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# THE BROADWAY DEMOCRATS

♦ District Leaders: Curtis Arluck, Paula Diamond Román ♦ President: Amy Porter♦

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## **October Forum**

online, via Zoom

## **What Can You DO?**

*A presentation by the*

## **Broadway Dems Go Blue 2020 Committee**

**Mary Peppito & Meika A. Musturangi**

**Thursday, October 8**

**Meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. sharp!**

*information on how to participate at*

[www.broadwaydemocrats.org](http://www.broadwaydemocrats.org)

*or*

[www.facebook.com/groups/BroadwayDemocrats/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/BroadwayDemocrats/)

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Volume 45, Issue 10

October 2020

## District Leaders' Report

Curtis Arluck

The deadline for submitting newsletter articles is an hour before the first Presidential debate, so I'll keep this short. All I will say is that both our democracy and our health and well-being are endangered by that repulsive authoritarian in the White House, and his Congressional enablers. We must vote them out in November. There is no higher calling—no other calling, really—than to do everything we can to defeat them. Our newsletters and our website explain the many ways we can do this.

We also have a responsibility to make sure that our district votes in record numbers, and that our votes are counted expeditiously. It is very clear that New York State, though its laws and its administration, is incapable of doing this with increased numbers of paper ballots. Absentee voting should be a last resort for people who are ill, disabled, out of town, or have health considerations that make them unusually vulnerable to COVID-19. Everyone else should vote in person, on Election Day, or better yet, via Early Voting, which runs October 24 through November 1. The leaflet giving all the details about Early Voting is included in this newsletter. Read it, follow it, and distribute it in your building and on your block!



## President's Corner

Amy Porter

### Now is the Time!

Folks, we are heading towards the finish line for the most important presidential election in our lifetime. Many of our older members may remember the sentence used to practice typing: "Now is the time for all good people to come to the aid of their country." Never has that phrase held more meaning than right now. Now is the time!

We had a very inspiring forum with New York for Biden with Ny Whitaker and Bill Wolfensthal. As

Ny Whitaker said, this is the time for all of us, who hold different views within the Democratic party, to unite! Now is the time! As Bill Wolfensthal said, don't spend time reading about the latest memoir or ruminating over the latest disturbing tweet: Take action and make phone calls! Now is the time! As always, we appreciate our Assemblyman Danny O'Donnell and our City Council Member Mark Levine joining us. A special thanks to Richard Siegel, Heather Ducharme and John George for their help with the forum.

I have spoken with some of you who don't like making phone calls. Some of you prefer to meet in person and help us sell campaign buttons and masks. Some need to stay safe and at home. From home, some prefer texting, some prefer letter writing and some, like myself, enjoy calling. Broadway Democrats has something for everyone. Find one or more of these activities and commit yourself to them or join us as you are able. We welcome you in any way that works for you.

If you would like to join Broadway Democrats for our virtual phone bank making calls to swing states to get out the vote for Biden/Harris, sign up for any of our Monday night calls at <https://www.mobilize.us/joebiden/event/309290/> If you would like to organize and run Broadway Democrats phone banks for Biden/Harris at another time during the day or weekend, please email me at [aporter.bwaydem@gmail.com](mailto:aporter.bwaydem@gmail.com)

If, over the weekends, you would like to join us in person – masked and socially distant – to give out information about voting, register voters, and sell buttons and masks, please email [curtisdems@aol.com](mailto:curtisdems@aol.com) or [districtleaders@broadwaydemocrats.org](mailto:districtleaders@broadwaydemocrats.org).

If you want more information about or would like to join any of our many daily Broadway Dem Go Blue Committee events, including making phone calls and texting, please email our Go Blue Committee at [broadwaydemsgobblue@gmail.com](mailto:broadwaydemsgobblue@gmail.com).

And stay tuned for our next Broadway Democrats October Zoom Forum on Thursday, October 8,

2020, where we look forward to a presentation by our very own Broadway Dem Go Blue Committee!

We encourage those who are able to vote in person to vote early. Please see our information about where and when early voting will take place in our neighborhood.

Be sure to save the date, Saturday, October 17 at 7 pm for our Uptown/Downtown Democrat Clubs Unity Fundraiser Event that we are organizing with Village Independent Democrats to benefit the Biden/Harris campaign plus the "Big 4" Senate races in Colorado, Arizona, Maine, and North Carolina. Stay posted for more information.

As Bernie Sanders said, "This is not just an election between Donald Trump and Joe Biden. This is an election between Donald Trump and democracy — and democracy must win." Now is the time to take action for democracy. Come join us in person or on any of our many virtual events, where we are always happy to see you! Especially now. Now is the time!



## From Broadway Democrats Go Blue 2020

Mary Peppito & Meika A. Mustrangi

**1.3 million have already voted, that's a 12,900% increase from this time in 2016**

Nearly 1.3 million people have *already voted* in the 2020 election, whether through in-person early voting or by returning a ballot by mail. The totals are [based only on 15 states](#) that have reported early voting, including battleground states Florida, North Carolina, Ohio and Wisconsin.

The time to act is NOW! If you haven't yet given phone banking a try, we hope you will consider it and do what you can to make time and do what you can to help preserve democracy. We'll do a quick presentation about Go Blue's activities and show you a phone banking demonstration that will demonstrate it is actually much easier than people think. (No actual phone banking will be required!) Recently, so many volunteers are joining us who have never phone banked before. Even if you have no plans of phone banking for this election, join us and learn what we've been up to!

