

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

As Programming Vice President, I would like to implement initiatives that aid in fostering subregional relationships, work with teen leaders, and create more interest based regional programming. In addition to individual network calls, I would like to implement group network calls with TYG Programming Vice President's within a subregion. This would allow for the fostering of subregional connections and give Programming VP's the opportunity to plan a program or event that would incorporate the entire subregion. In addition, I would create another set of group network calls with TYG Programming VP's of similar sized youth groups. This would benefit small youth groups by noticing programs that can be executed well with a limited number of people. Additionally, it would benefit larger sized youth groups by showcasing programs that can work well with a greater number of participants. Furthermore, if elected, I would create a regional program bank with subdivided sections so all types of programs can be shared and easily accessed within the region, thus allowing leaders of NFTY-STR to share their amazing programs. Lastly, I would add a question on the post event survey asking, "what type of programs do you prefer at regional events?" Options would include programs centered around discussion, competition, social action, judaics, simulations, etc. This will allow the Regional PVP to get feedback on what the region wants to see at events, thus creating more personalized programs.

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

I remember planning Spring Kallah 2016, my first ever NFTY-STR event, as if it was yesterday. The idea that I was able to create successful programs for a plethora of people excited me and brought about my initial love for programming. At the time, I had no idea the impact that this community would have on my life. I remember being in awe of the people, atmosphere and programs and after several kallah, I eventually realized that programming was the foundation of every event. What I love most about programs is that they are not only a way of connecting with ourselves, community, and the world around us, but are the building blocks of lifelong friendships. I have chosen to run for Programming VP because of my passion for programming and desire to enhance our region. Programming is the foundation of my passion and love for NFTY-STR, and as PVP, I want to inspire your love for this community through programming as well.

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

I believe I possess a multitude of qualities and qualifications that would allow me to prosper as a Regional Programming Vice President. I have served three years on my TYG board as Membership VP (2015-2016), Programming VP (2016-2017) and I currently serve as TaSTY President. These three years have allowed me to further my passion for programming and give me the resources and opportunities to plan and execute events for my youth group. In addition, through my experiences on TaSTY board I have learned how to work cohesively with a group of people in order to make the most impactful event for participants. Additionally, I helped plan Spring Kallah 2016, which allowed me the opportunity to co create programs on a regional level. Outside of NFTY, I am an IB student who participated in Color Guard and I am currently an active member in NHS. This has allowed me to learn how to manage my time most effectively. Lastly, this past summer, I was a camp counselor for 27 amazing kids. Part of my responsibilities as a Junior Counselor was to create a structured activity for a one hour time block three times a week. This allowed me the ability to learn how to gear programs and activities towards specific audiences and age groups. In addition, I learned how to be flexible with a constantly changing schedule.

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

For next year's Winter Regional, I would like to implement the theme "inSTRgram," which would be centered around social media. One of the programs I would implement would be exploring the advantages and disadvantages that technology has on effective communication. Each room would be divided into two groups: one that can communicate through words and one that can only communicate through notecards. Each group would sit in a circle and as a team would have to sort an entire deck of cards into groups of 4 of a kind. The group that can talk are only able to talk to the two people next to them (to symbolize face-to-face communication), while the group that can communicate through notecards can pass notecards to the entire group (to symbolize a large social media platform) but cannot talk. At the end of the program there would be a discussion about what the obstacles of this program were and what form of communication was more effective in completing this task.