



The Anchorage VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ANCHORAGE
PO Box 101345
Anchorage, AK 99510-1345
907-274-8477

November 2021

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Email: league@lwvanchorage.org

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POINT OF INFORMATION

Half of eligible young voters (age 18-29) cast a ballot in 2020. However, **youth voter turnout rates varied widely:** New Jersey (67%), Minnesota (65%), Colorado (64%) and Maine (61%) had the highest statewide youth turnout rates; South Dakota (32%), Oklahoma (34%), Arkansas (35%), and New Mexico (39%) had the lowest. Alaska is one of ten who do not have reliable vote history data by age.

On average, **Youth Voter Turnout was highest (57%) and the largest increase over 2016 in states automatically mailing ballots to voters.**

Dear League Members:

LET'S PAUSE TO COUNT OUR BLESSINGS.

**LET'S START WITH THE FREEDOM
IN WHICH WE LIVE.**

**AND THEN CONTINUE TO THE
FRIENDSHIPS AND RELATIONSHIPS
WE HAVE.**

**IT IS TRULY A GIFT, AND
WE ARE THANKFUL
FOR ALL THOSE THINGS.**



THANKSGIVING IS

**A TIME TO GIVE,
A TIME TO LOVE,**

**AND A TIME TO REFLECT ON THE THINGS
THAT MATTER MOST IN LIFE.**

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Any person 16 years of age and older, male or female, may become a League member.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 2021

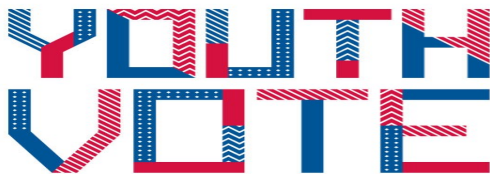
Tues 21 No Monthly Board Meeting Scheduled
 Sat 25 **HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

January 2022

Sat 01 **HAPPY NEW YEAR**
 Mon 17 Martin Luther King Jr Day - Federal Holiday
 Tues 18 Alaska Legislative Session Begins
 Tues 18 Monthly Board Meeting, 7 p.m. by Zoom
 ?? Program Planning Meeting - General Membership

February 2022

Tues 15 Monthly Board Meeting, 7 p.m. by Zoom
 Mon 21 President's Day - Federal Holiday



Great News from Youth Vote!

Youth Vote has had an exciting November! On November 2nd, we presented virtually at the World Anti-Bullying Forum held in Stockholm, Sweden. While we would have liked to present in person, our virtual presentation, “*Not Decoration – Empowering Youth and Building Resilience Through Meaningful Engagement*” was well received! Our presentation will be available for conference attendees to watch for the next three months, and we’ve already heard from attendees in the US and on other continents that they plan to share our presentation with their staff, school faculty, and students. We are grateful to Alaska Teen Media Institute (ATMI) for helping us craft this presentation.

During the closing ceremonies, World Anti-Bullying Forum organizers announced a shift to greater inclusion of youth in their work. This is big news! Surprisingly, youth involvement in high-level community problem solving is rare, and when it happens it often feels like lip-service or an afterthought. WABF has always been a conference geared toward academia and research on bullying and social/emotional learning, and when Youth Vote presented in 2019, we were the only youth group to present a youth-led workshop. When given the opportunity to provide feedback, Youth Vote members spoke directly to forum organizers. They made a very strong case to increase youth participation in bullying prevention and solutions. Knowing that youth voice will be a priority for WABF moving forward is thrilling, and understanding that this shift was, in part, influenced by our work and the work of other youth-led initiatives is empowering.

Youth Vote was also invited to submit a proposal to present at the Deeper Learning Conference in San Diego, California this March. “*Amplifying Youth Voice to Save the World*”, our proposal for a four-hour workshop, has made it to the second round of the selection process. We are currently working with ATMI to create a video submission for Deeper Learning’s consideration. We are really excited about the potential to share our expertise on youth-led messaging with educators from across the US. We will update The Voter in December!



ANCHORAGE BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

How can I serve on a board or commission?

Each October, approximately one third (about 150) of the seats on municipal boards and commissions are appointed. Nearly all appointments are made for a three year-term. Throughout the year vacancies occur on many boards and commissions. You may apply at any time.

Click this link to apply and review a list of Board and Commissions.

[OnBoard2 | Anchorage AK \(muni.org\)](#)

Call 907-343-6636 for more info.

After your application reaches the Mayor's office, you will receive a confirmation. Applications are kept in an active file for one year. The Mayor selects most appointments to municipal boards and commissions. His selections are forwarded to the Assembly for confirmation. Before your name is submitted to the Assembly for appointment, a member of the Mayor's staff will call you to make sure that you are still interested and available to serve.

LWV Alaska **CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION Position Review**

If you are interested in volunteering to serve on a LWV committee to review our position on a Constitutional Convention, please contact Pat Redmond at 907-240-5585.

Alaska's Constitution requires a referendum vote every 10 years to determine whether a constitutional convention shall be held to review our constitution and make changes. The referendum vote question will be on the November 8, 2022 General Election ballot.

Our position in the past has been that a constitutional convention should not be held as the amendment process for any needed changes is sufficient. Click here to read our entire position: [Position_4-Constitutional_Convention_AK.lwv \(1\).pdf](#)