

The NOMA Nominations Committee is putting forth the following candidates for the 2024 Board. As the report contains there are six candidates including five who are incumbents. They will join the eight members elected in 2023.

## 2024 NOMA Board Nominations

NOMA will vote at its March 7th Meeting for the 2024 Board Members. In general, the Board members serve for 2 years.

### **Danilo Bach\***

I've been a resident of the city for 44 years, the first ten as a renter and homeowner in Ocean Park, where I was involved with preservation and local zoning issues and with my wife and friends helped save and rehab the Irving Gill-designed Horatio West Court apartments, the first Santa Monica landmark to be listed on the National Register. I've since been a resident of north of Montana for over 30 years, made my living as a screenwriter, have a wife who, if anything, is more passionate about the singularity of our city than I, and two sons who are products of Santa Monica's extraordinary public school system.

### **Jeff Brecht\***

My wife and I have lived on 4th and San Vicente in Santa Monica for the last five years. I've made my career as a Financial Consultant focused on promoting financial health and literacy. I first became involved with the community as an active member of the Historic San Vicente Coalition. In the coalition, I worked side by side with numerous NOMA members and countless North of Montana residents in creating the largest historic district in Santa Monica. AS a member of the NOMA board, I hope to promote the welfare of our neighborhood and its citizens through furthering the democratic process.

### **Nancy Coleman\***

I returned to Santa Monica after a 40 year period in Washington, DC in mid-2011 and joined NOMA shortly thereafter. I graduated from Roosevelt, Lincoln, and Santa Monica High School and continued to visit the area during the intervening years. Most recently I have served as Chair of NOMA, a member of the Santa Monica Social Services Commission and served two terms on the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury.

My NOMA work has concerned the maintenance of R 1 neighborhoods, the incursion of residential neighborhoods of commercial entities, the lack of parks in NOMA and the state legislation that impacts our residential neighborhoods.

I have spent my professional life looking at better ways for citizens to influence public policy whether at the national or local levels. I hope to be able to use my skills to work with NOMA to influence the Santa Monica City Council and other Commission's such as the Planning Commission.

**Jeff Gordon\***

I have lived in Santa Monica since 1988. I am a retired attorney (inactive status.) Over the years, as part of my litigation practice, I have worked on protecting women's and first amendment rights and to help ensure gender equality for girls in LA park's programs and numerous other pro bono projects. I have received recognition from the State Bar and the ACLU's Pro Bono Advocacy Award for my work.

I am concerned about traffic gridlock in our city caused by overdevelopment and preserving the character of our wonderful NOMA neighborhood and city as a whole.

**Bruce Leddy\***

My family and I have lived in the North of Montana neighborhood for the past 21 years, having moved here from New York City to pursue my work as a writer/director. I feel lucky to live in Santa Monica, and in particular NoMa, and am eager to apply more time and energy to helping preserve and improve the neighborhood we are so fortunate to live in. Issues of particular interest to me are: over-development, which threatens to irrevocably alter our city and quality of life; the preservation of historic homes; and finding compassionate solutions to the chronic and complex homelessness crisis which affects us all. My volunteer experience has primarily been at a national/political level and I welcome the opportunity to address issues here at home, following the maxim "All politics is local." NOMA's commitment to providing information to residents about important matters that affect us directly, as well as its monthly forum for healthy discussion and interaction with community leaders, are invaluable to creating a better community. I look forward to supporting that mission.

## **Cindy Bendat**

I have lived in Santa Monica in the North of Montana neighborhood since 1990. I served on the Board of Directors of the Santa Monica Pier for more than 8 years, I am on the Advisory Board of Airport2Park, and I have also been involved with local issues: saving the palm trees on Georgina and Marguerita, protecting the San Vicente Courtyard Apartments in a historic district, saving the anti-war Chain Reaction sculpture by Paul Conrad, working with residents, clergy and union members to unionize Santa Monica hotels, and mobilizing residents to vote for measure LC.

I was a lawyer for more than 30 years, and I am a photographer.

While I am most active politically on national issues and candidates, I am also concerned with local issues, including overdevelopment, traffic congestion, sustainability, promoting the arts and artists, celebrating our diversity, and helping those of us most in need. And I care about our local businesses and restaurants who have gone through so much since 2020.

A group like NOMA can make the City and our neighborhood a better place. provide important information to residents, and mobilize people to act. We need to increase membership and youth involvement in NOMA and offer benefits to members. NOMA's monthly meetings provide a vital way for residents to build community and to enjoy direct contact with elected officials, City staff and each other. And when neighborhood groups throughout the City organize and join together on vital issues, resident voices are more clearly heard. In unity, there is strength. Let's save the Civic too.

Indicates incumbent \*

Board Members elected in 2023 who will remain on the Board are:

Phillis Dudick

Sue Edwards

Victor Fresco

Ann Greenspun

Todd James

Evelyn Lauchenauer

Elizabeth Lerer

Sonya Fox Sultan

Steve Lissik will be leaving the NOMA Board after serving for several years.