

THE

AAUW PINE

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Virginia Chapter: Arts Around the Table

The Virginia Chapter of AAUW began their fall meeting schedule with a special viewing of member, Mary Erickson's exhibit at the Lyric Center for the Arts in Virginia. Erickson is a weaver who draws on her love of Iron Range geology to inspire pieces depicting the drifts and layers of mining.

"Landscape, history and family influence who we are," says Erickson. "The past is often forgotten, yet strands of the past remain with us and shape our present."

Living on the Mesabi Iron Range has shaped her life and influenced her artwork. Landscape, rocks and minerals are a source of her designs. "For example," she says, "natural ore is a

variety of color - yellow, orange, brown, red, blue or purple. Yet the essence of this place goes deeper than the visual. The layers of earth exposed during mining represent layers of influences. And just as each layer of yarn in a weaving is not only part of the image, it is also vital to hold the structure together - influences from the people, the culture and the landscape become the fabric of who we are."

The exhibit is called 'Drift' after the channels and tunnels in underground mining, and also for the way the culture and infrastructure moves over time due to the need for the minerals beneath us. A recent example of this is the Minnesota Highway 53

relocation and high bridge project made necessary by future expansion of the mine in Eveleth. Erickson's exhibit was in the Lyric Center's First Stage Gallery from August 31 through September 30.

After the viewing, the group held their fall kick-off business meeting over dinner at La Cocina restaurant in Virginia. Seated around the table are Sue Medure, Bonnie Edwards (chapter co-president,) Geri Ohman, Marcia Aluni, Susie Pearsall (co-president,) Marylou Conaway, Mary Erickson, Mary McReynolds, Jean Melgeorge, and JoAnn Roch.

Sent By: Mary McRynolds

St. Cloud Area
September
Kickoff
Program:
Women in Law
Enforcement
and Criminal
Justice Panel



From left to right: Office Darcie Zirbes of Alexandria Police, Sergeant Tina Lake of Alexandria Police, Stearns County Attorney Janelle P. Kendell, Assistant Chief of Police Kathy Wuorinen of St. Paul, Dr. Mary Clifford of St. Cloud State University, Officer Talisha Barlow of St.

This extremely exciting hot topic evening was thought out and organized by our Membership VP of many talents, Linda MacLeod. With her tireless efforts she was able to pull all of these influential intelligent women into one room while discussing some very current issues in the news today.

The panel was asked a series of questions on gender issues related to women working in criminal justice or law enforcement; crimes against women including human trafficking, prostitution, rape, and domestic abuse; community relations, support for women and children, and de-escalation training.

The Kick Off to our 2017-2018 year of Programs was a great success enjoyed by all who joined in. We had an attendance of more than 60 members, nonmembers, many local organization leaders and distinguished guests. The evening was moderated by one of our Program VP's, Ellyn Bartges, SCSU's Equity & Access Director, Title IX/ADA Coordinator, CPO.

This event gave our attendees the opportunity to understand different issues explained to them directly from the source. With all of the issues in the news today, it was a great way to start out the year.

By: Jackie Crever

A Quiet American Girl Scientist

By: Linda MacLeod

St. Cloud Area Branch

After attending an AAUW “Tech Savvy” event, Tomisin Ajayi is enthusiastic about becoming an engineer or maybe a Supreme Court Justice. Her brother, Tomiwa, plans to follow in his father’s footsteps and become a doctor, but she’s interested in the scientific method and following in the footsteps of her inspiration, Mary Sherman Morgan of NASA. Tomisin has many successful role models in her immediate and extended Nigerian family living in the U.S. and abroad. Besides showing an interest in STEM courses, Tomisin plays piano and violin

and enjoys theatre and sports. Tomisin has the work ethic, motivation and talent to succeed. She is quiet and respectful with the resolve and energy of a champion.

