



North Shore Temple Emanuel

www.nste.org.au

<http://facebook.com/northshoretemplemanuel>

North Shore Temple Emanuel (NSTE) is a WUPJ affiliated congregation of 475 households and one of Australia's largest Progressive communities. We are seeking an Assistant Rabbi or Rabbi-Educator who would enjoy a wide breadth of experience, including pulpit and life cycle rituals, pastoral care, heading our Hebrew and Religion School (currently 55 students in Years K-7), teaching children and adults, engaging people in their 20s and 30s and families with young children, as well as representing NSTE in the wider Sydney Jewish community.



OUR HISTORY

For over 60 years, North Shore Temple Emanuel has been a home for all who seek a Progressive expression of Judaism. We recently celebrated the 20th anniversary of our social action group, which has passionately supported Aboriginal literacy, asylum seekers, and environmental responsibility; the 20th year of service of our dynamic music and choir director; the 5th anniversary of our Teen Torah Tag Team; the 40th anniversary of our Netzer youth group; and the 5th anniversary of our Community Wellbeing program, whose volunteer Care Team partners with the rabbis to strengthen our Temple family.

Our congregation is led by Senior Rabbi Nicole Roberts (HUC 2012), who in 2017 became the first woman to be appointed as Senior Rabbi in Australia. Rabbi Roberts also chairs the Assembly of Rabbis and Cantors (ARC) of Australia, New Zealand, and Asia. Rabbi Roberts serves our congregation with love, energy, and vision.

OUR VISION

"When you're here, you're family!" At NSTE, we want every member to know they matter, and we want to be a community that matters - to our members and the world at large. So we believe that worship should be inspiring, education should be excellent, a community should be engaged and caring, and *tikkun olam* should be lived. Everything we do is driven by these principles, which, together with the individual souls who call our Temple "home" - our members and students, our loving clergy, teachers, and tutors, our inspiring lay leaders, choir, and active force of over 130 volunteers, and our dedicated office team - will continue to secure a warm, meaningful, fulfilling, and vibrant Progressive Jewish future for generations to come.



OUR CAMPUS

Located only 15 minutes from Sydney's central business district by train, our campus includes two recently renovated buildings that house a bright, contemporary sanctuary, classrooms, "youth hub," preschool with playground, two technologically equipped social halls, kitchens, and our offices. We also enjoy a courtyard (with BBQ), lawn and garden, and generous parking area. Over the years, our halls have played host to a number of creative endeavours, including the "Music at VJs" annual jazz concert series, Jewish Arts' weekly Israeli dancing classes, visual arts shows, a "night at the opera," concerts by visiting Jewish musicians including Rick Recht, Max Jared, Loui Dobin and Danny Freeland, "Hands Free" (visual) T'filah children's services, Hebrew School talent shows, and rehearsals for local theatre company productions, such as Children of Eden, starring our congregants of all ages.



JOIN OUR TEAM AND TEMPLE FAMILY

We seek an Assistant Rabbi or Rabbi-Educator who can help learners and members of all ages fall in love with Judaism, meaningfully mark Jewish time, express their Progressive Jewish values, build a Jewish home, honour Jewish tradition, take pride in Jewish history, imagine a Jewish future, and tap into the resilience of the Jewish spirit. Serving as Director of our Hebrew and Religion School, and assisting in every other area of congregational life, the Assistant Rabbi/Rabbi-Educator has the opportunity to make a deep and lasting impact.



The Assistant Rabbi/Rabbi-Educator shares in leading congregational Shabbat and festival services, including d'rashot and some Torah leyning, leads our family services on High Holy Days, crafts meaningful family experiences on shabbatot and festivals, and works to creatively engage teens and people in their 20s and 30s. The Assistant Rabbi/Rabbi Educator also supports the Senior Rabbi in meeting the life cycle and pastoral care needs of the community, guiding candidates through conversion and serving on Sydney's Progressive beit din, teaching adult education, planning engaging festival events, working with b'nei mitzvah students, and representing NSTE in the wider community.



As Director of the Hebrew and Religion School (currently 55 students in Years K-7), the Assistant Rabbi/Rabbi-Educator inspires our students through high quality education, nurturing t'filah, and a joyful, positive environment, while building a "family of families." Responsibilities include developing the current curriculum, supporting and supervising teachers, expanding teaching modalities, communicating with and engaging parents, partnering with the Netzer youth group, growing the school, classroom teaching, budgeting and reporting.

Attributes we seek and degrees required

An ordained rabbi, ideally with a Master of Education degree, would be a wonderful addition to our team, providing support for our Senior Rabbi, and being a blessing to our Temple family.

We seek an Assistant Rabbi/Rabbi-Educator who has a contagious passion for Jewish education; exudes warmth; leads moving, thoughtful services; is energised by children, teens, and young adults; is personable, approachable, and responsive to all congregants; values volunteers; is a team player; sees what shines in every child; role models Jewish values; is imaginative; inspires our youth; makes Jewish learning relevant; is an engaging communicator; is organised and reliable; takes pride in Progressive/Reform Judaism and can express the principles that make it distinctive; and is a mensch who treasures the gift of community.

The Assistant Rabbi/Rabbi-Educator must be familiar with and creative in the use of technology, such as Zoom, video, and other tools for education, community engagement, and making our worship experiences accessible. A strong command of the English language is essential. Some musical ability, attention to detail, and a high level of organisation all facilitate the role.

