



American Association of University Women Greater Rochester Area Branch

*The American Association of University Women promotes
Equity for Women and Girls through Advocacy, Education, Philanthropy and Research.*

Volume 119 Issue #15 Moving the Mission Forward

January 2016

January Branch Luncheon

Saturday, January 9, 2016

11:30 am — 2 pm

REGISTRATION

RSVP by phone or text by
Monday, January 4 at 585-736
-1681 or e-mail
grabaauw@gmail.com.

Ticket Cost: \$25

Program Only: Free

Students: \$15

Please honor your reservation.

**If you need to cancel after
Monday, January 4 or if you
have RSVP'd and cannot at-
tend, you are responsible for
the entire cost of your ticket.**

Thank you, GRAB AAUW



JOIN US FOR LUNCH AND AN AFTERNOON WITH GUEST SPEAKER CYNTHIA BENJAMIN, CONTENT EDITOR, DEMOCRAT & CHRONICLE

Cynthia Benjamin is Community Content Editor at the D&C and has 22 years of expertise in the field of journalism. She earned a bachelor's degree in political science and journalism from the J. William Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Arkansas in 1988.



Cynthia eagerly became an early adopter of community conversation and new media, which earned her a distinction as one of Gannett's Supervisors of the Year in 2006. Cynthia was a founding member of two chapters of the National Association of Black Journalists and she was recently honored with a 2015 Salute to Excellence Award by the Rochester Association of Black Journalists. Richard J. McCollough, M. Ed. produced a 30-minute autobiography-documentary about her journey from poverty to a successful journalism career. The documentary acknowledges Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s influence on her early years.

Cynthia also partners with her husband, Jeff, at Rebirth Ministries, Inc., an inner-city church that he founded in 2008. She leads the Rebirth Women's Department and mentors girls and women. She's also a committee member for Young Women's College Prep.

Please join us in welcoming Cynthia to the AAUW January Branch Luncheon and Program.

Please feel free to invite friends and family to this gathering.



AAUW is a powerful advocate and viable leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

In principle and in 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.

GRABAAUW Rochester-ny.aauw.net New York State www.aauw-nys.org National www.aauw.org

GRAB AAUW ~ 494 East Ave. Rochester, NY 14607 ~ Phone: 585.244.8890/585.736.1681

FROM OUR PRESIDENT, GAYNELLE WETHERS

BOARD RESOLUTIONS FOR 2016



Please note:

The GRAB AAUW office will be closed from December 18, 2015 - January 3, 2016. the office will re-open on January 4, 2016.

The GRAB AAUW office will be closed on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 18, 2016.

GRANTS UPDATE FROM BETH

I will be spending most of January and February researching grant opportunities and writing grant proposals. Since September 2015, GRAB AAUW has received a total of \$11,000 in grants, including \$1000 from the Palma Foundation and \$10,000 from the Daisy Marquis Jones Foundation. COPE on behalf of Public Policy has received an \$800 grant from the Walmart Foundation. We are eagerly awaiting on other grantors to make a decision on funding.

I have been working with the NY Council for the Humanities to bring Community Conversations to GRAB AAUW. Each conversation earns the chapter \$200 if 10 people attend. Last year, we had 6 conversations and brought in \$1200.

We anticipate holding 6 or 7 or more conversations in 2016, including one on Wednesday, January 27, from 12-1 pm entitled Martin Luther King Jr, A Day of Service. Please join us, bring friends and your lunch to read a short excerpt on MLK Jr. and discuss. Each conversation is free and open to the public.

TEA AND TITLES

The next meeting of Tea and Titles will be on Wednesday, January 27 at 2:00 PM.

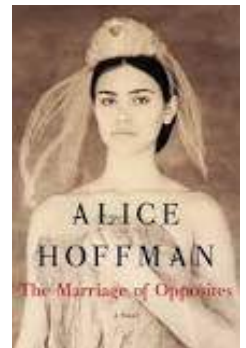
Lora Allen will lead the discussion on MARRIAGE OF OPPOSITES, the latest book by bestselling author Alice Hoffman.

