

Name of Local LWV:     LWV-Duluth    

**Section 1 -**  
**General**  
**Information**

**2014 Voter Service Martin & Brown  
Grant Application**



Name of Local LWV	LWV-Duluth
Contact Person Name	Ellen Wiss
Contact Email	mewiss62@gmail.com
Contact Phone	612-310-9797
Local LWV Treasurer Name (for mailing grant check)	Nancy Palmer
Local LWV Treasurer Address	444 Hartley Pl. Duluth, MN 55803
Total Amount of Budgeted Expenses*	\$1380
Total Amount of Local LWV Contribution*	\$350
Total Amount of Ed Fund Dollars Requested (if applicable)*	na
Total Amount of Grant Application*	\$1030

\* from budget worksheet on page 3

We agree to forward our LWV candidate forum information to LWV Minnesota as outlined in these instructions as a condition of receiving this grant.

We understand that funds must be used by November 2016 and that a final report is due no later than 4:00pm on Monday, December 5, 2016. Reports submitted after this date will not be eligible for final payments.

We acknowledge that these funds are for non-partisan educational activities and can not be used for advocacy or lobbying activities.

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Signature (can be electronically signed)   



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Title: *Building Capacity to Create a Community of Voters*    Date: May 13, 2016

**PLEASE NOTE: Grant Applications must be emailed to [lhaan@lwvmn.org](mailto:lhaan@lwvmn.org) no later than Friday, May 13, 2016 at 4:00pm.**

### **Section 2 - Voter Service Activities Planned**

We recognize that situations change as a result of factors outside our control. Please use this section to provide us with your plan. If races covered change, please update your LWVMN google calendar so that your event calendar is current.

<b>Name of Race/Contest or Other Voter Service Activity</b>	<b>Proposed Community Partners</b>	<b>Proposed Moderator?</b>	<b>Size of Target Audience?</b>
Moderator Train the Trainer	LWV Members who have had previous moderator training	Terri	10
Moderator Training	LWV Members	Terri	15-20
Voter Registration Training	Faith-Based and Community Outreach organizations	Ellen Wiss	15-20

1. How will you engage your community with your Voter Service activities?

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- Press releases - Yes
- Social media (Facebook, Twitter, website) –We have a website and Facebook account which we use for disseminating information and promoting events.
- Flyers/posters – We frequently use posters and flyers to advertise our events.
- Co-sponsor activities/promotions – We have a large number of faith-based and community organizations that we partner with to our constituents’ mutual benefit. We use their resources to promote those activities in order to extend our outreach. Here are some of the organizations we partner with:

American Lung Association In  
Minnesota  
Citizens Federation,  
Clayton Jackson McGhie  
Memorial, Inc.  
CSS Alworth Center for the Study  
of Peace and Justice  
CSS Department of Social Work  
CHUM  
Community Action Duluth  
Cross-Cultural Alliance of Duluth  
Life House  
Local Initiatives Support  
Corporation (LISC)  
MN Congress of Parents,  
Teachers & Students – Duluth  
PTSA Council  
MN Environmental Partnership  
(MEP)

MN Interfaith Power and Light -  
Arrowhead Network  
MN Citizens Federation – NE  
MN Council of Nonprofits  
MN Public Interest Research  
Group (MPIRG)  
NAACP  
One Roof Community Housing  
Program for Aid to Victims of  
Sexual Assault (PAVSA)  
Protect Minnesota – Northland  
Chapter  
Sierra Club - North Star Chapter  
Take Action - Minnesota  
UMD American Indian Learning  
Center  
UMD Office of Cultural Diversity  
UMD Social Work Department  
Vets for Peace – Duluth

- Radio/television/newspaper articles/letters to editor – We use all local media to promote our issues and activities. KUMD public radio has a weekly segment available to us. Here is an example of a recent letter to the editor for our Money In Politics event <http://www.duluthnewstribune.com/opinion/local-view/4023485-local-view-unlimited-money-affects-voting>. Our PBS station’s Almanac North provides another opportunity to promote local initiatives.

2. How will you evaluate the success of your efforts? What are your goals for each?

- Audience size? We hope to meet or exceed our projected numbers.
- Audience demographics? We have a diverse membership and hope to engage those who have not felt empowered to participate in the past. The activities identified in the grant proposal are in support of those efforts.
- Media coverage? We will continue to alert the media to our scheduled events and be a presence in the community in order to draw media attention when appropriate.
- Broadcast on TV or radio? We will make use of the community forums on radio and TV to make our community aware of our efforts and be available to respond to issues on the ground.
- Online access via YouTube? We will continue to put our candidate, issue, and legislative forums on YouTube and expand our presence as appropriate.
- New LWV members recruited? More than new members per se, we want to encourage more **active** members. We will establish teams comprised of new and veteran members to help new members gain confidence in moderating forums and registering voters.

