

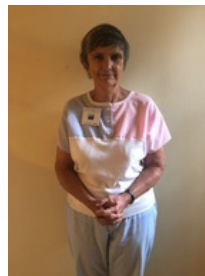


THE VOTER

Quarterly Newsletter

A Message From The President

By Eleanor Green



Primary elections having finally come and gone, we're now looking ahead to the general election in November. Our league put out a long and detailed *Voters' Guide* for the primaries, edited by Nancy Lawler, and we held several candidate forums across the city, activities that will of course continue in the coming months.

Efforts to inform and register young voters (catch their interest early on!) have continued apace, with educational projects underway during term time in several public high schools. A new project, Leaguers in the Library, places a volunteer in several public libraries each month to answer questions and possibly register citizens to vote.

We also now have an active committee focused on DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion), as well as our ongoing Voter Data Analysis Project that's analyzing voter turnout across the city; the aim is to develop strategic programs targeted specifically at areas in Baltimore with especially low voter turnout.

A successful and most enjoyable in-person Annual Meeting took place at Gertrude's in June. There we approved numerous bylaws amendments, as well as a slate of officers and directors for the coming year. Dana Petersen Moore of the Baltimore City Office of Equity and Civil Rights gave the keynote address. It was a great relief to be free for once from yet one more meeting on Zoom!

Our Outlook for Work, also approved at the Annual Meeting, stresses growing the League and engaging even more members in our various activities. We plan to continue our ongoing involvement with voter education and registration, a primary mission of any league. In addition, we're looking ahead to increasing active advocacy by the League on issues of direct concern to Baltimore City. In coming weeks, we also hope to have an attractive and informative new website up and running. And we expect to continue our engagement with Open Works in downtown Baltimore.

As you can tell, all in all we're looking ahead to an exceptionally busy and productive year for our already very active League!

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Board of Directors
LWV Baltimore City
 President: Eleanor Green
 1st Vice President Billie Roberts Spann
 2nd Vice President Deanna V. Ikhinmwinn
 3rd Vice President Argentine Craig
 Secretary Lu Pierson
 Treasurer Barbara Dent

DIRECTORS
 Sherry Phillips Teresa Leslie
 Paige Bacon Vickiana Franco
 Sam Novey Cheryl Watson
Office Administrator: Makeda Scott

ANNUAL MEETING- 2022

by Lu Pierson, Secretary

On June 8, 39 members of the League attended the Annual Meeting at Gertrude's Chesapeake Kitchen within the Baltimore Museum of Art. The Annual Meeting is a chance for the League to gather, socialize, and vote on important business for the upcoming year. This year's guest speaker was Dana Peterson Moore, Esquire, Baltimore City's first Chief Equity Officer. She spoke about the challenges and rewards of leading the efforts to establish frameworks within every City agency, board and commission that will assure compliance with Baltimore's equity laws and mandates. She has a keen focus on helping all City employees carry out their vast and varied responsibilities with awareness of doing so through an equity lens which is also a focus with the League of Women Voter's.

League members voted on the annual budget, updates to the by-laws, the Outlook for Work, and voted on new board members for the 2022-2024 term. This important event ensures the League can move forward and execute 2022-2023 voter support activities.



League Members gathered at the 2022 Annual Meeting

ANNUAL MEETING- 2022

by Lu Pierson, Secretary

Upcoming newsletter articles will highlight how the League is conducting voter activities aligned with your approved Outlook for Work 2022-2023.

OUTLOOK FOR WORK 2022-2023

1. LEAGUE GROWTH, STRENGTH, AND VISIBILITY
2. VOTER SERVICES
3. VOTER EDUCATION
4. DEI

ADVOCACY

The League of Women Voters Baltimore City has a number of positions on issues that matter at the local level. We are looking for volunteers to lead advocacy efforts on the following issues. This would include developing an advocacy relationship with City Council Members, local government officials, and the local media, advocate with state officials and legislators when issues arise of concern to Baltimore City, or to sponsor speakers and attend forums. Please contact the League President for more details.

