



2021-2022 Intent to Run Packet ***Are you interested in running for Regional Board?***

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Individuals who are Jewish and members, in their own right or through family membership, of a URJ Congregation in good standing, and paid members of NFTY.

Article Eight Section C of the NFTY-STR Constitution states:

All candidates must have attended three (3) previous NFTY-STR Regional events while in 9th through 12th grade. If the candidate has moved from another NFTY Region, at least one (1) of the previous events must have been in NFTY-STR.

Article Eleven: Enabling Clauses Section B of the NFTY-STR Constitution states:

Any policy, circumstance, or procedure not provided for by this Constitution shall be left to the discretion of the full voting members of the NFTY-STR Regional Board, NFTY-STR President, and NFTY South Area Manager.

At the discretion of the NFTY-STR Regional Board, NFTY-STR President, and NFTY South Area Manager., participants can have Virtual Events count towards the 3 events needed.

NFTY-STR 2021-2022 Regional Board Elections will take place on March 6th at 11 AM EST.

WHAT POSITIONS ARE AVAILABLE?

President
Programming Vice-President
Social Action Vice-President
Religious and Cultural Vice-President
Communications Vice-President
Membership Vice-President

HOW DO I PROCEED?

- Review rest of the packet
- Complete and prepare **all 4 documents** and one video needed for your Election Application and prepare to submit them via the NFTY-STR website (www.southerntropical.nfty.org) by **11:59 PM EST on Sunday, February 21st, 2021.**
- The online submission form will be live in the coming weeks, keep an eye on the NFTY-STR website and social media for that announcement.

- Forms must be signed by you, a Parent, *and* Advisor or Clergy. The Advisor's or Clergy signature indicates your eligibility based on the criteria below. You and your parents' signatures indicate understanding of the responsibilities of the office you are seeking, as well as your parent's approval for you to run.
- Attached to this form must be your Platform Packet which will be posted on our web-site to all voting delegates.
- Email Alyson at str-president@nfty.org or Rabbi Terkel at aterkel@urj.org with any questions.

If you have any questions or concerns about the document submission process, please contact NFTY South Area Manager, Rabbi Andrew Terkel aterkel@nfty.org (254) 410-6703.

These FOUR parts must be submitted by 11:59 PM on Sunday, February 21st, 2021 via online form, which will be accessible soon on the NFTY-STR website www.southerntropical.nfty.org.

- **Photo:** A digital photo of yourself.
 - It should be 600x600 pixels in size, and 300 dpi.
- **Platform Packet:** Sheets of official documents in which the candidate states who they are, their position(s) of interest and platform, as well as the Board Contract which does need to be signed. ○ The completed document must be no more than 2 pages*, using 12-point font and standard double space formatting. Please include your name and position desired on top right of each page and reprint the prompts in bold before each of your answers.
- **Meet the Candidates Sheet:** Provides a visual component to your candidacy, and ensures every voting delegate has proper information of each candidate and each candidate's platform. ○ Include your full name, the position you are running for, at least one picture of yourself ○ You may use any graphic design software to create the sheet.
 - It must be one page, single-sided and saved as a JPG
- **NFTY-STR Stance on Campaigning and Bullying Contract:**
 - An agreement not to engage in behavior that could be construed as Campaigning and/or Bullying, in order to conduct elections that reflect the spirit of NFTY; inclusivity, respect, and a *kehilla kedosha* (sacred community).

VIDEO SPEECH SUBMISSION

- **Video Speech:** There is a 5-minute time limit for Presidential candidates and a 3-minute time limit for all other candidates. The video must be filmed in one take, against a blank wall with no scene changes, props or people other than the candidate. **Please upload your video PRIVATELY to YouTube or Vimeo and email the link to aterkel@urj.org**
- **Video submissions must be emailed by Sunday, February 28th by 11:59pm EST.**

NEW THIS YEAR - VIRTUAL MEET THE CANDIDATES

- Speeches will be followed by Meet the Candidates. In the meet the candidates portion of the election process, candidates will individually meet with TYGs to answer their questions about the candidate's platform. *The number of candidates will determine the number of TYG cohort groups. *TYG'S will caucus on their own prior to voting*
- If you have questions, please contact NFTY-STR President Alyson Martinez (str-president@nfty.org)

Please note:

- A **MANDATORY** candidate zoom call will take place with a parent or guardian present **March 2nd at 8PM**
- A mandatory virtual Board Retreat will take place **(Date- TBD)**
- The 2021-2022 NFTY-STR Regional Board elect needs to be present at NFTY-STR Virtual LLTI event which will take place in the spring, 2021.
- All NFTY-STR Regional Board Elect should plan on attending Mechina, a North American leadership event.
- NFTY and the URJ believe that finances should never be a barrier to participation or leadership. We strive to support all NFTY leaders in attending required events, and will continue to do so when in person events can resume.

