

MARCH 2024 VOTER GUIDE

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

EARLY VOTING: MARCH 9–16, 2024
ELECTION DAY: MARCH 23, 2024



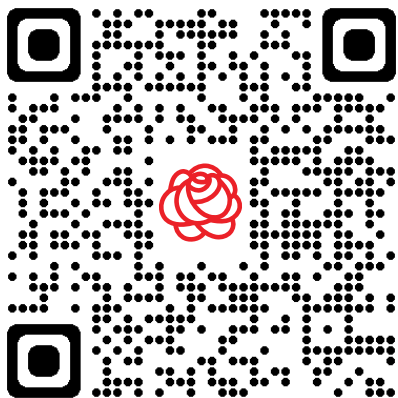
**A PROJECT OF THE NEW ORLEANS DSA
MUNICIPAL ACTION COMMITTEE**



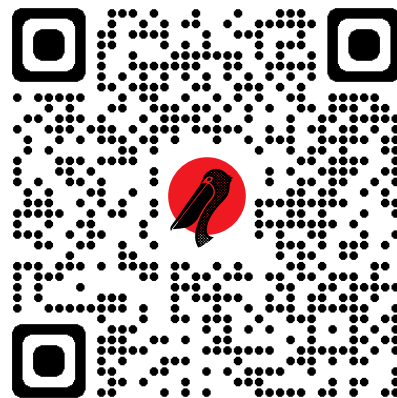


Society should be organized for the benefit of the multiracial working class, not for the profit of the ownership class. The Democratic Socialists of America (DSA) is the largest socialist organization in the United States. View our national platform to explore our vision and values. Join us in building a future for the people and not profit.

Our chapter democratically debates and votes on any endorsements and recommendations that members propose. We explain the difference between endorsements and recommendations in the appendix at the end of this guide.



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DSA'S NATIONAL PLATFORM**



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ENDORSEMENTS & RECOMMENDATIONS



This election features several DSA members on ballots across Louisiana. **Our chapter endorses six New Orleans DSA members for DSCC and recommends fourteen socialists for DPECs and other DSCC races outside the New Orleans metro area:**

 **New Orleans DSA endorses DSA members for DSCC** 

Miranda Burbridge (90A)
Laurie Herbert Constantinou (23A)
Britain Forsyth (91B)
Page Gleason (99A)
Lauren Jewett (78A)
Jack "Big Okra" R. Sweeney (23B)

 **New Orleans DSA recommends DSA members for DPEC** 

Charlie Bini (OPDEC C)
Huey Fischer Garcia (OPDEC C)
Lauren Jewett (JPDEC At Large)
Michele Johnson (OPDEC B)
Thomas Lee Stoner (OPDEC A)
Jack "Big Okra" R. Sweeney (OPDEC B)

 **New Orleans DSA recommends DSA members for DSCC** 

Ealom "Tucker" Allen (Shreveport DSA, 14B)
Benjamin Eunice (LA Tech YDSA, 12B)
James Jeane (Shreveport DSA, 5B)
Davante Lewis (Baton Rouge DSA, 67B)
Kai Macias (Shreveport DSA, 11A)
Courtney Price (Baton Rouge DSA, 66A)
Jackson Voss (SWLA DSA, 31B)
Bobby Woodruff (LA Tech YDSA, 11B)

Additionally, our chapter recommends the candidates below based on survey responses, public platforms, and voting records:

Recommended “for”	Recommended “against”
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Anne Allen (DSCC 102A) ★ Kenn Barnes (OPDEC D) ★ Sarah Cook (STPDEC At-Large) ★ Devin C. Davis (DSCC 93B and OPDEC C) ★ Michelle Erenberg (OPDEC A) ★ Norris Henderson (DSCC 99B and OPDEC E) ★ Darlene Jones (OPDEC C) ★ Mel Manuel (STPDEC At-Large) ★ Gregory Manning (OPDEC B) ★ Ivy Mathis (DSCC 66A) ★ Emily Faye Ratner (DSCC 98A and OPDEC A) ★ Mauricio Sierra (DSCC 98B and OPDEC A) ★ Edith McDonald White (OPDEC B) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ethan Ashley (OPDEC D) ● Diana E. Bajoie (DSCC 91A and OPDEC B) ● Delisha Boyd (DSCC 102A and OPDEC C) ● Kristine Breithaupt (OPDEC B) ● Lisa Manning Bridges (DSCC 100A and OPDEC E) ● Gary Carter Jr (DSCC 102B and OPDEC C) ● Lindsey Cheek (OPDEC A) ● Reginald Davillier (OPDEC C) ● Lisa R. Diggs (OPDEC C) ● Adonis C. Expose’ (DSCC 99B and OPDEC D) ● Caroline Fayard (DSCC 98A and OPDEC A) ● Aimee Adatto Freeman (OPDEC A) ● Eugene Green (DSCC 97B, OPDEC D) ● Marc Guillory (OPDEC D) ● Lesli Harris (OPDEC B) ● Diedre Piece Kelly (OPDEC D) ● Freddie King III (OPDEC C) ● Glenn David Millet (DSCC 89B) ● Madison O’Malley (OPDEC B) ● Olin Parker (OPDEC A) ● Robert Pearson (OPDEC C) ● Richard Perque (OPDEC B) ● John Perry (DSCC 76B) ● Edward Robinson (OPDEC C) ● Susan Satter (STPDEC At-Large) ● Tammy Savoie (DSCC 94A) ● Sandra Green Thomas (DSCC 97A, OPDEC D) ● Christopher Williams (OPDEC C)