:

- Public education and Baltimore City Schools
- Criminal justice (and police accountability?)
- Public transportation
- Health care concerns
- Affordable housing and other housing issues
- Climate and the Environment

INTRODUCING:

New to the Board and League

Outlook for Work- Voter Growth/Strength/Visibility and DEI



Paige Bacon - Board Member
Term 2022-2024

Cheryl Watson- Board Member
Term 2022-2024

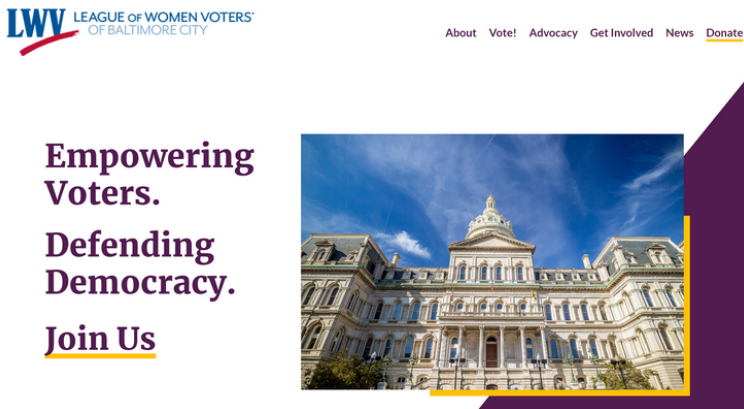
WELCOME NEW LEAGUE MEMBERS

Margaret Cohen Susan Cesare Kendra Sandman
Sgt J.T. Moore Donna Price Adeline Ayers Lois Moseley
Chrystal Green Wendy Aylward Heather Lemkelde Patricia Boland

NEW LEAGUE WEBSITE

Outlook for Work- Voter Growth/Strength/Visibility

Your Communications Committee has been hard at work to bring a fresh look to the League's website. We acknowledge that a poorly designed website reflects on our organization. Likewise, we believe an accessible, attractive, and informative website can generate more membership, volunteers, and interest in the League's activities. We are excited that these changes will serve organize calls to action and provide transparency on League activities. The full site is in the final stages of completion. See below for a sneak peek at the latest designs.



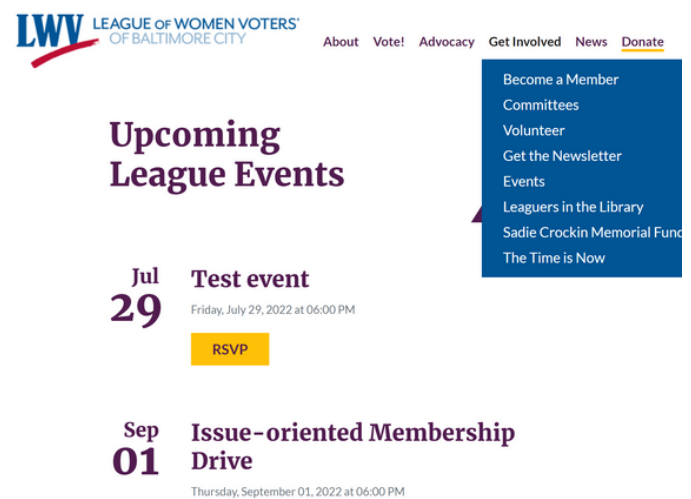
Front page of the new website



Current voting information up front.



Additional information on League Advocacy and Activities



Calendar of upcoming events with ability to RSVP or sign up to volunteer

2022 Elections

Candidate Forums

Outlook for Work: Voter Growth/Strength/Visibility, Education, Services

District 43A Delegate Candidate Forum by Gail Sunderman

The League of Women Voters Baltimore City and co-sponsor the Northeast Community Organization (NECO) hosted a primary candidate forum for district 43A delegates on June 16. This hybrid forum—both in person and virtual—was held at Emmanuel Lutheran Church. In this age of Zoom events, the idea was to give people options and include the benefits of meeting in person. Thirty-five people attended in person and another 55 were virtual. The forum followed the typical League template, with opening and closing statements from the candidates and questions from the audience. Gail Sunderman, LWV Baltimore City organized and hosted the forum, Corey Holland, NECO moderated, Tonaeya Moore, LWV Baltimore City was the timekeeper, and Barbara Dent, LWV Baltimore City assisted with check in and collecting questions. A video of the forum is available on NECO Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=742292956961990&ref=sharing>.

