

 **NFTY**
SOCCAL



Elections Packet
2019-2020 | 5779-5780

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LETTER TO THE CANDIDATES

Dear Candidate,

Congratulations on beginning your journey running for regional board! Even just the process of applying is impressive and will teach you many valuable leadership lessons.

Serving on NFTY SOCAL's regional board has been one of the most fulfilling experiences of my life and has given me so many life skills that will benefit me for a lifetime. This is an exciting process that is extremely valuable for any candidate!

The first step in beginning your journey is to understand the responsibilities and obligations required for the seven Regional Board positions. Each position requires great dedication, as well as both a time and financial commitment.

Please read through this packet thoroughly with your parent/guardian and discuss the commitment it will mean for you and your family if elected. I also encourage you to reach out to past and present Regional Board members to discuss the process, commitment and duties. I know they would love to help you out in any way they can.

It is important to understand that being NFTY SOCAL Regional Board member is a huge dedication to the region. This must be a commitment that you are willing and excited to make. You will be expected to follow the *B'rit K'hilah* (Code of Conduct) at all times, and set an excellent example in all NFTY affiliated events.

In order to officially begin the process of running for the 2019-2020 Regional Board, please read through this packet and ensure you meet all deadlines. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me. I am here for *anything* you need!

On behalf of the current Regional Board, we are so excited and proud of you for expressing interest in running. We wish you the best of luck, and have fun during this process!

L'Shalom,

[Camila Grossman](#)

NFTY SOCAL President

LETTER TO THE PARENTS

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Holding a position on the Regional Board can be an extremely fulfilling and rewarding experience. The Regional Staff team and I work closely with the board to provide support and to push them to achieve their potential. As an organization, NFTY SOCAL strives to foster participant leadership and empowerment in all that we do. Participation in Regional Board elections takes this to the next level. This is a wonderful opportunity for your teen to learn and enhance leadership, time management and communication skills, while growing their Jewish identity and connection to the Jewish community. We have found that a successful Regional Board member is one who is able to dedicate a great deal of time, focus and care to their position. This requires a large commitment from both the teen and the family. Some teens find it challenging to serve on the Regional Board while participating in school sports, theater or other extra-curricular activities. In this light, it is very important that each candidate, as well as their families be aware of the demands of a Regional Board position.

Please read the entire packet, constitution, and B'rit K'hilah with your teen to ensure a complete understanding of this experience, the expectations and the commitment. If you have any questions regarding the Regional Board experience, or would like to schedule an informational call, please feel free to contact me.

Best,

Lily Gottlieb, Regional Advisor, NFTY SOCAL

NIFTY SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA 2019-2020 CALENDAR

Stay Tuned!

We are in the process of finalizing our 2019-20 program dates.

If you would like to discuss potential conflicting dates,
please feel free to contact the [Regional Staff](#).

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INFORMATION

COMMITMENTS

- Attendance at all NFTY SOCAL events. Attendance at SOCAL 678 (Middle School programs) and pop-up events are also required. Your family will be expected to pay for every regional event with a 50% discount.
- Attendance at North American events, including Mechina in June 2019 and NFTY Veida in February 2020. Your family will be expected to pay the registration fees for each North American event, as well as flight expenses, and Regional Board members are provided a \$200 discount toward each event.
- Attendance at all Regional Board meetings. Meetings take place six times per year and last two days and one night. Each teen is also welcome to host board meetings throughout the year, in which case hosting families provide space and meals.
- Event preparation and deadlines. This includes an extensive amount of high quality work, individually and in groups, with strict timelines, parameters and expectations.
- Bi-weekly phone calls.

CAMPAIGNING

Campaigning is NOT allowed and will result in immediate disqualification. If you are unsure if something is considered a violation, please check with the [Regional Staff](#). Violations include, but are not limited to:

- Discussing your candidacy with participants to sway their vote.
- Utilizing social media to campaign for yourself or others.
- Distributing materials that aim to sway participant votes.
- Sharing inappropriate or negative material about fellow candidates.
- Sharing or reposting the link to the video speeches on any social media platform.

