



BBYO IN GREAT MIDWEST REGION

BBYO strives to welcome all Jewish teens, regardless of background, denominational affiliation, gender, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status, including those with a range of intellectual, emotional, and physical abilities.

Please contact us to learn more.

For years, BBYO has played a significant role for Great Midwest Region (GMR) teens in developing leadership and social skills, strengthening their Jewish identity, learning organizational skills, and creating new friendships with Jewish teens around the world.

BBYO 101

BBYO is the leading pluralistic teen movement aspiring to involve more Jewish teens in more meaningful Jewish experiences. With over 700 teen-led chapters (AZA for boys and BBG for girls) across 50 countries around the world, Jewish teens in communities of all shapes and sizes engage their peers in activities focuses on community service, philanthropy, civic engagement, Israel education, and Jewish heritage, among other topics.

Teens are often drawn into the Movement through social activities like dances, sports leagues, movie screenings, and similar events. In BBYO, teens are in charge; they plan and implement activities (concerts, sports, overnights) and do good for the community (advocacy campaigns, fundraisers, and service work for causes that they choose). Throughout the process, they master valuable leadership skills, form deep connections with their fellow teens, and build a Jewish identity for themselves. As a teen-led organization, members also plan the year's calendar, manage chapter boards, and communicate with parents.

All Jewish teens in grades 8 through 12 are welcome in BBYO!

LEARN MORE

If you're interested in learning more, we'd love to tell you! We recommend that teens "try out" BBYO by attending a few meetings and events before becoming members. BBYO membership is only \$149 through all four years of high school, and can be purchased online at:

bbyo.org/membership



What does BBYO look like in Great Midwest Region?

BBYO in Great Midwest Region has 13 chapters and over 600 members in the city of Chicago and surrounding suburbs. All of our chapters hold events every week. Events are planned by teens for teens throughout the entire school year. Members develop and lead programming, which range from fun activities like ice skating, to more serious programming around social justice or leadership development.

Chapters also hold some events with other chapters across the Chicago area, and teens

coordinate carpools for locations that are farther away. Chapters host other exciting events on occasion like fundraisers, Shabbat dinners, and overnights. All chapters participate in regional programs such as dances, community service days, sports leagues, and weekend-long conventions.

FUN FACT

Great Midwest Region's mascot is Superman and our colors are red, yellow, and blue. Our region's motto is: "Truth. Justice. & GMR."

BBYO Glossary

AZA: Division of BBYO for those who identify as males; stands for Aleph Zadik Aleph.

BBG: Division of BBYO for those who identify as females; stands for B'nai B'rith Girls.

Godol: The president of an AZA (boys) chapter.

N'siah: The president of a BBG (girls) chapter.

Chapter: A group of members who program for and train their younger members; a place where the strongest bonds occur between brother Alephs and sister BBGs.

Region: Large areas that are made up of multiple chapters.

Contacts

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