

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR THE 2021-2023 BIENNIUM

MELISSA LIEB (LWV OF THE LAGRANGE AREA) VOTER SERVICES

Melissa earned her UIC Bachelor Degree in Business Management in 1997 and holds several construction certifications. She is most proud to be a Registered Roof Consultant; one of less than 30 women worldwide. She is also a Certified Construction Contract Administrator. Melissa is president of Mac Brady Associates, Inc., a Roof Consulting firm and a Certified Women Business Enterprise and sits on the Board of the Chicago Chapter of the International Institute of Building Enclosure Consultants. She has served as secretary on the executive board for LWVLGA and for multiple Parent-Teacher Organizations. Currently serving as Voter Service director for her local League, she has been responsible for candidate forums and mock elections since 2015. Her ability to anticipate, prepare, organize, along with conflict resolution and problem solving skills, are important in both candidate forums and project management of construction projects. Voting rights and voter education is her passion. Everything starts with voting and the right to vote. Melissa's North Star is the LWV. She is forever grateful for the education and opportunities given to her by the LWV and looks forward to continuing to pay it forward.

WHY I WANT TO SERVE ON THE LWVIL BOARD

This will sound cliché, but I would like to serve on the LWVIL board to make the world a better place. I am passionate about fighting voter suppression, ensuring voter education opportunities exist, and improving voter turnout at the polls. Moving into a position in the state League is a path to accomplishing those goals. I feel that I can make more of a difference in many ways on the state level. The LWVIL has been instrumental in helping me understand issues and how to make a difference. The LWVIL has also helped me to grow not only on a personal level, but also within my League. Being on the state board helps build relationships with other Leagues across this great state of Illinois. The LWV camaraderie is like no other. Additionally, not only would it be an honor, but also a challenge to learn how to accomplish goals on a state level. It is an opportunity to learn how to protect the LWV's mission and be a part of an effort to grow, for myself and for the LWVIL.

MY GOALS FOR THE 2021-2023 BIENNIUM

My goals are to help LWVIL be more efficient, increase voter service initiatives, and expand knowledge of who the LWV is: a non-partisan organization critical to empowering voters and defending democracy. Efficiency - My time management skills can be used to assess areas where improvements need to be made and identify methods to achieve efficiency goals. I also am an advocate of reviewing actions taken to evaluate if they were effective. Increase Voter Service Initiatives - According to the Brennan Center for Justice, 253 bills to restrict voting access have been introduced in 43 state legislatures since February 19th, including Illinois. While there are many important initiatives like Affordable Housing, Environment, Gun Violence Prevention, Redistricting, etc., progress can not be made around any issue if voting rights, voter registration, voter education, and voter turnout are not guaranteed and increased for all citizens. This is the foundation that needs to be a robust bedrock for all advocacy initiatives. Expand Knowledge - I want to be a role model to show people how to be civically engaged in a positive way. Expanding awareness of who we are and what we do is vital to empower voters and defend democracy.