



October 1, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

I write in support of the application of Merle Branner. Merle is a long-time active volunteer here at North Shore Congregation Israel. She has excelled in several areas.

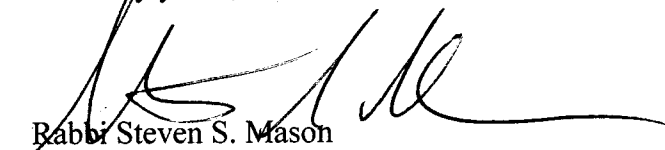
For many years she has functioned as one of our synagogue photographers. She is always ready, willing and able to take candid or posed photos of many different events at the synagogue. She enjoys this work and does it well. It appears to me that she has very sophisticated equipment and knows how to maximize its usefulness.

Merle has also coordinated the work of our Archives Committee. She has successfully organized and categorized 93 years worth of memorabilia, photographs, newspaper articles, and other materials, and now is hard at work maintaining our Archives and continuing to keep things in order. She has done a remarkable job in this area. She really functions as a professional archivist. Not only has she successfully preserved artifacts and memorabilia, she has also designed and presented several excellent displays that show the history of the congregation.

Most recently Merle has mastered the art of video streaming and, with her husband, she is a key volunteer in making our worship services available to our homebound via the internet. She has mastered the technology and operates the camera with a real sensitivity and understanding of the proceedings.

Merle is a valued member of our community and I am proud to recommend her to you without any reservations whatsoever and with enthusiasm.

Sincerely yours,

  
Rabbi Steven S. Mason  
SSM/bs

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