

National Conservative and Libertarian Organizations: Comments

JLB: 5/9/2022

<p>American Enterprise Institute</p>	<p>https://www.aei.org/</p>	<p>AEI, like the Heritage Foundation and Hoover Institution, is one of the nation’s leading conservative think tanks. Unlike those other two, AEI has been sliding from right to left and is no longer a reliable source. Wisconsin’s own Paul Ryan is a senior fellow. One of the few bright spots at AEI is Benjamin Zycher, an economist who writes on climate and energy issues.</p> <p>From its website: “The American Enterprise Institute is a public policy think tank dedicated to defending human dignity, expanding human potential, and building a freer and safer world. The work of our scholars and staff advances ideas rooted in our belief in democracy, free enterprise, American strength and global leadership, solidarity with those at the periphery of our society, and a pluralistic, entrepreneurial culture.”</p> <p>Its annual budget in 2020 was \$47 million.</p>
<p>American Family Association</p>	<p>https://afa.net/ P.O. Drawer 2440 Tupelo Mississippi 38803 662-844-5036</p> <p>Tim Wildmon President</p> <p>Wesley Wildmon Vice President of Outreach</p>	<p>The American Family Association has a project called “AFA Action” that frequently issues calls to action. See https://afa.net/activism/action-alerts/. The website also provides a wealth of tools for citizen activists including ivoterguide.com, a tool that allows you to click on your state to get profiles of all members of Congress and a dial indicating if they are liberal or conservative. Their 2022 plans include researching over 12,000 candidates in 35 states with expanded coverage of key local school boards.</p> <p>“Grounded in God, rooted in research.” The mission of American Family Association is to “inform, equip, and activate individuals and families to transform American culture and to give aid to the church, here and abroad, in its calling to fulfill the Great Commission. The vision of American Family Association is to be a leading organization in biblical worldview training for cultural transformation.” AFA is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.</p>
<p>Americans for Prosperity - National</p>	<p>https://americansforprosperity.org</p> <p>1310 N. Courthouse Road #700, Arlington, VA 22201 phone 703/659-4480</p> <p>Emily Seidel, president and CEO</p> <p>Derrick Sontag, Vice President</p>	<p>“Americans for Prosperity is dedicated to the belief that every person has a unique set of gifts and the ability to contribute to society in their own way, an idea that has inspired progress since our country’s founding.</p> <p>“Driven by this belief, Americans for Prosperity engages in broad-based grassroots outreach to advocate for long-term solutions to the country’s biggest problems that prevent people from realizing their incredible potential — unsustainable government spending and debt, a broken immigration system, a rigged economy, and a host of other issues you can explore.</p> <p>“We recruit and unite concerned individuals in all 50 states to advance policies that will help people improve their lives.”</p>

	of State Operations	<p>AFP was created when Citizens for a Sound Economy (CSE) split in 2004. (FreedomWorks became the other part of CSE.) It poured millions of dollars into the Tea Party movement in 2009. In the 2014 mid-term election cycle, AFP led all groups, other than political action committees (PACs), in spending on political television advertising. In 2018, AFP raised \$96.5 million, much of it from Charles Koch and the network of donors he created. (See Stand Together Chamber of Commerce, Inc.)</p> <p>Tim Phillips, the long-time president of AFP, was forced to resign in 2017. Emily Seidel replaced him, she previously worked for Charles Koch on projects, including Stand Together, and for various Republicans in Washington DC including Mike Pence.</p>
American Majority	<p>http://americanmajority.org</p> <p>P.O. Box 87 Purcellville, VA 20134 Phone: (540) 338-1251 team@americanmajority.org</p> <p>Ned Ryun, president</p> <p>Matt Batzel, National Executive Director, mattb@americanmajority.org</p>	<p>“American Majority is a 501(c) (3) non-partisan, nonprofit that continually trains, organizes, mobilizes, and equips new grassroots conservative leaders. We believe meaningful, lasting political change starts not in Washington, but at state and local levels, where most actual government decisions and spending occurs.</p> <p>“We Are The Organizing Arm For Conservatives. We are helping put in place the nation’s new, conservative grassroots political infrastructure. American Majority uses cutting-edge training and technology to empower individuals and groups with the most effective tools for promoting liberty through limited government.”</p> <p>If offers online courses on running for office and being an effective activist at https://americanmajorityonline.org/. Also has a “resource page” with good reference material: https://www.americanmajority.org/resources/. You can request a training session in your area at https://www.americanmajority.org/training/.</p> <p>Ned Ryun, president, is a frequent guest on Tucker Carlson.</p> <p>Matt Batzel, National Executive Director, got started with AM in Wisconsin. According to the AM website, “Matt became National Executive Director following his tenure as Wisconsin Executive Director for American Majority. Under his leadership, the Wisconsin chapter of American Majority has trained 104 winning candidates at the state and local level, held over 100 trainings, and trained more than 3,800 individuals over 3.5 years. During the height of the 2011 union protests in Madison, Matt organized American Majority’s “I Stand with Walker” rally that gathered more than 10,000 patriots to show the nation their support for public sector union reforms. Prior to both Wisconsin recall elections (2011 and 2012), Matt executed training blitzes, to equip hundreds of activists on how to help their candidates at many locations across Wisconsin. Matt has also deployed a massive online army through co-creating a Twitter hashtag – #Wiright – designed to mobilize grassroots conservatives online in an unprecedented way.”</p>

