

# Jane Fleming Kleeb

**Current Titles**

- President** Association of State Democratic Committees
- Vice Chair** Democratic National Committee
- Founder and Director** Bold Alliance, a group dedicated to bringing unlikely alliances to climate change fights
- Chair** Nebraska Democratic Party (a volunteer position)
- Author** *Harvest the Vote: How Democrats Can Win Again in Rural America* (published 2020)
- Executive Committee Member**
  - Association of State Democratic Committees
  - Democratic National Committee
- Advisory Board Member**
  - Equation Campaign
  - Rural Democracy Initiative
  - Jane Fonda Climate PAC
- Founding Board Member**, Our Revolution

**Recent Award**

- 2023 Climate Breakthrough Awardee**
  - Highest climate award that gives \$3 million over 3 years to tackle a climate issue with creativity and innovation
  - Selected for strategies with significant emissions reduction opportunities and scaling potential

**Key Skills**

- Experienced Communicator** across media platforms including MSNBC, FOX, CNN, HBO's Real Time and various newspapers and magazines
- Creative organizer** with an ability to lift up local issues into a national focus

## Professional Experience

### **Bold Alliance** Founder and President // 2010–current

- Led an unlikely alliance of farmers, ranchers, climate advocates and Tribal Nations in the decade-long fight to stop the Keystone XL pipeline that incorporated grassroots, legal, political and communications campaigns.
- Organizer of large-scale events including Harvest the Hope a concert to stop the Keystone XL pipeline with Willie Nelson and Neil Young and Reject and Protect a week-long encampment on the national mall with the Cowboy and Indian Alliance.
- Work with a team of staff to develop branding, financial plans and projects of Bold including the Easement Action Team and Pipeline Fighters Hub where we are constantly connecting climate to more local issues from property rights to clean energy.
- Work with national experts, communities and landowners on zoning and legal matters around energy projects.

### **Nebraska Democratic Party** Chair // December 2016–current

- Win record of 73% with candidates across the state going from 500 Democrats elected to over 900.
- Raise, on average, \$1 million a year; a growth of over 25%.
- Only person to win three elections for the statewide volunteer position as Nebraska's State Party Chair.
- Serve in leadership positions at the Association of State Democratic Committees and Democratic National Committee including the Unity and Reform Commission, which allows me to influence climate and rural issues inside the party.



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## **Hastings Public Schools School Board Member // 2010–2014**

- Adopted policies to maintain and improve student performance as well as ensure qualified leadership at all levels.
- Oversaw long-range planning of curriculum and school facilities including a bond campaign.
- Fulfilled campaign promise to deliver a new lunch contract that serves more local and healthy food.

## **SEIU Change That Works Project Nebraska State Director // 2008–2010**

- Developed and executed statewide plans with field and media strategies on key issues including labor and health reform.
- Coordinated leaders from advocacy groups, doctors, farmers, ranchers, faith and small businesses through structured tables.
- Secured key vote of Sen. Nelson for the passage of health care reform, a vote that was “lost cause” among political observers.

## **Democratic National Committee Youth Council Co-Chair // 2008–2009**

- One of the leaders who founded the council and worked with DNC leadership to incorporate measurable youth-based metrics.
- Coordinated youth voting groups’ activities with collaborative projects.

## **Young Voter PAC Executive Director // 2007–2008**

- Trained Democratic candidates, State Parties, and youth organizations to develop youth voting strategies and plans.
- Fundraised through major donors, events, and small donors and implement a budget for the non-federal 527.

## **MTV Choose or Lose Street Team Nebraska Reporter // 2007–2008**

- Worked with a national team to generate new users and repeat visitors to MTV’s election website.
- Produced videos and blogs related to youth voting and youth culture on a weekly basis.

## **Young Democrats of America Executive Director // 2004–2007**

- Rebranded overall image, program focus, and training manuals and raised \$4 million for the Young Voter Alliance project.
- Implemented first-ever national youth coordinated campaign with five national partners resulting in historic youth vote turn-out.

