



# NEW MEMBER PACKET



2017-2018 | 5777-5778

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Dear New Member,

Welcome to NFTY Southwest! My name is Annie Rosenthal and I am your 2017-2018 Membership Vice President, or MVP for short. I am so excited that I get to welcome you to your first NFTY SW event and to help you find your place in this loving community.

This packet is here to help introduce you to NFTY. In it you will find vocabulary we use, our schedule, leaders in our region, and more!

NFTY SW encourages you to explore not only your identity as a Jew, but also creates space for you to explore your identity in every aspect of your life. At a typical event, you will be introduced to many new people and participate in inclusive activities such as services, programs, and mixers. Even though it may seem a bit intimidating, I am here with the whole NFTY SW community to welcome you.

As cliché as this sounds, the people you meet at NFTY SW events will become some of your best friends. You will return from NFTY events with a bunch of new phone numbers and random huge group chats!! You will leave NFTY weekends gaining a new community, counting down the days until the next event, and needing a nap! One piece of advice I would give to you is to buy into the experience. It is okay to be nervous and a little confused. Each event has its unique flavor, so I encourage you to try them all! Experience something new, leave your comfort zone, and go in with a positive attitude!

I am always here for you and I cannot wait for you to be a part of our NFTY family! If you need anything throughout this entire year, you can always reach out!

L'Shalom,  
Annie Rosenthal  
(602) 369-6915  
[sw-mvp@nfty.org](mailto:sw-mvp@nfty.org)

## NFTY BOARD



### **NATHAN (KEEBLER) RIX | PRESIDENT**

My name is Nathan Rix, although many people in NFTY know me as Keebler, and I am very excited to be your 5777-5778 President. I live in Tucson, and have served as JCETY's RCVP and treasurer of my Robotics team. I am an active member in many clubs and groups, but I am prepared to go all in for the honor of serving as your president. If there is one word that would describe me best, it would be passionate and there's nothing I'm more passionate and excited about than NFTY.

### **MAX PALAY | PROGRAMMING VICE PRESIDENT**

My name is Max Palay and I'm your Programming Vice President! I'm a senior at BASIS Phoenix and I love Biochemistry and Law. I served as KATY President, Membership/Communications VP, and I'm so excited to be your PVP. When I'm not writing programs, you can probably find me working at PostNet or hanging out with my friends. I love giving random gifts of produce and hitting the gym. If you ever want to grab Cane's or late night IHOP give me a call.



### **ALLYSON VARCOE | SOCIAL ACTION VICE PRESIDENT**

Hi! My name is Allyson Varcoe and I live in Scottsdale, AZ. I am currently active in National Honor Society, National Charity League, and the Society of Women Scholars. One of my main passions is to play sports such as soccer, lacrosse, and softball in addition to listening to music and hanging out with my friends! I have been a part of synagogue life since I was less than a year old and during the 2016-2017 school year I was Membership Vice President of my youth group, BITY.

### **MAYA LEVY | RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL VICE PRESIDENT**

Shalom NFTY-SW! My name is Maya Levy and I am ecstatic to be your 5777-5778 Religious and Cultural Vice President! When I'm not at school you can find me doing pretty much any Jewish activity imaginable.

The past two years I served on the board of my pretty cool TYG, JCTEY; I spend my time playing on my school tennis team, writing for my school newspaper, and jamming out to the NFTY-SW playlist on Spotify.

I am so passionate about sharing my love for the Jewish traditions and cultures throughout the entire NFTY-SW community and am looking forward to an extraordinary year!



### **ANNIE ROSENTHAL | MEMBERSHIP VICE PRESIDENT**

Hi my name is Annie Rosenthal and I live in Phoenix. When I'm not at Temple, I can be found playing volleyball, yearbooking, or rocking out to a Mumford and Sons song. I love laughing, whether it is about a silly moment shared between friends, or at a meaningless videos that nobody else thinks are funny, especially when it's or corgis.

### **ADRIENNE BARATZ | COMMUNICATIONS VICE PRESIDENT**

Hi NFTY-SW! My name is Adrienne Baratz and I am so excited to serve as this year's Communications Vice President! I'm currently a senior living in Phoenix, Arizona. When I'm not at NFTY events, you could find me working on my school yearbook, experimenting with my camera, obsessing over cute dogs, or going on adventures with my friends. I look forward to bringing my experiences in creativity to a new role in the movement I am most passionate about!



