

# The Lob Tree AAUW Duluth



## PUBLIC POLICY CHAIR NEEDED!

AAUW Duluth needs a Public Policy Chair to promote local issues that the branch might sponsor and to convey information to members about national AAUW's initiatives, e.g. pay equity. Contact Kate Baldwin at [kate.mary.baldwin@gmail.com](mailto:kate.mary.baldwin@gmail.com)

## Upcoming Branch Programs & Activities

Zoom links for these talks will be sent by email closer to the events and posted on the branch website and Facebook

**February Fireside Chat #1**  
**Tuesday, February 9, 7 pm**  
Nancy Nelson, Educator, writer, and co-author of *Duluth's Historic Parks: Their First 160 Years*

**February Fireside Chat #2**  
**Thursday, February 11, 7 pm**  
Rebecca St. George, Duluth City Attorney and legal and public policy advocate on violence against native women

**Women of Distinction Talk**  
**Cosponsored with the League of Women Voters**  
**Thursday, February 25, 7 pm**  
Meg Litts, Executive Director Duluth YWCA, leader on issues affecting women and kids

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We can't be there for the BIG day, so AAUW is celebrating with a Post-Inaugural Ball of our own!

Join us  
**THURSDAY, JANUARY 21**  
7:00 pm

Via Zoom  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89870175442?pwd=ODkxakppTHJvcTlKNVZkK9SNk45UT09>

**AAUW Post-Inaugural Ball!**  
(aka Virtual Happy Hour)

Suggested Attire: Anything red, white or blue and your brightest BLING!

Have a cocktail handy!  
Suggestions:

- Keep it local and check out Vikre Distillery's recipes <http://www.vikredistillery.com/cocktails>
- Stay in the patriotic theme with red or white wine or a blue Curacao martini!

## Safe Haven Gift Cards Drive and 2020 Winter Social

**Thank you, generous AAUW Duluth branch members!**

**You donated over \$700 in gift cards to Safe Haven.**

On December 6, 2020, we held a well attended virtual winter social with seasonal music by Linda Turpening accompanying a fun holiday cartoon.

Our featured speaker

was the charismatic Diana Oestreich, author of *Waging Peace: One Soldier's Story of Putting Love First.*

See [www.dianaostreich.com](http://www.dianaostreich.com)

Welcome new members!

**Dr. KIMBERLY LAKHAN** is a PA in Otolaryngology and Program Director of the Master's in Physician Assistant Studies at CSS

**Dr. BECKY GRAMS** holds a Doctor of Pharmacy from UMD and is a Pharmacist at CVS

## AAUW Duluth Officers

For detailed contact information, go to the website.

**President:** Kate Baldwin, kate.mary.baldwin@gmail.com

**Program:** Leanne Ventrella, Leanne.ventrella@gmail.com & Diana Brainard, dianab.aka.mommy@gmail.com

**Treasurer:** Donna Kirk, dkirk@css.edu

**Communications:** Naomi Yaeger, sun\_dog\_press@yahoo.com

**Membership:** Wendy Williamson, petewill64@msn.com, & Bonnie Edwards, bkedwards@gmail.com

**AAUW Educational Opportunity Funds:** Marilyn Toscano, mtoscano@uwsuper.edu

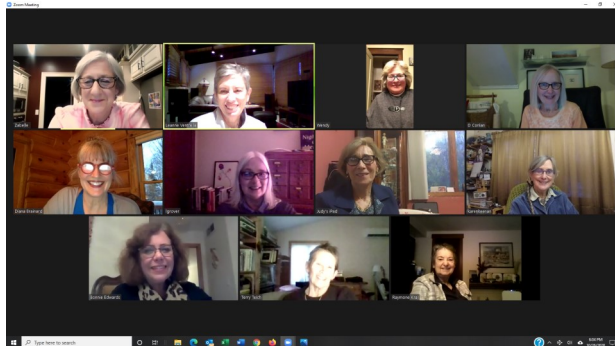
**Newsletter & Diversity:** Zabelle Stodola, kzstodola@ualr.edu

**Public Policy:** To be filled  
**Secretary/Historian:** Rebecca Bischoff, Rebecca.bischoff@sundogpress.com

**STEM:** Karen Moen, kmoen002@gmail.com

**College Representative:** Susana Pelayo-Woodward, swoodwar@d.umn.edu

## Pre-Election Happy Hour, October 26, 2020



Eleven AAUW Duluth members (at left) met for a Zoom happy hour a week before the election. Our discussion focused on the potential impact of mail-in or absentee ballots, which proved to be a very fruitful topic. We discovered, for instance, that almost all of us had already voted. Some mailed their ballot while

others felt it was important to deliver it in person. Also, at least half either had been, or would be on November 3, an election worker. For example, Terry Teich, a team leader at her polling station, described all the safety measures to be taken, such as someone refusing to wear a mask inside the polling place.



