

New Haven Democracy Fund

Mayoral Debate Set for Tuesday, October 30 City High School and College Students Involved

On Tuesday, October 30, 2007, from 6:00 to 7:30 pm, a mayoral debate will be held by the New Haven Democracy Fund, with co-sponsors the League of Women Voters, WTNH, the New Haven Register, and the New Haven Advocate.

The debate will be held at the Wexler-Grant School auditorium, 55 Foote Street. All three mayoral candidates will appear: Democrat John DeStefano, Jr., Republican Richter Elser, and Green Ralph Ferrucci. Food will served after the debate.

Questions are being submitted by New Haven high school and college students, and others, for selection by the League of Women Voters. Audience members will also have an opportunity to submit questions before the debate. The questions will be posed to the candidates by a single moderator (to be named soon).

The New Haven Democracy Fund is the new pilot public election financing program. New Haven is the first city in Connecticut to establish a public financing system, as part of a State Elections Enforcement Commission program. The voluntary Democracy Fund program, in which all candidates are participating, is intended to bring more New Haven residents into the political process, to make small contributions more meaningful, and to prevent large contributors from affecting public policy. Mayoral candidates are able to spend more time communicating with voters and focusing on the issues, and less time fund-raising.

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For more information about the Democracy Fund, visit its webpage:

<http://www.cityofnewhaven.com/Government/DemocracyFund.asp>