



Welcome to the second issue of the
Iranian American Democrats of California (IADC) Newsletter

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political information through the lens of the Iranian-American community*

SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Happy Black History Month! This month, we celebrated the contributions of Black Americans that have transformed our country for better. The story of Black History Month begins in 1915, half a century after the Thirteenth Amendment abolished slavery in the United States. The theme of Black History Month 2022, “**Black Health and Wellness,**”

explores "the legacy of not only Black scholars and medical practitioners in Western medicine, but also other ways of knowing (e.g., birth workers, doulas, midwives, naturopaths, herbalists, etc.) throughout the African Diaspora. The 2022 theme considers activities, rituals and initiatives that Black communities have done to be well."

The Iranian American Democrats of California commits itself to fighting for a democracy where all voices are heard. We follow the leadership of Black Americans who have and continue to spearhead the fight for equitable representation in our democracy.

IADC is highlighting the work of "**Collective for Black Americans**". The Collective works to amplify the voices of Black and Afro-Iranians through public education campaigns and advocacy. Their efforts combat anti-Blackness and celebrate the diversity of Iranians in the diaspora. The Collective produces written stories, short films, photographs and music pieces to amplify the voices of Black and Afro-Iranians worldwide.

To support their incredible work, we encourage you to make a donation here:
<https://collectiveforblackiranians.org/donate/>



WOMEN HISTORY MONTH

In MARCH, we will be celebrating Women's History Month! The theme of Women's History Month for 2022 is "**Providing Healing, Promoting Hope.**" This theme recognizes the many ways in which women have provided healing and hope to humanity for countless generations.

While the recognition of Women's History Month is unique to United States, March 8th is recognized across the world as **International Women's Day (IWD)**. As such, Iranian-American women are taking part in force, with various programs to highlight both the struggles and triumphs of women around the world.

On Sunday, March 6th in Orange County, the Iranian American Women Foundation (IAWF) is holding their first in-person conference since the start of the pandemic, to mark IWD with an impressive line up of speakers and moderators that run the gamut from sports celebrities to mental health professionals to formidable women who have defied the odds to achieve their goals. On March 8th, Maryam Zar, an activist and Women's rights defender will moderate an event hosted by the LA World Affairs Council & Town Hall focusing on the fallout of the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan on the lives of women both within Afghanistan as well as those who have resettled. Also, on March 8th, the Collective Action of Independent Iranian Women Organization is planning a series of virtual events with guests to discuss and promote

"Gender equality, Freedom and Sustainable Social Justice". To learn more about each of these programs, please visit their social media pages.

This year, the humanitarian fallout of conflict are in focus, and Iranian-American women are involved across many platforms, bringing much needed attention and awareness to the plight of women across the globe.

YOUR VOTE, YOUR VOICE

Join us in congratulating these Iranian American candidates for stepping up and taking an active role in civic responsibility and public service. Representation matters.

Please select each image to learn more about the candidate.

Meet: Shervin Aazami



U.S. Congress CD 32

Candidate Spotlight is not an endorsement

Meet: Sara Aminzadeh



CA Assembly District 12

Candidate Spotlight is not an endorsement

Meet: Joe Ayala



Mayor of Simi Valley

Candidate Spotlight is not an endorsement

Meet: Shebreh Kalantari- Johnson



Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisor

Candidate Spotlight is not an endorsement

Meet: Suzie Price



Mayor of Long Beach

Candidate Spotlight is not an endorsement

Meet: Sam Yerbi



Los Angeles City Council –
5th District Candidate

Candidate Spotlight is not an endorsement

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Internship Opportunity at CADEM



Applications for Democracy Summer are NOW OPEN through March 15, 2022! Apply today:

<https://dccc.org/democracysummer/>



International Women's Day - March 8th

Imagine a gender equal world. A world free of bias, stereotypes and discrimination. A world that's

diverse, equitable, and inclusive. A world where difference is valued and celebrated. Together we can forge women's equality. Collectively we can all [#BreakTheBias](#). Celebrate women's achievement. Raise awareness against bias. Take Action for Equality.



Meet the Candidates and Elected Officials in OC - March 13th

Laguna Hills Community Center - 25555 Alicia Pkwy, Laguna Hills, Ca 92653

12 - 6 pm

These candidates and elected officials are attending the OCIACC Norouz Bazaar for an opportunity to connect with Iranian American community. It is not an indication of endorsement by IADC or OCIACC.

Elected Officials

Tiffany Ackley - *Aliso Viejo City Council*

Katrina Foley - *Board of Supervisors*

Dave Min - *CA State Senator*

Cottie Petrie-Norris - *Ca State Assembly*

Candidates

Kim Carr - *Ca State Senate*

Peter Hardin - *OC District Attorney*

Judie Mancuso - *CA State Assembly*

Natalie Moser - *Huntington Beach City Council*

Stephanie Oddo - *Laguna Niguel City Council*

Kathleen Treasure - *Irvine City Council*

Shrine Smith - *OC Board of Education*



Celebrating Norouz - Spring Equinox - March 20th 8:33 am PST

IADCs Norouz Message:

On behalf of IADC, we would like to extend our best wishes for a Happy Nowruz to all

Iranians and others who celebrate this festive occasion, around the world.

The first day of Spring, which symbolizes renewal, love and hope, is a time to gather with family and friends, enjoy delicacies and treats representing the sweetness of life, and reflect on the year that has passed while looking ahead to a better future.

As the earth renews, we wish peace, safety, justice, democracy, equality and protection of human rights for all. IADC is committed to promoting peace, understanding, inclusivity, and protecting our culture and heritage.

IADC believes that we deserve a world where everyone is treated with dignity, respect, and equality for all. It is our critical responsibility to ensure that we give to future generations a better earth and environment than the one we inherited.

About IADC

Iranian American voters are a prominent part of the CA economy and we can become a huge voice in its political landscape, where policies are discussed and laws are made to impact generations to come.

Join us, today and make your voice heard!

Volunteer with IADC

IADC is managed by an Executive Committee, a Steering Committee, as well as several Standing Committees: Endorsement, Membership, Outreach/Marketing, Policy Development, Digital Media, and Fundraising.

Leadership Opportunity

Our Fundraising Committee has an opening for one or more experienced leaders. [Please contact us](#) if you are interested in chairing or co-chairing this important committee.

[Read IADC's Statement of Values](#)

Sign up as a member and get involved in the IADC as we begin this important organization.

Become a member today!

Join Us

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Membership List

Website: <https://iadcal.org/>
Email: iademca@gmail.com

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