



**REGIONAL BOARD
ELECTION PACKET**
New York Area

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Contact Information for 2020-2021 NFTY-NAR Board

President	Lev Mosbacher	nar-president@nfty.org
Programming VP	Adam Friedman	nar-pvp@nfty.org
Social Action VP	Sophie Dalton	nar-savp@nfty.org
Religious & Cultural VP	Owen Thomas	nar-rcvp@nfty.org
Membership VP	Maya Kendall	nar-mvp@nfty.org
Communications VP	Zoe Mardiks	nar-cvp@nfty.org
Westchester-Fairfield Subregional Director	Jonah Dichter	nar-wf@nfty.org
New York City Subregional Director	Contact Lev Mosbacher	nar-president@nfty.org
Long Island Subregional Director	Hannah Herman	nar-li@nfty.org

Important Deadlines

May 3, 2021	Candidate Information Form, Contract and Counterpart Certification
May 3, 2021	Letters of Intent and short answer question

Elections

- Elections will be carried out via an application process. Candidates will submit all materials via the provided Wufoo forms by May 3rd.
- A group of regional board members and participants will, through a partially blinded process, select the candidates they deem most fit for the positions.
- Candidates who are selected will be notified as soon as the process is complete, and the entire board has been selected.

Questions should be directed to

Lev Mosbacher, NFTY-NAR President

nar-president@nfty.org

Lynne Butner, Director of NFTY Engagement

lbutner@urj.org

Candidate Checklist

- [Candidate Information Form, Contract and Counterpart Certification](#) (online form)

Before you begin this form, please have the documents below ready to upload.

1. Letter of Intent - Please see Page 7 for more information
2. Answer to short answer question (see below)

- [Parent/Guardian Certification](#) (online form - email this link to parent or guardian)
- [Synagogue Professional Certification](#) (online form - email this link to synagogue professional)

Letter from your Area Manager

Dear Candidate,

Mazel Tov on your decision to run for a regional board position! You have already completed your first task as a candidate...deciding to run for office. It is exciting to know that the future of our region lies in the hands of such enthusiastic leaders. It is important that you understand the many duties and obligations required of the seven Regional Board positions. All require dedication, a significant amount of your time, and a financial commitment. Please read over this material with your parent/guardian and your TYG advisor and discuss with them what being on regional board will mean for you.

As a Regional Board member, you will be held to a higher standard than the other NFTYites. You will be expected to follow and uphold the B'rit Kehillah during all NFTY programs, and failure to do so may result in removal from regional board along with additional consequences. You are expected to set a good example at all TYG and regional events, North American events, and URJ summer programs. Your peers are the body of people who will vote you into office and they will hold you responsible for your actions and your duties.

To officially run for office, you must complete the forms indicated on page two of this packet, and have your parent/guardian, and your synagogue professional sign the required forms. These forms will serve as your contract which will be in effect throughout your term. Your signature on the contract states that you understand the responsibilities associated with being on regional board and are willing to meet all expectations if elected. To be considered as a candidate, all election documents must be received by the deadline. The application process for Regional Board requires that you speak with the current regional board member who holds the position you are seeking. This may seem like a lot of work to run but remember that being on the regional board is a big responsibility. If you are unable to make this deadline, please take the time to consider if you will be able to juggle the demands of school, home, and NFTY.

Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have about running for Regional Board.

L'Shalom,

Lynne Butner
Director of NFTY Engagement

lbutner@urj.org

INTENT TO RUN

Who is eligible?

Any Jewish teen who is a participant in good standing of NFTY-NAR is eligible. A qualified candidate must be committed, optimistic and enthusiastic about having a hands-on impact on Reform Jewish Youth.

What is the financial obligation?

1. Board members will be expected to attend and pay for regional events. While we are still in a global pandemic, we do not know when in-person events will resume, or how our budget will be affected. The URJ is committed to ensuring that no teen is prevented from attending due to financial constraints.
2. Participation in NFTY North American programming. These are important North American events where our board members serve as voting delegates for the region. Again, we do not know the course of the current global health crisis, and therefore we cannot assess the costs of future events. Again, we are committed to ensuring that no teen is prevented from attending due to financial constraints.
3. Depending on your child's position on the regional board, they may be asked to purchase supplies, copies, etc., and then be reimbursed. Once receipts are submitted, reimbursement checks should be sent within one month of receipt. All expenses must be approved by NFTY staff prior to purchase.

