

East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club Endorsement Questionnaire

Thank you for your interest in obtaining an endorsement from the East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club.

Per the Club's bylaws, to be eligible for endorsement, a candidate must be a registered Democrat. All candidates must also complete this candidate questionnaire to be considered for an endorsement. Endorsements are decided by the general membership, and candidates must receive at least 60% of votes cast to be endorsed.

The deadline for questionnaires is posted on the East Bay Stonewall website (<http://eastbaystonewalldemocrats.org/Elections>). Any candidate submitting a questionnaire that is received after the deadline will not appear on the endorsement ballot. To ensure a fair process, no grace period will be granted.

Please return your completed questionnaire via Google forms by clicking submit at the bottom of this form. All form submissions are final. If you have questions, please contact Joe Greaves, EBSDC PAC chair via email at jsphgreaves@gmail.com.

Email *

xouhoaforsanleandro@gmail.com

Name (First Last) *

Xouhoa Bowen

Are you a registered Democrat *

Yes

No

Office you are seeking? (e.g. City Council, School Board, Supervisor, etc) *

City Council

Jurisdiction *

San Leandro

District *

District 5

Are you an East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club member in good standing? If you are unsure, email eastbaystonewalldems@gmail.com. *

Yes

No

I self-identify as: (check all boxes that apply; note these identifiers will be used publicly during our endorsement process.) *

Gay

Lesbian

Transgender

Gender non-conforming

Bisexual

Queer

Straight

Other:

How have you participated in East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club activities, and/or supported the Club other ways? What other LGBTQ+ organizations are you affiliated with and in what capacity? What other Democratic clubs are you affiliated with? *

I haven't participated in East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club activities in the past. I am a member of the San Leandro Democratic Club and received its endorsement.
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Using specific examples, please identify the causes you have advocated for and the ways you have helped advance LGBTQ+ rights or otherwise helped foster a community of inclusivity for LGBTQ+ individuals and families. *

One of the key values I integrated into all of the projects of the nonprofit I started was equity, inclusion, and fostering communities of belonging. I focused on supporting families and their children through education campaign, connecting to resources, and creating safe spaces. From creating a traveling children's library that focused on equal rights, self-love, different family structures, and more for every age group to hosting workshops on implicit biases and creating online campaigns focused on sharing out resources and fundraising to support LGBTQ+ individuals and their families.

I also am a part of Free Mom Hugs CA - Bay Area, a local group for moms, dads, and other allies to share resources, support, and organize local events and gatherings that provide a visible presence of love and support to the LGBTQ+ community.

I have also organized marches and events to advocate for equal rights for all, immigrant and refugee rights, protest the overturn of Roe and the subsequent curtailment of civil liberties, and many other causes that impedes the full recognition of another person's humanity.

Have you previously supported LGBTQ+ candidates for office? If yes, did that include financial support? *

Yes, I have previously supported LGBTQ+ candidates for office. It did not include financial support (and if I was/am able to give financially, I would!)

Which LGBTQ+ organizations and elected officials have formally endorsed you for this race? *

Victor Aguilar, Jr - San Leandro City Council, Peter Oshinski - San Leandro School Board

Please describe a policy/goal that is part of your formal platform that benefits the LGTBQ+ community? *

I want to build upon the progress the city has made and improve the quality of life for ALL residents by focusing on support for mental health, community-building, and well-being, fostering safety and security, and guiding all policies through the lens of equity and inclusion.

What makes you uniquely qualified for the office and how are you different or unique from the other candidates in your race? *

I am uniquely qualified for the D5 office for the same reasons why I am different from the other candidate. My life's mission is to empower others to achieve their fullest potentials through education, action, and community support. I believe that we all have a role to play in addressing injustice and inequity and must do what we can, where we can, always. For the past 6 years, I have been working in the community to tackle barriers and systemic barriers. I do not hesitate to take action both through leading and through mobilizing others. I saw gender inequity and started a successful nonprofit leveraging the power of women and their families to address issues families face. I wanted to make sure we had safe, resourced schools so I not just joined the PTA but I was President when my oldest was just a kindergartener. Then I joined the Bond Oversight Committee and the San Leandro Education Board and took on a leadership role. I wanted to make sure the city was equitable and addressed the needs of the entire community so I joined the Community Equity Committee and the Library Historical Commission. When the pandemic hit, I pivoted how I could serve the community in a safe way and organized 10 drive through baby showers to distribute hundreds of thousands in essential supplies to vulnerable families. When anti-Asian hate rose by alarming rates, I organized a community event to bring together stakeholders at all levels to address it. I took on these roles because I wanted to do the work, not because of a title or a stepping stone to move into elected office. Now I have the opportunity to take the the experiences, expertise, and trust of the community to make an even bigger impact with the people I want to represent. While my opponent has some similar experiences, I am deeply rooted in the community and have shown up on daily basis to passionately advocate alongside residents -- I have three young children who are currently in San Leandro schools and a preschool in the Alta Mira complex, I am actively involved in different groups in the city, work at the Boys and Girls Clubs of San Leandro in a leadership capacity that allows me to serve thousands of families in San Leandro and San Lorenzo, and my support is driven from the community. I also have the support of diverse individuals and groups who may not always agree with each other but trust my ability to convene, build consensus, and listen. I also have the endorsements of Mayor Cutter, Councilmembers Lopez, Cox, Simon, Aquilar, (the unofficial support of Council Member Ballew) Assemblymember Bonta, SLUSD school board trustees, the San Leandro Dems, Alameda County Firefighters, Local 21, and many other community leaders and elected officials.

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