

You!

A Jewish leader.



Elections Packet

5778/2017-18 Academic Year

Dear POWTY Member:

Thank you for your interest in applying and/or running for an executive position on the POWTY Board for the 5778/2017-18 school year! Being a POWTY Board member is very rewarding, a lot of work, and most of all, FUN!

It is important that you fully understand all of the duties and obligations associated with the Board positions and the elections process, so that you can be the best possible Board member!



For the 5778/2017-18 year, POWTY members have the opportunity to stand up as leaders in the following ways:

- **Rising 11th & 12th graders can apply as candidates for our Election for our Executive Board, which will include 2 POWTY Co-President positions, and 2 Vice President positions: Vice President of Programming, and Vice President of Religious Affairs.**

Please note: Candidates for our election must:

- Have served on the POWTY Board for one year prior to the upcoming year of leadership.
- Intend to serve on no other local or regional Jewish youth organization's teen board, prioritizing POWTY Youth Programs in your Jewish teen leadership.

All candidates who are not elected to their positions will automatically be offered a spot on our Board at Large.

- **Rising 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th graders can apply to serve as POWTY Board members.**
 - All applicants who submit all appropriate paperwork and agree to the participation requirements form will be welcomed as members of our 5778/2017-18 year POWTY Board.
 - Applicants do not need to have served on the POWTY board any year prior.

In order to officially apply for the 5778 POWTY Board, you must submit these forms in hard copy to Lindsay Ganci

NO LATER THAN MONDAY, May 29th, 2017:

- (1) Letter of Intent
- (2) Candidate Information Form
- (3) Signed Participation Requirements Form
- (4) Signed Code of Conduct

The 5778 POWTY Executive Board elections and Board installation will be held at The Community Synagogue on Monday, June 5th at 6 pm on the patio (or in the youth lounge if it rains). 8-11th grade POWTY Members who have attended 2 or more events throughout the year, as well as POWTY Seven members who have attended at least 2 of our POWTY Seven events are allowed to cast votes during the election for our Presidents and VP of Programming, and participate in the installation of our accepted applicants for the new board.

Thank you and *mazel tov* for your interest in becoming a Jewish teen leader in our local community, and in the greater Jewish community!

Love & POWTY,

Lindsay Ganci
Director of Youth Engagement
The Community Synagogue
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Expectations of 5778 POWTY Board Members

*“It is not the position that honors the person,
but rather the person that honors the position” Taanit 21b*

Accepting a position on the 5778 POWTY Board is an incredible opportunity! In your positions on our Executive Board or on our Board at large, you will have a powerful influence on the lives of your peers. As a leader of POWTY and in the Jewish community, you will set the examples for The Community Synagogue teens through your involvement as well as your conduct. It is also important to remember that each Board Member is responsible not only for his or her particular job description or accepted leadership role, but must also strive to work as part of a team throughout the year.

The following are the general expectations for all POWTY Board Members:

Role Modeling – Recognize that the teens of The Community Synagogue look to you to set an example. Be aware of your behavior and attitude at all times, even when you are not actively leading or attending a POWTY Youth Programs/The Community Synagogue event.

Approachability – Board Members need to be approachable at all times. The Community Synagogue teens should feel comfortable around you, and want to be around you! At events, it is easy to spend your time with friends, but it is important to remember that you now represent all of POWTY, and everyone should have access to you. There are always new people to meet and get to know.

Attendance – As a role model, you should be attending POWTY functions. School will always be your first priority, but you should know about the requirements of you as a Board member. **By accepting a position on our POWTY Board, you are making a commitment that POWTY will be one of your primary extracurricular activities, and your prioritized Jewish youth organization. Your regular attendance at as many events as possible should be a priority!**

Volunteering – POWTY Board members are not required to attend any JPOW events, Religious School events, or The Community Synagogue events throughout the year. POWTY Board members should *want* to attend these events!! You should seek out opportunities to volunteer in our synagogue building, and outside of it, pursuing justice when you have the opportunity. Volunteering your leadership is a powerful way you can share your love of Judaism with younger members of our Jewish youth community, and continue to develop your skills as Jewish leaders. Stay tuned for opportunities throughout the year to do *tikkun olam*, serve as a *madrich/madricha* in our synagogue building, and support all POWTY Youth Programs!