Thirteen year old eighth grader, Tomisin Ajayi, attends South Jr. High, St. Cloud, MN. When she grows up she would like to be an astronomical or aeronautical engineer. Tomisin said her favorite STEM area is engineering because of the “endless possibilities” and because “you can create solutions to problems.” She was

inspired after reading about Mary Sherman Morgan, a U.S. rocket fuel scientist credited with the invention of the liquid fuel Hydyne in 1957, which powered the Jupiter-C rocket that boosted the United States' first satellite, Explorer 1 (Wikipedia). It’s no wonder her favorite subjects are science and mathematics. This year she’s looking forward to studying chemistry and is familiar with the scientific method. A Myth Busters Classroom Project involved an experiment which called for filling a balloon with a small amount of water suspended over a flame without popping it. The



Continued....

scientific method was applied through hypothesis, experiment, and conclusion.

Another area of interest is law where she aspires to be a prosecuting attorney and eventually a Supreme Court Justice. Tomisin has also studied piano and violin for many years and plays tennis, soccer, and racket ball. She also enjoys traveling with her family.

Today, there are many opportunities for young students to learn about STEM subjects and careers which create awareness, encouragement, and excitement. In summer 2016, Tomisin's 6th

grade teacher recommended that she attend a one week national STEM camp in Atlanta, Georgia, with other students, ages 11-16, from around the nation. They learned about medicine, robotics and computer game designing. Additionally, she has attended a weeklong Science, Math and Computer camp at St. Cloud State University in 2015 and 2016 and a St. John's University Arboretum field trip for local students to study plants and trees.

Tomisin has enjoyed the American Association of University Women's Tech Savvy event and plans to enroll in the daylong conference this year. It's

sponsored by the, St. Cloud Area Branch, St. Cloud State University and the College of Saint Benedict. School girls, grades 5-9 participate in hands-on workshops led by STEM career professionals while their parents learn about college enrollment and preparation. Tomisin's parents and teachers continue to be very supportive which is crucial to building her confidence and self-esteem. Tomisin said she knows she will face life challenges because she is "black and a girl." Recently, when she was about to take a math aptitude test another girl told her that she would fail it. She was undeterred.





Hibbing Branch Event

The Hibbing branch hosted the annual “AAUW Northland Get Together”, Saturday, September 9, 2017, at Hibbing High School. The Northland event was formed a few years ago as an opportunity for northern MN branches to gather and share branch activities, successes, and goals. A theme has been a focus for creating informative presentations by guest speakers. The Northland Get Together is similar to a mini-conference. Throughout the years, each branch host has delivered unique programs in unique settings.

At the Hibbing Get Together, branch representatives from

Duluth, Ely, Grand Rapids, and Virginia were provided a tour of historic Hibbing High School, by Bob Kearney. Bob is the husband of Hibbing branch president Sharon Kearney. During his work career with Hibbing High School, he was instrumental in preserving many HHS artifacts that are now displayed in the HHS History room.

The theme for the Northland Get Together was “Hibbing’s Historic and Colorful Past”. Stefanie Carlson, who is the daughter of Bob and Sharon Kearney, provided a highly

informative presentation of Hibbing’s past, present and future. Together, the Kearney family has a long, rich and colorful Iron Range heritage, one that is filled with intriguing, ancestral stories.

During the morning meet & greet session, attendees shared their personal cultural backgrounds. All activities created a day filled with exciting conversation and historical exploration.

By: Jan Carey

NCCWSL

Thank you Letter



By: Ruby Waslberg

Dear AAUW,

I would like to thank you for choosing me to attend the National Conference of College Women Student Leaders. It was an unforgettable experience that I believe will be beneficial to the rest of my life. I was able to network with other women from around the country with a variety of interesting backgrounds. I, along with the other attendees got to hear motivational speakers, attend the Women of Distinction Awards Ceremony, participate in a variety of skill-building workshops, and enjoy some of the add-on activities. I will tell you a little bit about my trip and what it meant to me. The experience was not exactly easy, and definitely out of my comfort zone, but great things never happen inside my comfort zone. The scariest part was getting dropped off at my home airport in Duluth, MN, and getting on a plane by myself. I had never traveled alone before. As a person who can't get her head out of the clouds, I thought I would get lost in the airports. I soon realized that I didn't give myself enough credit, because I was able to navigate through the airport with minimal help. That was a big step up in my confidence and independence. Once I arrived at the University of Maryland, I soon connected with a group of other women. I decided I was going to make the most of this trip and get to know as many other attendees as possible. I still have several of them on social media.

