



MLK Tribute Concert

PROGRAM

Beethoven *Egmont Overture, Op.84*
Hailstork *Epitaph for a Man Who Dreamed*
Weston *The People Could Fly*
Coleridge-Taylor *Petite Suite de Concert, Op.77*
Tippet *Five Negro Spirituals from 'A child of our time'*
Lee III *Come Unto Me*

Chicago Sinfonietta has presented a concert to celebrate the birth and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. since its inception, as a testament to its mission of diversity, inclusion, and equity. This season, former Project Inclusion Freeman Conducting Fellows Kellen Gray and Kedrick Armstrong will helm the podium for a breakout performance. Plus, a spoken word performance of Dr. King speeches you won't want to miss! Called "the city's hippest orchestra" by the Chicago Tribune, Chicago Sinfonietta presents innovative concerts that defy the definitions of symphonic music."

DATE: Monday, January 21, 2019

TIME: 7:30 PM

LOCATION: Symphony Center

225 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL

TICKETS: \$30- Mail check made out to *AAUW* to Barbara Harris
1095 S. Park Terrace, Chicago, IL 60605

Tickets will be mailed to you in advance- bring a friend or spouse.

Questions – contact Barbara at 312-427-2043 or brbrharris41@gmail.com

PARKING: Grant Park South Garage, 325 S. Michigan Avenue
Grant Park North Garage, 25 N. Michigan Avenue
Palmer House, 124 S. Wabash

February 2019 meeting



What: GirlForward - When girls succeed, everyone benefits

When: Saturday, February 2, 2019

Time: 10:00am – 12:00 noon

Where: GirlForward, 6261 N. Clark Street Chicago, IL

<https://www.girlforward.org/>

Parking/Public Transit: Public transportation via
CTA bus line #22 or street parking

RSVP: To Paula Perkins, p3perkins@gmail.com or 773-525-1253 by Jan. 29

Meet Blair Brettschneider, Founder and Executive Director of GirlForward who will tell us of its beginnings, and how her organization today provides after-school tutoring for refugee girls who were forced to flee their native homes. In 2012, Blair received a one-year Community Action Grant from AAUW for GirlForward.

GirlForward is a community of support dedicated to creating and enhancing opportunities for girls who have been displaced by conflict and persecution.

Why refugees? Why girls? We are in the midst of the biggest refugee crisis the world has *ever* seen. Over 60 million people worldwide have been forced to flee their homes. In conflict, **girls are especially vulnerable** to violence, isolation, and being kept out of school. Girls who receive resettlement in the United States face huge challenges: poverty, language barrier, limited or disrupted education, isolation, and trauma. But when girls succeed, everyone benefits.

Meeting/Activities Dates and Topics

January 26	AAUW Networking Luncheon – Speaker Wendy Pearlman
February 3	GirlForward – 10am
March 21	HEART – Women and Girls program 5:30pm
March 28	Equal Pay Day Rally – Daley Plaza - noon
April 13	Jane Addams Resource Corp. program – 10:00am
May 18	Celebrate Calendar Year – 435 W Erie St. Party Room appetizer/dessert potluck 3pm

HAPPY NEW YEAR

President's Message

Chicago Inc. Branch closed out 2018 with two excellent programs in November and December. Thanks to Barbara Thomas, the November meeting introduced us to three outstanding women who have received funding from AAUW. Nermeen Mouftah received a publication grant to write about literacy activism in Egypt. Jelena Radovic-Fanta also received a publication grant to describe the challenges facing women grape pickers in Chile. Naeema Torres used her career development grant to further her skills in the film industry through documentary film studies at Northwestern University. In December, we partnered with the Jane Addams Hull-House Museum to screen a documentary about Dolores Huerta, co-founder of the United Farm Workers. Held on Jane Addams Day, December 10th, this program included AAUW grantee, Jelena Radovic-Fanta, providing commentary on the film.

You will find information about several upcoming programs in this newsletter, including an opportunity to socialize with other AAUW members while attending a tribute concert to Martin Luther King on January 21st. Members Eleida Gomez and Gerry Oberman are promoting the idea of honoring suffragists on voting day in 2020 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Women's Suffrage by placing flowers and "Here lies a suffragist" signs on their gravesites. I urge you to volunteer for the committee that will begin identifying and locating the gravesites of suffragists buried in the Chicago area.

