

## WHY SUPPORT THE LEAGUE

The **League of Women Voters (LWV)** is a peoples' organization that has fought since 1920 to improve our government and engage all Americans in the decisions that impact their lives. We operate at national, state and local levels through more than 800 state and local Leagues, in all 50 states as well in DC, the Virgin Islands and Hong Kong. We never endorse or oppose political parties or candidates, but we are political.

Formed from the movement that secured the right to vote for women, the centerpiece of the League's efforts remain to expand participation and give a voice to all Americans. We do this at all three levels of government, engaging in both broad educational efforts as well as advocacy. Our issues are grounded in our respected history of making democracy work for all Americans.

Founded in Benicia, the **League of Women Voters Solano County (LWVSC)** is strong and growing -- from Benicia, Cordelia, Dixon, Fairfield, Vallejo, Vacaville, Suisun City, Rio Vista, and more, reflecting the diversity of Solano County.

Participation in the League will expose you to a breadth of experiences and issues that will not only inform you but create greater possibilities for civic engagement than you might imagine. You can spend as much or as little time as you wish. Whether you aspire to leadership or are keen to follow the lead of experienced members, the League will excite, use, and nurture your civic curiosity, ideals, or desire for action. We offer our members webinars, conference calls, workshops, other events and mentorship opportunities throughout the year, at the local, regional, state and national levels.

### FIND OUT MORE

For more information on LWVSC: <https://my.lwv.org/california/solano-county>

To contact LWVSC: [lwvsolano@gmail.com](mailto:lwvsolano@gmail.com)



To check your voter registration in Solano County, go to: <https://solanoco.com/depts/rov>



Proudly Presents

California Secretary of State  
Shirley N. Weber Ph.D.  
and

LWVSC Civics Education Students

A Presentation and Discussion on How Citizens  
Make Democracy Work

August 15, 2023

3:00-4:30 pm

Solano Community College Theater



**DEMOCRACY MATTERS:  
Be Visible, Be Vocal,  
and Vote**

*LWVSC's goals are to Inform, Inspire and  
Create a Pathway to action to protect,  
secure and expand the right to vote and  
to encourage youth engagement*

## California Secretary of State Shirley N. Weber, Ph.D.



Shirley Nash Weber, Ph.D. was nominated to serve as California Secretary of State by Governor Gavin Newsom and sworn into office on January 29, 2021. She is California's first Black Secretary of State and only the fifth African American to serve as a state constitutional officer in California's 170-year history.

Weber was born to sharecroppers in Hope, Arkansas during the segregationist Jim Crow era. Her father, who left Arkansas after being threatened by a lynch mob, did not have the opportunity to vote until he was in his 30s. Although her family moved to California when Weber was three years old, it was her family's experience in the Jim Crow South that has driven her activism and legislative work. She has fought to secure and expand civil rights for all Californians, including restoring voting rights for individuals who have completed their prison term.

Weber attended the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), where she received her BA, MA and PhD by the age of 26. Prior to receiving her doctorate, she became a professor at San Diego State University (SDSU) at the age of 23. She also taught at California State University at Los Angeles (CSULA) and Los Angeles City College before coming to SDSU. She retired from the Department of Africana Studies after 40 years as a faculty member and serving several terms as department chair.

Before her appointment, Secretary Weber served four terms as an Assembly Member representing California's 79th Assembly District in the San Diego region. Weber also served as a member and chair of the San Diego Unified School District and has twice served as a California Elector, including chairing the California College of Presidential Electors on December 14, 2020.

During her tenure in the Assembly, Weber chaired the Assembly Elections and Redistricting Committee, Assembly Budget Subcommittee on Public Safety, and Assembly Budget Subcommittee on Health. Weber was the first African American to serve as the chair of the Assembly Budget Committee. She also served as a member of the Standing Committees on Education, Higher Education, Elections, Budget, Banking and Finance.

In addition, Weber chaired the Select Committee on Campus Climate, which was created to examine and mitigate hate crimes on California's college and university campuses. She formerly created and chaired the Select Committee on Higher Education in San Diego County, which explored ways to improve the quality, affordability and equal access of higher education in the region.

From 2019 - 2020, she served as chair of the California Legislative Black Caucus (CLBC), which consists of the state's African American legislators and has the goal of promoting equal opportunity for California's African American community. Weber broke records during her tenure by garnering extraordinary support for CLBC's efforts and its projects.

## PROGRAM



<b>Welcome</b>	<b>Dr. Celia Esposito-Noy, President/Superintendent Solano Community College</b>
<b>Greetings</b>	<b>Mrs. Carole A. Paterson, President League of Women Voters Solano County</b>
	<b>Adena Ishii, Vice President California State League of Women Voters</b>
<b>Recognition of Elected Officials</b>	<b>Mrs. Janice Adams</b>
<b>Musical Selection</b>	<b>“Get Up, Stand Up” by Bob Marley</b>
<b>Introduction of Guest Speaker</b>	<b>Sarah Chapman, Ph.D.</b>
<b>California State Secretary of State</b>	<b>Shirley N. Weber, Ph.D.</b>
<b>Prelude to Democracy Matters</b>	<b>Mrs. Alice Fried</b>
<b>Student Panel Moderator</b>	<b>Amara Burris</b>
<b>Panelists</b>	<b>Bria Posey Rimsha Syed Emanuel Morando Isabella Gonzalez Solorzano Duaa Syed - Timekeeper</b>
<b>Closing Remarks</b>	<b>Mrs. Carole A. Paterson, President LWVSC</b>