

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

SEATTLE BRANCH AAUW NEWSLETTER - COME JOIN US

Volume 67, Issue 4

December 1, 2018

www.aauw-seattle.org



Saturday, December 15—9:30am

**Annual Holiday Program
with Fourcast Quartet**

**Seattle Yacht Club
Fireside Lounge
1807 E. Hamlin Street
Seattle, WA 98112**

Fourcast Quartet is a champion quartet singing 4-part acapella harmony in the Barbershop style. They are *thrilled* to have been singing together and making memories since 2015 and also *thrilled* to have been asked to sing for our holiday program! Lisa Martin, Tenor, grew up singing with her family, then in church choirs and community chorales. Anna Martin, Lead, started her barbershop singing 5 years ago with great influence from her mom, Lisa. Sue Beck, Baritone, grew up in a home filled with music as her mother was a college music professor. Carol Ward, Bass, is a lifelong singer “in vocal jazz groups and as lead singer in a soft rock/jazz band for many years.

We will have Raffle Baskets to benefit 2019 Tech Trek and some of our 2018 Tech Trek graduates will tell us about their extraordinary experiences at the week-long technology camp for girls between 7th and 8th grade.



Don't forget your donations for **Mary's Place**, whose mission is to provide safe, inclusive shelter and services that support women, children and families on their journey out of homelessness. Mary's Place highest needs include: twin blankets, baby formula, stroller covers, winter clothing and coats, raincoats, *NEW* underwear (all sizes and genders, particularly larger women's underwear and bras), and children's clothing (especially for teen boys). Look for further information on page 2.

The Yacht Club is always beautifully decorated for the holidays.

Come Join Us!

Location: Seattle Yacht Club—Fireside Lounge, 1807 E. Hamlin St., Seattle, WA

Cost: \$15 inclusive - *No charge for full-time or matriculated students with corresponding student ID (reservations still required).*

Menu: Washington French Toast: French bread with cream cheese, apples, and nutmeg served with maple syrup, bacon, fruit juice, freshly brewed coffee, decaffeinated coffee, and tea.

Parking: Free parking at the Yacht Club parking lot.

Reservations REQUIRED by Sunday, December 9, 2018

To reserve your place, send an email to: RSVP@aauw-seattle.org.

And Next Month...

AAUW Career Development
Grant Recipient

Jessica Supinski, Ph.D. candidate
will speak on Title IX
& LAF Fundraiser

Saturday, January 19, 2019
AAUW-Seattle Meeting
9:30-noon

Best Western Plus Executive Inn
200 Taylor Ave N, Seattle

Leadership Corner—Tonna Kutner

As another year winds down, I look back and see that I've had an incredibly rich AAUW year. I'm continuing to learn, made some great new friends (in addition to those I already have), and I'm proud of the things we have accomplished together.

I now have **intersectionality** as part of my vocabulary (*the complex and cumulative way that the effects of different forms of discrimination - such as racism, sexism, and classism - combine, overlap, and yes, intersect*). I've picked up *White Fragility* by Robin Diangelo, and I really got a lot out of our last program on children's books and how they provide another mirror on racial inequality and bias in our world. I'm learning more about my own biases - it's uncomfortable but rewarding. I know there's a lot more layers involved.



I so appreciate all the great programs we've had this year on a wealth of important issues. Scholar Recognition last April was one of my favorites. Dr. Saadia Pekkanen gave a brilliant talk and told us about all the garbage in space (garbage seems to be something we humans do very well). But the senior girls we honor for their skills in math, science and technology were the real highlight. I just love hearing from all those incredible young women. I am so glad June Arnold has agreed to be the coordinator for April 2019 so we can continue this inspiring program.

I've had the greatest time working with CJ Nash on marketing for our branch. I only met her last year at our Strategic Planning process, and already we've made a good team getting the marketing ball rolling. Everyone agreed we have a great branch and we need to "advertise" so more people know about it. We interviewed and found our marketing consultant, Allison Carney, who has been working hard with us. We've made our two-year plan and are busy developing and working on a bigger team, Facebook ads, and more.

