



Wednesday, April 17—7:00pm

Scholar Recognition Reception

with

**Marina Gillert, Avionics Integration Engineer
at Blue Origin**

Executive Inn by the Space Needle

(formerly the Best Western Plus Executive Inn)

200 Taylor Ave North

Seattle, WA 98109

Grit and willpower are necessary for achieving your dreams – dreams that many believe are impossible to achieve. Hear how these traits carried a struggling Medical Electronics Technician from Greece to a career building rockets.

Marina Gillert is an Avionics Integration Engineer for Blue Origin and builds electronics for rockets. Marina has been in the electronics and medical engineering field since 2004. Intrigued and spellbound about space since a little girl, Marina decided to change careers in 2017, follow her dream by joining the aerospace industry and to also attend college to get a bachelor's degree in Computer and Electrical Engineering. She is currently residing in Shoreline with her husband and 2 cats, and in her free time, she practices Shito-Ryu Karate, enjoys playing video games and knitting.

This is the 19th year that Seattle Branch has participated in the Scholar Recognition program to honor high school senior women for their achievements in STEM. Be prepared to be inspired by our keynote speaker and our student honorees.

Come Join Us!

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

Cost: \$10 inclusive - *No charge for full-time students or matriculated students with corresponding student ID (reservations still required)*

Menu: Sweet and savory refreshments, soft drinks, freshly brewed coffee, decaf coffee, and tea.

Parking: Free in hotel garage (sign the book at the front desk). Paid parking can usually be found on the street. Parking is free around the hotel after 6pm.

Reservations required by Tuesday, April 9, 2019.

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

And Next Month...

**Annual Branch Meeting &
Women Painters of Washington**

Saturday, May 18, 2019

9:30-noon

**Executive Inn by the Space
Needle**

(formerly the Best Western Plus
Executive Inn)

200 Taylor Ave N, Seattle

Leadership Corner—Renée Agatsuma

I am privileged. Because I am: white-passing, middle class, Christian, heterosexual, cis-gendered, able-bodied, and college-educated. All of these identities can provide unearned advantages or disadvantages in society. While I do still face sexism, I don't have it as difficult as others whose intersecting identities make existing in society more difficult. People's entire identities can be erased. You can see that in the erasure of the transwomen and lesbians of color who were on the frontlines during the Stonewall "Riot" for gay rights in 1969, as well as the erasure of the black woman who started the #MeToo movement. "History" is in the eyes of the victors.



I first started to understand invisible privilege that I carried when I read Peggy McIntosh's 1989 article *Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack* (available in its entirety at <https://nationalseedproject.org/Key-SEED-Texts/white-privilege-unpacking-the-invisible-knapsack>). She begins with trying to talk to men about the privileges they have in society, and being frustrated when they don't recognize it when it is perfectly obvious to those of us experiencing things like "why don't you smile" on the street. To the men she was trying to reach, the privilege they had was invisible. As she says, "After I realized the extent to which men work from a base of unacknowledged privilege, I understood that much of their oppressiveness was unconscious. Then I remembered the frequent charges from women of color that white women whom they encounter are oppressive. . . I began to understand why we are justly seen as oppressive, even when we don't see ourselves that way . . ." Examples of invisible privilege she (and I, and probably many of us) carry: being able to go pretty much anywhere in the country and see people who look like you, not being followed in the store, never being expected to speak for your own race, and being approached by the police and not having to fear for your life. I think it is vital that we think about these issues, and I encourage you to read the article.

I've talked about privilege and intersectionality in every leadership corner that I've been asked to write, because I think we need to acknowledge privilege as an organization, and figure out ways our organization might unknowingly reaffirm it. We can do that, and continue to grow. We have been doing better in recent years, but we still have a ways to go. Let's continue to make progress in this critical area.



Tech Trek interviews are in process. So far we have interviewed 8 girls and have 6 more who have completed their applications. It's always inspiring for me and our other volunteers to

interview the girls and hear about their lives, their ideas, and dreams for the future. Thanks to all the members who have helped so far with the interviews and with the schools. We have more girls than we can support at this time, so donations are still acceptable in any amount. If you make an online donation (<https://techtrek-wa.aauw.net/>), please let me know so we can make sure it is credited to our branch (Tonna Kutner techtrek@aauw-seattle.org). Donations via check can be 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.

