

Board of Director Elections

2026 Nominating Slate

Randa Black



Randa Black is active in the Central Florida Freethought Community, working for Separation of Church and State, giving invocations, volunteering and supporting causes and speakers. She served on The Humanist Society board and won Florida's Humanist of the Year Award for her actions to be the change she wants to see in the world. Randa won the 'Nothing Fails Like Prayer Award' and is a lifetime member of the Freedom From Religion Foundation and a guest speaker on Freethought Matters. She is a proud Humanist, Celebrant and agnostic atheist. She is retired from ABC Affiliate WFTV, where she was Coordinator for Action 9, helping consumers, going undercover to be an advocate for injustice. Randa has been a successful actor with the Screen Actors Guild, appearing in hundreds of commercials and starring in feature films, including roles as Nickelodeon Studios Game Show Host on Game Lab and numerous featured roles on sitcoms and episodic TV shows.

Adelle Goldenberg



Adelle Goldenberg is a J.D. Candidate at Harvard Law School, and a Legal Fellow at the American Humanist Association. She grew up in Brooklyn's ultra-Orthodox community, and was not allowed to apply to college for religious reasons. Accordingly, she found it appropriate to pursue at least a handful of degrees: she holds an A.B. from Harvard College, an M.Phil. from Cambridge University, and an M.A. from Cornell University, where she is also pursuing a Ph.D. Her life experiences and education have shaped her commitments to universal human rights, liberal democracy, and freethought advocacy. She hopes to put her education to good use in law, academia, or both.

Candace Gorham



Candace R. M. Gorham, MBA, LCMHCS, is a licensed mental health counselor and former ordained minister turned atheist-humanist activist, researcher, and writer. Her work focuses on the intersections of race, religion, and mental health. She is the author of *The Ebony Exodus Project: Why Some Black Women Are Walking Out on Religion*, and *Others Should, Too* and *On Death, Dying, and Disbelief*. She currently serves as president of the American Humanist Association. Candace entered the secular community with *The Ebony Exodus Project*, the first in-depth exploration of Black American women leaving harmful religious traditions. She later contributed to *Women Versus Religion: The Case Against Faith*—and for *Freedom*, examining religion's impact on women's psychological well-being. Her most recent book, *On Death, Dying, and Disbelief*, emerged from her search for secular grief resources after a personal loss. She has also written widely for magazines and online publications. Candace holds a bachelor's degree in Secondary English Education from North Carolina Central University, a master's in Mental Health Counseling from Wake Forest University, and an MBA from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. She lives in Greensboro, NC, with her fiancé and bonus child.

Miranda Hovemeyer



Miranda Hovemeyer currently serves as Humanist Chaplain at American University. She is committed to inclusive interfaith spaces that uplift marginalized voices, like Humanists and Atheists, and foster genuine connection. She is a Stewarding the Common Good Fellow with Interfaith America, where she works on helping spiritual life programs/offices in higher education learn to better serve the needs of their non-religious student population. She previously served for 13 years as the Administrative Director of The Interfaith Families Project of Greater Washington, DC. Miranda holds an MA from Meadville Lombard Theological School and a BA from Colorado State University. She lives in the DC suburbs with her family and enjoys improv comedy, gardening, and camping.

Maha Kamal



Maha Kamal is a seasoned litigator and mediator. An emphatic humanist since her teenage years, she practices family law in Denver, running her own practice at the Colorado Family Law Project, which turns ten this year. She intentionally brings a humanist approach to her legal work and has advocated for more secular policies and practices in the state's family law rules, procedures, and public-facing materials, including parenting plan templates that previously defaulted to Easter and Christmas above all else. Those efforts are paying off, as the state moves away from a default Judeo-Christian lens toward a more humanist one. (Even if it doesn't realize it!) In addition to being a trustee of The Humanist Foundation, Maha has served in numerous positions at the state level. She notably co-chaired the Colorado Supreme Court committee that recently established Licensed Legal Paraprofessionals in the state, think of them as the RNs of family law. For her work, she has been recognized by Denver's 5280 Top Lawyers and Super Lawyers Rising Stars for numerous years. She has enjoyed serving as a trustee of The Foundation and is excited to help the AHA's current leadership advance its vision of a more humanist, community-based America.