COMMITMENTS

- o Attendance at all NFTY STR events, including NFTY 678
- o Attendance at North American events, including Mechina and NFTY Convention or NFTY Veida
- o Attendance at all Regional Board meetings.
- o Event preparation and deadlines- includes an extensive amount of high quality work, individually and group with strict timelines, parameters and expectations.

CAMPAIGNING: Campaigning is NOT allowed and can result in immediate disqualification. If you are unsure if something is considered a violation, please contact the NFTY STR President str-president@nfty.org.

Violations include, but are not limited to:

- Discussing your candidacy or others' candidacy with participants to sway their vote.
- Utilizing social media to campaign for yourself or others.
- Distributing materials that aim to sway participant votes.
- Sharing inappropriate or negative material about fellow candidates.
- Sharing or reposting the link to the video speeches on any social media platform.

EXPECTATIONS

- 1. Communication:** Regional Board members will be available for meetings, phone calls and weekly video chats. Regional Board members will respond to all e-mails, text messages and phone calls within 24 hours or less.
- 2. Organization:** Regional Board members will maintain organized, detailed calendars, and practice top quality organization in their work.
- 3. Accountability:** Regional Board members will be true, reliable owners for their work and commitments.
- 4. Behavior:** Regional Board members will adhere to the B'rit K'hilah and the mutually determined "Fishbowl" rules throughout their full term.
- 5. Innovation:** All ideas are welcomed and expected from all board members in order to promote growth in the region and the creation of the best programming possible. Similarly, all board members should be willing to provide and accept input on all programs and services, and act as a resource for all board members and

non-board members throughout the year.

Descriptions of each Regional Board position are listed below. Please refer to these descriptions when considering the position you are running for and why you are choosing to run.

President

- Works with the Regional Board and NFTY South Area Manager to plan all events
- Serves as an ambassador to everything posted on social media
- Implements all NFTY-STR and NFTY initiatives and establishes relationships between youth groups, advisors, and other regions
- Represent the Southern Tropical Region as a voting member on the General Board of NFTY, and any other North American or Regional committee or board deemed necessary or appropriate.
- Call and preside over all NFTY-STR Board meetings and Regional Board meetings.
- Guide the NFTY-STR Regional and General Board in the proper execution of their aims and purposes. ● Supervise the NFTY-STR Regional Board and take responsibility for all decisions made by them in their capacity as NFTY-STR Regional Board members.
- Consult regularly with the NFTY South Area Manager
- Be directly responsible for the execution and implementation of the Constitution of this organization and any adjunctive rules.
- Serve as a liaison between the NFTY Board and NFTY-STR.
- Keep NFTY-STR informed about the North American level of NFTY.
- Oversee the planning and preparation of the all NFTY-STR Regional Events. Attend all NFTY-STR Regional and Sub-Regional events, (including virtual programming) if possible, or to appoint a representative Board member if unable to attend.
- Educate NFTY-STR on Netzer Olami.
- Maintain the NFTY-STR Presidents' Network.
- Serve as a resource to all TYGs in the Region on all matters pertaining to NFTY and NFTY-STR.
- Serve as a resource to all TYGs hosting NFTY-STR Regional events.
- Serve as a role model for all members of NFTY on a local, regional, sub-regional, North American, and international level, and to appropriately represent NFTY-STR to others.
- Take on any additional duties, which may be necessary to fulfill any of the above responsibilities.

Programming Vice-President

- Designs, implements, and crafts all programmatic aspects of regional events
- Creates event themes and works on making all programs
- Serve as a resource for TYG, Regional, and Sub-Regional programming
- Creates the event playbook for regional events with the President
- Take the place of the President when so required.
- Encourage participation in the Nilmad V'naaseh program in NFTY-STR.
- Educate all members of NFTY-STR on the range of programs NFTY has to offer, and be a resource for materials and information on those programs.
- Oversee the planning and implementation of NFTY-STR Regional programming.
- Assist the NFTY-STR office in compiling and maintaining a Program Bank.

- Oversee and edit all written NFTY-STR programming.
- Create and distribute information regarding the NFTY Study Theme and encourage implementation of the NFTY Study Theme at TYG, and regional events.
- Maintain the NFTY-STR Programming Vice Presidents' Network.
- Serve as a resource to all TYGs hosting NFTY-STR Regional events.
- Represent the Southern Tropical Region as a voting member on the General Board of NFTY, and any other North American or Regional committee or board deemed necessary or appropriate.
- Serve as a role model for all members of NFTY on a local, regional, sub-regional, North American, and international level, and to appropriately represent NFTY-STR to others.
- Take on any additional duties, which may be necessary to fulfill any of the above responsibilities.

