



# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF WISCONSIN EDUCATION FUND

122 State Street, #405  
Madison, WI 53703-2500

Phone: (608) 256-0827  
Fax: (608) 256-1761

<http://www.lwwwi.org>  
[lwwwisconsin@lwwwi.org](mailto:lwwwisconsin@lwwwi.org)

## NEWS RELEASE

**Contact:** Andrea Kaminski, Executive Director  
League of Women Voters of Wisconsin Education Fund, Inc.  
(608) 256-0827

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### LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS' SUMMIT TO EXAMINE ETHICS IN POLITICS

MADISON – Wisconsin citizens are invited to explore ways to restore our state's high standards for good government at a summit hosted by the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin Education Fund. Making Democracy Work: A Summit to Restore Clean and Responsive Government in Wisconsin takes place from 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. on Saturday, September 29, 2007 at the Milwaukee Area Technical College.

The Summit's agenda is driven by fallout from the biggest government ethics scandal in state history, which sent five former lawmakers to prison for illegally diverting staff to work on election campaigns at taxpayer expense.

"Wisconsin citizens have named ethics and accountability a top concern for state government and a majority of elected officials agree," said Andrea Kaminski, Executive Director for the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin. "Now we have to figure out how to reclaim our reputation for good government in our state."

The League will use information gathered at the Summit to help build a unified community for reform. The agenda for the one-day event combines presentations, panel discussions and group break-out sessions. Keynote speakers Deborah Goldberg from the Brennan Center for Justice and The Honorable Wanda Bryant of the North Carolina Court of Appeals will discuss voting rights and judicial independence. Panelists representing the University of Wisconsin, advocacy groups, and state and local government will lead sessions about campaign finance and ethics; women, money and politics; redistricting; and creating an informed electorate.

The Summit kicks off on Friday, September 28 at 6:30 p.m. with a performance of scenes from the TAPIT/new works Ensemble Theater's *Tear Up the Front Page*, which chronicles the story of a journalist who must choose between furthering his career or telling the truth. In developing the play, TAPIT/new works conducted statewide listening sessions about public concern with the media and politics. Quotes from the sessions drive the plot of the show.

Both the Making Democracy Work Summit and *Tear Up the Front Page* are open to the public. Tickets for the Friday night performance are \$10, or \$6 for full-time students. Summit registration is \$40 for League members, \$45 for non-members, and \$20 for full-time students. Purchase tickets and register online at [www.lwwwi.org](http://www.lwwwi.org). For more information contact the League via email at [lwwwisconsin@lwwwi.org](mailto:lwwwisconsin@lwwwi.org), or call (608) 256-0827.

The League of Women Voters of Wisconsin works to increase public understanding of major social issues and influences public policy through education and advocacy. A nonpartisan political organization, the League is a grassroots network, encouraging informed and active participation in government.

