

**1. What goals do you have as President for the 2020-2021 year?** The goals that I have as President for the 2020-2021 year are to find new ways to engage teens on a local and national level and increase participant involvement. In order to help attain these goals, I believe, we need to do a more efficient job of engaging our youth. As president, I would like to implement Surveys for STRs. This would be an online survey, just like our post event surveys but run more often, to get a glimpse of what participants would like to see at NFTY events. This would include what topics they want to hear about, type of programming, and how we as a region can better ourselves throughout the year rather than just after events. As President I would create a list of TYG events through a blog post with the President Network. This would be called "STRting Line Up", which would give participants the opportunity to help support other local TYGs between their own events. Additionally, I would like to pair up local TYGs together through an initiative known as "STRonger Together" and create a communication source for planning events and engaging with each to share ideas. This would be used as another resource with advisors directly involved rather than just relying on individual networks and would foster collaboration between different cohorts of our region.

**2. Why have you chosen to run for President?** I have chosen to run for President because of the love and passion I have for furthering this regions success. When I first came to NFTY, I admired the strong and close-knit relationship that this community had built, and this could not happen without each and every one of the participants of the region. Every person's voice matters and is vital to making NFTY-STR a family. I want every participant to feel that they have a voice in this community and that voice is powerful. I am running for the position of president to be able to spread the happiness and joy that this region and the individuals in it have given me with others. I want to continue to see this amazing region grow to its full potential and I want this movement to continue to inspire and build future leaders.

**3. List what experiences make you qualified to be President.** The experiences that make me qualified to be President are that I have been in different leadership positions that each have shaped me into the leader and person I am today. I was my TYG's RCVP which allowed me to work on a local level to engage teens in youth services and programs. I am currently serving as NFTY-STR's RCVP which has allowed me to collaborate with others, be comfortable in front of a room of people, and has allowed me to work with adult staff and clergy of many different TYG's. Both of these experiences have been so amazing and fulfilling to help shape other teens Jewish identities. Holding these positions has allowed me to understand how both local and regional levels function, and also has allowed me to fully understand how much work, time and commitment it takes to produce an event, service or program. In addition to these leadership positions, I have had the amazing opportunity to attend two summers at the URJ Kutz Camp and attend NFTY Convention last year. Both of these experiences allowed me the opportunities to learn valuable leadership skills from different NFTY teens, staff and alumni

all across North America. Each of these experiences and skills I have learned have made me a confident and passionate leader that I believe make me qualified to be President of this amazing region.

**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?**

Every TYG is different in many ways whether it be through size, frequency of events, programmatic interests, etc. This is what brings the magic and uniqueness to NFTY STR, through every member being connected by a common faith but simultaneously bringing their own individual values, perspectives and interests. I believe that using the concept of “STRonger Together” can help not only strengthen individual TYGs but also foster stronger connections to the region as a whole. These events would create friendships and relationships on the local level, thus encouraging members to elevate to the regional level to see old friends and make new ones from all across the state. This idea would also be supported by the existing idea of sub regional events and by increasing the frequency of the sub regional events and diversifying programmatic aspects to appeal to as many people as possible, we can create a stronger region from the roots of TYGs up to the regional level. Additionally, I would encourage each board member to attend as many local events and sub regional events as possible to bring the magic of our region down to the local level.

**5. How are you with time management?** I am very good with time management. I have many extracurricular activities for school and balancing that with NFTY can be challenging sometimes. In order to keep myself in check I use Google Calendar, which is shared with my parents and have an organized planner. I set checkpoints for myself the minute I have a deadline, so that I can make sure I am on track to finish what am doing with plenty of time which reduces my stress. Also, at the beginning of each week I write out my schedule of what I know needs to be done. I always manage to get all of my work done, balancing that with my extracurriculars and NFTY still remains my number one priority.

**6. Chose any quote (it can be one you made up) and explain how it represents your personality.** “Don’t adapt to the energy in the room, influence the energy in the room.” This quote represents my personality through my passion for positivity, understanding of emotional intelligence and personal impact on others. I always try to have a positive outlook on any situation I am in and through this I understand how my facial expressions and energy I give off can influence the perspective and success of those around me. I am someone who wants others to feel comfort and connection, especially in our NFTY community. I believe that success comes from a positive perspective and I am a person who wants to have a positive impact on everyone I encounter. I want people to leave the region feeling they have a connection and family here full of genuine love and kindness.