

Willow Perlick

BTY

Hi NFTY Missouri Valley! My name is Willow Perlick and I'm ecstatic to run for your regional Communications and Visuals Vice President for the 2017-2018 school year. I'm from BTY in Boulder, Colorado and have learned so much from holding the CVVP position in our youth group this past year. I've experienced my love for working with others. I've discovered my passion for photography. I've found that life is a process and that there is



consistent room for growth and improvement. Most importantly however, I've learned that I love being a leader in NFTY and I feel ready to take on a new role of leadership within our region. A little about me: I love music, the outdoors, getting to know people, and learning about the world. Not only do I love learning about the world but learning about individuals. That's why I love NFTY so deeply. Each and every one of us is a complex being with a story to be told and that's what makes the NFTY picture so bright. I would be honored to have the opportunity to capture the light within this region.

Why do you want to be on Regional Board?

Throughout my journey in NFTY I have always felt so held, supported, and loved by upperclassmen and leaders in our region. It is so clear to me that these people are the ones who made me feel welcome and the ones who kept me coming back. I am so appreciative of those members of NFTY who have held roles of leadership before me, and I would like to do the same. I want to have the opportunity to provide that assistance and encouragement that I have received so abundantly for the past three years. In addition to the desire to give back to this incredible region, I believe that Regional Board is an amazing opportunity. The amount of knowledge and skill that you gain from an experience like this is huge. Working closely with a group, planning events, staying organized, helping others stay organized, being a student, being a teacher, and being a member of so many different networks are all such valuable learning experiences. I want to learn and I want to help others learn. I think Regional Board fosters learning in so many aspects and it would be wonderful to partake in that shared wisdom.

What are your qualifications for the position of CVVP?

This past year I shared the position of Boulder Temple Youth's CVVP with Maggie Atwell. In addition to gaining skills in photography, organization, and social media, I gained the ability to work closely with another person and get work done in an effective and efficient way. This has helped me become a good communicator and has helped me to understand what it means to be accountable and how truly important that is. I am a social person and I love getting to know people individually, and on a personal level. Although much of CVVP can be behind the scenes, taking pictures of people is a very socially interactive aspect of the job. I have a strong presence

and understanding of social media. This has given me the skills to distribute information and engage people effectively online. I love taking pictures. I have taken courses in photography and use my camera all the time. Within NFTY I have taken pictures at local and regional events over the past year. I feel confident in my qualifications for this position and I am eager to keep learning.

What traits do you possess that would make you an effective regional board member?

My experiences working on the BTY board this year have helped me develop many characteristics that would make me a very effective Regional Board member. I have the ability to communicate well with others and contribute my knowledge and ideas. I am willing to give help as well as ask for help. I am able to take constructive criticism and apply it in a way that works for me and for others. I have the drive to improve, grow, and complete all work to the best of my abilities. A huge aspect of being on a board is willingness to compromise and listen to other people's needs and desires. I recognize this necessity and work hard to understand the people I am working with and where they are coming from. I have been on sports teams since I was three years old. Whether it be gymnastics, soccer, or track, these have all provided incredible life lessons in communication and teamwork. I find it so interesting to be a part of a group, learning how everyone interacts, and figuring out how I can contribute to make the most out of each project and each relationship.

What have you achieved in positions of leadership in NFTY you're proud of?

In NFTY I have been a program leader, a program writer, a participant, an organizer, a photographer, a student, and a teacher. I am proud that as a sophomore I stepped up as a Welcoming Committee Chair for Winter Chavurah. This experience taught me how to organize a group of people and delegate responsibilities. As a Junior I am proud of my work as CVVP for BTY and my efforts as a Ruach Chair for MV Regional Cabinet. All of these opportunities allowed me to find a new passion, perspective, and purpose within NFTY. In BTY I feel that Maggie and I have reshaped the position of CVVP to be more active and present on social media and provide information in a more accessible way. This has had a really positive effect on our youth group and I feel good about the feedback we have received. As Ruach Chairs, Jack and I have also worked hard to bring in new enthusiasm and spirit. One thing I think worked extremely well was bringing spirit beads to the basketball game at Winter Chavurah this year. I feel so lucky to have the opportunity to contribute, and I look forward to continuing as a leader in our region.

What are you looking forward to accomplishing for MV? How do you plan to achieve these things?

I have many ideas and goals that I would love to accomplish for Missouri Valley in the coming year as CVVP. I want to provide accessible pictures and information to our region, share photos from members inside as well as outside of the CVVP network, and continue the effort to support an environment where everyone feels valued. I will use Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, and Twitter as outlets for information and photos. Weekly updates have been working really well for BTY and I would love to bring that to the region. This would include a small recognition of cool TYG events and an overview of things that are coming up in MV. I would also love to make an effort to post pictures after each day at regional events instead of a few days after. I

want to set aside a period of time, maybe at a meal or a social, when participants can airdrop their photos to me or put them in a google drive. I will then post them in an album on facebook. This is a way of making sure everyone's faces are seen and our incredible memories are documented. Everyone in NFTY should feel valued and represented in our photographs!