POWTY Executive Board Positions

5778

Rising 11th & 12th graders can apply as candidates for our Election for our Executive Board, which will include:
2 POWTY Co-President positions

and 2 Vice President positions: Vice President of Programming, and Vice President of Religious Affairs.

Please note: Candidates for our election must:

Have served on the POWTY Board for one year prior to the upcoming year of leadership.

Intend to serve on no other local or regional Jewish youth organization's teen board, prioritizing POWTY Youth Programs in their Jewish teen leadership.

All candidates who are not elected to their positions will automatically be offered a spot on our Board at large.

Co-Presidents (2)

- **Must serve as the leaders of all things POWTY:** POWTY *ruach* (spirit), POWTY engagement, and POWTY programs!
- **Must attend all POWTY events** unless a significant conflict arises, and encourage Board and members to do the same.
- **Must attend ALL POWTY Board at Large meetings** (7 throughout the year), and **ALL POWTY Executive Board meetings** (once per month).
- Acts as a representative of POWTY at all times.
- Should be aware of all upcoming events (dates, times, event details) and spread excitement about them
- Responsible for insuring that other Board officers are staying on top of their respective responsibilities, delegating responsibility when necessary.
- Work directly with Lindsay to ensure success of all POWTY events, meetings, etc.
- Help plan events with Lindsay and Vice President of Programming.
- Assist Lindsay in creation of Board meeting agendas and help to run all POWTY meetings and Board meetings effectively.
- Always act as a role model to all POWTY members, reaching out to new people, encouraging the growth of new friendships.
- Communicate with the POWTY board and The Community Synagogue clergy, lay leaders, and community.
- Attend monthly temple Board meetings as often as possible.
- Stay informed about NFTY regional and national events, and encourage POWTY participation.
- Intend to serve as a Jewish teen leader in POWTY only, accepting no other leadership roles in other local and regional Jewish youth movements without first discussing this intention with Lindsay/TCS clergy.
- Stay informed about other local and regional Jewish youth programs and their calendars, both in order to collaborate effectively, and avoid conflicts in overlapping schedules.

Vice President of Programming (1)

- Help Lindsay to create fun, engaging, exciting events for POWTY, working closely with Lindsay to make them successful.
- **Must attend ALL POWTY Board at Large meetings** (7 throughout the year), and **ALL POWTY Executive Board meetings** (once per month).
- Oversee all POWTY social media presence, engaging volunteers for support and creativity.
- Oversee ongoing work of POWTY Board at Large Membership and Programming Leadership track.
- Engage POWTY Board at Large members in helping to create and facilitate programming.
- **Meet with Lindsay on a monthly basis** to work on event development, marketing, etc. These meetings should be planned by the VP of Programming, as it is his/her responsibility to ensure this takes place.
- Invest energy and excitement into supporting local NFTY-NAR sub-regional events (for Long Island community), and serve on planning team when necessary.
- Promote and encourage the use of NFTY's goals and values in POWTY programming.
- Serve as a programming resource for all POWTY officers that are involved with programming (Presidents, VP of Religious Affairs, Social Action Committee), as well as for all the POWTY members who voice opinions and/or wishes for POWTY programming.
- Prepare shorter programs (when asked) to be used during big events such as weekend retreats, shul-ins, or other POWTY events.
- Prepare programs for all group leaders, POWTY board members, and adults involved in the program.
- Support JPOW programming when necessary.
- Intend to serve as a Jewish teen leader in POWTY only, accepting no other leadership roles in other local and regional Jewish youth movements without first discussing this intention with Lindsay/TCS clergy.
- Stay informed about other local and regional Jewish youth programs and their calendars, both in order to collaborate effectively, and avoid conflicts in overlapping schedules.