What are the other expectations of Regional Board Members?

Role Model – Recognize that members of the region look to you to set an example. Always be aware of your behavior and attitude, even when you are not actively leading. Think about how you portray yourself on social media. Lead by example, even more so when it comes to issues outlined in the [NFTY B'rit K'hillah](#).

Approachability – Regional Board members should be approachable. It is important to remember that you are here for the whole region. There are always new people to meet and get to know.

Attendance – As a role model, you should be attending regional events, NFTYx regional programs, NFTY North American events, and other URJ programs (when applicable). School and family should always be your first priority, but by running for NFTY Regional Board you are making a commitment that your NFTY Region will be your primary extra-curricular activity.

Communication – It is expected that you will maintain open lines of communication with your fellow board members, NFTY Area Manager and Board Coach.

NFTY's Brit Kehillah – Code of Conduct

There is an expectation that all North American Board members will follow and uphold our NFTY Brit Kehillah. You can find a copy of the Brit [here](#).

Events for all Board Members & Important Dates

Due to the COVID-19 Health Crisis, NFTY events remain virtual. Once it is safe to meet in person, we hope to resume in-person events. Please continue to check our website, social media and emails to stay up to date.

Positions on NFTY-NAR Regional Board

- President
- Programming Vice President
- Religions and Cultural Vice President
- Social Action Vice President
- Membership Vice President
- Communications Vice President
- Long Island Subregional Director
- New York City Subregional Director
- Westchester-Fairfield Subregional Director

Position Responsibilities

NFTY is in a time of change. While these descriptions of the positions on NAR's regional board are accurate to our experiences this past year and in years past, the responsibilities of each position are fluid and will likely look different in the coming year. While each position has individual responsibilities, one of the most important parts of being on regional board, regardless of position, is representing NAR in the North American networks, supporting all the leaders in the region, and helping the community continue to thrive and grow.

President - The role of NAR's President is to support and oversee the regional board and the region. Some of the responsibilities of the President include leading board meetings and events, participating in the President's Network, connecting and collaborating with the region's area manager, and providing support to the region's TYG boards. The President will be expected to maintain a healthy relationship with both the east area manager and the regional executive board and board of directors, and to support and assist in the planning of programs and events. Aside from regional board meetings, the President will be expected to attend all regional events, as well as East Area meetings and network calls. Most importantly, the President will act as a source of stability and guidance for the regional board.

PVP - The role of NAR's Programming Vice President, in essence, is to be a productive member of the board who can be relied upon to oversee anything related to programming. This does not mean the PVP will be expected to write all programs, but instead that they will ensure that all programs written by the board and by other members of the region are of good quality and will make for a good event. They will be expected to maintain the virtual program bank on Google Drive, to participate in the North American PVP network, and most importantly, to work with their fellow board members to make the year a success.

RCVP - The job of the Religious and Cultural Vice President is to foster participants' connections to their Jewish identity. One of the RCVP's responsibilities is writing and leading services as well as helping other board members connect their programs to Judaism. The RCVP should also serve as a resource for TYG RCVPs to help them create Jewish programming. The RCVP is also responsible for creating occasional programming relating to Jewish culture, identity, and sometimes Israel. While the RCVP is someone who fosters an excitement for prayer, spirituality, and Jewish reflection, they do not need to enter their role with any extensive Jewish knowledge. Overall, an RCVP should have a passion for Judaism and encourage participants to engage with their Judaism.

SAVP - As NAR's Social Action Vice President or SAVP your job is to create, and facilitate programs surrounding a social justice issue of your choice. For example, this year we led programs related to LGBTQ rights, immigrant right, racial justice, climate justice, etc. Your most important job as SAVP will be the planning of Albany Advocacy Day where you as a leadership RAC NY member will research an issue and create a campaign about a legislation along with the rest of the RAC NY leadership members for the New

York Tri State Area. Someone for this job would be a collaborative, compassionate leader along with a passion for a range of social justice issues.

