Calendar

All meetings and events are held at the League Conference Room, 1609 Shoal Creek Drive #202, Austin 78701, unless otherwise noted.

First Vote! Training
Saturday, March 9, 10:30 - 11:30 AM
Everyone welcome.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Program
Saturday, March 9, 1:30 - 3:30 PM
Everyone welcome.

Advocacy Committee Meeting
Saturday, March 16, 11 AM - 12 PM
Members welcome.

Pinot & Policy: Education Committee Update
Wednesday, March 20, 6:30 - 8 PM
Everyone welcome.

Affordable Housing Committee
Sunday, March 24, 2 PM - 4 PM
Congregation Beth Israel
3901 Shoal Creek Blvd., Austin, 78756
Members welcome.

View our Calendar of Events at any time by visiting our website.

Upcoming Programs

Join Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Director Maria Milner to take a deep look at the beginnings of the Women's Suffrage Movement in the United States, its most revered leaders, and their stances on the suffrage of African-American women and men. Discussion will also include a critical look at how the past of the Suffrage Movement casts a shadow on present efforts to include a wider range of our community.

Saturday, March 9th, 1:30 - 3:30 PM
League of Women Voters-Austin Area, 1609 Shoal Creek Blvd., #202, Austin, 78701
Everyone is welcome to this free program. Please RSVP here (optional,)
Contact DEI Director, Maria Milner, at mmilner@lwvaustin.org for any questions.

Open to the members and public, this month we will review proposed changes to the Healthcare and Education Program positions. Attendees will have a chance to ask questions and provide feedback on the proposed updates during the meeting.

League of Women Voters Austin Area, 1609 Shoal Creek Blvd., Suite #202, Austin
Wednesday, February 20, 6:30 - 8:00 PM
Reserve your ticket by clicking here.

Join us for a program on Affordable Housing with city and county officials as speakers. Also at this time, we will update our position on Affordable Housing which was adopted in 2001.

One of our suggested additions reads "LWV-AA supports all avenues of promoting affordable housing (such as density corridors, accessory dwelling units, loan incentives for homeowners, zoning adjustments and specific bonds) that are consistent with the goal of helping ALL areas of Austin to be inclusive, diverse and welcoming."

Sunday, March 24, 2:00 - 4:00 PM
Temple Beth Israel, 3901 Shoal Creek Blvd, 78756
Come early for coffee and snacks. Ample parking is available. RSVP is helpful, but not required: aboudreault@lwvaustin.org.

President's Message

It's Women's History Month, so it's a great time to think about the League's Value Statement: We believe in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy.

Joyce LeBombard
It is a core belief that women do have power and that we must use that power to create women-centered spaces in politics. Women must be included in our democracy. We recently featured the value statement in a video for Amplify Austin Day. You can see the video on YouTube by clicking here.

A big 'Thank You!' to Mary Jane Burson, VP Community Relations, Elizabeth Cooper, Development Director, Ryann Collier, Communications/Publicity Director, and Nina Medeiros, member and Founder of Big Creative Productions, for all their hard work to make our Amplify Austin campaign such a big success this year!

Alamo Drafthouse is honoring us and all HEROic women in Austin with two special screenings of CAPTAIN MARVEL, on March 12th at the Lakeline theater and March 19th at the Mueller theater. All are welcome to the special screenings but are encouraged to bring along the absolutely incredible, totally marvelous, and outright HEROic women in their lives. The added bonus, they will be donating a portion of proceeds from these screenings us. A big thank you to Alamo Drafthouse for their support! Get your tickets by clicking here.

Last, but not least, I want to take this opportunity to honor a woman that epitomizes the power of women: League member and past President, Maxine Barkan. Like the Austin Area League, Maxine turns 100 years old this year, at the end of March in fact. Please join me in wishing Maxine a very happy birthday!

$4,485

THANK YOU ALL FOR HELPING US MAKE #AMPLIFYTX A SUCCESS!

Keep up the momentum in the Lege!

