

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

If elected as President, there are many goals I would like to achieve, and many actions I would take to carry out those goals.

First, I would like to implement 'NFTY-STR Program Panels' - a new way for individuals to voice their mind and share their ideas through collaborating with the regional board in program writing. While an event is in its planning stages, members of the region would have the opportunity to sign up via an online form in order to show interest in the type of program they would like to write along with any unique ideas they have. This will allow for more fresh and new faces to become involved at a regional level. Additionally, I want to start STR Swap Shops: a forum for the President Network to share anything from event ideas to tips for board meetings through online group calls. This will allow for peers to receive feedback from each other and it will help to inspire everyone involved. Lastly, I hope to start a big-little program with upperclassmen and new members called NFTY STaRs. At the start of an event, upperclassmen will hand their assigned new member a star with fun facts about them as well as a way to contact their big if they have any questions pertaining to NFTY-STR. This will allow for new members to feel embraced and welcomed as they join the region.

2. Why have you chosen to run for President?

First and foremost, I have chosen to run for President due to my passion for this region as well as this movement.

NFTY-STR has come to be one of the most important things in my life and I want to be able to share the happiness it brings me with as many people as I can. Along with my utmost passion, I would love to see this region grow and be able to play a role in empowering and aiding as many teens as possible. I feel it is essential to give teenagers a plethora of leadership opportunities and supply them with numerous outlets to speak their mind and make sure their voices are heard. By starting with the individuals and enabling teens to grow and flourish, our region will follow suit. Ultimately, I am running because of the joy this movement brings me and the hope that I will be able to play a role in furthering the success of NFTY-STR and the people that it is comprised of.

3. List what experiences make you qualified to be President.

There are many activities I have engaged in that I feel play a crucial role in qualifying me to run for President. First off, I served as BOFTY Programming Vice President last year, and I am currently BOFTY President. Holding both of these positions has allowed me to gain an understanding of how a youth group functions and become more knowledgeable on important aspects of running board meetings and making sure that everything is operating properly. Additionally, I have been involved in the leadership organization at my school, a class that focuses aiding the student body and learning the

fundamentals of being a leader, for the past two years and I am in Student Government- currently holding the position of both Historian and Committee Head. Leadership and Student Government have enabled me to learn key aspects of public speaking, as well as flexibility and teamwork. Furthermore, I am an active member of my school's DECA chapter and I hold the position of Committee Director; this has allowed me to acquire skills such as time management and accountability and I feel these are imperative for a President to have. Overall, I believe these activities have given me the ability to go above and beyond in everything I do and helped me to become a more dependable, confident and passionate leader.

4. Regardless of our strength as a regional and national youth movement, the foundation of NFTY is the TYG. Many TYGs in our region are strong at the local level but have few regionally-active members, while others barely exist except as a means for members to go to regional events. How would you, with the Regional Board, help TYGs attain a solid local unity while fostering a common sense of identity in the region?

In NFTY-STR, the range of TYG sizes, local participation, and regional involvement vary so greatly from one youth group to another. Because of this, no youth group can be compared to another, and a solution for involvement for one TYG will not be a solution for them all. By focusing on each youth group as a separate entity and by working hand-in-hand with each TYG President, we will see the most success as a region. For TYGs lacking in the area of local participation, stronger ties with the congregation and better communication with temple families may be a key factor in seeing growth. On the other hand, for TYGs that wish to boost their regional involvement, I feel subregional events are imperative. Subregionals are the best way to expose TYG members to the NFTY-STR community and give them a taste of the region because it will allow them to start their NFTY-STR journey with a smaller event, rather than jumping right into kallah and feeling overwhelmed.

5. Choose any quote (it can be one you made up) and explain how it represents your personality.

"Remember there is no such thing as a small act of kindness. Every act creates a ripple with no logical end" - Scott Adams
One of the most important attributes a person can possess is kindness- the quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate. I like to think of myself as someone who is kind to everyone and who is able to bring a smile to someone's face when they are not feeling their best. You never truly know exactly what is going on in every aspect of a person's life, or what obstacles they have been encountering recently. This is why simple acts such as picking up a book someone dropped in the hallway or complimenting a new haircut can impact people in ways you cannot imagine. Kindness is thought of as an uncomplicated and easy act, but it has the ability to affect others tremendously simply due to the way it can make people feel. Most importantly, wherever I am, and in whatever I am doing, I strive to make others happy and impact everyone I meet in a positive way.