

League of Women Voters of New York State Education Foundation 2020-2021 ANNUAL REPORT



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High school students registered to vote in Rensselaer County.

The League of Women Voters of New York State Education Foundation

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

eague volunteers plus donors, a winning combination. It was quite a year, but with some good outcomes. We can share the triumph of a significant uptick in voter participation in New York State with our many partners in the good government space.

I would like to share with you a look at the powerful and good work volunteers in Leagues across the state did in their communities, in the last year (July 2020-June 2021) to get

out the vote, empower voters and defend democracy. At the state League we put our efforts toward putting our resources to the best use possible to Get Out The Vote across the state and support our grassroots local Leagues. The work took place in the midst of social distancing and all the precautions necessary to be safe in a pandemic, a general election with new rules and opportunities to vote, and an election season fraught with disinformation and misinformation, and threats to our democratic

institutions that we have not seen so boldly pursued in our lifetime.

And I want to thank all of our funders and donors who supported our efforts at the State League Education Foundation and supported our push to get the resources to the local Leagues they needed to support some extraordinary efforts.

Our Leagues across the state stepped up their outreach to provide correct information for voters so they could plan to



vote, meeting voters where they are, in the street, on the highway, at the mall, foodbanks, school lunch distribution sites and greenmarkets. The League promoted voting on roadway digital signs, by wrapping buses, lawn signs, window placards, door hangers, and flyers and post-it reminders. We communicated and planned with our local Leagues how to combat misinformation and disinformation projecting GOOD information and facts whenever and wherever they could:

> on social media, websites, Zoom meetings and townhalls, election information call-in lines and media appearances.

League volunteers plus donors, a winning combination. There are many new tools in our toolbox. We have learned to use the virtual space, sharing ideas across local Leagues and targeting resources to individual community needs. Outreach in the virtual space has allowed us to reach many more people with virtual candidate debates and town halls on policy issues with speakers from across

the state talking to people across the state. And there is much more to do, and we are grateful for your ongoing support.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Stassevitch President

ABOUT THE LWVNYS EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The League of Women Voters of New York State Education Foundation is the educational and fundraising arm of the League of Women Voters of New York State. It derives its strength from the energy and commitment of the women and men in over 45 Local Leagues and Inter-League Organizations (ILOs) throughout the state. Strictly nonpartisan, it works primarily on projects that educate the electorate.

The charitable support of individuals, corporations and foundations throughout New York State helps the LWVNYS Education Foundation accomplish its three main goals:

- To educate people on the importance of their participation in government, in the political process and in the life of their home community;
- To create awareness of issues at local, state and national levels and to inform citizens how they can have an impact; and

 To instill in young people and new citizens the knowledge of their new role and responsibilities in government.

The LWVNYS Education Foundation is incorporated under the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law of New York and is classified as a public educational charitable organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. All contributions to the LWVNYS Education Foundation are fully tax deductible.



YOUTH PROGRAMS

Students Inside Albany Conference

On May 21st and 22nd the League hosted our first ever virtual Students Inside Albany Conference. Although last year we invited students who had been selected before the pandemic to join us for an afternoon of learning about state government, this was the first time the League has ever arranged a full conference including speakers and virtual meetings with the students' legislators.

In total 43 students joined us from around the state. On Friday the students learned about different types of advocacy and how to get involved as a civic minded young person. They had a NYS Politics 101 training and ended the evening with fun trivia contest about New York State.

On Saturday the students enjoyed a media panel featuring young up-and-coming Capitol reporters who spoke about

their time in Albany and all the strange things about being a reporter covering New York State politics. After the media panel the students met virtually with their Assembly Members and Senators. The students were divided into Zoom break out rooms of 4-8 students so they could get a more personal experience when meeting with their legislators. In total 10 Senators and 8 Assembly Members met with students from around the state. Most students said this was their favorite part of the program.

We ended our virtual conference by encouraging the students to register to vote and showing them how they could register and where to find more information about voting. Although the conference had to be held remotely, it was still a success and thus far the students have given us excellent feedback of the program.

Jack Ferrero (Smithtown High School West)

Thank you for selecting me to participate in the League of Women Voters' Students Inside Albany Conference.

