



*Tenth Congressional District Democrats
Eighteenth Annual Awards Event*

GRASSROOTS IN ACTION!



**CONGRESSMAN HAKEEM JEFFRIES
KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

Tuesday, December 21, 2021

CONGRESSMAN HAKEEM JEFFRIES – KEYNOTE SPEAKER



***Congressman,
Representing New
York's 8th Congressional
District***

***Chair of the House
Democratic Caucus***

- As Chair of the House Democratic Caucus, 5th highest-ranking Democrat in the US House of Representatives
- House Impeachment Manager for the trial of Donald Trump after the January 6th attack on the US Capitol
- The first African American to serve as House Impeachment Manager
- "The future of our caucus" -Democratic Congresswoman Val Demings of Florida
- "The next face of the Democratic Party" -*The Atlantic* magazine
- Member of the House Judiciary and House Budget Committees
- Served as Whip of the Congressional Black Caucus
- Served as Co-Chair of the Democratic Policy and Communications Committee where he helped develop the "For the People" agenda
- "An experienced hand at bringing people together" -New Jersey Congresswoman Mikie Sherrill
- Served three terms in the New York State legislature
- Earned Master's degree in public policy from Georgetown University
- Earned Law degree from New York University School of Law
- Served as a law clerk for the influential Southern District of New York court
- Husband, and a father of two sons

TENTH DEMS TOGETHER

WE HAVE ENGAGED thousands of volunteers and interns, many of whom have gone on to become campaign managers, fundraisers, and other staff members in national, state, and local campaigns. Others have become Democratic candidates, elected officials and township and precinct leaders.



WE HAVE RAISED many millions of dollars to help our federal, state and local Democratic candidates.

WE HAVE REACHED our contact list of over 30,000, getting people involved in the political process with Democratic news and events.

WE HAVE ESTABLISHED Tenth Dems University. TDU educates voters, organizes forums, and helps candidates and workers gain vital campaign experience. TDU has attracted thousands of participants.

WE HAVE RECRUITED thousands of volunteers and channeled their energy into campaigns for national, state, and local candidates. Our volunteers have dialed hundreds of thousands of phone numbers, knocked on tens of thousands of doors, stuffed and labeled countless envelopes, distributed literature at train stations and at street fairs, and have marched in dozens of parades and more – all in support of Democratic candidates in our area.

WE HAVE WELCOMED several dozen speakers, including Barack Obama, and Senators Russ Feingold, Dick Durbin, and Amy Klobuchar, and Governor Howard Dean, Judge/Congressman/Presidential Advisor Abner Mikva, former Senator and Democratic Presidential Nominee George McGovern, MSNBC Contributor, Jill Wine-Banks, CNN Contributor Renato Mariotti, and First Lady Michelle Obama to our district to help us energize voters and raise funds.

WE ARE A VITAL FORCE in building, informing, and sustaining a strong Democratic Party and progressive infrastructure across the district.

WE ACTIVATE VOTERS by educating them on the issues, rallying them to action, giving them a voice, and presenting them with opportunities to make a difference. In short... we help them get involved in working for their beliefs.

WE PROTECT DEMOCRACY by deploying more than 125 lawyers to polling places to ensure that everyone *entitled* to vote is *allowed* to vote.

PAST HONEREEES

■ KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

2004: U.S. Senate Candidate Barack Obama (D-IL)
2005: U.S. Senator Russ Feingold (D-WI)
2006: U.S. Senator Evan Bayh (D-IN)
2007: U.S. Senator George McGovern (D-SD), 1972 Dem. Presidential Nominee
2008: Former U.S. Congressman, White House Counsel,
and Judge Hon. Abner Mikva
2009: Former DNC Chair, Governor Howard Dean (D-VT)
2010: U.S. Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL)
2011: U.S. Senator Mark Begich (D-AK)
Spring Candidate Appreciation Celebration
2011: U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)
2012: Karen Finney, MSNBC Contributor and former DNC spokesperson
2013: U.S. Congresswoman Gwen Moore (D-WI)
Spring Candidate Appreciation Celebration
2013: Jon Carson, 2008 Obama National Field Director
2014: U.S. Congresswoman Tammy Duckworth (D-IL)
2015: David Yepsen, Director, Paul Simon Public Policy Institute
2016: Scott Turow, Best-selling author, attorney, social justice advocate
2017: Hon. Jason Kander, former Missouri Secretary of State
Spring Candidate Appreciation Celebration
2017: Jill Wine-Banks, Watergate Prosecutor, MSNBC Contributor
2018: Tina Tchen, Assistant to President Obama, Director of the White
House Council on Women and Girls, Chief of Staff to Michelle Obama
2019: Renato Marriotti, CNN Legal Analyst and former Federal Prosecutor
2020: U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley (D-OR)

