

WAGING DEMOCRACY



Program as of: 10.4.18

Time	Event	Topic and Descriptions
8:00am	Registration	
8:00-9:00am	Continental Breakfast	
8:45-9:00am	Opening Remarks	<p>Why “Waging Democracy?”</p> <p>Why it is critical to understand what is happening with our democracy at this time in history.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Abby Porth, Executive Director, JCRC</i>• <i>Ian Bassin, Executive Director, Protect Democracy Project</i>• <i>Shirley McGuire, Senior Vice- Provost of Academic Affairs, University of San Francisco</i>
9:00-10:20am	Opening Plenary	<p>Our Democracy</p> <p>In this opening session we will discuss questions such as: What is the state of our democracy? What is happening to our norms and institutions? Who is/isn't our democracy working for and why? What areas are at risk at this time? These questions and more related to the rule of law and efforts to safeguard our democracy will be discussed.</p> <p>Moderator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Gloria Duffy, Executive Director, The Commonwealth Club</i> <p>Panelists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Ian Bassin, Executive Director, Protect Democracy Project</i>• <i>Wendy Weiser, Director, Democracy Program, Brennan Center for Justice</i>• <i>Mickey Edwards, Vice President and Program Director, The Aspen Institute</i>
10:20-10:30am	Break	
10:30-11:00am	Plenary	<p>Our Freedom: Voting Rights</p> <p>The right to vote is essential to a well-functioning democracy. Why and how is this right being restricted? What do these restrictions mean to our democracy? How do we ensure that historically disenfranchised people have access to the ballot box?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Alex Padilla, California Secretary of State</i>

11:00am-11:50pm Plenary

Our Freedom: The Media

In democratic societies, a free media plays a crucial role in informing the public and speaking truth to power. This session will discuss current threats to a free media and how the public can act to ensure a free media continues to thrive in the United States.

- *Marisa Lagos, Reporter, KQED in conversation with*
- *Audrey Cooper, Editor-in-Chief, San Francisco Chronicle*

11:50-1:10pm Lunch/Keynote

How to Save a Constitutional Democracy

- *Keynote Speaker: Professor Aziz Huq, Associate Professor, University of Chicago School of Law and author of "How to Save a Constitutional Democracy" (2018)*

1:10-2:00pm Plenary

Our Civil Society

78% of Americans think incivility and political dysfunction prevent our nation from moving forward. In this plenary we will address questions such as: How do we raise the discourse above partisanship and gain civility? How do we find common language about our shared American values? How do we talk about political differences in a civil manner?

Moderator

- *Abby Porth, Executive Director, JCRC*

Panelists

- *Kristen Cambell, Executive Director, Philanthropy for Civic Engagement*
- *Dr. Carolyn Lukensmeyer, Executive Director, National Institute for Civil Discourse*

2:00-2:10pm Break

2:10-3:35pm Workshops

Our Tools (Select from the following):

Organizing for Democracy

This workshop will explore how to build a grassroots bi-partisan effort to strengthen our democracy.

- *Zachariah Oquenda, Volunteer Trainer, Common Cause, and Law Student, UC Berkeley Law School*

You be the Judge

This workshop will explore how federal judges obtain their lifetime appointments and the issues impacted by their decisions, as well as identify the best ways to advocate for qualified, diverse, and independent judges. Participants will work through a real case study on freedom of religion.

- *Lindsay Morris, National Council of Jewish Women, Associate Director of Washington Operations*

Sponsored by the National Council of Jewish Women

Every Vote Counts!

In this hands-on workshop participants will be texting unregistered voters in counties with the lowest voter registration rates in California to give them important information on how to register to vote.

- *Kimberley D.C. Schroder, Partnership Manager, Resistance Labs*

3:35-3:45pm

Break

3:45-4:40pm

Closing Plenary

Our Politics

There are exciting efforts underway to rise above politics and come together across party lines to safeguard our democracy. In this closing session we will hear what these efforts look like and how they are bringing people together for a common purpose.

- *Mike Berkowitz, Principal, Third Plateau Social Impact Strategies*
- *Yascha Mounk, Lecturer on Government at Harvard University, a Senior Fellow in the Political Reform Program at New America, and Executive Director at the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change*

4:40-5:00pm

Closing Remarks

What's Next?

Waging Democracy Co-Chairs reflect on what was discussed over the course of the day and what comes next for those of us who want to be engaged in protecting our democracy for future generations.

Speakers

- *Kristin Olsen, Member, Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors*
- *Dan Schnur, Professor, University of Southern California and UC Berkeley*
- *Leslie Katz, Attorney, Greenberg Traurig*