Below are some key insights and interesting facts I learned from the program:

Day 1

• The NY Legislature is still doing virtual meetings due to COVID-19.

• A goal of the program is to teach students (1) about state level government because students are typically taught federal level information and (2) how we can influence public policy making.

• The League of Women Voters started in 1919 with the women's suffrage movement. They represent all citizens and provide education, community forums on hot topics and lobby at state level based on topics their members are interested in.

• The speakers told us how they got involved with their political roles. It was interesting to hear Kyle explain how he uses theater to teach minors about their rights.

• A surprising statistic was that 75% of young people have participated in a social movement.

• I learned that the NY Supreme Court is the lowest level state court. You would think it would be the highest court like it is on the federal level. • I also learned that the NY legislature meets January through June. They meet 2-4 days per week except budget review is a full week. They hold committee meetings, debate back and forth with the sponsor of the bill and then legislators speak on the bill.

• The Governor can propose legislation but needs sponsors. He can also sign or veto legislation. Additionally, the Governor can sign executive orders and this occurred nearly every day during the pandemic. But the new governor can undo all executive orders so it is not a good long-term strategy.

• We reviewed how a bill becomes a law.

• We learned how to research the status of a bill online.

• Bill drafters (who are usually lawyers) help the legislators draft bills.

• New York will lose one Congressional seat because of the most recent census and redistricting is currently going on in NY.

Day 2

• A media panel discussed what it is like be a political journalist. They each described what made them interested in covering and reporting on politics. They explained that as a political reporter, you need to know who your audience is, what they are interested in and then you can educate them. • Dan Clark who hosts PBS' public affairs program explained how PBS is government funded so they don't have to worry about selling advertisements.

• They explained that it is hard to make a profit in the news media business because they don't make a lot of money from advertising anymore. People just ignore the ads.

• Bill Mahoney, who works at Politico, said his company has a subscriber system so people with a vested interest in politics can get very detailed info on politics (national and local) but they pay for their news/ information.

• Josefa Valesquez is a political reporter at the State Capitol and described her average and chaotic day. She said political reporters call themselves "the town gossip." She explained that journalism can be "combative and in your face" which is often why you develop a strong belief in your position.

Senator Break-out session

My Senator, Mario Mattero, was unavailable so I was assigned to Senator Phil Boyle. We had a oneon-one session. I mentioned my interest in engineering (including civil and environmental) and how I will likely need to work closely with the town and other government agencies to get permits and understand the zoning and codes. He referred to "Nimby" which is short for "Not in my backyard" and explained how



local residents often want reform but they don't want things built or changes made in their neighborhood. He said this makes zoning and other building projects difficult to get done. The Senator explained that he was elected to NY State Assembly in 1994 and to the State Senate in 2012 He is a Republican in a Democratic state. He focused on forensic technology (i.e., DNA) for 30 years, works on animal welfare matters and is pro environment conservation. Additionally, we discussed how busy he was during the pandemic because he serves on the Health Care Committee. Finally, we discussed how Senators can't be experts in all fields and they rely on industry leaders for advice. He said he often reaches out to engineers for their expertise. I really appreciated that the Senator took time out of his Saturday to speak with me.

Wrap-up session

During the Wrap-up session, we discussed why voting matters and ways we can continue our involvement with the League of Women's Voters, including hosting voting drives at our high schools.



Jacobi Kandel

Hi I'm Jacobi Kandel and I'm a senior at Mamaroneck High school and I would just like to thank everyone who helped provide me with the opportunity to attend Students Inside Albany. I've been so grateful for such a special experience.

Citizens are constantly aware of what is going on at the national level. Presidential press conferences. Congressional hearings. Executive orders. As there is constant information flow and news coverage from the national level, many

2021 Students Inside Albany Virtual Conference Agenda

FRIDAY, MAY 21

- 4:00 p.m. Welcome and Introductions Laura Ladd Bierman, LWVNYS Executive Director and Crystal Joseph, LWVNYS Youth Director
- 4:10 p.m. Presentation on NY Youth Civics Initiative (NYYCI) Jason Bohner, Director (NYC) Daltin Danser, NYYCI Participant (Buffalo) Moderator: Crystal Joseph
- 5:00 p.m. Presentation on NYS Government Jennifer Wilson, LWVNYS Deputy Director and Legislative Director
- 5:45 p.m. Trivia, Networking and Informal Conversation of Participants

