

The start of a NFTY event can sometimes be awkward at times, especially in a virtual setting. Not knowing the other participants can create a sense of isolation, which is why mixers are so important. Having a chance to meet and get to know the other people at events prior to attending full programs/services can form connections that last. NFTY is all about connections, and NFTY creates lifelong connections.

This mixer would occur at the start of a virtual event, before Friday night services. There would be 3/4/5 breakout rooms (depending on the number of participants), and there would be 1 group leader per group. There would be a popcorn introduction between each person in the group, and each person would state their: name, grade, pronouns, TYG, and answer the following mixer question: "If you could be any object in the room you're in right now, what would you be and why?" This question would be a sort of sneak peek towards the actual mixer. After the introductions are done, the official mixer would begin. This is a speed talent show, as well as a funny show and tell. Each participant will turn off their cameras while the group leader sets a 30 second timer. The participants will take this time to grab any object in the room that they're in, and then they'll turn their cameras back on once the timer is done. Then, each participant will show their item to the group, and perform any sort of talent with that item that they make up.

This mixer program will be a fun, spontaneous way to have MARites connect with each other, even in a small way. The intent of this program is to start the event off on a good note, with participants knowing a few more people that they may have never met or had the chance to talk to. My hopes for this program are that MARites have a fun start to a virtual event and that there are more connections building that will hopefully continue.