

# **Political Engagement at Naz**

**College Mission**: The mission of Nazareth College is to provide a learning community that educates students in the liberal arts, sciences, visual and performing arts, and professional fields, fostering commitment to a life informed by intellectual, ethical, spiritual, and aesthetic values; to develop skills necessary for the pursuit of meaningful careers; and to inspire dedication to the ideal of service to their communities.

Nazareth seeks students who want to make a difference in their own world and the world around them, and encourages them to develop the understanding, commitment, and confidence to lead fully informed and actively engaged lives.

**Program Mission**: To offer students, staff, and faculty opportunities to become more active citizens through voter registration, voter education and voter turnout programs while learning how to become more involved in civic and political engagement matters.

# Goals:

- 1. Increase voter registration numbers
- 2. Increase student access to voting
- 3. To prepare students for a life of active democratic citizenship

# Leadership:

- 1. Nuala Boyle, Director for the Center for Civic Engagement and Experiential Learning Outcomes
- 2. Adam Lewandowski, Associate Director for the Center for Civic Engagement
- 3. Jazzmyn Ivery-Robinson, Center for Life's Work Coordinator



#### **Department Collaborations**:

- Library
- Community and Belonging
- Nursing Department
- Chemistry and Biology
- Social Work
- Alumni Relations

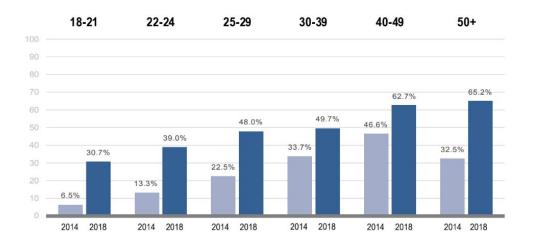
- Psychology
- English and Communication
- Religious Studies
- Health and Human Services
- Center for International Education

### **Community Partnerships**:

- Monroe County Board of Elections
- League of Women Voters
- Indivisible

#### Data:

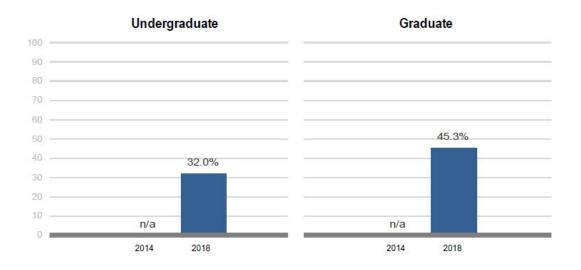
# Voting Data: By Age Group





	2014			2018				
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate		Change
18-21	1,625	105	6.5%	1,941	596	30.7%		24.3
22-24	653	87	13.3%	602	235	39.0%		25.7
25-29	289	65	22.5%	244	117	48.0%		25.5
30-39	163	55	33.7%	155	77	49.7%		15.9
40-49	73	34	46.6%	59	37	62.7%		16.1
50+	40	13	32.5%	23	15	65.2%		32.7
Unknown	51			*				

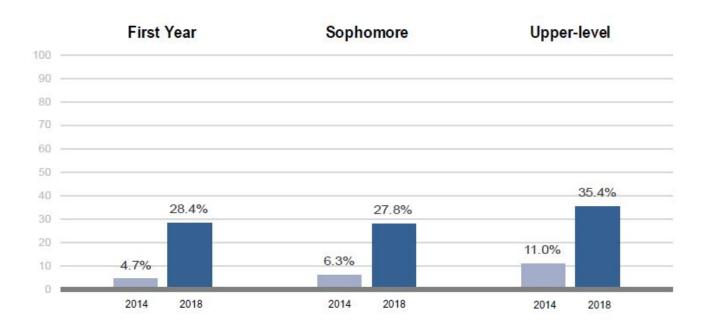
# **By Education Level\***



	2014						
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change
Undergraduate	0	0	n/a	2,202	704	32.0%	n/a
Graduate	0	0	n/a	782	354	45.3%	n/a
Unknown	2,843			40			