MVP - As Membership Vice President, you will work closely with the Communications Vice President to promote events and reach out to members of the NFTY community. You will also have a close relationship with the national MVP and work with that network to help with outreach for NFTY-NAR. You will work with the rest of the board on programming, leadership, and uplifting the general NAR community.

CVP -The Communications Vice President is expected to make graphics for events, as well as taking photos at events and uploading them to Facebook and/or Instagram. The CVP is also responsible for managing the general interactions on all of NAR's social media accounts. Additionally, the CVP should keep in close contact with the CVP network and participate in network calls. The CVP should also fulfill the rest of their duties as a board member, such as helping with outreach for every event, attending board meetings, and helping with programming.

Subregional Director - The role of the Subregional Director is fluid and ever changing. In past years, it has involved traveling to congregations within the subregion to increase membership and running Subregional events. This year, it has involved working with the MVP to increase overall membership, and with the entire board to do whatever job is necessary. So, what the position will be is completely dependent on what next year looks like - just come with an open mind.

Election Process

Campaigning

As per the NFTY Regional Constitution, campaigning is not allowed prior to or during the election process. Any candidate that participates in campaigning will be disqualified.

Letters of Intent

- Each candidate will write a letter stating their intent to run for NFTY Board.
- Letters of Intent for candidates for President must be no longer than two pages. Letters of Intent should be no longer than one page for those running for PVP, SAVP, RCVP, MVP, and CVP.
- All letters should have one-inch margins on each side and be written in size 11 Arial font ONLY.
 - Set one-inch margins all around the page.
 - Save the file as a Microsoft Word file.
- A candidate's Letter of Intent should include a basic summary of what you intend to do in the upcoming year, why it is important to NFTY, and any other relevant information. You are submitting a condensed version of your platform.
 - We recommend that this letter focus on the values your candidacy and term will encompass, not only ideas and projects you hope to accomplish. You should be thinking about the value you will add to the movement and the work you will do.
- The letter of intent should also include the candidate's answer to the question listed for their intended position below.

Short Answer Questions

Each candidate will be expected to answer a short answer question about the position they are applying for. These questions were written by their respective current regional board members. The answer to this question should be included in the document with the candidate's letter of intent and submitted in the provided Wufoo form.

President - Next year, there will most likely be a large amount of change in the structure and processes of NFTY. As President, how will you build and maintain stability on the regional board amidst all of this change?

PVP - How will you use your resources as Programming Vice President creatively to engage both older and newer members of NAR?

RCVP - Knowing that every person has a unique relationship with Judaism, how would you try to create programs that engage all participants?

SAVP - As NFTY NAR's Social Action Vice President, you will have to work with a variety of different groups of people often with different views. Historically, NAR's SAVP has a variety of social justice issues that they are passionate about. How will you as SAVP be able to be open to ideas about social justice issues that you disagree with while remaining true to your values?

MVP - What have you learned over the past year about online programming that you would incorporate into your work as MVP, and how will you communicate with participants/future members in order to encourage new members and more participation?

CVP - What is one new way you want to try to bring in more teens to events through social media?

Subregional Director - What is one idea you have to increase membership from your subregion?

Elections

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NFTY REGIONAL BOARD ELECTION GUIDELINES

Each of the following guidelines is subject to the discretion of the NFTY Leadership. 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” – consult the Regional President or NFTY Area Manager.

What a Candidate Cannot Do (At Risk of Disqualification)

- Distribute material to any NFTYite that discusses the voting procedure to sway/affect that person's vote. (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 telephone, email, text messaging, social media, 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., email delegates, post material pertaining to the election on 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. Materials are meant to educate, not advertise. The ONLY permissible material to be shared is the platform paper, which may be shared during Meet the Candidates.
- Use network email threads, social media, or text groups as a forum for campaigning in any way.