



Join us on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 7:00 pm (via zoom) for a virtual presentation on Mother Jones and the Mother Jones Statue Project

RSVP: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUlfu2rqTwvGtEDpGayc8azDz4mxQZjfD3i>

- ❖ **Helen Ramirez-Odell**, Chicago AAUW member and vice president of Working Women's History Project, will host a very special presentation and share project details on The Mother Jones Heritage Project. Helen Ramirez-Odell is also a retiree delegate in Chicago Teachers Union and represent CTU on the Mother Jones Statue Committee.
- ❖ **Actor, Brigid Duffy Gerace**, will present us as Mother Jones, Mary Harris Jones, to learn about her life.
- ❖ **Rosemary Feurer**, NIU Assoc. Professor of History, head of the Mother Jones Foundation and Director of the Mother Jones Heritage Project will open discussion for a Q & A after the presentations.

BRIGID DUFFY GERACE appeared in Morning's At Seven at Drury Lane Water Tower, Hedda Gabler at Steppenwolf, The Mai, A Life, Pentecost, and Well of The Saints at Irish Rep. She has been a dialect coach for Northlight, Goodman, and the Gift Theatre. Favorite roles include Gabrielle in The Madwoman of Chaillot with Zoe Caldwell, Lady Macduff in Macbeth with Sam Wanamaker and alternating with Cicely Tyson in American Conservatory Theatre's Servant of Two Masters. As a Sarah Siddons scholarship winner, Brigid attended the Goodman School of Drama. She appears in the film "A Christmas Movie Christmas," and also in the television series "Chicago PD" and "Chicago Fire." Brigid was a CPS teacher for thirty-four years and winner of the prestigious Golden Apple Award.

Meeting/Activities Dates and Topics

January 12, 2021 Mother Jones event – Tuesday, 7pm via zoom
Feb/March program TBD
April TBD
May 2 Cliff Dwellers Annual Meeting 11:30am

HAPPY NEW YEAR

President's Message

Hello!

Thank you to all those who attended our November meeting. We had great turnout and interesting topics of discussion from all the Educational Fellows. I believe we had over 65 people in the Zoom call. Much thanks to the Jane Addams branch for helping with our technical aspects of the program as well as Barbara Thomas who assisted in inviting the Fellows.

While there was no December program, we did have a Zoom call of members on December 12th. It was an informal call with members, new and old, telling us how they came to AAUW. I was amazed at the wide knowledge and experiences we hold as members.

*As a Branch we also experienced two successes in the last month. We were honored with a **LEG Up Grant** from the State committee. The Branch received a \$150 check for our Zoom license. We will use this service on our January meeting (fingers crossed I did it right) on Mother Jones. Hope you can attend the Tuesday, January 12, at 7pm meeting. Please see the notice in this newsletter. The second honor we had was receiving our **Third Star** on our quest for becoming a Five-Star Branch. Much appreciated to those who helped achieved both accomplishments.*

*Another accomplishment is that we will soon have the first woman in the Vice President's office! While the recent election was trying at times the succession of women in high political offices cannot be diminished. Women helped propel the voting process in ways that have never been seen before. But that does not mean the work has ended, it will continue as others feel the need to keep women in places where they feel comfortable for them to be. So please keep diligent in the fight for equality by supporting AAUW. We **raised \$2,020-** this year in our 'No Dinner Dinner' fundraiser. Thank you to everyone who contributed.*

I wish you happiest of Holiday seasons. Hope to see you all soon!

*Megan Moser
President, AAUW Chicago Inc. Branch*

13th Annual No- Dinner Dinner Fundraiser – October 1-December 1, 2020

We supported the National AAUW Greatest Need Fund for our thirteenth annual No-Dinner Dinner fundraiser. We exceeded our goal A Big **THANK YOU** to the members who donated. We raised

\$2020- for AAUW Greatest Need Fund with branch member donations including a \$500- donation from the branch. Thank you to Anne Foley, Lori Switzer, Jeane Lindeke, Barbara Spiegel, Megan Moser, Ruth Holst, Barbara Harris, Jackie Kirley, Anita Moore, Pamela Sanner, Arlene Alpert, Donna Zimmerman, Michele Seidl, Claire Shulman, Eleida Gomez, Helen Ramirez-Odell, Stephanie Blatt, Helen Elkiss, Lynda Korn-Cotton, Cynthia Bemis Adrams, Paula Purdue, Laura Malec, Margaret O’Hara, and Barbara Thomas.

