



So you want to join the League of Women Voters of Saratoga County?

You embrace our Mission:

Empowering voters. Defending democracy;

and

You embrace our Vision:

*We envision a democracy where every person has the
desire, the right, the knowledge and the confidence to
participate;*

and

You share our Commitment:

to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

As a league member, you join with over 500,000 volunteer and activist members in more than 700 communities in all 50 US states and D.C., including 47 local leagues in NYS, and over 200 members in our local league.

As a member of our local League of Women Voters of Saratoga County (LWVSC) you are a member of the League of Women Voters of New York State (LWVNY), formed in 1919, and the League of Women Voters of the US (LWVUS), founded in 1920.

By adding your voice and your support, you encourage informed and active participation in government, work to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influence public policy through education and advocacy.

*Check the LWVUS and the LWVNY websites for **Impact on Issues**, the Leagues' policy positions, formed by consensus on the part of local and state leagues. See our local website for LWVSC policy positions.*

How Can You Help?

- Towards meeting the League's goal of registering 1 million new voters in 2020, State and local leagues hold registration drives and participate in **National Voter Registration Day**. Volunteer to help!
- In New York, the League successfully advocated for several recent changes in law to allow all voters to apply for and mail in absentee ballots. Join state and local members in lobbying and advocating in Albany!
- The League provides election information through **VOTE411.org**, which is on track to serve millions of voters this year. Local leagues host candidates forums, and information sessions on issues. Join the Voter Services committee to help out!

- The League offers several programs to educate **youth** about voting, including Students Inside Albany, and others. Join the youth service committee to learn more and get involved!

Examples of our hard work include:

Every two years, the LWVUS holds a national convention (<https://www.lwv.org/2020Convention>). This year, it was the 54th Biennial National Convention and the first ever national virtual convention. Our local league sends voting delegates to the National Convention so to shape positions that are advocated nationally.

In alternating years, state leagues hold their state-wide conventions. In 2021, LWVNY will hold its next state-wide convention and LWVSC will send delegates to the meeting to vote on matters. It is also possible for LWVSC members to volunteer at the sessions, thereby seeing the action first-hand.

The Board of LWVSC seeks input from members for each of the conventions prior to going to sending delegates to the state or national conventions.

The League has hundreds of **voting rights victories**, including striking down voter ID laws in Texas, securing a legal victory in North Carolina against a racially based gerrymandering system, and others.

The League filed an amicus brief and supported the recent **5-4 US Supreme Court** DACA decision in *DHS v. Regents of University of California*.

The League is fighting in the courts to protect voting access at the ballot box and the mailbox, and is encouraging citizens to contact members of Congress to tell them to protect and fully fund the Postal Service. See the US League's website to sign a petition.

League of Women Voters of the US lwv.org

League of Women Voters of NYS lwnys.org

League of Women Voters of Saratoga Co.

lwvsaratoga.org