



League of Women Voters
of the
Greater Dayton Area

Editor's Note: Please see accompanying Program Schedule with Delegate Profiles

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS TO HOST LEADERSHIP DELEGATION
FROM AZERBAIJAN**

Program held in conjunction with U.S. Library of Congress for Eurasian leaders to experience American democracy, civil society and community life

DAYTON, Ohio (May 21, 2009) – The League of Women Voters Greater Dayton Chapter is playing host to a delegation of four leaders from Azerbaijan May 29 to June 6, 2009 as part of the U.S. Library of Congress Open World Program that enables current and future Eurasian leaders to experience firsthand American democracy, civil government, society and community life.

The week's program is completely full with organizations throughout the Miami Valley participating and agreeing to host a meeting, reception, lecture, tour, civic meetings, or other events that provide the delegates an introduction to a wide range of American culture. The delegates are interested in alternative methods of funding for social services in their respective communities, and Dayton's innovative methods of funding activities will be on display throughout the week.

"The League of Women Voters has a long-standing interest in international issues and supports the promotion of measures to enhance ambassadorship via cultural exchange," said Sharon Harmer, League of Women Voters president. "The outpouring of support and collaboration from our peer partners to showcase the hidden gems in Dayton should make us all proud to greet our visitors. We are honored to participate in the U.S. Library of Congress Open World Program."

The four delegates, one female, are municipal and social service leaders in their communities. Each is interested in garnering an introduction to American programs that contribute to enhancing life in their respective communities and among their citizens.

The week's schedule includes meetings with Miami Valley Regional Planning Council; Montgomery County Board of Elections; County Commissioners; City Commissioners; Leaders of both the Democratic and Republican parties, Mayor Rhine McLin. Additionally they will meet editors of the Dayton Daily News; the Kettering Foundation and members of the Dayton

Bar Association and judicial representatives to discuss America's legal system and pro bono citizen representation.

Other socio-economic stops include The Dayton Food Bank, The Job Center, Clothes that Work, Ohio Medical Career Center, Ohio Rehabilitation Services, East-End Community Services and the Ohio Muslim Outreach Clinic. The Azerbaijani delegation will speak with students at Sinclair Community College and the members of Hithergreen Senior Center.

Receptions, events and dinners will be hosted by Miller Valentine ; and Dyer, Garafalo, Mann and Schultz; as well as League of Women Voter families.

ABOUT THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Membership in the League is open to men and women of all ages. Join us in making democracy work! www.lwvdayton.org

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