



Janice L. Roger

Cantor Janice Roger attended Roosevelt College in Chicago and Hebrew Union College School of Sacred Music and was chosen by Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation to serve as its first cantor in 1979 and remained in that role until her retirement in 2017. In her groundbreaking role, she became the first female clergyperson in the synagogue's history and was one of the first women to be ordained by the seminary as a cantor in the United States.

Janice has been singing since the age of 8, when she began in the choir at Temple Beth Israel in Chicago. She continued on to work with the IHC Congregational Choir, the 65th Street Klezmerim, Chai Notes Choir and teaching Kindermusik for early childhood programs. She has sung with the Indianapolis Arts Chorale, Ronen Chamber Ensemble, Indianapolis Children's Choir and the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir. Janice was honored to perform with the Raanan Orchestra in Israel and at The National D-Day Museum in New Orleans. Her musical interests range from Yiddish to musical theater.

Janice received an Honorary Doctor of Music degree from HUC on the 25th anniversary of her ordination, the Frank Newman Jewish Professional Award from the Jewish Federation and was named a Sagamore of the Wabash by Governor Eric Holcomb. Cantor Roger continues to serve the Jewish community through pastoral, educational and volunteer efforts, including The Great American Songbook Foundation. She was an author in our 2014 publication *The Singing Camp: The Musical Tradition of Myron S. Goldman Union Camp Institute*.

Janice and her husband Brandon have two sons, Eddie and Miles.