Vice President of Religious Affairs (1)

- Work with Lindsay, Vice President of Programming (and Presidents, when necessary) on all religious events.
- **Must attend ALL POWTY Board at Large meetings** (7 throughout the year), and **ALL POWTY Executive Board meetings** (once per month).
- **Meet with Lindsay on a monthly basis** to work on religious affairs programming. These meetings should be planned by the VP of Programming, as it is his/her responsibility to ensure this takes place.
- Attend and facilitate all POWTY Shabbat programs, and assign roles (blessings, prayers, etc.) for attendees to encourage engagement.
- Engage POWTY Board members in religious affairs work to allow others to help advertise and run religious elements to events, and help make them successful.
- Oversee ongoing work of POWTY Board at Large *Tikkun Olam* Leadership track.
- Plan and coordinate POWTY-led Shabbat services with Vice President of Programming and Cantor Franco.
- Promote and encourage Reform Jewish religious and cultural activities in POWTY with the help of Lindsay, Rabbi Pollak, Rabbi Zeplovitz, or Cantor Franco.
- Stimulate knowledge of Jewish culture, religion, history, and Israel through religious programming at POWTY events, and stimulate worship and study at events.
- Be responsible for helping to organize and lead *t'fillah* at events or holidays when needed.
- Incorporate Israel programming whenever possible.
- Attend holiday services and festivities offered at TCS whenever possible, representing POWTY and engaging other youth and teens in religious engagement with our greater community.
- Intend to serve as a Jewish teen leader in POWTY only, accepting no other leadership roles in other local and regional Jewish youth movements without first discussing this intention with Lindsay/TCS clergy.
- Stay informed about other local and regional Jewish youth programs and their calendars, both in order to collaborate effectively, and avoid conflicts in overlapping schedules.

POWTY Board at Large

Rising 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th graders can apply to serve as POWTY Board members.

All applicants who submit all appropriate paperwork and agree to the participation requirements form will be welcomed as members of our 5778/2017-18 year POWTY Board.

Board members will have the opportunity to commit to one of our board's leadership tracks: *Tikkun Olam*, and/or Membership & Programming.

Tikkun Olam

Involvement is voluntary and year-long engagement and commitment is expected.

- Work with VP of Religious Affairs and the rest of the members of the track to allow others to help plan, organize, advertise and run Social Action events, helping to make them successful!
- Work with Lindsay, Vice President of Programming (and Presidents, when needed) on all *tikkun olam* events.
- Intend to enroll in the POWTY Leadership & Learning Program offered for your grade (POWTY Foundation for 9th, 10th & 11th graders, POWTY *Kabbalat* Torah/Confirmation class for 12th graders, & POWTY *Madrichim* Program for all POWTY members) in order to promote the great work of POWTY through social action, and to encourage peers to participate in these great programs.
- Keep POWTY actively involved in *tikkun olam* projects and activities.
- Teach the five A's of Social Action to POWTY members: Awareness, Assessment, Action, Alliance, and Advocacy through programming created and offered.
- Help POWTY members be aware of the world around them as well as what we can do to improve it, and pursue relevant issues to yourself and POWTY.
- Understand that not everyone has the same viewpoints/opinions about all issues, and encourage healthy, open-minded discussion and debate.
- Try to help each POWTY member leave social action events with an understanding of what they have done, why they have done it, and what else they can do on their own.

Membership & Programming

Involvement is voluntary and year-long engagement and commitment is expected.

