

Dear NFTY-NW,

It was about two years and a week ago that my mom burst into my room while in online school, sobbing and telling me that Camp Kalsman was canceled for the summer of 2020. I remember being on a Group FaceTime that night with all of my camp friends, crying, talking and not believing what had happened. That night I felt as if I'd lost the greatest community I've ever been a part of.

Ever since that night, I have put in a lot of effort towards being a part of our *Kehila Kedosha*. I have become involved in NFTY and my Temple Youth Group, TDSY, going to nearly all of their events and class sessions. I have also become a Madrich at Temple De Hirsch Sinai for Kindergarten and First Grade. For me, it is not only about what the Jewish community can do for me, it's what it has already done for me, and I want to pay that forward. **That is why I, Sam Paddor, am announcing my candidacy for NFTY Northwest Financial Vice President for the 5782-5783 year!**

Good leadership and communication skills are very important for anyone in a NFTY Board position. As an Eagle Scout, I have planned, executed and taken part in many events and fundraisers. Through Boy Scouts, I have strengthened my leadership, communication, planning and teamwork skills as well as many others by taking leadership positions and going to a week-long leadership course called National Youth Leadership Training. I have been doing fundraisers since I was in second grade selling Boy Scout popcorn, and have done many more since then. I am currently taking a finance class at school, and have learned lots of things about budgeting, tracking income and expenses and how to spend money efficiently. With these skills I have learned, I will maximize what we get out of our money and make events as fun as possible.

As important as it is to enjoy every NFTY event as they're happening, it is also very important to take home a piece of the event after it ends. As Financial Vice President, I will continue to produce great T-Shirts using the graphic design skills I learned over the pandemic to create amazing merch for all NFTY event goes to wear! Now, you will be able to show off to your friends all of the cool NFTY events you go to in style! One of the main issues with our merch is that people may forget money to buy it or forget to pre-order it. I will solve this issue by having a stand at the drop off where parents can buy merch for their kids so they don't lose the experience of wearing our awesome merch!

As well as keeping our *shuk* up and running with new merch, I will be doing additional fundraising including starting our annual Latke breakfast! The Latke breakfast will be around Hanukkah, and will have Latkes, Sufganiyot and other Hanukkah foods. The food will be cooked by the NFTY Northwest Board and other NFTY member volunteers and placed on a breakfast buffet table. This breakfast will have an entry cost and will be all you can eat style. My Boy Scout troop ran a pancake breakfast for years before the pandemic, so I have experience doing something like this. The breakfast does not have to be a pure Jewish event as well, there will be a table where the RCVP can educate people about our religion and the symbolism for each food that we are serving. On top of this being a fundraiser for increasing the budget of our events, it will also be used to continue the scholarship program. It is very important to me that everyone who wants to, is able to go to our events no matter their financial status, and scholarships will permit that.

Fundraisers don't only need to be towards NFTY Northwest. I will collaborate with the SAVP to create a charity fundraiser towards whatever cause is relevant at the time. One of the most important Jewish values is the idea of *mitzvot* and giving *tzedakah*. With this fundraiser, I will be educating people about different *mitzvot* they can do and how important it is to do them. I will encourage everyone at events to donate and work with the CVP to put the fundraiser on our Instagram and other platforms and the MVP to spread this fundraiser to different TYGs.

Ever since the night that I learned camp was canceled, I have tried to devote myself as much as I could to the Jewish community and the Jewish youth. I have learned how important the Jewish community is to me, and I want to contribute towards making this community feel as special to everyone else as it is to me.

Sincerely,
Sam Paddor