SATURDAY, MAY 22

- 10:00 a.m. Gather on Zoom
- 10:30 a.m. Media Panel on How the Media Influences Public Policy Moderator: Jennifer Wilson Panelists: Dan Clark, Host, New York NOW WMHT; Bill Mahoney, Reporter, Politico New York; Josefa Valesquez, Reporter, The Clty
- 1:00 p.m. Legislative Session 1

2:15 p.m. Legislative Session 2

Break Out Rooms with Legislators. Students will be assigned to break out rooms with legislators from their or neighboring districts to discuss current issues and advocacy

- 3:30 p.m. Why Voting Matters Laura Ladd Bierman, Crystal Joseph and Jennifer Wilson
- 4:00 p.m. Evaluation and Wrap Up

students make their way through high school believing federal politics to be the most important. Maybe in elementary school you learned about state government, but by the time you're in high school, that knowledge is definitely a blur. Personally, I've been really lucky and joined a pilot local government focused civics class my freshman year.



I'll never forget a speech the mayor gave where she stated, "People are always concerned about the national government, but it is the local government who is affecting your everyday life. It's the local government who fixes your potholes and funds your schools." This proved to be strikingly true. That's why I feel it is crucial for students to be exposed and educated on state and local government. Perhaps my favorite part of the Students Inside Albany Conference was meeting the elected officials. We talked to Steve Otis, our assemblyman, and Shelley Mayer, our state senator. When talking to them, I was really shocked by how ingrained their decisions and experiences were in my daily life. Both of these elected officials knew about small conflicts in school, certain local initiatives and they explained legislation they were working on that truly did impact me... my community, and my health. It was an eye opening experience. As a constituent, I genuinely felt that I did have access to public policy that was affecting me. In a broader sense, I think this is what Students in Albany did teach me-that I can have an impact as a young person (and in my future career). The first people we spoke to were also high school students. These students shared projects they were working on that broadened young people's access to government, whether that be through social media or acting. We also listened to a media panel. I learned about the importance of media, the portrayal of news, and how you can have an influence in the journalism side of things. Yet, I really did find that talking to elected officials resonated with me most. I was impressed with Shelley Mayer's career path and Steve Otis's clean energy bills. Even in a zoom format, it's easy to say Students in Albany furthered my interest in pursuing a career in the law and public service. So once again, thank you! Have a great night everyone!



Mission: To educate people on the importance of their participation in government, in the political process, and in the life of their home community.

EDUCATION

Get Out the Vote (GOTV) with Mini Grants

The state League received grants from LWVUS and Newmark Philanthropies in 2020 to assist in educating voters on the election process and encouraging Get Out the Vote (GOTV) efforts. With these grants, the state League also produced a lawn sign in multiple languages that was shipped around the state to local Leagues. A subscription to a texting service was also purchased and timely updates were provided weekly to those who subscribed on new voting processes and procedures. The grants were used to translate the League's voting materials, eg, how to apply for an absentee ballot, into other languages for those with English as a second language. The state League was also able to provide mini-grants to 24 local Leagues totaling over \$11,000 for activities for Get Out the Vote (GOTV).

Selection for the grants to local Leagues was based in part on how the activities would reach underserved populations or areas with low voter turnout, as well as the level of coordination or collaboration with other local organizations. The use of electronic or online methods for GOTV was also encouraged because of the COVID restrictions. The local Leagues were incredibly creative and developed a number of new initiatives from past hands-on or in-person activities. Some of the successes are listed below:

- Bus Wraps
- Billboards
- Virtual candidate events (licensing and training)
- Flyers/brochures included with food packages delivered in rural areas
- Electronic signs
- Public Service Announcements
- Postcards to underserved areas
- Advertisements in paper media outlets in rural areas

The pandemic made it harder for the Leagues to reach the public but with the assistance of these grants, the state and local Leagues creatively educated the voters of New York State.