- Work with VP of Programming and the rest of the members of the track to allow others to help plan, organize, advertise and run all POWTY events, helping to make them successful!
- Intend to enroll in the POWTY Leadership & Learning Program offered for your grade (POWTY Foundation for 9th, 10th & 11th graders, POWTY *Kabbalat* Torah/Confirmation class for 12th graders, & POWTY *Madrichim* Program for all POWTY members) in order to promote the great opportunities POWTY offers peers and to encourage them to participate in these great programs.
- Develop membership growth strategy for the year with help of Lindsay, Co-Presidents, and VP of Programming, and actively attempt to recruit new members and participants monthly.
- Serve as support to members of all of POWTY's Leadership & Learning programs, offering guidance and help in their efforts to engage new members of POWTY through these specific leadership programs.
- Stay informed about all upcoming POWTY programs and events, and serve as a source of information for current and perspective members.
- Touch base with Lindsay monthly to discuss upcoming POWTY events and opportunities (communication can take place over text/email/Facebook).
- RSVP to all POWTY events and programs on social media sites in a timely fashion, with hopes of exciting and engaging perspective members of POWTY.
- Maintain POWTY presence on social media with thoughtful, appropriate, fun, engaging content.

Candidate Information Form
POWTY Board 5778/2017-18)

Candidate Name: _____

Candidate Email: _____

Candidate Cell: _____

Candidate Grade in 5778: _____

If running for a POWTY Executive Board Position:

(Please select at least 1, and no more than 2)

1st Choice POWTY Executive Board Position:

2nd Choice POWTY Executive Board Position (option for Co-President applicants, only):

If applying for a POWTY Board position:

(Please select at least 1, and no more than 2)

I intended to serve as a leader on this POWTY Leadership Track:

I intended to serve as a leader on this second POWTY Leadership Track:

Candidate Birthday: _____

Candidate Facebook Name: _____

Candidate Twitter Handle: _____

Candidate Instagram Name: _____

Candidate Signature: _____

Application Guidelines:

5778/2017-18 POWTY Executive Board Elections

- Rising 11th & 12th graders can apply as candidates for our Election for our Executive Board, which will include 2 POWTY Co-President positions, and 2 Vice President positions: Vice President of Programming, and Vice President of Religious Affairs.
- Candidates for our election must:
 - Have served on the POWTY Board for one year prior to the upcoming year of leadership.
 - Intend to serve on no other local or regional Jewish youth organization's teen board, prioritizing POWTY Youth Programs in their Jewish teen leadership.
- Candidates for all 4 POWTY Executive Board positions must read their letters of intent at elections, and be prepared to answer questions from their peers about their intentions for their desired leadership roles.
- Voting will take place for Co-Presidents, and then for Vice President of Programming, and finally for Vice President of Religious Affairs, in that order.
- Only candidates who run for Co-President of POWTY may drop down to a VP position, and may only drop down **once**, choosing either VP of Programming or VP of Religious Affairs as their one drop down.
- All POWTY Executive Board applicants must have been active, dues paying members of POWTY for one year before being eligible to serve on Board (so rising 8th graders cannot run for the Board).
- All candidates who are not elected to their positions will automatically be offered a spot on our Board at large.

5778/2017-18 POWTY Board at Large

- Rising 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th graders can apply to serve as POWTY Board members.
- All applicants who submit all appropriate paperwork and agree to the participation requirements form will be welcomed as members of our 5778/2017-18 year POWTY Board.
- All POWTY Board applicants must have been active, dues paying members of POWTY for one year before being eligible to serve on Board (so rising 8th graders cannot run for the Board).

Letter of Intent
POWTY Board 5778/2017-18

In order to be eligible to run for a spot on the 5778 POWTY Executive Board and Board at Large, applicants must complete a letter of intent that must be submitted to Lindsay Ganci by email (LGanci@commsyn.org) on or before May 29th, 2017.

(Letters of intent will be distributed for consideration during elections)

Guidelines for Writing Letters of Intent

As a future leader of POWTY, it is important that you share your goals, plans and intentions with your peers!

Please write a Letter of Intent, which should be no longer than 1 double-spaced side of 1 page.

Each applicant's letter of intent during elections.

Your Letter of Intent should include a basic summary of relevant experience, why you're excited to be a member of the POWTY Executive Board or Board at large, how you intend to fulfill your role as a leader on the POWTY board, and any other pertinent information.

