



Elections Packet

5780–5781

2020-2021

**For Candidates Running for
NFTY-GER Regional Board**

Candidate Checklist:

- ❖ Candidate Information Form
- ❖ Candidate Contract, Candidate's
- ❖ Signature, Parent/Guardian Certification
- ❖ Rabbinic Certification
- ❖ Regional Board Certification
- ❖ Regional President Certification
- ❖ Regional Director Certification
- ❖ Brit K'hilah – NFTY Code of Conduct
- ❖ Letter of Intent
- ❖ 75 Word Bio
- ❖ Digital photo of yourself

The deadline for all above items is

February 12, 2020

All items must be EMAILED in the same email by this date for your candidacy to be accepted.

Dear NFTY-GER Regional Board Candidate and Families,

This letter is designed to describe the benefits and responsibilities of a position on the NFTY Garden Empire Region 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. Please read this packet in its entirety before making the commitment to run for regional office.

Serving on Regional Board is a very rewarding and educational experience! Regional Board alumni walk away with a broad array of skills and enjoy major accomplishments throughout the year as they lead their region to do great things. As the NFTY-GER Senior Regional Director, I will be working closely with the Board to provide support and guidance, and help the officers work together as a team. It is a wonderful opportunity to enhance leadership, time management, and communication skills as well as experiencing NFTY at a completely different level. I commend everyone who is taking the challenge to run for a Regional Board position!

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 demands a great deal of time, prioritization, and sacrifices. Some students find it difficult to keep up with sports, theatre, or other extracurricular activities while serving in a regional position and, in fact, most will give up at least one of their commitments. It is very important to me, and the region, that you fully understand the scope of responsibilities before you run for office. It is understood that family and school are always your first priorities. By running for the Garden Empire Regional Board, you are making a commitment that NFTY will be your primary extra-curricular activity (above all other activities). Failure to attend events, participate in Board meetings, and/or neglecting your responsibilities may be grounds for impeachment. If there is a conflict or an issue arises, I expect Board members to discuss them with me as soon as possible so we can work through them together.

Regional Board members commit to participate in the following:

- All regional events, occasionally arriving early to day-long events
- One day-long Regional Board meeting every month and a few shorter video conference calls in between, especially if serving as an Event Coordinator
- Time outside of Board meetings working on programming, recruitment, and event preparation with regional clergy and youth professionals
- Old Board New Board Weekend, Location TBD **(May 1-3, 2020)**
- Executive Board Weekend Location TBD **(August 28-30, 2020)**
- Mechina at Newman by the Bay, Vallejo, CA – **(June 4-7, 2020)**
- NFTY Convention, Bruceville, TX **(February 11-15, 2021 – Not mandatory)**

There are some commitments NFTY will demand of your family, as well. I will ask that one or both of your parents attend an online discussion regarding the commitment you are making by running for Regional Board. There will be two options for this discussion on **February 2nd at 12pm or February 4th at 8pm**. Once the Board has been elected, we will pick the dates and times of our monthly meetings. Board members will be expected to host one of these meetings in their home or at their temple. The final calendar for the 2020-2021 school year will be ready in February. We will ask each Board member and parent sign a copy of the calendar acknowledging the commitment to be physically present at these meeting and events.

Along with these commitments, there are financial responsibilities of being part of Regional Board. Some of these included in the position include:

- As part of Regional Board, **you are expected to attend every regional event**. Board members are also responsible for outreach and recruitment, and will require that you attend temple youth group events in your designated area.
- Each Board member is expected to register on time. **Regional Board members are eligible for a 20% discount to every overnight NFTY-GER event, provided they register during the Early Bird registration period and meet all deadlines along the way**. Missed deadlines for programs or late registration will mean paying full price for an event!
- As a Regional Board member, you are required to attend **Mechina** (The North American Leadership Institute) which is held at Newman by the Bay in Vallejo, CA. The second North American Board meeting (which you will be strongly encouraged – but not required – to attend) will be held during NFTY Convention in February. NFTY-GER does its best to help subsidize these events, but there are program costs for the Board members to attend.
- You will be traveling quite a bit for Regional Board meetings and, depending on your position, congregational visits.
- Regional Board members may be asked to pay for supplies or other expenses up front and get reimbursed later. These purchases must be pre-approved in writing and the receipt must be saved. I will provide reimbursement request forms and I will do my best to return them within two to three weeks of their submission.

