



*The North American Federation of Temple Youth  
Southwest Region*

2012-2013

Elections Packet for  
Candidates for NFTY-SW  
Regional Board

5772-5773



## **The North American Federation of Temple Youth Southwest Region**

March 1, 2012

Dear Candidate,

**President**

Mathew Sherman

**Programming VP**

Dori Singer

**Social Action VP**

Elizabeth Stein

**Religious and Cultural VP**

Naomi Movshovich

**Membership VP**

David Siegal

**Communications VP**

Kaylen Duran

**Youth Programs Manager**

Lynne Butner

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 NFTY-SW lies in the hands of such enthusiastic leaders. It is important that you understand the many duties and obligations required of the six 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 advisor and discuss with them what being on regional board will mean for you.

As a NFTY-SW 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 at all times during all NFTY events, 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.

In order to officially run for office you will need to send back the Regional Board Contract. It is mandatory that you, your parent/guardian, your local advisor and your congregational Rabbi sign this contract that 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 NFTY-SW Regional Board requires that you speak with the person currently holding any position you may run for. This may seem like a lot of work just to run, but remember that being on the regional board is a big responsibility. Take the time to consider, if you can't meet this deadline, will you be able to juggle the demands of school, home, and NFTY?

Keep in mind that you will be making a short speech (5 min. for presidential candidates, 3 for everyone else) on Friday of Spring Kallah in addition to the Meet the Candidates session. Speeches should be just that...a speech. No audio-visual aides are permitted. If you are running from abroad, you must record your speech in one take, as if you were giving the speech live. It is a requirement that to be on board, you must be a full member of a URJ affiliated synagogue. You cannot simply be a member of a youth group.

I am looking forward to next year. NFTY-SW is a fabulous region, and every year I set the bar a little bit higher. The role of each Board member will be very important. I have high expectations for all board members to work hard and shine as leaders! Good Luck! Feel free to call me with any questions or concerns you may have about running for Regional Board.

L'shalom,

Lynne Butner

NFTY SW Youth Programs Manager



## **The North American Federation of Temple Youth Southwest Region**

March 1, 2012

Dear NFTY-SW parent,

**President**  
Mathew Sherman

You are receiving this letter because your son/daughter has decided to run for a position on the NFTY Northwest regional board. It is so exciting that your child feels dedicated to a Jewish youth organization and wants to explore their leadership potential!

**Programming VP**  
Dori Singer

**Social Action VP**  
Elizabeth Stein

I hope that your son/daughter has taken the time to discuss their decision with you. Making the decision to run for a regional office is easy for some, and for others it is something that they consider at great length. The reality remains that a regional board position requires a large commitment from any high school student. Some teens find it difficult to serve on the regional board while participating in school sports, theater, or other extra curricular activities. In this light, it is very important that each candidate, as well as their parents, be aware of the demands of a regional board position.

**Religious and Cultural VP**  
Naomi Movshovich

**Membership VP**  
David Siegal

**Communications VP**  
Kaylen Duran

**Youth Programs Manager**  
Lynne Butner

Of course school and grades will continue to be a priority during the year that your child serves on the regional board. Your child will hopefully learn time management skills, and will keep a balance of schoolwork, NFTY, and typical high school activities. You may want to discuss with your child whether they will feel overwhelmed if faced with too many extracurricular activities, and if they will need to cut down on other time consuming activities if elected to serve on the regional board.

The time commitment that will be asked of your teen is the following:

- 1) Attendance at all regional events.
- 2) Attendance at regularly scheduled board meetings.
- 3) Work to prepare for regional events.
- 4) Depending on your child's position on regional board, participation in *Mechina* in June, and NFTY Convention in February. These are important North America events.
- 5) Impromptu or emergency board functions.

Naturally, there are situations where there is a prior family commitment, or where travel is simply not a possibility. These situations will be given consideration. The financial responsibilities of a board member are the following:



## The North American Federation of Temple Youth Southwest Region

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**President**

Mathew Sherman

**Programming VP**

Dori Singer

**Social Action VP**

Elizabeth Stein

**Religious and Cultural VP**

Naomi Movshovich

**Membership VP**

David Siegal

**Communications VP**

Kaylen Duran

**Youth Programs Manager**

Lynne Butner

1) Your teen will be expected to attend and pay for every regional event. Regional board members only pay 1/2 of the cost of each NFTY-SW event provided they register on time, and meet all deadlines in completing their responsibilities for the event.

