



BBYO membership may look a little different this fall, but the benefits for teens still last a lifetime.

If your teen is thinking about joining BBYO this fall, you might be wondering, “Why should they join during a pandemic?” No matter where you live, life is going to look different than it did a year ago. Yet throughout our history, BBYO has evolved to meet the needs of teens, and we continue to adapt to deliver both in-person and virtual experiences that provide unique opportunities for friendship, fun, leadership, and connection, including:

- Building new friendships with local and international teens
- Learning and enhancing leadership skills
- Participating in exclusive events
- Exploring Jewish identities
- Joining a safe and inclusive community

Learn more about these opportunities below. If you have any questions about membership in BBYO, please contact us at info@bbyo.org.

BUILDING NEW FRIENDSHIPS

With a presence in more than 50 countries, BBYO joins together Jewish teens from around the world as they forge new connections and build lifelong friendships. In communities large and small, teens can meet new friends and discover an environment where they can have fun, learn, grow, celebrate their Jewish identity, and, most importantly, be themselves. Membership in BBYO grants teens access to special events, exclusive programs, a peer group that spans the globe, and a robust alumni network that can support their success well beyond high school and into adulthood.

LEARNING LEADERSHIP SKILLS

BBYO's leadership model prides itself on fun and meaningful teen-led programming, a responsibility to the global Jewish community, a commitment to the State of Israel, and a dedication to tikkun olam—repairing the world. We base our leadership approach on “experiential democracy,” encouraging teens to advocate for what they believe in and take an active role in creating opportunities for themselves and their peers. BBYO members have a variety of ways in which they can lead across our global network, including on committees such as climate change, genocide education, mental health, racial justice education, and women’s leadership.

PARTICIPATING IN EVENTS

With our mission of engaging Jewish teens around the world through the bonds of brotherhood and sisterhood, BBYO remains the community’s largest and most valuable platform for delivering fun, meaningful, and affordable experiences to teens. When COVID-19 shut down in-person events this spring, we successfully launched BBYO On Demand to help thousands of teens feel less isolated during this unprecedented time. BBYO continues to offer hundreds of in-person and virtual experiences for our members including video game tournaments, celebrity Q&As, cooking demos, Esports match-ups, voter registration drives, and more, providing the connections, programs and social interactions teens crave.



STRENGTHENING JEWISH IDENTITY

As a pluralistic organization, BBYO creates spaces for Jewish teens from around the world to connect with their peers and explore Judaism together. Our approach to Jewish enrichment provides teens with the opportunity to innovate Shabbat experiences and other Jewish moments throughout the year, hear from renowned speakers and exemplars of Jewish life, and lead their own programming guided by Jewish educational consultants. Members enjoy developing connections with their Jewish counterparts and heritage through fun, inclusive, and teen-created experiences.

JOINING AN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

BBYO is dedicated to creating environments in which teens are free to be themselves and explore their identities. In addition to a dedicated Director of Inclusion who works year-round to build safe spaces and provide inclusive opportunities to teens, we recently launched the BBYO Center for Adolescent Wellness to ensure that BBYO and other youth serving organizations are places where adolescents can thrive through best practices in health and wellness. BBYO welcomes all Jewish teens, regardless of background, denominational affiliation, gender, race, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status.

We look forward to welcoming teens around the world to BBYO. Please visit bbyo.org/join to register today!