

How the League Works



And How You Can Work with the League!

The League membership studies selected issues, the membership then decides on positions, then uses those positions to testify at legislative or local government hearings on related subjects. The League's Action Team is well-respected at the Capitol as legislators recognize the thorough work done before testimony is given.

Study = Position = Legislative action

Every January, each local League around the country meets to discuss possibilities for new studies or ones to update. Studies are available online: National studies, State studies, and Local Studies. These studies or research papers are important to the League to be able to determine positions to use at the Capitol during legislative sessions. This is where the League has tremendous power in part because the entire League membership has weighed in and voted on their support of the positions.

Propose New Studies to Increase Inclusion.

There is a process for proposing a new study. A study title and policy aim, the study scope and work plan, a list of interested committee members, and the rationale are all necessary components. A form is filled out and submitted to LWVOR for consideration at the state convention which will take place on May 19-21, 2023.

Suggest studies, or updates to studies, and learn more at your local **League's Program Planning meeting via Zoom to be held on Tuesday, January 24, 2023**. The Zoom link and pertinent documents will be emailed to you prior to the 24th. Study proposals are due Feb. 1, 2023, three months before the state convention. At the convention, study proposals are voted on and timelines are planned for all local Leagues.

Link to the Program Planning Guide:

https://www.lwvor.org/files/ugd/54a310_2af25cd5de9f40308d7ae244ebf90ab2.pdf



2023 LEGISLATIVE ACTION TEAM SESSION PRIORITIES

- **PROTECT DEMOCRACY** by supporting campaign finance reform statutes to implement the M 107 constitutional amendment. Advocate for an independent citizen redistricting commission as in IP 13 or 14. Expand automatic voter registration and fund up-to-date, efficient, and secure election software that can support alternative voting methods.
- **SUPPORT STRATEGIES TO ASSURE HOUSING FOR ALL** by increasing investments in rental assistance, new affordable rental, and home ownership homes, permanent supportive housing, preserve existing affordable housing, homeless shelters, navigation centers, and Project Turnkey operations.
- **ADVOCATE FOR ANTI-POVERTY PROGRAMS AND HEALTH CARE REFORMS** by preserving adequate Medicaid funding to build on Oregon’s innovation to cover all kids and vulnerable adults. Focus on services for seniors, people with disabilities, and foster youth. Expand accessibility to behavioral health services focused on addiction and mental health treatment.
- **PROMOTE PUBLIC SAFETY MEASURES** by seeking effective strategies to achieve a fairer and more equitable criminal justice system and to successfully implement gun safety laws and violence-prevention programs.
- **ASSURE ADEQUATE REVENUE** for essential services while promoting equitable and progressive tax policy. Access federal funds for infrastructure and other Oregonians’ needs.
- **ADDRESS THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY** by supporting 2017-2021 Carbon/Climate Executive Orders, net zero greenhouse gas emissions before 2050 while ensuring environmental justice with a just transition for workers and impacted communities.
- **SUPPORT STATEWIDE PLACE-BASED WATER PLANNING** to assure all Oregonians, aquatic creatures, agricultural economy and other businesses have abundant clean water in the future.

CONTACT LWVOR: Becky Gladstone, LWVOR President; Alice Bartelt, LWVOR Legislative Action Chair; Call our office at 503.581.5722

Call For Volunteers

The LWVOR is part of and is a leader of the People Not Politicians coalition. You may already know that PNP has refiled its redistricting initiative for 2024 as IP 13 and IP 14. We are preparing for the time when we receive certified ballot titles and begin gathering signatures in earnest for only one of these petitions, probably in January or February. Part of our plan is to mail a new petition to many of those voters who signed IP 57 two years ago. To do this we have created an online process to verify the IP 57 signatures with voter registration records and add them to a database. We can then use that database for future mailings and other purposes. You can do this volunteer work from home using your home computer and a website. Very little computer skill is needed for this work, and you may do the work as you have time available. If you can help, please contact [Chris Cobey](#) or [Norman Turrill](#).

Norman Turrill, President
LWV of Oregon Advocacy Fund
(lwwor.org/support-the-advocacy-fund)
Making Democracy Work® for All
503-807-4863 (cell)
FaceTime: nturrill@mac.com



Twitter Stance

The National League has expressed this about the latest Twitter issues:

LWV Update 12/16/22: Freedom of the press is both an essential right and a core pillar of American democracy. We are disturbed by the recent censorship of journalists across Twitter and will continue to monitor developments across this platform. The League sends its support to all those working to build a fair and free nation.

