For years, BBYO has played a significant role for Manhattan Region 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 focused 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!
What does BBYO look like in Manhattan Region?

BBYO in Manhattan Region is comprised of chapters in Lower Manhattan, the Upper West Side, the Upper East Side, and Riverdale, representing over 200 Jewish teens in New York City. All of our chapters hold events bi-weekly. Events are planned by teens for teens throughout the entire school year. Members develop and lead programming, which ranges from social activities like ice skating and video game tournaments to more serious programming around social justice, volunteerism, and leadership development. Chapter host 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**
We are one of BBYO’s newest regions and our mascot is King Kong.

**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.

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