

Haley Stav-Membership Vice President

1. What goals do you have as Membership VP for the 2017-2018 year?

My goal as NFTY-STR Membership Vice President is to not only increase membership, but further engage current members. I would do this by implementing thoughtful mixers that would provoke further interest in other members as well as an easier way to stay in contact with the friends you make at events by creating a database for members contact information from which the members can find the information necessary to expand the relationships they fostered outside of a kallah setting. I would also like to further interconnect the Membership network in our region by having monthly Zoom calls and bimonthly TYG check-ins in which we would discuss mixers, sub-regional events, and the ups and downs of our TYGs.

2. Why have you chosen to run for Membership VP?

NFTY-STR and my personal Jewish identity have shaped me into who I am today. Without the support of members of my youth group and region I have no idea where I would be today. I have gathered values, skills, and a love for myself, my Judaism, and others through this incredible opportunity and community that I have been blessed to be a part of. I only wish to give everyone the warm and fuzzy feeling I feel when I walk in to events. I want everyone to feel comfortable and welcome in our community as well as bringing and welcoming in new people. As Membership Vice-President I would receive the incredible opportunity of helping to develop lifelong friendships and helping people find themselves through their Judaism.

3. List what experiences make you qualified to fulfill this position.

I currently serve on PARTY board as Membership Vice-President where I receive the opportunity to help facilitate relationships within my own youth group and it is one of the most

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rewarding and fulfilling jobs I could imagine. Previously I have served as Song leader as well where I was able to help people connect with each other and their Judaism through music and prayer. I have also done things outside of my board job description such as planning and running the Purim Carnival for my temple as well as planning and facilitating the temple wide kickoff. I also spent the last summer at URJ Kutz Camp in which I learned important leadership skills that I can apply to this position and plan on going back this coming summer. I am also very active in multiple clubs at my school as well as having gone to Camp Jenny this past year as an SIT where I was able to learn leadership skills as well as experience being a counselor and specialist.

4. How would you explain to an 8th grader why they should join NFTY?

NFTY isn't just another youth group event. NFTY is an incredible collection of people who value their Judaism, values, and making connections with others. It's an incredible opportunity to meet people that you would never meet otherwise and you may just meet some of your lifelong friends there; I know I have. NFTY also isn't just sitting in services for a weekend. It's interactive and engaging programming, inspirational and interesting discussions, and a weekend long party. NFTY for me is a place I can truly call my happy place and I can feel connected and free to be myself. You'll meet people of all different backgrounds and beliefs and learn so much about yourself, your Judaism, and everyone around you. NFTY overall is just an amazing opportunity that is too good to pass up.