



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF LOS ANGELES  
PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

3303 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 310  
Los Angeles, CA 90010-1700  
www.LWVlosangeles.org

**Contact:** Raquel Beltran,  
Executive Director  
**Phone:** (213)-368-1616  
**Email:** info@LWVlosangeles.org

**Two Days Until Celebrating Leadership Awards on March 16, 2011**

*LWVLA honors Cedars-Sinai Health System, the Los Angeles Times, and Elise Buik, President and CEO, United Way of Greater Los Angeles. Susan F. Rice will receive the Founders' Award.*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Joanie Harmon(310) 714-3902**

**joaniehca@earthlink.net**

**WHAT: Celebrating Leadership Awards Dinner**

**WHEN: Wednesday, March 16, 6 p.m.**

**WHERE: Millennium Biltmore Hotel, 506 S. Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, CA**

**TICKETS AND PARKING: Contact (213) 368-1616** LOS ANGELES - The [League of Women Voters \(LWV\) Los Angeles](#) will honor those whose work is integral to LWVLA's mission at the 2011 Celebrating Leadership Awards Dinner on Wednesday, March 16, at 6 p.m., at the [Millennium Biltmore Hotel](#) in downtown Los Angeles. LWVLA is proud to announce this year's recipients of the Carrie Chapman Catt Leadership Awards, named for the American suffrage leader and founder of the LWV: [Cedars-Sinai Health System](#), the [Los Angeles Times](#), and [Elise Buik](#), President and CEO of the [United Way of Greater Los Angeles](#). Philanthropist [Susan F. Rice](#) is the recipient of the 2011 Founders' Award. Val Zavala, vice president of News and Public Affairs at KCET-TV and anchor of the award-winning "[SoCal/Connected](#)," will serve as the evening's emcee. Presenters include [Zev Yaroslavsky](#), L.A. County Supervisor, 3rd District; [Andrew Benton](#), president, Pepperdine University; [Caroline Nahas](#), office managing director, Korn/Ferry International; and [John F. Kohara](#), executive vice president and COO, California Community Foundation

Carlos Medina, chair of the awards dinner, says that the fundraising event helps the LWVLA fund programs that are integral to the organization and its mission: “LWVLA educates, advocates, and informs our community on how government works, but our most important mission is helping the local community take leadership in engaging with our elected officials and participating in the political process,” he says.

This year’s Celebrating Leadership Awards recognizes the 100th anniversary of women’s suffrage in California. Raquel Beltran, LWVLA’s executive director, says that now is an exciting time to be part of the League and urges Los Angeles County residents to join this vital organization.“

After 100 years of California women gaining the right to vote, what is most significant is the broad range of women - and men - who are actively engaged in the voting process, as compared with 1911,” she says. “When it comes to servicing the public’s need and desire for impartial and balanced guidance on how to be involved in shaping our government, there is a place for everyone with the League of Women Voters.”

Proceeds from the Celebrating Leadership Awards Dinner benefit the LWVLA Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) organization that raises funds to provide educational programs and services to the community. A silent auction will offer items including lunch with City Councilmember [Paul Krekorian](#); a tour of Los Angeles with City Councilmember [Tom LaBonge](#); a tote bag, jewelry and gift certificate from [Trina Turk](#); and gift certificates for [Koi Restaurant](#) and [Musso and Frank Grill](#). Tickets are available online or by phone. Silent auction bidders need not be present to win items they have bid on, and will be notified the next day of their purchase.

Tickets for the 2011 Celebrating Leadership Awards Dinner range from \$225 each to \$1,000 for a pair of Civic Society tickets. Sponsorships are also available starting at \$2,500 for Community Advocate admission for eight guests. For tickets or more information, visit [lwvlaeducationfund.wordpress.com](http://lwvlaeducationfund.wordpress.com) or call (213) 368-1616.

For more information about LWVLA, visit [lvvlosangeles.org](http://lvvlosangeles.org) or call the LWVLA office at (213) 368-1616.

###