

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS *DETROIT*



NOVEMBER 2019 ISSUE

SAVE the DATES

We have scheduled 2 fundraising events for 2020.



Sunday, March 15, 2020, matinee performance. Our second annual theatre event at the **Detroit Repertory Theater**. The name of the play is “The Puppeteer”... “From the Harlem Renaissance to present day, women in one family cut racism’s strings and sing their own song”.



September 13, 2020 Bus Tour The second event will be Sunday, September 13, 2020 for a bus tour with Detroit History Tours LLC. We have reserved this date but have not settled on which tour. For more information on the types of tours offered, go to detroithistorytours.com.

We will need volunteers at the events for various jobs from greeters and ticket takers, someone to make the programs, etc. Contact me at sslattery7@comcast.net
Susan Slattery

NOVEMBER SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

🇺🇸 **November 16, 2019 - Membership Meeting,** 2:00 pm, Marygrove College , 8425 McNichols Rd. Detroit 48221, LA316 Conference Room (3rd floor).

Voter Registration Volunteer Opportunity

****Nov. 2, 2019 8:00 – 4:00pm,** table to do voter registration at Neighborhood Rising Summit, 2 hour shifts. Contact Joyce Dallas, joymdallas@sbcglobal.net or cell 313-319-2531.

****Nov. 13, 2019 8:00 – 4:00;** Annual Breithaupt Career Technical Center -College Fair to do voter registrations with DPS students. Contact Rhonda Craig if you can volunteer during that time at 313-288-9590.

**** Nov. 13 and Nov. 19 pm –** Oversee the Himelhoch’s Tenant Council Elections (11/11, 10-12pm – moderate “meet the candidates” forum & 11/19, 10am-until... TBA – manage voting process and then counting ballots, writing a report). Could use volunteers to help set up the forum, sign in, provide information on the League, assist people in the voting process, manage a sign-in sheet to vote, assisting voters as needed, and then counting ballots. Please contact Rhonda, at our phone number 313-288-9590, questions/volunteer. This is a fundraiser for the League. Himelhoch is in downtown Detroit.



Have you Renewed your Membership this year (fiscal year, July 2019 – July 2020)? If not, please do! We need your commitment NOW!

Two ways to renew: go on-line at lwvdetroit.org and pay on-line or get an application from on-line and mail it and check to League of Women Voters Detroit, P.O. Box 2503, Detroit, MI 48202-9998. Call or email Cheryl at cbukoff@sbcglobal.net or 313-341-9355 if you have questions or concerns.

Announcing our new League office in the City of Detroit's City Clerk's Office for the Department of Elections, at 2978 W. Grand Blvd, Detroit, 48202. Our office is on the 4th floor, just off the front elevator. The security guard at the front desk has a list of LWV Detroit Board members who are able to host small meetings there, to maintain informational materials at the site, and to allow us to collaborate with the election staff and community for mutual events. The building is open Monday – Friday from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. AND, it's at no cost! We thank Janice Winfrey and her staff for being so welcoming and generous. We were given a freshly painted office and furniture, and an interesting tour of the building including where the voting preparation happens!

Press Release by the Michigan Secretary of State on 10/24

Applications are now being accepted for the Citizens Redistricting Commission membership and can be found on-line at www.redistrictingmichigan.org. The Michigan League encourages people to consider applying. There will be a webinar, Oct. 31 at 10-11 am with a presentation by the Michigan Dept. of State to talk about the new Commission. The webinar is titled *Understanding the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission*. It is free but you will need to RSVP. If you can not attend but register, you will have access to material from the talk. To register, go to: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/current-issues-affecting-michigan-local-governments-understanding-the-independent-citizens-redistricting-commission> .

Other News

Town Halls on Three Major League issues

LWVMI has trained 5 people in our local League as well as other Leagues throughout the state to be official speakers at town halls on three issues to educate the public: the 2020 Census, the Citizens' Redistricting Commission (CRC) and the details of the new voting rights. Our speakers and other from the League will be able to also speak at local groups on one or more of these issues. For information about hosting such an event, please contact Rhonda Craig by email at LWVdetroit@gmail.com or at the phone 313-288-9590.

PA 608 A Michigan judge, Court of Claims Judge Cynthia Stephens, in September struck down a new requirement by the Lame Duck legislators that made it harder to initiate ballot drives by limiting the number of signatures that can be counted from a single congressional district, declaring this and several other requirements are not constitutional. The LWVMI and others filed the initial law-suit in May that resulted in this ruling.

Candidate Forum

Highland Park City Council and a second Mayoral Candidates Forum was held Oct. 14, 2019 at the Elks Lodge in Highland Park. Over 50 people attended. It was a lively discussion with many thoughtful questions coming from the audience. The Forum was co-sponsored by the League, the Highland Park Business Association and Citizen Detroit and moderated by the LWVdetroit.

Reminder – The videos of the previous Hamtramck City Council Forum (7/11/19) and the Highland Park Mayoral Forum (7/30/19) can be viewed by going to lwdetroit.org and clicking on the Facebook contact on the home page. There was no on-line recording of the Oct. 14th forum.

League of Women Voters encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government; works to increase understanding of major public policy issues; and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League is strictly nonpartisan meaning we neither endorse nor oppose candidates or political parties. Membership is open to men and women that are of at least 16 years of age.