INTRODUCTION

The poor and working people of Louisiana are under attack. Since taking office, Governor Landry and the Republican supermajorities in the Legislature have enacted a reactionary criminal punishment regime. These regressive measures will send more people to prison, keep them there longer, fail to prevent new crime, provide no justice for victims, and take millions of dollars from the people to funnel it into the hands of sheriffs, district attorneys, and the private contractors in the prison industrial complex.

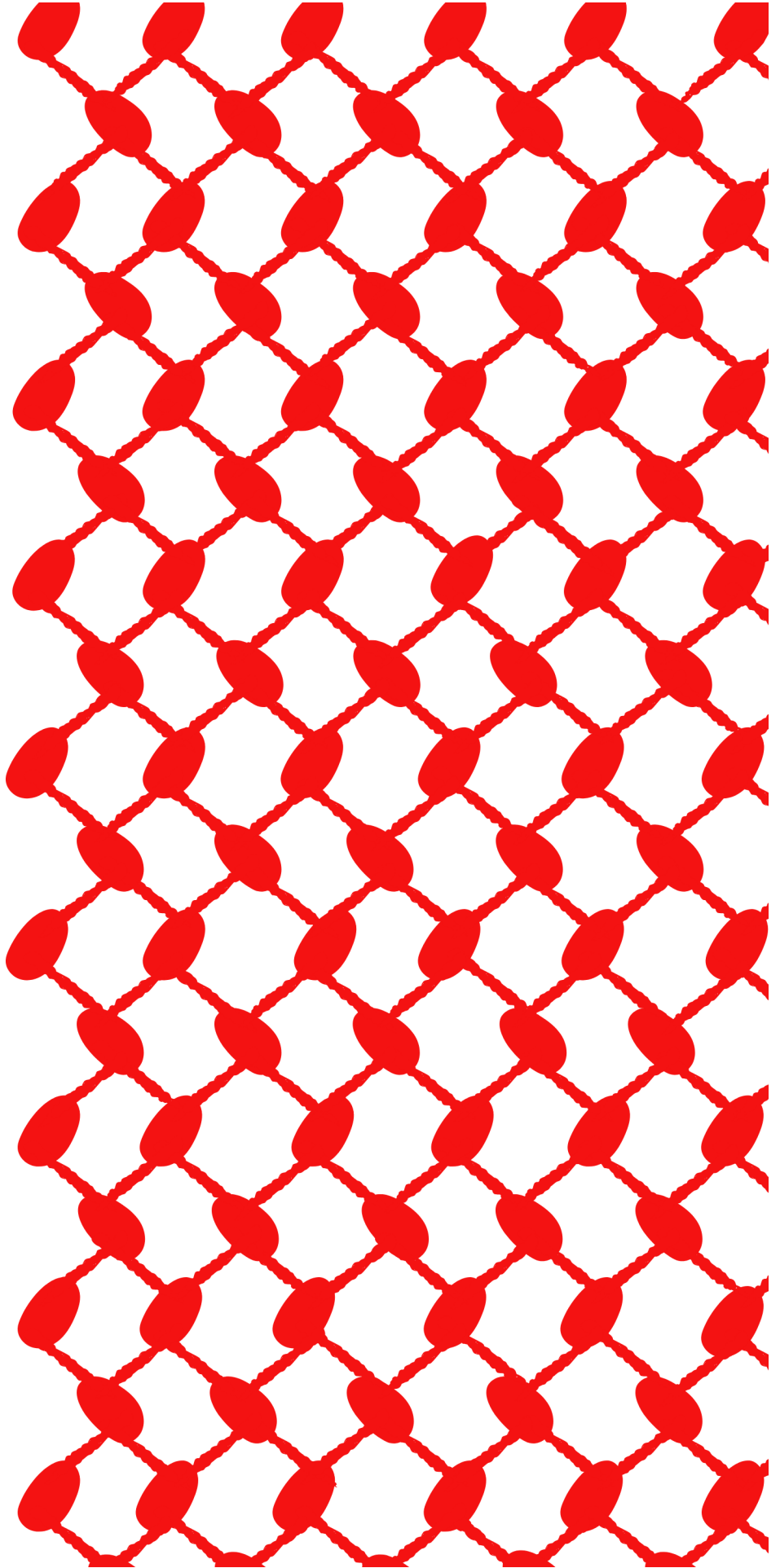
The Legislature's 2024 Regular Session will bring more attacks on working families, people of color, women, immigrants, LGBTQ+ folk, and other marginalized Louisianans. Legislators will continue to underfund public schools and hospitals while overfunding police departments. They will slash social services while expanding tax cuts for corporations and the wealthy. They will turn a blind eye to companies that are destroying Louisiana's precious coastline, polluting its water and air, and compromising the health of its people. Economic violence, police violence, and environmental violence accelerate our descent into fascism. "Socialism or barbarism" is the choice, and the ownership class repeatedly chooses socialism for themselves and rugged individualism for the rest of us.