As part of my efforts to highlight components of AAUW's new strategic plan in each newsletter, I would like to address the second mission-based focal area in the Plan, Economic Security. The three goals associated with this area are A: Achieve pay equity by 2030; B. Create inclusive career pathways for women, free of systemic barriers and biases, to attain economic security; and C: Deepen women's retirement security and quality of life. Goal A is a real "stretch" and the Association plans to champion pay equity federally and in all states, including to lead the nation in providing salary negotiation programs for employees and employers, with a target of training 10 million women in salary negotiation by 2022. Chicago is one of the cities offering WorkSmart workshops, thanks to the efforts of A.J Conroy and others. Online versions of the salary workshops also are available at aauw.org. To achieve Goal B, AAUW will develop a blueprint for women to access careers, especially in high-paying fields and will support employers in advancing higher wage pathways for all women. In addition, they will protect and expand compliance with Title VII and other federal civil rights statutes. For Goal C, the Association will address inequities regarding retirement for women at every socioeconomic level and help women in achieving their desired quality of life in preparation for possible retirement.

In my opinion, promoting economic security has become the most important focus for AAUW. If we can level the playing field in terms of equitable salaries and equal access to careers in high-paying fields, we will have made it possible for women to achieve the other goals in this plan.

Wishing all of you happy holidays and good fortune in the coming year.

Ruth Holst

President, AAUW Chicago Inc. Branch

Thank You

Thank you to the members and guests who attended the November Fellows and Grantees program. Thank you to Lynda Korn-Cotton for hosting us in her party room and for organizing the treats and coffee. Thank you to Barbara Thomas for inviting the speakers.

Thank you to the members and guests who attended the 12th Annual Jane Addams Day Celebration on Dec. 10th. Thank you to the Hull-House Museum and UIC for partnering with the branch for the program with the movie screening of Huerta about Dolores Huerta and the following discussion. Thank you to Ruth Holst for working with Hull-House for the program and celebration.

A New Branch Activity: Honor a Suffragist on Voting Day

In preparation for the 100th anniversary of Woman's Suffrage in 2020, the National Women's History Project (NWHP) located in Santa Rosa, California has inaugurated the "*Honor a Suffragist on Voting Day*" project. AAUW-Chicago, Inc. will join with many other national women's organizations to help identify, locate the gravesite, and honor the suffragists in the Chicago area. Acting as an "Everyday Historian", Branch members are invited to join a committee which will meet in mid-March, 2019 to plan our efforts to contribute to this project. Once identified, our list will be added to a national registry for suffrage sites to ensure they are remembered and celebrated for years to come. Locally, we can decide to honor our suffragists by placing a flower or some other token on their gravesite as well as a sign labeled, "Here lies a Suffragist" so others will recognize their accomplishments. (Notes: the NWHP has already provided us with a list to work from and we have located the gravesites of the following: Jane Addams, Frances E. Willard, Louise de Koven Bowen, Julia Clifford Lathrop, and Kate F. O'Connor. A Biographical Dictionary titled, "Women Building Chicago 1790 – 1990" also contains an important index listing of suffrage activists for this project. Chicago has many organizations that can serve us as sources.)

For more detailed information on this project and tips on how we might carry out our work, check out these websites:

- ❖ nwHP.org
- ❖ <http://ncwhs.org/> (National Votes for Women Trail)
- ❖ www.findagrave.com (also contains biographies)

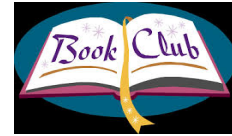
Should you want to join the Branch Suffragists Committee, please email Eleida Gomez (Branch member) and Geraldine Oberman (National Member) at amgglo@aol.com.

Join us for a new Book Club – HerStory Book Club – All are welcome – Wed. Feb. 13

The **HerStory Book Club** will read books about women who have taken action. We'll be using the books suggested by The Action Book Club of The Little Free Library. Our second gathering will be **Wed. Feb 13**. Next book will *A Singular Woman: The Untold Story of Barack Obama's Mother* by Janny Scott.

The group will meet at the Book Cellar, 4736 North Lincoln, a short walk from the Brown Line from 6:30pm – 8:00pm. The upcoming meeting dates will be April 8, June 13, Aug. 14, Oct. 16.

We'd love to get the word out! Please let your friends, alumni group and community know. The book club will be a wonderful opportunity to introduce potential new members to AAUW. Any questions, please contact Bernadette Pawlik at bernadettetdorman@gmail.com



Daytime Book Club next meeting – Dec 19

Do you like to read? If so, join us for a daytime book club that is on **Wednesday, Dec. 19**. We will be meeting from 10:00am – noon at the Starbucks at 600 State Street (near state and Ohio). Our book is *Mrs. Sherlock Holmes* by Brad Ricca

Feel free to come even if you don't have time to read and bring some suggestions for future books. Looking forward to seeing all that are interested! If you have any questions or are interested please contact our new book club chair, Leslee Carver, Leslee.carver@gmail.com



Evening Book Club Please feel free to join the Book Club at anytime.

