

Bio of Rabbi Aaron Philmus



Rabbi Aaron Philmus grew up on the shores of Jersey (Monmouth County). He has enjoyed working as a Rabbi for Conservative synagogues in San Francisco, Pennsylvania, and Rhode Island. He is currently the School Rabbi of Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy, a K-12 Jewish Day School in Kansas, where he teaches Middle and High School Judaics, leads minyan, and coordinates Holiday Programs. He is also a student of the Pardes In-Service Teacher Training Program.

He loves collaborating with others to create sacred music, guiding b'nai mitzvah through their rite of passage and helping them share their story and unique gifts with the community. He makes Jewish stories and holidays come alive for preschool children and parents. In his previous job he helped local teens found the Rhode Island Chapter of the Jewish Youth Climate Movement. He also partnered with the local Jewish day school to create a day camp and a year-round Torah, nature, and survival skills program called Teva PVD. His wife Valerie is a professional kosher chef and baker. Together they built a homestead on their wooded parsonage in Rhode Island complete with goats, chickens, ducks and a permaculture garden. The homestead and surrounding nature trails served as an outdoor classroom and community space for groups of all ages. Their children's names are Sophie (15), Aeden (13), and Mae (3).