EXPECTATIONS

1. Communication: Regional Board members will be available for meetings, phone calls and weekly video chats. Regional Board members will respond to all e-mails, text messages and phone calls within a reasonable and professional timeframe.
2. Organization: Regional Board members will maintain organized, detailed calendars, and practice top quality organization in their work.
3. Accountability: Regional Board members will be true, reliable owners for their work and commitments.
4. Behavior: Regional Board members will adhere to the B'rit K'hilah and the mutually determined "Fishbowl" rules throughout their full term.
5. Innovation: All ideas are welcomed and expected from all board members in order to promote growth in the region and the creation of the best programming possible. Similarly, all board members should be willing to provide and accept input on all programs and services, and act as a resource for all board members and non-board members throughout the year.

DEADLINES

REQUIRED READING & INTEREST EMAIL (BY 4PM PST, FEB. 8TH, 2019)

- **Required Reading:** Read the following with your parent/guardian: [Constitution](#), [B'rit K'hilah](#), and Elections Packet.
- **Interest Email:** Two required calls must take place to ensure candidacy: a candidate and parent call with a Regional Staff member, and a candidate call with a current Regional Board member. **For this deadline, the candidate only needs to email the [Regional Staff](#) to formally express interest and receive information for scheduling the two calls.** The candidate must email Regional Staff by 4pm PST, February 8th 2019 in order to ensure candidacy and begin this process.

INFORMATIONAL CALLS (BY 4PM PST, FEB. 15TH, 2019)

- **Regional Staff Call:** Calls are about 30 minutes to 1 hour, and must include a member of the Regional Staff, the candidate and a parent/guardian.
- **Regional Board Call:** Calls are about 20 to 30 minutes, and must include the candidate and a current Regional Board member.

ELECTIONS APPLICATION (BY 4PM PST, MARCH 8TH, 2019)

- **Elections Application:** A simple [survey](#) used to collect basic information and submit Photo, Letter of Intent and Video Speech. This cannot be submitted until after the Informational Calls have been completed.
 - **Photo:** A digital photo of the candidate. It must be 6-inches wide by 6-inches high, and 300 dpi. To submit the photo, please upload it to the [Elections Application](#) where prompted.
 - **Letter of Intent:** An official document in which the candidate states who they are, their position(s) of interest and platform. It must be one page, single-spaced, 1-inch margins, Helvetica 12-point font and saved as a Word Document. To submit the Letter of Intent, please upload it to the [Elections Application](#) where prompted.
 - **Video Speech:** See the next page for video speech instructions. To submit the Video Speech, please paste the link where prompted on the [Elections Application](#).
 - **Platform Sheet:** See the next page for platform sheet instructions. It must be one page, single-sided and saved as a JPG (if you need any help, contact Cami Grossman). To submit the Platform Sheet, please upload it to the [Elections Application](#) where prompted.

VIDEO SPEECHES

There is a 4-minute time limit for Presidential candidates, and a 3-minute time limit for all other candidates. There will be no drop-down speeches; however, candidates may include information about drop-down positions in their speech if they wish. The video must be filmed in one take, against a blank wall with no scene changes, props or people other than the candidate. Upload your video speech to [Vimeo](#) and submit by pasting the link and password onto the [Elections Application](#) where prompted.

Guidelines:

- The account you upload your speech to must have no other videos on it.
- Use your candidate photo.
- Disable comments.
- Make the video private with a password.
- Title the video using this format: Name, Position, Drop-Down Position
Example 1: Camila Grossman, President
Example 2: Rudy Brandt, PVP, RCVP
Example 3: Lily Gottlieb, CVP

PLATFORM SHEETS

Platform sheets are a new addition to our candidacy process this year. They will be submitted in the [Elections Application](#), and distributed to every TYG at Leadership Kallah. We are excited to include them as they provide a visual component to your candidacy, and ensure every voting delegate has proper information of each candidate and each candidate's platform.

Guidelines:

- Include your full name, and the position(s) you are running for.
- Include at least one picture of yourself.
- You may use any graphic design software to create the sheet. We recommend [Canva](#).
- We will be printing out black and white versions of your platform, but it is up to you to bring your own if you want color.
- See [examples of platform sheets](#)