



Elections Packet

2020-2021 | 5780-5781

NFTY-MAR Regional Board

Table of Contents

Candidate Checklist	2
Letter to Candidate	3
Letter to Parents/ Guardians	5
Constitutional Responsibilities of Board Members	8
General Expectations of NFTY Board Members	11
Excerpts from the NFTY-MAR Constitution	12
Detailed Guidelines	13
NFTY-MAR Regional Board Election Guidelines	17
2019-2020 Regional Board Candidate Signature Sheet	19
Current Regional Board Contact Information	21

Candidate Checklist

Declaration of Candidacy	March 27th
Brief Bio & Photo	March 27th
Signature Sheet	April 4th
Letter of Intent	April 4th
Program Summary	April 12th
Speech	April 12th
Platform Sheet	April 26 or 30 (See page 15)

For more details about each of these tasks, click [here](#)

Letter to Candidate

Dear Potential Regional Board Candidate,

Mazel Tov on considering to run for NFTY-MAR Regional Board!! Even reading this letter is a testament to your courage and dedication to our region as well as a big first step in changing the course of your NFTY journey. We are here to help and guide you through this process.

As is the case every year, we will simply have more people run for regional board than we have positions available. We sincerely hope that you will remain an active member of MAR next year, regardless of the outcome of elections. We are always working to expand the number of extended leadership positions and opportunities within NFTY-MAR; know that you will have a chance to lead, regardless of title.

Why?

Serving as a leader in the region is not about standing on stage, being the one to quiet the room, or running down the aisle for board intros. The most important thing to think about before you apply for cabinet or run for board is *why* you are doing it. Aspiring to be like your NFTY giants who stood in front of the region when you were in 8th grade isn't a bad thing; however, if that is your sole motivator, it is highly encouraged that you reflect on your decision to run for board as a means to help the region, not to elevate yourself.

How?

As you should understand, being a member of Regional Board is a big responsibility. Between writing programs, attending board meetings, responding to emails, and attending all events, Regional Board is a *significant* time commitment. We want to make sure that you are aware of this when considering running for board. Regional Board is a team, and as a member of that team you will be expected to not only perform your position's duties, but also work with Jessa and the five other board members to help them as needed. As a rising junior or senior in the region, you are trusted to this responsibility as a leader.

The NFTY-MAR elections process is an opportunity to share your strengths with the region, and give us an opportunity to get a sense of the kind of leader you would be and what kind of person you are. All candidates are expected to embrace NFTY's 13 principles, including values such as, *kehilah* (community), *shutafut* (partnership), and *kef v'ruach* (fun and spirit).

With this in mind, we'd like to remind you that there is **NO** campaigning allowed at any time. NFTY-MAR has a zero tolerance policy regarding campaigning. If the current Regional Board or the Regional Advisor hear of any candidate who has violated these restrictions, **they will be immediately disqualified:**

Campaigning includes passing out any written materials (brochures, fliers, etc), posts on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram (including private accounts), or other social media outlets advocating for your candidacy, discouraging others from running against you (directly or indirectly), strategizing to ensure you and/or your friends get on board, or anything

else deemed by the Regional Advisor or Elections Co-Chairs as giving yourself an unfair advantage.

What?

You will be expected to attend the New Board/Old Board meeting, five (5) regional events (including MAJYK), two (2) North American events, at least (1) pop-up event, and at least three (3) in-person Regional Board meetings (dates/locations TBD after elections), and frequent board calls.

