



NFTY SOUTHERN AREA REGION
REGIONAL BOARD CANDIDATE PACKET
FOR ELECTION TO BE HELD AT NFTY-SAR WINTER REGIONAL AND
REGIONAL BOARD ELECTIONS, January 15-18th, 2016

This application packet includes the following:

1. Letter to Parents and Candidates
2. Candidate Information Form
3. Candidate/ Parent Certification
4. Rabbinic and TYG Advisor Certification
5. Current Regional Board Contact List
6. NFTY *Brit Kehillah*

The application procedure is as follows:

1. Upon receipt of this packet, candidates should read the enclosed selections from the NFTY SAR Constitution in the letter below detailing the responsibilities of the position in which they are interested.
2. Candidates should arrange meetings with their Rabbis and Temple Youth Group Advisor in order to discuss their candidacy for Regional Board. If you do not belong to a congregation or do not have a TYG Advisor, please contact NFTY SAR Interim Regional Advisor, Anna Roberto.
3. Candidates must also have a conversation with the person who is currently holding the position they intend to run for. **This conversation is mandatory** and will serve to inform the potential candidate about what exactly the position entails. Conversations can be had in person or over phone, Skype, Google hangouts, Oovoo, etc. Text message conversations are not sufficient for fulfilling this requirement.
4. Candidates must also have a conversation with Interim Regional Advisor, Anna Roberto and current NFTY-SAR President, Zoe Light at a mutually agreed upon time before elections. The conversation with Anna and Zoe will happen with all candidates at the same time. Please be prepared to set aside time to do so. This is to ensure that the candidate knows expectations about being on regional board ahead of time, and is clear about the realities of the election process
5. Prospective candidates must declare their intention, in writing, to run to the current NFTY SAR General Board no later than January 4th, 2016 in the form of a letter of intent. The letter of intent should attempt to answer the question: Why do you want to be on Regional Board and what do you believe you bring to the board as a whole? The letter should be no more than one page. Margins, font, and spacing are at your discretion. Letters will appear in color on the website, and copies will be made in black and white.
6. Each candidate will have time to give a speech during the weekend. Speeches may not exceed 4 minutes with the exception of presidential candidates who will be granted 5 minutes.
7. Candidates will also have the opportunity to participate in meet the candidates sessions at the event, prior to elections. More details will be disclosed to candidates in the weeks leading up to Winter Regional.

Completed Letters of Intent and Certification Forms are due no later than **January 4th, 2016**. They must be *received* by the NFTY SAR regional advisor by this date – not postmarked. *No elections materials will be accepted after this date.*

Materials should be scanned and emailed to nftysar@urj.org or mailed to:

Anna Roberto - NFTY SAR Elections
1205 Village Run
Brookhaven, GA 30319

Questions regarding elections procedures should be directed to:

Zoe Light, 2015-2016 NFTY SAR President, or Anna Roberto, NFTY SAR Interim Regional Advisor

Dear Candidates and Families,

As the 2015 year draws to a close, it is time to start considering leadership and opportunities for coming school year. We have had a fantastic year thus far filled with creative programs, spirited discussions, and great memories.

At **Winter Regional and Regional Board Elections – January 15th-18th, 2016 at Camp Thunderbird**, we will hold elections for the 2015-2016 NFTY-SAR Regional Board.

You are receiving this letter to describe the benefits and responsibilities of a position on the NFTY Southern Area Regional Board. Each board member plays a very important role in the operation and future of our region and I want to take the time to explain the full nature of this position.

Tasked with creating and running programs, as well as publicity and marketing, helping TYG's with event planning, and overseeing each of their respective networks, the NFTY-SAR Regional Board will continue to be comprised of 6 positions: President, Programming VP, Social Action VP, Religious and Cultural VP, Membership VP and Communications VP. **All Regional Board positions will be held by one person.**

Below is a description of the executive board positions, as defined in the NFTY-SAR constitution, and the responsibilities of each. If you have any questions about the role each position plays or want further description, please do not hesitate to ask the current Regional Board member holding that position:

*** Please note: The NFTY-SAR constitution has not been updated since 2004 to more accurately reflect the operations of NFTY-SAR. Some of the below descriptions have been modified to better describe the current responsibilities of each board member.

