

Speakers for Women's March Contra Costa County



Eric Michael Swalwell, Jr. serves as the US Representative from California's 15th congressional district. Representative Swalwell grew up and attended public schools in the East Bay. He is the top Democrat on the House Intelligence Subcommittee on the CIA and also serves on the Committee on Science, Space and Technology, where he addresses climate change and advocates for renewable energy. Now in his second term, he brings new ideas to Congress, with a focus on policies that support equality, opportunity and security.



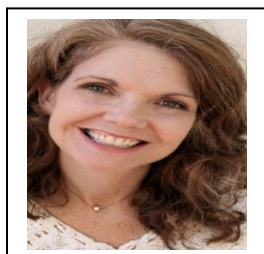
Nancy Skinner is a member of the California State Senate, representing the 9th Senate District, encompassing the East Bay. Skinner is committed to civil rights for all, challenging income inequality, providing access to health care, protecting our environment, and putting justice back into the criminal justice system.



Rev. Will McGarvey is the Executive Director of the Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County. The Council includes 107 congregations and faith organizations, which support the diverse communities and religious groups in our county.



Rev. Leslie Takahashi is the Lead Minister at the Mt Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church and affiliated faculty with Meadville-Lombard Theological School in Chicago. She has a long-time interest in faith connections across racial divides and developing accountable allyship partnerships for justice-making



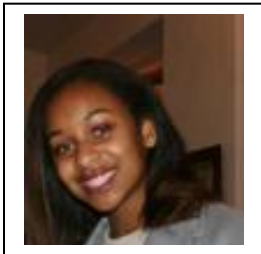
Cheryl Dumesnil is a poet, journalist, creativity coach and LGBTQ activist who lives in Walnut Creek with her two sons. Her latest book of poems, *Showtime at the Ministry of Lost Causes*, offers up survival songs for difficult times. Learn more about her work at www.cheryldumesnil.com.



Lori Watson, Ed.D. is an Equity Transformation Specialist with Pacific Educational Group, an organization committed to achieving racial equity in education through Courageous Conversation™, the award winning protocol for effectively engaging, sustaining and deepening interracial dialogue. Through a framework for Systemic Racial Equity Transformation, PEG is dedicated to helping educators address persistent racial disparities intentionally, explicitly and comprehensively.



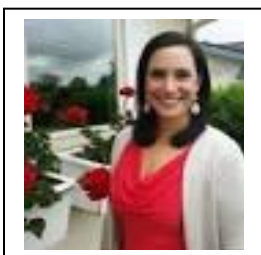
Caroline Francois is a high school student and activist who lives in Walnut Creek. She is the co-President of the Feminist Club at Las Lomas High School.



Sienna Terry is a high school student and activist who lives in Walnut Creek. She is co-President of the Student Diversity Council at Las Lomas High School. She marches in opposition to racism, sexism, homophobia, xenophobia, among other topics on the spectrum of social justice and equality.



Ejaz Naqvi is the the past president of a local Islamic Center and is actively engaged in interfaith work. A practicing physician and Muslim, Naqvi is the author of “the Quran: With or Against the Bible. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Islamic Scholarship Fund, a non-profit aimed at promoting Muslim students in the mainstream through educational scholarships and mentorship programs.



Natalia Tocino is Senior Health Educator at Planned Parenthood. She is dedicated to the cause of women’s reproduction rights and access to healthcare for all.

Will McGarvey and Leslie Takahashi from the Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County join in prayers with a focus on the need for love as an antidote to a rising culture of hatred, unifying a country divided, resisting policies that deny rights and engaging to protect our democracy.