

Zoe Rosenberg UHTYG

Hello! I am Zoe Rosenberg, MV Israel Chair and a junior from Saint Louis, Missouri. I am a part of UHTYG and if I could be any type of kitchen appliance I would be a three-speed blender, because I like to mix it up! I love to songlead and was honored to serve as an MV songleader my sophomore year. I have spent most of my summers at URJ GUCI, excluding last summer when I was at URJ Kutz Camp. I am an alumna of NFTY's Heller High, formerly known as NFTY-EIE. I also was part of the NFTY Convention 2017 Fellowship, and had a really great time planning Convention. When I'm not at a NFTY event (or on a zoom call for one) you can find me playing lacrosse for PCHS or attempting to pass chemistry.



Why do you want to be on Regional Board?

I want to be Missouri Valley President to inspire a change in the next generation of NFTYites. NFTY has helped me explore my leadership abilities, grow as a leader, and become an agent of change. It is my goal, as a regional board member, to help others find and utilize their voice, and to guide the way by being a positive role model for MV. In NFTY, I found the people who inspired me to want to make a change, and to really be a leader in the wider community. I have had so many role models in NFTY, and I want to give back to MV by emulating what they did, but of course adding my own flair. I would like to have a positive impact by helping NFTYites explore their leadership capabilities and grow as leaders through cabinet reform, and to spend a lot of time working closely with TYG's to help grow leaders at a local level. By working to implement these ideas, Missouri Valley will grow as a region filled with empowered and inspired teen leaders. I want to use my passion to inspire others to find their own love for NFTY.

What are your qualifications for the position of President?

Within NFTY, I have served in a variety of different leadership positions. My sophomore year, I was SLIID Songleader, where I gained the skills to plan ahead and think quickly. I also served as UHTYG President, where I learned the ropes on how to be a president. I had the opportunity to have a board with a lot of personality, which helped me figure out how to work well with others, how to get things done in sticky situations, how to be an effective leader, and how to have a good time on board. Over the summer, I attended Kutz, NFTY's leadership camp. It was there that my leadership abilities really blossomed, as I worked as a NFTY Convention Fellow and planned NFTY Convention, which continued through this past year. Also, my meme was retweeted by @NFTY on twitter. I have a lot of varied experiences inside of NFTY, and I believe each of these unique leadership positions have helped me develop the skills required to be a successful member of Regional Board.

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

To be the best possible regional board member, one must be a good communicator, willing to step up to tackle a problem or task, think on their feet, and know when to ask for help. My freshman year, the regional RCVP invited me to help her songlead at JYG. I had never really songled before, but she personally reached out and pushed me to become a leader. During shira she lost her voice, and I was left leading all by myself! I had to think on my feet and figure out how to silently communicate with her and the other songleader to know where to be and how to tackle the musical moments. Initially it was scary, but I ended up having a great time and learned a lot, not just about how to be a songleader, but how to be a leader. As was done for me, I want to empower the community and give MV the opportunity to step up and to have the support they need to become a leader.

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

I have held numerous leadership positions within the NFTY community, in which I have experienced working as an individual and as part of a team. Of all the leadership experiences I have had, I am most proud of serving as president of UHTYG. Not only did I have to organize board meetings, plan events, and keep the UH calendar on track, but I had to learn to work with many different personalities. Given that the "UH boys" were most of my board, you can imagine some of the challenges that I faced, especially because I was a first-year board member. Despite the difficulties, when I served as President, UHTYG had one of its most successful years. We had record membership and incredible programs, especially our Mizzou Sabra event where we had 70 participants. I had to do a lot of work with my board members in their specific positions, and I really found ways to express my passion for NFTY. Serving as UHTYG President was an amazing experience in which I grew as a leader, and my passion for NFTY grew even more.

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

In MV, I want to make change to better the experience and leadership opportunities within NFTY. As President, I will revise the structure of cabinet to better reflect the goals of our region. Cabinet would be shaped to create different committees corresponding with a position on regional board and its duties. For example, there would be a constitutional committee under the President, chavurah committee under the PVP and so on. This system, which would be codified by the constitutional committee, would ensure that we involve not only elected leaders but emerging leaders as well, thereby involving as many people as possible within the leadership of our community. Secondly, because TYG's are the foundation of NFTY, I want to work with each TYG to create an individualized plan of action for the year. Recognizing that not every TYG is the same and each has different needs and strengths, my goal is to work with the presidents' network in crafting these individual plans to set goals, helping to ensure that each TYG gets the support they need from regional board to be the best they can be.