

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 1, 2009 www.lwvc.org Contact: Elizabeth Leslie 916-442-7215 eleslie@lwvc.org

## Secretary of State Debra Bowen Honors League of Women Voters for Voter Education and Outreach

**Sacramento, CA** - The League of Women Voters of California was recently honored with the Medallion Award from the National Association of Secretaries of State. The award recognizes outstanding efforts in nonpartisan voter education and outreach for the 2008 election year.

California Secretary of State Debra Bowen presented the award on May 16 during the state League's biennial convention in Long Beach, California. "The League's longstanding leadership in strengthening democracy makes it deserving of this NASS Medallion honor," said Bowen, California's chief elections officer. "Thanks to the dedicated work of organizations like the LWVC, California saw record turnout in last year's presidential election!"

LWVC President Janis R. Hirohama said, "We are honored to receive this award. It is a tribute to our high quality, user-friendly voter education services, including SmartVoter.org and the *Easy Voter Guide*, and to the many League volunteers who make our work possible."

## About the NASS Medallion Award

The NASS Medallion Award allows individual secretaries of state to recognize outstanding service and dedication to furthering the mission of the National Association of Secretaries of State within the states.

## **Eligibility & Selection Guidelines**

## Eligibility:

The NASS Medallion Program honors individuals, groups, or organizations with an established record of promoting the goals of NASS in one or more of the following areas:

- Elections, with special emphasis on voter education and participation
- Civic education, including the teaching, promotion, and study of this subject
- Service to state government—specifically, as it relates to the duties of the office of the secretary of state.

For more information on NASS please visit <u>www.nass.org</u>.

The other organizations that received this award from California Secretary of State Debra Bowen are:

Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association (APAPA) California State Student Association (CSSA) University of California Student Association (USCA) California League of Conservation Voters (CLCV)

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Membership in the League is open to men and women of all ages. With more than 89 years of experience and 850 local and state affiliates, the League is one of America's most trusted grassroots organizations.

Interviews and high resolution photos available upon request.



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