Meanwhile, the Louisiana Democratic Party has neglected its role as the major party alternative to the Louisiana GOP. It has failed to champion a progressive platform. It has failed to hire staff capable of statewide organizing. It has failed to recruit and support progressive candidates across the state. It has spiraled into a free fall of apathy and corrupt leadership culminating in last year's election cycle where a majority of the legislature and every statewide office was ceded to Republicans by default. Beyond mere negligence, party leaders veered into outright hostility last year burning time and resources in an attempt to sabotage progressive incumbent Rep. Mandie Landry by recruiting a conservative-backed candidate in the House District 91 primary.

Dark times are nothing new to Louisiana. Though rich in natural and cultural bounty, our people have been subjected to the most brutal forms of social, economic, and environmental exploitation in American history. But our state also boasts a proud history of working class resistance to oppression and this moment is no different. Everyday Louisianans are smart, capable, and willing to step up to take our state back. Electoralism is only one arena of struggle among many to bring an end to exploitative capitalism in our lifetime. Through unionization campaigns, protests and direct action, direct community services, legislative initiatives, educational outreach, and a variety of other tactics, working Louisianans are already working towards an economy and society that meets everyone's needs instead of serving up profits for a privileged few.

Across New Orleans and Louisiana, the working class is engaged in class struggle. Member-driven organizations like DSA, Step Up, VOTE, Real Name Campaign, and other key groups continue to mobilize and coordinate efforts to reset Louisiana's political calculus. Labor organizing has been at an increasing pace, with independent unionizing efforts taking place in the last year with workers at Starbucks, French Press, Blue Bikes, Louisiana Fair Housing Action Center, musicians with Fair Trade Music, and teachers at Lycée Français. Tenant organizing has grown over the last year across the metro area with Jane's Place and Renter's Rights Assembly. If you're looking for a place to start confronting the political ills of America, there is no better place to begin than in Louisiana. If you are waiting for the right moment, there has never been a more critical time than now.

From our research and candidate survey, we will highlight those who agree with our vision and those who would imperil the future we want in New Orleans and across Louisiana.