		See also American Majority – Wisconsin.
American Policy Center	https://americanpolicy.org/ 53 Main Street Box 3640 Warrenton, VA 20188-3640 Tom DeWeese	Tom DeWeese has been writing about Agenda 21 and the United Nations for decades and, more recently, the Great Resent. Based in suburban Washington DC, he lectures widely and writes and publishes books, policy studies, and manuals on how people can fight back against the globalists. His website features is once-a-week commentaries, books, other publications, and calls to action. One of his current efforts is to support people who want to create “Freedom Pods,” groups of friends and neighbors who organize <i>locally</i> for freedom. He describes eight roles that should be filled in a pod: 1. Researcher 2. The Watchers 3. The Strategist. 4. The Agitators. 5. The Victims. 6. The Media Team. 7. The Team of Activists. 8. Social Media Team. Freedom Pod activities include: Take Legal Action, Build a Campaign, and Build a Grading System. Gifts to the American Policy <i>Foundation</i> are tax exempt.
Atlas Society	https://www.atlassociety.org/ 22001 Northpark Drive Ste 250 Kingwood, TX 77339 editor@atlassociety.org	The country’s leading think tank devoted to promoting the philosophy of Ayn Rand. It hosts websites and blogs that garner more than 1 million views annually, commissions original scholarly research and cademic training of young intellectuals, publishes books and monographs, and hosts conferences and other events. From the website: “We promote open Objectivism: the philosophy of reason, achievement, individualism, and freedom. “Ayn Rand's philosophy of Objectivism was set forth in such works as her epic novel Atlas Shrugged, and in her brilliant non-fiction essays. Objectivism is designed as a guide to life, and celebrates the remarkable potential and power of the individual. Objectivism also challenges the doctrines of irrationalism, self-sacrifice, brute force, and collectivism that have brought centuries of chaos and misery into the lives of millions of individuals. It provides fascinating insights into the world of politics, art, education, foreign policy, science, and more, rewarding you with a rich understanding of how ideas shape your world. Those who discover Objectivism often describe the experience as life-changing and liberating.

		<p>“Ayn Rand's philosophical works have been praised as presenting historic breakthroughs in thinking. At the Atlas Society, our scholars work to further develop this philosophy born in the mid-twentieth century. We present the empowering principles of Objectivism to a global audience, and offer those principles as a rational and moral alternative in the marketplace of philosophical ideas.”</p>
BEST Project	<p>https://parentsknowbest.com</p> <p>Zach Laba BEST outreach coordinator zlab@freedomworks.org phone 202/942-7677</p> <p>Other staff are scattered around the country:</p> <p>Laura Zorc, director of education reform (FL)</p> <p>Josiah Gaiter, deputy director of programs (TX),</p> <p>Amy Carney, BEST deputy director (AZ)</p>	<p>“At the beginning of 2021 FreedomWorks announced the launch of the BEST program (Building Education for Students Together) with a commitment to reforming our education system. By dedicating this program FreedomWorks has displayed our long term commitment to building parent coalitions to promote education freedom.” (See entry for FreedomWorks below.)</p> <p>It’s a new project, but so far they are supporting the efforts of school choice groups such as School Choice Week, Parents Rights in Education, and others. They did a Skype session on Feb. 15, 2022 discussing the misuse of federal Covid funds by school districts. On Feb 24 they did an online National Best Coalition Call.</p> <p>The “BEST Academy” is a 6 week training program for those interested in or planning on running for school board. Offered every Tuesday (12PM ET) LIVE on Zoom. Candidates, Parents, Potential Candidates, or anyone wanting to learn more can jump on at any time to start the training!</p>
Cato Institute	<p>https://www.cato.org/</p>	<p>The Cato Institute is the preeminent libertarian think tank based in Washington DC. A nonprofit organization founded in 1977 by Ed Crane, Charles Koch, and Murray Rothbard, today it has an annual budget of \$32 million (2020) and 100 full-time staff. While it is a font of free-market research and commentary on a wide range of issues, it was anti-Trump and is out-of-step with the conservative populist movement Trump helped to create. From its website:</p> <p>“For more than 40 years, Cato has led the charge for liberty in our nation and around the world. The Cato Institute is a public policy research organization—or think tank—that creates a presence for and promotes libertarian ideas in policy debates. Our mission is to originate, disseminate, and advance solutions based on the principles of individual liberty, limited government, free markets, and peace.</p> <p>“We make liberty come alive for people by sharing our research and ideas in clear language, free of jargon. We find common ground and work with individuals and groups across the political spectrum in order to build a society that is freer, happier, and more prosperous. We hope you will join us.”</p>