The 2020-2021 Regional Calendar is still a work in progress, but tentative dates include:

NFTY-MAR New Board/Old Board Meeting – May TBD
 NFTY North American Mechina – June 4-7, 2020
 NFTY-MAR JELLO - October 2-4, 2020
 NFTY-MAR Subregion Days
 East/West: TBD
 South: TBD
 North: TBD
 NFTY-MAR MAJYK- December 18-20, 2020
 NFTY-MAR Winter Kallah – January 15-18, 2021
 NFTY Convention– February 12-15, 2021
 NFTY-MAR TheVent – March TBD
 NFTY-MAR Spring Kallah – April 22 - April 25, 2021

This packet contains what you need to look over and complete in order to progress on the elections process. Before you begin preparing your election materials, **look over the responsibilities** of the positions. This is to ensure you know exactly what is expected of you if elected to Regional Board. Once you fully understand the commitment you are making by running, this packet will guide you through writing your Letter of Intent, filming a video, writing a platform sheet, and filling out a signature sheet.

There is an incredible amount of logistical and programmatic planning that goes into each event, and meeting deadlines is something we take very seriously. A delay of mere hours or a single day can result in other board members having to pick up your slack. Excessive delays limit the trust and reliance that the Regional Board strives to build with one another. This is your first chance to demonstrate to us that you have the ability and dedication to adhere to our deadline policy, and as such, **late submissions will not be accepted under any circumstances.**

Prior to Spring Kallah, we will email you with more details about Meet the Candidates and other details about the elections process at Spring Kallah. Please know that we are here for you! **Feel free to email us at marelections@nfty.org if you have any questions, comments, or concerns.** We are your primary point-people for anything elections related. We are very excited to get this process started! YAY ELECTIONS!!

Your Elections Co-Chairs,

Mica “Micah” Maltzman
 Programming VP 2019-2020

Karyn “Karen Shy” Schy
 Membership VP VP 2018-2020

Letter to Parents/ Guardians

Dear NFTY-MAR Parent or Guardian,

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

I hope that your teen has taken the time to discuss their decision with you. Making the decision to run for 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. It may be difficult for some teens to serve on the regional board while participating in school sports, theater, or other extracurricular activities. In this light, it is very important that each candidate, as well as their parents, is aware of the demands of a regional board position.

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:

- Attendance at **five regional weekend events and one leadership day**
- Attendance at two **mandatory North American events** (Mechina and Convention)
- Attendance at least **three scheduled in-person board meetings** (dates and locations to be determined after the election takes place) as well as **frequent board calls**
- Work to **prepare for camp-hosted regional events and mentor board members at temple-hosted events**
- Maintain **involvement in local temple youth group**
- **Recruitment and relationship building** with participants year-round
- Along with the commitments above, specific other requirements will depend on the position your child may be elected to.

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 but should be brought to my attention before elections.

The financial responsibilities of a regional board member are the following:

- **Attendance and Payment of regional events.** Regional board members pay 1/2 of the early bird cost of each NFTY-MAR event, provided they complete registration on time, and meet all deadlines in completing their responsibilities for the event. The total cost for a regional board member to attend all NFTY-MAR events for the year will be

approximately \$650. This estimate *does not include* two North American events, Mechina and Veida, which vary in price due to transportation costs.

- o The required events are: JELLO, Subregion Leadership Days (must attend at least one), MAJYK, Winter Kallah, TheVent, and Spring Kallah.
 - Attendance is mandatory at MAJYK for all board members, but \$40 for the board to attend, covering the cost of individual weekend expenses.
- **Attendance and Payment of two (2) North American events.** NFTY-MAR offers \$200 in scholarship dollars to each regional board member toward registration of these events. Transportation is the responsibility of the board member.
- **Travel to Regional Board Meetings.** While expenses (food, accommodations, etc) are covered while at a regional board meeting, transportation (Megabus, etc) is the responsibility of the teen.

****We never want money to be a reason why a participant doesn't run for regional board. If your family has additional financial concerns, please know that we will do everything we can to work with you and provide additional support.**

Additionally, your child is strongly encouraged to spend their summer on a URJ Youth program such as learning leadership skills at a URJ Teen Leadership Summit, NFTY's Mitzvah Corps program, or as a CIT at a URJ camp. Although it is not mandatory that your child attends one of these program, it is strongly encouraged. NFTY-MAR can offer financial aid up to \$300 to help make these programs accessible to our regional board members.