## **The Renfrew Center Foundation for Eating Disorders Executive Director // 2001–2003**

- Instituted cost savings to expand and improve the efficiency of outreach programs and raise funds for treatment scholarships.
- Wrote action guides and a quarterly newsletter with a circulation of over 100,000 individuals and allied organizations.
- Lead consultant for the award-winning documentary *Thin* which aired on HBO.

## **AmeriCorps Director and Board Member // 1994–2000**

- Ran an AmeriCorps program at Bond Elementary in Tallahassee with 25 members each year.
- Served as a National Training Director for an AmeriCorps program in Pennsylvania.
- The first Youth Commissioner for Florida’s Commission on National and Community Service.

## **Educational Background**

### **American University // 2001**

- Master of Arts, International Training and Education
- Focus on Nonprofit Management and Communications
- Created a training utilizing activism as a tool for recovery

### **Stetson University // 1995**

- Bachelor of Arts, Religious Studies
- Minors in Women and Gender Studies and Leadership Studies
- A lead founder of the group Into the Streets bringing together diverse student groups to engage in community service and activism



# Jane Fleming KleeB

**Jane Fleming KleeB\* is an experienced grassroots organizer, author, manager, political strategist, and nonprofit entrepreneur. In her work, Jane protects property rights while building an engaged base of citizens who care about the land and water.**

For her years of work in rural communities, Jane was named a **Climate Breakthrough** awardee in 2023, the highest honor in the climate change field. Jane is setting out to create a new project called Energy Builders that works with rural communities to change the economic model of large-scale clean energy projects to benefit the people who live on the land that is creating America's next 100 years of energy.

In 2010, she founded Bold Nebraska, which later became the Bold Alliance, a network of "small but mighty" coalitions in rural states working to protect the land and water with a focus on land justice and energy freedom with projects from the Pipeline Fighters Hub to the Easement Action Teams.

**Jane earned the nickname "Keystone Killer" by Rolling Stone magazine after a decades-long fight to stop a risky pipeline from using eminent domain for private gain and trampling on the sovereign rights of Tribal Nations.** Jane helped create an unlikely alliance with farmers, ranchers, indigenous leaders and climate advocates that all knew they had different views on various topics but shared a deep love for the land.

Bringing urban and rural folks together through meaningful and creative actions has been Jane's goal throughout her career. **She was a driving force behind Reject and Protect, where 12 tipis were placed on DC's National Mall and where the Cowboy and Indian Alliance rode horses through the streets of DC. BOLD's Ponca Corn Harvest not only helped stop the Keystone XL pipeline but also brought some land justice to the Ponca people. Jane also hosted Nebraska's largest advocacy concert, Harvest the Hope, with Willie Nelson and Neil Young.**

**Since 2016, Jane has served in a volunteer capacity as Chair of the Nebraska Democratic Party. She also serves on the Executive Committees of the Democratic National Committee and the Association of State Democratic Committees.**

Jane is the author of *Harvest the Vote: How Democrats Can Win Again in Rural America*, published in 2020. Profiled by PBS in their short-film, "Blue Wind on a Red Prairie"

and in the New York Times magazine, "Jane KleeB vs the Keystone XL Pipeline" — Jane is always working to elevate the national conversation on "red and rural" states.

**" The Keystone XL fight changed my life, and inspired me to never give up on anyone, anywhere. I am inspired by the small but mighty groups of people who punch above their weight for change. The ones who give a damn about leaving the world a better place."**

Jane started her career as a Commissioner and then training director for Florida's Commission on National and Community Service. She went on to serve as one of the youngest directors of an AmeriCorps project and then assisted a national AmeriCorps project develop their literacy and youth outreach programs.