This book is a fictionalized biography (set in the Caribbean and in Paris) of the mother of Impressionist painter, Camille Pissarro, LORA ALLEN will lead the discussion

All are welcome. Do join us for light refreshments and active, friendly discussion.

Also, please come prepared with suggestions for our readings in 2016.

Tea and Titles Chair: Maureen May, 585-385-1133



FOLLOW UP FROM DECEMBER'S BRANCH HOLIDAY PARTY: CELEBRATING CULTURES AND DIVERSITY

Members and friends gathered on Thursday, December 10 for an evening of celebration with piano music by Kathy Toole, tastings from around the world, including China, Mexico, Greece, Italy and more.

Several members brought in treats to share and donations for Sojourner House and Willow Center.

Guests concluded that the evening was enjoyable and that there was a plethora of food.

Thank you to branch member Barbara Stevens for taking the donations to Sojourner and Will.

Thank you to all who donated to Sojourner and Willow.



GRAB AAUW CALENDAR OF BRANCH EVENTS

January - June 2016

Branch

- Saturday, January 9 - 11-2pm, Branch Luncheon, Speaker: Cynthia Benjamin, D&C
- Wednesday, February 10, Susan B. Anthony Luncheon, Key Note Speaker: Billie Jean King
- Thursday or Saturday, March 10 or 12, Dinner or Luncheon and Program, Speaker: Tyrie McKeiver, US State Department
- Thursday, April 14 - 5-8 pm, Dinner and Program, Speaker: Cheryl Scorpio, Science and US CPSC
- Annual Meeting, Thursday, May 26 - 5-8 pm, Dinner and Program
- Thursday, June 9 or 16 5-8 pm Annual Picnic, Dinner and Program

Women Helping Girls

- Saturday, January 16 - High Tea
- Saturday, January 30 - 9-3 pm , Red Carpet Event in honor of the Ebony Fashion Show's 50th Anniversary
- Saturday, February 27 - 9-3 pm
- Saturday, March 5 - 9-3 pm
- Saturday, April 16 - 9-3 pm

* Please note that these dates are subject to change.



EASY NEW YEAR RECIPE — CHAI HOT CHOCOLATE

GLUTEN, SOY, PEANUT, EGG and DAIRY FREE

Serves 2. Per Serving: 78 calories | 12g carbs | 3g fat | 2g protein | 7g sugar

Ingredients

2 cups vanilla almond milk, sweetened
 2 tablespoons cocoa powder
 1 teaspoon DIY Chai Spice*

Instructions:

Place all ingredients in a medium size sauce pan. Bring to a rolling boil and stir until spices and cocoa powder have dissolved. Reduce heat and let simmer for 3-5 minutes.

*To make the DIY Chai Spice, mix together 1 teaspoon ground cardamom, 1 teaspoon ground allspice, 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon, 1 teaspoon ground cloves and 3 teaspoons ground ginger in a bowl or spice container.

Recipe taken from: <http://fitfoodiefinds.com/2014/09/vegan-chai-hot-chocolate/>.



AAUW EVENTS CALENDAR FOR PERKINS MANSION**JANUARY 2016**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 GRAB AAUW Office is closed	2
3	4 GRAB AAUW Office re-opens	5 10 am Retired Teachers Bridge	6	7	8 10 am Dupli- cate Bridge A	9 11:30 am Branch Lunch- eon
10	11 4 pm GRAB Board Meeting	12 10 am Crazy Eights Bridge	13 12 pm Martin Luther King Jr. Community Conversation	14	15	16
17	18 GRAB AAUW Office is closed	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 10 am Duplicate Bridge B; 12 pm MLK Conversation; 2 pm Tea & Titles	28	29	30 9-3 pm Wom- en Helping Girls
31						

INTEREST GROUPSRetired Teachers Bridge

Meets the 1st Tuesday at 10 am
Carol Achilles – 421-0876

Duplicate Bridge A

Meets the 1st Friday at 10:00 am
Pauline Sherwood – 671-3556

Duplicate Bridge B

Meets the 4th Wednesday at 10:00 am
Janet Miles — 787-0507

Tea and Titles

Meets Monthly
Maureen May - 385-1133

Mah Jongg

Meets some Wednesdays at 1:00 pm
Marlene Gordon – 402-5529

Crazy 8s Bridge

Meets the 2nd Tuesday at 10:00 am
Carol Achilles – 421-0876

Mystery Book Club

Meets Every Other Month
Lynne Mitchell – 381-7145

****Bridge Leaders:**

**Please call Blake at 489-2539
the night before to give him
your setup numbers.**

Closing in on the Pay Gap

December 09, 2015

Boston could be the first city to close the gender pay gap. At least that's Mayor Martin J. Walsh's goal, and it might just be possible, thanks to AAUW.