<p>Children’s Health Defense</p>	<p>https://childrenshealthdefense.org/</p>	<p>Terrific free daily email on the latest news, research, and commentary on Covid. Robert F. Kennedy Jr. is an outspoken skeptic on the necessity and safety of many vaccines, including and especially the Covid mRNA experimental gene therapy. A typical email has a dozen stories written in-house or with links to other sources. Sign up at https://childrenshealthdefense.org/about-us/sign-up/.</p> <p>“Children’s Health Defense® is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Its mission is to end childhood health epidemics by working aggressively to eliminate harmful exposures, hold those responsible accountable, and to establish safeguards to prevent future harm.”</p> <p>Unfortunately... Kennedy is a liberal, not a conservative. He too often sides with the chemophobic left and champions the dubious science against many safe drugs, GMOs, pesticides, and herbicides. He is terrible on climate change, once calling for global warming skeptics to be put in jail, and he often echoes fake predictions about the end of the world.</p>
<p>Citizens Council for Health Freedom</p>	<p>https://www.cchfreedom.org/</p> <p>https://patienttoolbox.cchfreedom.org/</p> <p>https://jointhewedge.com/</p> <p>161 St. Anthony Avenue, Ste 923 St. Paul, MN 55103 Phone: 651.646.8935 Fax: 651.646.0100 Email: info@cchfreedom.org</p>	<p>An indispensable resource for fighting Covid alarmism. This website saves lives. Started by RN Twila Brase in 1998, Citizens Council for Health Freedom is a Minneapolis-based nonprofit think tank that is leading the effort to restore patient freedom and rights in health care. Its recent work opposing mask and vaccine mandates has been outstanding. It’s 26-page guide to how to treat Covid – using Ivermectin, HCQ, and a protocol of other drugs, vitamins, and minerals, is saving people’s lives.</p> <p>It hosts a website called “The Patient Toolbox” that has extensive resources and links on how “to protect your rights, understand your options, and maintain control over your treatment decisions.” CCHF is creating a national network of hospitals and clinics, called “the Wedge of Health Freedom,” that are cash-only, are willing to treat Covid patients with ivermectin and other proven therapies, and respect patients’ rights.</p>
<p>Claremont Institute</p>	<p>https://www.claremont.org/</p> <p>1317 W. Foothill Blvd, Suite 120, Upland, CA 91786</p> <p>Claremont Review of Books Customer Service Phone: 833-964-0076</p> <p>Phone: (909) 981-2200 Fax: (909) 981-1616 info@claremont.org</p>	<p>A national conservative think tank based in California devoted primarily to conservative ideas rather than public policy. The institute was an early defender of Donald Trump. Claremont Institute senior fellow John Eastman aided Trump in his attempts to challenge the stolen 2020 election. The institute publishes the <i>Claremont Review of Books</i>, a quarterly journal containing the very best writing by the very top thinkers of the conservative and libertarian movements. The late Angelo Codevilla, who foresaw the rise of the global socialist elite and understood Trump’s role in the global effort to oppose it, wrote for Claremont. Other esteemed authors include Charles Kesler and Christopher Caldwell. From the website:</p> <p><i>Overview</i> To return to limited government, conservatives must return to the principles of the American Founding. The Claremont Institute provides the missing argument in the battle to win public</p>

		<p>sentiment by teaching and promoting the philosophical reasoning that is the foundation of limited government and the statesmanship required to bring that reasoning into practice.</p> <p><i>Who We Are</i> We are a think tank that teaches, writes, and litigates. Since our founding in 1979, our strategy has been to teach the principles of the American Founding to the future thinkers and statesmen of America. Those principles include the foundational doctrines of natural rights and natural law found in the Declaration of Independence; the ingenious political science of the Constitution; and the popular constitutionalism or reverence necessary for the maintenance of free government.</p> <p><i>What We Do</i> Rather than concentrate on policy like many other think tanks, the Claremont Institute teaches the principles and ideas that shape policy over time to the few that will go on to positions of leadership in media, politics, law, speechwriting, and academia.</p>
College Libertarians	<p>https://www.lp.org/campus-organizations/</p> <p>Jim Lark jwlark@virginia.edu.</p>	<p>The Libertarian Party stays in touch with libertarian clubs on college and high school campuses around the country. This website has a list of campus organizations. Only two colleges in Wisconsin are on the list: Milwaukee School of Engineering, contact John Bilkey, www.facebook.com/msoelibertarians, http://msoelib.ml, and University of Wisconsin – Whitewater, www.facebook.com/UWWSFL/. The MSOE students hosted a Tea Party ... an actual tea party! ... on November 3, 2021.</p> <p>James W. Lark, III is the LP’s campus coordinator. Dr. Lark is a professor at the University of Virginia, served for many terms on the Libertarian National Committee and as a member of the LNC’s Executive Committee.</p>
College Republicans - National Committee	<p>https://www.crnc.org/</p> <p>1750 Pennsylvania Ave NW # 27920 Washington, DC 20038</p>	<p>Founded in 1892, the College Republican National Committee (CRNC) is one of the nation’s largest, longest-running, and most active youth political organizations. The CRNC is comprised of 52 Federations, including one in each state in addition to the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, with a presence on nearly 2,000 college campuses and over 250,000 members nationwide. (However, see College Republicans – United, below.)</p> <p>In 2020 it created a “strike force” to campaign for candidates on campuses. They decided to make it a “permanent program.” Students who are members of a campus club can join by sending email to team@crnc.org. Also has a “resume bank” and apparently a place where employers can list internship opportunities</p> <p>There is a link on the site that allows you to search for chapters at colleges and universities...</p>

		check the box that says you are a “supporter” rather than a student. https://www.crnc.org/chapters
College Republicans -- United	https://republicansunited.org A lousy website... go to the “public newsletter” link to get an explanation of what they are about.	A breakaway group of College Republican clubs in western states (AZ, CA, and IA) that complains that the national group ignored colleges in the West and that all the elected offices are filled by eastern colleges and all the money goes there. They say they got no support from the national organization in 2020. If they are still active, it would be interesting to see if some clubs at colleges and universities in Wisconsin are similarly disappointed and want to cooperate with this group.
Committee to Unleash Prosperity	https://committeetounleashprosperity.com/about/ 1155 15th St NW, Ste 525 Washington, DC 20005	Steve Forbes, Art Laffer, Stephen Moore, and Phil Kerpen created this platform to share their research and writing on supply-side economics. The website has a nice list of reports done on various economic topics: https://committeetounleashprosperity.com/reports/ In 2020 the organization launched a free weekly e-newsletter titled “Daily Prosperity Hotline,” often featuring an essay by Moore, on the issues of the day.
Conservapedia	https://www.conservapedia.com	“The trustworthy encyclopedia.” Conservapedia is a conservative alternative to Wikipedia, which now is entirely “woke” and untrustworthy. The site claims “Over 850,000,000 page views.” It has thousands of entries searchable by keyword or by “featured topics.” The homepage features a column of links to hundreds of recent news stories of interest to conservatives. The website was established in 2006 by Andrew Schlafly, son of the conservative activist Phyllis Schlafly. Schlafly is the chief administrator and is the most prolific editor. Liberal bias is not allowed on the site. See https://www.conservapedia.com/Conservapedia for more about it.
Family Research Council	https://www.frc.org 801 G Street NW Washington, D.C. 20001 tel:8002254008 Tony Perkins, president	One of the country’s leading pro-life and pro-family national advocacy groups. Founded in 1983 and based in Washington DC, the Family Research Council’s main program is to produce “Washington Watch with Tony Perkins,” a daily one-hour radio program. The online postings have many useful links on current issues and conservative priorities. “FRC is a nonprofit research and educational organization dedicated to articulating and advancing a family-centered philosophy of public life. In addition to providing policy research and analysis for the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of the federal government, FRC seeks to inform the news media, the academic community, business leaders, and the general public about family issues that affect the nation from a biblical worldview.” FRC rarely comments on state public policy issues, including Wisconsin, leaving that to state chapters. The national organization is mostly Wash DC centric and holds few events.

