

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 *

jennyforauditor@gmail.com

Name (First Last) *

Jenny Wong

Are you a registered Democrat *

Yes

No

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

City Auditor

Jurisdiction *

Berkeley

District *

Citywide

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 have attended and supported many East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club activities, including attending meetings and contributing to fundraisers and events. I am also a member of the Berkeley Democratic Club, John George Democratic Club, and Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club.

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. *

As an immigrant who experienced discrimination, my values include promoting inclusion and accessibility. Along with encouraging city staff to use pronouns, I try to foster an inclusive office environment with our hiring process and collaborative office culture. During my first term, I issued an audit of the City of Berkeley's response to city employees experiencing domestic violence. We called attention to the fact that domestic violence risk is higher for people of color and those who identify as LGBTQ community. We made recommendations to the City to improve their policies and practices that demonstrate a commitment to an inclusive and trauma informed approach.

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

Yes and yes.

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

Alex Lee, John Bauters, and Rebecca Saltzman

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

As noted above, as I have been this term, I will continue to advance values within my office and the City toward equity and inclusion. As an auditor, I do not have a policy platform but I do plan out audits based on community input. Current audits in progress include staff retention, the City's response to homelessness, and the rent board, all of which may impact portions of the LGBTQ+ community. I create yearly audit plans where I map out future work. If anyone reading this has ideas for areas they think should be audited please reach out. We don't have capacity to take on everything, but I'm always open to hearing concerns and exploring how they can be addressed, whether through an audit or otherwise.

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

Prior to being elected Berkeley City Auditor, I performed audits and organized audit trainings for 18 years at the Government Accountability Office, the Congressional watchdog agency. I also have a Masters of Public Administration from NYU and a BA in Economics from UC Berkeley. Since taking office in 2018, audits from my office have twice won the top national award from the Association of Local Government Auditors among offices the same size. My office has completed audits of street paving, fleet maintenance and electrification, police call center, calls for service, and overtime among others. When COVID hit, we issued a report sounding the alarm about potential fiscal impacts and we recently completed a financial condition analysis of Berkeley. These reports have had an impact on city services with audit recommendations identifying improved operations. Additionally, with more experience now in the City of Berkeley, I will be able to be even more effective in my second term.

Beyond formal education and work experience, my life experience has informed my values, which I bring to this office. I had a low income and working class upbringing and spent most of my childhood living in low end motels that my family worked at (they eventually owned one). I spent a lot of time working at the motel and interacting with customers. As a child, I counseled people experiencing domestic violence, talked with sex workers, and saw first hand the impacts of drug abuse. I also experienced discrimination and saw my parents experience the same. This background has informed my strong view that Berkeley City services should work for all residents and that equity should be present across City services.

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