Russel M. Neiss
Jewish educator & technologist

Currently based in St. Louis, MO
russel.neiss@gmail.com

EDUCATION

Brooklyn College
School of Education
Brooklyn, NY - 2010-2012
- Masters of Science in Educational Leadership

Queens College
School of Library Science
Flushing, NY - 2007-2008
- Masters of Library Science
- Thesis: "*Reference Books for Students of the Book: A Content Analysis of Judaic Reference Works for Fourth through Eighth Graders*"

Queens College
Macaulay Honors College
Flushing, NY - 2001-2005
- Bachelor of Arts - Phi Beta Kappa
- Jewish Studies & Religious Studies
- Thesis: "*Nu, What's the Good News: An Analysis of Henry Einspruch's Yiddish Translation of the New Testament*"

University of Vilnius
Vilnius Yiddish Program
Vilnius, Lithuania - Summer 2004
- Certificate of Completion for Advanced Yiddish

YIVO Institute
Uriel Weinreich Program
New York, NY - Summer 2003
- Certificate of Completion for Intermediate Yiddish

EXPERIENCE

Director of Educational Technology • **G-dcast**   Brooklyn, NY - 2012-Present
- Responsible for developing apps and other interactive content to raise Jewish literacy and help educators integrate technology in a pedagogically sound way.
- Provide professional development opportunities for educators and other professionals seeking to integrate media education with religious education.

Academic Director of Technology • **Rodeph Sholom School**   New York, NY - 2010-2012
- Responsible for managing the academic technology used in the school, and integrating technology in a pedagogically sound manner throughout the curriculum (ECE-grade 8), through curriculum development, assessment of instruction, teacher training and sharing of best practices.

Co-Founder & Coding Monkey • **Not-a-Box Media Lab**   Brooklyn, NY - 2009-2012
- Co-founded and served as lead coder for an educational technology venture that seeks to raise the quality of Jewish learning by offering easy access to 21st century technologies.
- Products included: MediaMidrash.org (sold to Behrman House Publishers in 2011), PocketTorah (recipient of a Jewish New Media Innovation Fund Grant), & the Aleph Bet App (a recipient of a Covenant Foundation Ignition Grant).

Librarian/Teacher • **Rodeph Sholom School**   New York, NY - 2007-2010
- Assisted students and teachers (grades 2-8) in finding information and helping them utilize it effectively for personal and professional purposes. Assisted in the development of curriculum and lesson planning.
- Provided technology training, reader advisory services and access to books and electronic resources to facilitate information literacy.

Education Fellow • **Institute of Southern Jewish Life**   Jackson, MS - 2005-2006
- Worked with a team to provide Jewish educational resources to 33 small and isolated Jewish communities throughout Mississippi, Alabama, Arkansas & Louisiana.

USY/Kadima Advisory • **Forest Hills Jewish Center**   Forest Hills, NY - 2001-2005
- Planned, coordinated, and oversaw weekly activities including a combination of social action, religious, informal education & social content for Jewish youth aged 11-18.

Education Intern • **The Jewish Museum**   New York, NY - Summer 2002
- Assisted with "Summer Arts"; the department's intensive studio art summer program for high school students interested in exploring art and Jewish identity.

SKILLS

Languages

Yiddish
Hebrew
Javascript
HTML
PHP
MySQL
Perl
Python

Software

Photoshop
Dreamweaver
Flash
Wordpress
MS Office

Additional Skills

Communication skills
Project Management
Presentation skills
Web design
Digital libraries