I had the opportunity to listen to countless speakers, and learn about women in the workforce, as well as how women in the past stood up for their rights to get us all where we are today. Although women's rights are on track, it is proven that we are still not keeping up with men on jobs and paychecks, but women around the world are working together to be officially equal.

The Women of Distinction Awards was the most exciting part for me. The women were very empowering speakers, especially Danielle Feinberg, who said "We will not hear others tell our stories for us. We will write our own." She was the speaker who stood out to me the most, because I could relate to her. She talked about how she was the only girl in her lawn mower engine shop class, and how she ended up being the only one with a running engine at the end. This reminded me of myself, because in 9th grade my best friend and I were the only girls in the welding

class. We took it just for the heck of it, but I soon realized that I was better at welding than most of the boys in the class. They were actually impressed that they got showed up by a girl, and my dad was very proud of me. Both Danielle and I realized that we can surprise ourselves when we leave our comfort zones. I also got my picture taken with her after the ceremony.

There were a number of workshops to choose from. I went to one that was supposed to build our skills in self defence. It was motivating, empowering, eye opening, and loads of fun. We went through fake scenarios where we might feel uncomfortable, and got to practice how to handle these scenarios. For example, if someone keeps bugging you or getting in your face you have to be assertive for them to leave you alone. Being passive doesn't get the point across. I took a lot out of this because I am more of a passive person, so I really enjoyed practicing my assertiveness.

The add on activity that I chose was a trip to the Newseum, a museum on all things "news"! It was overwhelmingly awesome to see a piece of the Berlin Wall, and a piece of the Twin Towers, as well as thousands of newspapers with significant moments in history. I got to see a newspaper from each country. The one I thought was the coolest was the Japanese newspaper because it was the most unique, and I love Japanese culture.

The most amazing part of the whole trip had to have been the night in DC. I would say that out of all my great experiences on the trip, going to DC was the most memorable and impactful one. Taking a bus to the city, and being set free for the night with all my new friends was honestly the most independent and free I have ever felt. For the first time in my life, I felt like a woman instead of a girl. I was in a group of wonderful women, who I got very close with by the end of the night. The two girls I will never forget are Dannie, my roommate for the trip, and Tessa, who was one of the most interesting people I have ever spoken with. The DC night happened to be on Tessa's birthday. We walked to all the monuments. I was extremely excited to see the Lincoln Memorial, since he is my favorite president. My ultimate goal was to see the white house, which we finally got to see at 10:00 at night. It was amazing to think of all the presidents living there, and knowing that I was standing right in front of it.

Overall, my experience on the NCCWSL trip was unforgettable, and I know it has positively impacted me as a person. I cannot thank you enough, AAUW, for all of the memories and lessons I have taken out of this trip. It has sparked my desire to get out of my comfort zone, and to put myself out into the world and have more experiences like this in the future.

St. Cloud Area Branch Annual Fundraiser

The St. Cloud Area Branch held their 3rd Annual Fundraiser on Thursday, October 12th from 5-9:30pm, supporting the efforts of Tech Savvy, NCCWSL, Ellingson Award and any future endeavors pertaining to their mission.

This years event involved a 60+ item silent auction, wine raffle, game room with ring toss, wheel of fortune, peppermint stick pick and bag toss, raffle items such as weekend getaways, house cleaning and the wave exercise machine, power point presentation illustrating NCCWSL and Tech Savvy, and spirits.