Be sure to include your name at the top of the letter!

Participation Expectations
POWTY Board 5778/2017-18

1. **POWTY'S EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS ARE REQUIRED TO:**
 - **ATTEND ALL 7 OF OUR POWTY BOARD MEETINGS:**
Tuesdays: 9.19.2017, 10.17.2017, 11.14.2017, 1.19.2018, 2.13.2018, 3.20.2018, 4.17.2018
Absences should be discussed with Lindsay!
 - **ATTEND MONTHLY POWTY EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS** which will be scheduled at mutually agreed upon times between Lindsay and the Executive Board.

2. **ALL POWTY BOARD AT LARGE MEMBERS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND A MINIMUM of 5 OF THE 7 5777 POWTY BOARD MEETINGS:**
Tuesdays: 9.19.2017, 10.17.2017, 11.14.2017, 1.19.2018, 2.13.2018, 3.20.2018, 4.17.2018

3. **ALL POWTY BOARD MEMBERS ARE EXPECTED TO:**
 - **COME TO POWTY EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR**
Absences should be discussed with Lindsay!
 - **ATTEND a minimum of 1 NFTY-NAR EVENT IN 5778 (Dates to be announced).**

By signing below, candidates and their parents understand and agree to the requirements, commitments, and responsibilities associated with a serving as a POWTY Board member for the 5778/2017-18 school year.

Candidate Name	Parent/Guardian Name
Candidate Signature	Parent/Guardian Signature

THE COMMUNITY SYNAGOGUE
B'RIT K'HILAH—Code of Conduct
5778/2017-18

I will promote the creation of a religious youth community based on mutual respect and a sense of personal well-being. I will treat others with kavod (honor and respect) because we are created b'tzelem Elohim (in the image of God). I have read the following rules, designed to promote the health and safety of all event participants, and have indicated my complete acceptance by my signature and that of my parent/guardian.

I will not possess, consume, or distribute alcoholic beverages, other than that served by adult leadership for Jewish sacramental purposes.

I will not possess, use, or distribute any illegal drug or drug paraphernalia.

I will not smoke or consume or distribute tobacco products at any time during the event.

I will attend and participate fully in the entire event, unless otherwise agreed upon with my chaperone. I will arrive on time, stay until the end, and remain on the event premises at all times.

I will not bring or use any weapons, firearms, or anything that may be construed as a weapon.

I will not commit any illegal act. I understand that vandalism, disturbing the peace, or other inappropriate behavior as determined by the adult leadership will not be tolerated. I understand that I will have to pay for any damage that I cause. I understand that no gambling is allowed, except for fundraisers approved by the adult leadership.

I will abide by the event curfew announced by the leadership. After each evening's program, I will go directly to my room, and remain there until breakfast the next morning.

I understand that no guests are allowed at any event and that any unauthorized guests will be asked to leave immediately.

I understand that only individuals allowed in my room are the ones who have been assigned to sleep in that room.

I will not participate in any activities that could be deemed as hazing, sexually harassing, demeaning, or hurtful. I agree to refrain from inappropriate sexual behavior.

I agree to abide by any additional rules, pertinent to a specific event, which may be announced, and to accept the consequences of their violation.

I understand that these rules of behavior apply from the time I leave home for the event, during the event itself, and until I return home after the event.

We understand that part of the experience involves activities, group living arrangements and interactions that may be new to my child. These things come with certain risks and uncertainties beyond what my child may be used to dealing with at home. I am aware of these risks, and I am assuming them on behalf of my child. I realize that no environment is risk free and so I have instructed my child on the importance of abiding by B'rit K'hilah—Code of Conduct. My child and I both agree that he or she is familiar with these rules and will obey them. We further understand that sanctions imposed by the Adult leadership for violation could include immediate expulsion from the event, at the expense of the parent or guardian.

By signing this form, I affirm my agreement, and my child/teen's agreement, to the rules and policies of this B'rit K'hilah.

Teen name: _____

Parent name: _____

Teen Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____