

San Francisco Conservatory of Music 2024 Nonpartisan Democratic Engagement Action Plan

Developed by: Madison Roesler

Executive Summary:

This nonpartisan democratic engagement action plan was developed by San Francisco Conservatory of Music in California for the 2024 election. The purpose of this action plan is to increase nonpartisan democratic engagement and student voter registration, education, and turnout in the 2024 election. The goals for San Francisco Conservatory of Music for the 2024 election are: to educate and get 30 students to vote, to build the SFCM Civic Engagement Coalition, and to integrate a culture of democratic participation into the school.

Leadership:

Our leadership team includes the following, campus groups, and organizations:

Madison Roesler - Director of Campus Life

Cora-Melin Mikat - Graduate Assistant of Student Affairs and Civic Engagement

Ervin Keeling - Graduate Assistant of Resident Life

Lorenna Garcia - Graduate Assistant of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Jayla Hernandez - Civic Engagement Coalition Student Representative

*Pending a faculty representative

*Pending the League of Women Voters of San Francisco

Commitment:

San Francisco Conservatory of Music does not have a current signatory to the ALL IN Presidents' Commitment to Full Student Voter Participation, but progress is underway to completion of this signature.

The SFCM mission statement asserts: "We are committed to providing an extraordinary education that prepares our graduates to pursue fully engaged lives as citizens of the world." This mission statement supports principles of democratic participation, as voting is integral to citizenship for those who have that privilege worldwide.

Landscape:

Due to high numbers of international students and out-of-state students at SFCM, it is important for us to provide information on absentee voting nationwide and to provide information on voting in countries where international students maintain citizenship.

San Francisco Conservatory of Music is a private 4-year institution and joined the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge in 2022. Our institution is designated as the following: Predominantly White Institution.

Our campus demographic and voting data:

San Francisco Conservatory of Music has 410 students.

The following is a breakdown of student ethnicities at SFCM for the 2021-2022 academic year. Out of 445 students, 196 were White, 149 were Asian, 52 were Hispanic, 25 were two or more, 12 were unknown, and 11 were African American.

The following is the degree distribution for the Fall 2021 semester. 51% of students were in the Bachelor of Music program, 39% of students were in the Master of Music program, and 10% of students were in other graduate programs.

San Francisco Conservatory of Music has authorized the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE) and will receive campus voting data for the 2022 election in fall 2023. However, our NSLVE authorization expires in 2023 and our institution will need to reauthorize NSLVE to receive campus voting data for the 2024 election and beyond.

The following are key California election dates for the general election of 2024:

- October 21, 2024 voter registration deadline
- October 29, 2024 vote-by-mail ballot request deadline
- November 5, 2024, 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. election date

Goals:

Our institution's nonpartisan democratic engagement goals are:

Short Term Goals:

- Achieve 40% voter turnout in 2024.
- Have our president sign the ALL IN Higher Education Presidents' Commitment to Full Student Voter Participation by July 1, 2024.
- Include a voter registration table at check in on move in day.
- Educate 100 students with our tabling events in the Fall of 2024.
- Confirm a faculty representative for the SFCM Civic Engagement Coalition by July 1, 2024.
- Get ahold of and develop a partnership with the League of Women Voters of San Francisco by July 1, 2024.
- Program a voting event into welcome week.

Long Term Goals:

- Incorporate all civic holidays, key election dates, and school civic engagement events in the campus life calendar and newsletter.
- Complete a constitution for the SFCM Civic Engagement Coalition.
- Increase student voter turnout rate by 10% from 2024 to 2026.

Strategy:

Because our student body cares about diversity, equity, and inclusion, if we educate them on POC and age group voter turnout, they will vote.

San Francisco Conservatory of Music will implement these strategies to increase nonpartisan democratic engagement and student voter participation.

Developing a strong coalition over the summer of 2024, eventually incorporating civic engagement into curriculum, and developing a page on the school's website will contribute to the success of our institution's goals.

Evaluation:

We will evaluate our action plan in the following ways:

San Francisco Conservatory of Music will use the National, Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement to evaluate the increase of student voting by comparing our campus voter turnout and voter registration rates to past elections to measure progress on increasing both.

As this is a new initiative at SFCM, Cora-Melin Mikat (the Graduate Assistant of Student Affairs and Civic Engagement) will be adjusting this action plan throughout the summer 2024 to promote best outcomes.

Reporting:

Our campus action plan will be posted on our campus page on ALL IN's website https://allinchallenge.org/campuses/san-francisco-conservatory-of-music/.

Our institution has given ALL IN permission to publish our past NSLVE reports, which can also be found on our campus page above.