It shall be the duty of the President to:

1. Call and preside over all NFTY-SAR Executive Board and General Assembly meetings.
2. Guide the NFTY-SAR Executive and General Assembly in the proper execution of their aims and purposes.
3. Supervise the NFTY-SAR Executive Board and General Assembly, and take responsibility for all decisions made by them.
4. Consult regularly with the NFTY-SAR Regional Advisor.
5. Be directly responsible for the execution and implementation of the Constitution of this organization and any adjunctive rules.
6. Serve on the board of NFTY and any other National or Regional committee or board deemed necessary or appropriate.
7. Oversee the planning and preparation of the NFTY-SAR Liz Leadership Training Institute.
8. Attend all NFTY-SAR Regional events.
9. Maintain the President's Network.
10. Serve as a role model for all members of NFTY on a local, regional, national, and international level, and to appropriately represent NFTY-SAR to others.
11. Take on any additional duties, which may be necessary to fulfill any of the above responsibilities.

It shall be the duty of the Programming Vice-President to:

1. Take the place of the President when so required.
2. Serve on the NFTY Board as a liaison between NFTY and NFTY-SAR.
3. Implement the NFTY Tikkun Olam Award program in NFTY-SAR.
4. Educate all members of NFTY-SAR on the range of programs NFTY has to offer, and be a resource for materials and information on those programs.
5. Oversee the planning and implementation of NFTY-SAR Winter Regional.
6. Serve as a resource for TYG and Regional Programming.

7. Assist the NFTY-SAR office in compiling and maintaining a Program Bank.
8. Maintain the Programming Vice-President's Network.
9. Serve as a role model for all members of NFTY on a local, regional, national, and international level, and to appropriately represent NFTY-SAR to others.
10. Take on any additional duties, which may be necessary to fulfill any of the above responsibilities

It shall be the duty of the Social Action Vice-President to:

1. Serve on the NFTY Board, and as a liaison between NFTY and NFTY-SAR.
2. Keep all members of NFTY-SAR informed on various Social Action issues and the NFTY Social Action Initiatives.
3. Oversee the planning and implementation of Camp Jenny in conjunction with the Social Action Vice-President of NFTY-STR and the Regional Advisors of NFTY SAR and STR.
4. Implement a Social Action Project at Winter Regional, in some way giving back to the community.
5. Maintain the Social Action Network.
6. Serve as a role model for all members of NFTY on a local, regional, national, and international level, and to appropriately represent NFTY-SAR to others.
7. Take on any additional duties, which may be necessary to fulfill any of the above responsibilities.

It shall be the duty of the Religious and Cultural Vice-President to:

1. Serve on the NFTY Board, and as a liaison between NFTY and NFTY-SAR.
2. Keep all members of NFTY-SAR informed on various Religious and Cultural issues and the NFTY Study Theme.
3. Oversee the planning and implementation of all worship services at NFTY-SAR Regional Events.
4. Serve as a resource for worship services and cultural activities for TYG, and regional events.
5. Maintain the Religious and Cultural Vice-President's Network.
6. Oversee the NFTY-SAR Regional Songleading Network and Head Songleaders.
7. Serve as a role model for all members of NFTY on a local, regional, national, and international level, and to appropriately represent NFTY-SAR to others.
8. Take on any additional duties, which may be necessary to fulfill any of the above responsibilities.

It shall be the duty of the Communications Vice-President to:

1. Take minutes at all NFTY-SAR Executive Board and General Assembly Meetings, and publish them in a timely fashion.
2. Oversee communication between NFTY-SAR and the TYGs.
3. Maintain the Communications Network.
4. Serve as a role model and resource for all members of NFTY on a local, regional, national, and international level, and to appropriately represent NFTY-SAR to others.
5. Take on any additional duties, which may be necessary to fulfill any of the above responsibilities.

