

# **Brooklyn Armstrong**

## **OTYG**

### **Why do you want to be on Regional Board?**

Everything about NFTY makes me happy. Every time I see something NFTY related on my social media feeds, I get excited and almost immediately call my friends. Looking at pictures and especially being at events makes me smile! With attending over 16 NFTY events I realize how this organization, and especially this region, has given me the opportunity to make friends, build relationships, and learn more about myself. NFTY has given me an amazing community to learn and grow, and I believe serving on Missouri Valley Regional Board will allow me to create the same opportunities for others.

### **What are your qualifications for the position for which you are running?**

Throughout my time in high school, I have had many leadership opportunities outside as well as inside of NFTY. I have been on my school yearbook staff since freshman year. My various positions in yearbook include photographer, spread designer, promotional manager, and this upcoming year Editor In Chief. These positions have given me experience in promotions, design, photography and much more. This year I was the president of OTYG. This year has been a challenging road that taught me several important qualities of being a good leader. Knowing how to build and lead a team is essential for running a TYG as well as being part of a regional network. I believe that my knowledge of promotions, design, and photography combined with my strong work ethic are what make me qualified to be the Missouri Valley Regional Communications Vice President.

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

**Inclusivity and Approachability:** I am told that I'm a very bubbly person which makes me approachable. Whenever I have a chance at events, I include others in my conversations and groups. Whether it is at a meal or during a discussion on "Is water wet?" In NFTY, inclusivity is key for a fun loving and successful region during each event. **Positively Happy:** No matter what is going on in the world, I look for something that makes me happy. Part of being a leader is finding the positive in anything that seems negative and helping others to find an answer that makes them happy. If a TYG has great programming but needs to develop its membership, I would guide that local board to find the positive and work with that TYG to boost the communication to increase their membership. **Understanding:** Everybody makes mistakes, and everybody starts off in a different place. I know that when need to learn and grow, I go to someone and ask for help, hoping that they understand I am trying my best. Having the ability

to understand that learning and growing is a process is one of the traits I feel will make me an effective regional board member.

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

Throughout my years in NFTY, I have been a participant, an organizer, a program writer, and a program leader. I started out learning the ropes on building a service by co-leading my first Shabbat Service my freshman year. That service was so much fun to plan and it made me proud that I led it because the participants were engaged. This past summer I attended the URJ Kutz Leadership Camp and learned so much about leadership and how to bring it all back to others. At Missouri Valley Kickoff 2017, I wrote and led a workshop on environmentalism which I am extremely proud of. The workshop allowed me to share my passion and gave me pride because people learned while having fun in a program that I wrote and led. As the current OTYG President, I implemented "Third Friday Shabbat with OTYG" which extended programming to after services on Shabbat so members could have both a Jewish experience and a fun time with friends. I am proud of this program because we increased OTYG attendance by 50% just by adding something to do as a group following services.

**What are you looking forward to accomplishing for MV?**

There is so much in the communication aspects of Missouri Valley that are already amazing. I love the way the entire CVP network works together to get everybody's face in a picture at least one time during each regional event along with many other things. Two major ideas I look forward to implementing for Missouri Valley are picture accessibility and regional showcasing. I want to be able to provide more accessible pictures to our region through Facebook and creating more noticeable albums for pictures on the Missouri Valley web page. I also want to work on creating event recap videos as a regional showcase. These videos would be live action of participants in mixers, programs, Shira, and maybe even a service. A recap gives MoValley along with all of North America a chance to see what really goes down at an event. Instead of just smiling faces standing still, you see smiling faces jumping up and down singing and having a blast.