There are many steps to complete before you run for Regional Board. The candidacy process requires that each candidate meet with your clergy and TYG advisor. These mentors will discuss what is required of you as a Regional Board member and help you decide if this position is right for you. They will need to support your candidacy and you will need to submit a document which they sign off on your candidacy. Contacting the current regional president and officer currently holding the position for which you'd like to run is another part of the process. Completion of every part of the process is an eligibility requirement for becoming a candidate.

In running for NFTY-GER's Regional Board, you are publicly declaring that you satisfy the functional qualifications of your position. You are accepting the responsibilities that come with being a role model selected by your peers. This commitment can be challenging for some, requiring adherence to the NFTY Brit Kehillah (Code of Conduct) at all times during, and outside of, events. The purpose of the Brit Kehillah is to uphold the Kehillah Kedosha (Holy Community)

that NFTY is committed to and you, as a Regional Board member, are responsible for maintaining an 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)**. Considering this statement, I ask that you be prepared to act in a way that brings honor and respect to your position on Regional Board throughout the year. Realize that your actions, even outside of events and on social media, are subject to the Brit Kehillah. If a Board member is found in violation of the Brit Kehillah, they will face consequences which may include suspension 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 contract.

I 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 getting to know you. Remember, if you love NFTY enough to run for Regional Board, you love NFTY enough to stay active if you are not elected. If you or your parents have any questions regarding positions on the Regional Board, please feel free to call me at 212-452-6576 or email me at nftyger@uri.org.

B’Hatzlacha!

Barak Malkin

Senior Regional Director of NFTY-GER and Urban Mitzvah Corps

Dear NFTYite:

Thank you for your interest in running for the 2020-2021 NFTY-GER Regional Board. When deciding to run for the NFTY-GER Regional Board, it is important that you fully understand all the duties and obligations associated with the eight Regional Board positions and the elections process. Being a part of Regional Board requires a large amount of time, dedication, flexibility, and commitment. Please read through this packet of information with your parent/guardian, your clergy, and your TYG (Temple Youth Group) Advisor. We require you that you speak with the current member of the Regional Board for the position you seek, including any potential drop-downs, and that you and your parents speak with the NFTY-GER Senior Regional Director. These conversations **must happen** between now and when applications are due. We also encourage you to reach out to the rest of the Board and the NFTY-GER Senior Regional Director to help answer any questions you or your parent/guardian might have.

This packet includes:

- General expectations of NFTY-GER Board Members
- 2020 NFTY-GER Board Elections Procedures
- NFTY-GER Election Guidelines
- Information from the NFTY-GER Constitution pertaining to the election process and job descriptions
- NFTY's Brit Kehillah—Code of Conduct
- 2019-2020 Regional Board Contact Information
- Rabbinic Certification
- Parent/Guardian Certification
- Regional Board Counterpart Certification
- Regional Board President Certification
- Regional Director Certification
- Candidate Contract

In order to officially run for NFTY-GER Regional Board, you will need to submit these forms, in one complete email, **no later than February 12** to nftyger@urj.org.

- (1) Candidate Information Form
- (2) Candidate Contract, Candidate's Signature, Parental Certification
- (3) Rabbinic Certification
- (4) TYG Advisor Certification
- (5) Regional Board Certification
- (6) Regional President Certification
- (7) Brit Kehillah – NFTY Code of Conduct
- (8) Letter of Intent
 - (a) Letters should be one page double sided for Presidential candidates
 - (b) Letters should be one page single sided for the 7 Vice Presidential candidates.
- (9) Brief Bio
- (10) Digital photo of yourself

All candidates must have declared their candidacy by this time, and no elections materials will be accepted after this date. It is required that you, your parent/guardian, your congregational rabbi, and your TYG Advisor sign these forms, which will be in effect throughout your term, if elected. Your signature on the contract states that you understand the level of integrity expected with the role of being a Regional Officer and that you are willing to meet these expectations. The week following your submission date, you will be sent an e-mail confirmation that your Candidacy Packet was received and is complete as well as a packet with guidelines for candidates, including more election information regarding speeches and the Meet the Candidates session, and the list of candidates.

Again, thank you so much for your interest in helping ensure the future of NFTY-GER. Please feel free to be in touch with questions or concerns you may have about running for Regional Board.

