Writers for Democratic Action

WDA is a 2,600 strong community of writers from all 50 states and 43 nations, established in 2020 under the leadership of the late Todd Gitlin.

Writers for Democratic Action is committed to bringing together the literary community to demand racial and economic justice, champion suffrage for all people, oppose impediments to democratic government, and resist white supremacist, nationalist, and fascist movements. We stand vigilant in the service of the republic to promote the common good.

www.writersfordemocraticaction.org
WHEN?

Summer 2022! In early summer BTV Registration Tables will be placed in partner bookstores and libraries and staffed at least twice monthly throughout the summer months. September 20 is the 2022 American Library Association’s National Voter Registration Day, and on that day, BTV will sponsor high profile AUTHOR READINGS at partner bookstores and libraries across the country, launching the homestretch weekly registration and turnout efforts ahead of the November midterm elections.

WHO ELSE?

In addition to many grassroots Voter Registration and Turn-out groups, BOOK THE VOTE is partnering with DEMOCRACY MATTERS, a national student organization, which offers paid internships to undergraduates. DM interns will organize students on their campuses to promote voter registration, in league with BTV.

WHY?

In 2021, 19 states passed more than 30 laws to make voting more difficult, mainly in the name of voter fraud that never happened. Gerrymandering after the 2020 census specifically targeted the power of Black, Latino, and Native American voters. The Supreme Court and state legislatures have gutted the 1965 Voting Rights Act, and the Congress, stymied by the filibuster, has been unable to pass much needed voter protection legislation. The urgent defense of democracy falls to citizens, who must vote in numbers never seen before, voting in part to keep the vote. WDA needs you to take on this challenge with us.

WHAT?

The Voter Registration Table! Writer-volunteers will staff nonpartisan tables in participating bookstores and libraries, especially in battleground states. Stores and libraries in colleges and universities will focus on registering the crucial cohort of younger voters. The BOOK THE VOTE project aims not only to add the unregistered to voter rolls, but to nurture civic resistance to anti-democratic manipulations of elections.

WHO?

You! Democracies die by foreign invasion, but they also die by homegrown authoritarian malignancies. That is happening now in the United States, and Writers for Democratic Action calls on YOU to stop it! Join us in protecting representative government with the most powerful weapon we still have: the Vote. WDA is launching BOOK THE VOTE, a drive to bring together readers, writers, booksellers, publishers, and librarians to register voters before the 2022 elections. Books themselves are threatened now, which is no surprise since books have always been essential to democracy. The Bookstore and the Library can be the frontline of the campaign to rescue it. We need YOU!