District 45 Primary Forum by Flo Valentine

The 45th District Primary forum with Barbara Jackson, President of the Frankfort Community Association, Inc, was held at Mt Pleasant Church and Ministries located at 6000 Radecke Ave, Baltimore, MD 21206. Mt. Pleasant had a great layout and atmosphere for the forum.

All of the candidates were invited to the forum: Jackie Addison; Chanel Branch; George Johnson; Stephanie Smith; and Caylin Young. The three candidates that showed up for the forum were: Chanel Branch; Stephanie Smith and Caylin Young.

Toni Moore-Duggan, of the League of Women Voters, moderated the forum. The 3 candidates were all very forceful and had many creative ideas for solving some of the problems that plaque the city and District 45 specifically. The incumbents of District 45, Chanel and Stephanie, seemed to agree and work closely together, as the responses indicated. Caylin Young acknowledged this and also was very cohesive with the two delegates.

There was a lot of concern about mental health from the audience. Del. Smith said that she will reintroduce a bill to address alternative solutions. The other candidates were in full agreement with the concerns for future health providers.

The audience was very robust in the questions that were asked of the candidates. Many questions also focused on public safety, transportation, and climate change.

Meet and Greet- State's Attorney Office by Flo Valentine

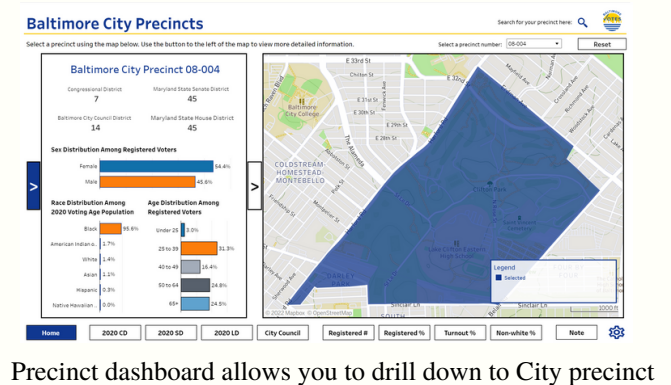
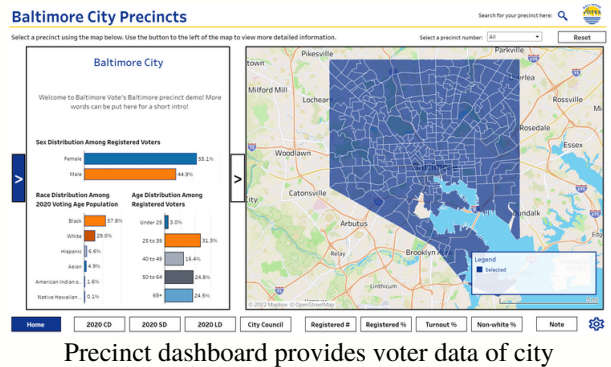
There also was a Meet and Greet for the Baltimore City State's Attorney Office. All candidates were invited and Thiru Vignarajah was the candidate who showed up. He spoke for a short time, because of a prior engagement. Toni Moore-Duggan asked Thiru several questions, including about his priorities for the office. The audience was especially interested in the violent crime in the neighborhood and his plans for solving that problem. What stood out in his comments was that more firearms cases should go to federal court where repeat offenders face stiffer penalties.

VOTER DATA ANALYSIS

Outlook for Work- Voter Growth/Strength Visibility, Education, Services, DEI by Sam Novey, Director

Baltimore Votes, the League of Women Voters of Baltimore City and the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF) Agora Institute at Johns Hopkins University (JHU) collaborated on a Democracy Data Science Hack-a-thon. Drs. Rosenblum, Le, and Wright led three teams of amazing students who worked hard to produce four data driven voter analysis products.