I treasure the volunteer opportunities AAUW offers me. I helped sign up new voters at South Seattle Community College. I went to NEW Leadership in June, an exciting program for college women where we help out - and it's a lot of fun. Tech Trek is a big volunteer opportunity for me. I contact teachers to get their recommendations for 7th grade students, collect the girls' applications, and organize our volunteers to interview the girls for the week-long science camp in July. This year I even volunteered as a Dorm Monitor for camp! It was a great experience.

One of my goals for next year is to get more people involved in the stuff I like to do for AAUW. I'm learning that when more people are involved, volunteering is a lot more fun. My suggestion to you is to volunteer for something. Attending an interest group would qualify. We have lots of small volunteer opportunities and some larger ones. Think of what you would personally like to do and see how that would best fit in. Talk to me or anyone on the board. We'd love to get to know you better.

*This newsletter is a publication
of the
Seattle Branch of the AAUW*

Mission Statement

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, advocacy.

Vision

Equity for all.

Values

Nonpartisan. Fact-based.
Integrity. Inclusion and Intersectionality.

Nominating Committee

At our annual meeting in May 2019 we will be electing three of our board positions for two year terms: President, Programs Chair, and Secretary. We have information available on all of these positions and what they entail. We are also happy to have co-chairs or teams of volunteers for these positions so please let us know if you are interested in stepping up or finding out more. We have great people in place now who have information to share and make a smooth transition. Secretary or being part of the Program Team are especially good positions if you're new and want to get involved. Three members have volunteered for the Nominating Committee so contact them with any questions: Fiona Goodchild, Tonna Kutner, and Judy Waring at: nc@aaaauw-seattle.org.



You Can Make a Difference with Your Donation!

AAUW Seattle has a tradition of collecting items for Mary's Place at our December meeting. Mary's Place began in 1999 as a day center for homeless women located in the basement of the former downtown site of 1st United Methodist Church. With the surge of homeless women with children who need a safe place to stay at night, Mary's Place has grown to also include seven night shelters available for moms and dads with children-175,286 bed nights were provided last year, 296,731 meals were served, 1,460 were assisted with employment services, 1,137 children welcomed with age-appropriate programs, and 394 families were moved into permanent housing! Mary's Place also accepts donations of needed items directly from Amazon through their web site:

<http://www.marysplaceseattle.org/support-us/share-your-stuff/>. Tax receipts will be available.

Changes are coming to *The Catalyst* in 2019

As part of our strategic plan, Seattle Branch is embarking on a process that will result in *The Catalyst* becoming a web-based newsletter. To that end, beginning in January 2019, the branch will discontinue sending US-mailed printed copies of *The Catalyst* to any member who also has electronic access and e-mail. (All members with an e-mail address on file receive *The Catalyst* via e-mail.) The branch will continue to provide our newsletter in printed format to those members without e-mail or electronic access. Stay tuned for more information as the newsletter is transformed over the coming months.

November Branch Meeting Addressed Need for Diversity in Children's Books— Marianne North



Dr. Anu Taranath, with the Humanities Washington Speakers Bureau, and a senior lecturer on children's literature at the University of Washington spoke to us and to the invited public on the need for children to see themselves represented in the books they read at home, in the library, in the bookstore, and in school. She presented her research on the representation of African American, Native Americans, Asians, and Latinos in children's books since 2002 and of the need for more authors of color. She said that while 40% of the nation's children are of color, only about 10% of children's books are about children of color. Dr. Taranath brought books that accurately portray children of color and that talk about differences. Her presentation was rated very highly on the evaluations we had the audience complete.

About seventy-five people attended the presentation, which was held at Third Place Commons in Lake Forest Park. AAUW's strategic plan includes trying new venues and different approaches to programs and this was a valiant attempt. We also sought the co-sponsorship of the AAUW Edmonds SnoKing Branch, and they helped spread the word about the program. Our new AAUW Marketing Committee got a workout preparing the publicity that was a requirement of the Humanities Washington grant that provided the speaker. A big thank you to the AAUW Edmonds SnoKing and the AAUW Seattle Branch Board for trying something new.



