

The Lob Tree AAUW Duluth



**Monday, August 16,
5-7 pm**

**Chambers Grove Park
13404 MN Highway 23**

**(by the St. Louis River
in Fond du Lac)**

**Catering by CorkTown
Deli**

Details below right

Message from AAUW Duluth President, Kate Baldwin

Summer Greetings! Although the last eighteen months have been challenging, I'm so pleased that AAUW Duluth has flourished.

Heartfelt thanks to our Program Committee expertly led by Diana Brainard and Leanne Ventrella. Their ingenuity and technological expertise kept us together.

Thanks also to our Focus Group leaders who braved the internet and Zoom to keep groups meeting. Many of you actually enjoyed Zoom meetings, especially in the winter, so we'll try to continue using Zoom as well as in-person gatherings.

Our Membership chairs say that not everyone has renewed

their membership for 2021 . . . NOW is the time to do it!

Created Here planning has begun, so watch your emails for a Save The Date notice. Things may look different this year, but we'll still need everyone's contributions to support women seeking graduate degrees.

October 2, 2021, is the date for this year's Northland Gathering in Brainerd. Gather your friends for an exciting day.

This is the beginning of my last (fourth) year as President. What a ride so far! Other officers will also reach their term limit in June 2022 including Rebecca Bischoff, Secretary, and Donna Kirk,

Treasurer among others. And certain positions such as Public Policy Chair remain unfilled.

Please be ready to serve this outstanding organization when asked. We all have unique skills and new ideas to share.

Finally, plan to attend the Summer Social on August 16 at Chambers Grove Park Pavilion (details below), and bring a friend. The Social is a "Shape the Future" event where new members' national dues will be halved.

Carpooling encouraged. Call or email Program Chairs if you need a ride.

Thanks again for everyone's hard work and dedication to AAUW Duluth.

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Summer Social Monday August 16 at Chambers Grove Park

Come to the Summer Social on Monday, August 16, from 5-7 pm, at Chambers Grove Park 13404 MN Highway 23 (by the St. Louis River in Fond du Lac). And bring a friend. This lovely state park has full amenities: lots of parking, handicap accessibility, covered pavilion, loos, and a river view.

Hear about scholarship winners, focus groups, and Created Here.

Box lunches or salads by Cork-Town Deli (see separate invitation attachment for the menu options). Sandwich choices include sandwich, pickle, chips, and dessert.

You must RSVP to Diana Brainard with your menu selection no later than Wednesday August 11, at Dianab.aka.mommy@gmail.com

Payment is \$10 per person payable to Diana in cash or by check at the event.

Water provided or bring your own non-alcoholic beverage.



*Lunch
Bunch
members
(m)eating
at the Boat
House in
July*

AAUW Duluth Officers

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

Program: Leanne Ventrella,
Leanne.ventrella@gmail.com
& Diana Brainard, Di-anab.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

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

Gender Discrimination in UMD's Math Department

In March 2020, the findings of the University of Minnesota Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Office's 2019 investigation into conduct in UMD's Mathematics and Statistics Department were made public. The report stated that women in the department experienced unwelcome conduct from fellow faculty members based on gender. Unfortunately, visible progress to address the issue has appeared unduly slow. Shortly after the report's publication, one more woman, a tenured faculty member, resigned, as did the recently appointed Math Department head.

Students organized to support women faculty. Among their requests was the development of a Code of Conduct that explicitly defined consequences for community members who fail to follow the code. A faculty task force from Swenson School of Science and Engineering submitted a draft at the spring faculty assembly. A completed draft is expected in the fall. Hopefully, a Code of Conduct will help create a sense of unity and reduce conflict.

Congratulations to AAUW Duluth EOF Scholar Sara Socha



Sara Socha received a 2019 AAUW Duluth Educational Opportunity Funds (EOF) Scholarship for Post-Baccalaureate Study and just earned her MBA in Leadership and Change from the College of Saint Scholastica. The Leadership and Change program prepares students to lead

strategic change in their organizations, professions, and communities. As part of the program, Sara completed a thesis that included researching individual, organizational, and societal factors influencing female career progression and leadership in the United States. Sara's research

concluded that a strategic combination of both individual and organizational development, as well as a systematic shift in view, is the solution that will positively create a more gender-inclusive environment.

Sara is also the NCCWSL chair for AAUW Duluth.

