



THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS
of New York State

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW YORK PUBLIC BROADCASTERS AND THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS ANNOUNCE PARTNERSHIP FOR FALL 2010 STATEWIDE CANDIDATE DEBATES

Partnership to Provide Fair and Non-Partisan Candidate Events for Many Statewide Races

Albany, NY, (Wednesday, June 9, 2010) – The Association of Public Broadcasting Stations of New York (APBS) and the League of Women Voters of New York State (LWVNYS) have agreed to work together to broadcast a series of debates between candidates running for statewide office during the 2010 election cycle.

Assuming there is candidate interest, the partnership expects to provide live, statewide broadcasts of candidate debates for the offices of Governor and U.S Senator, and is considering coverage for other statewide races, including Attorney General and State Comptroller. Primary coverage is also a possibility.

“Throughout its history, the LWVNYS has played a key role in not only facilitating communication between New Yorkers and their elected officials but also in creating public awareness of issues of importance to all state residents. The LWVNYS’s nonpartisan efforts to engage citizens in the democratic process have brought it profound credibility with the public, elected officials, candidates and with New York’s political parties,” said Robert Daino, Chairman of APBS. “An agreement between the LWVNYS and the APBS will bring to bear the strengths of each organization and result in meaningful debates that will give candidates the opportunity to fairly express their views and positions while offering members of the public a first hand source of information that will enable them to vote in an informed manner.”

“Over the years, public broadcasting has built a strong reputation for quality, in depth television and radio programs that have informed, enlightened, and challenged viewers of all ages,” said Betsey Swan, President of the LWVNYS. “The League is gratified and exhilarated to have been asked by such a widely respected media organization to join in this nonpartisan partnership. We are confident that together we can provide candidates with broad exposure and the public with comprehensive information for making their decisions this election season.”

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About APBS

The APBS is an association of nine public television stations, some of which are joint television and public radio broadcasters. Member stations include: WMHT (Albany), WSKG (Binghamton), WNED (Buffalo), WLIW (Long Island), WNET (New York City), WCFE (Plattsburgh), WXXI (Rochester), WCNV (Syracuse), and WPBS (Watertown).

About LWVNYS

The LWVNYS is a nonpartisan political organization that has worked for over ninety years to encourage informed and active participation in government, to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and to influence public policy through education and advocacy. The LWVNYS is a national organization with branches in each state and local Leagues in most counties.

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