Join Your Fellow AAUW Members for 2019 Lobby Day - Gay Armsden

Feeling inspired to commend your legislator or to talk some sense into her/him? At Lobby Day you can speak with your elected leaders in Olympia in the afternoon, after a morning of hearing interesting speakers, getting the scoop on upcoming bills related to AAUW priorities, and meeting our lobbyist and members from around the state. The program will take place on Monday, January 28, from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm at St. John's Episcopal Church, followed by appointments with legislators. It is recommended to call them for appointments (for 1:30 or later) in December to make sure you get on their schedule. Look for more details in the January *Catalyst*. For more info and registration, go to the AAUW-WA website: aauw-wa.aauw.net/.



Become a Two-Minute Activist

Take action on issues impacting women and girls by joining AAUW's Action Network. As a Two-Minute Activist, you will receive urgent email notices when your advocacy is needed most. They'll provide all the tools you need to call or send messages to your members of Congress, write letters to the editor for your local newspapers, contact your state legislators about pressing issues, and more. Check out the website: <https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/>.

Summary of AAUW Seattle Board Meeting—*Marianne North*

A committee has been formed to go through the Dr. Weter personal items in our storage unit to determine what should be archived permanently and what no longer needs to be kept.

Policy 6 on Meeting Fees has been revised slightly to clarify that meeting fees will be waived for matriculated (currently enrolled) high school and college students, but not for AAUW members who are taking noncredit, continuing education or personal enrichment courses.

An outside financial review has been done of branch accounts and no irregularities were found. The Finance Committee will review the report and recommend if changes are needed in the Bylaws as to type of and frequency of financial reviews.

Membership reports the Branch has about 100 members. We sent flowers to Frances Kwopil for her 100th birthday. Laila Adams and Penny Tetter attended her birthday party on November 10.

The Holiday Party at the Yacht Club needs more baskets to raffle for Teck Trek. So far, we have baskets with the themes of knitting, wine, and chocolate. Members are asked to bring donations for Mary's Place. Members are asked to RSVP by the deadline as seating is limited.

Marketing Committee reported that between 4,000 and 6,000 people were reached on the Face Book ads we purchased for October and November programs.

The Branch will sponsor a Pay Equity Forum in early April with the UW Women's Center. The updated AAUW/UW Women's Center Collaboration Agreement is being finalized.

The AAUW Seattle scholarship for women continuing on from a two- to a four-year degree will be announced in December at the Seattle community colleges.

Tech Trek recruitment of 7th grade girls begins in January. The program chair, Tonna Kutner, needs members to contact schools and also needs names of teachers to contact in public and private middle schools.

June Arnold has agreed to chair the Scholar Recognition program, and some new members have volunteered to contact the high schools.

The Nominating Committee is as follows: Tonna Kutner, Chair, along with Judy Waring and Fiona Goodchild. Offices of President, Program Vice President, and Secretary need to be filled. A Seattle Branch Leadership Guide has been finalized and will be posted on our website. It describes the duties of each branch officer, elected and appointed. The next Board Meeting will be a telecon on December 10 at 7 p.m.

Tech Trek - Tonna Kutner

We are excited some of the Tech Trek girls we sponsored last summer will be at our December meeting to tell us about their experiences. You will be able to hear firsthand what camp is like and what it means to them.

TechTrek is an exciting week-long, residential, hands-on STEM camp for girls currently in 7th grade who show promise in math science and/or technology. It's held at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma where girls live in college dorms for a week during the summer and take classes from an excellent group of female scientists. The camp is designed to create interest, excitement, and confidence in young women. All girls attend on sponsorships so there are no financial barriers to attending camp.

