



# TZAFON REGION UNITED SYNAGOGUE YOUTH



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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Chapter Presidents and Advisors  
**FROM:** Sandra Goldmeer  
**DATE:** March 23, 2011  
**RE:** Chapter Awards

Enclosed are all the applications/information regarding all of the possible Chapter Awards your chapter may be eligible for.

These awards were created to recognize the achievements of the chapters in the glorious region of Tzafon during the 2010-2011 year. Enclosed is a cover sheet that lists all of the awards. A cover sheet must be included for each award to designate which award is being applied for.

**NOTE:** Awards that require strictly numbers (i.e., Greatest Membership Increase) do not necessarily require additional explanation on additional sheet(s) of paper. Other awards (i.e., Best Social Action Program) do require additional explanation on additional sheet(s) of paper. **If an award application is received without a cover sheet, it may not be considered.**

There are two different types of awards, as noted on the cover sheet. For notes on general awards, see attached sheet. For Tikun Olam awards, additional sheets are not necessary and the numbers can be written directly on the cover sheet. Please note that multiple chapters can receive certain T.O. awards. However, **NO CHAPTER CAN RECEIVE ANY AWARDS UNLESS ITS T.O DONATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY THE INTERNATIONAL OFFICE PRIOR TO May 1, 2011.** Only one chapter will win Largest Per Capita and another will receive Largest Contribution.

**All award applications must be received by May 1, 2011.**

We must receive the applications by this date in order to make thoughtful and thorough selections by Kinnus Gadol. Try and send them early to give your chapter's application more time to be reviewed.

No matter what size you are or how many members you have, your chapter should apply for as many awards as possible. What's the point of not trying? If other chapters are saying they will probably win a specific award, do not be intimidated, they are merely bluffing to get rid of some competition.

Send all entries to:  
**Tzafon USY c/o Sandra Goldmeer**  
**30 Farmingdale Rd., Latham, NY 12110**  
Any problems, questions, comments, and/or bribes  
email Goldmeer@uscj.org  
Or communications@tzafon.org



United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism  
820 Second Avenue 10th & 11th Floors  
New York, NY 10017-4504

USY International President  
DANIEL KAPLAN

President  
RICHARD SKOLNICK

Executive Vice President  
RABBI STEVEN WERNICK

USY Director  
JULES A. GUTIN

**HONORARY PRESIDENTS:** Lauren Kaufman, Chelsea Wagner, Aviva Bates-Gambitsky, Rachel Naparstek, Judith Simons, Tovah Fishman-Larsh, Omri Levin, Andrew Friedson, Sarah Kay, Rachel Brenner, Jaclyn Siskind, Rebecca Saat, Rachel Arcus, Joseph Zeidner, Jennifer Richardson, Hannah Feinberg, Jason Judd, Jessica Kaplan, Tamar Siltan, Akiva Siltan, Joshua Kanter, Jeffrey Scheer, Gary Susswein, Michael Sherman, Bobbi Berenbaum, Chaim Singer, Meir Sherer, Barry Safeer, Andrea Lipton, Robert Freeman, Daniel Lehmann, Ethan Kanter, Lesley Pearl, Joyce Stein, Brian Harding, Robbin Feibus, Richard Lehmann, Howard Goldenburg, Hillary David Ring, Howard Stern, Wallace Schwartz, David Schwartz, David Feierstein, Sanford Schwartz, Paul Ruffer, Carol Wolkin, David Getelson, Marcia Greenman Lebeau, Arnold Hammer.

**TZAFON REGION**  
**2010-2011 CHAPTER AWARDS**

**COVER SHEET**

(One Per Award)

Check the Following Award:

Chapter Name: \_\_\_\_\_

- Best Religious Program
- Best Educational Program
- Best Social Action Program
- Best Tikun Olam Program
- Most Unique Program
- Greatest Membership Increase
- Greatest % Membership Increase
- Greatest AJHHS Membership
- Greatest % AJHHS Membership
- Greatest HeChalutzim Membership
- Greatest % HeChalutzim Membership
- Greatest 613 Membership
- Greatest % 613 Membership
- Greatest Attendance at Regional Events
- Greatest % of Membership Attending Regional Events
- Best Chapter Newsletter
- Best Chapter Website
- Best Chapter Yearbook
- Advisor of the Year
- Most Valuable Member (MVM)
- Eleanor Bloom Memorial Award
- Most Improved Chapter
- All Around Best Chapter of the Year

**TIKUN OLAM**

- \$250 contribution (35 members or less)
- \$500 contribution (65 members or less)
- Over \$1,000 contribution (all chapters)
- Largest Per Capita Contribution
- Largest Contribution

Name of Person Filling Out This Application \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

These signatures must be affixed:

All attached information is true and accurate to the best of our knowledge

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chapter President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chapter Advisor

## **CHAPTER RECOGNITION AWARDS – STEPS TO SUCCESS**

The following information is designed to ensure that you complete all of the paperwork necessary to process your awards application. Make sure that you read all of this information carefully before applying. Failure to follow these pre-established guidelines may result in ineligibility for a specific category and/or the entire awards process. This information pertains to all awards.