The League has already taken action on 25 bills in the Texas Legislature, and provided testimony in support of Sephronia Thompson's equal pay bill, HB 287. The legislative session starts off slow, then speeds up, and finally becomes frantic.

Your quick action makes a difference! It only takes a moment to click on an action alert and send an email to your elected officials. It could be your email that helps good bills make progress or stops a bad bill. Share the action alerts with your friends and family!
2019-2020 LWV-AA Board Nominations

We are still looking for members willing to serve on the 2019-2020 LWV-AA Board. We are an all-volunteer working board. The nominating committee welcomes any and all members who are interested in serving on the LWV-AA Board to self-nominate or suggest other members. New members are equally welcome on the board, as well as those who have enjoyed LWV-AA work for a number of years. The board is strengthened by members with a wide variety of backgrounds, experiences, talents, and knowledge. If you have questions, please contact any of the nominating committee members below.

Committee Chair, Hal Jennings: hjennings@lwvaustin.org
Lea Masiello: leamasiello@gmail.com
Jane McFarland: ajanemc@gmail.com
Mary Cullinane: mcullinane@lwvaustin.org
Gina McCool: gmccool@lwvaustin.org

Empowering Voters and Defending Democracy has never been more important. We look forward to hearing from you.

Membership Report and Interest Survey

Brenda Koegler, Membership Director

Welcome, New Members: Susana Carranza, Allison DeGroote, Mary Friedman, Andrea Gomez, Rosemary Guzman Hook, Maritza Kelley, Catherine Kyle and Mark Nixon, Jessica Mangrum, Whitney Nelson, Tracy Owen, Moriah Powers and Christie Smith, Mary and David Schwindt, Kirsten Ueber, Kennon Wooten


Thank You, Renewing Members: Britin Bostick, Diane Budy, Molly Comeaux, Kathleen Hackett, Nancy Hurd, Debbie Kern, Ruth Koenig, JoAnn McKenzie, Kathi Miller, Susan and John Theiss, Tim and Melanie Walters Mahoney

To anyone interested in becoming more involved in the League in 2019: We hold new member orientation coffees once a month. The next one is March 16 at 2:00. Email me at bkoegler@lwvaustin.org if you would like a refresher on opportunities.

As a member of the Austin League, each of you is also a member of the national and state leagues. See the links below for an abundance of educational information.
Member Interest Survey: We are very interested in seeing what in particular interests you and why you joined the League. Click on Select Your Action Involvement to complete the survey. Please fill it out and hit submit. We will then connect you to the appropriate League leaders.

Need more information? Visit our webpage for more information on new memberships and membership renewals.

Thank you for supporting the League!

Donations: John C. Loehlin, Frances McIntyre, Nancy Dittmar, Randall Chapman, Anne Roussos, Alva F. Calvin, Cinde Weatherby

Voters Guide: Mary Schwindt, Kirsten Ueber, Patricia McNairy

Memorial/Honorary: Cindy Schaufenburg, in honor of Debbi Voss; Rosemary Guzman Hook, in memory of Dr. Allan W. Hook; Allison DeGroote, in honor of Kathy DeGroote; Maria Milner.

Donors from the Amplify Austin campaign will be recognized in next month's newsletter. Thank you!

Randall's Good Neighbor Program gives the Austin League a percentage of sales from members who link the League to their Remarkable Cards. Complete this document and return to any Randall's store. Our account number is 465.

Making a legacy donation to the League of Women Voters Austin Area in your will is the easiest way to offer support of the League's work for years to come. Learn how to leave your legacy and become a member of our League's Legacy Society.

Board of Directors

Joyce LeBombard
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VP Programs

Mary Jane Burson
VP Community Relations

Debbi Voss
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Cinde Weatherby
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Amanda Boudreault
Program Director

Maria Milner
Diversity/Equity/Inclusion

Karen Kelley
Volunteer Management

Gretchen Otto
Voters Guide Editor

The League shall not support or oppose any political party or candidates. It may take action on governmental measures and policies in the public interest after significant study and consensus is reached.