There are many activities we need to complete before these girls can go to camp. One is to raise \$950 to sponsor each girl. You can help out by attending our Holiday Program on December 15th. Meet with old and new friends and help out Tech Trek at the same time. We'll be selling raffle tickets for some great baskets and all proceeds will go to sponsoring Tech Trek girls. If you can't make the meeting, here are some ways to make a tax-deductible donation to Tech Trek:

- Online, via credit or debit card, <https://techtrek-wa.aauw.net/>
- Via check made out to "AAUW-WA SPF" with "Tech Trek Seattle" on the message line sent to:

AAUW-WA SPF
PO Box 1665
Bellevue WA 98009-1665

It's Time for the Post-Election Push - Gay Armsden

The results of the midterm elections reveal the growing political power of women. A record number of women ran for office, signaling increased confidence, and a record number of them won their races, reflecting increased credibility among voters. It remains to be seen to what extent the unfinished business of achieving equity for women and other AAUW public policy priorities will now be addressed.

Now is the time to really get going on working toward fair pay. The responsibility for closing the gap rests on efforts by us as individuals, as well as employers and lawmakers. As individuals, we can work smarter by learning how to negotiate our salary and promotions. AAUW is asking all members to take the free, online version of its Work Smart course – and then recruit 20 other women to take it also. We can also tell our representatives in Congress to co-sponsor and support the **three bills in the House** (to which almost all those new women were elected) that would help to close the pay gap: (1) *The Paycheck Fairness Act* (strengthens the 1963 Equal Pay Act), (2) *The Pay Equity for All Act* (prohibits use of salary history), and (3) *The Fair Pay Act* (equal pay for work of equivalent value). We can act locally as well. Earlier this year the WA legislature passed the Equal Pay Opportunity Act. It's a great improvement over earlier law, but successful implementation of it is critical. Members of AAUW Oregon are helping employers and employees understand the ramifications of the pay equity law that their state passed in 2017. Perhaps members of AAUW-WA and AAUW Seattle can follow their lead in this state.

The Department of Education, under Betsy DeVos, just released new guidelines for how schools address sexual misconduct accusations. Many organizations join AAUW in criticizing the changes as undermining many of Title IX's essential protections: They narrow the definition of campus sexual harassment to more extreme behavior, allow cross-examination by the accuser of the accused, and the incident must have been reported to "an official with authority to take corrective action." Read the document for yourself and see if you think there are some changes that are for the better: <https://tinyurl.com/titleixdoc>. There will be a public comment period on the Federal Register website (<https://tinyurl.com/fedregcomments>) when the document is uploaded to it. Take action through AAUW's Two-Minute Activist: <https://tinyurl.com/2minactivist>.

Notice: Now through January 11, 2019, you can comment on the changes to AAUW's national public policy priorities (<https://tinyurl.com/AAUWPubPolcomments>).

Women's Center - Our Partner at the University of Washington— Renée Agatsuma

AAUW Seattle Branch partners closely with the UW's women's center. They support AAUW in diversity initiatives and have helped us find speakers and spread our message. As they say on their website (<http://www.washington.edu/womenscenter/>), "The UW Women's Center is a catalyst for change. We disrupt cycles of oppression and break down gender-based barriers through transformational education programs, leadership development, and advocacy for girls and womxn. We believe womxn's rights are human rights."

The Branch is co-sponsoring an Equal Pay Day event with the Women's Center, who has a great reach and network to people all around the campus. The center is always lively and full of a diverse group of women working directly to make a difference in our community. There are many programs of note:

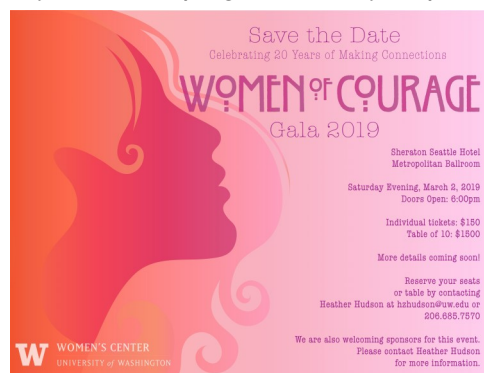
Alene Moris New Leadership program is a 6-day intensive program helping women get into civic and non-profit leadership, as well as run for office. We sponsor a political lunch, and have the opportunity to meet with the students in the program and learn from them, as well as present information about AAUW.

