

# The Lob Tree AAUW Duluth



## Fall & Winter 2022-23 Programs

The Program Committee is still working out details, but here is a taste of what's coming up for fall and winter programming.

**Summer Social: Thursday, September 8, 2022, at 5:30 pm, Hartley Nature Center Private Room.** Members and guests will order a boxed meal in advance and pay at the door at this "Meet and Greet." Details forthcoming.

**Tour of Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College: (Tentative date) Tuesday, October 4, 2022 (definite date and time TBA).** Learn about the campus, its art, and architecture in a special tour led by member Courtney Edwards, who is an advisor at the College.

**Talk on Afghan Resettlement by the Rev. Charlotte Frantz: Peace Church Fellowship Hall.** November date and time TBA.

**Winter Social: Sunday, December 4, at 3 pm, Ecumen Lakeshore Chapel.** Afternoon snacks and beverages will be available. Members and guests will make a reservation in advance and pay at the door. Price TBD. Entertainment and presentation. As usual, we will take a collection for a local charity.

**February 2023 Fireside Chats:** They will be held via Zoom.



### UPDATE ON 2022 SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER

The branch will not be able to hold Created Here or any other scholarship fundraiser event this year. But watch for information soon on making a direct donation to our 2023 post-baccalaureate scholarships.

#### Inside this issue:

Upcoming Programs	1
Letter from New Co-Presidents	2
Officers Contact List	2
Natalie Miller, Young Women for Equity HS Winner	3
Focus Group Information 2022-23	3
Photos from Recent Events	3
Novel: <i>The Book of Longings</i> , by Sue Monk Kidd	4

Letter from Co-Presidents Angela George & Linda LeGarde Grover



Greetings from your new Co-Presidents! We have been learning a great deal from Kate Baldwin, who served as President with such competence and dedication. Thank you, Kate; we appreciate so

much all that you have done for the AAUW Duluth Branch, and the admirably organized information in the paper and electronic files.

We will be meeting with the Board next month, and will send a Co-Presidents Message in the fall with information about activities and projects planned for the coming year. In the meantime we would like to say that we are honored to serve and look forward to working with everyone.

Angela and Linda

*Kudos to  
NAOMI YAEGER  
for winning  
2nd Place in  
the Student  
Category for  
Video Produc-  
tion at the  
2022 In-  
digeverse Mul-  
timedia Festi-  
val. See her  
video "The  
Green Pail" at  
www.indigevers  
e.org*

## AAUW Duluth Officers, 2022-2024

**Co-Presidents:** Angela George,  
[Angela8744@msn.com](mailto:Angela8744@msn.com) &  
Linda LeGarde Grover,  
[lgrover@d.umn.edu](mailto:lgrover@d.umn.edu)

**Co-Program Chairs:** Leanne  
Ventrella,  
[Leanne.ventrella@gmail.com](mailto:Leanne.ventrella@gmail.com)  
& Diana Brainard, [Di-anab.aka.mommy@gmail.com](mailto:Di-anab.aka.mommy@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Karen Moen,  
[Kmoen002@gmail.com](mailto:Kmoen002@gmail.com)

**Educational Opportunity Funds  
Chair:** Kate Baldwin,  
[Kate.mary.baldwin@gmail.com](mailto:Kate.mary.baldwin@gmail.com)

**Co-Membership Chairs:** Wendy  
Williamson,  
[petewill64@msn.com](mailto:petewill64@msn.com) &  
Bonnie Edwards,  
[bkedwards@gmail.com](mailto:bkedwards@gmail.com)

**Communications Officer:**  
Naomi Yaeger,  
[sun\\_dog\\_press@yahoo.com](mailto:sun_dog_press@yahoo.com)

**Newsletter & Diversity Officer:**  
Zabelle Stodola,  
[kzstodola@ual.edu](mailto:kzstodola@ual.edu)

**Focus Groups Contact:** Ray-  
mone Kral, [Kralray-  
mone2@hotmail.com](mailto:Kralray-<br/>mone2@hotmail.com)

**Public Policy Officer:** Jackie  
Falk, [jhfalk@charter.net](mailto:jhfalk@charter.net)

**Secretary/Historian:** Geri  
Ohman, [glohman@gmail.com](mailto:glohman@gmail.com)

**STEM Representative:**  
Bethany Kubik,  
[Bethany.kubik@gmail.com](mailto:Bethany.kubik@gmail.com)

**College Representative:**  
Susana Pelayo-Woodward,  
[swoodwar@d.umn.edu](mailto:swoodwar@d.umn.edu)

## Tour of Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College



Tentative date: Tuesday, October 4, 2022

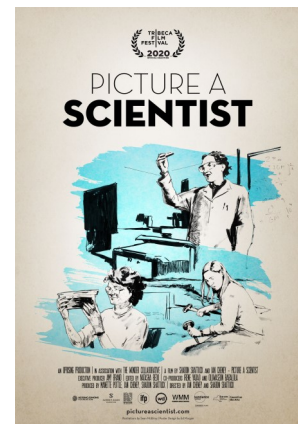
A tour of the Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College will be led by AAUW Duluth branch member Courtney Edwards, who is an advisor at the college. Learn about the campus, its art, and architectural features.

Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College is a union of cultures in which no one is made to sacrifice their identity, yet each strives toward the same goal of becoming better through a postsecondary education. FDLTCC is the only state and tribal college in the nation and is grounded in the faith that all people become better by walking together. The mission of the college is to provide higher education opportunities for its communities in a welcoming, culturally diverse environment while demonstrating the values of respect (Manaaji'idiwin), integrity (Gwayakwaadiziwin), and compassion (Zhawenjigewin) for all.