L'shalom,
Caroline McKinnon
NFTY-GER President 5779-5780
ger-president@nfty.org
(201)-258-9896

Barak Malkin
Senior Regional Director,
NFTY-GER and Urban Mitzvah Corps
nftyger@urj.org
(212) 452-6576

General Expectations of NFTY Regional Board Members

**“It is not the position that honors the person,
but rather the person that honors the position” -Taanit 21b**

Being elected to NFTY-GER Regional Board is an incredible opportunity. If elected, you will have a powerful influence on the lives of hundreds of Reform Jewish teenagers. As a leader of NFTY-GER, you will set the examples for fellow NFTYites through your involvement as well as your conduct. Not only do you represent the teens of our region, but you also represent over 40 TYG's across NFTY-GER, including the one from which you began your journey of leadership in NFTY. It is also important to remember that each of the Board Members is responsible not only for his or her particular job description, but also must strive to work as a team throughout their term. It is impossible to accomplish anything alone.

The following are the general expectations for all NFTY Board Members:

Role Model – Recognize that the members of NFTY look to you to set an example. Be aware of your behavior and attitude at all times, even when you are not actively leading. Lead by example, even more so when it comes to issues outlined in the NFTY Brit Kehillah.

Approachability – Board Members need to be approachable at all times. NFTYites should know how to reach you. At regional events, it is easy to spend your “down” time with participants from your home TYG or other members of the Regional Board, but it is important to remember that you now represent all of NFTY-GER, and everyone should have access to you. There are always new people to meet and to get to know.

Attendance – As a role model, you should be attending all NFTY-GER events and NFTY North American events (when applicable). School will always be your first priority, but you should know up front about the travel requirements. By running for Regional Board, you are making a commitment that NFTY-GER will be your primary extra-curricular activity.

Inclusivity - All board members are expected to treat all participants equally and with respect. They also commit to speaking positively about NFTY programs, URJ youth programs, and local youth group programs. Board members will also build relationships with synagogues in the region to support recruitment efforts for NFTY-GER and URJ youth programs.

Events for all Board Members

| Event | Dates | Where |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| New Board/Old Board | May 1-3, 2020 | Location TBD |
| NFTY Mechina | June 4-7, 2020 | Newman by the Bay, Vallejo, CA |
| Executive Board Weekend | August 28-30 | Location TBD |
| Subregional Events | Dates TBD in Early Sept, 2020 | Locations TBD |
| Fall Kallah | October 23-25, 2020 | Location TBD |
| L.E.A.D. (Leadership Event) | November 14, 2020 | Location TBD |
| Taste of NFTY Kallah | December 4-6, 2020 | URJ Camp Harlam, Kunkletown, PA |
| Winter Kallah | January 22-24, 2021 | URJ Camp Harlam, Kunkletown, PA |
| NFTY Convention | February 11-15, 2021 (Not Required) | Greene Family Camp, Bruceville, TX |
| TBD Day Event | Late February TBD | Location TBD |
| NFTY-GER Elections | March 14 | Location TBD |
| Spring Kallah | April 16-18 | URJ Camp Harlam Kunkletown, PA |

This is a tentative calendar. A final calendar will be sent out before the end of the year

If elected, you are also committed to attend our monthly Board Meetings. These take place the Sunday one or two weeks prior to each month's event. Locations for meetings are determined after the Board is elected.

NFTY Regional Board Election Procedures

Campaigning

- As per the NFTY Constitution, there is no campaigning allowed.

Getting to Know the Candidates

- Each candidate will have a short bio (75 words or less) and photo on the NFTY-GER website.
- NFTY-GER Members will have the opportunity to learn more about the candidates in a Meet the Candidates forum. The design of this forum will be available for candidates' information two weeks prior to elections.
- Each candidate is allowed to create a position paper that can be distributed during the "Meet the Candidates" session. This can be no longer than one page, single-sided.

Speeches

- Should speeches be delivered at Elections, all candidates running for the same position will be asked to wait in a different room (The Holding Tank) during the speeches of the other candidates.
- Candidates will be called in one at a time to deliver their speech.
 - Speeches are delivered in gavel order starting with the President and are given in reverse alphabetical order by the candidate's last name
- The Vice-Presidential candidates' speeches may be no longer than **2.5 minutes**. The Presidential candidates' speeches may be no longer than **4 minutes**.
- Once all of the speeches have been delivered for a specific position, the candidates will be asked to join the rest of the participants before we move on to the next position (if applicable).
- There will be no applause during and/or after speeches – only silent cheers. Please help us create a fair elections environment by sharing this request with your friends and TYGs.

