



2021 SECOND QUARTERLY REPORT

VIRTUAL SACRAMENTO SYMPOSIUM EMBOLDENS WOMEN TO RUN

CTGCA's fourth bi-annual Sacramento Symposium on April 21st was a smash success! 43 prospective candidates - **our largest Symposium attendance ever** - came together to hear some of the most powerful female leaders in California politics share their challenges, opportunities and candid advice. In

addition, we introduced our prospective candidates to political influencers who could help them run a successful campaign for the State Legislature, including via our always-popular interactive speed dating session. Many thanks to ALL of our esteemed Symposium faculty and volunteers!

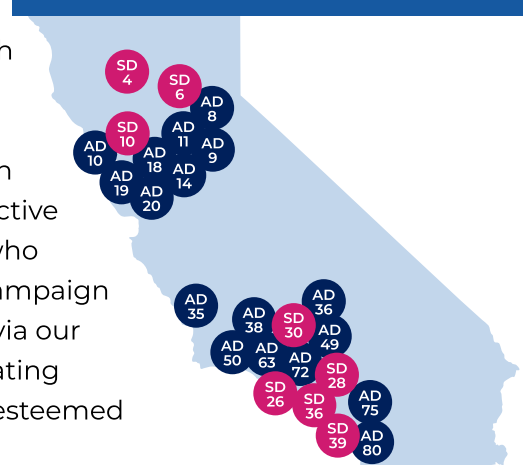


1) CTGCA Executive Director Susannah Delano (top left) moderates a panel of women legislators, including (starting clockwise) Asm. Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, Sen. Lena Gonzalez, and Sen. Sydney Kamlager.

2) CTGCA Board Member Dr. Pratima Gupta introduces Asm. Majority Leader Eloise Reyes.

3) LA County Supervisor Holly Mitchell speaks to prospective candidates about her time in the State Legislature.

43 accomplished prospective candidates from these districts:

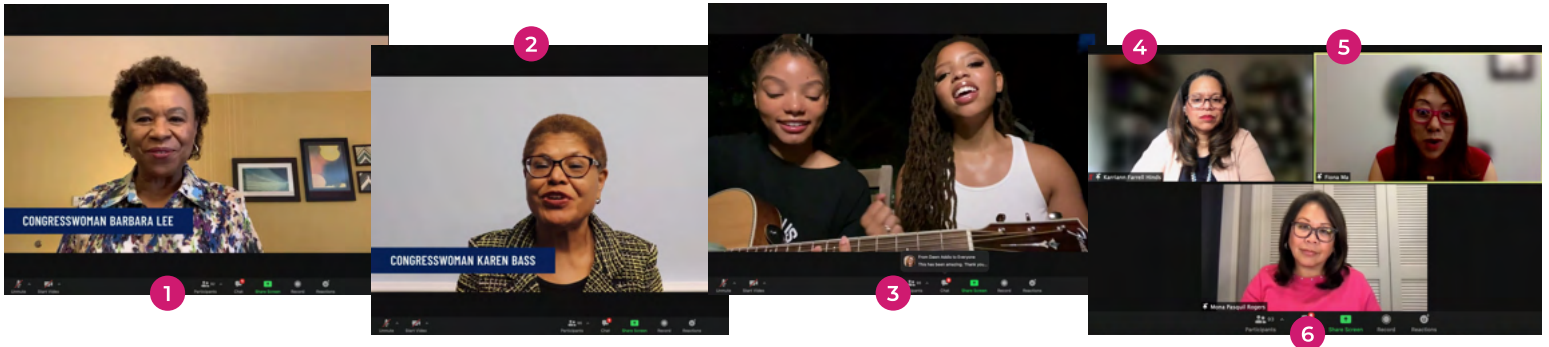


Close the Gap's Sacramento Symposium is designed to be the watershed moment in a prospective candidate's exploration process. In past years, this was the venue where multiple women who now serve in the Legislature took the final dose of confidence they needed to decide once and for all to run. This year promises the same: **shortly after attending, a number of women officially launched their campaigns for 2022, with more progressive women on the way for 2022-2028!**

The CTGCA Recruiting team has been hard at work following up with prospective candidates to wrap up 2022 explorations, connect them to allies, and share Launch Packets with a final checklist of expert advice. This summer, we officially dive into recruiting for 2024 - the single biggest cycle of the Motherlode - and will revisit 2022 districts in the winter, once more actionable information on the new district lines is available.

Did you know?

- ▶ More than 50% of our prospective Recruits say they are **more likely to run** after attending the Symposium.
- ▶ All but five told us they feel **more prepared to launch a competitive campaign** in the State Legislature after attending.
- ▶ We had a fairly even split between those attending from **NorCal vs. SoCal**.
- ▶ In terms of those targeting a run for an **open seat vs. a GOP flip**, there was a 70/30 split.
- ▶ **Women of color made up 72% of our attendees**, the largest group being Black women at 26%, with AAPI & Latinx at 23% each.
- ▶ **74% currently hold local office**, with 60% of those being City Council or Mayor (or nearly half of all attendees!).



SUPPORTERS HELP US KICK OFF A NEW ERA OF LEADERSHIP

Following our all-day virtual program, we ended the event on a high note at our Virtual Symposium Reception, where more than 100 prospective candidates and supporters joined us to “let equality bloom.” **Representatives Barbara Lee (1)** and **Karen Bass (2)** gave special introductions, and we were serenaded by Grammy-nominated R&B sister duo Chloe x Halle (3). **CTGCA Board Member Karriann Farrell Hinds (4)** moderated our main panel discussion with **California State Treasurer Fiona Ma (5)** and the **47th Lieutenant Governor of California and current president of California Women Lead Mona Pasquil (6)** who shared practical advice and words of encouragement for our prospective candidates. Special thanks to our event sponsors!



On June 1st, we celebrated our campaign’s 8th anniversary with a goal of raising \$8,000 to help us complete 2022 explorations and dive head-first into recruiting progressive women for 2024. With support seeded by a lead donor and a match challenge, we were blown away by the generosity of our community and ended up raising just over \$11,000! Many thanks to our supporters for your continued dedication to help us achieve gender equality in the State Legislature.

BE A PART OF MAKING HISTORY WITH CTGCA

2024 is the single biggest cycle of the Motherlode with at least 30 open seats. In order to ensure a progressive woman is running every single winnable district in 2024, we must expand the capacity of our volunteer-driven team. Interested in joining us to recruit or scout for diverse, talented women who can make a difference in our state house? [Apply to join our team!](#)

“There is a direct connection between the number of women we can elect and the groundbreaking social justice policy our state house is able to deliver for California and offer as an example to the nation. **Thank you to Close the Gap for recruiting progressive women who reflect their communities!**”

- **Congresswoman Karen Bass**, Former Speaker CA State Assembly



Photo credit: Karen Bass for Congress