

Max Pinson

PBnJ

Why do you want to be on Regional Board?

I want to be on regional board because I want to help the region continue to grow in size, passion, and greatness. The region has already been so successful in its previous years, but I want to strive to continue progressing. Missouri Valley has given me countless opportunities, experiences, friends, knowledge, and fun, and I want to spread this wonderful region's amazing qualities to reach as many teens as possible and allow them to fall in love with Missouri Valley as I and so many of you did. My past years in positions of NFTY leadership have helped me not only to grow as a leader but also as a Jewish teen. I would like to continue that in my final year of NFTY and give back to the region that has given me so much more than I could ever imagine. Along with this I want to be able to be immersed in a movement that is so powerful and so life-changing across the Midwest and North America. All of these things have led to my passion for NFTY up to this point, and being on regional board next year would allow me to maintain and intensify this passion.

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

My freshman year I was PBnJ Communications and Visuals Vice President; my sophomore year I was PBnJ President and a Regional Songleader, and this past year I served as Missouri Valley Western Membership Vice President. These leadership experiences have helped me to develop my skills and to prepare me for the responsibilities of being Missouri Valley President.

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

I enjoy and do well with collaboration. Working with others is something that I have been exposed to on a multitude of occasions and a skill that I believe is very valuable as a regional board member. I am also very responsible and good at managing my time. This is necessary in handling the work of a regional board member and working with other regional board members. Along with this, I stay organized to ensure that everything that needs to be done gets done. This would be of tremendous value, especially as president, to guarantee all board members are up to date on work and that in helping to plan an event or complete a task, all the necessary work is completed. This would all allow for cohesiveness as a regional board and would help me to have a very successful year.

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

In the past year, I made it my goal to meet and befriend new people at every event I attended whether that be a TYG event, regional event, or even North American event. This may not seem

like some grand accomplishment, but I am proud of the fact that I was able to connect with other Jewish teens on a variety of levels. Whether or not that person came to every NFTY event that followed or I never saw them again, I aided in moving one step closer to achieving NFTY's overall goal, bringing together Jewish teens to have meaningful experiences. Because of these interactions, I believe that I achieved my personal goal(s) of making meaningful connections, which—as someone with such a great passion for NFTY—I am proud of.

What are you looking forward to accomplishing for MV?

In the coming year, if elected, I would like to help support all regional members, TYG presidents, other TYG board members, and Missouri Valley participants in any and every way that I possibly can. I intend to work with many different groups of people and allow them to work to further their individual passions. I also want to make sure that all NFTY participants are as happy and comfortable as possible at events. We all know how scary it is to be put into new situations with new people and I want to mitigate the effects of this potentially overwhelming situation by working on inclusivity and comfort within the region. Lastly I want to make myself accessible to all participants so that they can help to shape the region and the region can maximize its potential. By receiving input from a variety of people, the region can be as great and successful as we all know it to be.