

2022-2023 LWVMT Nominating Committee Report

2022-2023 Nominating Committee Members:

Chair: Shagah Zakerion
Off-Board Member: Caitlyn Wright

Off-Board Member: Mary Jane Lindaman

Board Appointee: Tommy Yap

Board Appointee: Andrea Pemberton

Slate of Nominees

Board of Trustees

Elected Term 7/1/23 - 6/30/25

President Jenni Gray (2023-2024) - completing initial term

Vice President

Andrea Pemberton (2022-2024)

Secretary

Wendy Thomas (2023-2025)

Treasurer

Karin Lackey (2022-2024)

 Trustee 1
 Katherine Bracy (2022-2024)

 Trustee 2
 Emily Gamel (2022-2024)

 Trustee 3
 Tommy Yap (2022-2024)

 Trustee 4
 Kassie McClung (2022-2024)

 Trustee 5
 Dr. Corinice Wilson (2022-2024)

Trustee 6 Lynn Staggs (2023-2025)

Trustee 7 Elsa Velasco Paul (2023-2025)
Trustee 8 Matthew Fransein (2023-2025)

Trustee 9 Nate Morris (2023-2025)
Trustee 10 Tim Landes (2023-2025)

2023-2024 Nominating Committee

Chair Tania Garza

Off-Board Member Mary Jane Lindaman
Off-Board Member Maggie Romine

New Board Member Bios:

Wendy Thomas Nominated by Shagah Zakerion

Wendy Thomas has served Leadership Tulsa as its Executive Director for twenty years before announcing her retirement this June. She was formerly Tulsa's Executive Director of the Arts & Humanities Council. She graduated from the University of Tulsa with a master's degree in arts administration from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Wendy has an extensive resume serving on local nonprofit boards and has been an adjunct professor at the University of Tulsa, teaching nonprofit administration in the arts management program. She is a frequent consultant to area non-profits for board development and strategic planning and lectures frequently about Generations in the Workplace.

Elsa Velasco Paul Self Nominated; also Nominated by Tania Garza

As a Latino Venezuelan political refugee woman, Elsa is no stranger to the effects of dissonance and is passionate about finding common spaces and allowing people, especially women, to voice their opinion wherever they may find themselves. Having experienced firsthand the challenges refugees and marginalized communities face, she deeply understands the struggles and concerns of underrepresented populations. This empathy enables her to connect with individuals from diverse backgrounds, fostering an inclusive environment where every voice is heard and valued. As an attorney, her analytical mindset, and problem-solving skills, essential for effective decision-making, are ideal in a Board of Trustee position. And put my vision and passion necessary to support positive change and advance the mission of the League of Women Voters.

Matthew Fransein Nominated by Shagah Zakerion

Raised by a single mother and retired judge, Matthew's first exposure to the political process was during her 2002 election as District Judge. Twenty years later, she supported his efforts in the District 4 Council elections 2022. Although he ultimately lost that race, it ignited an interest in service in Matthew. He is actively involved with TAUW panel 9c for annual partner agency reviews and presides on statewide boards involving active legislative discussions and drafts with state legislators. His problem-identification and solutions-oriented mindset, relationship-building, and connections for opportunities are skills that make him ideal for the League's board. He comes from a background in nonprofit support, working in development and fundraising. He is currently pursuing his master's in organizational dynamics and data analysis.

Nathaniel Morris Nominated by Andrea Pemberton

Nate moved to Tulsa in 2015 as a Teach For America corps member and spent three years teaching some of the most incredible students in our city at Tulsa MET and Hale High Schools before transitioning to a role as the Dean of Students at Hale for two years. He also served Tulsa Public Schools district office and leading community engagement and outreach with the Met Cares Foundation. Currently, he works with a national organization focusing on advancing policies that will help mitigate the effects of climate change while sustaining reliable energy sources and expanding economic opportunity. All this work has required him to rely on his ability to think critically, communicate effectively, executive efficiently, and bring people together to drive toward solutions for some of the most significant problems we face. His experienced have helped shape exceptional skills in collaboration, communication, program and project management, budgeting oversight, community engagement and relationship building.

Tim Landes Nominated by Andrea Pemberton

Time is an award-winning journalist and photographer and currently serves as the features editor for TulsaPeople Magazine. He is a board member and moderator for Tulsa Press Club and moderator for

Magic City Books and Circle Cinema. He serves as a Cherokee Phoenix editorial board member and this year moderated the tribe's chief debate. He brings a decade of experience in media relations and former board member of PRSA Tulsa, Lindsey House, and Tulsa Glassblowing School. He is a Cherokee citizen.

New Nominating Committee Member Bios:

Tania Garza Nominated by Shagah Zakerion

Tania is an accomplished professional with expertise in risk mitigation consulting and managing highnet-worth portfolios across multiple states. She excels in community engagement for a talent attraction and retention initiative in her current role by connecting individuals from various sectors to local social and civic organizations. She has built her knowledge and network with TYPROS community development, economic vitality with Tulsa Global District, and voter engagement and education with LT Represent & 918 Lead contributes to her success in fostering a community where individuals can experience growth, inspire change, and celebrate the vibrancy of their culture.

Maggie Romine Nominated by Shagah Zakerion

Raised in Tulsa but moved to San Francisco and then to New York, Maggie was away for 30 years and came back with a fresh perspective and new appreciation for her hometown. Her goal was to become involved in the arts and politics, having worked as a personal assistant to Poet Laureate Joy Harjo and volunteered with a non-partisan grassroots movement, Oklahoma United for Progress, whose goal is to educate Oklahomans on the voting and electoral process, encouraging more people to vote. She has worked as an executive assistant for Citigroup in New York for 20 years, five years in Dallas, and as a volunteer coordinator with Citigroup's global wealth management pro bono program.