

The Lob Tree AAUW Duluth



PUBLIC POLICY AND CREATED HERE CHAIRS NEEDED ASAP!

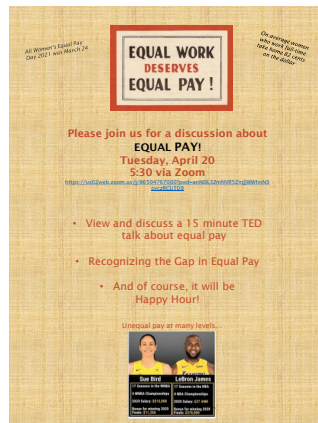
The branch needs a Public Policy Chair to promote local issues that we might sponsor and to convey information about national AAUW’s key initiatives. We also need a Chair for the annual scholarship fundraiser, Created Here. Contact Kate Baldwin at Kate.mary.baldwin@gmail.com

Programs Spring–Summer 2021

Happy Hour and TED Talk on Pay Equity (via Zoom)

Tuesday, April 20, 2021, 5:30 pm

To enlarge the image below, click View in your Toolbar and then 400% or 800%.



Annual Meeting (via Zoom, details forthcoming)

Tuesday, May 18, 2021

Our annual meeting will be online again and will combine a presentation by City Councilor Janet Kennedy with a short business meeting.

Janet Kennedy made history as Duluth’s first black City Councilor when she was sworn in to represent the 5th District in 2020. Vice President of the Duluth NAACP, Kennedy is a community advocate, career professional in the healthcare industry, and lifelong resident of west Duluth.

Summer Social 2021

Monday, August 16, 2021, 5:30-7:30 pm

The Program Committee hopes to hold an in-person Summer Social in an outdoorsy location. Currently, the PC is looking into booking a pavilion in a city park or the Park Point Beach House. Instead of the usual potluck, we will offer individual meals, perhaps a catered box dinner. The branch remains sensitive to pandemic restrictions and will be flexible regarding the changing conditions. Stay posted but save the date! Questions? Comments? Contact PC co-chairs Leanne Ventrella or Diana Brainard (emails on p. 2).

Inside this issue:

Programs 2021	1
Focus Groups Update	2
Officers Contact List	2
2020-21 Named Gift Honorees	2
NCCWSL 2021 Information	3
Robin DiAngelo, <i>White Fragility</i>	3
Race in Minnesota, Two Books from MHS Press	4

Statement from Kimberly Churches, AAUW CEO, on the American Rescue Plan

“AAUW hails today’s signing of the American Rescue Plan, not only for the immediate relief it will provide to Americans who have suffered throughout the pandemic, but for the signal this law sends about the importance of addressing the needs of women and their families.

The plan, which includes expanded child tax credits, significant pay-

ments to child-care providers, funding for education and nutrition programs, and tax-free status for forgiven student debt, will no doubt significantly ease the slow path to recovery for women, who have disproportionately suffered in the shattered COVID economy. . . .

AAUW looks forward to continuing to work with Congress and the

administration to address the pressing needs of women and families, most notably raising the minimum wage, providing expansive paid family and medical leave, and ensuring pay equity for all.” See <https://www.aauw.org/resources/news/media/press-releases/aauw-statement-on-the-passage-of-the-coronavirus-relief-bill/>

Pottery by AAUW Duluth member Karen Keenan is part of the first-ever Clay Artists Juried Competition at the DAI.



AAUW Duluth Officers

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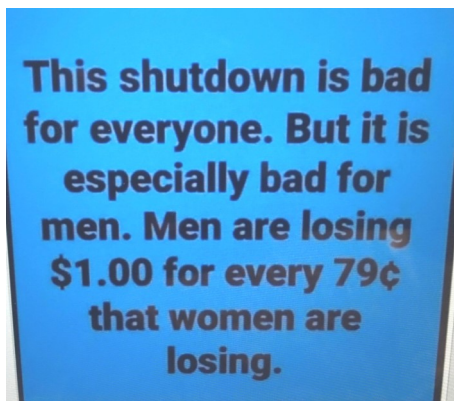
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Kmoen002@gmail.com

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

Start Smart Workshop Initiative at UMD Continues



AAUW's Start Smart workshop initiative is designed to help women negotiate salaries for a new job. Originally, AAUW Duluth facilitators offered these workshops at UMD. But now Dr. Sherrill J. Yeaton, Career Counselor and Multicultural Outreach Coordinator in UMD's Career & Internship Services office, is doing them.

UMD has had a total of 26 students attend Start Smart workshops in 2020-21. One workshop was held in September and one in November 2020. Dr. Yeaton plans to host another this spring.

AAUW Duluth also hopes to reach out to other local colleges to make these workshops available.

AAUW Duluth's 2020-21 Named Gift Honorees



Each year AAUW Duluth's Educational Opportunities Fund recognizes as Named Gift Honorees members whose community service and branch contributions are exemplary. For 2020-21, we are delighted to honor Karen Moen. The second Honoree wishes to remain anonymous.