League projects around the state

LWV of Buffalo/Niagara

"We had signs on 19 buses that had routes near and through the underserved areas and mailed 3,000 postcards to addresses in the Lovejoy District of Buffalo. We distributed the multilingual voting signs to individuals and organizations in several underserved areas. (Lovejoy, Northwest Buffalo and Niagara County)."

LWV of Syracuse

"Six billboards located on secondary streets in the City of Syracuse provided voters with a visual reminder that there is an election Nov. 3. The billboards were displayed Oct. 5 through Nov. 3."

LWV of Cortland County

"We provided information to food banks and major media outlets in the county. We also used a "votercade" to ride through parking lots of strip malls (in addition to riding through the SUNY Cortland campus)... we discovered that there were 20 plus food pantries in the county, we opted to reach out to people directly through flyers that were inserted into food packages. The "votercade" was especially successful. It was not planned originally but was a big hit."

LWVs of Smithtown and Brookhaven

"Gave flyers to Brookhaven NAACP VS chair -distributed to churches involved in Souls to the Polls effort; Staffed tables for voter reg and voter info at outdoor library events; Provided flyers at Boys and Girls Club; Conducted zoom presentations on voting in specific libraries as well as with Suffolk Cooperative Library System training; Distributed materials at outpatient drug program; Distributed flyers to libraries (including 500 Spanish to Patchogue/Medford Lib + Suffolk Cooperative Library System."

LWV of Westchester ILO

"We organized 4 virtual candidate forums that we live streamed and recorded via Zoom Webinar: 877 attended 4 webinar forums; 429 watched the 4 virtual forums on YouTube.com. The Youth Corps developed a Voting Plan of Action video for YouTube.com with 197 views; and LWVW designed a video tutorial Prepare to Vote: 3 Ways to Vote with 285 views."

LWVs of the Capital Region

"Utilizing bus wraps on CDTA buses, which provide transportation to densely populated higher needs communities, enabled us to get out our GOTV message to those most neede "We printed a single-sided "Your Options to Vote" flyer. The County's Office of the Aging... contacted us about getting something for Meals-on-Wheels, which they administer. The Volunteer Transportation Center heard about us from the County Public Transit Authority to whom we had sent special Bus Flyers for posting in County buses... The VTC provides transportation to doctors, and dentists' appointments, mental health counseling sessions, and other essential appointments to people who can't drive or who can't afford a vehicle."







EDUCATION

2020 Elections

When the League of Women Voters of New York State was planning for the 2020 election we had no way of knowing just how difficult it would be to ensure voters had safe and equitable access to the ballot. As New York State began to shut down in March of 2020, the League was quick to act and urge the State Legislature and Governor to reschedule and consolidate the April Presidential Primary with the June State Primary with the hope the spread of the virus would be lessened by the summer. We further urged that absentee voting should be made accessible to all New York State voters and partnered with multiple voting rights organizations to call upon the Legislature and Governor to act swiftly and implement these changes. Within a few weeks our requests were met and we began working diligently to ensure all voters knew about the multiple options to cast their ballot for the primary and general election.

Once the April primary was rescheduled, we continued to urge the Legislature to further open up options for voting by allowing voters to request their absentee ballot online and by making absentee ballots accessible to voters with visual impairments. After months of advocating, for the first time ever, New York State voters could request an absentee ballot over the phone, online, or via email.



Although the League typically produces a significant number of paper pamphlets on elections, in 2020 we instead relied on digital content. The League launched a new texting service that we used to keep voters informed of changes to the election during the pandemic. The League created a comprehensive guide of how voters could request, fill out, and submit their absentee ballots that we translated into Spanish and shared with our partner organizations. For the general election,





we partnered with WMHT Educational Telecommunications to create an instructional video on voting by absentee ballot which was broadcast throughout New York State.

We continued to educate the public throughout the fall and partnered with organizations including Disability Rights New York, NALEO Educational Fund, the New York Civil Liberties Union, and LetNYVote to ensure voters had all the information they needed before casting their ballot. We encouraged voters planning to vote in person to wear a mask and bring their own pen when heading to the polls. We told voters how they much postage to put on their absentee ballot and where they could drop off their ballot if they didn't want to put it in the mail. We worked all the way until Election Day talking to voters so they felt sure their ballot would be counted. Although it was a difficult election year we were thrilled that New York State had record voter turnout of more than 8 million voters.

