

## Betty Benjamin Received Presidents' Medal at HUC-JIR Graduation Ceremony in Cincinnati

**Rabbi David Ellenson, Ph.D.**, President of the **Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR)**, presented the Presidents' Medal to **Betty Benjamin**, Former President for the **Women of Reform Judaism (WRJ)**. The award was granted at HUC-JIR's Cincinnati Graduation ceremony on Sunday, June 7, 2009 at Isaac M. Wise Temple.

Benjamin worked as Director of Development and Planning for HUC-JIR at the Cincinnati campus in the 1980s and 1990s. She served on the HUC-JIR Board of Governors from 1973-1977.

A native of Chicago, and a graduate of the University of Chicago where she received a B.A. in History, Benjamin moved to Cincinnati in 1942. Since then, she has volunteered locally, nationally, and internationally, at Wise Temple, the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations, the UAHC (now the Union for Reform Judaism), the World Union for Progressive Judaism, and the Jewish Braille Institute.

As First Vice President for the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods (NFTS, now the WRJ), she created the Circle of Service which is the individual donor program of the WRJ's YES Fund, which supports HUC-JIR. As Vice President, President, and now a Past President of WRJ, she has been instrumental in supporting Capital Campaigns in Israel, including the renovation of HUC-JIR/Jerusalem.

Rabbi Ellenson said, "I am proud to be able to present Betty Benjamin with the Presidents' Medal in honor of her years of service and dedication to the Women of Reform Judaism, HUC-JIR, and the entire Reform Movement."

For more information on the HUC-JIR Graduation, Investiture, and Ordination ceremonies in New York, Los Angeles, and Cincinnati, please visit <http://www.huc.edu/newspubs/pressroom/article.php?pressroomid=271>.

For more information, contact Jean Rosensaft, 212-824-2209 or [jrosensaft@huc.edu](mailto:jrosensaft@huc.edu).

[View the national invitation for event details:](http://www.huc.edu/external/email/09/03/graduation/)  
<http://www.huc.edu/external/email/09/03/graduation/>

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