Making Connections College Readiness Program works with students from traditionally underserved students and their families in the Seattle area providing tutoring, career exploration, mentorship, and career explorations for students. All of the Making Connections students go on to college. If you are interested in volunteering, please go to <http://www.washington.edu/womenscenter/making-connections/get-involved-with-making-connections/>

Re-Entry Program focuses on helping non-traditional students coming back to college. The program focuses on childcare, financial support, student healthcare, and navigating the college system. This program directly helps incoming students develop personalized plans that help make coming back to college a success.

Start Smart is a workshop, which is given in the Spring when students are starting to think on getting a new job after graduation, that helps women learn how to negotiate their first salary.

We are lucky to have such an involved, dedicated partner working on the front lines at the University of Washington, and are grateful to the support the Women's Center provides in helping us think about diversity and intersectional feminism. In return, AAUW Seattle Branch supports the critically important programs of the Women's Center. One way we do that each year is to sponsor a table at the "Women of Courage" Gala. If you'd like to be one of the ten people who join us at our table in 2019, please let me know at c-u@aauw-seattle.org.





Interest Group Corner

The Seattle Branch has four very active interest groups and hopes to add new ones in the near future. Check this space each month to learn what's happening with each interest group and consider joining one or more. The more members who join in, the merrier. A contact person is listed with each group below.

Art Smart—Ann Dennis—ad@aauw-seattle.org

Art Smart will get in the holiday spirit when they head to downtown Bellevue December 12th to take in the sights and sounds and visit the Bellevue Arts Museum Biennial 2018 exhibition, *BAM Glasstastics*, a juried show which features the work of forty-nine Northwest glass artists. Before going to the museum, the Art Smarts will visit over lunch at Palomino's. For information about this or future Art Smart excursions, contact Ann Dennis.



Book Group—Bev Fogle—books@aauw-seattle.org

AAUW Book Group will meet at Marianne North's home (note the change of location) on November 27th at 1:00 to discuss *Caesar's Last Breath: Decoding the Secrets of the Air Around Us* by Sam Kean. We'll also be choosing books for next year. There will be no meeting in December.

January 22nd we'll be meeting back at the Lake Forest Park Town Center to discuss *Radiant Girls: The Dark Story of America's Shining Women* by Kate Moore. This important history has been described as a "tribute to the strength of women everywhere".

Stage Presence—Bev Fogle—books@aauw-seattle.org

Stage Presence, our new performing arts group, enjoyed George Bernard Shaw's *Arms and the Man* with the Seattle Shakespeare Company on November 16th. We will be seeing Willa Cather's *My Antonia*, presented by the Book It company on Sunday, December 9th. This performance will again be at the Armory in Seattle Center at 2:00 p.m. The Sunday Matinee time seems to be popular in the dark winter months. This time we'll be joining some others from the On-Line AAUW Branch, so we'll learn a little bit about their programs. We are still very much "in formation" so anybody is welcome to contribute ideas, favorite theater companies, whatever. We are still mostly a mailing list, so to get in on our activities just send coordinator Beverly Fogle an e-mail or a phone call.

Writer's Group—Tonna Kutner—TechTrek@aauw-seattle.org

The Writers Group meets at member's homes on the first Wednesday of the month at 11:30am. We work on a variety of projects from fiction to family history. The group discusses each member's work for the month and offers our thoughts and advice. New members are welcome!

What is LAF?

As detailed in last month's *Catalyst*, the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) works to challenge sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace. Our resources range from community outreach programs to backing of major cases. For information go to the website: <https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/legal-resources/>. Seattle Branch will be conducting a fundraiser for LAF at our January branch meeting. The first \$500 raised will be matched by the Branch. Bring your checkbooks!

Learn More about AAUW STEM Activities



<https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/stem-education/>

Give-A-Grad

Do you know someone graduating? You can give the gift of AAUW for FREE! Learn more here:

<https://www.aauw.org/resource/give-a-grad-a-gift>

That's how much it costs to give AAUW membership to the recent college grads in your life.

Give one, give 100, give 1,000!

