

Calendar of Events

webmaster@lwv-rma.org

-
- December 11, 2025 **Board meeting**
06:00 PM - 07:30 PM EST
Members are welcome to attend these zoom board meetings. Please request a link by emailing to president@lwv-rma.org.
- December 16, 2025 **Statewide New Members Orientation**
05:30 PM - 06:30 PM EST
Welcome to the League!
- You've joined a powerful, nonpartisan network of advocates working to empower voters and defend democracy—and now it's time to get connected!*
- Join us for our New Members Orientation on Wednesday, December 11th from 5:30–6:30 PM on Zoom.*
- You'll meet League members from across New York State, learn about the role of the state League along with our mission and impact, learn how local, state, and national leagues work together, and discover how you can get involved in statewide advocacy and education.*
- January 2, 2026 **First Friday**
I-Square
200 Bakers Square
Irondequoit, NY
11:30 AM - 01:30 PM EST
Join us for social time at I-Square. There's no agenda but we talk about everything League and have lots of political discussions. Many great ideas originate at First Fridays and a lot of work gets done. And we have a lot of fun. Come when you can, leave when you must. No need to register, just come!
- January 7, 2026 **Upping Our Civic Education Game**
03:00 PM - 04:30 PM EST
The League's big mission is to build an informed electorate. In this year of constitutional crisis, we need to step up our game on civic education.
- We need to expand some familiar channels (educational forums) and develop some new ones. Those might include short videos aimed at particular types of voters, either containing specific info they need or inspirational messages on the power of voting and other forms of civic engagement.*
- Interested in helping us develop an educational plan? Possibly committing to making a piece of it happen? Join an initial Zoom meeting to help us make a plan, on Wednesday January 7 at 3pm. Register [here](#). If you cannot attend but want to join the effort, email Mary Micket (micketeditor@gmail.com), and we will put you on the team.*
- January 8, 2026 **Board meeting**
06:00 PM - 07:30 PM EST
Members are welcome to attend these zoom board meetings. Please request a link by emailing to president@lwv-rma.org.

January 15, 2026

Book Club: Agent Josephine by Damien Lewis

04:30 PM - 05:30 PM EST

Agent Josephine by Damien Lewis

Prior to World War II, Josephine Baker was a music-hall diva renowned for her singing and dancing, her beauty and sexuality; she was the highest-paid female performer in Europe. When the Nazis seized her adopted city, Paris, she was banned from the stage, along with all "negroes and Jews." Yet instead of returning to America, she vowed to stay and to fight the Nazi evil. Overnight, she went from performer to Resistance spy.

In Agent Josephine, bestselling author Damien Lewis uncovers this little-known history of the famous singer's life. During the war years, as a member of the French Nurse paratroopers—a cover for her spying work—Baker participated in numerous clandestine activities and emerged as a formidable spy. In turn, she was a hero of the three countries in whose name she served—the US, France, and Britain.

Drawing on a plethora of new historical material and rigorous research, including previously undisclosed letters and journals, Lewis upends the conventional story of Josephine Baker, explaining why she fully deserves her unique place in the French Panthéon.

January 21, 2026

Know Your Rights - Community Response to ICE Activity

05:30 PM - 07:30 PM EST

A presentation on recent actions that ICE has engaged in, the rights of those who are the targets of that activity, as well as the rights of those who observe them.

This fully interactive webinar is presented by a joint coalition of the Monroe County Bar Association, the Rochester Black Bar Association, and the Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys.

SPEAKERS

Maria Garcia: Program Director, Enlace, formerly the Western New York Coalition of Farmworkers Serving Agencies

Richard Link, Esq.: Immigration Attorney, JustCause

Donald M. Thompson, Esq.: Attorney, Easton Thompson Kasperek Shiffrin LLP

Jill Paperno, Esq.