The 100 guests were

By: Jackie Crever



enchanted when they were invited into the dinning room where centerpieces consisted of modern art floral arrangements and musical instruments. Guests were served chef created plates of bacon wrapped pork tenderloin with root vegetables, grilled salmon atop vegetable medley or stuffed peppers with root vegetables. The entertainment included the XTA – Crosstown Alliance Barbershop Quartet that enlightened the crowd during their luscious pumpkin cheesecake dessert. Which then led into the main event, The Twin Cities Jazz Imports with headliner Big Bob

Scoggin.

The evening was lively and exciting while guests mingled throughout the full second floor of the Courtyard by Marriot in downtown St. Cloud bidding on items, and competing for their chance at weekend getaways in the card deck raffle. The evening was amazing and brought in over \$6,500 to continue the efforts of this ever-active branch.

This fundraiser has evolved greatly over the 3 years it has been in existence. I would like to thank the board members and members that helped put on this amazing event. I was happy to be a part of our small but mighty committee that worked tirelessly on making this event an experience that will continue to bring more attendance each year to come.

St. Cloud Area Branch Arts Fundraiser

Each year the St. Cloud Area Branch has a luncheon at a members home where donations are collected to go towards the Ellingson Award of \$200 that is given to a top high school art student at the Paramount Theater in downtown St. Cloud. The remaining funds raised are designated toward a cause in the St. Cloud area pertaining to Arts. Last year the remainder was awarded to the new program, "Alzheimer's and the Arts" where Alzheimer's patients

and their caregivers have a day out to the Paramount to enjoy art. The program has been a great success and has given our branch another amazing opportunity to reach out and connect with the community.

Another year the remainder of the funds went to purchase art supplies for our local women's shelter for the families that reside there.

This fundraiser has also bought a chair at the

Paramount Theater in downtown St. Cloud to support keeping the arts alive.

This year approximately 14 members attended the luncheon and have raised over \$650. We will continue to accept donations through January 1st.

For this year the Council members will decide on a new program to give the funds to.

By: Jackie Crever

Days for Girls Project

On May 2 our First Tuesday speaker was a very enthusiastic Judy Johnson who described the non-profit Days for Girls organization, www.daysforgirls.org and the hygiene kits they have developed to be sewn by volunteers and distributed to girls in over 20 countries to provide them with a safe and sanitary way to manage their menstrual periods. Energized by her presentation, thirty members showed immediate interest in getting involved and on August 10 sixteen attended a group training and work session. Judy arrived with all the supplies needed to

begin work on the kits and soon had everyone in the room busily cutting, sewing, ironing and attaching snaps. At 2:15 on Tuesday, September 19 interested members were invited to a meeting to discuss the next step in organizing small groups to continue the work. Judy has also agreed to return in 2018 to direct more large group sessions. If you want to join us and are not on the email list, let Carol LeDuc know to add your name to receive future communications. jandcleduc@comcast.net

AAUW of Minnesota offers NCCWSL \$500

Has your branch sent a student to the National Conference of College Women Student Leaders?

Rosemary Pechous, a NCCWSL attendee co-sponsored by AAUW Hastings Branch, wrote a thank you to AAUW of Minnesota saying:

“The conference was eye-opening. There is something beautiful and empowering about being in the same space as hundreds of other women leaders fighting for equity. Leaving the conference, I was more motivated to make change than ever before.”

AAUW of Minnesota is offering ten \$500 scholarships to ten branches that send a college woman to the National Conference of College Women Student Leaders —NCCWSL pronounced ‘nick-whistle’—in the spring 2018! As America’s premier conference for college women, NCCWSL provides a transformative experience for 1,000 attendees and prepares them to be the next generation of leaders.

Several branches in Minnesota have sent students to NCCWSL in the past, but 2015 was the first year our AAUW Hastings Branch applied for and received this scholarship from AAUW of Minnesota. We formed a small committee of 4 to learn more about NCCWSL, shared this information with our board, and after board approval, to our AAUW Hastings branch. We created flyers, wrote news releases, drafted an application and spread the word in our community that qualified college women could apply for this opportunity to attend NCCWSL, an experience of a lifetime! We were thrilled with the response of applicants, as well as the publicity afforded to our AAUW Hastings Branch. Two applicants were outstanding, so our branch decided to find a way to sponsor both!