AAUW

Member News:

Leah Early (our newest branch member) lives in Lake Forest Park with an adventuresome husband of 55 years. She is mother to three daughters and a son-in-law and grandmother to three grandsons 13 to 19 years in age. Now, in the fourth quarter of her life, she enjoys reading, gardening, traveling, writing short stories and poetry, as well editing collections of verse for friends and family. Leah has taught youth in middle and high school English Arts classrooms and advocated for women leadership in businesses and communities in 16 countries of the world.

Tonna Kutner writes: "I took an incredible trip to Albania, Montenegro, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Slovenia for much of October. It was a wonderful small group journey with former branch member Susan Moen and eleven others. It was fascinating to go to these countries that have been at war or under the control of others for much of their long history. Their resilience, humor and hard work are really remarkable. The mountains, waterfalls, lakes and caves were also fabulous."



Penny Tetter and her husband Jack enjoyed a 17 day "Adventure of a Lifetime" to Machu Picchu and the Galapagos Islands in October. This included 8 flights, many steep steps, many hotels, and 3 days on a Catamaran for a total of some 16,500 miles!



Frances Kwapil celebrated her 100th birthday November 10th at a party attended by family members from around the world plus friends including our branch members Laila Adams and Penny Tetter. A highlight of Frances' party was a soprano from Seattle Opera singing an aria from Il Trovatore, the next Seattle Opera production. Frances has been a longtime supporter of arts and education including the Opera, Symphony, and AAUW. She joined Seattle Branch in 1945 and served as branch secretary in 1952-53 and was an active member of interest groups including the Stitchery Group that made award-winning Seattle and Washington State themed banners in 1975 for our state convention. Frances and her two sisters all were teachers in the Seattle Public Schools, with Frances teaching business education and art. We're hoping that Frances will join us at our December meeting so that we can congratulate her in person.



AAUW-Seattle Branch Officers 2018-2019

Elected

President:

Barbara Sando president@aauw-seattle.org

VP Finance:

Beverly Fogle—finance@aauw-seattle.org

VP Programs:

Pamela Forsha & Sam Montgomery -
programs@aauw-seattle.org

VP Membership:

Judy Waring membership@aauw-seattle.org

Secretary:

Marianne North - secretary@aauw-seattle.org

Appointed

Web Site:

Heather Dohan - website@aauw-seattle.org

Catalyst Newsletter Editor:

Heather Dohan - catalyst@aauw-seattle.org

Public Policy:

Gay Armsden - publicpolicy@aauw-seattle.org

College/University Relations:

Renée Agatsuma - c-u@aauw-seattle.org

Scholar Recognition:

June Arnold - recognition@aauw-seattle.org

Tech Trek:

Tonna Kutner - TechTrek@aauw-seattle.org

Marketing & Communications:

CJ Nash—marketing@aauw-seattle.org

Nominating Committee:

nc@aauw-seattle.org

Board Members at Large

Penny Tetter—pt@aauw-seattle.org

Connect with us!



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Seattle, WA 98166-3207
 Address Service Requested

Upcoming Events...

Date	Day	Time	Location	Program
December 10, 2018	Monday	7:00pm	Contact Secretary— (secretary@aauw-seattle.org) for teleconference information	Branch Board Meeting
December 15, 2018	Saturday	9:30am	Seattle Yacht Club	Annual Holiday Program
January 14, 2019	Monday	7:00pm	Contact Secretary— (secretary@aauw-seattle.org) for teleconference information	Branch Board Meeting
January 19, 2019	Saturday	9:30am	Best Western Plus Executive Inn	Branch Meeting with AAUW Fellowship Recipients
January 28, 2019	Monday		AAUW Washington State Lobby Day	Olympia, WA
February 9, 2019	Saturday	9:30am	Best Western Plus Executive Inn	Branch Meeting with Michelle Meriweather, President of Urban League
March 2, 2019	Saturday	6:00 pm	Sheraton Hotel	UW Women's Center Women of Courage Gala
March 11, 2019	Monday	7:00pm	Contact Secretary— (secretary@aauw-seattle.org) for teleconference information	Branch Board Meeting
March 16, 2019	Saturday	9:30am	Best Western Plus Executive Inn	Immigration and Refugee panel led by AAUW member Barbra Spraker