



# BARBARA LEE

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## POLITICAL OFFICE

The [Barbara Lee Political Office](#) advances women's equality in American politics by recruiting, electing, and supporting progressive, pro-choice, pro-equality women candidates. The Barbara Lee Political Office has nationwide reach, as our founder and namesake, Barbara Lee, has personally helped elect 140 women to office in 32 states.

We achieve this by:

- **Providing** women with critical resources and knowledge to meet the challenges of campaigning;
- **Working** to elect a progressive woman President by building a pipeline of women governors and U.S. Senators; and
- **Investing** in the next generation of women leaders by recruiting women to run, funding political training programs, and offering strategic support to women candidates.

The Political Office is a leading resource for progressive women candidates, and has a proven record of success in electing women to office. Our work reflects our core belief that electing progressive women strengthens our democracy, promotes social justice, and builds a more representative, productive, and responsive government.

We welcome press inquiries. To request information or an interview, please contact:

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## Barbara Lee, Founder and President

@BarbaraLeeSays

Barbara Lee is a national leader in advancing women's equality in American politics. She founded and leads the Barbara Lee Political Office and the Barbara Lee Family Foundation.

Inspired by her grandmother's stories of suffragists marching on New York City's Fifth Avenue in the early 1900s, Barbara has worked to elect women since 1998. Through strategic advice, candidate training, direct support, and voter mobilization, she has helped elect every sitting Democratic woman governor and U.S. Senator. With an exceptional eye for emerging leadership, Barbara is dedicated to cultivating the next generation of women candidates.

**Barbara's impact is nationwide: She has helped elect 140 women in 32 states.**

Knowing that fundraising is essential for electing more women to public office, Barbara has been at the forefront of bringing women donors to the table on behalf of women candidates. When the Democratic National Convention was held in Boston, Barbara convened Revolutionary Women, bringing together many of the nation's best and brightest political minds to showcase women's leadership. She also hosts Women's Senate, a biennial fundraiser that provides critical support for progressive women Senators.

Boston Magazine has included Barbara among "Boston's Most Powerful Thought Leaders," "The 100 People Who Run This Town," and is listed among their "50 most powerful women" in Boston. Women's eNews ranked her among the "21 Leaders for the 21st Century."

A strong believer in increasing women's representation across fields, Barbara is also an advocate for women contemporary artists, both outside of and within her role as Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Institute of Contemporary Art in Boston.

Barbara earned a master's degree from the Boston University School of Social Work and her bachelor's degree from Simmons College.

### *Board memberships*

Vice Chair, Institute for Contemporary Art Boston

Member, Women's Leadership Board of Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government

### *Select awards*

Woman of the Year, Emerge Massachusetts, 2012

"Woman of Action" Award, Boston Women's Fund, 2010

The "Wendy" Shattered Glass Award, Women's Campaign Forum, 2010

Leader for the 21st Century, Women's eNews, 2009

Circle of Giving Award, New England Womens Leadership Awards, 2006

Abigail Adams Award, Massachusetts Women's Political Caucus, 2002

President's Award, NACW, 3rd Annual National Convention, 2002

George A. Dean Leadership Award, The Women's Campaign School at Yale, 2003

Academy of Women Achievers, Class of 2002, YWCA Boston, 2002



## Nicole Carlsburg, Acting Executive Director

@NicoleCarlsburg

As Acting Executive Director, Nicole Carlsburg leads the Political Office's efforts to engage women in the political process and to support pro-choice, pro-equality women candidates and political organizations across the country.

With experience on a broad range of national and local campaigns, Nicole brings years of strategic insight to our work of advancing women's political equality, including seven years as a member of Barbara Lee's senior leadership team. As the Political Office's Program Director, Nicole directed political fundraising initiatives, managed political expenditures in support of Democratic pro-choice women candidates, and provided strategic support to women candidates nationwide.

Nicole came to the Barbara Lee Political Office from the Family Equality Council, the national organization working to ensure equality for LGBT-headed families. There, she managed the organization's grant seeking and donor communications, designed and implemented resources and programming for LGBT parents and their children, and advanced issue advocacy campaigns such as California's marriage equality initiative (Prop 8) and overturning Florida's LGBT adoption ban. In her earlier career, Nicole worked at the Joseph M. Smith Community Health Center, where she served as a human resources coordinator, and later raised critical funds for patient-centered, community-focused healthcare.

Nicole is a 2013 Fellow of the New Leaders Council, a national progressive political entrepreneurship training program for young professionals.

Nicole graduated magna cum laude from Tufts University with a Bachelor's degree in psychology and drama.