The LWVUS Communications Team is closely monitoring the changes on Twitter and their effects on the voting rights community. Many of these shifts are still playing out, and their impact has yet to be determined.

As of this writing, LWVUS has determined we will remain on Twitter. That said, we are evaluating and exploring new social platforms if, in the future, we determine Twitter is no longer a viable or reliable tool for our organization. We will let Leagues know ASAP if our stance on Twitter changes.

Reasons to Remain on Twitter

We are proud to stand strong as a trustworthy, nonpartisan, pro-democracy thought leader on social media, and we recommend that Leagues continue empowering voters across Twitter.

Find LWV's reasons for staying on Twitter and more [here](#).



Childcare Study Update

At Convention 2021, LWV of Washington County proposed a restudy of LWVOR's [1985 Childcare Position](#). The current pandemic has highlighted and exacerbated childcare issues and inequities.

The committee has completed this study update which will be published soon. Childcare concerns have changed dramatically since our [1988 - Childcare In Oregon](#) Study. We do not anticipate changing our advocacy position.

For more information, contact [Kathleen Hersh](#) (on the state board).



Democracy is in our DNA.

For over 100 years now, the League of Women Voters has been promoting education, civic engagement, and democracy itself. These values are part of our DNA.



But you know what? The whole point of DNA is to pass it on.

Let's do that.

The League of Women Voters of Oregon is revitalizing and re-energizing its student outreach program. You can get involved in that, and you can get involved as an emissary to each of our schools here in Douglas County.

Young people are deeply concerned about climate change, school safety, economic insecurity, personal liberty, and democracy. Yet young people are not fully engaged in the political process. At the same time, schools in Oregon and elsewhere do not always teach adequately about civics. Oregon has mandated civics education in schools, but full implementation is still in the future: 2025. Surveys show a declining commitment to democracy itself, particularly among youth. Let's fix that.

The first Gen-Z member of Congress was (Nov 8, 2022) elected from Florida (Maxwell Alejandro Frost, age 25); about half of Gen-Z have already graduated high school. So, we need to move fast, and keep up the pace.

The Oregon Student Mock Election education package has been a mainstay for years, and now it is better than ever. Check it out: <https://www.lwvor.org/mock-election>.

The League offers a robust [Civics Education Curriculum](#) with five Civics Education units:

- Unit 1: We Are the Government
- Unit 2: Who Can Vote?
- Unit 3: Your Vote Is Your Voice
- Unit 4: Registering to Vote
- Unit 5: Voting in Oregon

Each unit includes activities, discussion topics, and prepared handouts—and a world of resources. It's practically a turn-key operation for any teacher (or other presenters).

Jenny Carloni and I are currently part of an LWVOR group that is working on youth outreach. We invite you to join us, and join the movement:

Here is a YouTube of one meeting <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wc6esjNmXE4> - you may want to subscribe to the channel.

Email and sign up for updates here - Energizing Young Voters
energizingyoungvoters@gmail.com

More than that, we encourage you to reach out to educators you know, and school board members; talk up the LWV resources and encourage incorporation into school curricula. To whatever extent you can, get us the contact information for those folks; we have had a hard time getting the message into schools.

And finally: Run for Something! School boards, ESD boards, Community College boards, and more boards and other positions are up for election in May. If you are elected you will have an opportunity to promote the non-partisan values that are our DNA. Pass it on.

Please consider joining this effort, for the long haul. Contact me with questions, ideas, critiques.

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Interesting Facts

How Ranked Choice Voting Works – By the Portland League
<https://lwvpx.org/how-ranked-choice-voting-works/>



Open Primaries ballot measure? The state action team is looking at this possibility – a proposed Ballot Measure for 2024 related to Open Primaries and a modified Ranked Choice Voting concept.

The Action Team is asking members to interview their legislators and ask four questions:

1. What do you think will be the three most important issues that will need to be addressed during the 2023 session of the Legislature?
2. What two issues would you like to work on during the session?
3. What did the voters in your District say was the most important issue for the legislature to address?
4. How will you work with Legislators from the other political party?

