

December/January/February 2019/2020

Volume 81, Number 3



Holiday Social and Business Meeting

Please join President Ruth Holst in the party room at her condo building at 645 N. Kingsbury Street, Chicago 60654 on **Saturday, December 7**th from **11:30 am to 2:00 pm** for lunch, networking and discussion about the future of the Chicago Branch. A key topic on the

agenda will be AAUW's new Five Star National Recognition Program, envisioned as a way for branches to align their work with the AAUW Strategic Plan and other initiatives that foster the organizational mission of advancing gender equity for women and girls. Ruth will arrange for food from a favorite local restaurant, Club Lago, and participants are asked to contribute \$25 to offset the cost of the catering.

Please RSVP to Ruth at holstruth@gmail.com or text to 224-610-9718.

Jane Addams Day program – December 10

For those who wish to celebrate Jane Addams in December, we recommend the program at the Jane Addams Hull House Museum (JAHHM), 800 S. Halsted Street, on December 10th from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. This year's program is entitled "Jane Addams' Day – Making Lineages Visible" and is the third in a series of programs conceived by JAHHM to complement their exhibition *Arte Util* as part of their ongoing partnership with the



Chicago Architecture Biennial. *Arte Util* is defined as "an idea of art as a tool for social change" and the December 10th program will feature local women and queer activists who work towards social change and explore the continuums in social justice organizing. The two other programs in the series are on November 18th and 19th.

The program is free. Please RSVP to Eventbrite -<u>https://www.eventbrite.com/e/jane-addams-day-making-lineages-visible-tickets-72629359369</u>

More information on the website at: <u>https://www.hullhousemuseum.org/programs-and-events-at-hullhouse/2019/12/10/jane-addams-birthday</u>

37TH ANNUAL AAUW DISTRICT #5 NETWORKING LUNCHEON Saturday – January 25, 2020 Networking at 11:30 – Lunch at 12 Noon – Cost \$40 !!NEW LOCATION!! Chevy Chase Country Club – 1000 N Milwaukee Ave. Wheeling, IL

The Guest Speaker will be Jody Segalla, Estate Planner and Administration Attorney. Jody concentrates in estate planning, elder law, trusts and estate, administration.

Between 1988 And 1997, Ms Segalla practiced law as a member of the Air Force Judge Advocate General Corps. On January 25th, she will share stories of her diverse and interesting background. A Park Ridge native, Jody currently lives in Mount Prospect with her husband Tony and their two children

Luncheon will include: Choice of Entrée; Chevy Chase House Salad; Rolls & Butter; Ice Cream. **Entrees:**

Grilled Atlantic Salmon w/ Herbal Butter and Dill Cream Sauce, Couscous, Roasted Baby Vegetables. Sauteed Boneless Chicken Breast w/ Champagne Sauce, Scalloped Potatoes, Roasted Baby Vegetables. Vegetarian Lasagna.

Please complete the reservation form below and mail it—along with a check for \$40 (per person)-made out to "AAUW Networking Luncheon" - **To: Donna Zimmerman – 1540 Rutland Ct. – Schaumburg, IL 60173** – (Reservation Form and Check to arrive no later than: January 10, 2020.) (donnamz@ymail.com)

Name	Phone #		
Branch	Position		
Email			
	Phone #		
Email			
	Atlantic Salmon - Champagne Chicken - Vegetarian Lasagna		
Attendees with a Special Dietary Concerns - Please list dietary concern below:			

Or you may also wish to contact Donna Zimmerman directly at donnamz@ymail.com.

February 2020 meeting





TV's Stereotype of African American women from *Belluah* to *Gimme a Break!*

Cynthia Abrams Bemis – Advanced TV Herstory

Feb. 11, 2020 | 6:30-8:00pm LAKE SHORE SPORT AND FITNESS - **1320 W FULLERTON, CHICAGO** COST: \$10- PLEASE CHECK IN AT FRONT DESK AND PAY AT DOOR

African-American women's stereotyping in American film was accepted by executives, performers and audiences for decades. It led to the same treatment in the early days of television. Cynthia traces the radio favorite "Beulah" to its pioneering TV iteration and discusses the return of a portly, African-American domestic with 1981's "*Gimme A Break!*".

