



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF FLORIDA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS TO LAUNCH NEW LEADERSHIP PROGRAM IN JAX

"League University" Will Prepare Citizens for Community Leadership

Jacksonville, FL -- The League of Women Voters of Florida will host its first "League University" leadership training program at Jacksonville University on Saturday. The program is designed to offer specialized training to help young professionals and citizens develop the skills they need to become leaders in their communities. The event is an excellent opportunity for potential candidates to prepare for the 2012 elections, which will include newly drawn congressional, state Senate and state House districts, creating an opening for political newcomers.

The event will feature keynote speakers state Senator-elect Audrey Gibson, who was recently elected to Jacksonville's Senate District 1, and Mike Hightower, legislative director for Blue Cross Blue Shield. Participants will learn leadership skills such as developing a leadership platform, public speaking, fundraising and cultivating donors, communicating with the media, and dressing for success through workshops and panel discussions led by prominent and dynamic speakers.

"League University will be extremely helpful to citizens who are interested in working in politics or are considering running for elected office in the near or distant future," League President Deirdre Macnab said. "There will be workshops aimed at helping individuals interested in becoming community leaders or advocates, which we believe will directly benefit the people of Jacksonville and nearby communities."

"This program will allow engaged citizens to acquire the necessary skills to excel and take charge within their communities, in order to improve them for current and future generations," LWV Jacksonville/First Coast President Nick Callahan said.

Registration is \$75, and need-based scholarships are available. For more information and to register, visit TheFloridaVoter.org or call (850) 224-2545.

The League encourages informed and active participation in government through civic education, as a way of increasing the influence of the public in politics and policy at the local, state and federal levels.

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The League of Women Voters of Florida, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. For more information on the League, visit www.TheFloridaVoter.org.