Would you like to interview our state legislators? Contact your board.



Thank You for Your Generous Donations! ...

But What We Really Need Is You!

Please volunteer for a small job. The nominating committee will start work again this coming month and you will be called upon to help your board out. And we need the help!

Here is a short list of needs and most can be done from home:

- Make phone calls about League events
- Join the Communications Committee and help the [Living Rooms Conversations project](#) actually happen
- Learn to host a Zoom session
- Learn how to update the [WordPress website](#)
- Learn how to use Mailchimp
- Become the Newsletter Editor
- Join the Garden Tour committee
- Help with Membership
- Join the Board



Become an asset to the board. We will guide and support you through whatever you choose.

LWVUV JAN-MAR 2023 CALENDAR

LWVUV Calendar **January** 2023

- Jan. 16 MLK Day observed.
- Jan. 17 Membership Meeting at 7 PM
- Jan. 20 Communication Com Noon
- Jan. 24 Program Planning Meeting 6 PM
- Jan. 31 End Membership Drive 2023-24



LWVUV Calendar **February** 2023

- Feb. 7 First Tuesday Talk Time Noon
- Feb. 7 Rev. Howard Johnson 6 PM
- Feb. 9 League Board meeting 11 AM
- Feb. 14 National League's 103 Birthday
- Feb. 20 Presidents' Day observed.



LWVUV Calendar **March** 2023

- Mar. 7 First Tuesday Talk Time Noon
- Mar. 9 League Board meeting 11 AM
- Mar. 12 Daylight Savings time 2 AM
- Mar. 21 Women's History Month presentation
- Mar. 28 Spring Break begins.



MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!



2023 Annual Spring Garden Tour

GARDEN TOUR
Nancy Farris



Hello members! A short update on the upcoming Annual Spring Garden Tour: The date is **June 10, 2023**. At the time of this writing, we have 5 gardens and two homes on the tour, all within 7.5 miles of one another.

QUICK PEEK:

I never grow tired of discovering the many surprises and really special features gardeners have created in their spaces. Once again there are Garden Tour “firsts” to share! Among them: A bonsai garden, ivy topiary, above-ground courtyard patio gardening, 10-foot-tall, 100-year agave rosette, a fabulously colorful She Shed, and a tour of a private home that looks like an Old-World home from a Harry Potter movie!

NEEDED:

If you have a card table or folding chairs to donate to the LWVUV, please contact me. These would be permanent donations, not loaners.

NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER:

I am thankful to welcome a Friend of the League to the Garden Tour Committee, Connie Erickson. She herself was on the tour a number of years ago. Many hands make light work, and we welcome her!

JOIN THE FUN:

We will be sending out an email-able poster to your email address in May, and we ask you to forward it to friends and relatives who might be interested in attending.



Contact Us!

There are a variety of ways to contact your LWVUV board of directors and see what's going on in your local League and around the state. Let us know what's on your mind. We are always happy to hear from you.

Official email:

info@lwwuv.org Website:

<https://lwwuv.org>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/LWVUV>

YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3bfyx60>

Flickr: https://www.flickr.com/groups/lwv_umpqua_valley/

Please visit these links and “like” or “follow” us. The more people that follow us, the more “cred” we get in the online world.

And you can always call us -- President Robin Wisdom's numbers:
(home) 541-672-6982 and (cell) 541-784-8672

Thank you!

Robin

Wisdom





BOARD MEMBERS 2022 – 2023

- President – [Robin Wisdom](#)
- Vice-President – Vacant
- Secretary – Julee Wright
- Treasurer – Sherry Couron
- Voter Service Chair – Jenny Carloni
- Member at Large & Garden Tour Committee Chair – Nancy Farris
- Member at Large & Newsletter Editor – Dori Jacob
- Nominating Committee – Ann Fasig, Stacey McLaughlin
- Communications Committee – Robin Wisdom, Stacey McLaughlin, Anna Willman, Ann Fasig, Jenny Carloni
- Webmaster, Zoom Host, Mailchimp – [Robin Wisdom](#)



Join the board! Know what's going on! You Are an Important Part! Serving on your League's Board is a great way to serve your community. [Find out what's going on](#) and participate with great people.

There are openings on the board. If you are interested in serving your community in some capacity large or small, please [email](#) or call us at 541-672-6982.