

NEWS RELEASE

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**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE HAMPTONS**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
March 31, 2011

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**OVER 40 STUDENTS SELECTED FROM SEVEN LOCAL HIGH SCHOOLS TO ATTEND  
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS WORKSHOP WITH WOMEN ELECTED OFFICIALS  
TO EXPLORE CAREERS IN PUBLIC SERVICE  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13  
8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Southampton Cultural Center  
Campaign topic is civility in public discourse, on social networking sites, and in the media.**

To give young women in local high schools the opportunity to explore their leadership potential and a possible career in public service, the League of Women Voters of the Hamptons has organized for a third year a day-long workshop called "Running and Winning," to be held on Wednesday, April 13, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., at the Southampton Cultural Center, 25 Pond Lane.

Over 40 juniors and seniors from seven local high schools have been selected by their schools to participate in the program headed by LWVH vice-president Judi Roth and members of the League's education committee.

"The League of Women Voters hopes that this experience will go a small way to achieving our aim of opening your horizons to the idea of a public service career at some time in your lives," wrote Ms. Roth in a letter to participating students. "Though women hold many elected positions in East Hampton and Southampton Towns, the statistics show that this does not hold true for other parts of the state and nation."

A broad array of women elected officials from East Hampton and Southampton town and village governments are expected to attend, to speak about their experiences seeking and holding public office. The officials include a town supervisor, town board members, town trustees, town justices, a town clerk, town receiver of taxes, village deputy mayor and village trustees.

Divided into groups of four or five, the students will interview the women officials with a set of suggested questions.

Then the students, taking the roles of a campaign manager, candidate, speechwriter, communications director and fundraiser for each team, will plan a mock campaign on the topic "If you were running for office, what would you do to promote civility in public discourse, on social networking sites and in the media?"

At 11:30 a.m. Southampton Town Justice Andrea Schiavoni, an attorney who has specialized in the field of mediation, is scheduled to give her keynote speech titled “Stretch Before Exercising Your First Amendment Rights.”

Beginning at 12:15 p.m. the workshop’s goals come to fruition as each team of students takes to the stage to make a two-minute presentation of its platform on ways to promote public civility.

The day’s program will be taped and aired by SEA-TV, Southampton Town’s Channel 22. For those not living in Southampton, the event can be viewed on streaming video at [www.southamptontownny.gov](http://www.southamptontownny.gov) at the same time it is airing on Channel 22.

The League expresses its appreciation to Bridgehampton National Bank and League member Joanne McEvoy-Samborn for funding this year’s “Running and Winning” workshop and also thanks, for their in-kind donations, Jason and Theresa Belkin of The Hampton Coffee Company, East Hampton High School, Southampton Town Youth Bureau Director Nancy Lynott, and Southampton Cultural Center Executive Director Kirsten Lonnie.

Selected **from Bridgehampton High School** are students Brooke Burnside, Dominique Clark, Ciena Quinn, Jolene Rassing, Petu Aprillina Setyawati;

**from East Hampton High School**, Estefany Cabrera, Jade Carroll, Allison Charde, Azaria Davis, Alexandra Hanna, Myra O’Neal, McKenna Schacher;

**from Hampton Bays High School**, Vanessa Alvarez, Alyssa Casciotta, Angie Delgado, Samantha Downs, Daniela Gutierrez, Alexandra Ogris, Jie-Lu Zhou;

**from Pierson High School in Sag Harbor**, Katelyn Grodski, Katelyn Hand, Valeria Lemus, Marylen Leon, Cynthia Pacheco, Sandra Riczi-Tifrea, Xylia Serafy, Emily Verneuille;

**from the Ross School in East Hampton**, Christin Aucapina, Suna Garcia-Guzman, Ajiah Jones, Isabelle Turits, Tessa Von Waldorf, Emily Watson;

and **from Southampton High School**, Skylar Borucke, Lycha Charles, Cameron Marshall, Kelsey McCulley, Louisa McKee, Ashley Oliver, Cheyenne Vieira, Tara Watson.

Students from **Shelter Island High School** will also be participating.

For further information about the workshop, contact Ms. Roth of Southampton at 631-283-0759.

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