- All information and application materials must be sent to Tzafon USY, c/o Sandra Goldmeer, 30 Farmingdale Rd. Latham, NY 12110. (They may also be scanned and then e-mailed/faxed in. Sandra Goldmeer, Tzafon's Regional Director of Youth Activities, must receive all information and application materials by May 1, 2011. Please allow ample time for delivery. **Anything received after May 1, 2011, will not be honored.**
- For every award for which you apply you must submit a copy of the enclosed cover sheet. Even if no other materials are necessary to complete the application process for that specific award, a cover sheet **for that award** must be submitted by the deadline in order for your chapter to be considered in that category.
- Unless otherwise specified, please staple all necessary information and application materials for a certain award directly to that award's cover sheet. This is to ensure that all information is accurately transmitted to all committee members. All information and application materials should be typed on 8.5x11 paper.
- "Write ups" should be all inclusive. Planning, attendance, parent involvement, publicity, member reactions, and a description of the event are all necessary for judging.
- Whenever attendance information is included and/or required, please list it as a percentage.
- Some awards may have a 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place if deemed appropriate.
- The Awards Committee, made up of the Regional officers and regional Director of Youth Activities will do the judging. Only USYers receive a vote; staff is simply there to oversee the process and ensure that all applications are reviewed carefully.
- All awards will be announced at Regionals. In the event that this is not possible, the appropriate individuals will be notified by this date.

## **Notes on Certain Awards:**

**Greatest Membership Increase** can be found by using the following formula:

$$\frac{2010-2011 \text{ Membership Totals} - 2009-2010 \text{ Membership Totals}}{\text{Membership Increase}}$$

**Greatest % Membership Increase** can be found by using the following formula:

$$\frac{(2010-2011 \text{ Membership Totals})}{(2009-2010 \text{ Membership Totals})} \times 100\% = \text{Membership \% Increase}$$

**Greatest & AJHHS, HeChalutzim, 613** can be found by using the following formula:

$$\frac{(\text{Total Number of People in Club})}{(\text{Total Chapter Membership})} \times 100\% = \% \text{ of Membership in Club}$$

Simply taking each person who attended at least one regional event this past year and adding them all up can find **Greatest Attendance at Regional Events.**

**Greatest % Attendance at Regional Events** can be found by this formula:

$$\frac{(\text{Total Number of Membership who Attended a single Regional Event})}{(\text{Total Chapter Membership})} \times 100\%$$

For **Best Chapter Newsletter, Website and Yearbook**, please submit a copy of each by May 1, 2011. (Only one issue of a newsletter is necessary)

The **Advisor of the Year** was created to recognize the most outstanding chapter advisor. Candidates should display exceptional leadership and programming skills, a high level of Judaic knowledge and passion, and have helped to ensure a fantastic, successful year for you and your chapter. If you feel that your advisor deserves this award, please submit a few paragraphs outlining your advisor's contributions to your chapter and why you feel that s/he is deserving of this special honor.

The **Eleanor Bloom Award** is exclusively for a Tzafon junior or senior who is not currently on Tzafon's Regional Board. This award is designed to honor an outstanding USYer who has demonstrated an exceptional level of passion for Judaism and USY, and who has contributed to their regional and chapter communities in a unique and valuable way. Please take an extra moment to look over your chapter's list of juniors and seniors before selecting your chapter's most appropriate applicant. Once selected, please write a one page description of this individual's contributions, and explain why s/he is most deserving of this very special honor in memory of one of Tzafon's most beloved regional Director of Youth Activities.

The **Most Valuable Member (MVM) Award** is a brand new award designed to honor an outstanding USYer who had demonstrated an exceptional level of passion for Judaism and USY, and who has contributed to their regional and chapter communities in a unique and valuable way. Unlike the Eleanor Bloom Award, ALL USYers are eligible, regardless of their current grade level. Please take an extra moment to look over your chapter's general membership list before selecting your chapter's most appropriate applicant. Once selected, please write a one page description of this individual's contributions, and explain why s/he most deserves of Tzafon's first ever Most Valuable Member Award.

## **Most Improved Chapter of the Year Awards Form**

If your chapter is interested in applying for this award, please include the following information on additional sheet(s) of paper:

1. Membership Totals from 2010-2011
2. Membership Totals from 2009-2010
3. The number change from #1 and #2
4. The percentage change from #1 and #2
5. A statement on how your chapter has improved over the past year, especially through new programs.

## **Chapter of the Year Awards Form**

**If your chapter is interested in applying for Chapter of the Year, please include the following information on additional sheet(s) of paper:**

1. Membership Totals from 2009-2010
2. Membership Totals from 2010-2011
3. A brief description of at least 1 Membership program held by your chapter this past year
4. A brief description of at least 1 Religious program held by your chapter this past year
5. A brief description of at least 1 Educational/Jewish culture program held by your chapter this past year
6. A brief description of at least 1 Social Action program held by your chapter this past year
7. A brief description of at least 1 Tikun Olam program held by your chapter this past year
8. The following membership totals from the 2010-2011 year:
  - a. The Abraham Joshua Heschel Honors Society
  - b. The 613 Mitzvah Club
  - c. HeChalutzim
  - d. Percentage of chapter membership who attended Regional Events
9. A copy of any Chapter Website, Newsletter, Flyers and/or Yearbook/Scrapbook
10. A statement on how your chapter has been the best chapter overall in the region. This can include information on additional programs not previously discussed, involvement in your area's great Jewish (and/or secular) community, as well as anything else you deem relevant. Utilize this opportunity to make your chapter stand out, using the facts.

**\*\*\*NO CHAPTER CAN RECEIVE ANY AWARDS UNLESS ITS T.O. DONATIONS HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE INTERNATIONAL OFFICE PRIOR TO May 1, 2011.**

If you have any questions regarding a specific award, and/or the awards process in general, please do not hesitate to contact Sandra Goldmeer at [Goldmeer@uscj.org](mailto:Goldmeer@uscj.org) or Nicole Goldman, Communications VP ([communications@tzafon.org](mailto:communications@tzafon.org))