## 12th Annual Created Here 2020 Raised Almost \$4,000!

Recognizing its virtual format, AAUW Duluth's 2020 scholarship fundraiser, Created Here, was retitled Remember the Artists, rather than Meet the Artists. Accordingly, dozens of members and guests who attended the Zoom event on November 12 were reminded of the many creative

women who had participated in years past, including quilt and fabric artists, musicians, visual artists, film and broadcast leaders, and women whose contributions to the arts defy easy categorization.

People who contributed \$20 or more to the scholarship funds were eligible for

a drawing for gift cards purchased by committee members from, or donated by, local artists and businesses.

71 donations were received—49 from members, 18 from non-members, and 4 from businesses—totaling almost \$4,000 to support the 2021 scholarships.

## Sex Trafficking Awareness Activities, January-February 2021

AAUW Duluth sponsors and supports Sex Trafficking Awareness/Prevention programs held each January. Due to Covid-19, most activities this year will be virtual.

For a full list of activities throughout January and February, focusing on “Spilling the Realities of Trafficking,” see [facebook.com/duluthmntraffick](https://facebook.com/duluthmntraffick) ingawareness or contact

Mel Alvar, [alvar@pavsa.org](mailto:alvar@pavsa.org).

### YOU ARE INVITED

**Zoom webinar:** January 11, 2021, at 9 am

Live streamed on Facebook

**Title:** “Sex Trafficking in Our Community: Myth vs. Fact”

**Presenters:** Mak Mars and Mel Alvar, on staff at PAVSA (Program for Aid to Victims of Sexual Assault),

discuss combating misinformation and providing real help to survivors.

**Photo:** Co-Membership Chair Wendy Williamson (R) giving gift cards from AAUW’s Dr. Jane Maddy Memorial Funds to Mel Alvar (L) for Brave Art, which raises awareness about resiliency through art and creativity. Information on Brave Art at [pavsa.org](http://pavsa.org).



## Dr. Dorothy Anway Memorial Scholarship

In October 2020, Dr. Allen Anway presented the 2019-2020 Dr. Dorothy Anway Memorial Scholarship to Shuying Wu (see photo).

The scholarship is in memory of Dorothy Anway, AAUW Duluth’s longtime treasurer, and it is funded by donations from the Anway family, friends, and

Duluth branch members.

Shuying Wu recently graduated from UW-Superior majoring in Mathematics and minoring in Information Technology Systems. She is from southern China and came to the United States to further her education and study American culture. She hopes to find a

job in applied mathematics and pursue her Master’s degree in Applied Mathematics in the USA.



## The Microintervention Workshop Webinar

On November 19, 2020, national AAUW held “The Microintervention Workshop Webinar,” which Diversity Officer Zabelle Stodola attended. Led by AAUW alumna Sarah Al-saidi, this amazing workshop helps to increase

awareness and self-reflection skills and explore the difference between micro- and macroaggressions. Participants learn to identify non-verbal cues and coping strategies. The workshop is still available on national AAUW’s web-

site. It is based on the article “Disarming Racial Microaggressions: Microintervention Strategies for Targets, White Allies, and Bystanders,” which Alcaidi co-authored and which appeared in 2019 in *American Psychologist*.



American Association  
of University Women  
Duluth

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

See <https://www.facebook.com/AAUWDuluth>

## Did You Know?

*In 1920, the Association of Collegiate Alumnae—AAUW’s predecessor—helped raise money to purchase a gram of radium for Nobel Prize-winning (1903, 1911) physicist and chemist Marie Curie. In 1921, Curie and her two daughters visited the USA to receive the gift. The AAUW New York City (NY) branch honored her at Carnegie Hall. She then traveled to the White House, where President Warren Harding presented her with the gram of radium inside a lead-lined box.*

*(Information from <https://www.aauw.org/resources/faces-of-aauw/marie-curie/>)*

## 2020 Nobel Prize-Winning American Poet Louise Glück

On October 10, 2020, Walt Hunter wrote an article in *The Atlantic* titled “The Many Beginnings of Louise Glück.” Here’s what he says about this amazing poet:

“One of the most striking qualities about the poetry of Louise Glück, who on Thursday won the Nobel Prize in Literature, is the way it returns again and again to the start of things—a story, a myth, a day, a marriage, a childhood. The question *How do we begin anew?* runs throughout the American poet’s work, from

*Firstborn* (1968) to her most recent collection, *Faithful and Virtuous Night* (2014). While her early, densely patterned poems look onto the world from the perspective of characters, her later poems, which tell longer and looser narratives, uncannily drift between personal experience and the lives of others. Glück examines the human compulsion to retell stories and reimagine scenes; in the face of grief, sadness, and destruction, she asks, how can belief in new beginnings possibly

still persist? Her poems, which rarely mark the present moment through political references or proper names, nonetheless resonate at a time when renewal—for individuals, for communities, for societies—can seem difficult to imagine.”

See <https://www.theatlantic.com/culture/archive/2020/10/louise-gluck-nobel-prize-literature-beginnings/616688/>

Photo at right shows the cover of *Faithful and Virtuous Night*

