



February Newsletter

Celebrating Black History

The story of Black leadership in Oklahoma is a lesson of resilience, determination, and a continued fight for justice. From the earliest days of statehood, Black Oklahomans have faced immense challenges - segregation, discrimination, and economic hardship. Yet, despite these struggles, there has emerged a powerful legacy of leadership, paving the way for progress and opportunity.

Early leaders like [Bass Reeves](#), a fearless lawman, and famed educator [Booker T. Washington](#), who founded Langston University, laid the groundwork for a strong community of Black leaders. Black towns like Boley and economic hubs like the [neighborhood of Greenwood](#) flourished, showcasing Black excellence in entrepreneurship, education, and cultural vibrancy. However, the [Tulsa Race Massacre of 1921](#), a horrific act of white supremacist violence, dealt a devastating blow to Black prosperity in our state.

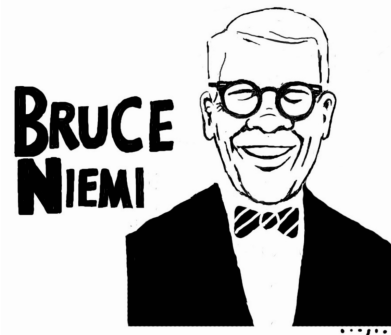
Undeterred, Black leaders like educator [Clara Luper](#), civil rights activist [Ada Lois Sipuel Fisher](#), and newspaper editor [Roscoe Dunjee](#) continued the fight for equality. The Civil Rights Movement saw figures like Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. advocate for justice in Oklahoma City, while local leaders led sit-ins and protests. These efforts, along with the tireless work of countless others, chipped away at discriminatory laws and practices, creating space for progress.

Today, Black leaders continue to shape Oklahoma's future. While serious challenges remain, the history of Black leadership in Oklahoma is clear and serves as a powerful reminder of the strength, resilience, and unwavering commitment to progress that continues to define this community.

We give special thanks to the countless men and women who have fought and who continue for their innate rights as human beings and given rights as American citizens. Let us continue to uplift the voices of Black leaders, and let's continue to work toward a more equitable society for all Oklahomans.

Letter from The Chair

Your Democratic Party rolled along during the month of January despite the crazy winter weather. We've staffed the headquarters, raised money, vetted Democratic candidates, recruited election poll workers, communicated with the party electorate, trained precinct officials, and prepared for the annual Martin Luther King Parade. We are confident the Party is organized for victory in November.



2022 Gubernatorial candidate Joy Hofmeister packed the Schusterman-Benson Library with a rousing message of civic engagement. Tulsa County Election Board Secretary Gwen Freeman talked to us about the importance of elections and the current shortage of poll workers in our county.

Election canvassing boards are the only government agency that relies on volunteers to conduct its business. The aging of the labor pool, the pandemic, and unprecedented attacks on the election system have diminished enthusiasm for volunteering at the polls. Our Tulsa County Election Board is desperate for volunteer poll workers to staff precincts voting stations. There are 261 precincts in Tulsa County, and each precinct must have three workers, an inspector, a judge, and a clerk. A Democrat and Republican must be in this mix. Currently, Democrats are a particular need. To learn more and apply [click here](#).

The January Midwest cold wave resulted in the last-minute cancellation of the MLK parade for the first time in the commemoration's history. The party was prepared with volunteers ready to march. The parade is rescheduled for February 17th. We are designated as entry 53. We are lining up at 10 o'clock on MLK Blvd just north of John Hope Franklin Blvd. Come join us to represent the party and show enthusiasm for the cause.

The cold wave however did not deter a successful 2024 Campaign Kickoff Party for the Party hosted by legendary Democratic legislators Sen. David Riggs and former Senate Pro Tempore & Mayor Rodger Randle. If 130,00 lowans could convene for their caucus in sub-Artic weather, we Democrats could gather at David's law office to see the first joint appearance of our mayoral contenders, Rep. Monroe Nichols and Comm'r Karen Keith, of the 2024 mayor's race. At Kickoff we supplemented our campaign war chest and made a pitch for small, monthly sustained contributions. [Please consider signing up today to make your monthly giving using the many links and buttons found in this newsletter.](#)

Amy Hossain hosted a precinct training at the Owasso Library on the evening after the Kickoff party. HD-74 candidate Mark Taylor was there to meet and greet Owasso precinct officials. Mark outlined his campaign's emphasis on education, healthcare, and economic development, and solicited questions and comments from the attendees.

Our party is always in need of volunteers: as delegates, campaign workers, precinct officers, and candidates. On April 6th the Oklahoma Democratic Party will convene a state convention in Ardmore to elect Democratic National Convention delegates. Currently, we are seeking three women and two men to complete Tulsa County's delegation complement.

Our County Party is also seeking precinct officers to take the party's message to neighbors in their community. Most precincts are compact and can be covered in a day of canvassing. For more information check out precinct officials' duties in the bylaws by [clicking here.](#)

Our next Democratic Party monthly meeting is being rescheduled to allow for attendance at the [Tulsa World's School Board Candidate forum.](#) We look forward to seeing you there!