<p>Federalist Society</p>	<p>https://fedsoc.org/</p> <p>1776 I Street, NW Suite 300 Washington, DC 20006</p> <p>Phone(202) 822-8138 Fax(202) 296-8061 Email info@fedsoc.org</p> <p>https://fedsoc.org/chapters/WI/wisconsin-student-chapter</p> <p>Milwaukee Lawyers Chapter: https://www.mkefedsoc.com/ Matthew Fernholz, mmf@cmhlaw.com</p> <p>Madison Lawyers Chapter: http://madisonfedsoc.wordpress.com/ Jessie Augustyn jaugustyn@gmail.com</p>	<p>The nation’s premiere conservative membership organization for lawyers. Founded in 1982, it has student and lawyers chapters all across the country. It holds many events taking place all around the country, many of them free and open to the public and conducted by Zoom. Many are archived on their website. Search the site for “Wisconsin” for news and updates for its activities here.</p> <p>From its website: “The Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies is a group of conservatives and libertarians interested in the current state of the legal order. It is founded on the principles that the state exists to preserve freedom, that the separation of governmental powers is central to our Constitution, and that it is emphatically the province and duty of the judiciary to say what the law is, not what it should be. The Society seeks both to promote an awareness of these principles and to further their application through its activities.</p> <p>“This entails reordering priorities within the legal system to place a premium on individual liberty, traditional values, and the rule of law. It also requires restoring the recognition of the importance of these norms among lawyers, judges, law students and professors. In working to achieve these goals, the Society has created a conservative and libertarian intellectual network that extends to all levels of the legal community.”</p> <p>On April 29, the Milwaukee and Madison Lawyers Chapters will sponsor a “2022 Wisconsin Chapters Conference” at The Ingleside Hotel, 2810 Golf Rd, Pewaukee, WI 53072. A recent event: the Civil Rights Practice Group hosted a webinar on “The Future of the Supreme Court” on March 3 featuring Prof. Dan Epps, Professor of Law, Washington University in St. Louis; Ethan Davis, Partner, Special Matters and Government Investigations, King & Spalding; Prof. William Marshall, Kenan Professor of Law, University of North Carolina; Roger Severino, Senior Fellow, Ethics and Public Policy Center; Moderator: Dean Reuter, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, The Federalist Society.</p>
<p>FreedomWorks</p>	<p>https://www.freedomworks.org/</p> <p>111 K Street NE #600 Washington, DC 20002 Phone 1-888-564-6273 Local 202/783-3870</p> <p>Adam Brandon, president</p>	<p>FreedomWorks was born when Citizens for a Sound Economy split up in 2004. Like Americans for Prosperity, also created at the time, it tries to build and maintain a nationwide grassroots network of pro-freedom activists. Its website has scorecards for members of Congress, an Action Center for contacting elected officials, and opportunities to volunteer. Adam Brandon, economist Steve Moore, and a few others write most of the content on the site.</p> <p>“We are over 6 million Americans who are passionate about promoting free markets and individual liberty. Our members all share three common traits: a desire for less government, lower taxes, and more economic freedom. For over a quarter century, FreedomWorks has identified, educated, and actuated citizens who are enthused about showing up to support free enterprise and constitutionally limited government.</p>

		<p>“We are not primarily a "think-tank," content to study the issues and publish papers and reports. FreedomWorks breaks down the barriers between the beltway insiders and grassroots America.”</p> <p>FreedomWorks launched the “BEST” project in 2021. See that entry.</p>
Heartland Institute	<p>www.heartland.org www.heartlanddailynews.com</p> <p>3939 North Wilke Road Arlington Heights, Illinois 60004 Phone: 312/377-4000</p> <p>James Taylor, president jtaylor@heartland.org</p> <p>Jim Lakely, vice president jlakely@heartland.org</p> <p>Joe Bast, senior fellow jbast@heartland.org</p> <p>Diane Bast dbast@heartland.org</p>	<p>The Heartland Institute, founded in 1984, is national nonprofit conservative-libertarian, or libertarian-conservative, think tank based in suburban Chicago. It has a half-dozen websites (listed at the bottom of the homepages of the two sites listed here) presenting its extensive research and commentary on education, environment, health care, taxes, and other topics. It produces daily podcasts, weekly e-newsletters, and print publications including books and monthly public policy newspapers on a wide range of public policy issues. While it frequently addresses national issues, its original focus was on state governments.</p> <p>Heartland is probably best known for its books, conferences, and other activities opposing global warming alarmism. It sponsors the Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change (NIPCC), which produces the “Climate Change Reconsidered” series of reports. See www.climatechangereconsidered.org.</p> <p>Heartland does not have much of a presence in Wisconsin. Cameron Shely, who used to work for FreedomWorks-Wisconsin, now works for Heartland as government relations director. Joe and Diane Bast, who founded Heartland and led it until 2018, are now retired and living in Appleton. (Joe created this list.)</p>
Heritage Foundation/ Heritage Action	<p>https://www.heritage.org/ https://heritageaction.com/</p> <p>214 Massachusetts Avenue NE Washington, DC 20002 (202) 548-5280 info@heritageaction.com</p> <p>Jessica Anderson Executive Director</p> <p>Garrett Bess Vice President</p> <p>See also “Save Our Elections”</p>	<p>Heritage Action, a project of the Heritage Foundation, features a new call to action its website almost every day. Click here: https://heritageaction.com/</p> <p>You can sign up to become a “Heritage Sentinel,” which puts you on an email list, weekly conference calls, opportunities for training, and much more. The website has “issue toolkits” that provide background, talking points, and model letters, emails, and even tweets on pending legislation. . . Such toolkits are prepared for critical race theory, budget reconciliation, federal election reform, abortion, and many other topics.</p> <p>The website also has a sophisticated scorecard for members of Congress. From the website: Heritage Action “turns conservative ideas into reality on Capitol Hill. We do that by holding lawmakers accountable to their promises to advance the conservative principles of free enterprise, limited government, individual freedom, traditional American values, and a strong national defense.</p>

