



DVAR TZEDEK

The Education Dept. is delighted to announce the 2007 recipients of the AJWS Dvar Tzedek Torah Commentary: Lisa Goldberg Memorial Fellowship. Each writer brings a unique and powerful voice to Jewish social justice. We hope they will inspire and motivate all of us toward a Jewish identity that embraces justice and social responsibility.

About Lisa Goldberg

As President of the Charles S. Revson Foundation, **Lisa Goldberg** had a profound commitment to the Jewish community and to social justice. Lisa was a creative and vigorous supporter of biomedical research, media technology, leadership development, public interest law, women and public policy, and Jewish culture. Lisa died tragically on January 22, 2007, at the age of 54. She was a good friend and generous supporter of AJWS. We are honored to name this Writers' Fellowship, which embodies many of the values she held dear, in her memory.



Rabbi James Jacobson-Maisels earned a Masters in Modern Jewish Studies in England at the University of Oxford. He then went on to four years of yeshiva study in Israel culminating in rabbinic ordination from R. Daniel Landes at the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies. He is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Jewish Studies specializing in Kabbalah and Hasidism at the University of Chicago, and teaching in a variety of settings in America and Israel on Judaism and Jewish Mysticism. He hopes to integrate his study and practice and to help teach and live Judaism as a spiritual discipline.



Carol Towarnicky is a freelance writer in Philadelphia who recently retired after 31 years as an editorial writer and columnist with the Philadelphia Daily News. She is a founding member and former president of Mishkan Shalom, an activist Reconstructionist synagogue with a mission to integrate prayer, study and action for social justice. In a regular column she continues to write for the Daily News called "Common Good," she tries to "pray with the news," to apply progressive religious values to current events.



Rabbi Elliot Rose Kukla is an activist, writer, organizer and educator. He has lectured and offered workshops on gender and sexual diversity in Judaism throughout Israel, Canada and the U.S. Elliot served as the rabbi of the Danforth Jewish Circle, Toronto's social justice-oriented synagogue. He recently moved to San Francisco and will be a resident in Clinical Pastoral Education at the University of California at San Francisco Medical Center. Elliot was ordained by Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in 2006.



Evan Wolkenstein is the Director of Experiential Education and a Tanach teacher at the Jewish Community High School of the Bay in San Francisco. He understands working with teenagers as a pathway to helping students understand the world around them. Evan holds a Masters Degree in Jewish Education from Hebrew University and a Certificate of Advance Jewish Study from the Pardes Institute in Jerusalem. He has a passion for learning about world music and dance, the sublime short story, and how to brew the perfect cup.



Rabbi Dorothy A. Richman is the Rabbi Martin Ballonoff Memorial Rabbi-in-Residence at Berkeley Hillel. Dorothy was ordained by the Jewish Theological Seminary and her first job after rabbinical school was as an AJWS group leader in Honduras. Dorothy continued to lead groups to the developing world with AJWS as she served congregations Beth Sholom and Shaar Zahav in San Francisco. She is also a Regional Council member for the Progressive Jewish Alliance. Dorothy is married to Dr. Mike Steinman and is Ema (Mom) to two boys.