

November 17, 2022/Issue 7



**Detroit Public Library/Detroit League
Collaborative Series Presents a Virtual Webinar:
Combating Election Misinformation**

□ **Tuesday, November 15, 2022 @ 6pm**

Join **PEN America** disinformation experts for a presentation and discussion on how we use psychological science and journalism to work against disinformation, especially in election season. We'll look at specific election-related narratives and explore the psychological tendencies of the human brain that they prey on; then, we will use that knowledge to create strategies to stop the flow of misleading information.

Drawing from an LWVD/DPL collaborative event in September with a PEN American panel discussion, this presentation will feature an interdisciplinary approach to the issue.

To register, click **HERE**. We will send registrants the Zoom link before the program.

Hosted by the League of Women Voters Detroit and the Detroit Public Library, partnering in talks promoting voter education and tools for action.



LWV Detroit Membership Meeting

☐ Saturday, November 19, 2022 @ 10am

Please join us for the LWVD November membership meeting via Zoom.

Our membership meetings are open to the public. You need not be a member to attend. While we automatically email the Zoom meeting link to our members, if you are not a member but would like to attend, please get in touch with Membership Coordinator Cheryl Bukoff at lwvdetroit@gmail.com or 313-288-9590.

REBEKA ISLAM

Our spotlight this month is on Rebeka Islam, LWV Detroit's first Asian American Muslim president and its youngest to date.

Rebeka was born in Bangladesh and came to America with her family when she was five years old ☐ first to Queens, New York, then to Hamtramck, MI, where she saw first-hand how a lack of opportunities for immigrants and indifference from civic leaders affected her community. In high school, she joined the Asian Pacific Islander American (APIA) group as a youth intern working on the 2010 census. She has never looked back, working her way up the ranks to become the APIA executive director.

After graduating from Wayne State University (Detroit, MI), Rebeka's community work radiated to issues involving language access, immigrant rights, civil rights, housing, economic empowerment, public health, and voting rights through work with the Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion, the Michigan State Housing Development Authority, and the Skillman Foundation.

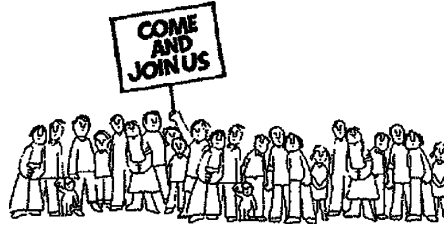
Rebeka also sits on the board of several non-profit organizations, such as the American Citizens for Justice, the Voter Empower Project for Washington, D.C., and



the Michigan Redistricting Commission Outreach Committee. She serves on the LWVMI Board of Directors as membership chair. In June 2022, she was elected president of the Detroit League, where she is working with board members to focus on increased membership and League fundraising.

On a personal note, Rebeka loves traveling and spending time with her family.

You can click [HERE](#) if you'd like to read about our other LWVD member spotlights.



LWVD Membership Renewal

Have you been able to renew your Detroit League membership yet? Now's the time. Our membership year always begins in July and ends the following June.

Please renew online with a credit card at lwvdetroit.org. To pay dues by check, print out the **offline application** and mail it together to:

League of Women Voters Detroit □ PO Box 2503 □ Detroit MI 48202

Thank you to everyone who has renewed. Membership makes us stronger! If you would like more information about LWVD membership, you can click [HERE](#).

Have questions about becoming a member of the Detroit League? Contact LWVD Membership Chair Cheryl Bukoff at (313) 288-9590 or lwvdetroit@gmail.com.



Della Mae McGraw Past Detroit League President

Sadly, we announce the passing of Della McGraw, one of the Detroit League's past presidents.

Della McGraw was born in Oklahoma in 1931. She graduated from Howard University with a nursing degree (*Magna Cum Laude*) in 1955 and earned her graduate nursing degree "with distinction" at Wayne State University (Detroit, MI).

Della led the Portfolio on Environment, a collaborative network immersed in the accrual of environmental benefits in the 1960s. She was the Founder and Dean Emeritus of Nursing at Wayne County Community College. Based on her leadership role at WCCC, she was inducted into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame in 1997.

In 1979, Della was elected president of the federally designated regulatory body, the Compreshevie Health Planning Council for Southeast Michigan (CHPSEM). During a fierce debate about cost containment and hospital bed reduction, she advocated for the healthcare needs of 4.5 million people in the seven-county region.

In 2000, Della became president of the League of Women Voters of Detroit. During her tenure, the City of Detroit honored LWVD with a Detroit 300 Community Heritage Recognition Award for its long-standing commitment to the city.

Della Mae McGraw passed away on August 22, 2022.

The Detroit League sends heartfelt condolences to the McGraw family and their friends.

Spread the word about LWVD. Share this newsletter with friends and family.

The League of Women Voters of Detroit represents men and women in Detroit, Hamtramck, and Highland Park. By encouraging informed and active participation in government, we envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge, and the confidence to participate.



For more information on the Detroit League, click [HERE](#).

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, grassroots organization working to protect and expand voting rights and ensure everyone is represented in our democracy. We empower voters and defend democracy through advocacy and education. The League neither endorses nor opposes candidates or political parties. Membership is open to men and women at least 16 years of age.



League of Women Voters of Detroit | P.O. Box 2503, Detroit, MI 48202

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