

♥Olivia Rokhsar Position Poster♥

Membership Vice President: 5778-5779

Why are you running for regional board?

I am running for regional board so I can positively impact the wonderful community that is NFTY CWR. NFTY has, in one year, changed who I am as a person and given me new skills, a better understanding of my Jewish identity, and a group I know I will always have. I would love for as many other people to have this experience as possible, and I have the tools to make that happen.

What is your favorite event of the year, and why?

Having only been to 3 events so far, I think my favorite event was Geshet Kallah. I really enjoyed getting to experience NFTY for the first time, and I was able to really understand what makes it so special. Watching installations really helped me understand the love that others have for NFTY, and become a person with love for NFTY also.

What new ideas or solutions do you have for our region in response to talking with a NFTY CWR member?

Through talking to a NFTY member (who came to Geshet Kallah, but did not return for other events), I know that this person enjoyed the small communities we had in our cabins. With the somewhat recent change in space, I think the best way to make sure this group togetherness is still evident is to have more bonding time with our house mates.

Many small and new TYGs and JYGs struggle with reaching out to the Jewish youth in their area; what steps do you plan to take to help strengthen and build these TYGs and JYGs?

As a current TYG board member and former JYG member, I understand the difficulty of gaining members and reaching out to the other Jewish youth in the area. If I am elected, I will make sure that I am a resource for TYGs and JYGs to have for help. I will also make sure TYGs and JYGs get the acknowledgement that they need for people at regional events to increase membership through word of mouth. I would also plan to create a template for a calendar and flyers that TYG's and JYG's can use to reach out easily.

What kinds of membership outreach programs and incentives do you plan to develop to increase attendance at regional events, and how do you plan to personally reach out to members of the region?

I plan to have membership outreach programs that would encourage younger, future members to become aware of and interested in NFTY, so that by the time that they are old enough to join they already have a strong love for NFTY. As a participant in West Coast Party, Jr. I remember that the whole event was so wonderful every year, I could feel the community of NFTY before I was even at regional events, and it made me want to come back for more. I think that this feeling is very common, and if there can be more of these events, we can increase membership. I plan to create friendship incentives, by continuing the family program created by the past year's MVP and publicize this, so people understand the family community that is created at NFTY CWR. I plan to personally reach out to members of the region by floating around retreats and connecting with people on TYG boards.