		<p>“We work directly with federal lawmakers inside and outside of Washington—the only way to bring about the conservative policies that hold true to our Founding Fathers’ ideals. Heritage Action exists to ensure that these ideals are not only maintained but flourish, both now and for future generations.</p> <p>“Heritage Action’s unique strategy combines inside-the-Beltway lobbying with outside-the-Beltway grassroots pressure. Meanwhile, our team of grassroots coordinators organizes an elite group of almost 20,000 Sentinel activists who are on the front lines of the conservative fight. Leveraging personal relationships with lawmakers and tools like letters to the editors and calls to Congress, they apply essential political pressure that holds their representatives accountable to our nation’s founding principles.”</p>
Hoover Institution	<p>Hoover Institution 434 Galvez Mall Stanford University Stanford, CA 94305-6003 650-723-1754</p> <p>Hoover Institution in Washington The Johnson Center 1399 New York Avenue NW, Suite 500 Washington, DC 20005 202-760-3200</p>	<p>One of the country’s leading conservative think tanks based at Stanford University, it is home of many prominent conservative scholars and pundits including Scott Atlas, Jay Bhattacharya, Niall Ferguson, Victor Davis Hanson, and Thomas Sowell. Condoleezza Rice is director.</p> <p>Founded in 1959 by its namesake, Herbert Hoover, its mission statement reads:</p> <p>“This Institution supports the Constitution of the United States, its Bill of Rights and its method of representative government. Both our social and economic systems are based on private enterprise from which springs initiative and ingenuity.... Ours is a system where the Federal Government should undertake no governmental, social or economic action, except where local government, or the people, cannot undertake it for themselves.... The overall mission of this Institution is, from its records, to recall the voice of experience against the making of war, and by the study of these records and their publication, to recall man’s endeavors to make and preserve peace, and to sustain for America the safeguards of the American way of life. This Institution is not, and must not be, a mere library. But with these purposes as its goal, the Institution itself must constantly and dynamically point the road to peace, to personal freedom, and to the safeguards of the American system.”</p> <p>Its annual budget is \$70 million, and it has an endowment of \$734 million.</p>
Independent Institute	<p>https://www.independent.org/</p> <p>100 SWAN WAY OAKLAND CA 94621 - 1428 (510) 632-1366 (510) 568-6040 FAX</p>	<p>A national libertarian think tank based in California. From its website:</p> <p>“The Independent Institute is a non-profit, non-partisan, public-policy research and educational organization that shapes ideas into profound and lasting impact through publications, conferences, and effective multi-media programs. Our mission is to boldly advance peaceful, prosperous, and free societies grounded in a commitment to human worth and dignity. Applying independent thinking to issues that matter, we create transformational ideas for today’s</p>

	<p>David Theroux, president</p>	<p>most pressing social and economic challenges. By connecting these ideas with organizations and networks, we inspire action that can unleash an era of unparalleled human flourishing at home and around the globe.</p> <p>“Today, the influence of partisan interests is so pervasive that public-policy debate has become too politicized and is largely confined to a narrow reconsideration of existing policies. In order to fully understand the nature of public issues and possible solutions, the Institute’s program adheres to the highest standards of independent scholarly inquiry.</p> <p>“The resulting studies are published and widely distributed as books, articles in <i>The Independent Review</i>, Policy Reports, Working Papers, and other publications. Events sponsored by Independent bring together scholars and policy experts to debate issues and discuss their implications. This work is conducted in conjunction with a series of educational centers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Center on Culture and Civil Society Center on Educational Excellence Center on Entrepreneurial Innovation Center on Global Prosperity Center on Health and the Environment Center on Law and Justice Center on Peace and Liberty <p>“In addition, Independent publishes the quarterly newsletter, <i>The Independent</i>, and the weekly email newsletter, <i>The Lighthouse</i>. We maintain an extensive online archive of Institute articles and studies on a variety of issues.</p>
<p>John Birch Society</p>	<p>https://jbs.org</p> <p>700 N Westhill Blvd Appleton, WI 54914</p> <p>(between College Avenue and Hwy 96, just east of Hwy 41, across from Woodsman’s Market)</p> <p>Phone 920.749.3780 help@jbs.org</p> <p>Bill Hahn</p>	<p>See also Fox Valley Initiative, Fox Valley Conservative Forum, and Freedom Project Academy.</p> <p>The John Birch Society (JBS) is a national membership organization that has articulated and educated millions of people on free market ideas and the Constitution. It publishes <i>New American</i>, which has its own excellent website at https://thenewamerican.com. Right now it’s closely covering the Truckers Convoy and the Canadian government’s overreaction to the truckers in that country.</p> <p>JBS is one of the oldest and most storied conservative organizations in the USA. It is amazing that it is headquartered right here in Appleton, WI. However, it is also controversial. The JBS is a self-described “monolithic” organization, not a nonprofit. It says its legal structure prevents it from being infiltrated by leftwing groups, as (it says) has happened to other conservative groups. It is secretive, not reporting, for example, the number of members it has, its budget, or its sources of income. It recruits new members sort of like how communist cells did, with close</p>

