

Why have You Chosen this Board Position?

I would like to be Membership Vice President, because I want to see people being engaged at events. NFTY is a great way to learn about Judaism while having a great time. One goal as MVP is to include those who may have trouble getting involved. When I started in NFTY I was that person who could not come out of her shell. I could not push myself to reach out to people. I come from a world of people who have social troubles and disabilities. This great region talks about being inclusive of everyone. At events I sometimes see people sitting alone. We need someone to work with these kids and make sure they know that they do have friends. I want NFTY to be a place where all kinds of teens can express their Jewish identity while having a good time with their friends.

What Are Your Goals For The Upcoming Year?

I think membership is important because in order to build our NFTY community we need teens who are engaged at events and who like coming. One of the ways that I want to engage teens is by having a program or a mixer for just those people that are at their first event. I want to do this because they need to know the structure of a NFTY kallah. . Through this these members can make new friends during the weekend.

One of the goals I have for this upcoming year is to involve teens who have disabilities. This can inform them about NFTY and help them build their confidence. I want these members to participate in programs. I also want a better idea of what teens are in need of more engagement. . This is possible by asking advisors for the people that are new to NFTY. They need to be called and made sure that they understand that they are included. I want to make a connection with these kids and be that role model for them. Also I want to work on making

sure that people with the same interests make connections with one another. I want people to get out of their comfort zone so that they will make new friends.

List What Experiences Make You Qualified to Fulfill This Position?

I have many experiences that will make me qualified to fulfill this position. I have been the BEEFY Religious and Cultural Vice President for the last two years. I have had to get in contact with the teens so that they know about events. I am an enthusiastic board member. I want teens to have a good time at events and come back. I know what it is like to have a hard time breaking in. I can help those people because I know how they feel. I have gone to URJ Camp Coleman for the past 15 summers of my life. I went to NFTY in Israel last summer. Going to camp has taught me how to get to know all different kinds of people. This will help me because I can make connections with potential members. This year I suggested to my assistant principal that the girls should have more opportunities to get to know each other. Because of my leadership, these girls had a time and a place to get to know each other.

How would I explain to an 8th grader why they should join NFTY?

I would explain to a 8th grader that NFTY is a great way to express your Jewish identity while having a great time with your friends. Maybe it should be asked, , “why should I come to NFTY STR events?” The answer is that this is a great way to have fun and make friends while learning about all things Jewish. NFTY is a place to connect with Jewish teens who understand you. NFTY is a place to go to because people understand who you are. NFTY is a place where you can grow and become a different person. NFTY is also a safe place to take risks and get out of your comfort zone. These are many of the things any new member can experience.