The elections process is designed to challenge our candidates to think critically about their responsibilities as a regional board member, to affirm their commitment to acting in the best interest of the region, and to ensure that both the candidate and their parents are aware of what a year on regional board looks like. To this end, we strongly encourage you to have frank and honest conversations with your teen and the adults involved in their NFTY life before signing off on their intent to run.

We have a zero tolerance policy on campaigning; any candidate found to be campaigning will be immediately disqualified. No late elections material will be accepted. **Candidates who miss any of the elections process deadlines will be immediately disqualified.**

If elected, your child 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 may 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 NFTY-MAR's regional director, 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 child to learn and enhance leadership, time management, and communication skills, as well as create wonderful memories. I commend your child for deciding to take the risk and run for a position.

Elections will be held at our *Asefah* (Board Meeting) on the first day of Spring Kallah, Friday, May 1, 2020 beginning at 9:30 AM at Camp Harlam in Kunkletown, PA. If elected, our Regional Board Installations Ceremony will be on Saturday, May 2, 2020.

Lastly, I look forward to speaking to you more about your child's decision to run for office during our Zoom (Video Conference Program) meeting. Your teen is responsible for arranging this time for all of us to speak together, which ensures that we are all on the same page regarding obligations, responsibilities, and commitments.

If you have any questions regarding positions on the regional board, please feel free to reach out to me at any time at JCameron@urj.org. I look forward to keeping communication open with the parents of our regional board members, and encourage you to be in touch at any time.

L'Shalom,

Jessa Cameron, Director of Youth Engagement, *NFTY Mid-Atlantic Region* (JCameron@urj.org)

Constitutional Responsibilities of Board Members

*It is not the position that honors the person, but rather the person that honors the position.
–Taanit 21b*

President:

1. To prepare an agenda for and preside over all NFTY-MAR Board Meetings.
2. To guide the NFTY-MAR Regional Board in the planning and execution of their goals.
3. To consult weekly with the NFTY-MAR Regional Director.
4. To check in with each NFTY-MAR Board member at least once every two weeks.
5. To plan monthly regional board meetings and three in-person meetings throughout the program year in conjunction with the NFTY-MAR Regional Director.
6. To check in with each NFTY-MAR Board member and event chairs one week prior to any program deadline and offer assistance if needed.
7. To consult weekly with the hosting temple's TYG President leading up to their event.
8. To be directly responsible for the execution and implementation of the Constitution of this organization and any adjunctive rules.

Programming Vice President:

1. To oversee the planning and implementation of NFTY-MAR Regional Events.
2. To consult weekly with the Programming Chair for each temple hosted event.
3. To collect regional event programs, discuss them with the Regional Director, give feedback to the program writers, and collect final drafts.
4. To check in with all program writers one week prior to any program deadline and offer assistance if needed; to keep the Regional Director in the loop on program progress.
5. To meet with a regional clergy representative at least 6 weeks prior to every camp event to discuss programming themes and topics and explore the range of Judaic content that can be applied; to continue consulting with the regional clergy throughout the program writing process.
6. To implement any North American mandated programming in the Mid Atlantic Region.

Social Action Vice President:

1. To implement a social action program at each regional event.
2. To oversee the coin jugs throughout the year, keeping track of all money raised, depositing the coins into the bank, and making a check out to NFTY-MAR.
3. To educate the region on charitable options, and to select a non-profit cause to donate to throughout the year.
4. To oversee the social action fundraising at Winter Kallah, including, but not limited to, the social action service auction.
5. To build relationships with other Jewish organizations, including, but not limited to, the Religious Action Center, to plan social action projects outside of regional events.
6. To solicit and collect entries to the MAPA and other social action awards, and select a winner to be announced at Spring Kallah.