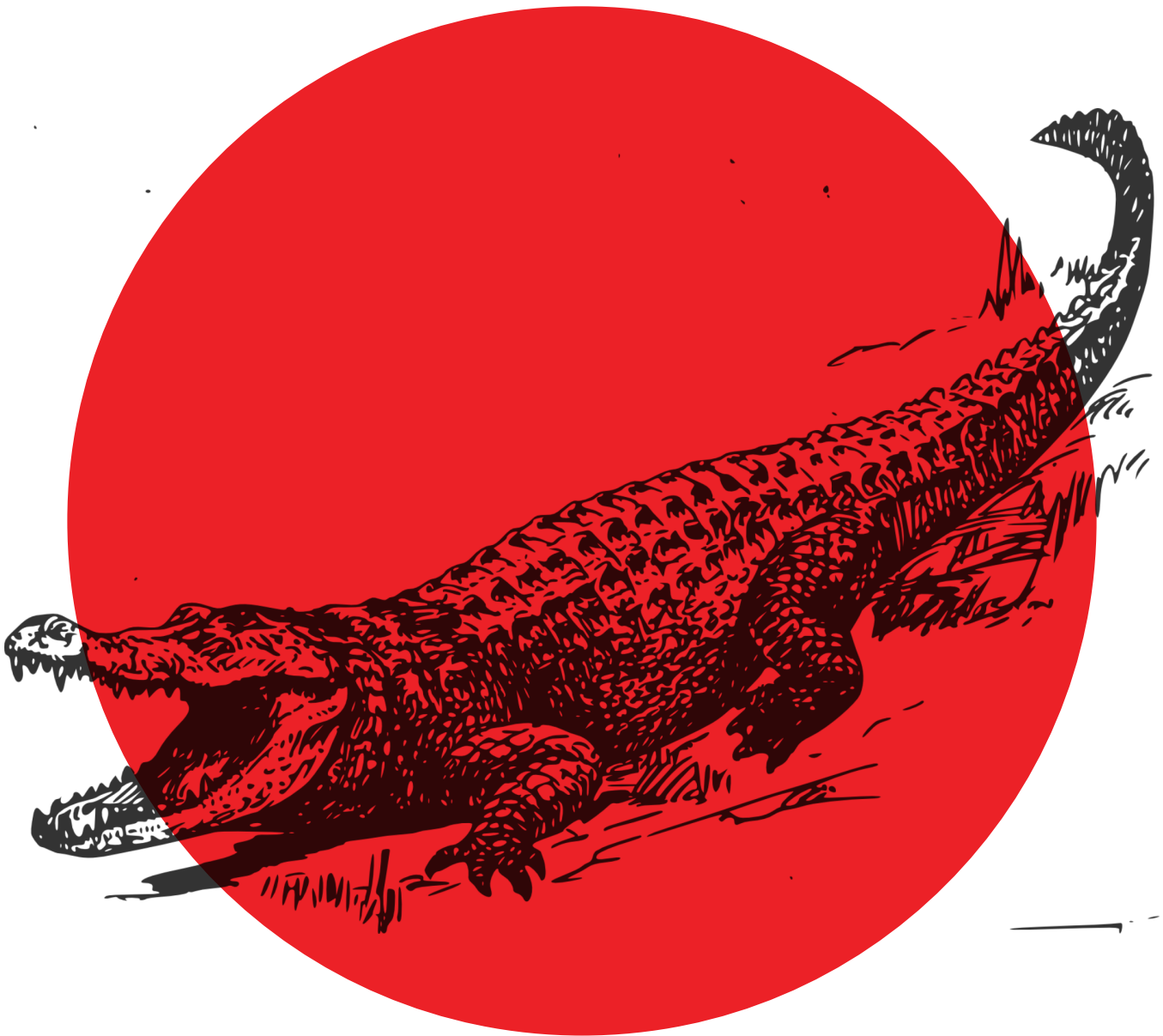
PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

Barring a major crisis or decline in health, we will face the same choice between Biden and Trump this fall. On the Republican side, the attempts at opposing Trump have repeated what happened in 2016 and 2020, when boisterous opposition became obedient support—as of this publication all major competitors have suspended their campaigns.

Swing states like Michigan, Colorado, and Washington have an “Uncommitted” option for the Presidential primary, with campaigns in those states aimed to pressure the Biden administration to stop funding and arming the genocide in Gaza. **DSA encourages voters who want to end this genocide to vote “Uncommitted”.**

In Louisiana, “Uncommitted” (or write-in) is not available, but since our state’s primary election has little impact on the Presidential nominees for the two major parties, quit stressing over which flavor of genocide you prefer and call and text other states to talk to voters there.

Democrats	Republicans
Joseph R. Biden Jr.	Ryan L. Binkley ^
"Bob" Ely	"Chris" Christie ^
"Frankie" Lozada	"Ron" DeSantis ^
Stephen P. Lyons	Nikki Haley ^
Armando "Mando" Perez-Serrato	Asa Hutchinson ^
Dean Phillips^	Vivek Ramaswamy ^
Cenk Uygur ^	David Stuckenberg
Marianne Williamson^^	Rachel Hannah "MoHawk" Swift
	Donald J. Trump
^^ - dropped out then restarted	^ - dropped out



LOUISIANA DEMOCRATIC PARTY

The Louisiana Democratic Party includes the state Executive Committee and its Chair, the state Central Committee (DSCC), and Parish Executive Committees (DPECs). The Executive Committee and its Chair are responsible for building the party and recruiting & developing candidates. We've discussed in our previous voter guide how the party has disintegrated under current Chair Katie Bernhardt & the Executive Committee, prompting potential challenges by Caroline Fayard, Randall Gaines, and Davante Lewis for party leadership. The 210 statewide DSCC members elect the party chair & the Executive Committee, and endorse statewide and multi parish candidates. DPECs within each parish handle local endorsements, voter registration and turnout, and building the party within the parish. An audit revealed that 70% of DPECs across Louisiana are inactive, and 16% of DPECs currently have no members.