Jan 28 - Magpie Murders by Anthony Horowitz

Feb 25 - Being Mortal by Atul Gawande

March 25 - Earthly Remains by Donna Leon

Apr 22 - Flappers by Judith Mackrell

May 20 - Educated by Tara Westover

Join members of the book club at The Grafton Pub for dinner at 6:00pm before the discussion. 4530 N. Lincoln Ave (one block south of the library) www.thegraffton.com

The Book Club of Chicago, Illinois Branch Inc. of the American Association of University Women is free and open to the public and meets on the fourth Monday of the month (except December and May) from 7:00-9:00 pm at the Conrad Sulzer Library, 4455 N. Lincoln Ave.

AAUW District 4/5 Networking Luncheon - Jan. 26

Saturday, January 26, 11:30a.m.

Presenter: Wendy Pearlman from Northwestern University, discussing her new book - *We Crossed a Bridge and it Trembled: Voices from Syria*

Location: Embassy Suites, Deerfield, IL

11:30am lunch, Speaker from 1:15pm – 2:00pm.

RSVP to the Schaumburg AAUW branch



Give a Grad a free AAUW membership

AAUW members can now give a recent grad—a friend, daughter, granddaughter, or niece—a free AAUW membership. At no cost to you or her!

Expose her to the power that comes from belonging to a national women-led organization of more than 100,000 members who believe in and advance equity and education.

Expand her networking opportunities through career development opportunities and community action projects. She will experience the rewards of working with and learning from successful AAUW mentors.

Best of all, she will receive a free one-year AAUW membership at no cost to you or her! So send no money! Remember, only members can take advantage of this offer.

Complete the online membership application now at www.aauw.org

Your grad will receive a one-year member-at-large membership—a \$49 value.

Membership Update

Congratulations on a great summer membership drive! As of December 1, we have 74 members – 8 of which are new to the branch! Thank you to everyone who has sent in their application and check. Questions– Megan Moser 4641 N Paulina St Apt 410 Chicago IL 60640 chicagoaauw@hotmail.com



Mission: The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund provides funding and a support system for individuals seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

Legal Advocacy Fund Update

LAF works to combat sex discrimination through community and campus outreach programs, a resource library and online advocacy tools, and various research reports. In collaboration with the Public Policy and Government Relations department, LAF seeks amicus curiae opportunities in cases of discrimination that disadvantage women in the workplace. LAF is also transitioning toward supporting landmark sex discrimination cases that have the potential to make a difference for all women

Thank you to the ladies that donated to our Fall No-Dinner Dinner – Arlene Alpert, Barbara Flynn Currie, Lynda Korn-Cotton, Helen Elkiss, Eleida Gomez, Barbara Harris, Ruth Holst, Jackie Kirley, Jeane Lindeke, Laura Malec, Anita Moore, Paula Purdue, Helen Ramirez-Odell, Marie Salwonchik, Claire Shulman, Lori Switzer, Barbara Thomas, Barbara Yong, and Mary Ellen Ziegler. We raised **\$1450- for the Legal Advocacy Fund and \$550- for AAUW Funds** with personal and branch donations. **You may still donate online if you are interested in a year end donation.** www.aauw.org Donations are **tax-deductible**.

WITASWAN Movie Club

Movie group outings: March 10, 2019

The WITASWAN Movie Club will meet at an area movie theatre on Sunday, March 10. Please contact Megan Moser to be included on the email list meganmoser@hotmail.com 773-784-2754



Branch Officers/Chairs

In April, we will elect officers that will lead the Branch in the next term (2019-2021). It's not too early to start thinking about what you would like to do in the Branch to be more active. Officers to be elected in April are Program, Secretary and two Directors at Large. The various chair positions will be appointed by the President. A Nominating Committee of five members will be appointed this fall. If you would like to serve on the Committee, are interested in serving as an Officer/Chair, or would like to suggest a nominee, please contact Branch President, Ruth Holst at holstruth@gmail.com

The Chicago Edition by Lori Switzer

Is there something you want to see in the newsletter? It is your newsletter. Articles for the Jan/Feb Chicago Edition newsletter are due Feb. 15th. Thanks -Lori Switzer 773/230-1063 or ChicagoAAUW@hotmail.com

Title IX rules now open for your comment by AJ Conroy, Public Policy Chair

This fall, Chicago Public Schools lost \$4M in federal grants after reporting from the *Chicago Tribune* found 108 cases of sexual misconduct involving security officers and teachers. Additional investigations by CPS found 624 cases over the last decade. The Department of Education withheld CPS funding as punishment for violating Title IX.

