

NFTY Glossary

Advisor: Adults who advise and mentor our youth in programming, logistics, administrative work and leadership skills.

Aruchat Boker: Breakfast

Aruchat Erev: Dinner

Aruchat Tzohorayim: Lunch

Birkat Hamazon: This is the prayer we say after every meal.

Chugim: Activities (they can range from arts/crafts to sports to study session).

Executive Board: This is the group of people who devote enormous amounts of time and energy to make your TYG succeed.

Friendship Circle: This occurs at the end of a NFTY event. NFTYites are give time to reflect on their time shared together and thank everyone for their work on the event that has ended.

Hamotzi: This is the prayer we say before meals. It is the blessing over the bread.

Installations: A very special ceremony when the old executive board says good-bye and the new executive board is put in charge ("installed") of their new positions.

Kutz Camp: The URJ Kutz Camp is the North American NFTY Leadership Academy, located in Warwick, NY. NFTYites go to Kutz each summer to learn about leadership and Judaism.

Maariv: An evening service

Mechina: Mechina means preparation in Hebrew. NFTY's use for Mechina is for a leadership training week for newly-elected NFTY regional officers. This event takes place at Kutz Camp each summer.

Meeting: This is when the TYG members get together, touch base, do things of interest or whatever needs to be done for the TYG.

Menucha: Rest time

Mincha: An afternoon service

MVCP: Membership and Communications Vice President. The TYG board position who communicated and advertises all programs and events (both locally and regionally) for the TYG. This position primarily is in charge of mixers and welcoming type of programming for the TYG.

Netzer Olami: Netzer stands for Noar Tzion Reformi (meaning "Reform Zionist Youth") and is the International Reform Zionist Youth Movement. NFTY is a member of Netzer Olami.

NFTY: The North American Federation of Temple Youth. Anyone who pays membership to Temple Youth Group is part of NFTY.

NFTY Kallah/Event/Institute: Fun weekends during which NFTYites from all different TYGs in a particular region come together to meet other NFTYites, pray, and learn together.

NFTYite: The name for a participant in NFTY

Nikayon: Clean up time

President: The TYG Board position that organizes, delegates, and communicated with the TYG, the board, the NFTY region and the advisor

PVP: Programming Vice President. This TYG board position primarily is in charge of programming (or the development of programming) for the TYG

RCVP: Religious and Cultural Vice President. The TYG Board position who deals with all the rituals and traditions that Reform Judaism holds, programming for the TYG and conveys them in an interesting and creative manner to the TYG. This position oversees the services and primarily in charge of cultural

Region: A region encompasses all the TYGs that fall in a certain geographic area. NFTY has 19 regions (see map in the What is NFTY? Section)

Ruach: That means “spirit” and boy does NFTYites have a lot of it! just take a look at our song sessions, our programs, and our services.

SAVP: Social Action Vice President. The TYG board position who makes us all aware of the social issues in our community, the Reform movement, and NFTY. This person primarily is in charge of action type of programming for the TYG

Secretary: The TYG board position mainly responsible for taking notes at board meetings (called “minutes”), newsletter articles or publishing items for the TYG. This person sometimes will be responsible for taking reservations for upcoming events.

Shachrit: A morning service

Sheket B’Vakasha: This is Hebrew for “be quiet!”

Shul-In: A program that includes a sleepover at the temple (or a TYG members home). Pizza is usually served at some point during the night!

Snif: Snif is a branch of Netzer Olami (the International Reform Zionist Youth Movement) and NFTY is a sniff in Netzer Olami.

Social Action Project: This is when a TYG gets together to do community service such as Habitat for Humanity, build baskets for hospital patients, make sandwiches for a homeless shelter

Song Session: A time for singing with your fellow NFTYites. This is usually planned after lunch or dinner during a TYG or NFTY event. NFTYites sing and dance during the session!

T’filla: A prayer service

Tikkun Olam: Hebrew phrase meaning to repair the world

TOA: TOA stands for our Tikkun Olam Award. This is an award to help encourage TYGs to program on NFTY's study theme each year. Please see the NFTY website for more info

Todah Rabah: Thank you

TYG: Temple Youth Group. This is the group you join to become a member of a region which in turn gives you membership to a NFTY region.

URJ: Union for Reform Judaism. The URJ is the parent body of NFTY. The URJ provides financial, adult, clergy, and educational support to NFTY.