Religious and Cultural Vice President:

1. To keep all members of NFTY-MAR informed on various religious and cultural issues and the NFTY Study Theme.
2. To oversee the planning and implementation of all worship services at Regional Events.
 - a. To include other NFTYites and Board Members in the planning of services when appropriate, but to be the person to put together service packets, sit on the bima, and lead the service.
 - b. To communicate with the Song Leading Chairs and to consult with them weekly between the meeting and the event.
 - c. To communicate with the T'filah Chair of all temple hosted events, checking in with them weekly leading up to the event.
 - d. To ensure that the T'filah Chair of a temple hosted event and the head song leaders are in touch regarding musical needs for services at least six (6) weeks prior to the event.
 - e. To find Torah readers for camp events, and to consult with T'filah Chair if they need help finding Torah readers for temple hosted events.
 - f. To be the liaison to the Spiritual Engagement Committee and ensure that d'vars are being written for each NFTY regional event.
3. To meet with a regional clergy representative at least 6 weeks prior to every camp event to discuss service themes and topics, get copies of the Torah portion readings, find out any additional rituals that will take place during the coming event, and explore the range of Judaic content that can be applied to programs as well; to continue consulting with the regional clergy throughout the service writing and planning process.

Communications Vice President:

1. To take minutes at all NFTY-MAR Regional and General Board Meetings, and publish them (email to Regional Board and post on NFTY-MAR website) in a timely fashion.
2. To publish The Mouth, the newspaper/video blog of NFTY-MAR, after each event.
3. To solicit entries to the NFTY-MAR blog from MARites.
4. To work closely with the Regional Director on maintaining the NFTY-MAR website.
5. To work closely with the Media & Merchandise Committee (M&Ms) to design new merchandise, as well as run Canteen at every regional event.
6. To work with M&Ms to ensure that photos are taken at every event, and to publish an official photo album to the NFTY-MAR Facebook Page within one (1) week of every regional event.
7. To help plan a variety of different fundraising opportunities throughout the year to raise money for the NFTY-MAR Scholarship Fund, outside the Winter Kallah activities.
8. To work closely with the Regional Director to order merchandise and manage the budget.

Membership Vice President:

1. Serve as a resource to all TYGs in the Region on all matters pertaining to NFTY and NFTY-MAR.
2. To actively participate in the North American MVP network.

3. To build relationships with other local Jewish organizations in the Mid-Atlantic Region
4. To work with the Membership Subregional Assistant Committee (mSAC) to actively recruit in each sub-region.
5. To plan and execute, with the help of their regional mSAC, at least 3 sub-regional or “pop-up” events.
6. To maintain and present the Mid-Atlantic Membership Awards (MAMAs)
7. To maintain the MAR regional Membership Vice Presidents Network.

It is the responsibility of ALL NFTY-MAR REGIONAL BOARD MEMBERS:

1. To attend all NFTY-MAR Regional Board Meetings.
2. To attend all NFTY-MAR Regional Events.
3. To submit registration for events on time, and to meet all programming deadlines.
4. To communicate with the Regional Director and the Regional Board on a regular basis.
5. To participate in the North American network for their position.
6. To maintain the regional network of TYG board members for their position.
7. To communicate with and serve as a resource to all TYGs in NFTY-MAR.
8. To encourage attendance at NFTY-MAR Regional Events.
9. To help ensure that the B’rit K’hilah is followed at Regional Events.
10. To serve as role models for all members of NFTY on a local, regional, and North American level, and to appropriately represent NFTY-MAR to others.
11. To maintain involvement with their home TYGs on a regular basis.
12. To strengthen and develop leadership within the region.
13. To serve as a liaison between youth and adult leadership.
14. To support other board members.
15. To attend NFTY's Mechina and Convention and serve as a representative of NFTY-MAR.

General Expectations of NFTY Board Members

*“It is not the position that honors the person, but rather the person that honors the position” - Ta’anit
21b*

Role Model – Recognize that members of NFTY-MAR 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 *B’rit Kehilah*.

