



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF CONNECTICUT, INC.**

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# ***LWVCT LEADERS NEWS***

## ***MAY 2019***

### **ADVOCACY**

**PUBLIC ISSUES** - Judy Lhamon, Public Issues VP

### **LWVCT LEGISLATIVE LOBBY DAY**

**LWVCT Legislative Lobby Day** will be this Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM at the Legislative Office Building. Please join your fellow Leaguers as we gather to get up to date information on the current legislation and then talk with our Legislators to encourage them to support our priority issues. Take this opportunity to let potential new members become aware of what the League is advocating for. These passionate citizens make terrific League members or volunteers who want to learn more about the League before joining. Invite them to attend with you!

### **50<sup>th</sup> Symposium on International Relations**

#### **Food Matters! Combat Hunger, Reduce Waste, Create Energy**

Friday, May 17, 2019 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Registration and coffee 8:30 a.m. -9:00 a.m. Program starts at 9:00 a.m.

Jones Auditorium, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, 123 Huntington Street, New Haven

Panelists:

**U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal**

**David Donaldson**, Program Manager, Commission for Environmental Cooperation

**Samuel King**, Director of Development, Blue Earth Compost

**Bernie Beaudreau**, CEO, Connecticut Food Bank

Moderator:

**Nancy Ruther**, Principal, Gazelle International

**Register online** at [www.lwvct.org](http://www.lwvct.org), using the PayPal link you can find there,

### **2019 LWVCT STATE CONVENTION**

**Don't miss the 2019 LWVCT State Convention! It will be June 15, 2019 at the Courtyard hotel in Shelton, 8 am to 3 pm.**

LWVCT is extremely pleased to announce two special speakers for the Convention this year. Dr. Kelly Marino will speak on the Connecticut women's suffrage movement as we move into our 100<sup>th</sup> year. Mr. Valeriano Ramos will lead us on the LWV organizational priority of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Registration details and Convention information will be coming next week. Keep an eye out for it!



**Dr. Kelly Marino, Visiting Assistant Professor of History, Central Connecticut State University**

Dr. Kelly Marino has a Ph.D. in History from Binghamton University. She studies United States History, Women's History, and the History of Sexuality. Kelly is most passionate about themes of race, class, and gender. She writes about activism, reform, and minority/majority struggles. Her most recent work explores women's activism for greater rights on college and university campuses in the Progressive Era.

Kelly's dissertation, "Votes for College Women: Women's Suffrage and Higher Education in Modern America," examines the connections between the women's rights movement and women's higher education in the twentieth century. Specifically, she considers college student protest for female voting rights.

Kelly has researched the Connecticut suffrage movement in her article: "Ballots, Bandages, and Books: Connecticut Suffragists, Citizenship Education, and Women's Activism in the World War I Era." *Connecticut History Review* 56 (Spring 2017): 40-67.

Kelly served as a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for the Historical Study of Women and Gender at Binghamton University under the direction of Professors Thomas Dublin and Kathryn Kish Sklar. There she oversaw and conducted research for the Women and Social Movements websites from 2016-2017.

Kelly is a Connecticut native and is originally from Cromwell. She is passionate about the local history of the state and its historic sites and museums.

**Valeriano (Val) Ramos, Everyday Democracy  
Director of Strategic Alliances and Equity Officer**



As Director of Strategic Alliances, Val works with many others to disseminate and scale our principles and democracy reform work. My work contributes to leveraging our resources, creating regional and national networks, and developing anchor partnerships that build community capacity on dialogue-to-change.

As Equity Officer, Val works with Everyday Democracy staff on fostering an organizational culture that values and promotes diversity, inclusion, and racial and ethnic equity. He is Chair of the Equity Team at Everyday Democracy, whose work is to increase our learning and bring an equity lens to all aspects of our organization and our work.

Before coming to Everyday Democracy, Val was director of constituent services under former Connecticut Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz. He has also worked with the Latino/Hispanic community in Connecticut for many years including Tu Voto Si Cuenta, Yale College, Guakia, Inc., and the Connecticut Association for United Spanish Action (C.A.U.S.A.).

He holds a bachelor's degree in political science with minors in economics and Spanish from Yale College and a master's degree in politics from New York University. I am Puerto Rican (born in New York City and grew up in Puerto Rico) and am bilingual and bi-cultural.

In his spare time, Val is also an internationally-renowned professional Flamenco guitarist with touring, recording, and teaching experience. He has two wonderful sons—Julian and Adrian--both attending college. He enjoys free time with his loving companion, Tere Luna!

## **2020 SAVE THE DATE! LWVCT 100<sup>th</sup> Celebration Event**

Save the date of: **February 22, 2020 at the Italian Center in Stamford.**

### **CALENDAR**

#### **May**

- 8**            **LWVCT Legislative Lobby Day**
- 17**           **50<sup>th</sup> Symposium on International Relations on “Food Matters!”**
- TBA**         **LWVCT Board Meeting**

#### **June**

- 15**            **LWVCT STATE CONVENTION 8 am to 3 pm Courtyard Hotel Shelton**

### ***LEAGUE SPOTLIGHT***



LWVCT Redistricting Forum at Yale Law School

**NOTE:** Please share your photos from your events with us for the League Spotlight. We would also like to use them on our website and social media to promote the League in Connecticut.