	<p>Chief Executive Officer</p> <p>Martin Ohlson President</p> <p>Wayne Morrow Vice President</p> <p>William F. Jasper, sr. editor Alex Newman, sr. editor editorial@thenewamerican.com</p> <p>Dave Duquaine, chapter leader, 920/336-8780</p> <p>Bill Hahn, CEO, was elected by the Board of Directors in 2020, to replace retiring CEO Arthur Thompson. He's a 1998 graduate of UW-Whitewater.</p>	<p>vetting and ideological training requirements, and views partnerships with other groups narrowly as a way to find new members.</p> <p>JBS's overarching goal is to oppose what it calls the "Master Conspiracy," something often includes speculation on the role of Jews, bankers, the Catholic Church, and even the Queen of England. For many years JBS called out communist infiltration of American institutions and the nefarious activities of the Federal Reserve System. For doing this, the liberal media and even some conservatives (including Bill Buckley) called JBS a "fringe group" or even just crazy for talking about these things.</p> <p>Over time, JBS's focus seems to have shifted away from old conspiracy theories and to what is now widely known and called globalism, the New World Order, Agenda 21, and the Great Reset. Time has proven JBS right on much, though not all, of what they were saying decades ago. There really was a "march through the institutions" by the left that culminated, during the Obama administration, in outright control and weaponization of nearly all the major institutions in America. In 2010, the JBS was allowed to cosponsor CPAC, a decision widely viewed as the organization's return to the conservative fold. Some Trump administration figures were not afraid to publicly praise the JBS, and it was probably active in campaigning for him. In some ways, the conservative movement is only now catching up to the JBS. But JBS is still a sometimes awkward and even embarrassing ally.</p> <p>Its website says: "Our mission is to bring about less government, more responsibility, and – with God's help – a better world by providing leadership, education, and organized volunteer action in accordance with moral and Constitutional principles. The John Birch Society enthusiastically endorses the U.S. Constitution, and we have worked for over 60 years toward educating and activating Americans to abide by the original intent of the Founding Fathers." No one can argue with that.</p> <p>A document called the "JBS Agenda" is available in PDF on the JBS website and makes for interesting reading.</p>
<p>Judicial Watch</p>	<p>https://www.judicialwatch.org/</p> <p>425 Third Street SW Suite 800 Washington, DC 20024</p> <p>1-888-593-8442 info@judicialwatch.org</p>	<p>A national nonprofit organization best known for filing Freedom of Information ACT (FOIA) requests during the Clinton and Obama administrations and now the Biden administration. Tom Vitter, president, is a frequent guest on Fox News. From its website:</p> <p>"Judicial Watch, Inc. is a conservative, non-partisan educational foundation, which promotes transparency, accountability and integrity in government, politics and the law. Through its educational endeavors, Judicial Watch advocates high standards of ethics and morality in our nation's public life and seeks to ensure that political and judicial officials do not abuse the powers entrusted to them by the American people. Judicial Watch fulfills its educational mission</p>

		through litigation, investigations, and public outreach.”
Leadership Institute	<p>https://www.leadershipinstitute.org</p> <p>1101 N Highland Street Arlington, VA 22201 (703) 247 – 2000</p> <p>Morton C. Blackwell, president</p> <p>Ron Nehring Director of International Training rnehring@leadershipinstitute.org</p> <p>(Nehring got his start with the CA Republican party, got the R nomination for Lt. Gov. in 2016, worked with Ted Cruz campaign)</p>	<p>An indispensable ally in Washington DC. LI recently launched an online training program for candidates for school board. It hosts a monthly podcast titled “Learn Right” that provides advice and guidance on how to battle public school bureaucracies.</p> <p>A national organization founded in 1979 by its president, Morton C. Blackwell, LI provides training in campaigns, fundraising, grassroots organizing, youth politics, and communications. The Institute teaches conservatives of all ages how to succeed in politics, government, and the media. LI increases the number and effectiveness of conservative activists and leaders in the public policy process. The Institute doesn't analyze policy; it teaches conservative Americans how to influence policy through direct participation, activism, and leadership.</p> <p>The Institute offers 47 types of training schools, workshops, and seminars; a free employment placement service; and a national field program that trains conservative students to organize campus groups. The Leadership Institute dormitories, located on the premises, provide accommodations for up to 46 people. Accommodations in the dormitories are included in the cost of many of Leadership Institute trainings.</p> <p>Since 1979, LI has trained more than 200,000 conservative activists, leaders, and students. The Institute's unique college campus network has grown to more than 1,700 conservative campus groups and newspapers.</p>
Liberty Justice Center	<p>https://libertyjusticecenter.org/</p> <p>141 W. Jackson Blvd. Ste. 1065 Chicago, Illinois 60604 312-637-2280</p> <p>Daniel Suhr, Managing Attorney</p> <p>Kristen Williamson, Communications and Outreach Director</p> <p>Morgan Bowles, Director of Legal Operations</p> <p>Buck Dougherty, Senior</p>	<p>A nonprofit law firm based in Chicago founded in 2012 and devoted to advancing individual freedom. From the website: “Our groundbreaking lawsuits stake out Americans’ constitutional rights. In 2018, Liberty Justice Center restored the First Amendment rights of more than 5 million public employees in the landmark U.S. Supreme Court victory in Janus v. AFSCME. This decision determined that government employees no longer have to pay union dues or fees to government unions they don’t believe in and which take positions with which they disagree. Our talented attorneys also fight to protect students, families, entrepreneurs and other Americans whose fundamental constitutional rights have been violated.”</p> <p>Recently doing school choice, Covid, and Big Tech censorship. Based in Chicago, affiliated with the Illinois Policy Institute, one of a network of nonprofit conservative groups launched or aided by Eric O’Keefe and John Tillman. (See The Center Square.)</p>