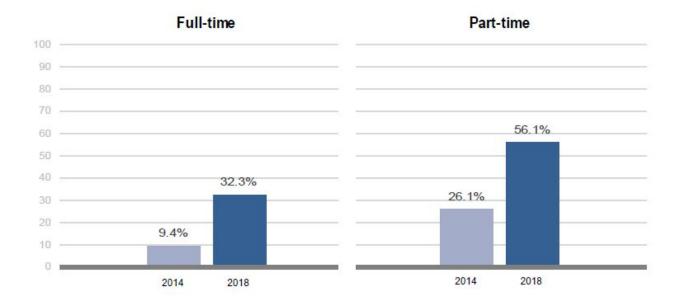
# By Undergraduate Class Year\*



	2014			2018				
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate		Change
First Year	557	26	4.7%	571	162	28.4%	î	23.7
Sophomore	396	25	6.3%	485	135	27.8%		21.5
Upper-level	1,0 <mark>81</mark>	119	11.0%	1,167	413	35.4%	ᡎ	24.4



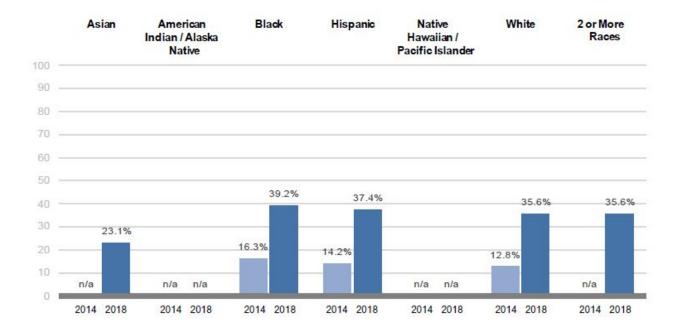
# By Enrollment Status\*



	2014			2018				
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate		Change
Full-time	2,291	215	9.4%	2,607	843	32.3%	€	23.0
Part-time	552	144	26.1%	417	234	<b>56.1%</b>	ᡎ	30.0
Unknown	0	0	n/a	0	0	n/a		



# By Race/Ethnicity\*



	2014			2018				
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate		Change
Asian	101	*	n/a	121	28	23.1%		n/a
American Indian/ Alaska Native	11	*	n/a	*	*	n/a		n/a
Black	184	30	16.3%	166	65	39.2%		22.9
Hispanic	106	15	14.2%	163	61	37.4%	⇧	23.3
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	0	0	n/a	0	0	n/a		n/a
White	2,062	264	12.8%	2,332	830	35.6%		22.8
2 or More Races	48	*	n/a	73	26	35.6%		n/a
Unknown	331			164				



#### Academic Year 2019-2020

# **Voter Registration**

- August 22, 2019 Voter Registration and Election Inspector Recruitment the Resources Fair
- August 25, 2019 Voter Registration and Election Inspector Recruitment at the Student Job Fair
- September 6, 2019 Voter Registration and Election Inspector Recruitment at the Involvement Fair
- September 14, 2019 Voter Registration and Election Inspector Recruitment Drive
- September 24, 2019 National Voter Registration Day
- October 1, 2019 Voter Registration and Election Inspector Recruitment Drive
- October 7, 2019 October 9, 2019 Voter Registration and Election Inspector Recruitment Drive
- \*Spring 2020 Voter Registration Drives throughout campus

#### **Voter Education**

- August 25, 2019 Elections Fellows Training with the Monroe County Board of Elections
- September 10, 2019 Election Inspector Information Session
- September 12, 2019 Election Inspector Information Session
- September 20, 2019 Election Inspector Information Session
- October 12, 2019 Election Inspectors Training at the Monroe County Board of Elections
- October 20, 2019 Election Inspectors Training at the University of Rochester
- October 29, 2019 Election Inspectors Logistics Meeting
- September 24, 2019 Voting Rights for Women/ 2020 Susan B. Anthony Quilting Project
- Fall 2019 Spring 2020 Why I Vote Campaign
- \*Spring 2020 The Ins and Outs of Voter Registration

#### Voter Turnout



November 3, 2019 - Offered transportation for students to participate in early voting

November 5, 2019 - Election Day (Nazareth is a polling site)

# **Political Engagement**

October 16, 2019 - Monroe County Executive and Count Legislator Candidate Forum

September 24, 2019 - Right to Write Event - Writing letters to elected officials

\*Spring 2020 - Susan B. Anthony House viewing and dialogue on this history of women voting

# Academic Year 2016-2017

# **Voter Registration**

**August 25-28, 2016: New Student Orientation** - All new first-year and transfer students received a TurboVote postcard in the mail along with their orientation brochure. In total, 657 pieces were mailed. In addition to the mailed pieces, a link to TurboVote was added to the Nazareth app (through Ellucian) so that students can access the site, sign up for the service, and register to vote from their smartphones.

