



Meet the 2023 Candidates

for the Lavender Democrats OC Board

Office Sought	Candidate	Candidate's Statement
Co-Chair	Isabella Rubio <i>She / Her</i>	I'm Isabella Rubio running for re-election as Co-Chair of the Lavender Democrats. I would be honored to have the opportunity to serve a full term. Last term we surpassed our previous fundraising goal with our PRIDE booth campaign and Drag Bingo. My first priority is to elect Democrats who share our values and ethics also to uplifting unheard voices in the community.
Co-Chair	Paul Gonzales <i>He / Him</i>	<p>Serving as part of the Lavender Democrats OC Board for the last four years has been a privilege and I humbly ask our Members to elect me to a second term as Co-Chair.</p> <p>I remain committed to the success of our Club and will continue to do what is necessary to keep it running. From chairing the Board and guiding our Club's strategic vision, to stepping in to produce communications, act as treasurer, or do whatever else needs to be done, my service to the LDOC has always been centered on my recognition that we play a vital role in advocating for equity and inclusion for the LGBTQ+ community in Orange County.</p> <p>If re-elected I look forward to supporting a new Board in building on our success and expanding the role that the Lavender Democrats OC play in holding elected officials accountable to We the People!</p>
Vice Chair	Bulmaro 'Boomer' Vicente <i>He / Him</i>	My name is Bulmaro 'Boomer' Vicente and I am seeking to run for Vice Chair of the Lavender Democrats. My experience as a queer Latino has shaped my politics and values in how I navigate this world. I was born and raised in Santa Ana, and graduated from UC Berkeley, where I began my political activism serving as a Police Review Commissioner for the City of Berkeley. After graduating, I came back to Santa Ana and began my journey with Chispa, a political home for young Latinos in OC. I serve as their Policy Director, where I lead their local and state policy campaigns, including the historic passage of the Santa Ana Police Oversight Commission. I recently ran for State Assembly because our working class communities deserve better, and to increase the representation of LGBTQ leaders in office. As Vice Chair, I hope to continue advocating for representation and policies that will uplift and defend our LGBTQ family. I hope to help the club grow and expand in our representation and political power in OC.

Office Sought	Candidate	Candidate's Statement
Secretary	Juli Stowers <i>She / Her</i>	I have been a politically active mom and elementary teacher in OC for 27 years. My two children are both part of the LGBTQ+ Community, and I have been fighting for LGBTQ+ rights since Prop 8. I am a FIERCE Mama Bear and a STRONG social and racial justice advocate. I have been a volunteer at the OC LGBTQ+ Center, and co-facilitated a support group for trans allies. I am a member of PFLAG (Newport Beach), HRC, GLSEN, and a loyal Democrat. I played a part in the beginning of Youth First OC several years ago, in our fight to keep CHYA. I am active in the California Teachers' Association (CTA), as a State Council Rep, Human Rights Cadre Trainer, LGBTQ+ Contact, and ABC/CTA Committee Member for District N, which helps me to stay informed of elections across the state. I have enjoyed being Secretary of the Lavender Dems for the past two years. I look forward to continuing to be involved with the Lavender Democrats to improve the lives of our LGBTQ+ community in OC, which in turn improves lives for everyone!
Treasurer	<i>None Declared</i>	
Communications Chair	Billie Joe Wright <i>He / Him</i>	<p>My name is Billie Joe Wright, I am excited to announce my candidacy to be the next Communications Chair for the Lavender Democrats OC. As a previously endorsed candidate for school board, current teacher and local teachers' union president, I understand the power of communications to set the narrative through messaging, to organize, and to build forward together.</p> <p>I am a proud out gay man who is known as an advocate for our LGBTQ+ community and for public education. I believe my personal and professional experiences, relationships, and passion for this work will benefit Lavender Democrats OC as an organization and assist us with realizing our belief statements.</p> <p>I hope I can count on your support and encourage you to contact me with any questions. Let's do this!</p>
Fundraising Co-Chairs <i>(Co-chairs recommended by current Board)</i>	<p>Jana Cupp <i>She / Her</i> <i>(Co-Chair: Development)</i></p> <hr/> <p>Raymond Zachary <i>They / Them</i> <i>(Co-Chair: Events)</i></p>	<p>I joined the Lavender Dems last year after learning more about the club's leadership and events. As an LGBTQ+ community member, I was thrilled to learn about the club's efforts to support LGBTQ+ and ally candidates on local ballots. I want to serve as fundraising chair to support these efforts with my professional skills in fund development and philanthropy. I see so much potential for the Lavender Dems to create a stronger and more open community for all.</p> <p>As a member of the LGBT community, the success of this club is something that is of high interest to me. I have had the honor of serving as a party planner for several life cycle events for clients at different stages of their lives... in short, I'm a gay guy who knows how to throw a great party! As fundraising chair, I would assure that fundraising events not only serve the purpose of gathering funds, but also are an enjoyable and memorable time by all attendees. Events like an elevated drag queen, bingo, multicultural music concerts, or even a black tie gala are events I can easily foresee and execute for this organization. I think I am vision for the future. Thank you very much in advance for your consideration.</p>
Membership Chair	<i>None Declared</i>	

Office Sought	Candidate	Candidate's Statement
Political Action Chair	Daniel Orea <i>They / Them</i>	I was appointed to the position and would like to continue as Political Action Chair. I was able to get in contact with Katie Porter and her staff to have her speak at our annual fundraiser. That event raised a large amount of money for the club.
Programs Chair	Justin Massey <i>He / Him</i>	It's been my privilege to serve as the Programs Chair for the last two years, and previously, as a Co-Chair. I have been a part of the Club since its formation, and I have been so proud of the progress we've made building power for the LGBTQ community and supporting LGBTQ and ally Democratic candidates for office. We've got a great opportunity to build off our prior experiences and successes to continue advancing a more equitable Orange County. I hope to continue in the role of Programs Chair to assist in the development and execution of high-quality events, meetings and other programs to engage our membership and the broader public. It would be a privilege to continue my work alongside my fellow board members to ensure the Club's work is sustained through the next election cycle and for many years to come.
Member-at-Large	Stephanie Wade <i>She / Her</i>	<i>Invited by current Board</i>