## Showing of NOVA Documentary *Picture a Scientist*

*Picture a Scientist* provides insight into the challenges and barriers still faced by women in the STEM fields. Its title asks viewers, "When you picture a scientist, who do you see?" Many would say an Albert Einstein-like figure: male, white, privileged, and older. Science may indeed be one of the areas where the glass ceiling has yet to be shattered, bolstered by centuries of downplaying, ignoring, or silencing the contributions of women and minorities. Here in Duluth women scientists face discrimination and marginalization. The branch needs to support them.

The branch is working with other groups to show *Picture a Scientist*, likely at UMD, with discussion afterwards. It is currently available on Netflix. The *Boston Globe* called *Picture a Scientist* "Quietly devastating." See [www.pictureascientist.com](http://www.pictureascientist.com)



## Focus Group News and Activities Fall 2022

### The Lunch Bunch

Contact: Bonnie Edwards, [bkedwards@gmail.com](mailto:bkedwards@gmail.com)

**1st Tuesday of the month**

Trying new restaurants and revisiting old ones. Reservations required. Contact Bonnie for details.

### Roundtable (Zoom)

Contact: Dawn Conlan, [conlan518@gmail.com](mailto:conlan518@gmail.com)

**3rd Tuesday at 5:30 pm**

A random topic is chosen for friendly discussion each meeting. Location varies.

### Zeitgeist Afternoons, now Zoom Happy Hour

Contact: Geiger Yount, [geigman@aol.com](mailto:geigman@aol.com)

**July & August meetings 2nd Thursdays in member**

### homes.

Exact dates at Zinema or elsewhere after that are fluid. For Zinema films and screening schedule, see <https://zeitgeiststarts.com/zinema2/> Communication and planning are via email. Contact Geiger for details.

### Sampler

Contact: Lou Anne Siefert, [lasiefert@charter.net](mailto:lasiefert@charter.net)

**4th Tuesday of the month**

This creative group meets at a member's home.

### Book Club

Contact: Angela George, [angela8744@msn.com](mailto:angela8744@msn.com)

**3rd Monday at 7 pm (except July, August, and December)**

One person per meeting leads discussion and another hosts.

## Duluth Branch Nominee Wins State Award !!



Many congratulations to **NATALIE MILLER**, high school level winner of the 2022 Minnesota State Young Women for Equity Award. This \$500 award recognizes and rewards a young woman whose projects, activities, and leadership address equity issues.

**NATALIE MILLER**, who graduated from East High School in spring 2022 and is headed to Yale this fall, describes herself as “a social science geek” who wants to pursue a college major that helps her “to advocate for human rights and social justice.” After graduation, she hopes to attend law school to become a civil rights or NGO attorney.

Her passion for historical research resulted in 1st place at National History Day for her 2020 Senior paper, “Too Strong for a Woman: How Bernice Sandler Created Title IX to Break Barriers for Female Faculty in Higher Education.” She’s also won a Yale Book Award, a Youth Civic Engagement Scholarship, and was a 2021 AP Scholar.

## Photos from Recent Events



**Left:** Kate Baldwin, Mary Ann Lucas Houx, and Wendy Williamson at 2022 State Convention, St Cloud

**Right:** Several branch members at the abortion rights rally in May 2022 before Roe v. Wade was actually overturned in June.





American Association  
of University Women  
Duluth

AAUW Duluth  
The Lob Tree  
Zabelle Stodola, Editor  
[kzstodola@ualr.edu](mailto:kzstodola@ualr.edu)

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

New website link:

[AAUW Duluth \(MN\) Branch](#)

See also [https://  
www.facebook.com/AAUWDuluth](https://www.facebook.com/AAUWDuluth)

### National AAUW Statement on Overturning Roe v. Wade

“AAUW strongly condemns the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*. The decision overturns the landmark *Roe v. Wade* ruling that established abortion as a constitutionally protected right nearly 50 years ago and ignores the will of the American people, 80% of whom support legal abortion.

AAUW believes everyone has the right to make decisions about their own reproductive lives without government interference. Abortion access is vital to women’s ability to control their lives, bodies and futures. Without reproductive freedom, there can be no equity.

Being able to choose whether and when to become a parent improves women’s well-being and fosters economic security—a crucial component of AAUW’s mission. This is particularly important in a country that lacks accessible maternal health care, paid caregiving leave and workplace protections for pregnant workers.

The Court’s decision hurts all of us, but it will do the most harm to low-income people, women of color, immigrants, people with disabilities and LGBTQ+ people, because these groups already face substantial barriers to accessing reproductive services and health care.

While the Court’s decision is a major setback for all Americans, AAUW remains steadfast in our commitment to protecting reproductive rights, a vital component of gender equity.”

## Sue Monk Kidd, *The Book of Longings* (2020)

One October morning in 2014, Sue Monk Kidd was inspired “to write a story about the fictional wife of Jesus.” Audacious, controversial, tricky? You bet. But the idea took hold and within minutes her character had the name Ana. That day, too, Kidd realized that like many historically silenced women, what her character wanted most was a voice. Thus

the novel is told in the first person by Ana herself: a willful, educated, artistic, rebellious woman who is not only Jesus’ wife but his partner. Indeed, Kidd gives Ana “her own quest—that of following her longings in pursuit of the largeness inside herself.”

*The Book of Longings* also reimagines the single celibate Jesus of the New Testament

as even more fully human than before.

Meticulous historical research undergirds the compelling plot, though Kidd takes some fictional license, such as making Judas Ana’s adopted brother.

The A P review calls the novel “an epic masterpiece . . . of insight and storytelling” and a great Book Club choice.