***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.

Gender Pay Gap Equity

Forum at UW –

Renée Agatsuma

AAUW Seattle and the UW Women's Center are hosting on the gender pay gap, Wednesday, April 17th from 3:30-5:00pm at Kane Hall in the Walker-Ames Room (Rm 225). We'd love to have more members there! It is the afternoon before scholars recognition, so it could make for an amazing AAUW filled afternoon/evening.

This forum will address the causes and consequences of the gender pay gap and provide insights on rights, role and legislative actions that students can take. Speakers include: Marilyn Watkins, Ph.D, Policy Director at the Economic Opportunity Institute (EOI) and Gabriela Quintana, Advocacy Director at the Economic Opportunity Institute (EOI) and moderated by Sutapa Basu, Ph.D, Executive Director of the UW Women's Center. To learn more about EOI's equal pay research and initiatives, visit their website here: <http://www.opportunityinstitute.org/research/equal-pay/>

The event is FREE, but seating is limited, please RSVP (<https://genderpayequity.brownpapertickets.com/>).

Scholar Recognition—Our 2019 High School Scholars

Congratulations to our scholars in math, science, and technology! Thanks to the support of their parents and schools and our Scholar Recognition coordinators who make this program possible!

Ballard High School—Joan Peterson



Savannah Myers (Math) intends to study pre-medicine in college and continue pursuing her interests in science and math through undergrad and graduate school. She also enjoys art, literature, history, music and languages. Savannah participates in martial arts, National Honor Society and Ballard's Philosophy and Ethics Club. In sophomore year, she was nominated for Student of the Quarter.

Francesca Evangelista (Science) plans to study architecture with a focus on environmentally friendly structures. She is part of French Club, Filipino Club, National Honor Society, Psychology Club, Tennis team and the BioTechnology Academy. Francesca was a runner-up in the Global Health Category at the NW Association for Biomedical Research Student Bio Expo with a project on sickle cell anemia. She has volunteered leading art classes and STEM-based activities for younger kids and a therapy dog based literacy program through her local library.

Meghan Sheldrake (Technology) plans to attend college and major in Biochemistry. Throughout high school, Meghan ran on the Cross-Country and Track teams and is a National Merit Scholar. She is secretary of BHS's Philosophy and Ethics Club and competed in the 2018 and 2019 Washington State Ethics Bowls. Meghan volunteers at the Seattle Aquarium as a Youth Advocate and enjoys biking, backpacking and skiing.

Chief Sealth High School—Rachael Foe



Liseth Salas (Math) plans to attend a four-year university and study abroad to experience new cultures. She plans to earn a degree in medicine and work with the Doctors Without Borders. Liseth worked in health related services to provide effective care to the community and wants health care to be affordable to all.

Assata Golash (Science) plans to attend college to study environmental science. She is interested in studying plants and understanding the effects of the climate crisis and looks forward to an ecological career. Assata is the president of the Chief Sealth Green Team, which has taught her new ways to limit her carbon footprint. She enjoys outdoor activities such as hiking, camping, and soccer.

Catherine Salinas (Technology) was Student of the Month for the category Business and Technology in January 2019. She plans on attending college and earning a master's in computer science and fine arts. During college she hopes to get an internship at a technology company, such as Google, Amazon, Microsoft, etc. to familiarize herself with the area. Catherine's hobbies include drawing and painting.

Cleveland High School—Barbara Sando



Breona Devers (Math) is the captain of both the softball and basketball teams. She had the opportunity to accompany her school's athletic trainer to the state wrestling match where she gained a lot of hands-on education. Breona is also the Vice President of Cleveland High School's Athletes for Social Justice. Breona plans to further her education at Texas Southern University, studying kinesiology, with the goal of becoming an Athletic Trainer for the NFL.

Angel Corpuz (Science) stays busy by playing varsity girls' soccer and varsity co-ed and girls' ultimate frisbee. She's currently varsity frisbee team captain, was elected as ASB President, and recently spoke at a Seattle Public Schools Board meeting. Angel plans to pursue higher education at UW-Seattle or Seattle University, majoring in chemical engineering, as well as being able to discover more about her second interest, business.

Tajanee Chappel (Technology) enjoys reading books and playing the guitar. She also enjoys learning about other countries and their cultures. Tajanee plans to continue her studies at the University of Washington, and is hoping to do some study abroad as part of her college experience.

Franklin High School-Barbara Sando



Aunisty Mendoza (Math) finds it fun to be challenged; as such, math has always been her favorite subject in school. In her spare time, Aunisty enjoys playing the piano and playing mobile games. She is amused by 3-D puzzles such as Legos and metal architecture model kits. Aunisty plans to attend a 4-year college in the Seattle area and pursue her interest in architecture or other STEM-related majors.

Veronique Harris (Science) is a dedicated activist and has been working with the American Civil Liberties Union for five years; she won the ACLU Youth Activist Award for the state of Washington in 2016. She has also been volunteering with the Kirkland Youth Council for seven years, and currently volunteers with Black Student Union and the social justice art club at Franklin High School. Veronique plans to attend a university to major in political science or international relations, and minor in environmental studies, with the goal of becoming a civil rights attorney.

Lauren Nguyen (Technology) plans on majoring in engineering in college. Her passion for engineering stemmed from joining the robotics team at her school, which made it to FRC World Championships last year. Lauren has participated in a variety of extracurriculars throughout high school, including running varsity cross country where she is now the fastest senior in school records. She plays varsity ultimate frisbee and has been part of winning two state championships. Lauren is an avid member of student government and has been class treasurer for the past four years. These extracurriculars have helped her build a sense of community at school and build teamwork and leadership skills that she's excited to implement in college.

Holy Names Academy-Sam Montgomery



Caroline Tocher (Math) volunteers and make meals for the homeless, participates in student government, volleyball, and clubs such as feminist, diversity and multicultural clubs and hopes to participate in similar activities after high school. Caroline is a National Merit Finalist and an AP Scholar with Distinction. After graduating from Holy Names Academy, Caroline plans on attending the University of Wisconsin-Madison and pursuing an Actuarial Science degree.

Madrona Maling (Science) loves soccer, ultimate frisbee and anything outdoors. She was chosen as a National Honor Society Officer and was a Junior Academic Award finalist. Madrona has also received National Honorable Mention in the National Center for Women & Information Technology's Aspirations in computer competition, a President's Gold Award for Outstanding Educational Excellence, and AP Scholar with Distinction award. After high school graduation, Madrona plans to intern over the summer at the Google CSSI program. She hopes to attend a college in Boston and study in an engineering school, majoring in computer science and minoring in applied mathematics or data analytics. She hopes to row and participate in environmental clubs at college. Madrona has a passion for gender equality and feminism and looks forward to participating in activism clubs.

Clare Tuch (Technology) has been participating in FIRST Robotics over the past four years, the last two as Programming Captain. She also volunteers to teach young girls programming, which she would like to continue while in college. Clare has been recognized three times by the NCWIT Aspirations in Computing, this past year as a National Honorable Mention. Clare will be pursuing a major in computer science in college.

Ingraham High School-Judy Waring



Karlee Taylor (Math) received her International Baccalaureate Diploma at the end of her junior year. In college she plans to study math and astrophysics. She is passionate about environmental activism and was thrilled to be an organizer of the international youth-led March 2019 Washington Global Issues Network conference. Karlee's activities include captain of her school's swim and dive teams, and being on the gymnastics, track, and water polo teams. She sings in the Ingraham vocal jazz ensemble and is a member of the National Honor Society. In her free time, she coaches kids gymnastics and volunteers at a child care center.

Nathalie Shoji (Science) completed the International Baccalaureate program in her junior year and plans to study global public health in college. She competes on two gymnastics teams—is captain of Ingraham's team. Nathalie also throws discus and does pole vaulting for which she holds a school record. On Fridays she volunteers at Harborview Medical Center.

Chelsea Van Mulken (Technology) participated in volleyball and gymnastics during all four years of high school. She enjoys reading, coding, and various outside activities including wakeboarding, swimming, and backpacking. Chelsea will be attending Western Washington University after graduation.

Making Connections at UW Women's Center-Michaela Morrow



Seblewerk Enyew (*Math*) attends Thomas Jefferson High School and hopes to major in Computer Engineering or Informatics at a 4-year university. She chose these majors because she wants to use math and technology to help solve problems in her community. Some of Seblewerk's hobbies include watching movies with her sisters and family, reading, and playing soccer. During the summer of 2017, Seblewerk interned at Amazon through the Girls Who Code Summer Immersion Program. Seblewerk values this internship because it allowed her to expand her interests in STEM fields.

Julie Ly (*Science*) plans to remain in Washington and attend a 4-year university after graduating from Shorewood High School. Throughout high school, she has been involved in a variety of extracurricular activities, including the concert, marching, and pep bands where she has played the clarinet for the past four years. Because of her leadership on her cheerleading team, she earned the Shoreline Rotary Club Vocational Scholarship and the Top 5 Outstanding Juniors Award at her school. Julie hopes to pursue a career in the medical field and plans to approach college with the same enthusiasm that has helped her succeed so far.

Diana Quintero-Perez (*Technology*) plans to attend college in Washington and major in Computer Science. Earlier this year, Diana was awarded the Science Scholar Award at Nathan Hale High School. She enjoys volunteering in her community and has participated in the creation of two murals, including the mural at the Lake City Food Bank. Diana is also very involved in the Latinx Unidx club at her school. She cherishes the moments that she is able to spend time with her whole family.

Nathan Hale High School-Cynthia Sheridan



Trishala Jain (*Math*) has been on the school swim team for four years and she recently joined the track team. She completed a few computer science classes and participated in the Running Start program at North Seattle College in math. Trishala plans to study Informatics at the University of Washington next year.

Diana Quintero-Perez (*Science*) was also selected by Making Connections. See her bio above.

Margot Adam (*Technology*) has been a full-time running start student taking classes at North Seattle College. She is a member of her high school robotics team for four years and founding her own team, Rain City Robotics. To prepare for competing in an international collegiate autonomous robotics competition as the captain of her team, Margot taught herself the computer programming language Python and the computer vision library OpenCV. Margot has been a varsity athlete on the Nathan Hale cross country and long distance track teams for four years. Margot has also played the trumpet for 8 years and has been a member of her high school wind ensemble, as well as the Seattle Festival Orchestra. This summer, Margot will be participating in a paid robotics internship with the Office of Naval Research.

Rainier Beach High School-Renée Agatsuma



Kristin Jill Fernandez (*Science*) plans to attend the University of Washington to study pre-health courses on route to pursuing a career in pediatrics. During her junior and senior years, she has held tutoring sessions at a nearby elementary school, improving the student's literacy skills and volunteering to look after them at her local gym. Being prepared and patient will be the keys that will surely unlock the many wonderful opportunities that await for her in the future!

Andelyna Kosam (*Technology*) wants to attend a two-year community college and transfer to a four-year university to major in nursing. She is interested in volleyball, which she has only been playing for 2 years at Rainier Beach High School during her junior and senior year. Andelyna has been honored as the Athlete-of-the-week.

Roosevelt High School-Heather Dohan

Tatum Traudt (Math) plans to study biology and psychology in the Honors Program at Western Washington University to become a genetics researcher. She is an AP Scholar and National Honor Society member. Tatum worked as a camp counselor at the Pacific Science Center.

Felice Chen (Science) is interested in psychology and has completed both high school and summer course at Brown University in this subject. She plan to study psychology to understand human thoughts and communication.

Corrine Herzog (Technology) plans to study for a Computer Science degree. She participated in robotics, school newspaper, and social justice.



West Seattle High School-Marilyn Mears

Karla Borella-Leon (Math) is a member of the National Honor Society (NHS) and volunteered both with NHS and the West Seattle Food Bank. She is on the Track and Cross-County teams and received "Most Inspirational" award for the team this year. Karla also referees soccer on Sundays with the goal of achieving national level certification over the next four years. She will attend Seattle University, majoring in chemistry, and looks forward to finding how her interests in chemistry will fit into the real world.

Emma Foulk (Science) plans to study mathematics/economics in college next year. She is a National Merit Commended Scholar, AP Scholar with Honor, 2018/19 Soccer Team Captain, Masonic Lodge Top 8 Junior, and Naramore Honored Artwork Artist at SAM. Emma is very involved with her church where she is on the Youth Leadership Team, has participated in mission trips, and painted a mural at the WA DSHS). Emma also enjoys calligraphy, baking and reading.

Caitlin Bell (Technology) has been an avid member of the Cross-Country team for the past four years and is a recent Track Captain, in addition to being the Team Captain of the Gymnastics Team for the past two years. A member and volunteer of the National Honor Society, she will attend Western Washington University, where Caitlin plans to keep running, and is excited to discover which profession she will pursue.