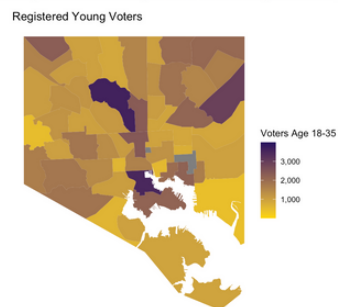
- Our precinct dashboard that provides granular data about each of the 296 voting precincts in Baltimore City by Michael Dunphy- available here:
<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/michael.dunphy8764/viz/BaltimoreVotesCoalitionDemo/Dashboard>



- Voter turnout heatmaps and map of where LWV members live in Baltimore by Jess Spayd:
<https://rpubs.com/phong314/909899>
- Analysis of voter turnout and other BNIA indicators by Sai Srujana Illa- available here:
<https://rpubs.com/phong314/909903>
- Histograms of various aspects of Baltimore City voter data by Lucienne L. Julian- available here:
https://d4qwx-lucienne-julian.shinyapps.io/Voter_Statistics_Graphs/?_ga=2.259901130.1900798326.1653793534-566144532.1653793534

Youth (Age 18-35) Registered to Vote

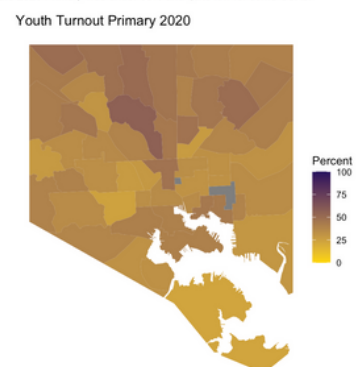
Here, we are looking at the concentration of registered voters between the ages of 18 and 35 (as of Election Day 2020).



Visuals into voter registration throughout the City

Voter Turnout Ages 18-35 in 2020 Primary

Youth turnout in the 2020 Primary was under 50% and quite low for some CSAs.



Visuals into voter turnout throughout the City

VOTER DATA ANALYSIS

Con't

by Sam Novey, Director

The goal of this project is to have data that informs where the League should conduct outreach and advocacy. The project provides clear information on areas and populations that the League or voting partners can engage to increase civic engagement.

The two images to the right highlight this point. In image 1, Baltimore City data shows that Southwest Baltimore and jailed populations have the lowest turnout and League activities could focus on these areas.

Futher, image 2 shows the areas with least access to the Internet. This would indicate that the League should have more printed materials available for these areas.

We look forward to highlighting future League activities that this project has helped to address in upcoming newsletters.

FIDCommunity	Age bin	PP20(%)	PG20(%)
51Unassigned – Jail	18-35	6	44
33Midway/Coldstream	18-35	27	50
47Southwest Baltimore	18-35	24	50
31Madison/East End	18-35	32	52
43Sandtown-Winchester/Harlem Park	18-35	28	52
46Southern Park Heights	18-35	32	52
10Clifton-Berea	18-35	32	53
4Brooklyn/Curtis Bay/Hawkins Point	18-35	23	54
42Poppleton/The Terraces/Hollins Market	18-35	35	54
23Greater Rosemont	18-35	33	55
41Pimlico/Arlington/Hilltop	18-35	37	55
54Upton/Druid Heights	18-35	29	55
3Belair-Edison	18-35	38	57
50Westport/Mount Winans/Lakeland	18-35	32	57
1Allendale/Irvington/S. Hilton	18-35	35	58
7Cherry Hill	18-35	32	58
56Greenmount East	18-35	34	58
15Edmondson Village	18-35	40	59
21Greater Mondawmin	18-35	36	59
9Claremont/Armistead	18-35	32	60

Image 1

Below listed are 20 communities with least access to internet.