3. How will you identify and recruit partner organizations or cosponsors?

- Existing partners? As you can see, we have an extensive list of partners that we consistently interact with for various activities. We identify and recruit partners in areas where our programs and policy position are compatible.
- New partners? We will continue to identify and recruit new partners as the needs of our membership and community require. We offer a considerable amount of credibility and expertise to events, and are therefore careful to impart the need to remain non-partisan as we enter into these partnerships.

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- What benefits do you see in working with cosponsors? How can these groups assist your League in achieving its goals? Partnerships provide context to our efforts and help inform how our activities are planned and implemented. We can have brilliantly created programs that are meaningless if they don't meet the needs of the population we hope to reach. Our faith-based and community action partners are part of the communities that make up Duluth and they give voice to their constituencies.

4. Liz Haan, Community Organizer, is available to assist local Leagues in identifying potential partners, negotiating cosponsorship agreements between partners and local Leagues, and to address reporting needs. What particular needs do you have that Liz can support your League on:

- Identifying potential community partners
- Negotiating partnership agreements
- Data and grant reporting
- Other?

Our League volunteers are dedicated to the principal that voting is a citizen's primary right and responsibility. They are active and highly motivated to do the work necessary to inform and educate our community about those rights and responsibilities. We have a well-earned reputation for the quality of our community outreach activities such as candidate forums and voter registration events. We were recently asked to moderate a potentially contentious Duluth School Board event and with the help of our Civility Project partners, enabled over one hundred citizens to comment on the issue in a calm and respectful environment in the 3-hour allotted time.

We understand that informing voters is a journey not an event. It can take many forms and it vital to helping citizens understand the power of their voice through information, engagement, and action. If we are awarded this grant, it is our intention to build capacity by increasing our number of moderator-trained members; helping build future capacity for ourselves and LWV chapters in our region by training moderator trainers; and helping our partnering organizations learn to conduct appropriate and effective voter registration activities in their constituent communities.

Duluth has one of the highest percentages of voting by registered voters. The problem remains that communities of color and under-represented populations such as young, indigent, and disenfranchised citizens are not registered. In our community outreach we always include

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information about voting rights for felons who have completed their sentences and are off paper. It is stunning to learn the vast majority of those citizens don't know that their voting rights are restored. Some have been eligible for many years and no one has informed them that they can register and vote. Building capacity in our partnering organizations who are often members of those communities can help bring people into the voting booth.

You can see by the extensive list of the faith-based and community organizations that we partner with that we have a well-established network for our outreach. Our number of voter registration events doubled last year and we have requests for several more this year. By expanding the number of trained and well-informed community members who can conduct voter registration, our resources can meet those demands in positive and productive ways.

We currently communicate with our membership and community through multiple platforms. We publish our Voter on paper and online. We have a web page, Facebook page, submit press releases to radio, television, and newspapers. We send out announcements and reminders through e-blasts, support and publicize our partner's events and they do the same for us.

**Section 3 - Proposed Budget**

Please note that these budget categories are suggestions, not requirements. A budget must be submitted with the grant application. We recognize that plans change and that circumstances may be beyond the control of LWV.

<b>Expense Item</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Budget Amount</b>
Space Rental	Meeting Room	\$150.
Moderator Honorarium		
Mileage	Round Trip from Detroit Lakes 400 mi. @ \$.575/mile	\$230.
Sound/Video Equipment/Support		
Refreshments	Water, Coffee, Light meal for Moderator Training, Drinks and snacks for other events.	\$300.
Printing Costs (programs, flyers)	Instructional Materials for training and voter registration	\$500.
Supplies		
Other Expenses (itemize)	Registration fees for voter registration at community festivals and events	\$200.
<b>Total Expenses</b>		\$1380.
<b>Less Local Contribution (see below)</b>	Voter Service budget allocation for 2016	\$350.
<b>Net Grant Request Amount</b>		\$1030.

Voter Service grant dollars are intended to supplement and support the costs local LWVs incur in our voter registration and voter education activities. Grant awards are based, in part, on your

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League's financial need for funding. In 2016, all local Leagues are expected to contribute funding.

To accurately understand your application and budget, please include:

Local League Treasury Balance as of May 1, 2016 \$6207.00

Amount of local contribution toward Voter Service \$350\_\_\_\_\_

If your local League is facing a financial hardship that limits your local contribution, please comment here so that we can better understand: