

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

SEATTLE BRANCH AAUW NEWSLETTER - COME JOIN US

Volume 67, Issue 7

March 1, 2019

www.aauw-seattle.org



Barbara Spraker

Saturday, March 16—9:30am

**Shared Panel of Immigrant and Refugee Women
Moderated by Barbara Spraker**

“Immigration and Integration”

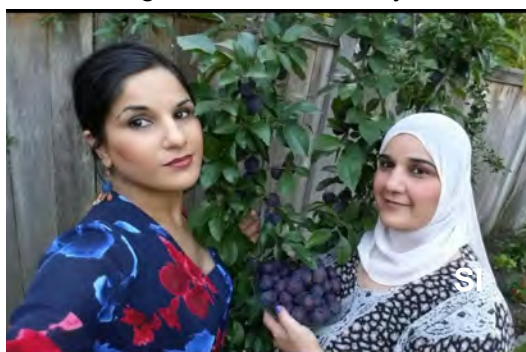
**Executive Inn by the Space Needle
(formerly the Best Western Plus Executive Inn)**

**200 Taylor Ave North
Seattle, WA 98109**

Though we are bombarded daily by media articles about *immigration*, little is said about *integration*. Our March program provides an opportunity to learn what it means to immigrate to this country, or arrive as a refugee, and about the journey of integration once one is here. Four women will share their personal stories of leaving their native countries and creating a new life in a very different culture.



Risho Sapano, Founder and Executive Director of Mother Africa



Zozan Shamdeen and Sheelan Shamdeen, Founders and Co-owners of Soozyeen Catering



Samso Issak, Executive Director of Living Well Kent

Book Exchange at the March Meeting. Bring a book to pass along and/or take a book to enjoy.

Come Join Us!

Location: Executive Inn by the Space Needle, 200 Taylor Ave North, Seattle, WA

Cost: Meeting is FREE of charge, but **RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED**

Menu: French buffet: Challah bread, egg battered and fried, served with warm maple syrup and orange spice syrup, fluffy scrambled eggs, hickory bacon, and roasted bay red potatoes served with fresh fruit juice, freshly brewed coffee, decaffeinated coffee, and tea.

Parking: Free in hotel garage (sign the book at the front desk). Paid parking can usually be found on the street.

Reservations required by Friday, March 8th

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

And Next Month...

**Scholar Recognition Reception
with
Marina Gillert of Blue Origin**

Wednesday, April 17, 2019
7-9 pm

**Executive Inn by the Space
Needle
(formerly the Best Western Plus
Executive Inn)
200 Taylor Ave N, Seattle**

Leadership Corner—Bev Fogle

The Seattle Branch welcomed me about three years ago, when I first moved to Seattle from Vancouver, WA. Already I had 'history', having been very active in AAUW Washington during the seventies and early eighties. We were VERY busy with legislative issues in those days, especially public disclosure (our PDC was the first in the nation), establishing the state Women's Commission, winning wives' places in the telephone book (remember telephone books?), and a push for bicycle trails. Those were heady years! We worked hard, we won results, and we loved it.

Life moves on, and many of us devoted more time to our careers and less to AAUW. The "Women's Movement" had opened doors, and the women of AAUW took great advantage of the changes. Today we're at a point when Branches all around the country are struggling. Two of my former Branches, which greatly influenced my professional as well as public career, have folded recently. I mourn that loss. Let's not let that happen to Seattle Branch!

Fortunately, we were blessed with two very special, far-sighted members: Winifred Weter and Betty Carey. They thought AAUW was important enough that they left major bequests to our Branch. Today, we have the wherewithal to make special events and activities happen, and to bring professional guidance to future initiatives. We still have to provide the creativity and do the hard work, but we can move forward with confidence as we make things happen. Our recent Strategic Planning process is leading us on this path. Thank you, Winifred and Betty.

We have a noble legacy in AAUW, and much unfinished business to attack. To do that we need to replenish our ranks, renew and enhance our leadership, and breathe fresh fire into all our members. Bring a friend or two to our March meeting to hear and learn from our Immigration Panel. Bring them again to the Scholar Recognition evening on April 17th when our high school honorees will hear from Marina Gillert of Blue Origin (if you don't know about Blue Origin, look it up!). Stay tuned as we move forward together.



***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, and advocacy.

Vision

Equity for all.

Values

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

Give Every Grad You Know the Gift of AAUW Membership at No Cost!

- Heather Dohan

Do you know a woman graduating college? Did you know you, as an AAUW member, can gift a one-year national membership to as many recent college graduates that you like at no cost to them or to you? Well you can! I have in the past. This is a great way to introduce the AAUW to our members of the future.

Anyone who has completed an undergraduate degree in the past two years can receive a free membership. You need some basic information from the graduate, and then enter the information online. Shortly, the graduate will be an AAUW member! It is that easy. For more information and the form visit: <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

"Famous Mothers" Fashion Show –

Mary Ross, Edmonds Sno-King Branch

Edmonds Sno-King Branch invites Seattle Branch members and guests to its Saturday afternoon, March 9th "Famous Mothers" Fashion show. For more details, and to register by March 1st, see:

<https://esk-wa.aauw.net/files/2019/01/Spring-tea-2019-invitation-final.pdf>.

A Spring Tea is Brewing!

JOIN US FOR A TEA & FASHION SHOW TO HONOR FAMOUS MOTHERS

March 9, 1:30 - 3:30 pm
Tickets \$20

Trinity Lutheran Church
6215 196th Street
Lynnwood



February Branch Meeting Canceled - Mother Nature Steals the Show— *Barbara Sando*

Like many AAUW members, Mother Nature can be a force to reckon with. Our December holiday program did go on in the aftermath of a strong windstorm, but we weren't so fortunate in February. Due to the forecast of significant snow and ice for that weekend, our February 9th Branch Meeting at the Executive Inn by the Space Needle was canceled. While the board was considering how we might handle such a situation, the venue itself notified us that the meeting would be canceled. Just as we won't risk the safety of our members and guests, the hotel won't risk the safety of their employees who serve us. These decisions are not made lightly. Weather forecasts are often wrong. However, in this case, as we all well know, the forecast was accurate and the cancelation was exactly the right call. We're sorry to have missed this interesting program by Michelle Merriweather from the Urban League, and we'll try to reschedule it for a program next year. We hope everyone stayed safe during the storm, and that Mother Nature doesn't impact any more of our branch meetings this year. Enough already!

Seattle Branch Recognized for 115th Anniversary – *Barbara Sando*

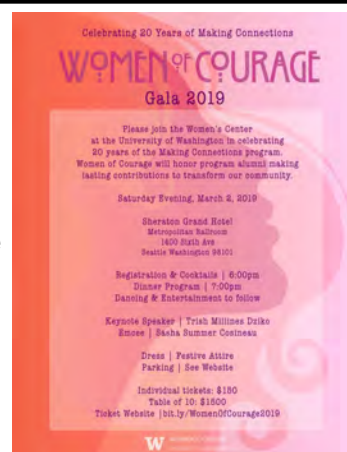
Seattle Branch, founded in 1904 and now the oldest AAUW Branch in Washington State, was recently recognized by AAUW National for our 115th anniversary. In the letter addressed to me as branch president, AAUW said, "We applaud your exceptional service and demonstrated commitment to advancing equity for women and girls. Please accept this certificate of honor as a small token of our gratitude."



On the one hand, it's hard to believe that it's already been 15 years since our fabulous 100th Birthday Gala. On the other hand, in that time, we've started and completed the Mary Lou Hughes R&P Grant, encouraged hundreds of girls in STEM through our Expanding Your Horizons, Tech Trek, and Scholar Recognition programs, started a college scholarship program, and been an active participant in many Lobby Days and get-out-the-vote activities – just to name some of our activities. Happy Birthday to Seattle Branch – and many more!

Women of Courage Gala is This Month!- *Renée Agatsuma*

The Women of Courage Gala kicks off the first Saturday of March (in fact it may be over when you're reading this). Ten AAUW women will be attending and fellowshiping together as we learn about the Women's Center's great programs. The keynote speaker will be Trish Millines Dzinko, the Co-Founder and Executive Director of the Technology Access Foundation, a STEM-focused public school in Federal Way. This is always a great night where we bond with each other, and are reminded of the transformational work that the Women's Center does on campus, working with women from high school through adult women who already had careers and are now returning to school. The night ends with dancing! Look for more information and pictures next month!



AAUW February Board Meeting Summary—*Barbara Sando*

The Seattle Branch board met on Sunday, February 17th at Tonna Kutner's home. The board discussed proposed changes to the Branch Bylaws, both administrative changes or clarifications, as well as a few revisions that members will be asked to vote on at the annual meeting in May. Beverly Fogle summarized the latest financial reports, and stressed that we are in good shape, especially given recent market performance. Judy Waring reported that the branch has 99 members. The 2019-2020 membership renewal process begins on March 16th. As an incentive for members to renew on time, the board voted to make the September branch meeting free to members who renew by July 1st.

Planning for the remaining programs of the year is well in hand. Efforts will be made to try to reschedule Michelle Merriweather from the Urban League (speaker from our canceled February branch meeting) to sometime this fall. We're having our holiday program at the Seattle Yacht Club again.

Work is progressing well for the transition from a print-based to web-based newsletter, which will be easier to read online. The plan is to roll out the new version in September. Tech Trek and Scholar Recognition are off to good starts this year, with schools providing nominations for both programs. The new-this-year Scholarship Committee developed a policy documenting their roles and responsibilities, which the board approved. The committee is looking forward to reviewing applications after the deadline on April 1st. We have a full table (10 members) who will attend the UW Women's Center Gala on March 2nd, and are also looking forward to cosponsoring the Pay Equity Forum on campus in mid-April.

The state legislature is in session. Gay Armsden summarized a number of bills of interest to AAUW. We had a record turnout at Lobby Day in late January (see separate report), including some new members – very encouraging! The Nominating Committee has met and has been making calls. Currently, there are candidates for the offices of President and Program Chair; candidates for Secretary are still being sought.

The next Board meeting will be immediately following the Saturday, March 16th branch meeting at the Executive Inn. All members are welcome to attend. Contact: secretary@aauw-seattle.org for details.

Hear AAUW CEO Kim Churches and Seattle Branch Member Amy Klosterman at the April AAUW-WA Annual Meeting in Bellingham—*Barbara Sando*



Kim Churches

The AAUW Washington State Annual Meeting will be April 12-13 in Bellingham, just a short drive from Seattle. The meeting will start with dinner on Friday and continue through a day of speakers and workshops on Saturday. AAUW CEO Kim Churches will be our Friday dinner speaker. This is your chance to hear how AAUW will continue to be relevant in the 21st Century. Another confirmed speaker for Saturday is our own Seattle Branch member Amy Klosterman, Title IX attorney. Amy will speak about her experience in the US Office of Civil Rights. It should be a great meeting, as well as a chance to catch up with AAUW friends from around our state. For more information, check out details at: <https://aauw-wa.aauw.net/2019/02/17/2019-state-annual-meeting/>. You can register for the conference at [AAUW Washington Annual Meeting 2019](https://aauw-wa.aauw.net/2019/02/17/2019-state-annual-meeting/).



Tech Trek is moving into high gear. I'm so grateful to have members helping to contact schools and get teachers to nominate girls for this incredible program. Nominations are coming in from teachers and we have a few Student Applications as well. The deadline is coming up and we're hoping to have 10-12

girls to interview. Interviews take place in March and require a few days of volunteering to interview the girls in teams of two or three at their various schools. If you want to be involved or find out more information, please contact Tonna at: techtrek@aauw-seattle.org. Tech Trek is a great science, math and technology camp for girls now in 7th grade. All girls are sponsored by AAUW to level the playing field for all girls. To find out more or to make donations go to <https://techtrek-wa.aauw.net/>.

Legislative Bills That Support AAUW's Public Policy Priorities—Gay Armsden

WA State

A number of bills supporting AAUW's public policy priorities are being considered by our state legislature. Below is a sample of significant ones. *It is a good time to contact your representatives about them.*

HB 1696 and SB 5090, which build on the Equal Pay Act improvements made last year, would prohibit employers from asking job applicants about their wage or **salary history** unless certain conditions are met. This legislation would help reduce the gender pay gap because it deters continuation of women's lower pay. 5090 is now in fiscal committee and will presumably move forward. 1696 is still in House committee and must pass out by March 1.

SB 5649, which passed in the Senate and is now headed to the House, extends statutes of limitations for **sexual assault**. No time limit for children under 16; 20 years for adult cases of rape in the 1st and 2nd degrees.

HB 1149, which passed in the House and now heads to the Senate, clarifies that, to obtain a **sexual assault** protection order, a survivor is required only to allege and prove that she was sexually assaulted, but is not required to also prove that she has a "reasonable fear" about future assaults.

The Reproductive Health Care for All Act (SB5602 / HB1612) that the HERRO Coalition put together (AAUW-WA is an "Ally Organization") seeks to enhance state law to ensure **reproductive health care** access for immigrant and transgender communities. 5602 is now in Ways and Means. 1612 is still in committee.

ESSB 5258, which has passed in the Senate and is now in House committee, requires employers in certain service occupations that involve workers working alone or without another coworker present to adopt a **sexual harassment policy**. They also must conduct training and provide resources and a panic button for isolated locations.

Two higher education bills: HB 1123 would **waive tuition** for certain students the first two years of enrollment in technical or community colleges. To move forward, this bill must be out of committee by March 1. HB 1198, in Rules Committee as of 2/22, would improve oversight and accountability in enforcement of **Title IX** and allow Washington to respond to any changes in Title IX law at the federal level that would make college students less safe on campus.

National

In early February, AAUW submitted a letter in support of the Raise the Wage Act (H.R. 582/S. 150) in advance of the House Committee on Education and Labor's hearing. This legislation would gradually raise the minimum wage to \$15 per hour by 2024. Women make up the majority of minimum wage workers in virtually every state.

Go here to learn about the multi-stop trip bills take through the WA legislative process: <http://leg.wa.gov/legislature/Pages/Overview.aspx>.

Looking for Branch Officers—Tonna Kutner

The Nominating Committee has made great strides in recruiting volunteers to fill important board positions. We are happy to report that Lynn Dissinger and Fiona Goodchild have stepped up to be nominated as a presidential team. Cynthia Sheridan has volunteered to be nominated as the head of our programs team. We also have a number of volunteers to help with programs. There's still more room on that team if you would like to help.

The position of Secretary has not yet been filled. This is a perfect position for a new member or a person who has not yet served on the board to step up. The Secretary takes minutes at our monthly board meetings and also provides a brief summary of each of our meetings. This is a great opportunity and a great service to our branch.

Elections will take place at our branch meeting on May 18, 2019. If you have questions or want to volunteer, contact the Nominating Committee – Judy Waring, Gay Armsden and Tonna Kutner at: nc@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, so stay tuned. 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

"Snowmageddon 2019" caused the cancellation of the February Art Smart trip to see the Women Painters of Washington exhibit, "On Location," but we have rescheduled it for Wednesday, March 13th. The gallery is on the 3rd floor of the Columbia Tower, the tallest building in downtown Seattle, at 701 5th Avenue. The group will meet at 11 a.m. in the gallery and then at noon have lunch together in the expansive food court. The exhibit is free. Come join us whether you are an Art Smarts member or not. For more information, email Ann Dennis. Art Smart needs of a new coordinator to serve through May. If you can help, please contact Ann or any of the other Art Smart members.

Book Group—Fiona Goodchild—books@aauw-seattle.org

Enjoy some lively conversation at our Book Group meeting on February 26 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at Lake Forest Park Towne Center. We will discuss *Behold the Dreamers* by Imbolo Mbue. Our March selection is *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn. For more information contact Fiona Goodchild.

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

Stage Presence has three plays lined up this spring. First up is Village Theater's presentation of *I DO! I DO!* A Musical about Marriage on Sunday, March 10, at 2:00pm in Everett. Stellar cast and noted writers. Visit the Village Theater's website for more information. Contact Beverly for more information.

She Stoops to Conquer, by Oliver Goldsmith, is being presented by the Seattle Shakespeare Company at the Center Theater in Seattle Center. We will attend a matinee on Saturday, April 6. "Dial the Funny Up to 11...mistaken identities, romantic entanglements, mischief-makers, and clowns, - - - hints of Shakespeare".

In June, there will be performances of *Behold the Dreamers*, presented by Book-It Repertory Theatre at the Center Theater at The Armory (Seattle Center). This is the story of an immigrant family from Cameroon was a favorite in our Book Group. We are planning on Sunday June 9.

Most performances are about \$50. If you have other performances you'd like to see, or would prefer other dates, contact Beverly. Anything (almost) is possible!

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

The Writer's Group meets at members' homes on the first Wednesday of the month at 11:30 am. 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!

AAUW Dues and Membership Renewal 2019—Judy Waring

Dues for the July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, membership year can be paid starting March 16th. We will begin e-mailing invoices in April with a link so that you can easily pay using a credit card. Seattle Branch membership dues are \$85 (National dues \$59, Washington state dues \$10, and Seattle branch dues \$16). If you prefer to renew your membership by paying with a check, please bring your \$85 check made out to Seattle AAUW to a branch meeting or contact Judy at: membership@aauw-seattle.org for instructions for mailing your check.

New AAUW members who join on or after March 16th will be paid up through June 30, 2020. If new members join at a meeting, they can save half on National dues. To get this \$55.50 rate, it is necessary to pay with a check or cash.

Please let Judy know if you have any questions regarding membership.

Planned Parenthood Update—Judy Waring

The Annual Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii Luncheon is scheduled for Wednesday, May 8th, at a downtown location. Last year eight AAUW members and friends made their own reservations and sat together at the luncheon. We're planning on doing this again this year—if you're interested in participating (you'll need to pay your own way) please let Judy Waring membership@aauw-seattle.org know so that she can provide you with more information as it becomes available. Early bird reservations in the past have resulted in a less expensive luncheon ticket.

Lobby Day News—Judy Waring

Seattle Branch was well represented at Lobby Day (January 28th) in Olympia with seven attending, including four of our newer members and one guest. Gay Armsden, our public policy chair, wasn't able to attend but made appointments with her legislators that were used by some of our members for lobbying on AAUW issues.



Gay asked for Lobby Day impressions and Rachael Foe replied: "I had a great time at lobby day! It was very interesting to learn more about the shocking new threats to Title IX from the speaker from Legal Voice and from our Seattle branch member, Amy Klosterman. I liked



meeting and talking with women who care about these issues and learning about what is coming up in our WA state legislative session. Judy is from my legislative district and was able to secure appointments with our legislators. We really got a sense of who they were just in talking with them for 10-15 minutes. Our capital is beautiful--as a new Washington resident, I was thrilled to see the history, walk in the beautiful spaces, and be in the place where all the action was happening."

Kristin Zimmerman wrote: "It was an empowering force field--So energizing seeing the process at work. Observing a hearing with victims of domestic violence testify for much

needed change and reform threw gasoline on an already lit fire under me. I'm grateful for the experience and all I learned from fellow AAUW members."



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



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Seattle, WA 98166-3207
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Upcoming Events...

Date	Day	Time	Location	Program
March 2, 2019	Saturday	6:00pm	Seattle Sheraton Hotel	UW Women's Center Women of Courage Gala
March 16, 2019	Saturday	9:30am	Executive Inn by the Space Needle	Branch Meeting-Immigration and Refugee Panel with Barbara Spraker
March 16, 2019	Saturday	11:30am	Executive Inn by the Space Needle –immediately after the Branch Meeting	Branch Board Meeting
April 8, 2019	Monday	7:00pm	Contact Secretary—(secretary@aauw-seattle.org) for telecom information	Branch Board Meeting
April 12-13, 2019	Friday-Saturday	9am-3pm	Holiday Inn Bellingham International Airport, Bellingham, WA	AAUW State Annual Meeting
April 17, 2019	Wednesday	3:30-5:00pm	UW Kane Hall, Walker-Ames Room	Pay Equity Forum
April 17, 2019	Wednesday	7:00pm	Executive Inn by the Space Needle	Scholar Recognition Reception with Marina Gillert of Blue Origin
May 13, 2019	Monday	6:30pm	Contact Secretary—(secretary@aauw-seattle.org) for information	Branch Board Meeting—end of year potluck
May 18, 2019	Saturday	9:30am	Executive Inn by the Space Needle	Annual Branch Meeting