In October, the mayor, the city's Office of Women's Advancement, and AAUW leaders [announced an ambitious initiative](#) to offer free AAUW Work Smart salary negotiation trainings to half of Boston's working women in the next five years. That means training 85,000 women to negotiate higher salaries and better benefits — and making a dent in the gender pay gap, which stands nationally at 21 percent.



Women working full time in the United States typically are paid just [79 percent of what men are paid](#), and it's even [worse](#) for most [women](#) of [color](#). The gender pay gap starts just [one year out of college](#), and it only widens over the course of a career.

One of the many ways that AAUW is fighting the pay gap is by [empowering women to negotiate](#) for what they're worth. That's why, in 2014, AAUW acquired the Start Smart and Work Smart salary negotiation programs, which focus on college women and working women, respectively, from collaborator WAGE Project.

AAUW Start Smart is designed for college students who are about to enter the job market, and AAUW members have been putting on these workshops for years. AAUW Work Smart is for women who are already working, and it's now available for AAUW members to [get involved in presenting](#). Both workshops have been completely redesigned using the latest research and negotiation strategies so that participants will leave with the skills and confidence to successfully navigate the complexities of job offers and promotions.

Now with AAUW at the helm of both programs, so many more women across the country will have access to the workshops, including women on dozens of college campuses who will attend AAUW Start Smart and [women in Boston](#) — and nationally — who will get training through AAUW Work Smart.

“I am thrilled to partner with AAUW to offer these workshops to the working women of Boston,” says Mayor Walsh. “The AAUW workshops are the next step in giving women the tools they need to compete in today's economy. When women succeed, our businesses, our communities, and our city succeeds.”

Other cities are interested in following Boston's lead, according to AAUW Senior Program Manager Jesse Rauch. “It's exciting to think about what these collaborations could mean for the future,” he says. “Support for programs like these workshops translates directly into more dollars in the pockets of working women. There are not many programs that can do that. We have the chance here to effect meaningful change.”

AAUW Work Smart and AAUW Start Smart will continue to fight the gender pay gap, but only with strong backing from advocates who want to make economic security accessible for all women.

This story was written for the [2015 AAUW annual report](#) by Beth Pearsall. This story can be found under Economic Justice on AAUW National's website <http://www.aauw.org/2015/12/09/closing-in/>.



SAVE THE DATE

Fri-Sun, April 15-17, 2016

AAUW NYS Convention

Saratoga Springs, NY



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Dear Members,

Stephanie Augonis, Membership

EASY WAYS TO DONATE/PLEDGE A CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTION TO AAUW

Please visit our [website](http://rochester-ny.aauw.net/) at <http://rochester-ny.aauw.net/> and click the **DONATE United Way** image or the DONATE

TO GRAB AAUW **Paypal Pay Now** image.



Donor Designation Number 2609

SAVE THE DATES

January - On Saturday, January 9, 2016 from 11:30 - 2 pm, we welcome Cynthia Benjamin, Democrat and Chronicle Content Editor, Diversity Advocate and former Reporter for Our Towns. Cynthia will join us as guest Speaker for our Program following the Luncheon.



Cost is \$25. Please RSVP to 585-736-1681 or by email at grabaauw@gmail.com by January 4, 2016.

February - GRAB will be hosting a table for the annual Susan B. Anthony Museum and House Luncheon at the Joseph A. Floreano Rochester Riverside Convention Center on Wednesday, March 10, 2016 from noon - 1:30 pm.