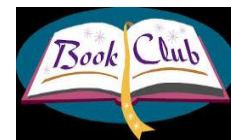
The Chicago Branch was Awarded its Third Star

Five-Star Recognition Program Spreads More branches and affiliates are participating in our 5-Star Recognition Program, an initiative to reward their progress toward achieving gender equity. A big congratulations to the following branches for achieving their stars: (California) Citrus Heights – American River; **(Illinois) Chicago**; (Maine) Waterville; (Michigan) Ann Arbor, Farmington; (New Mexico) Las Cruces; (Texas) Fort Bend County; (Virginia) Mt. Vernon; (Wisconsin) Monona-Madison. We appreciate your participation in the program and all you do for AAUW’s mission.



Evening Book Club

The Evening Book Club is on hiatus as the Conrad Sultzer Regional Library in Lincoln Square is not accepting in person group meetings due to COVID-19. As soon as it is possible and safe to meet, we will share the updated book list and dates. The group usually meets the 4th Monday of the month at 7pm. All are welcome as the book club is free and open to the public. Please contact Megan Moser for more info on dates and locations of the book club. meganmoser@hotmail.com



Daytime Book Club next meeting – December 16

Do you like to read? If so, join us for daytime book club on **Wednesday, December 16** via zoom. We will be meeting at 10:30am. Please RSVP to Ruth Holst at holstruth@gmail.com to be sent the zoom link. **Our December book is Dead Land by Sara Paresky**

2021

January 20 - A Long Petal of the Sea - Isabel Allende

February 17 -This Tender Land - William Kent Krueger

March 17 - Small Great Things - Jodi Picoult

Feel free to attend online even if you don’t have time to read and bring some suggestions for future books. If you have any questions or are interested please contact our book club chair, Lori Switzer chicagoaauw@hotmail.com

Half-Paid Heroes: Equal Pay Day 2020

The Equal Pay Day Rally was held on Oct 29th. The event is available online if you missed the live program. Thank you to all of the partnering organizations for putting together a virtual rally. Thank you to branch members and event organizers Barbara Yong and AJ Conroy for their time and efforts with the online event.

<https://www.facebook.com/776607299101135/videos/1247037775689230>

November 14th – Fellows and Grantee Presentation

Thank you to all of the members and fellows for putting together the November Fellows and Grantees program online via zoom. Thank you to our co-sponsor the Jane Addams Branch. Special shout-out to Barbara Thomas for organizing the event and inviting the fellows and Kate Skegg for organizing and facilitating the zoom program. We had over 70 attendees for the event from all over the state. Here is a link to the recording of the event on you tube.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hrm6z2A_1_M&feature=youtu.be



Branch Officers/Chairs

In April, we will elect officers that will lead the Branch in the next term (2021-2023). 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 VP, secretary, 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, Megan Moser at meganmoser@hotmail.com

Membership Update

Congratulations on a great membership drive! As of December 1st, we have **59** members – **4** are new to the branch! Thank you to everyone who has sent in their application and check. If you have not renewed, please send it to branch treasurer – Ruth Holst holstruth@gmail.com

WELCOME

Welcome New Members!

Please welcome our newest branch members! We are so excited to have Carla as a new member and Michele back as a member. Michele was a member a couple years ago.

Name	Email Address
Carla Funk	cjfunk46@gmail.com
Michele Seidl	mseidl@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 March/April Chicago Edition newsletter are due Feb. 15th. Thanks -Lori Switzer 773/230-1063 or

ChicagoAAUW@hotmail.com

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.

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>

Join the Chicago branch on Instagram:

<http://www.instragram.com/aauwchicago>



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Address correction requested

Chicago, IL branch was founded in 1889. This is our 131th year!!