Elections

- Elections will proceed in gavel order.
- All candidates running for the same position will be asked to vote (if they are delegates) after the speeches have been delivered. A ballot will be brought to them.
- Delegates will mark their votes on an official ballot, fold it, and hand it in to the staff member assigned to collecting the ballots. The official ballot will include an option for each candidate and an abstention option. The NFTY-GER Constitution requires a simple majority to elect. Please familiarize yourself with election procedures outlined in the NFTY-GER Constitution and the outcomes of each option. The NFTY-GER Constitution can be found on the NFTY-GER website under Resources.
- Ballots will be counted by the current NFTY-GER President and the NFTY-GER Senior Regional Director.
- The candidates will be informed of the outcome before it is announced to the General Board.

NFTY-GER REGIONAL BOARD ELECTION GUIDELINES

Each of the following guidelines is subject to the discretion of the current NFTY-GER Regional Board. We offer these guidelines to provide candidates with a clear understanding of what is and is not permissible. If you have a question about the appropriateness of any of your actions or materials – i.e., a potentially “gray area” – please consult the NFTY-GER President without delay.

Things a Candidate Cannot Do (At Risk of Disqualification)

- Distribute material to any NFTYite that discusses the voting procedure in attempt to sway/affect that person's vote. (Thus, material may educate about the candidate's platform, but may not say, for example, “vote for me,” “I am the best candidate”)
- Distribute or share inappropriate or negative material about any candidates
- Contact – including by means of telephone, e-mail, text messaging, IM, Facebook etc. – delegates or other NFTYites (including other candidates) to initiate conversation about the election and its process.
- Distribute material outside of the event during which elections are held (e.g., e-mail delegates, post material pertaining to the election on listservs, blogs, social networking sites, snail mail material, etc.)
- Distribute material that is not paper-based/written. Platform papers are allowed, but pins and other promotional material are not. The material is meant to educate, not advertise. The ONLY permissible material to be handed out is the platform paper, which may be distributed during Meet the Candidates.
- Use any Regional Networks as a forum for campaigning in any way.
- Contact delegates from other regions in an effort to block vote. You represent the constituents of your TYG. At NFTY-GER elections, all participants hear speeches, and all participants are involved with their TYG caucus. Your votes should be reflective of what your TYG wants.

Guidelines for Writing Letters of Intent

Letters of Intent for candidates for President should be no longer than two sides of one page. Letters of Intent should be no longer than one side of one page for those running for all other positions. All letters should be created in Microsoft Word, and should have 1-inch margins all around.

Your Letter of Intent should include a basic summary of what you intend to do in the upcoming year, how you intend to do it, and any other relevant information. You are submitting a condensed version of your platform. The Letters of Intent will be posted online for NFTY-GER after they are received so if there is any information you would like kept confidential until your speech, do not include it in your letter. Since your Letter of Intent will become public domain, please do not use any personal information such as personal e-mails, name of school, phone numbers, etc.

NFTY-GER 5779-5780 Regional Board Contact Information

President

Caroline McKinnon
(201) 258-9896

ger-president@nfty.org

Programming Vice President

Liam Klass
(732) 673-8810

ger-pvp@nfty.org

Social Action Vice President

Zohar Grinvald
(732) 822-1957

ger-savp@nfty.org

Religious and Cultural Vice President

Molly Gorman
(973) 632-1518

ger-rcvp@nfty.org

Membership Vice President

Matthew Goralnick
(908) 421-2826

ger-mvp@nfty.org

Recruitment Vice President

Rebecca Wycoff
(732) 615-8789

ger-rvp@nfty.org

Financial Vice President

Max Auerbach
(845) 422-5629

ger-fvp@nfty.org

Communications Vice President

Robin Falkow
(551) 804-7573

ger-cvp@nfty.org

Senior Regional Director of NFTY-GER and Urban Mitzvah Corps

Barak Malkin
(908) 642-6590

nftyger@urj.org

NFTY-GER Constitution Pertaining to Elections & Job Descriptions

Article IV

Executive Board

SECTION A: The organization shall be governed by the Executive Board, which shall consist of 10 NFTY-GER officers. The Executive Board shall be empowered to make decisions relating to the operations of NFTY-GER and to set policy for the Garden Empire Region. A quorum of officers at an Executive Board meeting shall consist of 7 of the Executive Board members.