The elections for DSCC and DPEC will only be available for voters registered as "Democrats" prior to March 2nd.

We can't hitch ourselves to a capitalist party and expect it to become a workers party. However, the reactionary party Chair & Executive Committee, their inability to challenge right wing candidates, and their continuing slide to the right on abortion, criminal justice, LGBTQ+ rights, immigration, education, and the environment demonstrate that the Louisiana Democratic Party is an area of political struggle. Our members have democratically chosen by a wide margin to engage in that struggle.

Working in coordination with a multiracial collection of advocates and working class Louisianians, **individual DSA candidates across the state joined a hundred other politically diverse candidates as part of the "Blue Reboot" effort**, explicitly calling for changing party leadership and "reforming, rebuilding, and rebooting the Louisiana Democratic Party" to become "a functional party that can elect more leaders who will stand up for the values of the majority of everyday Louisianians."

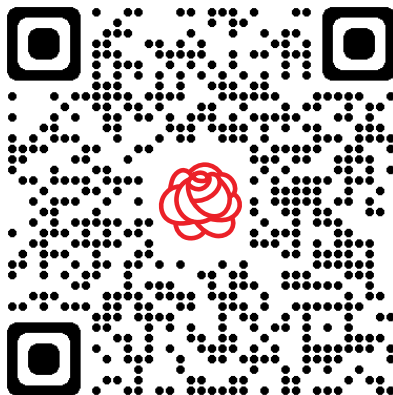
Our chapter's endorsed and recommended candidates have been consistent with their progressive messaging on a number of issues beyond just the party chair and their plans for changing the state party, including:

- **Protecting, Restoring & Expanding Civil Rights:** Reproductive, LGBTQ+, and voting rights must be restored and protected in Louisiana universally, not conditionally. We believe in universal pre-K and paid parental leave as rights. We believe racist laws and institutions must be abolished.
- **A Fair Economy for All:** Union organizing needs protections, a minimum wage increase must happen, and we must move away from fossil fuels. We support universal health care.
- **Criminal Justice:** Prisons need to be abolished, the death penalty needs to die, and children should be protected from the legal system. We want to defund police in favor of education and health care, and reject surveillance technologies such as facial recognition and drones. We do not support state police in New Orleans, we do not support police "unions", and we do not support the criminalization of sex work.
- **Elections:** There needs to be more organizing for voter turnout at the local and statewide level, election day should be a holiday, and mail-in voting should be made more accessible. The state party should focus their efforts on uncontested races of Republican incumbents and vacancies instead of Democrat vs Democrat races.

We recommend candidates “for” based on our candidate survey (scan QR code below to view responses), the circumstance of their seat, and their public platforms, as well as their intentions to change the party’s leadership, support a bold progressive agenda, reject the corporate/conservative wing of the state party, and build a state party that will recruit diverse candidates to enact this agenda.

We recommend multiple candidates who are members & organizers with the formerly incarcerated advocacy group Voices of the Experienced (VOTE).




Meanwhile, we recommend “against” candidates who continue to support Katie Bernhardt as chair in spite of the party’s rightward shift under her leadership. In addition, we recommend “against” those with regressive survey responses or who have shown poor judgment in the past supporting bad faith candidates like Madison O’Malley. Lastly, we recommend “against” candidates who have a voting record inconsistent with our chapter’s stated values and principles (see our previous Voter Guides for more information).





**CLICK/SCAN HERE TO READ
CANDIDATE RESPONSES**

DSCC



ORLEANS PARISH

Key	* Endorsed	+ Recommend "for"	- Recommend "against"
(i) Incumbent	 DSA member	 VOTE member/organizer	 Blue Reboot candidate


23A (Mid City/Hollygrove)

* Laurie Herbert Constantinou ([survey](#))  
 Morgan Clevenger
 Monique N. Green



23B (Mid City/Hollygrove)

* Jack R. "Big Okra" Sweeney ([survey](#))  
 David Capasso
 Jacob Germain
 Shaun Mena




91A (Broadmoor/Irish Channel/LGD)

Michelle Anderson 
 - Diana E. Bajoie (i)


91B (Broadmoor/Irish Channel/LGD)

* Britain Forsyth ([survey](#))  
 Edward "Ed" Carlson
 Gregory Phillips (i)



93B (Treme/French Quarter/7th Ward)

+ Devin C. Davis ([survey](#))   
 Royce Duplessis (i)


94A (Lakeview/Metairie)




Kelly C. Lulich 
 - Tammy M. Savoie (i)

97A (Gentilly/Fairgrounds)

Nziki "Ziki" Wiltz  
 - Sandra Green Thomas (i)

97B (Gentilly/Fairgrounds)