Karen is the branch's STEM Coordinator. She has been

very involved with three local universities in fundraising and participating in Sonia Kovalevsky Day, a day of mathematics activities for high school girls. Karen also serves as the Ad Hoc Coordinator for Created Here: Meet the Artists, attends board meetings, and participates in the literature group. She says, "I am deeply honored to be a Named Gift Honoree."

Karen was drawn to AAUW through her UW-Superior Mathematics Department colleague Marilyn Toscano.

Karen grew up in northern Minnesota and completed BS and MS degrees in Mathematics at UMD. She has worked in government and industry but now shares her love of mathematics as a Senior Lecturer at UWS.

Focus Group News and Activities Spring 2021

The Lunch Bunch

Contact: Bonnie Edwards,
bkedwards@gmail.com

1st Tuesday of the month

A former focus group, Food Fun, has been resurrected and renamed The Lunch Bunch. Its goal is getting to know each other better through informal conversation and, of course, food. Once in-person meeting is safe on a restaurant patio or in the great outdoors, Bonnie will email members asking for an RSVP.

Zeitgeist Afternoons, now Zoom Happy Hour

Contact: Geiger Yount,
geigman@aol.com

1st & 3rd Thursdays at 4 pm

The group watches films at home, mostly those on the Zinema2 website, <https://zeitgeiststarts.com/zinema/zinema2/> then meets twice monthly for lively chat. Recent indie films: *Jimmy Carter Rock and Roll President*, *Nasrin*, and *Watermelon Woman*.

Roundtable (Zoom)

Contact: Dawn Conlan,
conlan518@gmail.com

3rd Tuesday at 5:30 pm

Meeting virtually has increased participation! A random topic is chosen for friendly discussion each meeting, such as: What would you like to know about the future? Should people be able to obscure their identities online? A childhood holiday memory.

Book Club (Zoom)

Contact: Angela George,
angela8744@msn.com

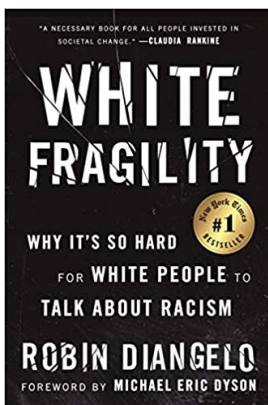
3rd Monday at 7 pm

One person per meeting leads discussion for a diverse and provocative booklist, including *There, There*, by Tommy Orange, the One Book Northland Selection *Nickel Boys*, by Colson Whitehead, and *The Dutch House*, by Ann Patchett.

NCCWSL Deadline Coming Up on April 2, 2021

Don't know what NCCWSL stands for? It's the **N**ational **C**onference for **C**ollege **W**omen **S**tudent **L**eaders, and AAUW Duluth has FIVE scholarships for local sophomore or junior college students to attend this virtual national conference on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 25-26, 2021. Hundreds of college women from around the country learn about leadership training, professional development, activism, women's issues, and identity and diversity. If you know anyone who is eligible, tell them to get an application form from Sara Socha at Sara.mars.ostman@gmail.com and see the website at <https://www.nccwsl.org>

Dr. Robin DiAngelo, Must-Read Book and Talks on White Fragility



In 2018, Dr. Robin DiAngelo published the book *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk about Racism*. Referring to the defensiveness white people show when talking about race, "white fragility is characterized by emotions such as anger, fear, and guilt, and by behaviors

including argumentation and silence" which serve to reinforce "white racial equilibrium" (information from the book blurb). You will not read a more engaging book on the subject. If you would rather hear DiAngelo, click onto these three talks:

<https://youtu.be/45ey4jgxeU>

<https://www.npr.org/2020/06/17/879136931/interrupt-the-systems-robin-diangelo-on-white-fragility-and-anti-racism>

<https://www.npr.org/2020/0>



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

Mission Statement Update for National AAUW

Mission: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy.

Vision: Equity for all.

Values: Nonpartisan. Fact-based. Integrity. Inclusion. Intersectionality.

Inclusion: In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks an inclusive membership, workforce, leadership team, and board of directors. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status.

Compiled by Dave Kirkwood, Bylaws Chair for AAUW Minnesota

Books on Race from the Minnesota Historical Society Press

A Good Time for the Truth: Race in Minnesota (2016) is a collection of sixteen essays by writers of color. Edited by Sun Yung Shin, these articles "challenge, discomfort, disorient, galvanize, and inspire." One of the whitest states in the USA, Minnesota struggles "with some of the nation's worst racial disparities. As its authors confront and consider the realities that lie beneath the numbers, this book provides an im-

portant tool to those who want to be part of closing those gaps." Contributors include Heid E. Erdrich, Venessa Fuentes, David Mura, Bao Phi, and Diane Wilson.

Minnesota's Black Community in the 21st Century (2020) is compiled by Minnesota's Black Community Project editors Anthony R. Scott, Charles E. Crutchfield III, MD, and Dr. Chaunda L. Scott.

African Americans make up just five percent of the state's total population, but they continue to make a huge impact in many fields including the arts, education, entertainment, finance, medicine, politics, science, and sport. This book celebrates their achievements.

(Information and quotations above from the MHS Press website at https://www.mnhs.org/mnhspress)