NEW YORK STATE HAS THREE WAYS TO VOTE!



By Absentee Ballot Apply at elections.ny.gov Return ballot by Nov. 3rd

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Vote Early October 24th - November 1st



Vote On Election Day November 3rd





People Powered Fair Maps

This year, with the support of LWVUS, the League embarked on a statewide campaign to ensure fair maps would be drawn during the 2021-2022 New York State redistricting process. We kicked off our campaign in January with a member event to discuss our plans and prep local Leagues on the redistricting process so they would be prepared for the year ahead. Later in January, we organized a panel of experts to have a thoughtful discussion on how the Redistricting Commission and organizations like the League could meet the challenges of involving communities in the redistricting process. In February, we held a forum on identifying and engaging communities of interest. With the help of Representable, we held a mapping software training to show the public how to map their own community of interest. We finished off the first three months of our campaign by holding a People's Hearing on Redistricting that brought together 22 diverse organizations to talk about why redistricting matters to them and the communities they serve. Our virtual events boasted over 1,000 attendees, with 1,000 more watching later through archived recordings. During our first three months the League engaged over 100,000 New Yorkers through our events and educational materials shared via social media.

In addition to educating New Yorkers on the redistricting process and encouraging them to get involved, the League spearheaded an advocacy initiative to ensure the new

PEOPLE POWERED FAIR MAPS NEW YORK STATE

Independent Redistricting

Commission would receive appropriate funding and support from the state. The League engaged over 30 organizations in multiple joint actions to urge the Legislature to provide fair funding to the Commission. League members also took part in these actions through social media and by calling on their State Legislators to provide funding. After several months of work, the League and our partners successfully secured \$4 million in funding for fair maps.

Although local redistricting won't take place until 2022-2023, our local Leagues still participated in the statewide process by engaging with communities of interest in their regions and educating the public about how they could influence the mapping process. The New York State League worked with 46 local Leagues to identify 79 League Redistricting Delegates who volunteered to lead redistricting efforts all over the state. The state League met with delegates and created a list of over 350 potential stakeholder groups for local Leagues to contact and involve in our redistricting campaign.

Our People Powered Fair Maps Campaign is ongoing and we will continue to work with local Leagues, community partners, and statewide organizations as the Independent Redistricting Commission completes their mapping negotiations.



MEASURING OUR SUCCESS: EDUCATION

2021 LWVNYS State Convention

Members of the League of Women Voters of New York State, joined together by Zoom from June 7-12, 2021, for the LWVNYS virtual 59th biennial convention, "Striving to create a stronger, more inclusive democracy."

Workshops were held each evening from June 7-10. The plenary meeting began on June 11 with a welcome from LWVUS President, Deborah Turner. All members were welcome to join the workshops and handouts, and recordings from the sessions have been posted on the state website at https://lwvny.org/state-conventions-council/

Workshops

GOTV: Building Effective Programs

Discuss methods of evaluating your **Get Out the Vote** programs to increase voter turn-out and hear from others about their successes.

PPFM: Redistricting in NYS

Learn how you can join the efforts to ensure your community has fair maps for your election districts.

Media: Fact or Fake

Join a discussion on identifying fact from fake news in the media.

Concurrence: Criminal Justice

Learn about the proposed concurrence, to be voted on at plenary session, recommended by the state Board. The delegates will be asked to concur with the LWV of CA position on Criminal Justice.

Nonpartisanship

Grace Chimene, President LWV Texas, will walk you through how to effectively message your outrage or support for political actions and policy debates without getting bogged down in the partisan debates.

Social Media and Websites for Local Leagues

How to be more visible using social media and websites.

Changes in Our Election Administration Systems (BOEs)

Come learn about the proposed one-year study on the structure of our election administration.

Ranked Choice Voting

Learn about how ranked choice voting works.

Virtual and Hybrid Candidate Events

Hear how several local Leagues successfully organized a virtual candidate event - what worked and didn't work. Discuss how to combine in-person and virtual events into a new hybrid approach.

Healthcare Through a DEI Lens

Discuss our healthcare system with a focus on the racial disparities and lack of services for vulnerable populations, with a discussion on kinds of solutions.

