

## What do CANDIDATES get?

A trustworthy organization, with experience in delivering valuable, respectful, and non-partisan forums.

An opportunity to present their qualifications and ideas, explain why they are running and what they hope to accomplish in the office sought.

## HOW DO I DO THIS?

We expect organizations that sponsor forums and debates to be non-partisan and agree not to endorse any candidates. However, we have had excellent forums in which campaign staffs for all the candidates have worked together to organize the forum in compliance with League guidelines.

In order for the LWV to moderate a forum, candidates from at least two parties MUST BE represented.



## AS SOON AS POSSIBLE...

Contact the candidates to get their agreement to participate and then agree on a date, time, and place.

## How to Get Started:

League members will be happy to consult with you.

We have sample letters and formats.

We can also moderate topic-oriented forums.

## Fee:

A minimum fee of **\$150.00** is requested, payable to the "League of Women Voters," for use of the League name and services of a trained moderator.

**The form** to request a moderator can be found at:

[lwvbergen.org/voting-elections/lwv-of-new-jersey-moderator-request-form/](http://lwvbergen.org/voting-elections/lwv-of-new-jersey-moderator-request-form/)

Or Call: 609-394-3303

Visit **[LWVBERGEN.ORG](http://LWVBERGEN.ORG)**



For membership or other information, call (201) 316-7596 or email: [Lwvno.valley@gmail.com](mailto:Lwvno.valley@gmail.com)

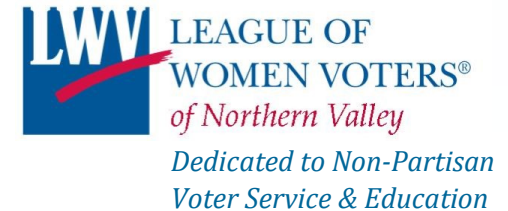
# Candidate Forums



## The Benefits of a Candidate Forum

And

**Why You Should Choose A Trained Moderator from the League of Women Voters for Your Next Candidate Event!**





## **WHY use a LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS MODERATOR?**

For many years, the LWV organized and moderated Presidential debates. While much has changed since then, what hasn't changed is the League's commitment and ability to moderate state, county and local election debates and forums. These events offer one of the only opportunities for voters to see and hear a candidate in a thoughtful manner and for more time than a sound bite. A League of Women Voters candidate forum will help voters decide which candidate to vote for: who deserves their vote and who will best represent them in office.

### **Our Mission**

The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization, open to men and women, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. We do not support individual candidates. The LWV was formed in 1920, created from the struggle of women to gain the right to vote. That right was achieved six months later with the ratification of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

## **What do you get when you engage a League Moderator?**

### **A Trained, Experienced Moderator**

The LWV has been organizing debates for decades. All League moderators are trained to conduct an organized, fair event in which voters are informed about candidates in a respectful atmosphere.

To facilitate understanding of issues, an experienced moderator may request that questions be clarified and responses from candidates be clear.

### **Trustworthy and Fair Reputation**

The LWV has a reputation for fairness. All candidates are given equal opportunity to participate.

To ensure no bias, League members who live in the town are not permitted to moderate forums.

### **Non-partisan**

League moderators are non-partisan and even-handed.

### **An agreed upon Format**

In collaboration with the organizing group, we follow an agreed upon format, hold to it, and end on time!

**Someone who is calm, cool, collected and firm!**

League moderators are known for their calmness during the event, handling disruptions with composure and keeping the focus on the forum. Possessing a sense of humor is important.

### **Help with publicity for the event**

We will post your event on our website and Facebook pages. In pursuing this goal, we are eager to work with others in our communities to sponsor public candidate debates and forums with audience participation.

**AND...**

## **What do VOTERS get?**



### **A face to face forum**

allows voters an excellent opportunity to directly hear, ask questions, and meet candidates.

### **A calm, fair, and controlled**

forum provides a unique opportunity to judge which candidate(s) might best represent