"Kenn" Barnes ([survey](#)) 
 Arthur A. Morrell
 - Eugene J. Green

Key	* Endorsed	+ Recommend "for"	- Recommend "against"
(i) Incumbent	 DSA member	 VOTE member/organizer	 Blue Reboot candidate



98A (Uptown/Riverbend/Gert Town)

+ Emily Faye Ratner (survey) 
 Lindsey A. Cheek
 Pamela Steeg 
 - Caroline Fayard



98B (Uptown/Riverbend/Gert Town)

+ Mauricio Sierra (survey)
 Carlos Luis Zervigon (i) 

99A (Marigny/Bywater/Lower 9th/Plum Orchard)

* Page Gleason  
 Candace Newell


99B (Marigny/Bywater/Lower 9th/Plum Orchard)

+ Norris Henderson (survey)  
 - Adonis C. Expose' (i)


100A (New Orleans East)

Kelleigh Payne
 - Lisa Manning Bridges (i)

102A (Algiers/English Turn)

+ Anne Allen (survey) 
 - Delisha Boyd (i)

102B (Algiers/English Turn)




Donald Arbuthnot
 Stephen Mosgrove 
 - Gary Carter Jr.





NEW ORLEANS METRO

Key	* Endorsed	+ Recommend "for"	- Recommend "against"
(i) Incumbent	DSA member	VOTE member/organizer	Blue Reboot candidate

<p>76B (Slidell)</p> <p>Patrick Miller</p> <p>- John Perry (survey)</p>	<p>77B (Covington/Madisonville)</p> <p>Peter Lewis</p> <p>Jeremy "JF" Thompson (survey) </p>
<p>80B (Metairie)</p> <p>"Matt" Bailey </p> <p>Glenn McGovern (i)</p>	<p>83A (Marrero)</p> <p>Shonett Mansion</p> <p>Pamela Watson</p>
<p>83B (Marrero)</p> <p>Simeon Dickerson</p> <p>Kyle Green Jr (i)</p> <p>Keithen Jones</p>	<p>84A (Marrero/Harvey)</p> <p>Verita Beckles Mitchell</p> <p>Leslie Haynes Smith (i)</p>
<p>84B (Marrero/Harvey)</p> <p>Michael Flowers (i) </p> <p>Byron Lee</p> <p>Jon Mitchell</p>	<p>85A (Gretna/Terrytown)</p> <p>Cynthia Centrell Alfred Ewell (i)</p> <p>Andrea Manuel</p>

Key	* Endorsed	+ Recommend "for"	- Recommend "against"
(i) Incumbent	 DSA member	 VOTE member/organizer	 Blue Reboot candidate


85B (Gretna/Terrytown)

Calvin Black (survey)  
Rudy Smith


87A (Marrero/Harvey)

Raven Lyons (i)
Lisa McGill



87B (Marrero/Harvey)

Kiana Calloway 
Rodney Lyons Sr
Derrick Shepherd (i)

89B (Mandeville)

B.J. Fontaine
- Glenn David Millet (i) 


90A (Slidell)

* **Miranda Burbridge** (survey)  
Gian Durand
Gayle Green (i)

92A (Kenner)

"Dee" Dunn
Emily Sharpe




92B (Kenner)















Keith Hutchinson (i) 
Darrel Price



DSCC

OUTSIDE NEW ORLEANS METRO

Key	* Endorsed	+ Recommend "for"	- Recommend "against"
(i) Incumbent	 DSA member	 VOTE member/organizer	 Blue Reboot candidate

<p>5B (Bossier City)</p> <p>+ James Caleb Jeane </p> <p>Johnny Cox</p>	<p>11A (Ruston)</p> <p>+ Kai Macias  </p> <p>Danielle Williams</p>
<p>11B (Ruston)</p> <p>+ Bobby Woodruff </p> <p>Richard Anderson </p> <p>Frederick Young (survey) (i)</p>	<p>12B (Ruston)</p> <p>+ Benjamin Eunice </p> <p>Conrad Cable </p> <p>Reggie Skains</p>
<p>14B (Monroe)</p> <p>+ Ealom "Tucker" Allen  </p> <p>Robert Noel II (i)</p>	<p>66A (Baton Rouge)</p> <p>+ Courtney Price  </p> <p>+ Ivy Mathis (survey) </p> <p>"Lyn" Legier</p>
<p>67B (Baton Rouge)</p> <p>+ Davante Lewis  </p> <p>Preson Castille</p>	

DEMOCRATIC PARISH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES

Democratic Parish Executive Committees (DPEC) are the party apparatus for each parish. **DPECs vote on endorsements for local elections that don't cross parish lines.** It is up to each parish how they want to be structured, with many opting for a combination of at-large and individual districts. In the Metro area, Jefferson and St. Tammany DPECs' districts are all unopposed or didn't qualify enough candidates for an election, leaving just the at-large seats on the ballot.