SECTION B: The NFTY-GER Executive Board officers shall consist of a President, Programming Vice President, Social Action Vice President, Religious and Cultural Vice President, Membership Vice President, Northern Recruitment Vice President, Central Recruitment Vice President, Southern Recruitment Vice President, Financial Vice President, and Communications Vice President. Each officer shall receive one vote, except for the President, who shall only vote in the event of a tie.

SECTION C: The NFTY-GER Executive Board officers shall be elected for a term of one year, beginning at their installation which shall take place at NFTY-GER Spring Kallah.

SECTION D: The responsibilities of each Executive Board officer shall be as follows:

Subsection 1: All Executive Board officers shall:

1. Remain an active member of their respective TYG.
2. Attend all regional events and General Board meetings.
3. Serve as an active member in the creation and implementation of at least one regional event:
 - A. Supervise and/or assist in all program development.
 - B. Supervise and/or assist in all administrative responsibilities, including but not limited to registration procedures, travel and housing arrangements, and publicity.
4. Attend monthly Executive Board meetings.
5. Attend NFTY Mechina, the national leadership training institute for regional officers.
6. Attend the NFTY-GER Regional Executive Board Orientation.
7. Keep in close contact with the NFTY Board, chair people, and the regional advisor.
8. Encourage participation in NFTY programs, such as Tikkun Olam, NFTY competitions, NFTY Convention or North American Biennial Youth Track, and NFTY Summer Programs.
9. Submit resource information to the Regional Advisor to be posted on the Internet.
10. Attend all North American Board Meetings. (Four delegates)

Subsection 2: Specifically, the President shall:

1. Serve as Ex Officio of all committees.
2. Preside over all NFTY-GER General Board meetings, and monthly Executive Board meetings.
3. Oversee the planning and running of all NFTY-GER activities.
4. Serve as a member of the URJ Council Board and URJ Council Youth Committee.
5. Remain in close contact with the TYG Presidents to assist and guide them.
6. Offer constant support and guidance to Executive Board members and NFTY-GER Cabinet.
7. Remain in close contact with the NFTY-GER Regional Director.
8. Have thorough knowledge of parliamentary procedure.
9. Attend NFTY Board meetings as a voting delegate.
10. Oversee the Presidents network.

Subsection 3: Specifically, the Programming Vice President shall:

1. Reach out to all TYGs and assist in the development of strong local programming.
2. Oversee all regional programming.
3. Create and distribute information on the NFTY study themes and encourage the implementation on a local level.
4. Oversee the Program Coordinators.
5. Attend NFTY Board Meetings as a voting delegate.
6. Oversee the Programming Vice Presidents Network.

Subsection 4: Specifically, the Social Action Vice President shall:

1. Oversee Social Action programming at every event.
2. Submit an article on Social Action to the MaGERzine for every event.
3. Facilitate volunteerism and political action in the region.
4. Create and distribute information on the NFTY Action Theme and encourage their implementation on the local and regional level.
5. Oversee the creation and implementation of Social Action Programming at NFTY-GER Winter Kallah and encourage action on a local level.
6. Attend the NFTY Board Meetings as a voting delegate
7. Oversee the Social Acton Vice Presidents Network.

Subsection 5: Specifically, the Religious and Cultural Vice President shall:

1. Supervise the worship services at all NFTY-GER events and create and lead services when necessary.
2. Serve as a constant resource to all TYG Religious and Cultural Vice Presidents by keeping in close contact with them.
3. Assist in developing the Judaic content of all NFTY-GER programs and events.
4. Oversee the Song Leaders
5. Submit an article on Religion and Culture to the MaGERzine for every event.
6. Oversee the Regional Songleaders and the Technology Chair.
7. Attend the NFTY Board Meetings as a voting delegate.
8. Oversee the Religious and Cultural Vice Presidents Network.

