

## MOVE 2016: Join the Movement – Election Edition

In these last few weeks leading into the November 8 election, the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts invites local Leagues to join with us in promoting voter education and engagement through our **MOVE 2016** (Massachusetts Voter Engagement 2016) initiative. Our goal is to “MOVE the needle” by substantially increasing voter registration and turnout rates in the Commonwealth. We are grateful to the Lincoln and Therese Filene Foundation, the Salem Five Charitable Foundation, and an anonymous League member for financial support for this program.



### Educating Voters

VOTE411.org Online Voters' Guide: The November 2016 Voters' Guide will be available to all voters throughout the Commonwealth by the first week of October. Local Leagues can help encourage candidates to participate so that the guide will be as complete as possible for all voters. The Voters' Guide will include information on the four Massachusetts ballot questions, as well as Congressional, state legislative, Sheriff and Governor's Council races.



Early Voting Challenge: Early Voting in Massachusetts begins on October 24 for ten days prior to the election. With our partners in the Election Modernization Coalition, we are encouraging cities and towns to offer a robust early voting program. Gold and silver “medals” will recognize communities which meet or exceed those recommendations. Make sure that voters in your towns and cities know the hours and days for Early Voting in your communities.



Candidate Forums: The League is known throughout the state for our informative candidate events, which offer voters an opportunity to learn more about the candidates. Check out our materials in the Voter Service Toolkit to help you plan a successful forum, and be sure to share the dates of your event with the LWVMA so we can post the date on our website and in VOTE411.org.

### Engaging Voters

Voter Registration events: The deadline to register to vote in the November 8 election is October 19. Be sure to offer some opportunities to register new voters in your communities. For voters who have moved recently, show them how they can use the Online Voter Registration tool on the Secretary of State's website to check their status or update their registration: <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/OVR/>. We have postcards which can be distributed at events with all the information you need.



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Pre-Register 16- and 17-Year-Olds: People 16 and 17 years old can now submit a voter registration form to their local election official, who will place their name on the list of pre-registrants. They will receive a pre-registration notice by mail, confirming receipt of the application. Pre-registration may be done online, by mail, or in person at any voter registration location. When the person turns 18, the local election official will send confirmation that the person has been moved from the list of pre-registrants to the list of registered voters. We have pre-printed cards with instructions that can be distributed to teens at your events.



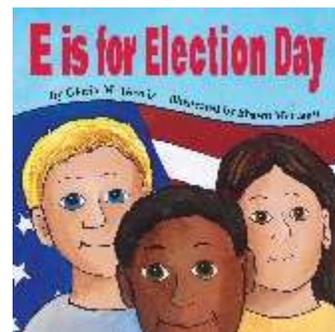
Share our Award-Winning “YOUth Should Vote!” Videos: Last spring nearly 300 students from across the Commonwealth responded to our “YOUth Should Vote” Student Video contest.

To help mobilize the youth vote, the League invited Massachusetts high school students to create 30-second public service announcements encouraging young adults to register to vote and turn out at the polls. We are thrilled to share these videos with you as part of our “Get Out the Vote” effort for the November election. Thirteen videos are now available and we urge you to share these videos with voters young and old in your communities. We will be publicizing the videos through print media, sending to high schools and colleges, and to cable television outlets. We will also be posting these on Facebook and Twitter, and we urge you to do the same.



Use Social Media and Letters to the Editor to Get out the Vote: We'll be posting some graphics to share on your social media pages which announce your pledge to vote. The Voter Service Toolkit contains templates to inform readers about VOTE411.org and the message to vote.

League Choice Books for Children and Teens: In anticipation of the 2016 presidential election, LWVMA has begun identifying and selecting books that may help inform kids and teens about our nation's history and system of voting and elections. Several such books appear below. Local Leagues may wish to: (a) donate copies of the books to libraries; (b) award them as student essay or video contest prizes; (c) present them as League prizes at school awards ceremonies; (d) include them in gift baskets for silent auctions or other fundraisers; or (e) organize programming featuring them.



For further information about any of these initiatives, please contact Meryl Kessler, LWVMA Executive Director, at [mkessler@lwvma.org](mailto:mkessler@lwvma.org) or 617-523-2999.