Submit questions in advance to rsjcoalition@gmail.com

February 6, 2026

First Friday

I-Square

200 Bakers Square

Irondequoit, NY

11:30 AM - 01:30 PM EST

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February 12, 2026

Board meeting

06:00 PM - 07:30 PM EST

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March 6, 2026

First Friday

I-Square

200 Bakers Square

Irondequoit, NY

11:30 AM - 01:30 PM EST

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March 12, 2026

Board meeting

06:00 PM - 07:30 PM EST

Members are welcome to attend these zoom board meetings. Please request a link by emailing to president@lwv-rma.org.

March 19, 2026

Book Club: How We Learn to be Brave by Mariann Edgar Budde

04:30 PM - 05:30 PM EST

How We Learn to be Brave by Mariann Edgar Budde

On January 21, 2025, many Americans were introduced to Bishop Mariann Budde thanks to what The New York Times called "an extraordinary act of public resistance." During her prayer service for Donald J. Trump's second inauguration, Bishop Budde addressed the president directly, imploring him "to have mercy on the people in our country who are scared now," from those who are part of the LGBTQ+ community to immigrants and refugees.

But for Bishop Budde, this moment was the culmination of a lifetime spent thinking about those pivot points when we're called on to push past our fears and act with strength. With How We Learn to Be Brave, she teaches us that being brave is not a singular occurrence; it's a journey that we can choose to undertake every day.

Here, Bishop Budde explores the full range of decisive moments, from the most visible and dramatic (the decision to go), to the internal and personal (the decision to stay), to brave choices made with an eye toward the future (the decision to start), those born of suffering (the decision to accept that which we did not choose), and those that come unexpectedly (the decision to step up to the plate). Drawing on examples ranging from Harry Potter to the Gospel According to Luke, she seamlessly weaves together personal experiences with stories from scripture, history, and pop culture to underscore both the universality of these moments and the particular call each one of us must heed when they arrive.

With Bishop Budde's wisdom, readers will learn to live and to respond according to their true beliefs and in ways that align with their best selves. How We Learn to Be Brave will provide much-needed fortitude and insight to anyone searching for answers in uncertain times.

April 3, 2026

First Friday

I-Square

200 Bakers Square

Irondequoit, NY

11:30 AM - 01:30 PM EST

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April 9, 2026

Board meeting

06:00 PM - 07:30 PM EST

Members are welcome to attend these zoom board meetings. Please request a link by emailing to president@lwv-rma.org.

May 1, 2026

First Friday

I-Square

200 Bakers Square

Irondequoit, NY

11:30 AM - 01:30 PM EST

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May 14, 2026

Board meeting

06:00 PM - 07:30 PM EST

Members are welcome to attend these zoom board meetings. Please request a link by emailing to president@lwv-rma.org.

May 21, 2026

Book Club: Children of the Land by Marcelo Hernandez Castillo

04:30 PM - 05:30 PM EST

Children of the Land by Marcelo Hernandez Castillo

When Marcelo Hernandez Castillo was five years old and his family was preparing to cross the border between Mexico and the United States, he suffered temporary, stress-induced blindness. Castillo regained his vision, but quickly understood that he had to move into a threshold of invisibility before settling in California with his parents and siblings. Thus began a new life of hiding in plain sight and of paying extraordinarily careful attention at all times for fear of being truly seen. Before Castillo was one of the most celebrated poets of a generation, he was a boy who perfected his English in the hopes that he might never seem extraordinary.

With beauty, grace, and honesty, Castillo recounts his and his family's encounters with a system that treats them as criminals for seeking safe, ordinary lives. He writes of the Sunday afternoon when he opened the door to an ICE officer who had one hand on his holster, of the hours he spent making a fake social security card so that he could work to support his family, of his father's deportation and the decade that he spent waiting to return to his wife and children only to be denied reentry, and of his mother's heartbreaking decision to leave her children and grandchildren so that she could be reunited with her estranged husband and retire from a life of hard labor.

Children of the Land distills the trauma of displacement, illuminates the human lives behind the headlines and serves as a stunning meditation on what it means to be a man and a citizen.

June 5, 2026

First Friday

I-Square

200 Bakers Square

Irondequoit, NY

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