Focus Group News and Activities Fall 2021

The Lunch Bunch

Contact: Bonnie Edwards, bkedwards@gmail.com

1st Tuesday of the month

The next Lunch Bunch get together is Tuesday, August 3, at 1 p.m., at The Duluth Grill. Contact Bonnie to get on the email list. RSVP by the deadline so she can book a table.

Roundtable (Zoom)

Contact: Dawn Conlan, conlan518@gmail.com

3rd Tuesday at 5:30 pm

A random topic is chosen for friendly discussion each meeting.

Zeitgeist Afternoons, now Zoom Happy Hour

Contact: Geiger Yount, geigman@aol.com

1st & 3rd Thursdays at 4 pm (may change)

Using Zoom, the group chooses and discusses films. Seeing films is done individually. Email summaries and next film titles are provided to all. A few small group viewings take place in member homes. Call or email Geiger for details.

Sampler

Contact: Lou Anne Siefert, lasiefert@charter.net

This eclectic group will resume meeting in the New Year.

Book Club

Contact: Angela George, angela8744@msn.com

3rd Monday at 7 pm

One person per meeting leads discussion. Some meetings take place in homes (may be Zoomed too) or other venues. Jan., Feb., & March meetings on Zoom. Sept. and Oct. selections: *The Pearl that Broke Its Shell* (Hashimi) & *A Woman of No Importance* (Purnell).

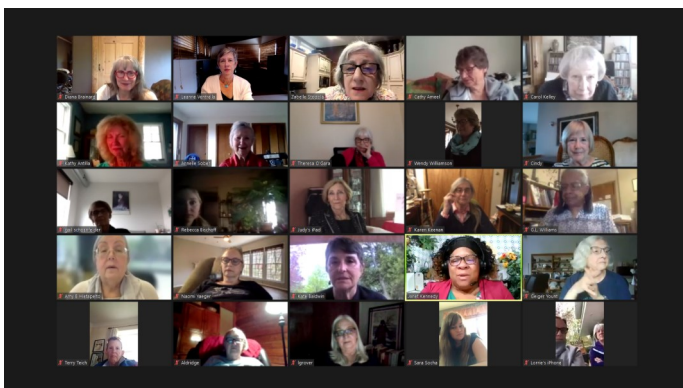
Congratulations to AAUW Duluth NCCWSL Awardee, Abbie Hatlestad

AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) brings together hundreds of college women from around the country for three days of leadership training, inspiration, and networking. NCCWSL now attracts over 10,000 student leaders. The diverse backgrounds and ideas at NCCWSL help to make it such a transformative experience.

AAUW Duluth is proud to have sponsored ABBIE HATLESTAD to attend 2021 NCCWSL. She is a Junior at the College of Saint Scholastica pursuing her Bachelor of Science in Exercise Physiology.

While at the conference, Abbie learned a lot of valuable information about topics that she feels are not discussed enough throughout college education such as finances, negotiating salary, and graduate school applications. She entered the conference as a passionate leader and left with the skills and confidence to pursue her goals.

Screenshot from AAUW Duluth's 2021 Annual Meeting



Apart from dealing with necessary business, the annual meeting also featured an inspiring presentation from keynote speaker, Councilor Janet Kennedy (at right).





American Association
of University Women
Duluth

AAUW Duluth
The Lob Tree
Zabelle Stodola, Editor
kzstodola@ualr.edu

AAUW Duluth: Empowering women through
friendship, education, and advocacy

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

Lose Your Mother: A Journey along the Atlantic Slave Route, Saidiya Hartman

***Lose Your Mother: A Journey along the Atlantic Slave Route* (2007), by Saidiya Hartman, charts the history of the Atlantic slave trade by detailing the author's journey along a slave route in Ghana. Following the trail of the enslaved from the point of capture inland to the Atlantic coast, she "reckons with the blank slate of her own genealogy and vividly dramatizes the effects of slavery on three centuries of African and Afri-**

can-American history," according to the blurb on the book cover.

The esteemed scholar Henry Louis Gates, Jr., called this work "a magnificent achievement" and praised its author for "combining the depth and breadth of a scholar of slavery with the imagination and linguistic facility of a novelist." Hartman, he concluded, "has written a most poignant meditation on the ironies of black identity in a

postmodern, multicultural world."

Hartman did not have any family connections to Ghana. She chose that country because nine slave routes crossed it and because it "possessed more dungeons, prisons, and slave pens than any other country in west Africa."

Her book seeks to unravel the roots of racism today, of what she calls "the afterlife of slavery."