Approachability – Regional board members need to be approachable at all times. NFTYites should know how to reach you. At NFTY-MAR 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-MAR 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-MAR regional board you are making a commitment that **NFTY-MAR will be your primary extracurricular activity.**

Communication – It is expected that you will maintain open lines of communication with your fellow board members, regional advisor, and region. You will respond to all emails regarding NFTY within 24 hours, even if to say that you are forwarding the question to someone else, or that you need more time to respond adequately.

NFTYite 1st, Board Member 2nd, Position 3rd – The motto of the NFTY-MAR Regional Board. This means that you will remember that you are first and foremost a NFTYite, just like all other NFTYites. **Election to Regional Board means that you are in a position to learn a great deal from the experience, not that you automatically know more than the rest of the region.** Being on board means that you will be a team player, act in the best interest of the board, and be willing to work beyond your official duties. While important, the last piece is your specific position.

Excerpts from the NFTY-MAR Constitution

ARTICLE SIX: Executive Board

Section A. The business between meetings of plenary shall be conducted by the Executive Board with the guidance of the Regional Advisor and Regional Clergy.

Section B. The Executive Board shall consist of the elected officers. The elected officers shall be voting members of the Executive Board, not including the President, except in the event of a tie-vote in which case the President serves as the tiebreaker.

Section C. There shall be a minimum of three (3) board meetings a year, including Spring Executive Board Meeting to plan for the year and Meetings directly before LEAD (Leadership Exploration and Development) and Winter Kallah.

Section D. The NFTY-MAR Executive Board duties include:

1. To be a member of the North American General Board, to serve actively in respective North American Networks, and to keep the delegates at MAR plenary sessions aware of NFTY policies and movements
2. To prepare resolutions and legislation for the plenary sessions.
3. To implement programs set up at the plenary sessions.
4. To report to the attending body at Winter Kallah in formal board reports.
5. To follow established procedures set by the Regional Kallah Planner for the execution of all regional temple-run events.
6. To approve appointments by the President.
7. To act on behalf of the region at all times.
8. To attend all regional events and board meetings, barring circumstances deemed acceptable by the Regional Advisor and/or President with reasonable advance notice given.
9. To work collaboratively writing programs and services etc. for all board-run events along with respective Cabinet Members.
10. To serve as a liaison to specific Cabinet positions, determined at Spring Executive Board Meeting.
11. To plan and execute meetings for their respective networks in NFTY-MAR at least twice per programming year during the course of regularly scheduled regional events.
12. To work with his/her successor between Spring-Elections Kallah and the first Executive Board Meeting after Spring-Elections Kallah.
13. To aid and observe their successor and to acquaint them with the NFTY-MAR procedure.
14. To participate actively in his/her own local TYG.

Detailed Guidelines

Declaration of Candidacy, Brief Bio, Photo, and Mixer Questions- March 27th

Prospective candidates must **declare their intention to run**, in writing, to the NFTY-MAR Elections Co-Chairs, Mica Maltzman and Karyn Schy, as well as the NFTY-MAR Regional Director, Jessa Cameron, no later than **March 27th**. Please send the following in an email to marelections@nfty.org.

- A declaration of candidacy, including position and (potential) drop-down position. Keep in mind, **you can only drop down to a position in lower gavel order than your primary position**. To see the gavel order, check out page 21. Your declaration can just be a sentence.
- An approximately **75-word bio** to introduce yourself to the region. Please use first person and include your preferred pronouns. For example, “I’m Bob Ross (he/him), and I like to paint.”
- A **square photo**. Choose whatever photo you like, as long as you are the only person in the photo. Please crop it into a square before sending.
- Answers to **two mixer questions**. Please paste the question into the email, along with your answer.
 - What is your superpower? (Required)
 - What do you think of when you hear the word “chair”?
 - What is the name of your autobiography?
 - What seat in the car are you and why? (ex. passenger, middle, etc.)