It shall be the duty of the Membership Vice-President to:

1. Create or assist in the creation of membership programs and/or mixers at regional events.
2. Maintain the Membership Network.
3. Serve as a role model and resource for all members of NFTY on a local, regional, national, and international level, and to appropriately represent NFTY-SAR to others.
4. Take on any additional duties, which may be necessary to fulfill any of the above responsibilities.

I hope that you have discussed this decision as a family. Making the decision to run for regional office is easy for some and requires a great deal of consideration for others. ***Regional Board is not for everyone.*** It asks for a great deal of time management, prioritization and sacrifices. Some students find it difficult to keep up with sports, theater and other extracurricular activities while serving in a regional position. It is very important to me, and the region, that you fully understand the scope of responsibilities before you run for office. I hope that serving on regional board will offer a

great opportunity to learn time management skills as you balance homework, NFTY and typical teenage activities. Family and school must always be your first priorities. By running for the NFTY-SAR Regional Board, you are making a commitment that NFTY will be your primary extra-curricular. Failure to attend events, participate in board meetings, and/or an overall neglect of your responsibilities may be grounds for impeachment. The time and financial commitments are outlined below. The candidacy process also requires that each candidate meet with both their Rabbi and Temple Youth Group Advisor. These mentors can help you understand everything that is required of you as a Regional Board member and help you decide if this position is right for you. If you do not belong to a congregation, or do not have a youth group advisor, please be in touch with me. And, as always, please feel free to contact me with any questions along the way.

Now I don't want to scare you...Regional Board can and should be a very rewarding and educational experience! Regional Board alumni walk away with a broad array of skills and have the opportunity to enjoy major successes and accomplishments throughout the year as they lead their region to do great things. Regional Board alumni have gone on to hold leadership positions in college and are successful in a variety of professional fields – you will be part of a network of leaders and professionals that support each other beyond high school. This is a wonderful opportunity to enhance leadership, time management, and communication skills as well as experience NFTY at a whole new level. I commend everyone who is taking the challenge and running for a Regional Board position!

Throughout the year, Regional Board members will be expected to participate in the following:

- All 4 regional events for high schoolers, occasionally arriving one day early
- Hatikvah Kallah, our middle school event, possibly arriving one day early.
- Board conference calls each week (with some flexibility)
- Regional Board Retreat – Summer/ Early Fall 2016 and December 2016 (Date TBD as a board)
- Mechina (North American Regional Board Meeting) at Kutz Camp in Warwick, NY (Mid June 2016)
- NFTY Convention 2017 – President's Day Weekend – Location TBD

There are some financial responsibilities included in this position also:

- As part of Regional Board, **you are expected to attend every regional event.** This includes the following: *Liz Leadership Training Institute (LLTI), Fall Kallah, Winter Regional, Hatikvah Kallah, and Spring Kallah.*
- Each Regional Board member is expected to register on time and submit all forms for all events. **Regional Board members are eligible for scholarship to each NFTY SAR event, provided they register on time and meet all deadlines along the way.** Missed deadlines for programs or late applications will mean paying full price for an event!
- As a Regional Board member, you are also required to attend **Mechina** (The North American Leadership Institute) which is held at Kutz Camp in Warwick, NY. The second North American board meeting (which you will be strongly encouraged – but not required – to attend) will be held over President's Day weekend. NFTY SAR will do its very best to help subsidize the cost of these events.
- At some time throughout the year, Regional Board members may be asked to pay for supplies or other expenses and then be reimbursed for that money. These purchases must be pre-approved in writing and the receipt must be saved.