For New Orleans, OPDEC is composed of 70 members split into five districts for each City Council district. They have a mixed record on their endorsements, and have rarely supported grassroots progressive candidates, typically favoring those with connections to the local and statewide political establishments. This cycle, there are six DSA members running that we have recommended "for", along with eight other candidates that have demonstrated through their candidate survey or record that they will support a bold progressive agenda that will enact our vision for the city.

Each City Council district has 14 seats that elect their own district chair to serve on the executive committee. All OPDEC members will elect a parish chair & executive committee to operate as the Democratic Party within New Orleans, the predominant party amongst all elected offices within the city. As such, the executive committee and chair are responsible for "assisting in the election of local and statewide Democratic candidates" according to OPDEC bylaws. OPDEC forbids members from using their office in opposition to the party's choice.

Many of the names you'll see are frequently on other ballots. There are current and former City Council members, School Board members, State legislators, and other former candidates. There are also people that are running for party seats who have worked to elect some of these people and others. Many of the candidates are currently seated on OPDEC. As such, our previous Voter Guides can offer specific insight on recommendations made "for" or "against" these candidates in addition to the responses to our candidate survey. **Our local chapter and national organization have specific commitments to political positions where our members have declared we, as a chapter, will not recommend or endorse candidates who have voted or publicly advocated on positions antithetical to our principled socialism.** Visit the national DSA political platform and the appendix for specific policies.

*DPEC seats are elected based on the top vote getters and will not have a runoff. You can vote for as few candidates that you'd like. **You are not required to vote for 14 seats for OPDEC, and many view it to be more strategic to only vote for the candidates you prefer.***

ORLEANS PARISH DPEC

Fourteen to be elected in each district - no runoffs

Key	(i) Incumbent	DSA member	VOTE member/organizer	Blue Reboot candidate
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	Recommended "For"	Recommended "Against"	Other Candidates Running	
A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Michelle Erenberg (survey) ★ Emily Faye Ratner (survey) ★ Mauricio Sierra (survey) ★ Thomas Lee Stoner (survey) 	<p>Lindsey A. Cheek Caroline Fayard (i) Aimee Adatto Freeman (i) Olin Parker</p>	<p>Jeffrey "Jeff B" Bromberger Monique N. Green Jack Leland Largess Irma Muse Dixon (i) Mary Anne Mushatt (i)</p>	<p>Beverly Richard Elizabeth Sangisetty (i) Taslim "Taz" Vanhattum Mark Vicknair Carlos Luis Zervigon (i) </p>
B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Michele Johnson (survey) ★ Gregory Manning ★ Jack R. "Big Okra" Sweeney (survey) ★ Edith McDonald White (survey) 	<p>Diana E. Bajoie (i) Kristine Breithaupt (survey) Lesli D. Harris Madison O'Malley Richard Perque (survey)</p>	<p>Michelle Anderson Charmaine Baker-Fox Artelia Bennett Banks (i) Jonetta Faye Bennett Justin Larry Boone Avis Brock Ronald Coleman (i) Danae Columbus (i) Alexandra "Allie" Conlay Christopher "CJ" Edgerson</p>	<p>Tyra T. Forrest Renee Gill Pratt (i) Lamont Hayes Seth Heavey Isidore Marshall Jr. Gregory Phillips Andrew "Drew" Prestridge Ronald Sholes Jr. Jonathan B. Stewart (i)</p>
C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Charles Bini (survey) ★ Devin C. Davis (survey) ★ Huey Fischer Garcia ★ Darlene Joseph Jones (survey) 	<p>Delisha Boyd (i) Gary Carter Jr. Reginald Davillier (survey) Lisa R. Diggs (i) Freddie King III (i) Robert Pearson (survey) Edward "Ed" Robinson (survey) (i) Christopher Williams (survey)</p>	<p>Jihad Allen (i) Donald Arbuthnot Danny Blanks Carla Bringier-Mason Joseph Broussard (i) Arlene Lombard Compass Delwin Davis Sr. Marlon Defillo (i) Rhonda Findley</p>	<p>David Flemings Vonda Gaitor Sandra Henderson-Wilson (i) Merlin Marie Jackson Rongel Johnson Joseph Lodwick Edwin Lombard Edwin Shorty Jr. (i) Carlos James Williams (i)</p>
D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ "Kenn" Barnes (survey) 	<p>Ethan Ashley (i) Adonis C. Expose' (i) Eugene J. Green (i) Sandra Green Thomas (i) Marc Guillory (survey) Diedre Pierce Kelly (i)</p>	<p>Gwendolyn Allen Charles Amos (survey) </p> <p>Belden Batiste Kristi Boissiere- August Joseph Bouie III Leslie Bouie (i) (survey) Cynthia H. Cade (i) Morgan Clevenger Annette Cranford (survey) </p> <p>G'ah Douglas Eugene Green III SarahJane Guidry Aubrey Harris (survey) </p>	<p>Cherie Teamer Henley Mithun Kamath Durrell L. Laurent Arthur A. Morrell (i) Chanel M. Payne Jiarra Rayford Lionel Scott Jessica S. Strange Mia Thomas Dominic Willard Jr. (i) Matthew Willard (i) Kelley Williams (survey) </p> <p>Angele Wilson (i)</p>
E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Norris Henderson (survey) 	<p>Lisa Manning Bridges (i)</p>	<p>Alicia Plummer Clivens (i) Michon Copelin Lena Craig-Stewart Kisha "Kiki" Edwards Mary Lodge Evans David Hudson Sr. Anthony Jackson Jr. (i) Eric Jones (i)</p>	<p>Willie Jones (i) Commelita McKee Daren D Pernell Kenya Rounds (i) Jerrela Sanders Patrice Sentino Candice Taylor Dennis "Hott Rodd" Warren II</p>