Community	households without internet access (%)
Sandtown-Winchester/Harlem Park	38.8
Greater Rosemont	37.5
Pimlico/Arlington/Hilltop	37.0
Greenmount East	35.2
Midway/Coldstream	35.1
Brooklyn/Curtis Bay/Hawkins Point	34.7
Southern Park Heights	34.1
Greater Mondawmin	32.9
Oldtown/Middle East	32.6
Clifton-Berea	32.3
Upton/Druid Heights	31.6
Southwest Baltimore	30.3
Cherry Hill	29.6
Howard Park/West Arlington	28.3
Dickeyville/Franklinton	28.2
Morrell Park/Violetville	27.9
Dorchester/Ashburton	27.6
Glen-Fallstaff	27.4
Edmondson Village	27.1
Penn North/Reservoir Hill	27.0

Image 2

VOTER EDUCATION

THE TIME IS NOW- Update

Outlook for Work- Voter Education

by Deanna V. Ikhinmwin, 2nd Vice President

The **2021-2022 Time Is Now High School Voter Ambassador project** was a dynamic voter education partnership between two (2) Baltimore City High Schools and the Baltimore City League of Women Voters.

I. At **Baltimore City College High School** the 16 Voter Ambassadors and the Student Government scholars created an interactive and engaging Voter Registration Fair for the 10th and 11th-grade students. The Fair occurred on Thursday, April 29th from 12:00 pm to 2:30 pm. There was tabling for politicians and non-profit organizations, food trucks, gaming trucks, a DJ, and other fun activities. An outline of what was present is found below.

Food:

Free Food Truck -- Kona Ice
 Food Truck -- Comfort Kitchen
 (wings/burgers/mac and cheese)
 Food Truck -- Auntie Ann's Pretzels

Activities:

Free Gaming Truck
 DJ
 360 Camera

Club Participation:

SWTT -- Performance
 Drama Club -- Costume Photo Booth
 Model UN -- Pizza Sales

Outside Organization Tables:

Violet Voices -- Sexual and Reproductive Health
 Secretary John King -- Candidate for MD Governor

A total of 111 Baltimore City High school students were registered at this event.



VOTER EDUCATION

THE TIME IS NOW- Update

Outlook for Work- Voter Education

by Deanna V. Ikhinmwin, 2nd Vice President

The Time Is Now High School Voter Ambassador project asked students to write a poem describing what the vote means to them after they attended the program. Please take a moment to read two submissions from these dedicated and creative students.

A Vote Is.....

V

**A vote is a voice, a voice for change.
A voice out of many voices.
A voice that holds power
A voice that has an opinion
A voice for those who don't use their own.**

O

**A vote is an opinion
An opinion that is unique
An opinion for you, for us
An opinion to be heard.**

T

**A vote is a task
A task to change the world you live in
A task to help your community
A task to complete**

E

**A vote is for everyone
For everyone who wants
To see better, and do better
For our country.
Written by: Endia Evan**

A Vote Is.....Mi Vida

**The life of my brothers and sisters
It is the opportunities given and obtained
It is my safety jacket on crazy waters
With storms and thick air or
My sunscreen when the sun is high, and the clouds are
not there
It is the protection of my people
And the protection of yours.
For if you care about the life you live
You will vote for your home.**

**A vote is your present and future
A vote was even your past and present.**

A vote is your history

**Do you not want control over that when you have the
opportunity?**

Use your voice

Use this opportunity

For the time in your life

Para la personas en tu vida

(For the people in your life)

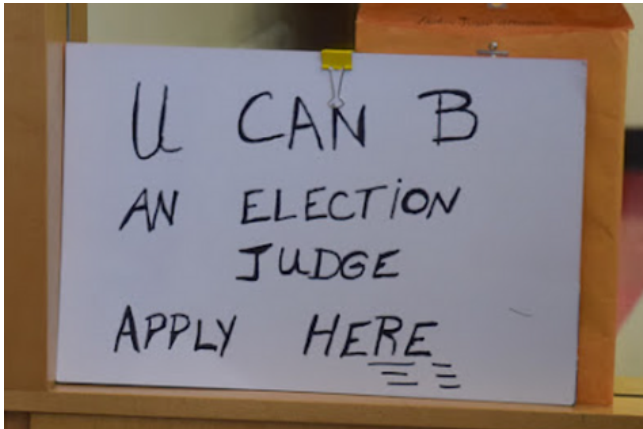
**Written by: A Voter Ambassador Student at Baltimore
City College High School**

VOTER EDUCATION

THE TIME IS NOW- Update

Outlook for Work- Voter Education

by Deanna V. Ikhinmwin, 2nd Vice President



II. There was a total of 600 students who attended the **Mergenthaler Vocational Technical High School** Voter Registration Fair. It was held on Friday, June 3rd from 12:30 until 2:50 p.m. Only 10th and 11th-grade students were invited and attended the Voter Registration Fair.