Democratically Yours,

Bruce Niemi, Chair

[Volunteer!](#)

[Donate Here!](#)

[Join one of our Committees!](#)

Candidate Recruitment: The Candidate Recruitment Committee is responsible for identifying and recruiting Democratic candidates to run for office in Tulsa County. [Sign Up Here!](#)

Community Action: The Community Action Committee is responsible for identifying volunteer activities and county initiatives that TCDP volunteers can take part in. This Committee plays a vital role in building and sustaining relationships in communities across the county. [Sign Up Here!](#)

Education: The Education Committee is a place for public education advocates to come together and promote our party's values. This committee will work closely with the Legislative Advocacy Committee and will help engage the membership in events and initiatives that support public education in Tulsa County. [Sign Up Here!](#)

Events: The Events Committee is responsible for planning, organizing, and executing successful events that align with the organization's mission and goals, providing memorable experiences for participants. [Sign Up Here!](#)

Fundraising: The Fundraising Committee is responsible for developing and implementing strategies to secure financial resources and support for the Tulsa Democratic Party's (TCDP) activities, programs, and projects. [Sign Up Here!](#)

Legislative Advocacy: The Legislative Advocacy Committee is responsible for tracking and updating our membership on happenings at the state legislature and training members on how to find their representatives, track active legislation, and effectively communicate with their legislators. [Sign Up Here!](#)

Marketing & Outreach: The Marketing & Outreach Committee will be responsible for developing and implementing strategies to promote the Tulsa County Democratic Party's (TCDP) values (a reflection of our resolutions passed in the convention), events, candidates,

and to grow the party through traditional and digital media. [Sign Up Here!](#)

Volunteer Recruitment: The Volunteer Recruitment Committee is responsible for identifying, recruiting, training, and retaining volunteers to staff the office, staff events, and help candidates during the election cycle. [Sign Up Here!](#)

Joining a committee gives you a unique chance to collaborate with like-minded individuals, make a tangible difference, and contribute to our success in Tulsa County!

Join a Committee!



TYD

Tulsa Young Democrats

- DO YOU LIVE IN TULSA COUNTY?
- ARE YOU BETWEEN THE AGES OF 18-40?
- ARE YOU A REGISTERED DEMOCRAT?

Become a member today!

linktr.ee/TulsaYoungDemocrats

Join the Tulsa County Young Democrats!

Are you a Democrat under the age of 40?
Then we need you!

Join TCYD

Follow on

We Need You

It may seem self-explanatory, but there's a reason we need you to promote and join TCYD - our party won't continue without it.

Think we're kidding? Don't underestimate the power you hold! Our party thrives on the fresh ideas, the raw energy, the unyielding spirit of young Democrats like you.

It's like a fire - without new logs, the flames dwindle, the warmth fades. We need your voice, your perspective, and your passion to fuel the fight for a better tomorrow. Don't think for a second your involvement is a mere formality - it's the lifeblood that keeps our Party vibrant.

This isn't just about joining another group, it's about joining a group that will share the direction of our Party. So step up, be the changemaker, the firestarter, the future of our party. Because trust us, the future is looking mighty dim without you. The time to act is now, friends. Will you

Facebook

help us build a better party?

Follow on
Instagram

Future Events



HEART OF THE PARTY



Oklahoma Federation of Democratic Women

Join the Champagne Brunch!

2:00-4:00 Sunday, February 25, 2024
Downtown Doubletree Hotel
616 W. 7th , Tulsa OK

Jane Kleeb, Chair of the Nebraska Democratic Party, will be the featured speaker. Her book, [Harvest the Vote](#), references her work building a coalition of rural Democratic voters in Nebraska!

She will discuss how she persuades reluctant, disheartened, and disinterested voters to engage or re-engage with the Democratic Party. You may purchase and read her book before the event!

Get your Tickets!

Woman of the Year

This is an honor that HOP bestows on one of their members each year.

WOY nominees must be members of Heart of the Party and should be recognized for the work they have done for the Federation or the Democratic Party at the local, district, or state level during the past year. Please include any civic or campaign work they have done in your nomination.

We hope that you will put your thinking cap on and nominate an exceptional woman that you know.

Nominate a WOY!

Join HOP in March!

Make sure to join HOP for their next monthly meeting at Baxters Interurban Grill starting at 6PM March 4th!

Walk with us in the

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

ANNUAL PARADE 2024

NEW DATE:
FEBRUARY 17TH

WALK WITH TCDP!

DECORATE FLOAT: 8:00 AM
LINEUP: 10:00 AM
PARADE START: 11:00 AM

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY



MLK Day Parade!

February 17th

- Decorate: 8:00 AM
- Lineup: 10:00 AM
- Parade Start: 11:00 AM

Join the Tulsa County Democratic Party's group as we march in Tulsa's 45th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Parade!

Participants can walk or sit on the float and wave to parade watchers!

We hope to see you there!

[Signup Here!](#)

Join the TCDP Luncheon Club

Discussing policies that matter...with food!

Friday, March 8th
Baxters Interurban Grill
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM



Join the Luncheon Club!

March 8th

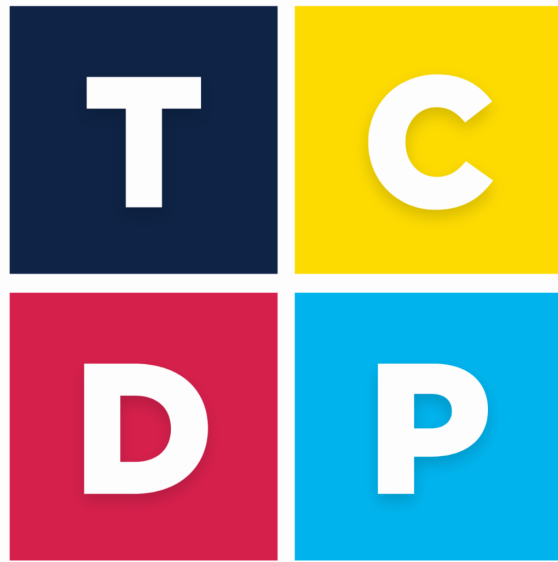
Baxters Interurban Grill
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Join the Tulsa County Democratic Party's newly formed Luncheon Club for their very first meeting this March!

Swing by, grab a bite to eat, and hear about the real issues happening right here at home!

www.tulsacountydemocrats.org





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