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

Two members of Arts Smarts, Cynthia Sheridan and Beth Turner, met last month in the small gallery owned by the Women Painters of Washington in the Columbia Tower in downtown Seattle and had a personal tour by one of the painters of their latest exhibit. Beth and Cynthia spent about an hour enjoying the art and learning

more about the group before they went down to the first floor for lunch. Both women reported what a wonderful time they had and how much they had enjoyed meeting each other.

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

The Book Group will meet April 23rd at 1:00pm in the Stadler Room at Third Place Commons in Lake Forest Park to discuss *The Fifth Risk* by Michael Lewis. All are welcome. Contact Fiona for location.

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

The next play for our Stage Presence group is *A Doll's House – Part 2* at the Seattle Repertory Theater in Seattle Center on April 20 at 2:00 p.m. This continuation of Henrik Ibsen's classic *A Doll's House* takes place when Nora returns home 15 years after she left her husband and family in the original drama. Written by Tony Award nominee Lucas Hnath, it promises "explosive entertainment". Please call or e-mail Beverly Fogle right away if you want to join us. This play is popular, and tickets are already getting sparse. Tickets are \$50, or \$44 for seniors.

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 March Board Meeting Summary–

Marianne North

The Board met immediately following the branch meeting on March 16th. The Board reviewed the proposed changes to the Branch Bylaws that will be voted on by the membership in May. Main changes involved requiring an independent financial review every five years and allowing any Board Officer to be selected to fill a vacancy in the office of President.

The updated Policy 12 – Marketing and Communications Committee Roles and Responsibilities was approved. This policy was updated to reflect the addition of marketing as the committee has been reconstituted.

The Branch is sending six members to the AAUW State Convention April 12-13 in Bellingham; five will be designated as delegates, based on the size of our branch.

Gay Armsden has volunteered to lead the new member and small social group committee and requests assistance from others in planning socials and new member informational folders.

The Branch will sponsor the TABLA (Team Awesome Basketball Leadership Academy) again this summer and will need Branch members to volunteer their time to give AAUW visibility at these events.

We have a new Branch logo and it is available from Tonna Kutner. The next Board meeting will be a Teleconference on April 8th at 7 pm.

March Branch Meeting Summary –

Barbara Sando

A group of fifty members and guests attended the March 16th panel discussion on Immigration and Integration facilitated by Seattle Branch member Barb Spraker. The morning started with breakfast and visiting, enjoyed at tables festively decorated with fabrics from various places around the world. We then heard the fascinating personal stories of four local women – one from Sudan,

two Kurdish sisters from Iraq, and one from Somalia – who came to the United States in the 1980s and 1990s. They each told of how they came to be in our area, of how they faced and overcome various challenges in their own integration, and of the paths they've taken to their current vocations. There was a brief Q&A period for the whole group after the four women spoke, and then we had discussions at our own tables around these topics before wrapping up. Panel members joined at several of the tables. A common theme was that, while these women are now living in a different culture, their core values have been transcendent. It was a thought-provoking morning!



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 Member at Large

Penny Tetter - pt@aauw-seattle.org

Connect with us!



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Seattle, WA 98166-3207
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Upcoming Events...

Date	Day	Time	Location	Program
April 8, 2019	Monday	7:00p m	Contact Secretary— (secretary@aauw-seattle.org) for Telecon information	Branch Board Meeting
April 12-13, 2019	Friday- Saturday	9 am- 3 pm	Holiday Inn Bellingham International Airport,	AAUW State Annual Meeting
April 17, 2019	Wednesday	3:30- 5:00 pm	UW Kane Hall, Walker-Ames Room	Pay Equity Forum
April 17, 2019	Wednesday	7:00 pm	Executive Inn by the Space Needle	Scholar Recognition Reception -Marina Gillert of Blue Origin
May 13, 2019	Monday	6:30 pm	Contact Secretary— (secretary@aauw-seattle.org) for information	Branch Board Meeting—end of year potluck
May 18, 2019	Saturday	9:30 am	Executive Inn by the Space Needle	Annual Branch Meeting with Women Painters of Washington
May 29, 2019	Wednesday	6:00 pm	UW Intellectual House	UW Making Connections Graduation
June 19, 2019	Wednesday	TBD	University of Washington	UW Women's Center NEW Leadership Political Day