

The Lob Tree AAUW Duluth



From national AAUW:

This election year, learn 3 ways you can help motivate civic engagement, even in a time of lockdowns and social distancing with

- Voter access
- Get out the vote
- Voter education.

See

<https://aauw.us/votingrights>

AAUW Duluth 2020-21 Focus Groups

In between larger gatherings like the annual meeting and the summer social, AAUW Duluth's local focus groups meet regularly so members can socialize and enjoy activities of mutual interest.

Covid-19 requires some changes, including online meetings. Contact each Chair for details.

ZEITGEIST AFTERNOONS:

Enjoy a top-quality film at Zinema then gather at Zeitgeist Café on the first and third Wednesdays at 4:15 p.m. for lively discussion over food and drinks. Wednesday movies at Zinema cost only \$5! Get on Geiger's email list and check Zinema online for trailers. Chair: Geiger Yount geig-man@aol.com

LITERATURE DISCUSSION:

Join other book lovers for excellent reading selections. The group meets at 7:00 p.m. the third Monday of the month at a member's home for dessert and stimulating discussion. Chair: Peggy Mohrman peg-mohrman@gmail.com

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION:

Diverse topics for discussion, including timely issues or random topics, are submitted by members and drawn from a hat. The group meets at 5:15 p.m. over Happy Hour on the third Tuesday of the month. Location varies, so contact Dawn if you plan to attend. Chair: Dawn Conlan lan518@gmail.com

HIKING/WALKING:

For fresh air and exercise join this group Thursday mornings. Chair: Peggy Mohrman peg-mohrman@gmail.com

SAMPLER:

This creative group meets at 7:00 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of the month at a member's home. Projects vary. Contact Lou Anne for more information. Chair: Lou Anne Siefert lasiefer@earthlink.net



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Message from Kate Baldwin, AAUW Duluth President

Greetings AAUW Duluth members!

The votes are in and the slate of officers was unanimously elected. Thank you for participating in the election; hopefully the next vote will be in person. Membership renewals are

good, with over 50% already paid. Speaking of money, thanks to the generous members who sent in donations, we have received \$720 in additional funds. Our wonderful Board has been working diligently to bring you as much news and as many activities as

we can during these trying times. We have decided to purchase our own Zoom account; more on this as we learn more. Be sure to check out our website for the latest. Enjoy your summer, keep safe, and wear a mask!

Haven't renewed your 2020-21 dues yet? Go online to

<https://forms.gle/YSbSUGL1xYC3Aj2r8>

Program Committee Update

Hello from your Program Committee Co-Chairs, Diana Brainard and Leanne Ventrella.

Owing to the Covid-19 pandemic, most of our events this year will be virtual.

2020 Summer Social

This will be a Zoom meeting on August 17, from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Scholarship winners will be announced, and, subject to availability, they will talk a little about themselves and

their studies. Focus group information will also be available. Watch for details about accessing this event.

Virtual Happy Hours

We organized three Zoom Happy Hours in early summer as a way to stay connected. More Happy Hours will start up again in the fall.

2020 Winter Social

December 6, 2020. Details forthcoming.

2021 Annual Meeting Tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, May 18, 2021. Hopefully this will be an in-person event. Stay tuned!

Diana and Leanne

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and

Leanne.ventrella@gmail.com

Naomi Yaeger Appointed to Duluth's Charter Commission



Photo: Naomi Yaeger

AAUW Duluth's Website and Facebook administrator and past Co-President, Naomi Yaeger, has been appointed by the Hon. Sally L. Tarnowski to Duluth's Charter Commission.

"After the killing of George Floyd and seeing the pro-

tests, I wanted to do more than just pay lip service to change or simply march in a protest," Naomi said. "I looked for ways to serve the community and ensure justice by getting more involved. Seeing that there was an opening on the Charter Commission, I was quick to apply."

The City of Duluth's Charter

Commission acts on matters relating to framing and amending the Duluth City Charter.

The Commission consists of fifteen members serving four-year terms who are appointed by Judges of the District Court. Each member must be a qualified voter of the City.



Created Here 2020: Scholarship Fundraiser Update

Photo: Program cover from 2019 Created Here

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Created Here 2020 that was going to be held at Northland Country Club on November 12, 2020, has been rescheduled for

November 11, 2021. Mark your 2021 calendars!

Please stay tuned for further information on how you can still support our scholarship fund and local artists and businesses this year. Added details will appear in the October newsletter.

If you have questions about, or ideas for, Created Here, contact Cathy Ameal, Chair of the Created Here Committee, at ameelcj123@aol.com.