Cynthia's podcasting life began in 2015, mulled as an idea for a few months in the spring and first episode uploaded by mid-summer. With a 30-year career in public relations, she knew just enough writing scripts and audio storytelling to be dangerous. Cynthia's experience in audio production drives her confidence that podcasting is an accessible place to promote the importance of representation and storytelling about TV women.

Attendees are encouraged to bring their tablets and/or smart phones for hands-on assistance in accessing podcasts in a way that works for them. RSVP to Lynda at Lyndakorncotton@aol.com

https://chicago-il.aauw.net/

Meeting/Activities Dates and Topics

March 28	Women's Suffragist Program - UIC
March 31	Equal Pay Day Rally – Daley Plaza
April 25	Community Service Project – Pacific Garden Mission 9am-1pm
May 2	Celebrate our 130th Anniversary luncheon – location TBD 11:30am



President's Message

Winter is upon us a bit earlier than usual this year. I always look forward to December because I get a feeling of nostalgia when I see all those holiday lights and decorations along my path throughout the Loop and River North. The Branch has not scheduled program meetings for December or January but we hope that you will take advantage of some opportunities that are available to you.

Rather than a program meeting, I have scheduled a holiday social event combined with a business meeting on Saturday, December 7th in the party room in my building at 645 N. Kingsbury Street. Club Lago, a local restaurant, will be helping me with the food. I'm looking forward to leading a discussion about the future of the Chicago Branch, along with an introduction to AAUW's new Five Star Program.

On December 10th, Jane Addams Hull House Museum will be celebrating Jane Addams' Day with an event called "Making Lineages Visible" that feature local women and queer activists who work toward social change, but whose work is often obscured, erased and overlooked. The program will highlight submissions to the *Arte Util* project which is based on "an idea of art as a tool for social change." This program is free and open to the public, but registration is required.

Then on January 25, I invite you all to join me at the annual AAUW-IL Networking Luncheon which has moved to a new location this year. Held at the Chevy Chase Country Club in Wheeling IL, the program will feature Attorney Jody Segalla as the speaker.

More programs are being planned for February and beyond, including a program with *Advanced TV Herstory* podcast creator, Cynthia Abrams on February 11th at Lakeshore Sport & Fitness. I have listened to several of her podcasts and I know we are in for a treat!

Happy Holidays to all! Ruth 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 Linda Naru for hosting us in the UIC Daley Library. The space worked out great for the fellows and grantees Thank you to Barbara Thomas for inviting the speakers and bringing muffins and donuts. Thank you to Anita Moore for bringing the coffee.

12th Annual No- Dinner Dinner Fundraiser – October 1-December 1, 2019

New this year – we are supporting National AAUW Greatest Need Fund for our twelfth annual No-Dinner Dinner fundraiser. An invitation to the non-event fundraiser has been mailed out. Hope you are able participate. Our branch goal is \$2,000- this year which breaks down to \$30- a member. Thanks for your support at any amount. A Big **THANK YOU** to the members who have donated so far.

Daytime Book Club next meeting – Nov. 20

Do you like to read? If so, join us for daytime book club on **Wednesday**, **Nov. 20**. We will be meeting from 10:00am – noon at the Starbucks at 600 State Street (near state and Ohio). **Our book is** *Escape through the Pyrenees* by Lisa Fittko

December 18 – *Cinnamon and Gunpowder* by Eli Brown January 15 – *Save Me the Plums* by Ruth Reichl

Please bring suggestions for upcoming book discussions.

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, please contact our book club chair, Leslee Carver, Leslee.carver@gmail.com

Evening Book Club Please feel free to join the Book Club at any time. November 18th *Gingerbread* by Helen Oyeyemi January 27, 2020 *Where'd you go Bernadette?* by Marcia Semple February 24th *The Woman in the Window* by AJ Finn March 23rd *Little Men* by Louisa May Alcott April 27th *Fallout* by Sara Paretsky May 18th *Where the Crawdads* Sing by Delia Owens June 22nd *Shades of Grey* by Jasper Fforde

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) <u>www.thegrafton.com</u>

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.