	Attorney	
National Rifle Association	https://home.nra.org/	<p>By far the largest and most influential pro-Second Amendment organization in the US, the NRA claims 5 million members. It lobbies on behalf of gun owners all across the country, funds research and advocacy groups, and conducts gun safety training and sporting events. Membership is \$45 a year and you get the monthly magazine, “America’s First Freedom,” and frequent action alerts, discounts on guns and related products, and of course endless fundraising letters.</p> <p>The NRA is sometimes criticized for not being sufficiently pro-gun or, the opposite, of not compromising enough, so they are probably in the right spot. A stronger criticism is that the organization is mismanaged... leadership is over-paid and money is diverted from the mission into the pockets of vendors. The organization has been in litigation with the AG of NY, who used information from frustrated staff and board members to dissolve the corporation. The NRA won an important court decision on March 2.</p> <p>See entry for “Wisconsin Firearm Owners.”</p>
Noah Webster Educational Foundation	https://www.nwef.org PO Box 962 Bedford, Virginia 24523 (877) 322-6933 info@nwef.org Melvin Adams, Founder and President	<p>National organization devoted to helping parents become part of the debate over school reform. Has a strong conservative tone. Has good tools for running for school board, including an excellent list of questions you should ask yourself before deciding to run. See https://www.nwef.org/run-for-school-board.htm .</p> <p>“Parents and guardians are becoming more and more disillusioned with the way things are changing in their schools. Political agendas, watered-down curriculum, bullying, explicit material, and more add fuel to parental concerns. ... Change can only happen when grassroots movements of concerned citizens hold their communities, states, and nation accountable.</p> <p>“Noah Webster Educational Foundation is leading a national conversation on America's education and culture. We believe that by joining hands across the nation, we can see the educational improvements our children deserve.”</p>
Parents Rights in Education	https://www.parentsrightsined.org/	<p>A nonprofit national organization with a Wisconsin chapter devoted to “valuing students, empowering parents and supporting communities to secure great educations for public school children in America. A tax-deductible non-profit organization established in 2011, PRIE has inspired parents all over the nation and beyond to restore parents’ rights in education.”</p> <p>The website has a wealth of information and links concerning school boards, critical race theory, Covid policies, school choice, and much more.</p>
PolicyBot	https://www.heartland.org/policybot/index.html	<p>A conservative-libertarian alternative to Google and other search engines, PolicyBot is a free online database and search engine featuring some 32,000 articles, studies, and reviews hand</p>

		<p>curated by the staff of The Heartland Institute. It is the fastest and easiest way to find the best work of all the nation's leading free-market think tanks and advocacy groups.</p> <p>Rather than visit dozens of websites trying to find research and commentary on, say, school choice or Critical Race Theory, just visit PolicyBot and enter the keyword and have instant access to hundreds of articles, sortable by date or author or publisher. It's the perfect research tool for students, legislative staff, editors, and activists.</p> <p>PolicyBot is a project of The Heartland Institute.</p>
Prager U	<p>https://www.prageru.com/</p> <p>Prager University Foundation 15021 Ventura Blvd. #552 Sherman Oaks, CA 91403 (833) 772-4378 info@prageru.com</p> <p>Marissa Streit, CEO</p>	<p>A web-based educational program using videos to reach young and old with a pro-freedom message on a wide range of topics and issues. "PragerU is redefining how people think about media and education. We produce Edutainment—an intersection of education and entertainment. Our content is essential to shaping culture and preserving American ideals."</p> <p>It claims to have "garnered 5 billion lifetime views." From the website: "We promote American values through the creative use of educational videos that reach millions of people online. Serving all ages, our content offers a free alternative to the dominant left-wing ideology in culture, media, and education. Whether you're searching for a deeper understanding, a new perspective, or a way to get involved, PragerU helps people think and live better." Featured presenters include Tucker Carlson, Ben Shapiro, Candace Owens, Larry Elder, and Heather Mac Donald.</p>
Project Veritas	<p>https://www.projectveritas.com/news/</p>	<p>A conservative nonprofit organization focused on undercover investigation of government bureaucracies and groups on the left. "Creating an army of guerrilla journalists." From its website:</p> <p>"James O'Keefe established Project Veritas in 2011 as a non-profit journalism enterprise to continue his undercover reporting work. Today, Project Veritas investigates and exposes corruption, dishonesty, self-dealing, waste, fraud, and other misconduct in both public and private institutions to achieve a more ethical and transparent society.</p> <p>Today, O'Keefe serves as the CEO and Chairman of the Board, so that he can continue to lead and teach his fellow journalists, as well as protect and nurture the Project Veritas culture."</p>
Reason Foundation	<p>https://reason.org/</p> <p>5737 Mesmer Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90230 (310) 391-2245</p>	<p>One of the oldest libertarian think tanks in America, the California-based nonprofit publishes <i>Reason Magazine</i>, a journal of ideas, as well as publishes studies and books and produces podcasts and videos. It is especially noted for its advocacy of privatization – transferring the production or ownership of goods and services from the public sector to the private sector. It also does original research on pension reform and school choice.</p>

