

Resolution Concerning Life Membership Award for Rabbi Eric Yoffie

Adopted by the NFTY General Board
NFTY Convention 2005, Los Angeles, CA

Whereas, Rabbi Eric Yoffie steadfastly has served our movement as President of the Union for Reform Judaism since 1996; and

Whereas, Rabbi Yoffie has been an exemplar of Jewish leadership throughout his career, serving the Reform Jewish community in numerous positions, including the Director of the Union's Midwest Council, Executive Director of ARZA, and Vice-President of the Union for Reform Judaism; and

Whereas, Rabbi Yoffie served NFTY as a Regional President and as the National Vice President (1966-1967); and

Whereas Rabbi Yoffie's commitment to youth did not expire with his term as NFTY Vice-President, as he has constantly placed youth and youth-related issues as a clear priority on the Union for Reform Judaism's "to-do list"; and

Whereas, Rabbi Yoffie has challenged and enabled our Movement to strengthen its commitment to Jewish youth programs by spearheading key presidential initiatives, which emphasized the importance of the position of full-time youth professional, the increased development of our camping system, the need to reach the overwhelming number of unaffiliated youth, the need to revamp our religious school education curricula, and the requirement to better prepare our youth for Jewish life on college campus; and

Whereas, Rabbi Yoffie's 2003 Presidential Initiative, "Open Doors, Open Minds" – the lead of which NFTY followed in declaring its 2004-2005 study theme, "Interreligious Understanding," has subsequently enabled NFTYites to hear "the presence of God in the voice of our neighbors"; and

Therefore, let it be resolved, that Rabbi Eric Yoffie receive NFTY's Life Membership Award, for his dedicated years of service to the Reform Movement and its youth in particular.

Respectfully submitted,

NFTY Executive Board, 2004-2005