

NOAH (BEAN) DEYOUNG

RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL VICE PRESIDENT
5780-5781

I'M RUNNING BECAUSE:

Ever since I went to my first Haktikvah Kallah in 7th grade, NFTY SAR has provided me with both a home and a family. This community has gifted me with some of the best memories and experiences that I couldn't have anywhere else, and has allowed me to grow both as a person, and as a Jew. For me, being on Regional Board allows me to have the opportunity to create this sense of community for those coming after me, and help them realize the magic of this region. I'm running for RCVP because I always feel the most connected to both my Judaism and this community when I'm in services. The combination of the whole region all together and joyful music never fails to give me a feeling of warmth and belonging, and I want to make sure others are able to have this same feeling.

QUALIFICATIONS

GREFTY 678 Chair: 2016-2017

GREFTY RCVP: 2017-2018

GREFTY President: 2018-2020

Groupleader at several Kallot

Member of school's International Relations Club

Rock Stars Mentor

Lover of all things NFTY SAR!

ENGAGING SARITES IN SERVICES WHILE MAINTAINING TRADITION

The first key way to engage SARites in services is by getting more members involved in the planning process. One way I want to accomplish this is by working with the head songleader(s) to create a new committee that will focus on writing new tunes for prayers. This committee will feature a collaboration of SAR musicians that will work to give the region a chance to express themselves musically, while also keeping a respectful tone. In terms of getting members involved during the service, I hope to implement SARite insight throughout the service. This will involve asking the community questions relating to the message of the service, allowing for more voices of SAR to be heard. I also want to continue the legacy of those before me by continuing to diversify the worship experience while keeping the core meaning of the prayers. This will include expression through a variety of mediums including art and social action work.

STRENGTHENING THE REGION OUTSIDE OF EVENTS:

Establishing a Strong Network:

- I plan to host monthly check-in calls with the RCVP network to answer any questions or concerns about planning services or Israel based programs. These calls will allow for RCVPs to give and receive advice based on their ideas from the rest of the network.
- I will also create and maintain a SARvice Bank that will feature both old and contemporary services made by SAR members in order to provide inspiration and a detailed outline for RCVPs.
- In order to encourage TYGs to plan and lead services, I plan to create an incentive program for services. This means that TYGs can gain rewards based on the number of services they hold in a year .



Monthly D'var Torah and Israel Newsletters

- During my term, I plan to send out a monthly D'var Torah to the region via an emailed newsletter. These Divrei Torah will be based on a Torah portion from that month, and will be written by SARites who volunteer through a sign up process. This will allow for the region to continue to think about Jewish values outside of regional events.
- I will also work with the Israel Chair to include an "Israel at a Glance" section, which will include both cultural and political updates on the country. This will allow for SARites to remain updated on what's happening in Israel outside of kallot.

WORKING WITH THE REST OF REGIONAL BOARD:

- Provide a small TYG perspective to decisions
- Be open to all ideas
- Accept and give constructive criticism
- Support my fellow board members with positivity
- Working with other positions to accomplish joint ideas and goals
- Make really good puns





Three Things I Look for in a Successful Service:

When planning a service, one of the biggest aspects I look for is connecting the traditional values of a service to the issues facing Jewish teens today. In my opinion, one of the primary goals of a service should be to establish a firmer bond between the participant and their Judaism, and relating the text to these issues accomplishes that. I also look for participant engagement. I fully believe that unless everybody is actively interested in the service, then the message of the service goes unreceived. Finally, I look for cohesiveness. While this could just refer to how smoothly the service runs, it also includes the consistency of the message. If the meaning of the service frequently changes, then it becomes extremely easy to miss the big picture.

Implementing Jewish and Israeli values into Kallot:

For the Jewish people, Israel has become a huge part of our identity. This is why I would like to include much more Israel focused programs that dive deep into the nuances of the country. This includes looking at the nation's social and political issues, while also getting a better overall understanding of the country. In addition, I would like to create programs that take a look at what exactly makes Israel our homeland, and how it relates to the NFTY movement. Another way I hope to include Jewish values throughout Kallot is by creating more Torah focused programming. This will not only include relating more programs to lessons taught to us in the Torah, but by also writing programs that focus on connecting stories from the Torah to the Reform Movement. This will allow for the Torah to become much more accessible for SARites.

If I Could Change One Thing About NFTY SAR...

If I could change one thing about this region, I would change how we prepare the RCVP network for planning services. For many first time RCs, especially those from small TYGs, planning services can be a daunting task. My goal is to make this process as stress free as possible. While the NFTY website already has service outlines on their website, I think it would be valuable to have a SAR service bank, a place where RCVPs can look at already created services, both traditional and non-traditional, to use for inspiration. I also would like to implement monthly network calls to make sure no RCVP feels unsure of what they're doing. I believe that the more confident the RCVP network becomes in their service planning, the better the services will be.