Social Action Vice-President

- Implements and designs all new and existing social action initiatives
- Works as the Camp Jenny Co-Director alongside the NFTY-SAR SAVP
- Promotes ways to compel change and inspires individuals to participate in Tikkun Olam ●
- Serve on the NFTY General Board, and as a liaison between NFTY and NFTY-STR.
- Incorporate Social Action and the NFTY Social Action Theme on the TYG and regional level
- Keep NFTY-STR participants aware of the Jewish commitment of Tikkun Olam.
- Oversee the planning and implementation of the URJ/NFTY-STR/NFTY-SAR Mitzvah Corps, Camp Jenny.
- Implement a Social Action Project.
- Maintain the NFTY-STR Social Action Vice Presidents' Network.
- Represent the Southern Tropical Region as a voting member on the board of NFTY, and any other North American or Regional committee or board deemed necessary or appropriate.
- Serve as a resource to all TYGs hosting NFTY-STR Regional events.
- Serve as a role model for all members of NFTY on a local, regional, sub-regional, North American, and international level, and to appropriately represent NFTY-STR to others.
- Take on any additional duties, which may be necessary, to fulfill any of the above responsibilities.

Religious and Cultural Vice-President

- Guides participants in creating their own unique Jewish identities
- Crafts ways for participants to be spiritually engaged
- Promotes dialogue on Jewish culture, ideals, and concepts
- Serve on the NFTY General Board, and as a liaison between NFTY and NFTY-STR.
- Keep all members of NFTY-STR informed on various Religious and Cultural issues and the NFTY Study Theme.
- Consult regularly with the NFTY-STR Regional Rabbi.
- Oversee the planning and implementation of all worship at NFTY-STR Regional Events.
- Serve as a resource for worship services and cultural activities for TYG, sub- regional, and regional events.
- Maintain the NFTY-STR Religious and Cultural Vice Presidents' Network.
- Oversee the NFTY-STR Regional Songleading Team.
- Represent the Southern Tropical Region as a voting member on the board of NFTY, and any other North American or Regional committee or board deemed necessary or appropriate.

- Serve as a resource to all TYGs hosting NFTY-STR Regional events.
- Serve as a role model for all members of NFTY on a local, regional, sub-regional, North American, and international level, and to appropriately represent NFTY-STR to others.
- Take on any additional duties, which may be necessary to fulfill any of the above responsibilities.

Communications Vice-President

- Creates all NFTY-STR merchandise, takes photos at all events (virtual and in-person), and create event Chai Five's
- Utilizes social media platforms to promote ideas and creates the end of event slideshows
- Creates new ways to communicate and upholds NFTY communication initiatives
- Take minutes at all NFTY-STR Regional and Asefot, and publish them in a timely fashion.
- Publish CHAI FIVE, the newsletter of NFTY- STR, at least four (4) times a year.
- Supervise any staff writers for the CHAI FIVE.
- Maintain the Communication Vice Presidents' Network.
- Utilize media and social media for NFTY-STR.
- Serve as a resource to all TYGs hosting NFTY-STR Regional events.
- Serve as a role model for all members of NFTY on a local, regional, sub-regional, North American, and international level, and to appropriately represent NFTY-STR to others.
- Take on any additional duties, which may be necessary to fulfill any of the above responsibilities

Membership Vice-President

- Expands membership opportunities to attract members
- Works to promote an inclusive environment
- Designs and implements mixers and promotes all membership initiatives including NFTY 678
- Serve as a resource to all TYGs in the Region on membership relative matters pertaining to NFTY and NFTY-STR.
- Serve as the membership chair for the region, assisting local TYGs in implementing membership incentive programs for TYG, NFTY-STR, and NFTY, including but not limited to running mixers and New to NFTY programs at regional events, as well as encouraging outreach to participants before each regional event by the NFTY-STR Regional Board.
- To identify the needs of NFTY-STR's membership and to address those needs, with the help of the Regional board and/or Regional Advisor and/or any committees.
- Serve as a role model for all members of NFTY on a local, regional, sub-regional, national, and international level, and to appropriately represent NFTY- STR to others.
- Serve as a resource to all TYGs hosting NFTY-STR Regional events.
- Maintain and expand the membership of NFTY-STR
- Maintain the Membership Vice Presidents' Network.
- Take on any additional duties, which may be necessary to fulfill any of the above responsibilities.



NFTY-STR 2021-2022 Board Contract

(Please print)

Name: _____ Grade: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ E-Mail: _____

Congregation: _____

TYG: _____

Board Position I am seeking: _____

By my signature below, I acknowledge I understand the requirements of the office I seek, and, if elected I will devote the time and energy necessary to fulfill my responsibilities. I am confident that I will be able to attend all the events on the NFTY-STR Calendar.

