



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS[®] OF OHIO

2025 Trailblazer Nominees

Belle Coit Kelton Rising Star Award

- Andrew Green
- Shelly Jarrett Bromberg
- Ralita Hildebrand
- Melanie Johnson
- Karen Roderick-Lingeman
- Karen Semer
- Janice Simmons-Mortimer

Belle Sherwin Leadership Award

- Deborah Dalke
- Kent State Votes, Craig Berger and the Community Engaged Learning offices/KSU
- Ohio AFL-CIO
- Dr. Alexis Smith
- The Links, Incorporated Columbus, Ohio Chapter
- Ben Wolford

Dora Sandoe Bachman Public Education Award

- Andrea Bauer
- Dr. Barbara Brothers
- Honesty for Ohio Education
- Senator Catherine Ingram
- Susie Kaeser
- Ohio Coalition for Equity & Adequacy of School Funding/Vouchers Hurt Ohio

Elizabeth J Hauser Lifetime Achievement Award

- Deborah Cocco
- Beverly Dorson
- Ann Fabiszak Payne
- Beth Hutton
- Rita Kipp
- Karen Leith
- Sue Phillips
- Gail Roussey
- Debbie Schmieding
- April Secura

Hallie Quinn Brown Empowerment Award

- Elizabeth Nalepa
- Gabrielle Solange
- The Ohio University Center for Campus & Community Engagement

Harriet Taylor Upton Voter Outreach Award

- Debbie Dalke
- Nancy Gurney
- League of Women Voters of the Greater Cincinnati Area
- League of Women Voters of Kent
- League of Women Voters Oxford
- League of Women Voters of Northern Portage County (April Secura, President)
- League of Women Voters of Licking County
- League of Women Voters of Lorain County
- League of Women Voters of Toledo-Lucas County
- Rhonda Richardson

Judge Florence E. Allen Outstanding Public Service Award

- Congresswoman Joyce Beatty
- Senator Paula Hicks-Hudson
- Freda Levenson

Mary Church Terrell Diversity and Inclusion Award

- League of Women Voters of the Greater Dayton Area
- League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Columbus

Congratulations to all of our 2025 nominees!

Winners announced during our 2025 Trailblazers Awards Ceremony & Gala May 17, 2025, in Aurora Ohio.
Tickets available [here](#).