I hope your branch will consider applying for a \$500 scholarship from AAUW of Minnesota, too. Our AAUW Hastings Branch chose to add \$350, for a total of \$850 to each attendee, for registration, room and board, and flights.

Sample documents and ‘how to’ information for your branch is posted on our AAUW of Minnesota website: <http://aauw-mn.aauw.net> —under BRANCH/GRANTS AWARDS. Here you will find a timeline, application form, a flyer, press releases, etc. Just edit and update with your branch information!

The AAUW of Minnesota Board hopes this information makes it easy for your branch to offer this opportunity in your community! Please contact me with any questions, and visit the NCCWSL website for the soon to be announced 2018 conference dates!

~Gail Glashan

gwglashan@gmail.com

AAUW Hastings Branch

Our AAUW Vision Statement

AAUW empowers all women and girls to reach their highest potential.



Created Here: Meet the Artists

By: Theresa O'Gara

The Duluth, MN, Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) earned more than \$6,000 on November 2, 2017 at their scholarship fundraiser, "Created Here: Meet the Artists", which was held at Northland Country Club. At this event over 140 members and their guests were entertained by local artists, shopped at a silent auction and savored a meal prepared by Northland Chefs. A portion of the proceeds will be used for local scholarships and the rest will be sent to support AAUW's National Educational Programs.



Pictured above: bottom row from left to right, Linda Turpening, pianist, Tracy Lipke-Perry, pianist; Back Row, left to right, Sarah Agaton Howes, Anishinaabe artist and designer, Riki McManus Director of Upper Minnesota Film Office, President of Fire Rocks, Paula Gudmundson, Flute performer and teaching artist, Gay Trachsel, fundraiser committee member, Karen Keenan, fundraiser co-chair

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1:00 - 4:00 - REGISTRATION AT THE RICE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2:30 - 3:30 - TOUR THE HISTORIC FARIBAULT WOOLEN MILL \$6.00

FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 2018



1:00 - 4:00 - AFTERNOON OUTING IN HISTORIC DOWNTOWN FARIBAULT

SHATTUCK ST. MARY'S 5:00 SOCIAL HOUR/6:30 BANQUET

Saturday, April 28, 2018

MORNING BUSINESS

- 7:30 a.m. Breakfast/Registration
- 8:00 a.m. Silent Auction Opens
- 9:30 a.m. Opening Ceremony, Business Meeting/State Board Reports
- 11:30 a.m. "Keeping Us Legal" all member session
- Noon - Break/Silent Auction

12:15 p.m. Luncheon/LAF Speaker

Enrichment Sessions

- 1:45 p.m. Session I
- 3:00 p.m. Session II

Afternoon Breaks

- 1:30 p.m.
- 2:45 p.m.

All Good Things Must End

- 3:30 p.m. Silent Auction Closes
- 4:00 p.m. Silent Auction Pick Up
- 4:15 p.m. Conference Ends/Evaluations Due

AAUW Duluth
Cosponsors
Presentation
by Global
Citizen and
Retired
Minnesota
Judge LaJune
Thomas Lange

By Zabelle Stodola, Diversity Officer, AAUW Duluth

Owing to a generous grant from the state chapter of AAUW, the Duluth branch was honored to cosponsor Judge LaJune Thomas Lange's visit to Duluth from 22 to 24 September 2017. Other cosponsors included the League of Women Voters (Duluth), St. Mark African Methodist Episcopal Church, and UMD's Alworth Institute of International Studies. Gerri Williams, retired State Department Public Affairs Officer and now a resident of Duluth, was the lead organizer who conceptualized and coordinated the Judge's activities here.

Among her many accomplishments, Judge Lange

is Honorary Consul for South Africa; Founder of the LaJune Thomas Lange International Leadership Institute; Fourth Minnesota Judicial District Court Judge (Retired); and Senior Fellow at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs.

