

Dear Friend, I'm writing to alert you about (and invite you to attend) two programs this month--one, a 2022 election preview I'm moderating on Oct 18 (7-8:30 pm, via Zoom) sponsored by Folio, Seattle's membership library. You can register at folioseattle.org and you'll get a Zoom link.

And the other, Oct.26 at 6 p.m., is an in-person presentation at Town Hall by Joshua Graham Lynn, CEO of Represent.US, the nation's leading political reform organization. Tickets are available at townhallseattle.org.

Josh will be a panelist at Folio's Oct. 18 event, but he won't have time to cover all that his group (and the surprisingly large Democracy reform movement of which it's part) are doing to make US politics serve its people instead of special interests. Represent.US has the most compelling website of any reform group and you should definitely check it out.

The 2022 elections are regarded by both Democrats and Republicans as one of the most consequential in recent times. Republicans think they have a good chance of taking control of both the US House and Senate and many state governments. Many outside experts agree, given polls showing that President Biden has low approval ratings on inflation, immigration, crime and leadership.

Democrats fear that if Republicans do win they will do all they can to defund Biden's programs and perhaps even impeach him. And that, where they don't win, their candidates will follow Donald Trump's example and refuse to accept defeat. And they fear that state Republican legislatures, governors and election officials will enact more measures making it virtually impossible for GOP candidates to lose in 2024.

To discuss the important races, the issues and the implications on Oct 18, the panelists, besides Josh, will be John Lapinski, head of the Elections Unit at NBCNews and a political science professor at the University of Pennsylvania, and Sandeep Kaushik, a WA political consultant.

I hope you'll come to both programs. There'll be opportunities at both for you to engage with the presenters.

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