

Jennifer Leigh Kaplan

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Artist, mother, thinker, doer with the need and curiosity to experiment and create. Experienced as a professional artist, educator and non-profit executive, with a passion for learning, sharing expertise and creative community building. Proficient in:

- Papercutting
- Hebrew Calligraphy
- Gouache
- Design
- Metalsmithing
- Quilting
- Drawing
- Gilding
- Dreaming
- Procreate
- Microsoft Suite
- Google Drive

EXPERIENCE

Jennifer Kaplan Designs, Owner

September 2009-Present

- Creating original artwork for weddings, bar mitzvahs, retirements, births, and community awards
- One-on-one customization of artwork with customers
- Exhibiting at Art Shows around Ohio

Art Educator, guest lecturer

June 2019-Present

- Teaching paper cutting, the history of *ketubot*, and Hebrew calligraphy workshops

Gross Schechter Day School, Lead Coordinator of Advancement Jewish Day School, Infant-8th grade

December 2017-Present

- Responsible for spearheading development activity for Gross Schechter, including a yearly campaign of over \$1 million
- Managing department functions, communication with donors, donor stewardship and cultivation, as well as solicitation of gifts
- Part of senior school administration team
- Secured grants in excess of \$100,000 for projects and capacity building
- Planning and execution of major fundraising events
- Expanded donor base by developing corporate strategy and programs to cultivate giving societies for different constituencies

AJC Cleveland

July 2012-December 2017

Global Jewish advocacy organization

- **Assistant Director**, January 2015-2017;
- **Programming and Development**, July 2012-January 2015;
 - Responsible for daily office administration and supporting the Regional Director
 - Launched ACCESS Cleveland, recruiting young professionals to AJC's advocacy
 - Experience in stewardship of donors and board management
 - Professional representation of AJC in both the Jewish and general Cleveland community
 - Continual advocacy on issues of importance to AJC and the Jewish world
 - Planning and implementation of fundraising events and community programming

Jewish Arts and Culture Lab Fellow

January-May 2012

Annual artist fellowship

- Part of the first cohort of fellows selected to participate in the Jewish Arts and Culture Lab through the Mandel JCC
- Workshopped and learned Jewish texts with other local artists that then inspired our work
- Participated in community show in May of 2012 at the Mandel JCC

PresenTense Global Fellow**May 2010**

Incubator for Jewish social entrepreneurial start-ups; One of three awarded fellowship in inaugural class

• **CYPminyán**, Founder

- Responsible for outreach and growth of the organization
- Established programming for young Jewish professionals in Cleveland, including shabbat dinners, informal learning opportunities, and holiday programming
- Offered consulting services for others looking to start Jewish renewal projects in Cleveland

Woodhill Supply, Showroom Manager/Kitchen Designer**October 2007 – July 2012**

Plumbing supply house with kitchen and bath design services and showroom in Cleveland

- Worked one on one with customers to design upscale custom kitchens and bathrooms for their homes
- Responsible for sales, placing orders, replenishing inventory, and customer service

Bernard's Gallery, Gallery Director**May 2007 - October 2007**

Art and Antique gallery in Calabasas, California

- Supervised sales staff, managed client relationships
- Created on-line photographic database and website of gallery merchandise

The Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage, First Summer Intern**Summer 2006**

Museum of Diversity and Tolerance

- Worked in adult education with special focus on research both at the Museum and the Western Reserve Historical Society
- Led tours and taught sessions on temporary exhibit *Jerusalem in the Time of Jesus*, traveled around NE Ohio to promote and speak about Museum

UCLA Hillel, Graduate and Professional Program Coordinator**September 2005 – June 2006**

- Worked as the graduate student liaison between Hillel and the Graduate and young professional community in Los Angeles
- Planned social and religious events
- Coordinated programs with other LA based Hillels to broaden capacity and networking capabilities
- Managed e-mail blasts and newsletters

ART EXHIBITIONS

- **"Places in Paper"**; Group Exhibition by the Guild of American Papercutters, Sept 2019-Feb 2020, Arlington, VA
- **"Beginnings"**; Fellowship Exhibition, May 2012, Cleveland, OH

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**JEC**, Adolescent Steering Committee Chair and Board Member**January 2013 - December 2017**

Jewish Education Center of Cleveland

- Chaired committee that approved grants for adolescent programming (youth groups, synagogues, etc)
- Helped strengthen and build Cleveland's Jewish community through stewardship of the local day-school network and extra-curricular Jewish life.
- Worked to develop the next generation of Jewish leaders by advocating and safeguarding our Jewish educational institutions.

Akins Collection, Researcher**March 2010 - June 2010**

Near Eastern artifact collection at the University of Akron

- Worked to catalog, photograph, scan and research artifacts in the Akins collection.
- Managed other volunteers

The Bible Lands Museum, Intern**June 2004**

Near Eastern Archaeology museum in Jerusalem, Israel

- Worked with Chief Curator to decipher and prepare tablet from museum's collection for republication

The Shrine of the Book, Intern

November 2002 - May 2003

Home of the Dead Sea Scrolls and part of the Israel Museum in Jerusalem

- Worked to scan pictures and prepare photocopies of the Temple Scroll in preparation for the exhibit *Envisioning the Temple: Scrolls, Stones and Symbols*, opened May 2003, The Israel Museum, Jerusalem

EDUCATION

University of California, Los Angeles

- Finished coursework for MA in Semitics, March 2007
- GPA: 3.8

Washington University in St. Louis

Graduation Date: May 2004

- Bachelor of Arts in both Art History and Archaeology and Judaic, Islamic and Near Eastern Studies
- GPA: 3.4
- Study Abroad at Hebrew University, Mt. Scopus Fall/Spring 2002-2003