Subsection 6: Specifically, the Membership Vice President shall:

1. Develop and maintain a New Member Packet to include information on NFTY-GER's events, traditions, and other pertinent information.
2. Establish contact with potential regional event attendees before regional events and oversee follow-up communication with all new members.
3. Identify trends in TYG membership.
4. Oversee the creation of social programming and mixers at regional events.
5. Oversee the Activities and Outreach Chair and the New Member Chair.
6. Oversee the Membership Vice Presidents Network.

Subsection 7: Specifically, the Sub-Regional Vice Presidents shall:

1. Maintain a roster of current NFTY-GER members.
2. Stay in close contact with TYGs in their respective sub-regions.
3. Serve as a liaison to TYGs with the goal of aiding them in their activities and facilitating communication between the TYGs and NFTY-GER. Liaison responsibilities include calling the officers of respective TYGs and visiting the youth groups.
4. Visit TYG's in need of membership outreach assistance.
5. Assist in NFTY 678 programming.

6. Assist in the planning of inter TYG sub-regional events and create NFTY Pop-up events in their sub-region.
7. Oversee the Sub-Regional Recruitment Chairs.
8. Organize and oversee a sub-regional project.

Subsection 8: Specifically, the Financial Vice President shall:

1. Design, order, and sell regional merchandise at regional and North American events.
2. Oversee the Finance/Fundraising/Treasure Network and serves as a resource.
3. Oversee the Merchandise and Store chairs, the Yearbook Business Chairs, and the Urban Mitzvah Corps Student Coordinator (s).
4. Oversee the planning, running, and collecting of items for the Urban Mitzvah Corps Auction.
5. Oversee at least one fundraiser per event.
6. Assist the NFTY-GER Regional Director with organizing the NFTY-GER budget.
7. Collaborate with the Communications Vice President to coordinate a marketing plan and assess logo recognition.
8. Collaborate with the Social Action Vice President to successfully fundraise for an organization that goes along with the current year's study theme.
9. Help grow NFTY-GER's connection to its alumni in coordination with regional staff and the NFTY Alumni Network, with the goal of gaining new donors.
10. Oversee fundraisers throughout the year to support NFTY-GER in actualizing its goals.

Subsection 9: Specifically, the Communications Vice President shall:

1. Assist in the process of producing the NFTY Key Personnel Roster for distribution at or before the meetings of the NFTY-GER General Board.
2. Record the minutes at all NFTY-GER Executive and General Board meetings, and then type and distribute them to all people concerned within a reasonable amount of time.
3. Oversee the completion and distribution of the MaGERzine, the NFTY-GER regional magazine, and serve as a liaison to the MaGERzine chairpeople.
4. Insure that all actions taken by the region are in accordance with this constitution.
5. Will oversee the yearbook chairs and the fundraising aspect of the Chair position.
6. Oversee the Yearbook Business/Editor Chairs, the Webmaster, and the MaGERzine Chair.
7. Oversee the Communications Vice Presidents Network.

Article V

Election Procedure

SECTION A: Each candidate must submit an intent to run form to the NFTY-GER Regional Director of Youth Engagement by the date specified by the Director. Candidates will receive phone or e-mail confirmation.

Subsection 1: Each Candidate must submit a letter of intent to the Regional Director. The letter of intent can be one-page double sided for President candidates and one sided for the other positions.

SECTION B: No campaigning or electioneering is allowed. Any candidate who publicizes, or has publicized for him or her, shall be disqualified at the discretion of the Executive Board. This includes oral or written campaigning.

SECTION C: The Executive Board shall be elected at a meeting of the General Board using the following procedure:

Subsection 1: At a scheduled time before or on the same day of the election, there will be a Meet the Candidates session, where the candidates will be able to answer any questions the delegates may have.

Subsection 2: The officers shall be elected in the following order: President, Programming Vice President, Social Action Vice President, Religious and Cultural Vice President, Membership Vice President, Northern Recruitment Vice President, Central Recruitment Vice President, Southern Recruitment Vice President, Financial Vice President, and Communications Vice President.

Subsection 3: The particular office shall be announced before the candidates speak. At that time, candidates for the particular office will be asked to leave the room and be called in reverse alphabetical order to speak.

Subsection 4: Each candidate will have 2 ½ minutes to speak. Presidential candidates will have four minutes each. If a candidate is dropping down to another position, they will have 1 minute to speak.

Subsection 5: The voting delegates shall then elect the following year's officers. Each TYG will have the same number of votes for the elections as the number of representatives it would have during a general Board meeting.