Signature Sheet - April 4th

Being on regional board is a big commitment. It is necessary that the people that support you are on board (no pun intended) with you running. To run, you are required to have conversations with the board member who currently holds the position you’re running for (including drop downs if necessary), a member of your temple’s clergy, your TYG advisor, and MAR’s Regional Director. If the position you are running for is currently held by a junior, you will have a conversation with the MAR President. These people must sign off on your candidacy. The signature sheet can be found [here](#).

- To set up a call with a current regional board member, contact them at their NFTY [email](#).
- If you do not belong to a TYG or do not currently have an advisor, your clergy-member or another MAR youth advisor can sign that section of the sheet.
- For Jessa Cameron (Regional Director) to sign off on your sheet, you must have a call with both your parents and Jessa. This call is to ensure that everybody is on the same page as far as time commitments, financial obligations, and the standard to which we hold our board members. It is **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to set up this meeting** by emailing Jessa (JCameron@urj.org). Without this call, Jessa will not sign your candidacy sheet, resulting in your disqualification as a candidate. All calls with Jessa will take place between **March 27th - April 12th** (no calls during Shabbat). You will receive your final signature after that call.

- If someone is signing off from afar and cannot provide a physical signature, please have them email marelections@nfty.org, including the candidates name, their role, and whether they sign off or not. Like the physical signatures, these emails must be received by **April 4**.
- Please send a photo or scan of your physical signature sheet to marelections@nfty.org by midnight of **April 4**. We understand Jessa's signature will not be included on this.

Letter of Intent - April 4th

A Letter of Intent is used to outline a candidate's platform and their vision for the region if elected. It should include a summary of what they intend to do in the upcoming year, why it is important NFTY-MAR, and any other information deemed relevant. The letter should be formatted with **one-inch margins** on each side and be written in **12 point Times New Roman** font.

The letter should also answer the following guiding questions based on position. While they don't need to be exact responses, the questions are helpful in targeting your letter to items that participants will be looking for in a candidate. In addition, if you would like to use some of your space to include answers to these questions for your drop-down position, you are welcome to do so, but we encourage the majority of your Letter of Intent to focus on your main position.

- **For Everyone:**
 - What strengths and ideas do you have to be able to work as a general board member, beyond the responsibilities of your appointed position?
 - How do you expect to balance being both a peer and a leader in the region?
- **President**
 - What "vision" do you have for the future of the region?
 - What particular strengths do you have that would make you a strong candidate for President?
- **Programming Vice President**
 - What are your programming-related goals for the 5780-5781 year and how do you plan to implement them?
 - What strengths do you possess that would make you a strong PVP?
- **Social Action Vice President**
 - What are your social action related goals for the 5780-5781 year and how do you plan to implement them?
 - What strengths do you possess that would make you a strong SAVP?
- **Religious and Cultural Vice President**
 - What are your religious and cultural related goals for the 5780-5781 year and how do you plan to implement them?
 - How would you bring religion and culture into every aspect of NFTY-MAR, not just during services?
- **Communications Vice President**
 - Despite most TYGs sending at least a handful of members to NFTY-MAR events, there can often remain a disconnect between the less-involved TYGs

and the region as a whole. How would you use communication to ensure that those TYGs are connected to and informed about the region as a whole?

- What strengths do you possess that would make you a strong CVP?
- **Membership Vice President**
 - What are the biggest membership obstacles facing MAR? How are you going to face these issues?
 - What strengths do you possess that would make you a strong MVP?

Since your Letter of Intent will become public domain, please do not use any personal information such as personal emails, Twitter handles, screen names, phone numbers, etc.

Please send your **Letter of Intent** to marelections@nfty.org along with the **signature sheet** outlined above on **April 4th**.

Speech - April 12th

Candidates are required to prepare a video speech to be shared to the region. Candidates for any Vice President position will be allowed a speech no longer than **two and a half (2.5) minutes** in length. Candidates for President will be allowed a speech no longer than **three (3) minutes** in length. Drop down speech videos will only be played at the event as they are needed, not publicly posted online. Drop down speeches for any position will be allowed no more than **one and a half (1.5) minutes**. The speeches must be done in one take and contain no editing. Please make sure the volume works and that your video is clear and free of distractions.