As Executive Director of the Young Democrats of America from 2004 to 2007, Jane implemented the first-ever national youth coordinated campaign to mobilize young voters and worked with an alliance of diverse groups ranging from Punk Voters to Stonewall Democrats creating the "hangouts and home" model of voter outreach. **Jane went on to be the co-founder of the DNC's Youth Council, bringing together the Young Democrats, College Democrats, and other organizations to enshrine youth engagement into the institution of the Democratic Party.**

**Jane worked for MTV as their Street Team reporter in 2007 and for years was a regular contributor on Fox News, MSNBC and CNN.**

As Nebraska State Director of the SEIU Change That Works Project in 2008–2010, **she brought together leaders from advocacy, faith groups, doctors, farmers, ranchers, and small businesses to secure a key vote for passage of the Affordable Care Act.**

Jane has a B.A. in religious studies from Stetson University and an M.A. in international training and education from American University. **She served as an elected Hastings School Board Member and currently serves on the boards of Our Revolution, Equation Campaign, Jane Fonda PAC and the Rural Democracy Initiative.**

She currently lives in rural Nebraska with her husband Scott and three daughters—Kora, Maya, and Willa.

\* KleeB is pronounced /kleb/ and rhymes with *web* or *Deb*.



# Jane Fleming Kleeb

## Contact

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## Websites

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[BOLDalliance.org](http://BOLDalliance.org)  
[NebraskaDemocrats.org](http://NebraskaDemocrats.org)  
[ClimateBreakthrough.org](http://ClimateBreakthrough.org)  
[HarvestTheVoteBook.com](http://HarvestTheVoteBook.com)

## Books, Videos and Articles

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- Bold Alliance website that links to all of our past and current projects including Ponca Sacred Corn: [www.boldalliance.org](http://www.boldalliance.org)
- Harvest the Vote: How Democrats Can Win Back Rural America: [HarvestTheVoteBook.com](http://HarvestTheVoteBook.com)
- New York Times Magazine, Jane Kleeb vs. the Keystone Pipeline: [tinyurl.com/kleebNYT](http://tinyurl.com/kleebNYT)
- Omaha Magazine, Nebraska's Most Controversial Woman: [omahamagazine.com/uncategorized/nebraskas-most-controversial-woman](http://omahamagazine.com/uncategorized/nebraskas-most-controversial-woman)
- PBS, Blue Wind on a Red Prairie: [tinyurl.com/kleebPBS](http://tinyurl.com/kleebPBS)
- MSNBC, segment on Cowboy and Indian Alliance DC Action: <https://boldnebraska.org/msnbc-the-ed-show-meets-cowboy-and-indian-alliance-in-dc-to-cover-reject-protect>
- FOX, segment on export nature of pipeline: [tinyurl.com/kleebFOX](http://tinyurl.com/kleebFOX)
- Rolling Stone: [rollingstone.com/politics/politics-features/a-final-fight-for-the-keystone-pipeline-116097](http://rollingstone.com/politics/politics-features/a-final-fight-for-the-keystone-pipeline-116097)

## Press / Media / Event Resources

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### Tailored Bio Links

Bold Alliance Founder: [boldalliance.org/jane-kleeb](http://boldalliance.org/jane-kleeb)  
Nebraska Democratic Party Chair: [nebraskademocrats.org/janekleeb](http://nebraskademocrats.org/janekleeb)  
Harvest the Vote Author: [harvestthevotebook.com/janekleeb](http://harvestthevotebook.com/janekleeb)  
Climate Breakthrough Awardee: [climatebreakthrough.org/awardee/jane-kleeb](http://climatebreakthrough.org/awardee/jane-kleeb)

### Headshots

[climatebreakthrough.org/awardee/jane-kleeb](http://climatebreakthrough.org/awardee/jane-kleeb)

### Additional photos

[flickr.com/photos/boldnebraska](http://flickr.com/photos/boldnebraska)  
[HarvestTheVoteBook.com](http://HarvestTheVoteBook.com)