Branch Officers/Chairs

In April, we will elect officers that will lead the Branch in the next term (2020-2022). 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 President, treasurer, membership VP, and two Directors at Large. The various chair positions will be appointed by the President. A Nominating Committee 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

Young Feminist Conference in Chicago (11/9)

AAUW was a partner organization for the recent Young Feminist Conference, *Cause the Effect Chicago*, on 11/9. AAUW also hosted a table with a prime position. Our table was the first thing attendees saw as they entered the conference space and we were next to the Bake Sale table, which was also very popular. AAUW hosted a sticker making table for girls to make a custom sticker or take one of the conference themed stickers. The table was mobbed for much of the conference. Attendees received a blank notebook as part of their registration and the stickers were a nice compliment to that book. We had also hoped to give out AAUW stickers, but they never arrived.





There were over 300 attendees of mostly high school and college girls, with some parents, boys and non-binary folks. We also had a welcome message from Senator Elizabeth Warren. The half-day program included performances, panels, lectures and break-out sessions. Thank you to AJ Conroy for hosting the AAUW table and helping plan the event on behalf of AAUW Chicago.

Twitter coverage: https://twitter.com/AAUWIL/status/1193220664624324608 https://twitter.com/AAUWIL/status/1193196591575977984 https://twitter.com/CauseEffectCHI Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/306050763195652/ https://www.facebook.com/CausetheEffectChicago/

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. The Chicago Inc branch has been working for the past 9 months putting together a list for Chicago area suffragists to include with the NWHP. Thank you to Eleida Gomez, Geraldine Oberman, Helen Ramierez-Odell, and AJ Conroy have complied a document of Select List of Chicago/Illinois Suffragists. The list is a 30 page compilation and description of area suffragists with a short bio on each woman and gravesite location. If you have any questions or would like to see a copy of the list and help with the project, please email Eleida Gomez (Branch member) and Geraldine Oberman (National Member) at <u>amgglo@aol.com</u>.

12th Annual No Dinner Dinner – Deadline Dec 1st.

Thank you to the ladies that donated to our Fall No-Dinner Dinner –there is still time to donate until the December 1st deadline. Please mail checks to Lori Switzer 2541 Ridgeway Ave. Evanston IL 60201. Our goal is \$2000- which breaks down to \$30 a member. **You may still donate online if you are interested in a year end donation. www.aauw.org** Donations are **tax-deductible.**

Regional AAUW Convention Update

Planning continues on the multi-state convention in East Moline, IL **June 18-June 20, 2020**. Save the date and make you plans to attend. The event will be held at the Hyatt East Moline.

Members from **12 states** will be in attendance –Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Ohio, Texas, Michigan, Indiana, Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma.

The theme is *Remembering the Past-Building the Future*.

Confirmed speakers are Kim Churches, AAUW National CEO, Kendra Davis, AAUW National Development Director, Lisa Maatz, past AAUW Public Policy Director, and Denise Lieberman, St. Louis attorney and activist. It will be three days packed with great speakers and tons of information.

The Chicago Edition by Lori Switzer

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

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

March 8	International Women's Day
March 21	Tech Savvy at Triton College
March 31	Equal Pay Day Rally – Daley Plaza
June 18-19	AAUW Regional Convention Hyatt Place – East Moline, IL
	(pre-convention activities on June 17)

AAUW National website: <u>www.aauw.org</u> AAUW-IL website: <u>www.aauw-il.org</u> Chicago branch website: <u>http://chicago-il.aauw.net</u> For more information, contact us: <u>chicagoaauw@hotmail.com</u> Join the Chicago branch on Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=16337662299&ref=mf



Address correction requested

Chicago, IL branch was founded in 1889. This is our 130th year!!