She came to Duluth to speak on a range of topics concerning race relations, international engagement, global leadership, the long history of African Americans in Minnesota, and the equitable representation of women and other minorities in politics. Over a hectic two and a half days, Judge Lange met with Mayor Emily Larson and gave three inspiring

presentations that were free and open to the public.

September 22 Meeting with Mayor Larson

Judge Lange discussed expanding business opportunities between Duluth and South Africa. Did we know, she asked, that SAPPI Paper Mill in Cloquet, employing 700 people, was owned by a South African firm? She invited the Mayor to join the state committee planning events throughout Minnesota to celebrate the centenary of Nelson Mandela's birth in 2018. Judge Lange also encouraged the city to



Left to right: Zabelle Stodola, AAUW; Richard Coleman, Pastor St. Mark AME Church; Mayor Emily Larson; Judge LaJune Lange; Janet Kennedy, League of Women Voters; Carl Crawford, Duluth Human Rights Officer; and Gail Schoenfelder, League of Women Voters

Continued.....

recognize the rich history of African Americans here, going back to at least the mid nineteenth century when they came to work in the steel mills. While not downplaying the horrific legacy of lynching, she also pointed out other civic ties, for example that African Americans had enough money, manpower, and conviction to fund the construction of St. Mark AME Church 138 years ago! The Mayor agreed that Duluth should foster more opportunities for cross cultural relations.

September 22 Presentation in the Martin Library at UMD

In her presentation to about 35 people at UMD, Judge Lange spent most of her



Left to right: Janet Kennedy; Zabelle Stodola; LaJune Lange; Richard Coleman; Cindy Christian, Director, Alworth Institute for International Studies, UMD; Gerri Williams

time discussing what it meant to be Consul General of South Africa, how she came to be appointed to this position, and how part of her charge is to foster innovation as well as business and cultural opportunities between South Africa and the United States. Especially for the younger students present in the audience, Judge Lange gave an overview of apartheid and of Nelson Mandela himself. While she believes that South Africa has in many ways confronted its past through the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, other parts of the world still feel the legacy of apartheid and of ongoing racism. Closer to home, here in Duluth, she urged all of us to prioritize greater engagement with black history.

September 23 Presentation at the Building for Women

Judge Lange talked about how she was moved to found the International Leadership Institute in 1994 after the Rwandan genocide in which millions of Hutus and Tutsis had been killed and in which the USA had



Left to right: Zabelle Stodola; LaJune Lange; Terry Teich, Co-President, AAUW Duluth

been loath to intervene effectively. The Institute is devoted to providing equitable participation of women in politics and economic development, reducing election fraud, and promoting transparency within political parties. The Judge is a powerful and charismatic speaker, and the thirty people in attendance were spellbound throughout.

September 24 Presentation at St. Mark A. M. E. Church

Judge Lange reflected on her experiences as a judicial representative, especially on the challenges of Native and African American youth in the criminal justice system in Minnesota and on police training regarding use of force.

AAUW Funds Update

By: Veronica Johnson, VP AAUW Funds



It's great to hear what happens with the contributions we give to AAUW Funds. Last year with your generous contributions, our state completed the Dr. Jane Skinner American Fellowship. The first recipient is Siri Suh. She is at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, studying anthropology and archaeology. Her degree and specialization are in medical anthropology, global health and population and developmental studies. Her Project name is Obstetric Ambiguities: Reproductive Governance, Evidence and Global Abortion Politics in Senegal. I look forward to providing updates.

Our MN State AAUW is currently working to complete the Minnesota Past Presidents American Fellowship. We have approximately \$20,000 left to complete this fellowship. It would be great to see it completed this year and start granting awards. This is also the fund that allows the branches to present Named Gifts for each contribution of \$750 to the Minnesota Past Presidents American Fellowship Fund, #4326. Just make checks out to AAUW Funds and write Fund #4326 on the memo line.