Rural Places Matter: the LWV and the Other New York

Did you know that the NYS senate classifies 86.6% of New York's land mass as "rural'? Wherever you live in the state, join members of the NYS Caucus of Rural Leagues to learn about the problems facing rural areas, and how Leagues can work to address them.



Modernization of Election Systems

Expert speakers from the Brennan Center for Justice, Rice University, and Voting Works will discuss recent election equipment and voting system enhancements and possible positive and negative outcomes from these modernizations.

Carbon's Big Foot and You

Take on climate change by incorporating solutions at home and inspiring collaborative solutions in your community.

NYYCI: Engaging Youth

Explore NYYCI, a program started by LWV of NYC and expanding across NYS which is dedicated to connecting young people to opportunities for sustained civic engagement.

Stand Up, Speak Out: The Personal Politics of Women's Rights

Hear about this series created by Barnard College which follows the fight for equal rights for women throughout history, and includes interviews with women of multiple generations.



MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

Awarded to local Leagues who have increased membership from 2019-2021 the most in their category.

Winner of the Audrey Price Memorial Membership Award for Small-sized Leagues: LWV of St. Lawrence MAL Unit

Honorable Mention (also increased numbers): LWV of Cattaraugus & Allegany MAL Unit, LWV of Cazenovia, LWV of Central Nassau, LWV of East Nassau, LWV of Geneva, LWV of Putnam and LWV of Smithtown

Winner of the Anna Lord Strauss Membership Award for Medium-sized Leagues: LWV of New Rochelle

Honorable Mention: LWV of Brookhaven, LWV of the Hamptons, Shelter Island and the North Fork, LWV of Huntington, LWV of Mid Hudson Region, LWV of the North Country, LWV of Rensselaer, LWV of Rivertowns, LWV of Rye, Rye Brook and Port Chester, LWV of Syracuse, and LWV of Tompkins County

Winner of the Harriet D Goldberg Membership Award for Large Leagues: LWV of Albany County

GOTV AND REDISTRICTING AWARDS

Awarded to local Leagues based on applications submitted for work performed or planned in the areas of "Get Out the Vote" and "Redistricting."

For the awards in GOTV, the criteria used to evaluate the applications was if the local leagues were being creative to reach new populations, using new methods to reach voters, collaborating with other community organizations and developing ways to collect data to evaluate the impact of their efforts.

The winners for the awards for GOTV are: LWV of New York City and LWV of Buffalo (\$500 each). Additional winners receiving \$250 each are LWV of Utica/Rome and LWV of Chautauqua

For the awards in redistricting, the criteria used included collaborating and engaging other community organizations, educating in new methods, and again, collecting data to evaluate the impact.

The winners for the \$500 awards each for redistricting are: LWV of Rochester, the 4 LWVs of the Capital Region (Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga and Schenectady), and the LWV of Nassau County ILO

LWVNYS EDUCATION FOUNDATION BALANCE SHEET

June 30, 2021

ASSETS

Current Assets	
Checking Account	6,255
Savings Account	65,936
Centennial Endowment Fund	43,775
B. Bibby Endowment Fund	249,225
Reserve Fund	275,436
Prepaid Expenses/Insurance Exp.	5,646
Accounts Receivable	2,150
Total Current Assets	\$648,423
Fixed Assets	
Building, Equipment,	
Furnishings, Software	240,539
Land	18,000
Accum Depreciation – Building,	
Eqmt, Furnishings, Software	(131,405)
Total Fixed Assets	\$127,134
Other Assets	
Grants Management	142,248
Total Other Assets	\$142,248
TOTAL ASSETS	\$917,805

Income and Expenses 2020-2021

Income

Grant Income (local League)	78,749
Member Contributions	76,092
Board Donations	118,728
Community/Corporate Donations	410
Grant Income	113,393
Direct Mail Income	55,969
Other Income	9,785
Investment Income (Loss)	9,693
Total Income	\$462,819

Unrealized gain/loss for investments not included

The financial information presented above is unaudited and subject to adjustments and modifications during the auditing process.

