

KOHENET KETZIRAH

PROFILE

Kohenet Carly "Ketzirah" Lesser, is an ordained Kohenet, which is a new form of Jewish spiritual leadership recognized by the Jewish Renewal movement. Ketzirah's unique focus is creating joyful, meaningful, Jewish experiences that empower and encourage people to engage in Jewish life.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

SERVICE LEADER, ONESHUL.ORG, 2011-PRESENT

Develop and lead Rosh Chodesh services and Kabbalat Shabbat services, monthly for OneShul.org, and online minyan affiliated with PunkTorah.org. Contributor for the OneShul community siddur.

CONTRIBUTOR, PUNKTORAH, 2010-PRESENT

Monthly contributor to PunkTorah.org, a 501(c)(3) Jewish non-profit, an online community helping people who have fallen through the cracks of Jewish life.

PRESIDING CELEBRANT, BECOMING, 2010-2012

Senior clergy for Becoming, an interfaith spiritual community based in Washington, DC.

STEWARD, BECOMING, 2002-2010

Senior lay leader for Becoming, an interfaith spiritual community based in Washington, DC.

EDUCATION

HEBREW PRIESTESS TRAINING INSTITUTE, 2006-2009

Receive smicha as Kohenet from Rabbi Jill Hammer, Taya Shere, and Shoshana Jedwab.

The Kohenet Training Institute trains women to identify the Divine feminine within Jewish tradition and create Jewish rituals, sacred experiences, and social action embodying this wisdom.

BECOMING ORDINATION PROGRAM

Receive ordination as Celebrant, following three years of study and service.

Becoming members confer ordination on applicants.

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI, BFA, 1995

SKILLS

Jewish spirituality, ritual creation and facilitation - including weddings, commitment ceremonies and rites of passage, Torah & Jewish text interpretation, Midrash writing, Jewish practices, Jewish cultural history, storytelling, communal song leader, chant creation, writing, program development and management, community engagement

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PRESENTATIONS

- **Olney Kehila, High Holidays Speaker, 2012**
 - Featured speaker at Olney Kehila Rosh Hashanah services (<http://ow.ly/h019O>)
- **Limmud Philly 2012, Workshop Leader**
 - Exploring the Cyber Shul: *Engaging your community through Cyber services*
 - Ritual Craft: *A four worlds framework for designing better rituals*
- **Animating the Spirit of Democracy, 2009**
 - Interfaith event for first inauguration of President Barak Obama (<http://ow.ly/h01FF>)

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

- Hanukkah Seder (author) - <http://ow.ly/gSux8>
- Ruby Red Seeds, a collection of poetry, prayer and midrash. (author) - <http://ow.ly/gSuBe>
- Peeling a Pomegranate Passover Haggadah (author) - <http://ow.ly/gSvdy>
- Ahava Rabah, OneShul Community Siddur (contributor)
- Kohenet Siddur (contributor)
- Magickal Judaism, by Jennifer Hunter (contributor)

Websites

- PunkTorah.org (regular contributor)
- OneShul.org (service leader)
- G-d Project (interviewed) - <http://ow.ly/gSvE0>
- RitualWell.org (contributor) <http://ow.ly/gZUsH>
- OnBeing Blog (contributor) - <http://ow.ly/gSv0X>
- Peeling a Pomegranate (personal website): www.peelapom.com