

Hi NFTY MAR,

My NFTY story begins in 7th grade with a middle school event called MAJYK. While I didn't have the greatest experience, I chose to go to another event my freshman year. At this event I discovered the connections I was about to create were ones that would last a lifetime. I've made all of my best friends through NFTY and I have grown a love for leadership and putting myself out there even when it may be uncomfortable. When it seems like everything in my life is going wrong I know that the NFTY community is there. It is a constant in my life and I will be forever grateful. NFTY MAR, I want to give to you in the same way you have given to me. After watching my sister work within different facets of NFTY, I jumped at the chance to be able to do it myself. I was communications vice president (CVP) my sophomore year, and that was the seed that grew into my love of communications. This gave me the drive to run for and become CVP this year. I was also honored to serve this year as head M&M of NFTY MAR. Working within NFTY has truly made me realize what a loving, supportive community we have. Living in the Covid pandemic, there were many challenges, but with all of the amazing experiences and opportunities I was able to have, it was all worth it. With these experiences and the love in my heart for everyone in the NFTY community, **I am thrilled to declare my candidacy for NFTY-MAR's Communications Vice President for 5782-5783.**

For as long as I can remember, I've had a passion for photography and graphic design. Infinite possibilities within the digital world and the freedom of creativity has always appealed to me. Having the privilege to have worked within TRSTY and NFTY MAR boards for a couple of years has increased that love. Whether it was making posters, designing merch, or taking pictures at events, I always loved it. Being CVP and M&M has allowed me to make many connections within the NFTY community. Holding onto NFTY throughout the pandemic was difficult at times since online events were matchless to in-person experiences. However, NFTY always felt like home no matter what. After attending a few online events, it became evident that it didn't matter where the activities took place but that we were together. I also understand how vital it is that as board members, we are there for the region both as a resource and helping hand. As we hopefully begin to transition back to in-person events, I am ready to become a part of the team and to give my all to my NFTY work.

In the past couple of years, keeping up with participants has been hard. I, as CVP, plan to create interactive Instagram media such as polls and surveys that will re-engage and engage participants and get them excited about our upcoming events. I've also noticed in my time working on the TYG and NFTY boards that there is very little connection between them. I want TYG's to be able to have the same experiences that I've had in NFTY, so I want to create a stronger CVP network. I want to engage TYGs that have little to no connection with NFTY and help keep the ties to the TYGs that already do. In doing this we can create a tighter community between the TYGs and NFTY. We can also bring new participants into our community.

Since everyone in NFTY are such comical people, I think that it would only be appropriate to create a NFTY MAR meme page on Instagram. This way, people could send in their own pictures and captions if they wanted to and in doing this these funny memes would give our region inside jokes and people would be so excited to come to events so that they could be featured on the account. NFTY MAR has taught me what love outside of your family is supposed to feel like. To have the opportunity to serve this community is an honor and a privilege. As your CVP, I promise to give this region my all and take on everything with arms wide open and a smile on my face. I will collaborate with the rest of Regbo and Cabinet in bringing this region to its fullest potential.

With love, Naomi Kazden