	1747 Connecticut Ave NW Washington, DC 20009 (202) 986-0916	Reason founder Bob Poole is a globally recognized expert on transportation. Other experts on the staff include Leonard Gilroy, Adrian Moore, and Austill Stuart.
Save Our Elections	https://saveourelections.com/	A project of Heritage Action, itself a project of the Heritage Foundation, a long-standing and respected conservative Washington DC think tank. This website has “policy recommendations for state governments,” a state election integrity scorecard, and links to communicate to national elected officials.
Stand Together [Chamber of Commerce, Inc.]	www.standtogether.org 1320 N. Courthouse Road, Arlington VA	Charles Koch’s effort to create a libertarian chamber of commerce. Its website says it connects 700 business leaders and philanthropists to groups Koch endorses/funds and offers “capabilities including funding, network, and principles to help you go even bigger.” Mostly promotes AFP projects (they share office space) and other groups controlled by Koch, also has a jobs board. They recently had 100 employees and a budget of \$127 million.
Students for Liberty	https://studentsforliberty.org/north-america/ 1750 Tysons Boulevard, Suite 1500 McLean, VA 22102 Phone 202) 733-2409 info@studentsforliberty.org Dr. Wolf von Laer, CEO www.wolfvonlaer.com Mike Avi , Director of North American Programs	An organization with a staff of 60 aimed at reaching and educating college students about freedom. It offers a “SFL Academy,” Learn Liberty” (lots of videos on current hot topics), It doesn’t have state or college chapters (apparently) but likely has identified students in colleges around the state. From the website, “We are the largest pro-liberty student organization in the world in terms of leaders, countries represented, and events. We are thoroughly trained and professional. We have a high level of understanding of the ideas of liberty and can clearly and effectively explain the economic and philosophical rationale for the issues we stand for. “Rising above partisan politics, we engage in open and civil discourse over how to best promote freedom in all aspects of our lives. We respect that everyone comes to their justification for liberty in their own way and we are supportive of them in that journey. Liberty creates a better world and our message surrounding the ideas are welcoming, positive, and inspiring.” “SFL is not a top down, chapter based, or membership organization. Instead SFL functions as a network of pro-liberty students from a wide diversity of locations and backgrounds.” A bio of a board member from the site: “Alexander McCobin, CEO of Conscious Capitalism, amccobin@studentsforliberty.org . Alexander McCobin is co-founder and former president of Students For Liberty. Under his leadership, Students For Liberty grew into the largest libertarian student organization in the world with over 1,574 leaders trained in the 2015-16 school year and 1,916 active student groups. Previously, Alexander worked at the Cato Institute and ran another nonprofit organization that introduced high school debate programs to underserved youth in the greater Philadelphia area. Alexander also serves on the Board of Advisors of the Atlas Society and is an honorary board member of the Our America Initiative.”
Thomas More Society	https://thomasmoresociety.org/	A conservative public interest law firm based in Chicago that has participated in litigation on the 2020 stolen election, Covid mandates, and abortion. From its website: “The Thomas More

	<p>309 W. Washington Street Suite 1250 Chicago, IL 60606 (312) 782-1680 (312) 782-1887 info@thomasmoresociety.org</p>	<p>Society is a not-for-profit, national public interest law firm dedicated to restoring respect in law for life, family, and religious liberty. Based in Chicago, the Thomas More Society defends and fosters support for these causes by providing high quality pro bono legal services from local trial courts all the way to the United States Supreme Court.”</p> <p>“Thomas More Society was forged in 1997 in the crucible of courtroom conflict — the marathon landmark federal antitrust and RICO lawsuit, NOW v. Scheidler. The lawsuit, which began in 1986 and lasted 28 years, pitted the nation’s entire abortion industry and a radical feminist group, the “National Organization for Women” (NOW), against Joe Scheidler and other pro-life leaders throughout the country.”</p>
<p>Turning Point USA</p>	<p>https://www.tpusa.com</p> <p>4940 East Beverly Road Phoenix, Arizona 85044</p> <p>Charlie Kirk CEO</p> <p>Tyler Bowyer COO</p>	<p>TPUSA’s mission is to identify, educate, train, and organize students to promote the principles of fiscal responsibility, free markets, and limited government. It provides “Activism kits” to homeschool, high school, and college-aged students. Its website has link to https://www.schoolboardwatchlist.org/ that presumably allows you to see what is going on in your district... I couldn’t get it to work and it may be thinly populated with material.</p> <p>Also on the website is a map that allows you to see where chapters of Turning Point are. It looks like there are three or four in WI, none in our area. One in Madison.</p> <p>Like Leadership Institute and Students for Liberty, Turning Point claims to be doing more and doing better than any other organization. It would be interesting to see which organizations are most responsive to conservative and libertarian grassroots activists asking to be put in contact with, or at least sharing information with, students in their networks.</p>
<p>WinRed</p>	<p>https://winred.com/</p>	<p>WinRed is an American Republican Party fundraising platform endorsed by the Republican National Committee. It was launched to compete with the Democratic Party's success in online grassroots fundraising with their platform ActBlue. “WinRed Allows Donors to Donate Quickly and Securely to the Candidates and Causes They Support.”</p> <p>On the homepage you can choose Wisconsin on the map and it will give you names and “donate” buttons for nearly all the Republican candidates for national and state office in the state plus national, state, county, and some local GOP organizations. In March 2022 it was announced that the site would offer training to GOP candidates.</p>