Named Gift Honorees 2019-20: Kate Baldwin & Zabelle Stodola

From Marilyn Toscano, Chair of the Educational Opportunities Fund (EOF)

Every year the AAUW Branch EOF recognizes as its "Named Gift Honorees" members whose community service and contributions to our organization have been exemplary.

This year we are very pleased to honor Kate Baldwin (left in photo) and Zabelle Stodola (right).

Kate has served tirelessly as AAUW Program Committee Chair and President.

She spent 19 years as a licensed day care provider in Duluth, Program Coordinator for the YWCA Care House, and Exec. Director of a Wisconsin non-profit.

She has seven children and ten grandchildren. In her spare time she gardens, sews, and makes stained glass stepping stones.

Zabelle was Program Chair and continues as Diversity Officer & Newsletter Editor.

Born in England, she retired to Duluth in 2013 after a 32-year career in higher education. She has published six academic books on American women's literature.

Active in many progressive groups, she enjoys gardening and time at the family cabin with husband, Bob.



In Memoriam

Sue Meyer (1935-2020)

Born in Idaho, Sue moved to Duluth in 1971. She was a research scientist at UMD and taught there and at CSS. A past AAUW Duluth President from 1986 to 1988, Sue loved sailing, bridge, singing, and painting. Her obituary says, "She was an adventurous and curious woman . . . always open to new experiences."

Ann Redelfs (1958-2020)

Ann came to Duluth in 2004 having lived all over the USA. Extraordinarily accomplished, energetic, generous, and empathetic, Ann used her project management, grant writing, and leadership skills widely. She taught at UMD and was active in AAUW Duluth, the League of Women Voters, and environmental groups.

Helen Hanten (1928-2020)

Helen Hanten worked as a professor of Biology at UMD for 26 years. She was ordained a deacon in the Episcopal Church in 1987 and became deacon of St. Andrews by the Lake, focusing on pastoral care, education, and the environment. From 1980 to 1982, she was President of AAUW Duluth.

Q: Why is our newsletter called The Lob Tree?

A: All AAUW Minnesota branch newsletters are named after a tree. Ours is The Lob Tree.

Maria Corradi Nominated for DNT's 20 Under 40 Competition

On behalf of AAUW Duluth, Zabelle has nominated Membership Committee Co-Chair Maria Corradi for the Duluth News Tribune's competition 20 under 40, which honors young local leaders. Maria is a role model and a high achiever as Operations Manager for Northern Communities Credit Union. She volunteers in professional,

civic, and environmental groups such as AAUW, LWV, and Duluth for Clean Water. Hard working, positive, imaginative, competent, professional, collaborative, and inclusive: these are just a few qualities that describe her.

Being an AAUW officer first in Hibbing and now in Duluth has

given her "a newfound confidence . . . to live life on my terms. I applied for the job I wanted, I moved to the place I wanted to be, and I found opportunities to connect with people with diverse perspectives and life experiences."

Photo: Maria, fiancé JT, & Ziggy



American Association of University Women Duluth

AAUW Duluth
The Lob Tree
Zabelle Stodola, Editor
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AAUW Duluth: Empowering women through friendship, education, and advocacy

We're on the Web and FB

From national AAUW:

"Equitable workplaces cannot exist without diverse leaders, equal opportunities and fair pay... In a recent Equity Network webinar, titled 'Black Women Leading through an Equity Lens,' two courageous leaders shared stories from their career journeys: Stephanie Jackson, Senior Business Resiliency Specialists Control Risk, Facebook, and Kimberly Sisnett, Senior Vice President, People, at Vericast, a marketing solutions company.

"The American dream is very, very different than the American reality for people of color," said Sisnett. "Our experiences are never told in the workplace, and we still show up ... as if there's nothing going on, and we come to work prepared. So having courageous conversations is tough but necessary."

Read their advice to other women and people of color for navigating an unfair work world while trying to make the business landscape better for everyone."

Must Read: Ibram X. Kendi's How to Be an Antiracist

Ibram X. Kendi, How to Be an Antiracist, Random House, 2019. From page 20:

"A racist idea is any idea that suggests one racial group is inferior or superior to another racial group in any way... An antiracist idea is any idea that suggests the racial groups are equals in all their apparent differences—that there is nothing right or wrong with any racial group. Antiracist ideas argue that racist policies are the cause of racial inequities."

Praise for How to Be an Antiracist

"How to Be an Antiracist gives us a clear and

compelling way to approach, as Kendi puts it in his introduction, 'the basic struggle we're all in, the struggle to be fully human and to see that others are fully human.' —NPR

"Kendi dissects why in a society where so few people consider themselves to be racist the divisions and inequalities of racism remain so prevalent. How to Be an Antiracist punctures the myths of a post-racial America, examining what racism really is—and what we should do about it."—Time