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Total Liabilities	\$51,792
Equity	
Temp Restricted Net Asset	
Grants Management	110,530
Total Temporary Restricted Net Asset	\$110,530
Permanently Restricted	
B. Bibby Endowment Fund	207,593
Centennial Endowment Fund	37,227
Total Permanently Restricted	244,821
Unrestricted Fund Balance	298,796
Net Income	211,866
Total Equity	\$866,013
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$917,805

Expenses

Educational Programs	
Youth Programs	7,305
Advocacy Education	21,861
Voter Service Education	46,931
Grants to Local League Projects	17,066
DEI Grants	600
Other Education Programs	11,045
Total Educational Programs	\$104,808
Local League Educational Programs	
Grants to Local Leagues	67,536
Total Local League Educational Programs	\$67,536
Building Expenses	
Building, Equipment and Leases	7,417
Utilities	4,564
Maintenance and Upkeep	19,996
Insurance	2,025
Total Building Expenses	34,002
Total Administration	33,964
Total Dues and Subscriptions	3,860
Total Development & Fundraising	6,783
Total Expenses	\$250,953
Net Ordinary Income	\$211,866

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

Donor Profile: Jean de Beers Pollak

Jean de Beers Pollak has been a member of the League of Women Voters for more than 50 years and for much of that time she has been a generous donor to the State League as well as to her local league. Her first contact with the League was through a friend who encouraged her to attend League meetings because child care was provided and because the meetings offered a chance to engage with other smart women doing significant community work. As the mother of a growing family, which would eventually include 5 sons, Jean jumped at the chance!



Jean met her (now late) husband Henry because their grandmothers fixed them up. At the time Jean was working in upstate New York for the State and was focused on her career and on international travel. Henry was a successful importer so she got to travel a lot but not exactly as she had planned.

Jean was an active member of the Westchester County League (including a stint as president) as well as the League in White Plains where she was particularly interested in voter issues and services. She strongly believes that people should know about their government on every level and understand how it works. She felt she got a good perspective on the importance of the State League in training and services to local leagues.

Jean is concerned that the general public does not know about the League of Women Voters at any level and hopes that the League's profile can be raised as localities, states and the country struggle with the role of government and the future of democracy.

"The League is more important than ever now. Everyone needs to understand and appreciate all the League does to educate citizens so that they can participate actively in the political process."

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

The League of Women Voters of New York State Education Foundation, Inc. is pleased to acknowledge the following members and community partners whose philanthropy in the 2020-2021 fiscal year has supported our efforts. Thank you for being part of our community and making our success possible!

\$5,000+

Anonymous (2) Phoebe Bender Marcia and James Merrins Sally and Eric Robinson Nancy Rosenthal Ann Sandford Suzanne Stassevitch Evelyn Stock Mildred Weissman

\$1,000-\$4,999

Anonymous (2) Lisa Allendorph Sheila and John Bernson Laura Ladd Bierman Ann and D. David Brandon Anne Burton Jane Colvin Jean and Henry Pollak Foundation, Inc. Kate Doran and Edward Fondiller Shirley & Joseph Eberly Joanne and Michael Esposito Judie and Steve Gorenstein Emily Grant Cornelia Hume Alice McDermid Noreen McKee Jane Park Erin and Brian Pastuszenski Yvonne and Leslie Pollack Foundation Inc. Linda Snyder Dare and Douglas Thompson Terriann Willower

\$500-\$999

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1919 SOCIETY

The 1919 Society was created in celebration of the state League's 90th birthday to ensure that the League is able to maintain its vibrant reputation in the 21st century. Remembering a charity in your will or other estate plans is a powerful way to ensure that your values survive you and that the League remains robust for the next generation. In addition to providing a wonderful legacy for the community, bequests decrease the size of your taxable estate.

Members of the 1919 Society as of June 30, 2021:

Barbara Bartoletti Helen Bailey Bayly Laura Ladd Bierman Paula Blum Anne Burton Lori Dawson and Michael LaBelle Elizabeth Hubbard Katharine W. Lloyd, MD Sally Robinson

If you are interested in finding out more about making gifts of stock, gifts from your IRA, or naming the League in your will, please contact Laura Ladd Bierman, at Laura@lwvny.org or (518) 465-4162.

