

1. What goals do you have as Programming VP for the 2018-2019 year?

My goal as PVP for the 2018-2019 year is to encourage greater program participation by creating dynamic programs that participants enjoy and want to participate in by integrating new programming styles. So many of our programs are based around a model of activity followed by discussion. Through different models like hands-on programming, more participatory activities, varying group types and sizes, etc., I would hope to encourage greater participation by the NFTYites. I also hope to give NFTYites more opportunities for involvement in program creation. Unless you are a part of the regional board or hosting TYG, it often feels like there is little opportunity for participants create and implement programming on a regional level. In order to incorporate higher NFTYite involvement, I would welcome the TYG board networks to help create regional programming. For example, one program at Winter Regional would be created and run together by the PVP network. I would like to implement program feedback surveys as a wrap up to every program. This feedback will be used to improve programming at the next event, and also to edit the program for submission to the program bank so that the next time the program is run, there is feedback on its initial execution.

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

I have chosen to run for Programming VP because I love programming and I hope make a positive impact on the region through my programming and leadership. Tasks are accomplished more efficiently when it doesn't feel like work. For me, programming doesn't feel like a job, but is something I genuinely love to do. Programming has the greatest ability to strongly impact participants by introducing new ideas and viewpoints while encouraging participants to meet new people and make new friends. I love NFTY STR, and I want to make a positive impact on this region through my efforts as Programming VP.

3. List what experiences make you qualified to be Programming VP.

I have had a variety of leadership and programming experiences that I believe make me qualified for the position of Programming VP. Over the past few years, my TYG, BIFTY, has struggled with organized leadership. In the 2016-2017 year, I served officially as the Religious and Cultural VP as well as taking on other leadership positions as needed. I wrote and organized programs such as a "Friendsgiving" dinner, service and program and an Ikea scavenger hunt. This year, without a board, I am working to strengthen BIFTY by organizing activities like our upcoming Disney World sleepover and designing the BIFTY T shirt for the second

year in a row. At my synagogue, I work as a Madricha as a teacher's assistant in classrooms and assisting in the front office. When my TYG hosted LLTI in 2015, I helped write programs and the Friday Night Live Teen Band service. In addition, I have had the opportunity to group lead at multiple NFTY STR kallah. At Camp Coleman last summer, a friend and I convinced Camp leadership of the importance of a transition program for girls stepping up to the oldest unit, and together we wrote, organized and led the very successful program. Last summer I also served as an SIT at Camp Jenny, where I worked with campers as well as took part in leadership training programs. Outside of the NFTY world, I am also very involved in theatre at my school which has taught me how to collaborate with others to produce a finished project. I have done everything in the theater from acting to light design, make-up and ushering. I am also a part of this year's crew organizing and running the district thespian festival for over 900 participants.

4. Come up with a hypothetical theme and program idea for next year's Winter Regional.

My idea for next year's Winter Regional is "STR TV". The programs would have a central value of exploring Jewish identity through the lens of reality TV. Each program will be named after or based around a TV show adding an element of surprise and interest to the programs. One program of this kallah would be called "Survivor Survival" and would teach about the Holocaust under the guise of reality TV shows "Survivor," "The Amazing Race," and "What Would You Do?". The program would begin with all participants divided into universes presumably to rotate through activities based around each show ("Survivor" would be a physical challenge activity, "The Amazing Race" would be a team based obstacle course with a mental challenge element, and "What Would You Do?" will present skits of ethical dilemmas and discussion.). After one round, however, all participants will be brought back together to discuss what happened in each rotation. It would then be explained that each game related to a different way Jews experienced the Holocaust. The participants would then return to their original universes to explore this new idea. "Survivor" groups would look at the concentration camp experience through photos and memoirs of camp survivors, "The Amazing Race" would learn about partisan fighters and resistance, and "What Would You Do?" would learn about Righteous Gentiles. Another alternative would be to welcome Holocaust survivors to share their personal experiences relating to each topic.