■ FOUNDERS AWARD

2008: Hon. Lauren Beth Gash
2009: John Hmurovic
2010: Marcy Maller
2011: Adrienne Kirshbaum
2012: Chuck Knight (*posthumously*)
2013: Barbara Altman
2014: Terry Wrem Jones
2015: Bonnie Berger-Neel
2016: Hon. Ron Schwartz
2017: Dr. Jane Smith
2018: Pat Lind
2019: Jeanine Chyna
2020: Bobbie Hinden

■ AB MIKVA LEADERSHIP AWARD

2008: Richard Keller
2009: State Representative Mark Walker
2010: Loretta Durbin
2011: State Senator Susan Garrett
2012: State Senator Melinda Bush
2013: State Senator Daniel Biss
2014: U.S. Congressman Brad Schneider
2015: State Representative Sam Yingling
2016: State Senator Julie Morrison
2017: Comptroller Susana Mendoza
2018: U.S. Congressman Brad Schneider
2019: Lake County Board Chair Sandy Hart
2020: State Representative Mary Edly-Allen

■ GEORGE ROSENBLIT VOLUNTEER AWARD

2006: George Rosenblit/Anne Wedner	2013: Marguerite Hampton
2007: Ross Nickow	2014: Joseph Adler
2008: Nancie Blatt	2015: Eric Herman
2009: Karen McCormick	2016: Roger Baron
2010: Sharon Sanders	2017: Paula DeBofsky
2011: Terry Blaurock	2018: Karen Wass
2012: Ravi Ganapathy	2019: Thomas Recht
	2020: Victoria Thompson

TENTH DEMS ANNUAL AWARDS EVENT - 2021

WELCOME

Eric Herman,
Co-Chair

A Message from 10th District Congressman Brad Schneider



INTERN REMARKS

Jasmine Lafita



ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ELECTED OFFICIALS AND CANDIDATES

Lauren Beth Gash
Founding Chair



ROSENBLIT VOLUNTEER AWARD

Judy Dolins
Leadership Committee
Presented by Vicki Thompson, Leadership Committee



FOUNDERS AWARD

Dr. Laurence "Laurie" Schiller
Dean, Tenth Dems University
Presented by Bobbie Hinden, Events Chair



COMMUNITY AND DEMOCRACY

Barbara Altman
Managing Vice-Chair



AB MIKVA LEADERSHIP AWARD

Lake County Sheriff John Idleburg
Presented by Marguerite Hampton, Former Co-Chair



CALL TO ACTION

Holly Kim, Lake County Treasurer
Bonnie Berger-Neel
Co-Chair



SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

Congresswoman Robin Kelly
Chair, Democratic Party of Illinois



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Congressman Hakeem Jeffries
Chair, House Democratic Caucus



CLOSING REMARKS

Eric Herman
Co-Chair

THE TENTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT DEMOCRATS

Gratefully acknowledges the support of our 2021 sponsors and
the work of our volunteers who made this event possible

HOST COMMITTEE (In Formation)



BENEFACTOR & PLATINUM

Barbara and Ron Altman
Margi and Roger Baron
Bonnie Berger-Neel
and Hon. Jim Neel
Hon. Lauren Beth Gash and
Gregg Garmisa
Carol and David Golder
Eric Herman
Tom Recht

GOLD

Melanie and Fred Andes
Hon. Prue Beidler
Steve Elrod
Hon. Bryna and Ed Gamson
Marguerite and
Walter Hampton
Randi and Ed Kugler

William McIntosh
Hon. Bob Morgan
Sheila Nielsen
Hon. Rhoda Pierce
Jose Rivera

SILVER

Marcia and Bruce Balonick
Hon. Jonathan Carroll
Suzanne Cash
Jeanine Chyna
Marcia Blumenthal Fields
Debbie and Chuck Frank
William Gieseke
IL Democratic County Chairs Association
Gerry and Stephen Keen
Francine and Mark Levy
Gundula Miethke