Before the headlines hit, many Chicagoans misunderstand the breadth of Title IX, assuming it was for sports or colleges. The CPS scandal illustrates that this law not only applies to K-12, but also sickeningly demonstrates the harm cause when Title IX is not properly implemented.

Title IX rules continued

The text of Title IX is short: “*No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.*” Since 1972, this sentence has transformed education for women. Now, enforcement of this law is under threat.

First, a quick primer on how federal laws actually work. We know how a bill becomes a law, but that is just the start. When Congress passes a law, it designates a government agency to implement the law. That agency then sets about writing regulations. Eventually, the agency issues forms, handbooks, and opinions to provide even more guidance to the public. A few sentences become hundreds of pages. Sometimes, an agency may never issue guidance, especially in a divided government. At that point, Congress might pass additional laws, change program funding, or request a report to spur the agency into action. Congress can also investigate with its subpoena powers.

To illustrate this process, let's look at an issue that's been in news lately-- grievance procedures for sexual misconduct under Title IX. The law passed in 1972 and regulations were issued in 1975. Not much changed until 1992 when the Supreme Court found a private right of action. This means students could now sue their school for violating Title IX. This refocused the Department of Education (DOE). Through a series of letters, DOE clarified its regulations, including a 2011 “Dear Colleague” letter which made certain recommendations to schools. This letter was withdrawn on September 22, 2017 by Secretary Betsy DeVos.

Now, DOE is in the process of issuing revised regulations. This process is called rulemaking and is governed by the Administrative Procedures Act (APA). First, an agency issues a draft regulation with an explanation justifying the new or changed rules. Next, the public is invited to comment. Then, the agency responds to each comment and issues a final draft. 30 days later, the regulation becomes official. If the APA process is not followed, the regulation can be challenged in court.

We are currently at step two. Draft rules were published in the Federal Register on November 29. Comments are due January 28, 2019. **This is where AAUW members can make an impact.** The remainder of this article will discuss what makes for an effective comment and suggest a few points one might explore.

The APA requires an agency to review all written comments. DOE must respond to each unique comment that presents an argument or counter data. Personal commentary is ignored. For example, “these rules suck” is not helpful, but comments that focus on a specific provision requires DOE lawyers to explain why its rule is better by using supporting facts. When these regulations are litigated (and they will be), the courts will look at the published comments and responses when interpreting the rules.

Overall, the proposed rules make it harder for students to file a complaint, and less likely that their grievance will be addressed. The draft rules are available online by searching for “ED-2018-ORC-0064”. Here are a few highlights of the troubling changes. One, schools need only investigate an alleged activity if it rises to the level of denying access to education. Previously the misconduct need only to interfere or limit access to education. To deny is a higher threshold than to interfere. Two, the school is only liable when leadership is aware of the problem. For example, if a coach mishandles an incident with his players, the school is not responsible. Three, the accuser must submit to live cross-examination by the accused or the accused's “advocate” (i.e., lawyer). Previously, questions and answers could be written. Four, schools may delay an investigation if there is a concurrent law enforcement investigation. Prior guidance was that the school should not wait. Five, schools are encouraged to use mediation instead of investigation. This makes an assault complaint into a no-fault dispute between students rather than a disciplinary action.

And the worst for last, schools may use a different evidence standard for sexual harassment complaints than it uses for other school code violations. In other words, honor code violations have one standard and sexual misconduct has a higher standard.

Anyone can make a comment. AAUW members should see this as a call to action. Consider this one of your New Year resolutions-- participate in how laws are drafted. To participate, submit a comment to www.regulations.gov (ED-2018-ORC-0064) by January 29th. For more information on Title IX, visit www.knowyourix.org/notice-comment-2018/ and www.aauw.org/

Mission Statement of AAUW: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

Value Promise: By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so all women have a fair chance.

Vision Statement: AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

AAUW membership is open to any graduate who holds an associate or equivalent degree from a qualified educational institution or a baccalaureate of higher degree from an accredited institution of higher education.

AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund provides funding and support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace.

Important Dates

January 26, 2019 AAUW Networking Luncheon – Deerfield, IL
March 8 International Women's Day
March 28 Equal Pay Day Rally
May 3-4, 2019 AAUW-IL Convention - Crowne Plaza – Springfield

AAUW National website: www.aauw.org

AAUW-IL website: www.aauw-il.org

Chicago branch website: <http://chicago-il.aauw.net>

For more information, contact us: chicagoaauw@hotmail.com

Join the Chicago branch on Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=16337662299&ref=mf>



Chicago Inc. (IL) Branch

Lori Switzer, editor
AAUW Newsletter
2541 Ridgeway Ave
Evanston, IL 60201

Address correction requested

Chicago, IL branch was founded in 1889. This is our 128th year!!