There is a specific process that must be followed to make sure videos are correctly posted and **can only be viewed after elections materials are public on the website**. The steps are as follows:

- Upload your speech to Vimeo.com by midnight on April 12th.
- Name your speech something random and unrelated to NFTY, such as “I love dogs”
- Change your Vimeo name (under settings) to something other than your name, such as “Dog Lover”. In addition, make sure you don’t have a profile picture.
- Send the video link to marelections@nfty.org by midnight on April 12th
- You will receive an email close to when the elections materials will be posted on the MAR website. This email will remind you to change the name to something more professional.
- **Do not share your video with others until it is posted on the NFTY-MAR website.** This is considered a form of campaigning, and will result in disqualification. When the elections co-chairs receive your video, there should be fewer than 3 views on it.
- For drop-down videos:
 - Post your video to Vimeo, make it private, and add a password. When you send the links to the elections email, please include the password.

Posting videos can be a complicated process. If you have any questions, feel free to contact marelections@nfty.org.

Program Summary- April 12th

Candidates are required to write a brief program summary. The purpose is to show the region what type of programming you think is engaging and important. Your program can range from a service, mixer, discussion, or anything else. Please make it something feasible that could be easily implemented at a MAR event.

- Write 200-500 words describing a program you would like to have at a regional event. Make sure to include the purpose behind the program, and what specific activities participants would do.
- If you have already written a program you're proud of, you can submit a summary of it. However, please make sure that you are the only author of the original program.

If any materials are missing after April 12th, your candidacy will be nullified.

Platform Paper - April 26th for Jessa to print it OR April 30th (Spring Kallah) if printing yourself

Each candidate is allowed to create a fun, colorful position paper that can be distributed during the "Meet the Candidates" session. **This should be no longer than one page, single-sided.** The candidate will give the print-outs to the elections chairs the Thursday of Spring Kallah. If Jessa is not printing it, the sheet does not need to be emailed to the elections chairs before Spring Kallah. Platform sheets typically include a brief bio, some photos, and your major platform points. If you are dropping down, you may only have one sheet. It is up to you which platform points to include, but please make sure the sheet includes the drop down position.

NFTY-MAR Regional Board Election Guidelines

We strongly encourage you to take a lot of time to discuss running for regional board with your parents, as well as to consider which position you'd like to run for, and which, if any, to drop down to. Please take a few days after receiving this packet before you make any final decisions. In particular, please look through the [Specific Responsibilities of Board Members](#) section thoroughly!

The step by step procedure to run is outlined above in the [Detailed Guidelines](#) section.

Elections

- Elections will proceed in gavel order on Friday morning of Spring Kallah.
- Delegates will mark their votes on an official ballot. The official ballot will include an option for each candidate, a no-vote option, and an abstention option. The NFTY Constitution requires a simple majority to elect. Please familiarize yourself with election procedures outlined in the NFTY Constitution and the outcomes of each option.
- Ballots will be counted by the current NFTY-MAR President and NFTY-MAR Regional Director.
- The candidates will be informed of the outcome in the “holding tank” before it is announced to the region.

What a Candidate Cannot Do (At Risk of Disqualification)

Each of the following guidelines is subject to the discretion of the election Co-chairs and the NFTY-MAR Regional Director. 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, consult the NFTY-MAR Election Co-chairs or Jessa Cameron.

- Intimidating, in any way, someone else who is running for the position you plan to run for (before, during, or after elections).
- Speak poorly about another candidate or distribute and share inappropriate or negative material about any candidate.
- Distribute material to any MARite that discusses the voting procedure in attempt to sway/affect that person's vote. (e.g., material may educate about the candidate's platform, but may not say, for example, “vote for me,” “I am the best candidate”).
- **Contact – including by means of telephone, e-mail, text messaging, or other social media, etc. – any MARite (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. The material is meant to educate, not advertise.