Another AAUW Program that receives support from AAUW Funds is the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). It is the premier conference for students to hone their leadership skills, make lifelong connections, and get ready to shape the world. Sabrina R. said, "I can't even put into words what AAUW has done for me. I learned to lead and not be afraid to have an opinion and a voice. I learned to help others use their voice too."

Thinking ahead to our AAUW State Convention in April, I am already going through my house and using the theme, if it doesn't give me joy, maybe I should get it out of my house. I keep a box to hold these treasures in the garage. If you have an item like that, or a gift someone gave you in the past that sits in a closet, (never to be seen again) consider giving it to the Silent Auction at State Convention. It's a fun way to see someone else enjoy that item you don't want or need. The branches get credit for the money it raises for AAUW Funds.

For any questions about AAUW Funds, contact Veronica at veronicajj@aol.com

A Delightful August Tea

Eighty-seven members and guests attended the delightful afternoon tea on Wednesday, August 9th. The doors opened at 1:30 PM with piano music by Jim Andrews, singing led by Mary Schwab, tea party quizzes and a history exhibit of our AAUW branch. After the tea had been served, we listened to Jayne Becker who shared information and delightful stories about *Fashion and Frills: Victorian Elegance and Style*.

There were many new faces in attendance along with many lovely hats! The flowers, arranged by Diane Glynn and Joanne Wang, were beautiful and the programs, designed by Doreen Nystedt, were lovely. The food, prepared by Chef Christophe Bellanger, was fabulous and everyone loved the tea! Some lucky ladies even went home with a delightful door prize!

The annual August Tea is organized by the Ways and Means Committee to raise money for the Scholarship Trust and the AAUW Funds. This year there was a profit of approximately \$1,100.00. Thank you to the ladies who attended and to the committee members who worked hard to ensure the success of this event!

Kathy Andrews, Ways and Means Chair



Program Planning Made Easy

Using the Program in a Box: Deeper in Debt Program Guide

Mary Ann Lucas Houx, VP Program

We have a need in our community. We have a mission based program. We have the AAUW tools to help look at the issue of women and student debt, so how do we put a program together? Using the Program in a Box: Deeper in Debt Program Guide will help.

Women now earn 57 percent of bachelor's degrees from American colleges and universities and take on more debt on average than men at almost every degree level and type. As a result, women hold nearly two-thirds of the student debt in the United States-more than \$800 billion. Factor in the gender pay gap and this debt influences many major life decisions for women. This would be an excellent branch program to share with campuses and the community. Using the research report, *Deeper in Debt: Women and Student Loans*, provides data, analysis and recommendations to help get the message out. The Program in a Box: Deeper in Debt Program Guide will provide the step by step information to help put the program together for your branch.

First, decide on your audience. The guide lists provides potential audiences for you to select. Second, what will the event look like? The program matrix, which you can print, has many possibilities to make your selection. Third, when and where will you hold your event? Suggestions of possibilities will be helpful. Fourth, resources are identified including a "Deeper in Debt" power point, a video, a written report, an executive summary which can be printed and handed out. Fifth, Suggestions on how to publicize your event are available. Sixth, there are suggestions for following up your branch event or program and letting others know about your branch future events. In addition, "Program in a Box Tool Kit" has sample templates, forms and other planning resources for your event. You can personalize the AAUW forms with your branch name which could include a registration form, press release, sign-in sheet, and check list. Check out "Program in a Box: Deeper in Debt Program Guide" on line and also the many valuable program resources available from AAUW.

PUBLIC POLICY

I am Jan Carey your new state public policy chair. AAUW-MN is fine-tuning public policy issues that reflect national priorities. Some issues cross governing lines and ideals. But, in doing so, AAUW members are reminded AAUW is “nonpartisan, but not nonpolitical”. AAUW works across the aisles on legislation that is often politically partisan. However, the anticipated outcome is always consistent with AAUW’s mission, vision and goals.