The 20 Student Voter Ambassadors organized the music which was provided by a student DJ. They also coordinated games, invited local political candidates, community partners, and included the student cheerleaders and school band in the afternoon Voter Registration activities.

The 20 Voter Ambassadors wore colorful lanyards and utilized decorated clipboards to register their peers. They also served their 600 classmates free hot dogs, hamburgers, and beverages.

A total of 100 Mergenthaler Vocational High school students were registered at this event.

III. Some League Member's Responses
Akosua-----Students had fun with games, DJ, and food.

Joyce-----Candidates did engage with students.

Paige-----wonderful". Liked tables that represented issues, and good networking.
-----5 students wanted to be Election Judges

Stay tuned for 2022 The Time is Now Project updates as the League reaches out to partner with other Baltimore City High Schools!

VOTER REGISTRATION

Outlook for Work- Voter Growth/Strength/Visibility

Primary Election Day was July 19, 2022. League members supported the community with 15 Registration and information events. Unfortunately, 8 events were canceled that could not be supported due to a volunteer shortage. Please consider supporting any of the critical upcoming community events below.

Upcoming Community Registration Event Requests: Volunteers Needed!

Please Contact Joyce Chapman if you can support: jochapman23@yahoo.com

31 July 12-7pm: Hug Don't Shoot (2 hr time slots)

2 Aug 4-8pm: LCAP Night Out

4 Aug 530-8pm: Summer Family Festival

18 Aug 630-730pm: Arts in the Park

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Please feel free to email the committees if you are interested in learning more and/or would like to get involved.

The League is heading into another exciting year of service to Baltimore City. See the list below for all League of Women Voters Committees 2022-2023 to get involved.

Endowment Management Committee

Sally Grant (Chair)
Eleanor Green (ex officio)
Barbara Dent (ex officio)
Virginia Richardson
Paul Walker

Budget Committee

Barbara Dent (ex officio)
Eleanor Green (ex officio)
Sally Grant (ex officio)

Finance Committee

Sally Grant (Chair)

Nominating Committee

Flo Valentine (Chair)
Lois Hybl (elected)
Nancy Lawler (elected)
Millie Godfrey (elected)
(Note: Three Board Members to be appointed at September Board Meeting)

Communications and Online Services Committee

Vickiana Franco (Chair)
Makeda Scott

Voter Data Analysis Project

Nancy Lawler
Flo Valentine
Sam Novey
Dawn Teele

Membership Committee

Billie Roberts Spann (Chair)
Flo Valentine
Sam Novey
Karin Kendrick
Toni Moore-Duggan

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee

Toni Moore-Duggan (Chair)
Mary Ellen Vanni
Flo Valentine
Teresa Leslie
Sally Grant
Sam Novey

Voter Registration and Recruitment Committee

Deanna Ikhinmwin (Chair)
Juliet Aze Paige Bacon Joyce Chapman
Barbara Corbin Vicki Franco
Nancy Lawler Akosua Lee Megan Shook
Cheryl Watson Zillaha Clark

Committee to Prepare Voters' Guide

Nancy Lawler Sam Novey
Toni Moore-Duggan Lu Pierson
Billie Roberts Spann Sally Grant Lois Hybl (Vote 411)

Upcoming Events

All trainings and meetings held over Zoom.

Please contact admin@lwvbaltimorecity.org to confirm meeting dates!

**For more information on Committees and Events,
please visit www.lwv-baltimorecity.org**

April 19 9:00 LWV

Thank you to all of our
newsletter contributors!

- Vickiana Franco, Newsletter Editor



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