



2025-2026 LWVMT Nominating Committee Report

2025-2026 Nominating Committee Members:

| | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Chair: | Wendy Thomas |
| Off-Board Member: | Karen Tilkin |
| Off-Board Member: | Beverly Cotton |
| Board Appointee: | Matt Fransein |
| Board Appointee: | Maggie Romine |

Slate of Nominees

Board of Trustees

Elected Term 7/1/26 – 6/30/28 (unless otherwise noted)

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Co-President | Maggie Romine (2026-2027) – one-year term |
| Co-President | Amanda Swope (2026-2027) – one-year term |
| Vice President | Olivia Martin (2026-2028) |
| Secretary | <i>Joshua Bowers (2025-2027)</i> |
| Treasurer | Matt Fransein (2026-2028) |
| Trustee 1 | <i>Avery Bennett (2025-2027)</i> |
| Trustee 2 | Nuceka Chatman (2026-2028) |
| Trustee 3 | Sarah Howman (2026-2027) – one-year term |
| Trustee 4 | Krystal Grizzle (2026-2028) |
| Trustee 5 | Lauren Miers (2026-2027) – one-year term |
| Trustee 6 | Laurie Phillips (2026-2028) |
| Trustee 7 | Christine Po (2026-2028) |
| Trustee 8 | <i>Lynn Staggs (2025-2027)</i> |

2026-2027 Nominating Committee

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Chair | Karin Turner |
| Off-Board Member | Louise Short |
| Off-Board Member | Wendy Thomas |

New Board Member Bios

Amanda Swope | *Previously Appointed Trustee*

Amanda Swope is a descendant of the Osage Nation, a citizen of the Muscogee Nation, and a Tulsa native. After receiving her undergraduate degree in Psychology from Northeastern State University, Amanda Swope began her career in nonprofit management as a Development Director, fundraising and grant writing for social services organizations in Tulsa. She began working at the Muscogee Nation in 2018 after completing a Master of Public Administration at the University of Oklahoma. Amanda has worked locally in her community on political campaigns since 2011 and brings with her research experience, policy, and data analysis. She has served on multiple diversity, equity, and inclusion committees, and police advisory councils, as well as volunteering with organizations like the Community Service Council, Junior League of Tulsa, Tulsa Young Professionals, Junior Achievement, Little Blue House, the Terence Crutcher Foundation, Spotlight Theatre, and the Museum of Tulsa History. Her passion for civic engagement led her to serve as the youngest and first indigenous Chair of the Tulsa County Democratic Party. In 2022, she was elected to the 59th Legislature of the Oklahoma House of Representatives. She left the legislature in 2025 to join Mayor Monroe Nichols' Office as the City of Tulsa's first Director of Tribal.

Nuceka Chatman | *Previously Appointed Trustee*

Nuceka M. Chatman is the Director of the Hardesty Transition Academy at A New Leaf, overseeing all operations and administration functions of the academy, which is the first licensed two-year private residential life and workforce skills academy for the neurodiverse population in the State of Oklahoma. Prior to taking this role in 2022, Nuceka was the Director of Career Services for Job Corps for 18 years. In 2019, Nuceka joined Tulsa Community College and collaborated with the Workforce Development Department and is an Adjunct Professor where she has taught College Success and currently teaching Practical Living. Nuceka consistently transfers her leadership talents into other areas, including being an active Life Member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., a charter member of the Graduate Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.- Alpha Alpha Alpha Omega Chapter located in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma; and the Mid-Western Regional Cluster Coordinator. Nuceka's community activism also includes being a Goodwill Board Member for over six years and serving on several diverse local and state advisory councils (Oklahoma Transition Council, IPSE) that support the neurodiverse population and consulting with and creating pathways for the next generation of powerful self-determined young adults.

Sarah Howman | *Previous Board Intern*

Sarah Howman was born and raised in the Chicagoland area but moved to Tulsa from Arizona, where she attended Arizona State University. There, Sarah earned dual bachelor's degrees in political science and global studies before spending two years as a secondary math teacher through Teach For America while earning her master's of education degree. Her background has given her a deep appreciation for the complex dynamics between politics and the education system. Since moving to Tulsa, Sarah has worked at the Jewish Federation of Tulsa, where she currently serves as the Director of Community Engagement. Through her work with Jewish Tulsa, Sarah plans and facilitates a wide variety of programming that not only strengthens the Jewish community but builds meaningful bridges with other communities throughout the Tulsa area. Sarah is driven by the Jewish concept of Tikkun Olam, or repairing the world. She lives this principle out every day in her work, and the League of Women Voters is another pivotal outlet for continuing that pursuit of making the world a better place.

Krystal Grizzle | *Previously Appointed Trustee*

Krystal Grizzle is a Tulsa-based professional with a strong background in nonprofit leadership, event marketing, and fundraising. She currently serves as the Individual Giving Manager at YWCA Tulsa, where she focuses on building strong donor relationships to drive support for the organization's mission. Prior to her current role, she was an Event Marketing Specialist at Atlas School. Krystal also has extensive experience in event management and held a director-level position at ahha Tulsa. She spent over seven years as a Program Manager at Tulsa International Mayfest. Krystal is a graduate of Leadership Tulsa and Leadership Arts Oklahoma. She has served on the TSAS Foundation and TulsaNow boards, Leadership Team for Tulsa Oktoberfest, as vice president of 83 United Independent Supporters Group, and on the Madam President committee for LWVT, highlighting her commitment to civic and nonprofit leadership within her community. She has called Tulsa home for the past 23 years, and currently lives in midtown with her husband and two adult children as they pursue their education and early careers. She and her husband Scott spend much of their pastime supporting FC Tulsa, our local professional soccer team, and volunteering within our community however they can.