Subsection 6: For each position, delegates will have the option of voting for one of the candidates or abstaining. A vote to abstain will not be counted toward the majority. TYGs may not force a block vote from their delegates.

Subsection 7: Ballots for elections shall be printed prior to elections, with the position name on top, all candidates running, an option for abstention, and a blank space for drop-downs. To the left of each candidate and the abstention option will be a blank line. This line is where the voting delegate will indicate their preference by numbering the candidates 1 through x, where x represents the number of candidates running, plus the abstention option. The 1 will represent the candidate the voting delegate is voting for, 2 will represent their second-choice candidate, and so on, through x number of candidates where x will represent their x choice. At any point if the voting delegate feels they would rather abstain than vote for any other candidate, they may put abstention as their next choice, and leave the rest of the candidates blank. When there are two more candidates running for office, a simple majority (50%+1) is needed for that candidate to be elected to that office for which they are running.

Subsection 7A: When two or more candidates run for a position, and one candidate does not receive a clear majority of the number 1 votes, then an instant runoff shall occur. There will be no need to re-vote; instead, the candidate with the lowest amount of number 1 votes will be dropped and all ballots that had that candidate as number 1 will now have their number 2 candidate viewed as their number 1 candidate. If a candidate, with the combination of original number 1 votes and number 2 votes, has a simple majority, then they shall be elected. If there is still no majority, the process of instant runoff repeats.

Subsection 8: The NFTY-GER President and Regional Director shall tabulate Votes for each race. If either the President is running for re-election to the Board, then the next Executive Board member in terms of gavel order that is not running for re-election shall count the votes.

Subsection 9: Candidates who do not win the office for which they were originally running may drop-down, **but only once**. Candidates must specify the office to which they wish to drop-down on their initial intent to run form, but the selection of drop-down offices may be changed. However, candidates may opt not to drop-down at any time before the election of their drop-down office. A candidate's drop-down office will not be announced when he or she is running for the initial office.

SECTION D: In order to be considered as a candidate for regional office, each prospective candidate must have attended at least three regional events, and have the intent to run form signed by one temple clergy member and TYG advisor. If the above requirements cannot be met, the regional advisor should be notified, and the Regional Board will vote on accepting the candidate's intent to run by a 2/3 majority vote.

LETTER OF INTENT SUGGESTIONS

5780-5781 REGIONAL BOARD ELECTIONS

Letters of Intent will be posted online a few weeks before elections. The letter is your first opportunity to tell the region who you are and what you want to accomplish, if elected—and you know you can never make a second first impression! Below are some suggestions to make your letter the best it can possibly be.

No more than 1 page (single sided for 9 VP positions, double sided for President, 12 pt. font, Arial)

Be creative!

Think outside the box—This is your first opportunity to catch people’s attention!

Start and end strong.

Make people excited to read your whole letter and leave them wanting more at the end.

What do you intend to do?

Remember, this is a letter of INTENT, not a resume. Be sure to mention what makes you qualified to serve, but don’t forget to focus on what you INTEND to do for the region. Think about what the region needs and what you want to do for it. The region wants to elect people with ideas they like— not just people who will “look cool” doing it.

Proofread!

Once you’ve written your letter, check it over for spelling and grammar mistakes. Have someone else read it for you, too. In addition to your candidacy forms, please **EMAIL** your letter of intent along with a photo of yourself for us to post on the website. Letters, bios, and photo attachments can be sent to nftyger@uri.org.



2020-2021 REGIONAL BOARD
CANDIDATE INFORMATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Full Name of Candidate _____

Candidate for the position of _____

Drop-down position (optional): _____

Temple Youth Group: _____ Current TYG position held: _____

Home Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

Birthdate: _____ Current Grade _____ Current Age _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Facebook _____ Instagram _____

URJ Congregation & City: _____

Parent/Guardian 1 Name _____

E-mail: _____

Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian 2 Name _____

E-mail: _____

Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Signature of Candidate

Date

PLEASE EMAIL THIS SIGNED FORM NO LATER THAN February 12, 2020 TO:

Barak Malkin – Subject: NFTY-GER ELECTIONS

nftyger@urj.org



2020-2021 REGIONAL BOARD
RABBINIC CERTIFICATION

Name of Candidate _____

Candidate for the position of _____

Dear Rabbi,

The above-named candidate intends to run for a NFTY Garden Empire Regional Board position for the 2020-2021 school year. **Please take the time to meet with him/her and discuss both his/her potential as a Regional Board member as well as the responsibilities that come with leadership.** After you meet with the candidate, please sign the bottom of this form, certifying his/her candidacy for the position above. Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