**September 9, 2016: Involvement Fair** - At the involvement fair a group of students from the Campaigns Voters and Elections class assisted the UA in trying to register people to vote. One small group manned a station for paper ballots while another traveled through the involvement fair educating students on how to register through a smartphone.

**September 15, 2016: The Vanishing Voter** - A voter registration table was staffed by students at this event and enabled all those who attend to register to vote if they are not already registered. 25 new students registered.

September 26, 2016: First Presidential Debate - A voter registration table was staffed by students during this event.

**September 27, 2016: National Voter Registration Day** - Hosted a #Nazvotes rally- In an attempt to excite the young voters we hosted a rally on voting and its importance to Nazareth.

# **Voter Education**

**September 6-8, 2016: 2016 College Convention** - Nazareth's College Delegates, Malik and Angela, traveled again to Dominican University and worked with other student delegates and participated in a 90-minute moderated Town Hall meeting, which was streamed live across the country. All of the Delegates collaborated to draft a memo to the moderators of the Presidential Debates that will outline



the key issues the College Delegates want the candidates to address. Work was also done on planning election and inauguration day activities.

**September 15, 2016: The Vanishing Voter** - The Fairport Area Branch of AAUW in collaboration with the History and Political Science Department at Nazareth College, will convene a panel to hear perspectives about the quandaries our citizens are exhibiting about voting in national, state, and local elections and how we can voice the reasons to encourage citizens to register and vote despite potential reservations about the outcome. Dr. Timothy Kneeland, Professor and Chair of History and Political Science and Director, Center for Public History at Nazareth College, will first provide pertinent comments on his perspective and opinions about voting, with a call especially to students to be involved in the voting process. Following Dr. Kneeland's comments, panel participants will include Nazareth student leader Ryan Page, president of the Undergraduate Association, Patricia Thompson, an AAUW Fairport Area Branch member, and Rachel Bailey-Jones, Director of the Core Curriculum in the Nazareth College. Democrat and Chronicle paper covered the event and interviewed students at the voter registration table.

**September 22, 2016: Norma S. Pimental, M.J. - "The Human Face of Migration: Learning Mercy at the Border" -** For more than a decade, Norma S. Pimental has drawn attention, nationally and globally, to the plight of the countless and distressed refugee individuals and families, Pimental has revealed the human face of migration. She has testified before the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights on the "State of Civil Rights in Immigration Detention Facilities" and addressed the members of the United Nations.

~ Presented by the William H. Shannon Chair in Catholic Studies.

September 22, 2016: Norma S. Pimental, M.J. -"Nurturing a Culture of Caring"- For more than a decade, Norma S. Pimental has drawn attention, nationally and globally, to the plight of the countless and distressed refugee individuals and families, Pimental has revealed the human face of migration. She has testified before the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights on the "State of Civil Rights in Immigration Detention Facilities" and addressed the members of the United Nations.

 $\sim$  Presented by the William H. Shannon Chair in Catholic Studies.

**September 22, 2016: "The State of the Election" talk** - The National Council of Jewish Women and the League of Women Voters come together to talk on the state of the election and the impact depending on which candidate might win.

**September 26, 2016: First Presidential Debate** - Students were provided with food as they watched the first presidential debate. Dialogue was used to engage students before and after the candidate's debate.

September 28, 2016: Fannie Lou Hamer "Is This America?" - A live performance by AKWAABA: The Heritage Associates. AKWAABA: the Heritage Associates, are local living history performers featuring Nazareth's very own visiting community scholar, Dr. David Anderson. Fannie Lou Hamer was a Mississippi sharecropper who rose to national prominence during the civil rights struggles of the 1960s and was considered by many to be the "spirit" of the civil rights movement. Originally asked as a



response to her personal experiences of discrimination, her now famous question "Is This America?" is one that unfortunately still needs to be asked today. In these weeks before the presidential election, the recalling of Hamer's story will allow us to gain insight into current social and political realities of many African Americans continue to face today.

