

# Our High Holiday Cantor, Cory Winter



Cantor Cory Winter, a native of Chicago, received his Bachelor's Degree in Music from the University of Wisconsin--Madison and his Master's Degree in Music from Northwestern University, where he was assistant to Margaret Hillis, the renowned conductor of the Chicago Symphony Chorus. He was Chorus Master and Assistant Conductor of the Sacramento Opera for ten years. He founded and conducted the Bay Area Jewish Chorale for the Northern California Board of Cantors, of which he is a Past President.

Cantor Winter studied Chazanut with Max Janowski and Todros Greenberg and is a member of both the American Conference of Cantors and the Cantors Assembly. During his career, he has served both Reform and Conservative synagogues and seeks to combine the best of both traditions in his chanting.

"I daven traditional nusach faithfully," Chazan Winter says, "and encourage a great deal

of congregational participation. I take the position, but not myself, seriously. I also welcome congregational members to do occasional davening."

As a soloist, Cantor Winter has appeared with several orchestras, including the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra on numerous occasions. He appeared as soloist with the Oakland-East Bay Symphony in the Sacred Service by Ernest Bloch and received much critical acclaim. Most recently, he appeared as soloist with the San Francisco Symphony in its June American Festival under the direction of Michael Tilson Thomas.

Even with his extensive performing background, Cantor Winter's first love was teaching children and adults. Among his many accomplishments, Chazan Winter says, "I'm very proud that a dozen of my students have become Rabbis and Cantors."