# NFTY VOCABULARY

## NFTY SLANG/TRADITIONS

- NFTY: North American Federation of Temple Youth (We are the Southwest Region!).
- TYG: Temple Youth Group.
- NFTYite: YOU! What we call the participants of NFTY.
- NFTY Beads: NFTYites will receive a bead at the end of every event; each bead will represent a different event and they go on your “NFTY necklace” that’s given to you at your first event. If you lose a bead, no worries. I have replacements!
- Senior Ships: When everyone in the senior class gets to tell all of the underclassmen what NFTY means to them, followed by placing a wooden block in a kiddie pool.
- Senior Wills: personalized letter that goes in the yearbook at the end of the year that the seniors write to the underclassmen.
- Senior Circle: At Spring Kallah, Seniors will stand in the middle of a circle and give pass-downs to underclassmen, usually an item reflecting an inside joke or memory made.
- Jet Plane: In the closing circle, when the song leaders will play the song *Leaving on a Jetplane*, the RegBo runs into the middle like airplanes and crash into each other.
- NFTY SW GIMME SOME SUGAR!!- When a board member yells this everyone responds with “shhhhhh” and then gets quiet.

## ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

- The Social: Saturday night social program (always a surprise) - remember to dress up!
- Friendship Circle: Saturday night, and Sunday morning (at the end of the event) all of the NFTYites gather in a circle and reflect on the memories and highlights of the day/weekend, followed by the NFTY cheer – get ready!
- Shabbat Shira: Song session where everyone gets excited for Shabbat
- Siyyum: Hebrew for “closing,” it is a closing circle, everyone sits in a circle and we sing chill relaxing songs to end the night on a nice note.
- Kabbalat Shabbat: Shabbat Prep
- Mixers: “Get To Know You” activities that help participants meet each other, make new friends and connect with the NFTY SW community.
- Electives/Optional Mandatories: a period of time where we have various activities for participants. Participants can choose which activity they want to partake in.
- Song session: Time to sing and dance!

## GOOD TO KNOW

- Name Tag: A tag you wear all weekend that contains your name, information on such things as your bunk and program groups, and the schedule for the entire weekend.
- Regional Board: Also known as RegBo, a board of 6 teens who are elected to plan and lead NFTY SW events and programs.
- General Board: Also known as GenBo, a board of NFTYites who apply and are chosen by the RegBo to help make sure events go smoothly.
- Birkat Hamazon: The prayer after each meal.
- Brit Kehillah: More commonly known as “The Brit,” this is the main set of rules and expectations of the NFTY SW community.
- Staff: Head counselors/staff who supervise the cabins, the cabin staff and the in-cabin experience. Go to them if you have any cabin issues or questions.

# WHAT IS NFTY?

NFTY stands for the North American Federation of Temple Youth. NFTY is divided into 19 regions, and ours is called NFTY SW (because we are located in the Southwestern portion of the United States). NFTY SW not only provides you with lifelong friendships and memories, but also gives you leadership opportunities, networking skills, a drive for social action, a connection to your Judaism, and a family that expands all throughout the Southwest. At our events you participate in mixers, programs, hang out time with friends, and learn lifelong skills.

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## NFTY STARTER KIT

- Favorite comfy shoes
  - A water bottle
  - Cuddly pillow
  - Social Outfit (Saturday evening fun, optional dress up component of the weekend)
  - NFTY Beads
  - Things to do on the bus/car ride (games, music, food, etc)
  - Money for cool merch
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## LEADERSHIP

NFTY Southwest is governed by a board of teen leaders who are elected by their peers that serve a one-year term. Regional board members play a critical role in all aspects of running the region including event planning and marketing, and mentoring teen leaders from our local youth communities. The regional board is mentored by a Regional Director of Youth Engagement who oversees all programs and administration.



**LYNNE BUTNER | NFTY-SW SENIOR DIRECTOR OF YOUTH ENGAGEMENT**

Shalom! I am the Senior Regional Director of NFTY-SW and just celebrated my 17<sup>th</sup> anniversary working with NFTY-Southwest. Although I grew up in the California Bay Area, and started as NFTY-SW advisor while living in Arizona, I now live in Salt Lake City, Utah. In my free time, I love to hike, read, and bake!

## NFTY CHEER

If you hear these words, get ready... THEN GO CRAZY!!!

Leader: (You hear that? Do you hear something? Do you hear that?) It sounds like a...

Everyone: Stomp clap, stomp clap, stomp clap, stomp clap 5,6,7,8

Leader: Say what's your name?