2) Participation in *Mechina* in June, and *NFTY Convention* in February. These are important North America events; *Mechina* is held in New York at the URJ Kutz Campus and *NFTY Convention* will be held at in Las Angeles. The region may be able to supply some funds to help cover these costs. You will also be responsible for the flights for these programs.

3) Your teen will also be invited to (and would greatly benefit from) the leadership program at URJ Kutz Campus for Jewish Life (in New York) in June immediately following *Mechina*. Although it is not mandatory that your child attends this program, it is strongly encouraged.

4) Depending on your teen's position on the regional board, they may be asked to purchase supplies, copies, etc., and then be reimbursed. I will do my best to get reimbursement checks back to you within three weeks after I receive the receipts.

If elected, your teen will be a regional officer. They are expected to follow and uphold the NFTY Code of Conduct at all times during events. If they fail to do so, they will be removed from their position in addition to receiving additional consequences.

Holding a position on the Regional Board can be an extremely fulfilling and rewarding experience. As the NFTY-SW Advisor, I will be working closely with the board to provide support, and to help them to work together as a team. This is a wonderful opportunity for your teen to learn and enhance leadership, time management, and communication skills, as well as create wonderful memories. I commend your teen for deciding to take the risk and run for a position.

If you have any questions regarding positions on the regional board, please feel free to call me at 212-452-6754, or email at [lbutner@urj.org](mailto:lbutner@urj.org). I look forward to keeping communication open with the parents of our Regional Board Members.

Sincerely,

Lynne Butner  
NFTY-SW Youth Programs Manager

# NFTY-SW Regional Board - Intent to Run

## **WHO IS ELIGIBLE?**

Individuals who are Jewish and members, in their own right or through family membership, of a Union for Reform Judaism Congregation in good standing, and paid members of both their home TYG and NFTY-SW.

## **WHAT ARE THE POSITIONS?**

Elected Regional Board Positions of NFTY-SW:

- **President**
- **Programming Vice President (PVP)**
- **Religious & Cultural Vice President (RCVP)**
- **Social Action Vice President (SAVP)**
- **Membership Vice President (MVP)**
- **Communications Vice President (CVP)**

## **WHAT DO THEY DO?**

### **It is the responsibility of ALL NFTY-SW REGIONAL BOARD MEMBERS**

1. To attend all NFTY-SW Regional Board meetings.
2. To attend all NFTY-SW Regional events.
3. To submit registration for events on time, and to meet all programming deadlines.
4. To communicate with the Regional Advisor and the Regional Board on a regular basis.
5. To communicate with all TYGs in NFTY-SW.
6. To encourage attendance at NFTY-SW Regional events.
7. To help ensure that the Brit Kehillah is followed at Regional Events
8. To serve as role models for all members of NFTY on a local, regional, and North American level, and to appropriately represent NFTY-SW to others.
9. To work to create and strengthen the Southwest Jewish youth community
10. To strengthen and develop leadership within the Region.
11. To serve as a liaison between youth and adult leadership.
12. To support other board members.
13. To attend NFTY's *Mechina* and *NFTY Convention* and serve as a representative of NFTY-SW.

### **These are the Duties of the Regional Officers as stated in the NFTY-SW Constitution.**

#### **PRESIDENT:**

#### **Article VII. DUTIES OF THE REGIONAL OFFICERS**

##### **SECTION A. The President shall:**

1. Call and preside over all organizational meetings, alerting participants of the issues to be discussed by distributing agendas in advance.
2. Communicate with all temple youth groups (TYG) Presidents in order to maintain enthusiasm, offer suggestions, and remain continually aware of all TYG and regional activities.
3. Communicate with all NFTY-Southwest Board members regularly in order to oversee, support, and assist them in all endeavors.

4. Be the spokesperson for all NFTY-Southwest and the NFTY-Southwest Policies, and represent NFTY-Southwest to all member congregations and other organizations.
5. Serve on the NFTY Board by attending Mechina in June and the NFTY Board meeting in February.
6. Supervise and coordinate all NFTY-Southwest activities.
7. Plan, coordinate, staff and execute along with the Religious and Cultural Vice President, the NFTY-Southwest Kallah.
8. Initiate any new programs and/or projects that would benefit the region and its TYGs.
9. With the Programming Vice President and the NFTY-Southwest Advisor develop job descriptions for the regional chairpeople, select these Chairpeople, and oversee their activities.
10. Compile the appropriate sections of the annual NFTY-Southwest Leadership Manual.