Because of COVID-19 Democrats for the most part are not canvassing in person door-to-door. So phone banking is **the Best** way to reach voters right now. Voter contact by phone is the next best effective action if not going door to door. We are focusing on what's most important to **Win Big** both up-and-down the ballot in November. Our partners at **Swing Left** are all about data and have identified the most important and competitive races across the country to win not just the White House, but also the majority in the Senate and in both chambers of many State Legislatures to combat gerrymandering and notorious democratic voter dilution and suppression. In the right hands, the State Legislatures will play a unique role in ensuring that legal and fair redistricting happens next year after the 2020 Census. They are also where progressive legislation that improves the lives of working families can be passed at the state level.

Additionally, we've been writing letters with **Vote Forward** asking infrequent voters in Swing States to please vote this Nov. and postcards with **Reclaim Our Vote** giving specific voting information to voters of color in voter-suppression states. Pretty soon we'll be transitioning into mostly phone banking. We are looking, however, into text banking opportunities and some in-person canvassing in PA. We hope we'll impress you with the final numbers of postcards and letters that our volunteers have written!

We also partner with the **Reclaim Our Vote** (ROV) campaign, led by people of color, for people of color. Its mission is to combat voter suppression, which particularly targets voters of color. Reclaim Our Vote helps voters of color re-register when they are purged from voters' lists and helps GOTV (get out the vote) by providing the most up-to-date information on the often convoluted rules of Vote-by-Mail and Early-Voting in each state. In 2020 Reclaim Our Vote has already mailed more than 7 Million postcards and made more than 700,000 phone calls, thanks to its dedicated team of volunteers spread across the country. Write postcards and phone book with us in partnership with ROV to help ensure that voters of color check that they have not been purged from the voter rolls and know the latest poll sites.

This election is like no other. As we all know it is the election of our lifetime. Join us on October 8th while we still have time to act!



## From Broadway Democrats Go Blue 2020

Mary Peppito & Meika A. Mustrangi

### The ELECTION is NOW

#### This is how we help save DEMOCRACY

What we do *now* will determine how we will feel after the results of the election are in.

Join us for a presentation about how you can contribute to saving democracy by volunteering from home! We will show you what are plans are and how easy it is partisan and non-partisan work for this election, have Q&A session, and a phone bank demonstration. We will show how easy it actually is.

Let's all honor RBG who so profoundly answered that what she wanted to be remembered for was:

"Someone who used whatever talent she had to do her work to the very best of her ability—and to help repair tears in her society, to make things a little better through the use of whatever ability she has."

The Notorious RBG



**See the next page for  
Information on Early Voting.**

### THE BROADWAY DEMOCRATS GROW!

*Pass this newsletter on to a friend or a new neighbor.*

DUES: SENIORS \$10/yr, ALL OTHERS \$25/yr

SEND TO: **BROADWAY DEMOCRATS** P.O.  
BOX 1099 CATHEDRAL STATION NEW YORK,  
NEW YORK 10025

*or join online at*

*<http://www.broadwaydemocrats.org/sign-up-to-join-the-club.html>*

Stay in touch and find out more at

[www.broadwaydemocrats.org](http://www.broadwaydemocrats.org)

*or*

[facebook.com/groups/BroadwayDemocrats/](https://facebook.com/groups/BroadwayDemocrats/)

# EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

*We Highly Recommend* that you Voter Early if you possibly can. It's easy, it's safe, and most importantly, *your vote will be counted* on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, not weeks later!

## EARLY VOTING DATES AND TIMES

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24 – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1**

**Saturdays and Sundays 10 AM – 4 PM**

**Monday and Friday 7 AM – 3 PM**

**Tuesday and Wednesday 12 PM – 8 PM**

**Thursday 10 AM – 6 PM**

## EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS

**In our area on the West Side, 116<sup>th</sup> Street is the dividing line.**

**Below 116<sup>th</sup> Street, down to approximately West 73<sup>rd</sup> St.,  
Early Vote at West Side High, 140 West 102 St. (enter on 101<sup>st</sup>)**

**Above 116<sup>th</sup> Street, up to approximately West 143<sup>rd</sup> St.,  
Early Vote at The Forum, 601 West 125 St. (NW corner of Bway.)**

**For other locations, and to confirm your location if you live near the border of the West Side High or Forum locations, go to [findmypollsite.vote.nyc](https://findmypollsite.vote.nyc). For general voting information, go to [DistrictLeaders@BroadwayDemocrats.org](mailto:DistrictLeaders@BroadwayDemocrats.org)**

Way Democrats, P.O. Box 1099, Cathedral Station, New York, NY 10025

(pronouns optional)

previous nine monthly public meetings and you must pay your dues. Dues partially defray  
ing forums and putting out this newsletter. Dues are \$25; senior dues are \$10.  
roadway Democrats, please fill out the form below and mail with your check (made out to  
ts") to the address at the bottom. Welcome!

FIRST  
CLASS

## The Broadway Democrats Newsletter – October 2020

P.O. Box 1099  
Cathedral Station  
New York, NY 10025

Assemblymember: Daniel O'Donnell  
District Leaders:  
Curtis Arluck,  
Paula Diamond Román  
President: Amy Porter  
Newsletter Editors: Pat Almonrode, Gretchen Borges

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

### October Forum Via Zoom

Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup> Start: 7:00 p.m.

**NOTE:** Access details will be sent out and instruction on using Zoom will be available.