Karina Moreno



Karina Moreno spent much of her career in education. She has worked in K-12 schools and several colleges and universities, providing support to students pursuing higher education from Associates Degrees to Terminal Degrees (PhD, EdD, MFT). She is a first-generation college graduate who understands the need for culturally competent, bilingual advising impacting graduation rates. In 2020, Karina ran for office, earning 61% of votes cast. She unseated a two-term incumbent, becoming the first Latina and youngest woman elected in Palm Desert, California. She was re-elected in 2024. Since being elected in 2020, Karina participates in endorsement meetings across the state for local, statewide, and national candidates. She enjoys mentoring and helping potential candidates strengthen assets. Karina pollinates ideas, bringing together resources and unmet needs in the community via service on numerous boards and committees. While Mayor, Palm Desert became the first city in California, and second in the US to achieve Autism Certification. Karina is a dedicated advocate for individuals with disabilities, including invisible disabilities. As a Secular Humanist, she draws on her family values of service, compassion, empathy, integrity. Karina is a mother, wife, 22-gallon blood donor, and jewelry-maker who loves hummingbirds and bees.

Marcus Rademacher



Marcus Rademacher is a community organizer and secular advocate based in the Triangle area of North Carolina. Since 2019, he has served on the board of Triangle Freethought Society, an AHA affiliate. He doubled membership and event attendance by reorienting the organization around shared humanist values and building programming to reflect that focus. As North Carolina State Director for American Atheists since 2023, he has supported established secular groups and helped launch new ones across the state. A committed church-state separation advocate, Marcus works with AHA's policy team on legislation such as a Secular Students' Bill of Rights. He works with faith communities on shared concerns, including opposing Christian Nationalist legislation and supporting religious freedom, taking this work to audiences like the Duke Divinity School. He has completed two courses with the Institute for Secular Leadership, covering board governance, financial oversight, and organizational leadership. As a Senior Manager in the medical device industry, he leads engineers developing technologies that impact millions of patients. The role demands technical depth and the ability to earn trust and move people toward agreement. He can usually be found hiking with his wife and their two Shelties or playing ice hockey and tabletop games.

Jim Palmquist



Jim Palmquist retired from a diverse career where he worked in several different skill sets. Jim is an accomplished global operations executive, veteran, and board member with comprehensive experience in logistics, governance, and crisis leadership. He spent 25 years directing international logistics for a global industrial chemical company, 11 years on the Board of Directors for Keystone Health Plan Central, Inc, numerous years as a U.S. Navy airplane and helicopter rescue pilot, 15 semesters as an Adjunct Professor in marketing and Executive-in-Residence across four major universities, as well as 6 years of community fundraising leadership with the United Way.

His teaching skills have earned him collateral responsibilities as a quality trainer and a facilitation trainer/process manager. He received the 2023 AARP Pennsylvania Andrus Award for Community Service, AARP's most prestigious state volunteer award for community service. Jim has traveled to 29 countries on six continents. He has conducted 89 lobbying sessions for AARP, ACLU, EmgageUSA, Center for Freethought Equality, Lehigh Valley Humanists, and the Secular Coalition for America. In 2021, he completed co-running a Rotary project to train 30 peacebuilders in five West African countries over 9 months.

Ellen Sutliff



Ellen Sutliff grew up in Ohio, got a degree in mathematics from Hiram College and enjoyed a long and rewarding career in IT working for GE and Lockheed Martin. As a Humanist and Unitarian of many years, she has been very active, including serving on the Boards of the local AHA chapter and the UU Church in both Wilmington and New Bern, North Carolina. She served on the AHA Board of Directors from 2019-2021 and chaired the Resolution Committee. She is most proud of her daughters and their families including three amazing adult grandchildren. For most of her adult life, Ellen has been an avid boater, having lived aboard in the Washington Channel for 6 years. She now lives in Germantown, Maryland, and RV all over this beautiful country visiting friends and family and adding birds to her life list.