Caroline McKinnon
2019-2020 NFTY-GER President
201-258-9896

Barak Malkin
Senior Regional Director,
NFTY-GER & Urban Mitzvah Corps
212-452-6576

I am aware that this teen is applying to become a candidate for the NFTY-GER Regional Board. I have spoken with them about this commitment. I certify their candidacy for the position above. We have spoken about the obligations of being a leader in the Reform Jewish community, including the time commitment involved, expectations and Jewish values of being a leader, and of following NFTY’s B’rit Kehillah.

Signature of Clergy

Date

Printed Name of Clergy

Name of URJ Congregation

City, State

I certify that I have met with Clergy to discuss my candidacy for the NFTY-GER Regional Board.

Signature of Candidate

Date

PLEASE EMAIL THIS SIGNED FORM NO LATER THAN February 12, 2020 TO:
Barak Malkin – Subject: NFTY-GER ELECTIONS
nftyger@urj.org



2020-2021 REGIONAL BOARD
YOUTH PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION

Name of Candidate _____

Candidate for the position of _____

Dear Youth Professional,

The above-named candidate intends to run for a NFTY GARDEN EMPIRE Regional Board position for the 2020-2021 school year. **Please take the time to meet with him/her and discuss both his/her potential as a Regional Board member and the responsibilities that come with leadership.** After you meet with the candidate, please sign the bottom of this form, certifying his/her candidacy for the position above. Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

Caroline McKinnon
2019-2020 NFTY-GER President
201-258-9896

Barak Malkin
Senior Regional Director,
NFTY-GER & Urban Mitzvah Corps
212-452-6576

I am aware that this youth group participant is registering to become a candidate for the NFTY-GER Regional Board. I have spoken with them about the commitment level expected of NFTY-GER Regional Board members, and my personal expectation that they will uphold the NFTY *B'rit Kehilah* while in office. I certify that they are a member in good standing of their youth group. I also certify their candidacy for the position above.

Signature of Youth Professional

Date

Printed Name of Youth Professional

I certify that I have met with my Youth Professional to discuss my candidacy for Regional Board.

Signature of Candidate

Date

PLEASE EMAIL THIS SIGNED FORM NO LATER THAN February 12, 2020 TO:
Barak Malkin – Subject: NFTY-GER ELECTIONS
nftyger@urj.org



2020-2021 NFTY-GER Regional Board Candidate Current Regional Board Certification

Name of Candidate _____

Candidate for the position of _____

Dear Candidate,

While we have tried to clearly outline the expectations and goals for Regional Board Members, the greatest understanding of a Regional Board position can only come from one who has held that position. Please take the time to talk with the current Regional Board who holds the position for which you choose to run (as well as the person who holds your drop-down position if you have one). Make sure you discuss the realities of being a Board member as well as the importance of such a commitment. **This conversation MUST happen between now and the time that the application is due.** After you speak with the Regional Board member(s), please sign the bottom of this form, and indicate with whom you have spoken. Please know that at any time, in addition having the required conversation(s) with the current NFTY-GER Regional Board, you can also feel free to direct questions to Barak Malkin, who is the advisor to the NFTY-GER Regional Board.

Caroline McKinnon
2019-2020 NFTY-GER President
201-258-9896

Barak Malkin
Senior Regional Director,
NFTY-GER & Urban Mitzvah Corps
212-452-6576

Name(s) of NFTY-GER Regional Board member(s) I have had a formal conversation with about my candidacy.

Board Member 1

Board Member 2

Position I currently hold on my TYG Board: _____

Position for which I am running: _____

I certify that I have spoken to the following NFTY-GER Regional Board member(s) to discuss my candidacy for the 2020-2021 NFTY-GER Regional Board.

Signature of Candidate

Date



NORTH AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEMPLE YOUTH

NFTY's *B'RIT K'HILAH*—Code of Conduct ברית קהילה

The undersigned acknowledges that an online signature will, for all purposes, be treated as an original.

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 affirms my agreement to the rules and policies of NFTY and this B'rit K'hilah.

Signature of Candidate

Date