

## NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR THE 2023-2025 BIENNIUM

### **SARA KURENSKY (LWV of WILMETTE) VICE PRESIDENT, COMMUNICATIONS**

A communications professional, organizer, writer, and artist, Sara is a Phi Beta Kappa Journalism graduate from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She has worked for the American Dietetic Association, the Chicago Board Options Exchange, and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs in various editorial and brand development capacities. Living overseas with her husband in countries as varied as India, Yugoslavia and China solidified her belief that all people are motivated by the need for safety, love, respect and community - and everyone craves beauty, laughter and joy. She is committed to using her time and expertise to seeing these needs met equitably. To this end, she designed and implemented a long-term arts education program for her public school district, mentored immigrant families with Refugee One, and has been part of organizing Women's March Chicago since its inception, serving on the board since 2018. She joined the LWWIL communications committee in 2020 to help with strategy, design, and content development. Her greatest accomplishment is being the mother of three adult children who are on their own path to making the world better. Her favorite question is "What keeps you busy?"

### **WHY I WANT TO SERVE ON THE LWWIL BOARD**

I am eager to continue the work our current board has begun in building a comprehensive strategy to grow our reach and diversity throughout the state. I see this unfolding in two broad areas - membership, as we foster a League membership that looks more like the communities where we live; and public education and activation, so that all communities have equitable access to the knowledge they need to affect change. We must reinforce our LWWIL narrative and strengthen our brand with message content and imagery that all local Leagues can use. By promoting the same narrative consistently across the state, we amplify the power of every League in the state. Using my experience in organizational outreach and coalition building, I can continue to help grow our connections with other state organizations working in education, activation and advocacy. I believe our mission lies in promoting civic engagement as a path to creating the kind of communities people want to live in. Serving on the LWWIL Board is one way I can use my creativity to help the League adapt and grow with the changing world around us.

### **WHAT I HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH AS AN LWWIL BOARD MEMBER**

My overarching goal is to provide what local Leagues need so that we can leverage our joint power. Our statewide reach provides great opportunities to move the League mission forward. I want to use my background and experience in design, coalition building, message amplification, and grassroots organization to help grow our education and advocacy work. Specifically, I want to continue to expand, update and unify our state voice by: designing communications tools, messages and templates all local Leagues can use to strengthen our voice statewide; developing relationships in key media outlets to increase our statewide visibility; updating and reformatting LWWIL's online public materials to solidify our position as a nonpartisan information resource for all communities. We must continue to improve access to information and civic education so people are empowered to engage, vote, and advocate for social justice and civil rights reforms.