SECTION B. The Programming Vice President shall:

1. Coordinate Tikkun Olam certificates with each TYG. At the beginning of each year, have TYGs appoint Tikkun Olam chairpeople, distribute initial forms, assist each person in filling them out, maintain communication throughout the year, and distribute final forms.
2. Serve on the NFTY Board by attending the NFTY Board meeting in February.
3. Serve as NFTY-Southwest program specialist by circulating new NFTY programs and programming ideas to the TYGs.
4. Maintain constant communication with all TYG Vice Presidents and/or programming chairpeople; give advice on programming techniques and assist in any way possible; be aware of what each TYG is doing at all times.
5. Assist the local host TYG in preparation and execution of Regional Kallah or Retreats.
6. Assist the President in programming as necessary.
7. Travel with the President and the Regional Advisor, when possible, on visits with local Congregations and TYGs.
8. Serve as President in absence of the NFTY-Southwest President.
9. Compile the appropriate sections of the annual NFTY-Southwest Leadership Manual.

SECTION C. The Social Action Vice President shall:

1. Serve on the NFTY Board by attending the NFTY Board meeting in February.
2. Serve as the regional chairperson of NFTY projects, initiating any new regional programs or drives to fulfill the priorities adopted by NFTY.
3. Compile the appropriate sections of the annual NFTY-Southwest Leadership Manual.
4. Coordinate general social action activity for the region.
5. Provide information to NFTYites about the current year's NFTY Action Theme.
6. Write at least two Social Action Programs during the year to educate NFTYites on current issues.

SECTION D. The Religious and Cultural Vice President shall:

1. Insure that the TYGs fulfill their religious study and service requirements specified for the Tikkun Olam Award.
2. Work with Rabbis throughout the region to maintain a creative service bank which shall include inspirational readings for use by the region and its TYGs.
3. Assemble a service at the request of the hosting TYG throughout the year and at regional events.
4. Plan, coordinate, staff and execute along with the Executive Board, the NFTY-Southwest Kallah.
5. Work to connect regional event themes with Judaism.
6. Help compile the appropriate sections of the annual NFTY-Southwest Leadership Manual.

SECTION E. The Membership Vice President shall:

1. Type and circulate rosters of the NFTY-Southwest Board, all the TYG Boards, and Advisors twice a year.
2. Help compile the appropriate sections of the annual NFTY-Southwest Leadership Manual.

3. Ensure both high TYG and high regional membership and shall be responsible for continually improving both the quantity and level of commitment of all members of NFTY-SW.
4. When requested by host TYG or event chairperson, design and distribute regional fliers to publicize NFTY-Southwest activities and upcoming events.
5. Provide assistance for all TYGs regarding Junior Youth Groups (JYGs) so that every TYG may have a healthy and thriving JYG.
6. Constantly encourage new member participation and organize all events relating to new members.

SECTION F. Communications Vice President shall:

1. Serve as the administrative secretary to the NFTY-Southwest President sending notices and other materials to the TYGs.
2. Take clear, organized, and accurate minutes at all NFTY-Southwest Board meetings. Type up the minutes following each meeting and send copies to the NFTY-Southwest Board, Advisors, TYG Presidents, the NFTY office, and the members of the NFTY-Southwest Advisory committee within two weeks.
3. Maintain a file with all the past records of meetings for reference to prior decisions.
4. Work with a committee, as needed, to create and produce NFTY-SW giveaways and merchandise,
5. Oversee the NFTY-SW editor, NFTY-SW historian, NFTY-SW Webmaster and, if chosen, the NFTY-SW merchandise committee.
6. Manage the content of the NFTY-SW web page if no webmaster is appointed.
7. Be responsible for the NFTY-SW mascot.

**HOW DO I PROCEED?**

- I. *Thinking about Running.* Running for regional office is not an arbitrary decision to be made. Every person must be honest with him/herself regarding whether it is a task he/she really wants and is truly capable of performing. You must talk to a current regional board member about what being on regional board entails. You might also consult with your advisor or Rabbi about your decision as this person has worked with you and knows what you are capable of.
- II. *Letter of Intent.* A letter of intent is an official document stating who you are and what position you will be running for. It will be posted on our website, and will be distributed to participants prior to *Asefah*. This document needs to be submitted in electronic format (.pdf is preferred) as well as a hard copy. This letter should include a brief biographical sketch, a description of your general leadership abilities, your reasons for seeking office, and your goals for NFTY-SW as they relate to the office you are considering. The maximum length is one typed, one sided page. Letters of intent will be accepted electronically until **Thursday, April 5, 2012**, and should be sent to (postmarked by April 5, 2012):

Lynne Butner  
lbutner@urj.org  
Youth Programs Manager, NFTY-SW  
1555 Ramona Ave.  
Salt Lake City, UT 84105

- III. *Candidate Information & Certification/Signature Pages.* In addition to your letter of intent, there are several certification pages that must be mailed into the office (address above) and postmarked by April 5, 2012. These papers must be returned in order to run for election. The completed application will also serve as a contract between you and the region. Please reference the last page of this packet for a checklist of required papers.

- IV. *Speech*. All candidates will have the opportunity to present a speech to the general board. Candidates for the position of Regional President have 5 minutes for their speeches. Candidates for all other positions will have 3 minutes.

### **WHAT IS THE ELECTION PROCEDURE?**

Election procedures will consist of speeches by candidates followed by a round robin “Meet the Candidates”. Presidents will have 5 minutes and all other positions have 3 minutes for their speeches. Speeches should be a speech only, no audio-visual aids allowed. Time limits will be strictly enforced. If a candidate chooses to “drop-down” they will be allotted 1 minute to outline a platform for the newly intended position prior to the vote.

Elections will be held by popular vote. Each registered attendee of Spring Kallah is allowed a vote in our elections process.

Any candidate who loses his or her election may run down for another position provided that the position has a single candidate. Additionally, any candidate for regional board who is not elected can submit an application to hold one of four appointed regional board positions: historian, editor, song leader or spirit chair. These applications will be available after Spring Kallah.

Campaigning will in no way, shape, or form be allowed. That means, if you are discussing your candidacy with people with the intention of swaying or confirming votes, you have violated the campaigning rule, and your candidacy can be disqualified. If you are unsure if you may do something, it is better to check with me than to be sorry later. Your candidacy may also be disqualified if you intentionally use social media for campaigning purposes, including but not limited to posting new ideas, projects, or programs on Facebook, trying to build coalitions using Twitter or Foursquare, with the intent to build interest around your candidacy. **Other 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. Distribute or share inappropriate or negative material about any candidates. Contacting – including by means of telephone, e-mail, text messaging, IM, etc. – NFTYites (including other candidates) to initiate conversation about the election and its process

### **WHAT IS THE FINANCIAL OBLIGATION?**

- Four voting delegates are eligible for travel equalization to NFTY Board meetings (held at *Mechina* and NFTY Convention). In most cases, the voting delegates are the first four positions in gavel order: President, Programming Vice President, Social Action Vice President and Religious and Cultural Vice President. In the event that one of the four above mentioned positions is unable to attend, other board members may be eligible for travel equalization.
- NFTY-SW Board members only pay ½ the cost of each NFTY-SW event provided they turn their application in on time, and meet all deadlines in completing their responsibilities for the event.
- NFTY-SW Board members are financially responsible for all North American registration fees, although regional assistance and Levy scholarships may be available.
- NFTY-SW Board members are financially responsible for transportation to all North American events .

### **WHAT ARE THE OTHER EXPECTATIONS OF NFTY-SW REGIONAL BOARD MEMBERS?**

**Role Model** – Recognize that members of NFTY-SW 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** – Regional Board members need to be approachable at all times. NFTYites should know how to reach you. At NFTY-SW events, it is easy to spend your “down” time with participants you already know or other

members of the regional board, but it is important to remember that you now represent the whole region, and everyone should have access to you. There are always new people to meet and get to know.

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

**Communication** – It is expected that you will maintain open lines of communication with your fellow board members and Regional Advisor.

**Events for all Board Members & Important Dates - Final Calendar TBD soon**

NFTY-SW Old Board/New Board Meeting – Phoenix Area	Late May or Early June TBD
SAVP trip - The Religious Action Center (Washington DC)	June 17-20, 2012
RCVP trip - URJ Kutz Camp (Warwick, NY)	June 18-20, 2012
Mechina – URJ Kutz Camp (Warwick, NY)	June 20-24, 2012
NFTY-SW Leadership Training Institute	August 30-September 2, 2012
NFTY-SW Fall Kallah	October 25-28, 2012
NFTY-SW Social Action Weekend	January 17-20, 2013
NFTY Convention	February 15-19, 2013
NFTY-SW Spring Kallah & Elections	April, 2013 Date TBD



*The North American Federation of Temple Youth  
Southwest Region*

**2012-2013 NFTY-SW Regional Board  
Candidate Information Form**

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

Full Name of Candidate \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate for the position of \_\_\_\_\_

TYG: \_\_\_\_\_ Current position held: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_ Current Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Current Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Facebook : \_\_\_\_\_

Skype or Oovoo: (please circle) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent 1 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent 2 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Candidate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**PLEASE RETURN THIS SIGNED FORM POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN APRIL 5, 2012 TO:**

Lynne Butner  
NFTY-SW  
1555 Ramona Ave.  
Salt Lake City, UT 84105



**The North American Federation of Temple Youth  
Southwest Region**

**2012-2013 NFTY-SW Regional Board  
Candidate Contract – Candidate Signature – Parental Signature**

Name of Candidate \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate for the position of \_\_\_\_\_

**Candidate Contract**

I understand that serving on the NFTY-SW Regional board is an extremely exciting, rewarding, and educational experience. **I also understand that it will require considerable time, responsibility, and dedication.** I realize that by assuming this position I will be expected to travel to board meetings, regional events, and other functions. These programs will take place in various locations around the NFTY-SW region, and across North America. I understand that I am expected to follow and uphold the B’rit Kehilah at all times during events. I also understand that I will be asked to serve as a role-model to my peers, and will represent NFTY and NFTY-SW, throughout the year, both during regional events and in everyday life. With my signature below, I acknowledge and understand the requirements of the position I seek, and if elected, I will devote the time and energy necessary to fulfill my responsibilities.

**As a Regional Board member, I understand that I am held to a higher standard than the general NFTY membership and any breach of the Brit Kehilah or inability to fulfill my responsibilities and duties may result in removal from regional office.**

**Candidate Signature**

I am fully aware of the expectations placed upon NFTY-SW Regional Board Members and commit to the terms of this contract and the NFTY-SW Board Election Packet if elected to the 5772-5773 NFTY-SW Regional Board.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Signature**

I have read the enclosed information and understand that being on NFTY-SW Regional Board is a serious commitment. I recognize that my son/daughter will be expected to participate in **ALL** regional events *and* board functions. I am supportive of my child’s involvement in the NFTY-SW Regional Board, both financially and emotionally. I am confident that my child is entering the regional election process with complete knowledge of what it means to be a Regional Board member. I will do my best to enable and support my teen in performing their duties should they be elected. I understand that if my child breaks the NFTY B’rit Kehilah while holding a Regional Board position, they may lose their NFTY-SW Board position and face additional consequences.

**I understand that if I choose, I can set up a call with Lynne Butner prior to April 5, 2012 to answer questions I might have about my child’s role if elected to NFTY-SW Regional Board, before the Board applications are due.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RETURN THIS SIGNED FORM POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN APRIL 5, 2012 TO:**

Lynne Butner  
NFTY-SW  
1555 Ramona Ave.  
Salt Lake City, UT 84105







***The North American Federation of Temple Youth  
Southwest Region***

**2012-2013 NFTY-SW Regional Board  
Candidate Checklist**

<p>Candidate Information Form Candidate Contract, Candidate's Signature, Parent/Guardian Certification Rabbinic Certification TYG Advisor Certification Letter of Intent (hard copy and .doc or .pdf version by email)</p>
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**The deadline for all above items is:**

***Electronic Letter of Intent & questions due by 11:59 pm MST/AZ time April 5, 2012  
All signature pages must be mailed to the office postmarked by April 5, 2012***

**All items must follow these guidelines and dates in order for your candidacy to be accepted.**

**Lynne Butner  
Youth Programs Manager, NFTY-SW  
[lbutner@urj.org](mailto:lbutner@urj.org)  
1555 Ramona Ave.  
Salt Lake City, UT 84105  
212-452-6754**

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