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DEMOCRACY UNCHAINED CONVERSATION SERIES TO ADDRESS THE URGENCY OF VOTING RIGHTS & ACCESSIBILITY

Next episode of State of American Democracy’s new conversation series to premiere Thursday, October 1, 2020 at 7 p.m. EST/4 p.m. PST with bi-partisan discussion on voting rights

The State of American Democracy—a nonpartisan collective of thought leaders and non-profit organizations and foundations—will premiere its next episode of the new “Democracy Unchained” conversation series,” on Thursday, October 1, 2020 at 7 p.m. EST/4 p.m. PST, on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), [Vimeo](#), Roku and Fire TV.

The expansion of voting rights is a great achievement of American democracy. It is now threatened by efforts to restrict voting and by unregulated social media. The third episode of the series features conversations across party lines—each supporting the full rights of all people to vote in the November 2020 elections. “The Right to Vote” features conversations with **Frank LaRose** (Rep.), Secretary of State, Ohio and **Jocelyn Benson** (Dem.), Secretary of State, Michigan, along with discussions with award-winning journalist and producer, **Maria Hinojosa**; founder of Black Voters Matter, **LaTosha Brown**; and, the **Most Rev. Michael Curry**, presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church.

Episode to also feature **Andrew Gumbel**, award-winning journalist and author; **David Daley**, author and senior fellow for FairVote; **Desmond Meade**, President, Florida Rights Restoration Coalition (FRRC); and, **Jacqueline Salit**, President, IndependentVoting.org.

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About the State of American Democracy Project

The State of American Democracy initiative began with a conference at Oberlin College in 2017, with a goal to clarify the historic and institutional origins of the election of 2016 and the breakdown in governance, civility, and fairness that transcends party politics. The second phase of the work through the election of 2020 focuses on repairing and strengthening democratic institutions to serve the aims of justice, fairness, prosperity, and resilience.

Today, the State of American Democracy is a nonpartisan collective of individuals and organizations from across the country who are passionate about rebuilding politics and government in America for the benefit of all Americans. *Democracy Unchained*, the book, edited by David W. Orr, Andrew Gumbel, Bakari Kitwana and William S. Becker (New Press, March 2020), brings together more than 30 contributors, and “Democracy Unchained: A Conversation Series” brings together more than 100 thought leaders from a variety of disciplines. Today, more than 50 organizations have also partnered and/or sponsored this project, as well.

The State of American Democracy project is made possible through the generous support of Ford Foundation, Germeshausen Foundation, The Heinz Endowments, Wallace Global Fund, Park Foundation, and Kallopeia Foundation.

To learn more, visit stateofamericandemocracy.org.