Response: Say NFTY (x3)

Leader: Gonna live and die

Response: N-F-T-Y

Leader: NFTY's in the front

Response: Hey Hey Hey

Leader: Let me hear you grunt

Response: Ho Ho Ho

Leader: NFTY's in the middle

Response: Hey Hey Hey

Leader: Let me hear you giggle

Response: Ha Ha Ha

Leader: Never in the rear

Response: No No No

Leader: Let me hear you cheer

Response: (Cheers and Screams)

Leader: You got it?

Response: Yeah! (x2)

Everyone: It's in my knees, my knees are weak It's in my mouth, I cannot speak, It's in my hair, it's over there, it's over there, it's everywhere!! Stomp clap, stomp clap, stomp clap, stomp clap 5,6,7,8

Leader: Say what's your name?

Response: Say NFTY (x3)

Leader: Gonna live and die

Response: N-F-T-Y

Everyone:

N (clap x3), F (clap x3), T (clap x3), Y (clap x3)

N (clap x2), F (clap x2), T (clap x2), Y (clap x2)

N (clap x1) F (clap x1), T (clap x1), Y (clap x1)

NFTY Southwest is the best!

Do the cactus, do, do the cactus (x2)

No water, no water, no water, we're fine! (x2)

# TESTIMONIALS

“NFTY has changed me in ways that are unimaginable from a second hand view. The people and programs I have experienced have made me a better person in all my communities.”

-Ever Prishkulnik (BSTY Junior)

“NFTY is the place where I belong.”

-Dylan Brooks (TCTY Sophomore)

“NFTY has taught me how to be a leader and given me the confidence to be proud to be a Jew. To stand tall and show to the world ‘I’m in NFTY SW, I’m a Jewish teen.’ NFTY is the greatest thing this planet Earth has to offer.”

-Amalia Jones (JCTEY Senior)

“NFTY means everything to me. NFTY brought me pride in being Jewish and the knowledge to help lead in my community and at school.”

-Jacob Cohen (TCTY Sophomore)

“NFTY, to me, is a chance to deeper explore my identity as a Jew and to connect with the Jewish community on a larger scale. Without NFTY, I wouldn’t have nearly as many amazing friends or great memories as I do now.”

-Jacob Blackstone (BITY Senior)

## NFTY-SW FALL KALLAH SCHEDULE

### #NFTYSWstory

#### Friday, October 20

1:00	Bus leaves airport
3:00	Buses leave Temple Chai/ Airport bus arrives
5:00-6:00	Arrival at Camp Stein / Settle into cabins (mixer in cabin)/ Change for Shabbat/Snack
6:00-7:00	Shabbat Dinner
7:00-8:00	Kabbalat Shabbat
8:00-9:00	Class time
9:00-9:30	Oneg (new member oneg)
9:30 - 10:00	Shabbat Shira
10:00-10:30	Senior ships
10:30- 11:00	Siyum/closing circle

#### Saturday, October 21

8:30	Wake Up
9:00	Breakfast
9:45-10:15	Mixer
10:15- 11:30	Shabbat morning T'fillah
11:30 - 12:30	<b>Program A</b>
12:30 - 1:30	Lunch
1:30 - 2:30	<b>Program B</b>
2:30 - 4: 00	<b>Chugim</b>
4:00 - 5:00	<b>Program C</b>
5:00 - 6:00	Shower hour / Cabin time
6:00 - 7:00	Dinner
7:30 – 9:00	Social
9:00 - 10:00	Havdallah/TYG time
10:00	Snack
10:30-11:00	Friendship circle

#### Sunday, October 22

8:00	Wake up
8:30	Breakfast
9:15	Camp & Cabin clean up
9:40	Friendship Circle
10:15	L'hitraot

**CALENDAR**  
**2017-2018 | 5777-5778 Dates**

**August 24th:** Leadership Training Institute, Temple Emanuel of Tempe

**October 20th:** Fall Kallah, Camp Stein-Prescott, AZ

**December 6th:** URJ Biennial-Boston, MA

**January 12th:** West Coast Party, URJ Camp Newman-Santa Rosa, CA

**February 2nd:** Winter Kallah, Temple Chai-Scottsdale, AZ

**February 19th:** Veida, URJ Greene Family Camp-Bruceville, TX

**March 2nd:** NFTY78 Social Action Weekend, Temple Chai-Scottsdale, AZ

**April 20th:** Spring Kallah, Holiday Inn-Mesa, AZ

\*Events listed in black are NFTY SW regional events

\*\*Events listed in blue are events that include multiple regions

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**STAY CONNECTED**

- Facebook: [facebook.com/nftysw](https://facebook.com/nftysw)
- Snapchat, Instagram, and Twitter: [nftysw](#)
- Flickr: [NFTY-SW](#)