Rabbi/Cantor Judy Greenfeld
The founder and spiritual leader of the Nachshon Minyan in Encino, CA, Rabbi/Cantor Judy Greenfeld has a clear goal; to “reach out to people who have been disillusioned — the unaffiliated, and the ‘unfulfilliated,’ and give them something that is educational, personal and beautiful.” Rabbi/Cantor Greenfeld did her undergraduate work at the University of Arizona and received her Cantorial ordination as well as a Master’s Degree in Jewish Sacred Music from the Academy for Jewish Religion, California. She was also ordained at their Rabbinic school. A resident of Encino, Rabbi/Cantor Greenfeld is the proud mother of Samantha and David.

Cantor Toby Schwartz
Cantor Toby Schwartz grew up in Lakewood, NJ surrounded by Cantorial Music. The Choir Director at her childhood shul was one of the daughters of the legendary Cantor Samuel Malovsky z”l. Toby attended classes at University of Judaism in their Bal Tefillah program. She began her training in Chazzanut with Hazzan Lipton, and joined the Cantor’s Assembly in their CICA program for learning the Cantorate. She continues in this program today. Cantor Toby has been a member of Valley Beth Shalom for 27 years and began teaching B’nai Mitzvah there 10 years ago. Cantor Toby is happiest being able to daven with meaning and Kavanah. She is married to her wonderful husband Jay for 35 years and is the proud mother of Melissa and Joshua.

Shawna Swanberg
Shawna Swanberg, Ph.D. is an award-winning speaker and author, corporate trainer and Distinguished Toastmaster in Toastmasters International. She is the former Director of Clinical Hypnotherapy for a medical education company and co-founder of the Guidelines Associates, which offers speech coaching and writing services to professional speakers. In her rare spare time, Shawna enjoys running around with her three Goldendoodles in Ventura, California.

Jillian Risigari-Gai
Jillian Risigari-Gai holds a Master of Fine Arts from California Institute of the Arts as well as a Bachelor of Music from CSU- Long Beach. She has held Principal positions for the Hollywood Fringe Festival, 3D Theatricals, Musical Theatre West, The Industry Opera Company, Long Beach Ballet Company, Long Beach Symphony Orchestra, and San Luis Obispo Opera and Symphony.

Elizabeth Yaron
Elizabeth Yaron is a private piano teacher in the Beverlywood area. She has a Masters of Music in Piano Performance from UCLA and has been teaching for the last 24 years. She is also the music director for the Nachshon Minyan High Holiday choir, and occasionally plays the piano for Shabbat services and Bar/Bat Mitzvah Services at Temple Emanuel. Additionally, she also teaches a composer’s class at the Watermark Assisted Living Home. Elizabeth often accompanies the choir at Harvard Westlake High School where her husband teaches, and is the proud mother of 3 boys, ages 21, 19, and 16, all of whom are extremely musical as well.