



STUDENTS INSIDE ALBANY CONFERENCE

Promoting Principles of Democracy

May 19 – 22, 2024

League of Women Voters of New York State
Education Foundation, Inc.
The Blake, 1 Steuben Place
Albany, New York 12207
518-465-4162
www.lwvny.org

Learning Objectives

- ◆ To increase students' awareness of their responsibility in representative government and provide the tools necessary for meeting that responsibility.
- ◆ To improve student understanding of the framework through which public policy is determined in New York State.
- ◆ To enhance student understanding of the roles of various forces seeking to impact New York State legislation and policy development, enactment and change.
- ◆ To demonstrate to the student the value of their vote.
- ◆ To promote an increased understanding of New York State's legislative process through legislative shadowing experiences.
- ◆ To promote civic participation as a lifelong process.



“The most important political office is that of the private citizen.”

Louis D. Brandeis

As an associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, Louis Dembitz Brandeis (1856-1941) tried to reconcile the developing powers of modern government and society with the maintenance of individual liberties and opportunities for personal development.



SUNDAY, May 19

TIME	ACTIVITY
2:00-5:00	Registration/Hotel Room Assignments
5:30-6:00	Welcome and Agenda Overview <i>Laura Ladd Bierman, Executive Director</i> <i>League of Women Voters of New York State (LWVNYS)</i>
6:15	Dinner
7:00 – 7:30	Ice Breaker
7:30-8:30	How Does New York State Government Work? <i>Erica Smitka, LWVNYS Legislative Director</i>
8:30 – 10:45	Hospitality Room
11:00	BED CHECK

MONDAY, May 20

TIME	ACTIVITY
7:00-8:30	Breakfast in the Lobby
8:30	Meet in Hotel Lobby
9:00-10:00	Tour of NYS Capitol
10:30-11:30	Tips for Being a Successful Citizen Lobbyist <i>Laura Ladd Bierman, Executive Director, LWVNYS</i> <i>With Special Guest:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Barbara Bartoletti, Former LWVNYS Legislative Director</i>
11:30-12:15	Lunch
12:30	Meet by Front Doors of Hotel; Walk to Court of Appeals
12:45-1:30	Role of the Court in Policy Making <i>NYS Court of Appeals</i>
2:00–5:00	SHADOW ASSEMBLY
6:15-7:00	Dinner and Speaker
7:00-8:30	Media Panel <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Dan Clark, Reporter, Times Union</i>• <i>Alexander Gault, Statehouse Reporter, Johnson Newspaper Corp.</i>
8:30 – 10:30	Hospitality Room
11:00	BED CHECK

TUESDAY, May 21

TIME	ACTIVITY
7:00-8:45	Breakfast in the Lobby
9:00 – 10:00	Political Activism: How Citizens Make a Difference <i>Blair Horner</i> <i>Executive Director, NY Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG)</i>
10:15-11:15	Political Activism (continued) <i>Alexis Goldsmith</i> <i>National Organizing Director, Beyond Plastics</i>
12:00-1:00	Lunch
1:00	Meet in Hotel Lobby
2:00 – 5:00	SHADOW SENATE
5:15	Meet at the North End of the Concourse
6:15 – 7:00	Dinner
7:00-8:30	Running for Office <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Deborah Zamer, Albany Common Council</i>• <i>Brian Marsh, Mayor, Village of Menands</i>
8:35	Meet in Hotel Lobby
9:00-10:30	Bowling
11:00	BED CHECK

WEDNESDAY, May 22

TIME	ACTIVITY
8:30	BREAKFAST ROOM Bring Suitcase to the Meeting Room
9:00-10:00	How Does NYS Government Work---Final Question and Answer Period <i>Erica Smitka, LWVNYS Legislative Director</i>
10:00-10:30	Voter Registration <i>Laura Ladd Bierman, LWVNYS Executive Director</i>
10:30-11:15	Recognition Ceremony
11:30	Boxed Lunch



2024 STUDENTS INSIDE ALBANY CONFERENCE

Sponsored by

League of Women Voters of New York State Education Foundation, Inc.
NYS United Teachers (NYSUT)
NYS Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA)
Stewart's Shops

