

Please submit your completed questionnaire in word format by email to Secretary Chris Gembinski (chrisgembinski@gmail.com) **no later than 10:00 pm on Wednesday, December 31st, 2014**. An up-to-date digital photograph is also required. (All of this information will be made available to the membership.) Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, and please visit www.sfyd.org to familiarize yourself with the SFYD bylaws.

THANK YOU AND GOOD LUCK!

The San Francisco Young Democrats

Information on Election Day

The election will be held during our next Club meeting on Wednesday, January 14th, 2014. So save that date on your calendar. All candidates will have an opportunity to speak and take questions prior to the vote. Uncontested elections will likely receive a voice vote. In contested elections, the candidate with the most votes wins, under the rules of approval voting.

CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Name as it will appear on the ballot:

First Name	Middle Initial or Nick Name (if any)	Last Name
Diane		Le

2. Office Sought:
3. Are you the incumbent?
4. Are you a Voting Member in Good Standing of SFYD?
5. How many years have you been a member of SFYD or other YD Chapters?
6. How long have you been a registered Democratic voter?

BACKGROUND

Beginning with the most recent position, please list previous leadership and elected roles in the Young Democrats and other relevant Political or Leadership Organizations.

Office/Role	Elective/Appointive	Dates Held	Leadership Role (if any)
SFYD	Elective	2014 - Present	President
Rebecca Kaplan for Oakland Mayor	N/A	2014	Finance Director
SFYD	Elective	2013	External VP
Tony Thurmond for CA State Assembly	N/A	2013	Finance Director
Brantly Pierce Fundraising	N/A	2011 - 2012	Fundraiser
Joanna Rees for SF Mayor Campaign	N/A	2011	Field Organizer
California Young Democrats	Elective	2011 - Present	Vice Chair, Asian Pacific Islander Caucus
College Democrats of America	Appointive	2010 - 2011	Vice Chair, Asian Pacific Islander Caucus
California College Democrats	Elective	2010 - 2011	Northern California Regional Director
College Democrats at UC Santa Cruz	Elective	2010 - 2011	President
Neal Coonerty for Santa Cruz County Supervisor	N/A	2010 - 2011	Campaign Manager
PolitiCorps	N/A	2009	Fellow

QUESTIONNAIRE

- 1) Why are you running, and what makes you particularly qualified for this position?

I am running for re-election because I am dedicated to advocating Democratic values and I want to continue helping SFYD flourish as an organization. I recognize the potential that

SFYD has to be bigger and better and I want to build on the successes that the board has accomplished this past year.

Last year, we doubled our membership, brought 50 attendees to Los Angeles for the California Democratic Convention, and dominated the California Young Democrats' Tahoe Retreat. We hosted the very first Assembly District 17 debate that was had hundreds of attendants and we endorsed dozens of great candidates and propositions. All of this was achieved while still ensuring club stability and I made sure decisive issues did not create a rift in the organization.

I am qualified for this position because I have held leadership positions in political organizations at the local, state, and national level. Having been president of the past year, I already know the inner workings of SFYD, the leadership structure, and I have been one of the key voices in determining the future goals of this organization. This ain't my first rodeo.

- 2) What are the main challenges facing SFYD as an organization in the context of this position? How will you address those issues if elected? (If you are the incumbent, please list at least three concrete accomplishments in the office.)

There are several challenges that SFYD faces and problems that need to be remedied. First, our organization needs to do a better job of engaging and retaining our members. We have a core group of active attendees, others who occasionally attend events, and another group who show up to vote for endorsements and never return. We need to address this by making sure new and/or infrequent members continuously feel welcome and interested in what we have to offer so they will want to come back.

Second, the SFYD board has a history of officers who initially display commitment to their responsibilities but fade out as the year progresses. Sometimes, that is outside of their control. Regardless, I will continue to work closely with officers to make sure they are all on task and if they have difficulties managing their duties, I will provide guidance or delegate tasks to make sure goals are being met.

Lastly, SFYD has a reputation for lack of diversity. Throughout half my term as president, I was the only female on the executive board and one of the few people of color. I want to allow more leadership opportunities for women, minorities, and the LGBT community in our club. SFYD will continue to co-host events with other organizations to increase the diversity of our membership.

- 3) Identify two challenges facing young people in the context of the position you seek? What specific commitment will you make to address these issues if elected?

As an organization full of young professionals, we are often busy and otherwise engaged with work, social activities, or the responsibilities of being in other organizations. Additionally, young people are sometimes indifferent to civic duties and unmotivated to engage in political processes.

- 4) If elected, what ideas and commitments would you put forward to engage more of California's (and San Francisco's) young people in the political process? What specifically would you do to accomplish this goal?

As I mentioned in question #3, apathy is very prevalent among young people and I can help SFYD promote political awareness and activism through events, media outreach, and coordinating with campaigns and other organizations to educate the populace.

- 5) Please describe in sufficient detail at least one accomplishment that has improved the lives of young people. These examples should illustrate effective skills and capabilities that would apply to the office you are seeking. These accomplishments may have occurred at any time in your personal, professional, or public life.

During my time as External Vice President of SFYD, one of my responsibilities was to organize SFYD's events by booking venues, coordinating logistics, and doing outreach to ensure the events were well attended. One of the events that stands out to me is the

fundraiser for the Typhoon Haiyan relief. That was a cause that hit close to home since I have many family members in Southeast Asia. We donated all the proceeds for the fundraiser to UNICEF, which has a long history of providing humanitarian aid to children in developing countries. I would like to do more charitable events in the future as well as get SFYD more involved in volunteer efforts in our community.

EXPERIENCE

Please list or describe your current and past activities in the community in which you have acquired skills relevant to the office you are seeking. Include your roles in these activities and when you were involved in them. Involvement may include many areas such as family, neighborhood, community, employment, or public life. Please explain how your experiences would make you an effective advocate for young people as an elected SFYD office holder.

Rebecca Kaplan for Oakland Mayor – Finance Director

- Provided consulting and fundraised by organizing 17 fundraising events, candidate call time, writing e-blasts and mail, and managing a finance team.

Tony Thurmond for State Assembly – Finance Director

- Partnered with Storefront Political Media to fundraise through candidate call time, event planning, and donor outreach

Brantly Pierce Fundraising – Political Fundraiser

- Fundraised in support for four campaigns on the local, state, and national level.

Joanna Rees for San Francisco Mayor – Field Organizer

- Responsible for organizing and implementing voter outreach

College Democrats of America - Vice-Chair, Asian Pacific Islander Caucus

- Worked with the Democratic National Committee API caucus and other CDA caucuses on several issue-advocacy projects.

California College Democrats - Northern California Regional Director

- Made bi-weekly calls to the 25 college chapters in Northern California as the liaison for the statewide organization to mobilize them for elections, help them organize events, and provide them with consultation and resources.

College Democrats at UC Santa Cruz - President

- Led successful effort to elect three endorsed City Councilmembers through phone banking, precinct walking, and tabling.
- Led club to win first place in the California College Democrats' Rush to Reg competition by registering 486 Democrats to vote in one month.

Neal Coonerty for Santa Cruz County Supervisor - Campaign Manager

- Managed winning campaign for re-election to the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors

PolitiCorps - Fellow

- Worked on three issue-advocacy campaigns simultaneously with other fellows.