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Every effort was made to make this report as accurate as possible. Should you notice an error or omission in our donor list, please contact the LWVNYS office at (518) 465-4162 for a correction.

Sustaining Support – Recurring EF Donors

Many donors find it easier to set up monthly or quarterly gifts to the EF. These gifts are made with a credit card and happen automatically on the schedule that works best for our donors. Sustaining support like this means the EF can continue to provide meaningful resources for New York State voters. Thanks to our 2019/2020 EF recurring donors:

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For more information on making recurring gifts to the League, please contact Laura Ladd Bierman, at (518) 465-4162 or Laura@lwvny.org.



THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

Donor Profile: Donna Dardaris



When Donna Dardaris retired from her career with the Federal Office of Veterans Affairs just over a decade ago she was looking for substantive activities for the next phase of her life. As a Political Science major in college, Donna has an abiding interest in government and politics. It didn't take her long to find the League of Women Voters of Saratoga.

Donna appreciates all the training she has gotten and then put to good use, especially the moderator training, and she is concerned about education and youth and found the 'Take me To Vote' initiative to be particularly compelling. More recently she joined the LWV of Saratoga book club. Over the years Donna has served as secretary and president of the Saratoga League of Women Voters. It was in her local league leadership positions that Donna became aware of the benefits and services of the State League and she noticed that the State League does a lot with a tiny staff! Donna supports the State League in addition to her local league because she knows the LWVNY provides resources and training to all NYS leagues and serves as an important voice in the State Capitol.

Before she was eligible to vote, Donna worked as a campaign volunteer, and since becoming eligible she has never missed an election. She cast her very first ballot in 1972 by absentee ballot from a military base in Iceland where her husband was stationed.

"The League of Women Voters is an essential leader and an inspiration to all who seek to keep democracy strong by encouraging citizens to actively participate in their government."

Donor Profile: The Hensens

This year, for the first time, Dr. Dave Hensen (co-owner along with his wife, Dr. Deirdre Hensen, of the Paumanok Veterinary Hospital in Patchogue, NY) established a generous monthly donation to the LWVNY. This gift is from their corporate account and is in addition to other contributions they make to the local, state and national LWV. The Hensens are very concerned about voter access and rights and especially about voter suppression.



"We are philosophically in tune with LWVNY and want to do everything we can to support its work."

So, The Paumanok Veterinary Hospital is a new monthly donor to LWVNY!

"My interest in supporting LWVNY is to get as many eligible people who can vote to vote", said Dr. Dave Hensen.

The Hensens were delighted to learn that the LWVNY is playing a pivotal role in the NYS redistricting efforts and in providing resources and training to local leagues to support voter services around the state.

The Hensens decided to add a monthly gift to their support because they felt they could give an optimum amount "to a unique and vitally important organization at a time when democracy needs all the defending it can get!"



National Voter Registration Day, LWV of Saratoga and LWV of Chautauqua.



2020/2021 LOCAL LEAGUES IN NEW YORK STATE

Albany County Allegany & Cattaraugus Counties (Members at Large) **Brookhaven** Broome/Tioga Counties **Buffalo/Niagara** Cazenovia Central Nassau County **Chautauqua County** Cooperstown Cortland East Nassau County Putnam County Geneva Hamptons, Shelter Island & North Fork Huntington Larchmont/Mamaroneck Long Beach **Mid-Hudson Region** New Castle **New Rochelle New York City** North Country serving Clinton, Essex and Franklin Counties

North East Westchester Oneonta Port Washington/Manhasset **Rensselaer County Rivertowns Rochester Metro Rockland County** Rye, Rye Brook, Port Chester Saratoga County Scarsdale Schenectady County **Schuyler County** Smithtown Southwest Nassau County St. Lawrence MAL (Members at Large) **Steuben County** Syracuse Metropolitan Area **Tompkins County** Utica/Rome Metro Area White Plains

Inter-League Organizations Nassau County ILO Suffolk County ILO Westchester County ILO

"America, as the world's greatest proponent of democracy, has good reason to demand of herself civic and social consciousness, tolerance, justice, high standards of political honesty – for those we must strive if we are to defend our democracy by making it a shining example."

- The League of Women Voters of NYS, 1946

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