

## WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

### Who We Are

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, has fought nationally since 1920, and in Oakland since 1924, to improve our systems of government and impact public policies through citizen education and advocacy. The League's enduring vitality and resonance comes from its unique decentralized structure. The League is a grassroots organization, working at the national, state and local levels.

There are Leagues in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Hong Kong, in addition to the hundreds of local Leagues nationwide.

### **The League of Women Voters is nonpartisan. We do not support or oppose candidates.**

While we never endorse a candidate or party, we are directly involved in shaping important issues, sometimes taking positions after study and coming to consensus. In this way, the League is wholeheartedly political and works to influence policy through advocacy.

### What We Do

**We work to make our communities fair, vibrant, and strong.** League programs focus on the key indicators of a healthy democracy, including voter participation, civic education and knowledge, and diversity of representation.

### **We provide trusted, nonpartisan and grassroots leadership.**

Oakland League members collectively volunteer thousands of hours each year.

#### **Our members:**

- **research** local ballot measures
- **distribute** non-partisan information on both local and state elections
- **register** voters
- **post** election information on the internet
- **facilitate** discussions on issues
- **train** community leaders to educate others on their election choices
- **organize** televised candidate and issue debates

LWV Oakland produces the only non-partisan voter guide for Oakland voters, the *Oakland Easy Voter Guide*, with information about the candidates and ballot measures. The information is available in 3 languages—English, Spanish and Chinese—and is distributed at no cost to voters.

*And we're working to do more!  
Check out our current accomplishments.*



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# OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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## **Broadened citizen participation in the democratic process by**

- registering voters
- successfully campaigning for Ranked Choice Voting in Oakland
- working for open and accessible government in Oakland
- helping inform the re-entry community of their voting rights
- successfully campaigning for redistricting reform in California and Oakland

## **Informed voters through:**

- our Voter's Edge website – [www.votersedge.org](http://www.votersedge.org)
- nonpartisan candidate and issue forums with community groups and KTOP-TV
- Pros & Cons presentations of ballot measures to many groups in Oakland
- Pros & Cons videos of local & regional ballot measures on YouTube & our website
- distribution of local and state *Easy Voter Guides* in multiple languages
- distribution of Who Represents Oakland, a guide to elected and appointed officials

## **Shaped policy by studying and formulating positions on:**

- Oakland's form of government
- Oakland's waterfront
- redistricting in California
- California Community College system
- immigration in the United States
- the U.S. health-care system
- ...just to name a few!

## **Made a difference in our community by:**

- lobbying for City and School District government reforms, such as amendment of the Lobbyist Registration Act and the creation of a Latino Student Achievement Community Task Force
- taking stands on ballot measures and legislation
- joining coalitions to protect citizen rights and promote open government
- recognizing individuals and organizations that Make Democracy Work in Oakland

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## **CONTACT US**

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