Signature of Candidate: _____ Date: _____

I approve of my child's application to serve on the NFTY-STR Board from June 1, 2021 to June 1, 2022. I understand that there are both significant time and financial commitments involved in serving as a Board Member, and I will do my best to enable my child to perform their duties should they be elected. I understand that my child helps to organize and run LLTI which takes place prior to June 1, 2021.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

We certify, to the best of our knowledge, that this individual meets the requirements set forth in the NFTY-STR policy on Eligibility for Regional Office.

Signature of Advisor or Clergy: _____ Date: _____

NFTY-STR Regional Board Candidate Platform Packet 2021-2022

Any fully registered NFTY-STR member is eligible to run for Regional Board. Those seeking candidacy for the 2021-2022 NFTY-STR Regional Board must complete a Platform Packet for the position they seek. This must be submitted via Wufoo form by Sunday, February 21st, 2021 at 11:59 pm.

The completed document must be no more than 2 pages*, using 12-point font and standard double space formatting. Please include your name and position desired on top right of each page and reprint the prompts in bold before each of your answers.

Again, candidates will be submitting a video speech to be shared with the region before voting. *All candidates will have 3 minutes for their speech, with the exception of candidates for President who will have 5 minutes each.* Speeches will be followed by meet the candidate. In the meet the candidate portion of the election process, candidates will individually meet with TYGs to answer their questions about the candidate's platform. ****With the exception of Communication Vice President which will be 3 pages.**

If you have questions, please contact NFTY-STR President Alyson Martinez (str-president@nfty.org)

Membership Vice President

1. What goals do you have as Membership VP for the 2021-2022 year?
2. Why have you chosen to run for Membership VP?
3. List what experiences make you qualified to fulfill this position.
4. How would you explain to an 8th grader why they should join NFTY?

Communications Vice President (this packet will be 3 pages)

1. What goals do you have as Communications VP for the 2021-2022 year?
2. Why have you chosen to run for Communications VP?
3. List what experiences make you qualified to be Communications VP
4. Design a sample cover for one of next year's Chai Five's. The second page of your Platform Packet should be devoted to the sample cover. All font and format restrictions are lifted for the second page. Do not reprint the fourth prompt.
5. Design a sample T-shirt that would be sold in the Shuk. *This will be the third page of your Platform Packet.

Religious and Cultural Vice President

1. What goals do you have as Religious and Cultural VP for the 2021-2022 year?
2. Why have you chosen to run for Religious and Cultural VP?
3. List what experiences make you qualified to be Religious and Cultural VP?
4. Write a D'var Torah for your favorite Torah portion.

Social Action Vice President

1. What goals do you have as Social Action VP for the 2021-2022 year?
2. Why have you chosen to run for Social Action VP?
3. List what experiences make you qualified to be Social Action VP.
4. What is your experience with Camp Jenny?
5. Name one Social Action initiative you would like to bring to NFTY and explain how you would implement it.

Programming Vice President

1. What goals do you have as Programming VP for the 2021-2022 year?
2. Why have you chosen to run for Programming VP?
3. List what experiences make you qualified to be Programming VP.

4. Come up with a hypothetical theme and program idea for a regional event.

President

1. What goals do you have as President for the 2021-2022 year?
2. Why have you chosen to run for President?
3. List what experiences make you qualified to be President.
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?
5. Choose any quote (it can be one you made up) and explain how it represents your personality.

AGAIN...

Submit the following completed documents to the wufoo form by 11:59 on Sunday, February 21st, 2021.

- Photo
- Platform Packet
- Meet the Candidates Sheet
 - NFTY-STR Stance on Campaigning and Bullying Contract

The following must be received by email by 11:59 PM on Sunday, February 28th, 2021.

- Video Speech

NFTY-STR Stance on Campaigning and Bullying

- 1). Campaigning will in no way, shape, or form be allowed. Any evidence of campaigning, either by the candidate or supporters, can result in dismissal from candidacy.
- 2). Candidates do not have to be present at elections. In this situation, the NFTY STR President will make arrangements as needed.
- 3). No nominations will be accepted from the floor.
- 4). The NFTY-STR President and the NFTY South Area Manager are the final arbiters of all issues relating to elections.

By my signature below, I pledge not to engage in any behavior that could be construed as campaigning and/or bullying, and to conduct myself in a way that that reflect the spirit of NFTY; inclusivity, respect, and a *kehilla kedosha* (sacred community).

I acknowledge that behavior deemed to be campaigning and/or bullying will result in my being removed from the elections process, and may necessitate undergoing a *Teshuvah* process to remain a member in good standing of NFTY and NFTY-STR.

Signature of Candidate: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____