The ONLY permissible material to be handed out is the platform paper, which may ONLY be distributed during Meet the Candidates.

- Use network email threads or Facebook groups as a forum for campaigning in any way.
- Contact delegates from other TYGs in an effort to block vote.

Completed forms are due by **April 4th**. Jessa's signature will be given after your call with her and is not needed by this deadline. All candidates should have declared their candidacy by this time, and **no elections materials will be accepted late**. All finished elections materials should be emailed to: marelections@nfty.org

Questions regarding elections procedures should be directed to Karyn Schy and Mica Maltzman, the 2020 NFTY-MAR Elections Co-chairs, at marelections@nfty.org.

B'hatzlacha – Good Luck!

2020-2021 Regional Board Candidate Signature Sheet

I, _____, intend to run for NFTY-MAR _____.

My intended drop down, if applicable, is _____.

*You must have a signature from the current board member holding the position for which you wish to run. If you are choosing to exercise your option to “drop-down” one signature must be from the board member currently holding the position for which you wish to drop to. Current regional board members reserve the right to not sign. *If you are unable to obtain a signature in person, write in that person’s name, and have them send an emailed “electronic signature” to marelections@nfty.org that that they are endorsing you, and including the position you are running for.*

Signature of Current Board Member

Signature of Current Board Member (Drop-Down)

I understand that as a member of the NFTY-MAR Regional Board I serve as a role model not only when I am in front of the group, but as a participant as well. I will attend all regional events and executive board meetings, barring special circumstances cleared ahead of time with the NFTY-MAR Regional Director. I will maintain active membership in my TYG and serve as a role model when in attendance at TYG events. I will be a model participant at these events observing all the rules from the B’rit Kehillah. I have also read Article Six, Section D of the Constitution and understand that effective immediately, as a candidate as well as both a member-elect and an installed regional board member, any violation of the Brit Kehillah is subject to dismissal from my intended, elected, or current office. I have spoken in detail with the NFTY-MAR Regional Director, my local TYG Advisor, and my parents/guardians, and running for office with their support.

Applicant’s Signature

After speaking in detail with with my teen, and by participating in a conversation with the NFTY-MAR Regional Director, I understand the commitment my son/daughter is making with the decision to run for NFTY-MAR Regional Board. I understand the monetary commitment for my son/daughter to attend regional events, executive board meetings, and North American events, Mechina and Veida/NFTY Convention. I know there is a significant time commitment associated with these positions of leadership that may impact the entire family and hereby give my permission for him/her to run for NFTY-MAR board.

Parent/Guardian’s Signature

The above candidate is a member in good standing of our synagogue and youth group. I have had a conversation with this candidate and I believe they understand the commitment they are making and are fit to serve in the position for which they are running.

Rabbi, Cantor, or Educator's Signature

After speaking in detail with the above candidate, I believe that they understand the commitment they are making and are fit to serve in the position for which they are running. Through the work they've accomplished in our local temple youth group, I believe they are qualified, dedicated, and well-suited for the position for which they are running.

TYG Advisor's Signature

This candidate has adhered to all rules and regulations related to NFTY-MAR Regional Board Elections, including refraining from any type of campaigning, and filing all appropriate paperwork on time. After conversations with the candidate and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s), I believe that they understand the commitment they are making, and are fit to serve in the position for which they are running.

NFTY-MAR Regional Director's Signature

Current Regional Board Contact Information

President

Lindsey Fleishman
mar-president@nfty.org

Programming Vice President

Mica Maltzman
mar-pvp@nfty.org

Social Action Vice President

Lee Smith
mar-savp@nfty.org

Religious & Cultural Vice President

Noah Simon
mar-rcvp@nfty.org

Communications Vice President

Noah Volin
mar-cvp@nfty.org

Membership Vice President

Karyn Schy
mar-mvp@nfty.org

Regional Director

Jessa Cameron
JCameron@urj.org

**All communications regarding elections should be initiated through the board member's
NFTY.org email**