Lauren Miers | *Nominated by Wendy Thomas*

Lauren Miers is a Tulsa native, nonprofit marketing professional and civic engagement advocate. She currently coordinates TYPROS 918 Vote and co-chairs the Tulsa Voter Coalition. In 2025, Lauren was awarded Tulsa Regional Chamber Community Development Partner of the Year for her work with Tulsa's Young Professionals (TYPROS). She was the 2025 Chair of TYPROS, serves on the Tulsa Chamber Board of Directors and Executive Committee and the board of the Unbound Book Festival, mentors through Big Brothers Big Sisters, and chairs the leadership team at University United Methodist Church. For over a decade, she has worked at the Associate Director of Communications for the Missouri Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church.

Laurie Phillips | *Previously Appointed Trustee*

Laurie Phillips is a 4th generation Tulsan. She was the first one in her family to earn a college degree, earning a degree in history through Langston University while working full-time and raising a child. After her daughter went to college, Laurie attended law school at the University of Tulsa while continuing to work full time. On her website she speaks about the people who most influenced her as a lawyer including her parents who were Union leaders, her employers at Frasier, Frasier & Hickman, and her professor Jim Thomas who became her father-in-law. His unwavering commitment to justice was evident in his readiness to challenge legislation in court whenever it threatened the rights of Oklahomans and influenced her commitment to justice. Because of their influence and legacy, She was awarded the Eagle Award by the Northern Oklahoma Labor Council and the Local Champion Award by the Dan Allen Center for Social Justice. She lives in mid-town Tulsa with her spouse, Mike Thomas who has been a long time employee of the Mental Health Association of Tulsa assisting chronically unhoused persons with mental illness find housing.

Christine Po | *Previously Appointed Trustee*

Christine Po is an active community leader with a deep commitment to civic engagement and public service. Her professional experience is in Human Resources, with a focus on organizational development and employee engagement. As an HR professional at UPS Supply Chain Solutions, she excelled at implementing training and onboarding programs for new companies brought into the corporation. She has dedicated much of her life to supporting nonprofits through fundraising, advocacy, and numerous board positions including liaison positions with the Royal Air Force and the US Air Force. She has been involved in and lead fundraisers across the U.S. and internationally, including multinational bazaars while living overseas generating gross sales well over half a million dollars.

In Tulsa, Christine has served with the Philbrook Festival of Trees Committee and as Vice President of the Animal Rescue Foundation. She has been a CASA Advocate with Tulsa CASA for 14 years and

currently serves in her 4th year as co-chair of an Advisory Council with National CASA. Christine is also active as Secretary for the Tulsa County Democratic Party, registers voters with Queer the Vote, as a facilitator with repro46 and serves on the External Affairs Committee with Planned Parenthood Great Plains. She has chaired and served on numerous fundraising committees while in Tulsa.

Nominating Committee Member Bios

Karin Turner (Chair) | *Previously Elected Trustee*

Karin Turner recently retired from Verizon. She loves spreadsheets, charts and maps, and is passionate about voting in EVERY election. Originally from the Eastern US, with an MBA from NYU, she is now firmly planted in her adopted hometown of Tulsa. She served as LWVMT Treasurer for 6 years - her sweet spot volunteer role where she can leverage her business background and talents to support LWVMT and the voters of Metropolitan Tulsa.

Louise Short | *Nominated by Maggie Romine*

Louise Short attended the University of London for a semester abroad program through Sarah Lawrence College and graduated from Western College for Women in 1970 with a degree in history and political science. Her Investment Career began in 1987 with Houchin Adamson. In 1994, Louise decided to become an Independent Registered Investment Advisor and establish her own firm. During her career, she earned her Accredited Investment Fiduciary (AIF™) and Certified Divorce Financial Analyst (CDFA™) designations. Her son, Ryan Kruger, joined her in 2007. The firm, KHP Capital, employed 9 people, managed investment assets exceeding \$325 million, and served clients in 25 states. She retired in 2024. Louise has a passion for travel and has been fortunate to have traveled extensively. Destinations include Mexico, Peru, Chile, Brazil, Panama, Costa Rica, Malaysia, Singapore, India, Britain, France, Holland, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, and Greece. She also has a passion for world history and gourmet cooking. She has two children, one stepson, and 4 grandchildren.

Wendy Thomas | *Previous Nominating Committee Chair*

Wendy Thomas is a recognized expert in nonprofit best practices, board governance, and group facilitation, with over 100 organizations benefiting from her consulting and coaching. She served as Executive Director of Leadership Tulsa for 21 years, expanding its programs, and previously led the Arts & Humanities Council of Tulsa. An award-winning leader and active board member, Wendy holds a master's in arts administration from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and has taught nonprofit administration for a decade at the University of Tulsa.