

Dear NFTY-MAR,

After our last event (TheVent 2019), I had a revelation of sorts. In a moment of introspection, I thought about life 30 years from now, and the type of life I want my future children to have. And in this moment, I had the profound realization that I want my kids to experience NFTY-MAR with the full force that I have. I want this region to imprint on them the love for Judaism that it has for me, encourage the passion for social justice that it has for me, and provide them a second family, as it has for me. I want to do anything and everything I can to ensure that this region will still be roaring 30 years from now. It is with this burning passion and optimism for the future, that **I, David Donze, excitedly declare my candidacy for NFTY-MAR President for the upcoming 5779-5780 year.**

As President, **I will encourage MAR's most unique aspect: our kehillah kedoshah, or holy community.** Ever since my first experience with MAR, the culture here has amazed me. This welcoming community is like no other, and if you've ever been to a regional event, you probably don't need me to tell you that. The kindness and friendliness this region has to offer is incredible. I plan to work closely with the Membership Vice President (MVP) and the Membership Sub-regional Assistant Committee (mSACs) to continue these trends and make this region as inclusive and welcoming as possible. This will not only help retain old members, but appeal to newer members as well. Actively promoting this positive atmosphere will make events even more fun, and it is crucial to MAR's identity. However, why stop with just our region? My hope is that each and every MARite can "take home" part of our kehillah kedoshah into their families, schools, and communities.

In addition, I will **embrace the changes our region is experiencing in order to create a better future for MAR.** Although it can be bittersweet to see old traditions give way to new ones, change is a precursor to growth. For example, I want to work hard to make the Sub-regional Leadership Days as awesome as possible, and I am excited to collaborate with various temple youth groups (TYGs) to make that happen. The Leadership Days provide a great opportunity for those less involved in our region to get involved, and lowering the barrier of entry to our events will do wonders for membership. I will also strive to empower you all to

make the change you want to see in this region. Although change can be scary, it is a necessary step towards a greater future for the region, and I am excited to take that step with you all.

Finally, if elected, **I plan to foster diversity in every aspect of NFTY-MAR.** This is one area where I believe the most improvement can be made. Along with the Programming Vice President (PVP), I will push for a variety of programming styles to be represented at every event. One simple way we can achieve this goal is by reaching out to TYG boards to implement some of their programming on a regional level. I also plan to work closely with the Religious and Cultural Vice President (RCVP) and Social Action Vice President (SAVP) to offer many different types of worship and social advocacy and action, respectively. As a board member, I'd love to incorporate more non-traditional Big Fun activities to make each event unique. Diversifying our events will not only allow them to appeal to more participants, but also be unforgettable experiences in their own right.

NFTY-MAR, I love you. It's been a slow burn for me: although I've been coming to events since 8th grade, I've only just begun to experience the magic this region has to offer. I hope this region can positively impact as many people as possible, and looking towards the future, I believe I have a good shot at making that happen. NFTY-MAR, I am looking forward to a spectacular upcoming year, and it would be my utmost pleasure to serve as your next President.

With love,

David Donze