Michael Pierret
Hon. Ron Schwartz

BRONZE

Lynn Abrahamson and Hon. Bill Crowley
Alan Bergman
Lonni Berkley
Stephanie Blatt
David Borris
Cynthia and John Burrell
JoAnn Desmond
Charles Drueck
Jacqueline Epstein
John Fallon
Suzie Garfield
Gaylord and William Gieseke
Rana Hashemi-Haeri

John Hmurovic
Kay Hoogland
Hon. Adriane Johnson
Hon. Patricia Jones
Lauren Kaplan and Skip Jacobs
Miriam Kelm
Clint Krislov
Pat Lind and Gary Drake
Jim Moore
Lori Moss and Gary Oltmans
Hon. Paras Parekh
Cynthia Plouche
Hon. Leon Rockingham
Laurence Schiller
Kathryn Somers
Diane Surufka
Victoria Thompson
Susan Weiss
Susan Zingle

Benefactor \$5,000, Platinum \$2,500,
Gold \$1,000, Silver \$500, and Bronze
\$250

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SHERIFF JOHN D. IDLEBURG AB MIKVA LEADERSHIP AWARD

Sheriff John D. Idleburg attended Zion-Benton High School, and after graduating he joined the U.S. Marine Corps. After Sheriff Idleburg completed his service he returned to Zion, where he was a union worker at Johnson Motors, and in 1977 left to join the Lake County Sheriff's Office as a Sheriff's Deputy in the Work Release Camp in Zion. Always looking ahead for a better future for his family, he left the Lake County Sheriff's Office for the Great Lakes Police Department. He rapidly went from a street cop to the detective bureau.



Sheriff Idleburg steadily rose up the ranks and in acknowledgement of his hard work he was invited to work with the U.S. Department of Defense as a Special Investigator. After several years of dedicated work, he

joined the U.S. Treasury Department as a Special Agent.

After three decades, Sheriff Idleburg retired from federal service and union participation. He enjoyed retirement for a few months, but with much left to give, joined the Lake County Forest Preserve, Zion Park Police, and Lake Forest Hospital. He served as Post Commander for the American Legion Zion Post 865 for 4 years. He is the past President of the Illinois Police Association, current Commissioner for the Police and Fire Commission in Zion and the Lake County Housing Authority.

As Sheriff since 2018, John has successfully worked towards increasing the community's trust while being responsive to the expectations of law enforcement during a critical time in our country. As a result, Governor Pritzker appointed him to the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board, which oversees the training and continuing education of all law enforcement across the state.

Sheriff Idleburg has dedicated resources to aggressively pursue trafficking in all its forms (guns, humans, drugs) to keep our community safe. As a result, Sheriff Idleburg's Special Investigations Group set new records in 2020, seizing nearly \$3 million worth of illegal drugs and 55 illegally possessed firearms, resulting in a total of 350 felony charges.

Sheriff Idleburg developed and launched a Criminal Justice Community Council to provide an ongoing collaborative forum between community members and organizations and criminal justice government representatives with the goal of strengthening community-law enforcement partnerships, ensuring community members have a voice in the criminal justice space. Sheriff Idleburg embraces the philosophy that the community and the community's voice always set the guiding principles of our criminal justice system.

Sheriff Idleburg resides in Zion with his wife, Pam, and is a proud father and grandfather.

2021 FOUNDERS AWARD—LAURIE SCHILLER

Dr. Laurence (Laurie) Schiller is a longtime volunteer with Tenth Dems, and a valued member of the leadership team. Over the years, Laurie has contributed extensively to *Tenth News*, the group's longtime monthly newsletter, and is a major part of our Democratic Communications Team. Laurie also serves as the Dean of Tenth Dems University (TDU). In that capacity, he helps organize and host TDU's local political programs with featured speakers and facilitates our *Let's Talk Politics* conversations.

After graduating with a BA in African American and African studies from Rutgers University, Laurie received his Ph.D. in African History, with a minor in the Islamic Middle East, from Northwestern University and taught there as an adjunct professor of history for more than 35 years. While at Northwestern, he took over a small fencing club team and created an elite women's varsity program, retiring in 2016 after nearly 40 years as Head Coach and the second-winningest fencing coach in the history of the NCAA. Laurie has been elected to the Northwestern Athletic Hall of Fame. He and his wife Cathy live in Deerfield.