In running for NFTY SAR's Regional Board, you are publicly declaring that you satisfy the functional qualifications of your position. However, you are also accepting the responsibilities that come with being a role model selected by your peers. This is a challenging commitment, requiring adherence to the NFTY *Brit Keballah* (Code of Conduct – a copy of which can be found in this packet) at all times during, and sometimes even outside of, events. This document's purpose is to uphold the *K'hilah Kadosha* (Holy Community) that we are committed to in NFTY and you, as a Regional Board member, are responsible for maintaining this environment of holiness and *Kavod* (respect). We are taught in the Babylonian Talmud that **“It is not the position that honors the person, but rather the person that honors the position” (Taanit 21b).** In light of this statement, I ask that you be prepared to act in a way brings honor and respect to your position on Regional Board throughout the year, and realize that your actions, even outside of events, are subject to the *Brit Keballah*. Please understand that if a board member fails to fulfill these responsibilities, they will face

consequences, which may include suspension and/or removal from office. While we can discuss the practical implications of your conduct outside of NFTY-related activities, please understand that, at the very least, engaging in any illegal activity during your term in office is a violation of this *Brit Kehillah*.

I again want to congratulate you for considering running for a position on board. It is your passion and commitment that will take our region to new levels. Thank you for your dedication up until this point and I am excited to continue working with you. If you or your parents have any questions regarding positions on the regional board, please feel free to email me at nftysar@urj.org. I look forward to working with you in the coming year!

Good Luck!

Anna Roberto

NFTY SAR Interim Regional Advisor



NFTY SOUTHERN AREA REGION

2016-2017 REGIONAL BOARD CANDIDATE INFORMATION FORM

Name _____

Candidate for _____

Drop Down (optional) _____

Each candidate may declare candidacy for one position and one drop down. In the case of a candidate who does not win the position for which they have declared their candidacy, if they have declared a drop down, the candidate will become a candidate for their declared drop down position and will deliver a 3 minute speech during Asefah. A candidate must declare their drop down (if desired) at the time they submit their election paperwork and letter of intent. No drop downs may be declared during elections. Drop down position must be in gavel order (a candidate can not drop down from Membership Vice President to President).

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Cell Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Birthday _____ Grade _____

High School _____

Name Parent #1 _____

Phone Parent #1 _____ Email Parent #1 _____

Name Parent #2 _____

Phone Parent #2 _____ Email Parent #2 _____

Congregation _____ TYG _____

Rabbi _____

TYG Advisor _____

Office Use Only:
___ Information Form
___ Parent Certification
___ Advisor Certification
___ Letter of Intent
___ Board Contact



NFTY SOUTHERN AREA REGION

2015-2016 REGIONAL BOARD
CANDIDATE and PARENTAL CERTIFICATION

I, _____, am a member in good standing of the following Temple Youth Group (TYG):
_____ of NFTY's Southern Area Region. My signature indicates that I understand that serving on NFTY SAR Regional Board is an extremely exciting, rewarding and educational experience. If elected, I will accept the full scope of responsibilities expected of me as a leader of the Region as outlined in the "Letter to Candidates and Their Parents." Furthermore, if I am elected, this form will serve as a contract between the region and me that I will uphold my obligations as a regional board member.

Signature of Candidate

Date

PARENTAL CERTIFICATION

I understand that a position on the Regional Board of the NFTY Southern Area Region will demand a significant commitment of time and energy from my child's extra-curricular activities and dominate a great deal of his/her time. I also understand that my teen will be expected to uphold the *Brit Kebilla* during, and sometimes outside of, regional events. I understand that my approval is necessary for my child's name to be placed on the ballot. By signing I indicate that I have read the letter to candidates and parents, support and approve my child's candidacy and am prepared to support his or her commitment to NFTY SAR Regional Board.