Dates of Tenure, Remuneration, and How to Apply

The Assistant Rabbi/Rabbi-Educator position is available from mid-2022, with some flexibility in timing. The initial contract is two years, with an opportunity for extension subject to visa renewal and a positive working relationship with our team and the community. Details of remuneration will be provided on request. You can request additional information or submit your resume and relevant credentials to:

NSTE Search Committee
Attention: Julia Selby, President
juliaselby@nste.org.au

Who else is on staff at NSTE

We employ a Music and Choir Director, Temple Administrator, Events Coordinator/Assistant to the Rabbis, Community Wellbeing Coordinator, Marketing Coordinator, and Accountant. We employ Hebrew School teachers and b'nei mitzvah tutors, and our onsite preschool has a dedicated staff and director. We share a shaliach or youth group coordinator with other communities. We are blessed to have volunteers who gabbai, sing in our choir, and leyn Torah along with the clergy.

Opportunities to engage with Progressive and other Jewish clergy

Our rabbis enjoy good relations with clergy of all Jewish movements in Sydney and around the UPJ ([Union for Progressive Judaism](#)) region of Australia, New Zealand, and Asia. The Sydney Progressive beit din gathers monthly, and our colleagues are always just a phone call away whenever needed. The ARC gathers annually in Sydney or Melbourne and on Zoom at other times. The UPJ holds a Biennial conference, where our rabbis teach, present, and lead t'filah alongside keynote speakers that have included Rabbi Lawrence Hoffman, Rabbi Sharon Brous, and Dr. Ron Wolfson.

Opportunities to engage with the wider Sydney Jewish community

Local rabbis often teach in the Melton program, at [Limmud Oz](#), at our youth group summer and winter camps, and at the regional UPJ Biennial conference. The [Sydney Jewish Museum](#) runs frequent educational programs for adults and children. AUJS is a university campus organisation. There are several Jewish Day Schools in Sydney, including [Masada](#) and [Emanuel School](#). There are also opportunities during the year to engage with [United Israel Appeal](#), [ICA](#) (like the American “Federation” system), [New South Wales Jewish Board of Deputies](#), [National Council of Jewish Women](#), [ARZA](#), [Jewish Care](#) (social services), and more. Our program and education partners include [Netzer](#), [Stand Up](#) (a Jewish social justice organisation), [PJ Library/Shalom College](#), [B’nai B’rith \(Courage to Care\)](#), and the [Board of Progressive Jewish Education](#), providing opportunities to work closely with their staff and volunteers.



WELCOME FROM THE SENIOR RABBI

Hi, and thank you for considering the North Shore Temple Emanuel in your search! When I was searching for a congregation nine years ago, it was so helpful to read a personal note that went beyond the basic “position description” so I could really get a feel for the community I would be joining and helping to lead, especially since that community was so far from home - America, where I was born and raised. Sydney seemed exciting, but dauntingly far away. I’m here nine years later, to tell you it’s closer than you think, in so many ways.



First, there’s the role itself, which is not very different from what you would experience in an American Reform congregation or in the UK. The communal needs are much the same; you really will fit right in and find that your schooling has prepared you well to succeed and make a difference in the lives of those you touch here. What is different, perhaps, is that Progressive Judaism hasn’t been around as long here, and the surrounding Jewish community predominantly is modern Orthodox. It is incredibly gratifying to help our members and the wider community learn what makes Progressive Judaism so special and to feel we are helping strengthen the movement in Australia, making for a more diverse and pluralistic Jewish community here.

Second, there’s the NSTE community itself. Sit around any table at one of our popular Shabbat dinners, and you’ll find that at least half of those sitting with you have immigrated from another

country (America, South Africa, UK, Hungary, Israel, South America...) This is part of what makes NSTE the warm and caring "Temple family" that it is. Our members seek a sense of belonging and genuinely enjoy spending time together, more than any community I've experienced elsewhere. Many have relatives who perished in the Holocaust, making Jewish community, continuity, and the State of Israel especially important to their hearts and souls. One of our most important initiatives of recent years is our Community Wellbeing program, which takes a proactive approach to looking after and staying connected with one another. With a Care Team of almost 20 volunteers, the clergy truly have amazing partners in building this home-away-from-home for so many who seek it.

Third, there's the care our lay leaders show for us clergy that makes the distance seem less significant. The leadership here truly appreciates our dedication and hard work, and are generous with leave (vacation time). They are also super flexible in work location and schedule, making it easy to schedule Zoom calls home whenever necessary. In times of loss or if emergency travel is needed, the community rallies to cover Shabbat services and any other needs. The board supports travel to conferences because they value the ideas and resources we bring back, and because they want us to be personally and professionally fulfilled. I feel incredibly fortunate to have landed here in Sydney and you will too!

With a modern "youth hub," additional sanctuary space, and refurbished courtyard all part of a recent building renovation, a vast array of activity on offer, and a dynamic team of professionals, lay leaders, office staff, and volunteers who work so beautifully together to make it all happen, there are brilliant opportunities to grow our congregation and build the future of Progressive Judaism in Sydney and beyond. With a second professional on board who brings a warm, innovative, energetic, adventurous, and collaborative spirit to our community, I truly believe the sky's the limit. *Lo bashamayim hi*. It's not so far away.

- Rabbi Nicole K. Roberts

For a Q&A about living in Sydney, to view videos of our services, and more, visit:

https://www.nste.org.au/rabbi_search.html