- Rate per hour, and the hours of prep
- This position is not eligible for benefits besides those required by law