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## North Omaha Makes Political History

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# North Omaha Makes Political History

Exclusive to Omaha Star

By Preston Love Jr.

*“North Omaha, Vote like Crazy”*

April 14<sup>th</sup> will go down in the long and rich history of North Omaha as a significant event albeit political for our community.

Over 250 community members of all political persuasions, cultures, and races joined together Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at the MCC Culinary Arts building for a four-hour intense but relaxed first ever North Omaha Political Convention.



The convention was a reaction to a grass root effort began by Barry Thomas and the Omega Psi Phi fraternity and grew to include over 20 social, civic, clergy and non-profit organizations to create this most successful convention.

The overall vision of the convention was to provide measures for the community for us to get out and vote in this most important 2018 mid-term election. The convention provided: voter Registration and early voting assistance, in-depth discussions and dialogue on issues affecting the community, and the rare opportunity to meet, greet and hear from candidates for office who can affect our community. Scores of candidates and several of our elected officials attended.

The convention highlighted our North Omaha record number of Black candidates running for office, who are highlighted in this issue of *Omaha Star* .

North Omaha Political Convention Outcomes:

- 242 people registered for Convention
- An estimated 158 people were in attendance (47 pre-registered and 111 on-site registrations)
- 17 political candidates discussed platform
- 6 people got early voting information
- 5 people were registered to vote

The convention while entirely non-partisan, should be a signal to those outside our community that our community is primed to maximize our voting power again in 2018 and, to announce to our community that enough is enough of us not seeing how powerful and important our vote is. Need we explain that our lack of voting contributed to the election Donald Trump.

The collaborative plans to continue the unified activism. Organizers welcome new members and organizations. The final challenge coming from the convention was , North Omaha, **“Vote like Crazy, Vote like Crazy”**.

For voting assistance or Ride to the Polls call Black Votes Matter: 531-444-8601