



***STUDENTS INSIDE ALBANY
CONFERENCE***

Promoting Principles of Democracy

May 21-24, 2023

League of Women Voters of New York State
Education Foundation, Inc.
The Blake, 1 Steuben Place
Albany, New York 12207
518-465-4162
www.lwvny.org

Learning Objectives

- ◆ To increase students' awareness of their responsibility in representative government and provide the tools necessary for meeting that responsibility.
- ◆ To improve student understanding of the framework through which public policy is determined in New York State.
- ◆ To enhance student understanding of the roles of various forces seeking to impact New York State legislation and policy development, enactment and change.
- ◆ To demonstrate to the student the value of their vote.
- ◆ To promote an increased understanding of New York State's legislative process through legislative shadowing experiences.
- ◆ To promote civic participation as a lifelong process.



“The most important political office is that of the private citizen.”

Louis D. Brandeis

As an associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, Louis Dembitz Brandeis (1856-1941) tried to reconcile the developing powers of modern government and society with the maintenance of individual liberties and opportunities for personal development.



SUNDAY, May 21

TIME	ACTIVITY
2:00-5:00	Registration/Hotel Room Assignments
5:30-6:00	Welcome and Agenda Overview <i>Laura Ladd Bierman, Executive Director</i> <i>League of Women Voters of New York State (LWVNYS)</i>
6:15	Dinner
7:00 – 8:00	How Does New York State Government Work? <i>Erica Smitka, LWVNYS Legislative Director</i>
8:30 – 10:45	Hospitality Room
11:00	BED CHECK

MONDAY, May 22

TIME	ACTIVITY
7:00-8:30	Breakfast in the Lobby
8:30	Meet in Hotel Lobby
9:00-10:00	Tour of NYS Capitol
10:30-11:30	Tips for Being a Successful Citizen Lobbyist <i>Laura Ladd Bierman, Executive Director, LWVNYS</i> <i>With Special Guests:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Assemblymember John McDonald</i> <i>Democrat, NYS Assembly District 108</i> <i>Albany, Rensselaer and Saratoga Counties</i>• <i>Assemblymember Mary Beth Walsh</i> <i>Republican, NYS Assembly District 112</i> <i>Fulton, Saratoga and Schenectady Counties</i>• <i>Assemblymember Patricia Fahy</i> <i>Democrat, NYS Assembly District 109</i> <i>Albany County</i>
11:30-12:15	Lunch
12:30	Meet by Front Doors of Hotel; Walk to Court of Appeals
1:00-1:45	Role of the Court in Policy Making <i>Gary Spencer, Public Information Officer</i> <i>NYS Court of Appeals</i>
2:00–5:00	SHADOW ASSEMBLY
6:15-7:00	Dinner and Speaker
7:00-8:30	Media Panel <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Maysoon Khan, Reporter, Associated Press</i>• <i>Marie French, Reporter, Politico</i>
8:30 – 10:30	Hospitality Room
11:00	BED CHECK

TUESDAY, May 23

TIME	ACTIVITY
7:00-8:45	Breakfast in the Lobby
9:00 – 11:30	Political Activism: How Citizens Make a Difference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rebecca Garrard, (Group A, then Group B) <i>Legislative Director, Citizen Action New York</i> • Blair Horner (Group B, then Group A) <i>Executive Director, NY Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG)</i>
12:00-1:00	Lunch
1:00	Meet in Hotel Lobby
2:00 – 5:00	SHADOW SENATE
5:15	Meet at the North End of the Concourse
6:15 – 7:00	Dinner
7:00-8:30	Running for Office <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David R. DeCancio, <i>Bethlehem Town Board Member</i> • Meghan Keegan, <i>Albany Common Council, Ward 9 Representative</i>
8:35	Meet in Hotel Lobby
9:00-10:30	Bowling
11:00	BED CHECK

WEDNESDAY, May 24

TIME**ACTIVITY**

8:30

BREAKFAST ROOM
Bring Suitcase to the Meeting Room

9:00-10:00

How Does NYS Government Work---Final Question and Answer
Period
Laura Ladd Bierman, Executive Director
League of Women Voters of New York State (LWVNYS)

10:00-10:30

Voter Registration
Nancy Rosenthal, VP for Voter Services
League of Women Voters of New York State (LWVNYS)

10:30-11:15

Recognition Ceremony

11:30

Boxed Lunch



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