JEFFERSON PARISH DPEC

Ten to be elected - no run-offs

+ Lauren Jewett ([survey](#)) 🌹 🌊

Calvin Black ([survey](#)) 🗣️ 🌊

Kodi Craft

Michael Davis

Raymond Delaney Jr

Michael Flowers 🌊

Rodney Lyons

Jon Mitchell

Rasheed Salahuddin

Syrta Steib

Brandon Trudeau

ST. TAMMANY PARISH DPEC

Five to be elected - no runoffs

+ Sarah Aleda Cook ([survey](#))

+ Mel Manuel 🌊

Jennifer Bondio

Larry de Quay

Patrick Miller

Erin Riecke Rowan

- Susan S. Satter ([survey](#))

APPENDIX

Recommendations vs. Endorsements

As defined by our general membership at the June 2023 Local Convention, an endorsement represents a direct material investment from our membership for a candidate, including volunteers and securing the support of the national DSA when applicable. Our endorsement requires the candidate to be a member of our chapter, and the process is initiated with a resolution signed on by at least 1% of our membership in good standing at a general membership meeting immediately following qualifying or at a special meeting. The candidate will attend a Q&A interview curated by members, and requires a majority vote from at least 25% of our membership after chapter-wide debate. Our chapter has previously endorsed Mandie Landry and Lauren Jewett under this endorsement process.

In contrast, a recommendation can be initiated by any member by presenting a recommendation resolution at one of our monthly general meetings. These recommendations require the consent of a majority of members in a quorate meeting with at least 10% of membership in good standing. Recommendations will be made explicit in voter guides, but do not devote member time and resources to a given campaign as a chapter priority like endorsements do. A lack of recommendation in a given race should not be interpreted as condemnation or praise of any particular candidate(s), but that there is, if anything, no majority opinion on that candidate among chapter membership. The recommendation process has been employed multiple times since it was established by membership in February 2021.

We hope to connect issues in the races to larger discussions in our city and world, and give a better understanding of the positions and processes of our city and electoral system. This guide is written and researched by members working with the Municipal Action Committee of the New Orleans DSA and is approved by elected chapter leadership.

Recommendations Rubric

To create a standardized method on determining recommendations, a rubric was created utilizing the candidate survey responses alongside previous voting records, public platforms, and other relevant research. This rubric is aligned along the political positions of DSA (both nationally and locally) to help inform our membership on whether we are in the position to recommend voting “for” a candidate, or whether their politics are adversarial enough to DSA to merit recommending to vote “against” a candidate.

Our local chapter and/or national organization reject the following political positions:

- Against Abortion access & legalization
- Against Boycott, Divest, Sanction
- Against Ceasefire in Gaza
- Supports the Cuba Trade Embargo
- Supports All-Charter school system
- Against Prison abolition
- Against Defunding police
- Supports more Louisiana State Police in New Orleans
- Supports Police Unions
- Owns a whole-home Short Term Rental
- Against STR ban
- Against union organizing
- Against universal health care
- Against Trans Youth Protections
- Against Death Penalty Abolition
- Against Sex Work Decriminalization
- Supports Surveillance Technologies
(Facial Recognition, Drones, Cameras)
- Has or will vote for Katie Bernhardt for LA Dems Party Chair

The recommendations “for” and “against” were passed unanimously at the December and February General Membership meetings prior to this voter guide’s release.