For additional guidance and information, go to the [AAUW website](#). Read the research publications. Learn more about the numerous issues AAUW has published. AAUW’s nationally-acclaimed research easily guides individuals through AAUW’s priorities and issues, whereby you can communicate the information to individuals and elected officials.

What can you do?

HELP ONE ANOTHER TO MOVE FORWARD AS ONE VOICE

- ∞ National priorities inform state and local action. Biennial priorities for national action are chosen according to the criteria of viability, critical need, strong member support, and potential for distinctive AAUW contribution or leadership.
- ∞ Use the priorities to be informed so you can inform.
- ∞ Solidarity is a most effective tool.

USE AAUW NATIONAL PLATFORMS -

- ∞ To support a strong system of public education that promotes gender fairness, equity, and diversity.
- ∞ To achieve economic self-sufficiency for all women.
- ∞ To guarantee equality, individual rights, and social justice for a diverse society.

SHARE AND COMMUNICATE TO ALL MINNESOTANS

- ∞ Initiate vigorous public policy programs at the branch level.
- ∞ Invite elected officials to branch events.
- ∞ Utilize local print media, social media and public access television channels to promote branch initiatives & events.
- ∞ Communicate your thoughts and ideas to me at: jmcfree@aol.com

[AAUW Public Policy](#)

Money-Saving Benefits for AAUW Members

Looking for a good insurance rate, discount on hotel rooms, printing and office or school supplies, AAUW has a deal for you. Search: www.aauw.org and then membership benefits on a computer and look at ways you can personally save money or even raise money for your branch.

Office Depot/Office Max offers discounts of up to 80% of office supplies and black and white printing for 2.5 cents per page. You can print an AAUW discount card from the AAUW benefits web site and have it laminated free in an Office Depot/Office Max store.

Mylo offers members special rates on health insurance and Nationwide offers homeowners and other insurance.

Hotel Storm offers discounts between 10 and 55% on hotel rates.

Target offers 5% on purchases made through their AAUW link. In addition, AAUW gets \$8 for members who sign up for a RedCard and \$6 to \$8 for registering for wedding, baby and college registries.

[DiversityComm](#), the publisher of *Professional Woman's Magazine*, *Black EOE Journal*, *Hispanic Network Magazine*, and *Diversity in STEAM Magazine*, will provide all AAUW members with a digital download of each of their publications.

Woman-owned **Connex International** provides members discounted rates on their telecommunications needs. Connex gets the big picture and will work with you to develop convenient cost-effective audio and web solutions that really work.

AAUW members (plus family and friends) get **15% off The Princeton Review's classroom courses and online (LiveOnline, Online, Express) courses as well as online tutoring for the SAT, ACT, PSAT, LSAT, MCAT, GRE and GMAT.**

Congressional Federal, a non-profit financial cooperative, offers AAUW members the best rates on loans, credit cards and savings products.

Through **Tugg**, AAUW members and branches have the ability to bring films intended to empower women and girls to local movie theaters without any up-front costs. Event hosts can use screenings as fundraisers, community engagements, or special movie events!

Check out AAUW member benefits online to investigate these opportunities further.

Summarized by Marty Elstrom (West Metro Branch, MN)

Pine Deadline Dates

February 1st, 2018 – Article Due

First week of March, 2018 – Pine will be published

June 1st, 2018 – Article Due

First week of August, 2018 – Pine will be published

Please feel free to send your articles at any point before the deadline for Pine articles.

Send all articles to jackiecrever@gmail.com

Please put “Pine Article” in the subject box

Make sure your articles come as a document NOT a pdf

Attach as many pictures s you would like, but please attach each picture as a separate attachment, they can all be in the same email

I look forward to seeing what you have for me in winter!

Your Pine Editor,

Jackie Crever – St. Cloud Area branch

American Association of University Women
Jackie Crever – Pine Editor
714 12th Ave. N.E.
St. Stephen, MN 56375

Mission Statement

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

AAUW Values Promise

By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

Vision Statement

AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy and measureable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

Diversity Statement

In Principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