**October 1, 2016: Saturday Morning with Jon Favreau** - Two years following his graduation from the College of Holy Cross, Jon Favreau was writing speeches for then-Senator Barack Obama. He has had a hand in crafting nearly every major speech that President Obama has delivered over the last eight years, and is one of the youngest presidential speech writers in the history of the United States. Favreau will share insights and experiences from working alongside President Obama.

**October 4 2016: Vice Presidential and Student debate in Collies Cafe** - Watched the Vice Presidential debate and hosted a student debate. Students were able to voice their concerns and stances they had on various issues.

October 9, 2016: Presidential Debate - Reflection from students who watched the presidential debate.

**October 10, 2016: "Is ISIS a Threat to International Peace and Security?"** - A discussion was held on the origins, ideology and tactics of the so-called Islamic State in Iraq, Syria and across the globe. How serious is the threat it poses? How does it distinguish itself from Al Qaeda? What other terrorist groups associate themselves with it? The lecture will be given by Dr. Sharon Murphy, Director of the Middle Eastern Studies Minor, and Professor of Political Science. A response will be given by Dr. Harry Murray, Director of the Peace and Justice Studies Program, and Professor of Sociology. Co-sponsored by the Middle Eastern Studies Program, the Hickey Center for Interfaith Studies and Dialogue and the Department of History and Political Science.

Late October: Women Voting and Nazareth college discussions begin - Discussion series on the subject in the context of Nazareth College's history, paying special attention to the connection Nazareth's founders have to women's suffrage.

October 31, 2016: Institute for Democracy & Higher Education's Discussion on Post-election Political Turbulence: - Members of the #NazVotes working group were one group in the sixty three people from colleges and universities nationwide who called in to discuss:

• What might happen "the morning after" Election Day on campuses.

• What challenges and opportunities does the outcome of this election (either way) present?

• Will campus climates be affected by the election results? What do institutions have planned?

This discussion formed the description for the Dine & Dialogue that occured on Nazareth's campus after the election to try and heal the campus community.

**November 8, 2016: President Elect address** - Election Coverage was provided all evening in common areas of the residential halls. Students were allowed to study, bring friends and see the results and acceptance speech of the president elect.



#### **Voter Turnout**

**November 8, 2016: Election Day** - As a way to celebrate the elections and the participation of Nazareth students a party was held on campus for anyone with an "I Voted" sticker.

# Spring 2017

**Inauguration Trip -** 20 students were able to sign up for a four day tour sponsored by EF Tours to Washington, D.C. for the Inauguration. The trip included transportation to D.C., hotel, sightseeing and the inauguration itself.

**Dine and Dialogues** - The Office of Diversity and Inclusion hosted Dine and Dialogues through the spring semester. These opportunities for campus-wide dialogue touched on healing after the election, policy-based issues, and encouraged deep conversation within the Nazareth community on how such issues should be addressed.

# Academic Year 2015-2016

# **Voter Registration**

**September 22, 2015**: National Voter Registration Day - #NazVotes committee members facilitate a campus wide event in support of National Voter Registration Day and registered 121 students to vote.

#### **Voter Education**

**October and November, 2015: Presidential Candidate Debates** - #NazVotes committee members worked together to televise Democratic and Republican debates and provide food and refreshments to students who attended.

**March 2016: 2016 College Convention** - The Center for Civic Engagement collaborated with Dominican University (DU) as part of the College Convention 2016 initiative to select two students (one sponsored by Nazareth College, the second sponsored by DU) for the roles of College Delegates.

**June 1-3, 2016: 2016 College Convention** - Nazareth's College Delegates (Malik James and Angela Tona) joined other student delegates from colleges and universities across all 50 states and DC, and met on the Dominican University campus to plan strategies for strengthening campus political engagement and participated in discussions on national issues, with faculty experts serving as moderators.

**Summer 2016: College Delegates -** Two Nazareth students participated in the first annual College Debate '16 at Dominican University

Academic Year 2012-2013



**Spring 2013**: In the spring of 2013, Nazareth College enrolled in the National Study on Learning, Voting, and Engagement (<u>NSLVE</u>).