Signature of Candidate's Parent

Date

Return by January 4th, 2016 to:
Anna Roberto / NFTY SAR Elections / 1205 Village Run / Brookhaven, GA 30319 / nftysar@urj.org



**NFTY SOUTHERN AREA REGION
REGIONAL BOARD 2015 - 2016**

President: ZOE LIGHT

678-662-1991 / sar-president@nfty.org

Programming VP: ELYSSA GOLDMAN

404-784-6013 / sar-pvp@nfty.org

Social Action VP: MICAH FEINSTEIN

410-294-4172 / sar-savp@nfty.org

Religious & Cultural VP: LANI CHAVIN

843-302-6330 / sar-rcvp@nfty.org

Communications VP: LIZZY NEWMAN

770-876-4363 / sar-cvp@nfty.org

Membership VP: DAVID CZARLINSKY

704-621-3268 / sar-mvp@nfty.org

Interim Regional Advisor

Anna Roberto

1205 Village Run

Brookhaven, GA 30319

nftysar@urj.org



NFTY's *B'rit K'hilah* — Code of Conduct

ברית קהילה

NFTY is a movement that builds strong, welcoming, inspired communities through teen-powered engagement. This b'rit serves to ensure that we are able to focus on enacting our shared mission. We will promote the creation of a religious youth community based on mutual respect and a sense of personal responsibility. We will treat others with kavod (honor and respect) in order to facilitate the feeling of shalom bayit (peace in the home) and create a sense of NFTY's welcoming community.

Our NFTY community feels incomplete without all our members fully present,

I will attend and participate fully in the entire event, unless otherwise agreed upon with the NFTY Regional staff member.
I will arrive on time, stay until the end, and remain on the event premises at all times.

To maintain shalom bayit within our living space,

I will abide by the event curfew announced by the leadership. At the time of the announced curfew, I will go directly to my cabin, hotel room, or host home and remain there until the next session.

As a means of respect and for the well-being of the community and myself,

I agree to refrain from inappropriate sexual behavior.

As NFTY is a safe and inclusive space for all participants,

I will not participate in any activities before, during or after events that could be deemed as hazing, sexually harassing, demeaning, hurtful, or bullying. This includes in-person interactions during regional events, interactions over cell phone and email, and actions in online spaces including Facebook groups, twitter, Instagram, and other forms of social media between events. I also agree not to photograph or make video recordings of anyone without their express permission. If I post or distribute any pictures/media, they will represent NFTY, the staff, and other participants in a positive and wholesome manner. Anything I post will represent the Jewish values the NFTY community teaches and upholds.

In order to ensure the well-being of myself and my peers,

I understand that no guests are allowed at any event, unless the adult leadership grants permission in advance, and that any unauthorized guests will be asked to leave immediately.

Because overnight events can cause a lack of sleep and create dangerous driving conditions,

I will not drive to, during, or from events, unless advance permission for a special situation is requested in writing by my parent/guardian and granted in writing by the NFTY Regional staff member. This includes driving to/from my home to meet NFTY's designated transportation.

To promote a healthy and safe NFTY environment,

I will not possess, consume, or distribute alcoholic beverages, other than that served by adult leadership for Jewish sacramental purposes, even if I am of legal drinking age.
I will not smoke, consume, or distribute tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, at any time during the event.
I will not possess, use, or distribute any illegal drug or drug paraphernalia, including marijuana regardless of the legality in the hosting state.
I will not commit any illegal act. I understand that vandalism, disturbing the peace, or other inappropriate behavior as determined by the adult leadership in accordance with the youth leadership will not be tolerated. I understand that I will have to pay for any damage that I cause. I understand that no gambling is allowed, except for fundraisers approved by the adult leadership.

As NFTY is a community that I want to keep safe and free of violence,

I will not bring or use any weapons, firearms, or anything that may be construed as a weapon.

As NFTY is a community of teens that respect and appreciate the adult leadership and each other,

I agree to abide by any additional rules, pertinent to a specific Event, which may be announced, and to accept the consequences of their violation.

I understand that elements of this brit apply from the time I leave home for the event, during the event itself, and until I return home after the event. Some elements include behaviors and expectations between events.

My signature, and the signature of my parent or guardian, on the attached Health and Safety Form for Union for Reform Judaism Youth Programs, affirms my agreement to the rules and policies of NFTY and this B'rit K'hilah.