2021 ROSENBLIT VOLUNTEER AWARD — JUDY DOLINS

With her background as a high-powered executive and advocate for children, it is no wonder that in retirement Judy Dolins, MPH, found a home with Tenth Dems and soon became a valued member of the leadership team. Judy does whatever needs to be done to further Democratic goals, from running weekly leadership meetings to overseeing phone banks to organizing delivery of t-shirts, and much, much more. She also finds time for painting, collaging, and beading.

Judy retired from her career with the American Academy of Pediatrics as the Academy's Chief Implementation Officer and Senior Vice President for Community and Chapter Affairs and Quality Improvement. Among many achievements, Judy developed a highly successful state government affairs program teaching pediatricians to advocate for children's health issues. She also was responsible for community pediatrics programs and health equity initiatives. She was invited by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to serve on the United States Immigrant and Customs Enforcement Advisory Committee on Family Residential Centers, which issued a report stating that no child belongs in detention.

Judy received her undergraduate degree from Stanford University and earned a master's degree in public health from the University of North Carolina. She and her husband Steven live in Highland Park.

Tenth Dems Teamwork—Grassroots in Action

In 2003, the northeast corner of Illinois was strongly Republican. But then Tenth Dems was born. Starting with a dozen Democrats working out of a living room, we have grown into a group of thousands working all around the 10th Congressional District, fighting for our Democratic values.

With the help of Tenth Dems, many Democrats have been elected and re-elected to the U.S. Senate and House, the Illinois state legislature, county offices, judgeships, and local offices.



How does Tenth Dems do it?

We support candidates.

Tenth Dems has identified and recruited candidates for various offices. Those candidates know we can help by providing volunteers, giving the candidates and their staffs campaign training, and offering ongoing free consulting during the campaign.

We host phone banks, organize door-to-door canvasses, stuff and label envelopes, walk in parades, design and mail campaign literature, and analyze election data to target key voters.

Tenth Dems has raised many millions of dollars to help elect Democratic candidates in our area.

We bring people into the political process.

Tenth Dems grows because our volunteers reach out to recruit new people and manage the volunteers already with us. Not only have our volunteers gone on to become staff for candidates and elected officials, many have become leaders of grassroots organizations and run for office and won.

We recruit and train volunteers to register voters and provide information about when and where to vote.

Our large internship program also gives young people opportunities for civic engagement.

Sometimes we just get folks to show up to rally for a cause or to protest a policy, which lets people know there is a home for them too.

We keep people engaged.

Thousands are reached by our weekly Events List, a simple tool to keep track of what's happening nearby.

Tenth Dems Teamwork—Grassroots in Action (cont.)

Tenth Dems University is an ongoing program of speakers that educates voters, inspires more active and effective political volunteers, and teaches skills needed to run for public office.



Our *Let's Talk Politics* is a series of moderated discussions where Democrats in and around the 10th District talk about current issues. These events often feature elected officials, candidates, political analysts, and authors.

We have rallied activists on health care, our environment, a woman's right to choose, and other issues.

We value voting rights.

The best campaigns still need to win votes. When democracy is threatened by voter suppression, it hurts all of us. Our Election Protection Team of over 125 lawyers ensures that every voter who is *entitled* to vote is *allowed* to vote.

We make our community a better place.

Tenth Dems believes that politics is about more than just elections: it's the process of working together to improve our neighborhoods, state, country, and world. We offer job interview training, hold expungement seminars, and sponsor an Annual Poetry and Prose Contest for students. Our offices throughout the district offer a place for residents to meet, talk, and organize.

We get results.

We help elect Democrats to every level of office in every part of the 10th Congressional District, from Waukegan and Zion up north, to Fox Lake out west, down to Mount Prospect and New Trier Township, and many places in between.

What seemed far-fetched when we began has become reality. Thanks to the hard work of so many, Democrats have been elected and re-elected to the U.S. Senate and House, as well as to the Illinois state legislature. Previously overlooked campaigns for county offices, judgeships, and local offices have seen significant Democratic victories.

Today, the Democratic Party is stronger and more successful than it has ever been in this part of Illinois. Tenth Dems has been a key component in that success.

Come join **Tenth Dems** and be on a winning team in **OUR** community and across the district!

For more information or to volunteer,

LIKE US: on facebook.com/tenthdems 

FOLLOW US: on Twitter @TenthDems 

CHECK OUT our WEBSITE: tenthdems.org

CALL US: 847-266-VOTE (8683)

EMAIL US: info@tenthdems.org

DONATE: tenthdems.org/contribute

WRITE US: Tenth Congressional District Democrats
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