Key Note Speaker will be Sports Icon, Humanitarian, and Champion of Equal Rights Advocate, Billie Jean King. King has won thirty-nine Grand Slam singles, doubles, and mixed doubles titles during her tennis career. She defeated Bobby Riggs in the 1973 "Battle of the Sexes" match. King is the founder of the Billie Jean King Leadership Initiative, which seeks to address inclusion and diversity issues in the workplace, and the Women's Sports Foundation.



Cost is \$75 per person. Please contact Lorraine Cappellino at 585 943 5275 or e-mail her at auntsusan@frontiernet.net before Jan. 5th 2016.

March - Our March Branch Program will feature Tyrik "Ty" McKeiver, Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary and Senior Advisor for Outreach and Intergovernmental Affairs at the U.S. State Department's Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs.

Ty is a contributor to diplomatic efforts that help strengthen relations and engage strategically with U.S. state and local government criminal justice and law enforcement agencies that deliver foreign assistance globally.



Cost is \$25. Please RSVP to 585-736-1681 or by email at grabaauw@gmail.com.

April - On Saturday, April 14, 2016, our Branch Dinner and Program Speaker will be Cheryl Scorio, Pharmacologist for the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission.

Cheryl's main role is to protect the public from unreasonable risks of injury or death associated with the use of the thousands of types of consumer products.



Cost is \$25. Please RSVP to 585-736-1681 or by email at grabaauw@gmail.com.

WOMEN HELPING GIRLS BIG EVENT - April 23, 2016

SAVE THE DATE !

Women Helping Girls presents **Beverly Bond of Black Girls Rock** and **YouTube star, Nicole Paris** will make an appearance at the event at the Blue Cross Arena in downtown Rochester, starting at noon.

For more information on Black Girls Rock, visit <http://www.blackgirlsrockinc.com/>.



INTERN UPDATE

Finishing up with Shannon—

Shannon, a junior at St. John Fisher College, spent the semester working with Beth. Together they worked on several tasks and projects. Shannon's main projects included:

- Newsletter articles and editing
- Facebook posts
- Drafting proposals to Congress asking to put Harriet Tubman on the \$10 bill.
- Reaching out via e-mail to Rochester Business Journal's 2015 selection of Forty Under 40 women, commending them on their professional success and introducing them to AAUW—GRAB.

Although her internship was short, she thoroughly enjoyed her time at the branch and was glad to meet many of the faces at AAUW—GRAB.

Shannon will be continuing her education at St. John Fisher College and getting her degree in English and philosophy. After which, she will go on to pursue graduate studies in rhetoric and composition.

No matter what direction life takes her, she will always work on improving conditions for women in society and raising awareness to those around her. She thanks AAUW for the opportunity to do such work.

POSSIBLE NEW PROGRAM ?

Dear Members,

How would you feel about participating in a Big Sister/Little Sister Program through GRAB AAUW ?

At this point, this idea is a concept. We would need a GRAB Member to Lead/Organize and Participants to join.

Shannon, the St. John Fisher College intern, has collaborated with her internship director at the college to come up with this potential program for GRAB to attract college students. The goal is to recruit local college students, while creating a fun, active way for current members to reach out, educate and discuss women's issues with them.

The concept — Big Sister, Little Sister. Each interested GRAB AAUW member would be assigned to a college-aged female and bond over experiences with women's issues. Topics of discussion could include:

- What feminism meant when the Big Sister was growing up and in college.
- What feminism means now in the Little Sister's time.
- How the fight for equality has changed over generations.
- How we can individually and collectively enact change.
- What it means to each individual to be a part of the fight.

Please reach out to Beth Garver Beha if you have any interest in leading or participating in this program. Phone/Text: 585-736-1681. E-mail: grabaauw@gmail.com

It is a way to be active in the quest for equality and also puts the AAUW name out there to attract new, younger members with fresh perspectives on women's issues.

Vision

GRAB AAUW is a World Class Lifelong Learning, Teaching and Study Center for all generations of Women & Girls and seen as a key Community Resource and Driving Force for any and all Women's Issues in the Greater Rochester Area.

Diversity Statement

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

AAUW Promise

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

GRAB AAUW BOARD MEMBERS

President – Gaynelle Wethers

Program VP – Barbara Baer

Membership VP – Stephanie Augonis

Development VP – Cheryl McKeiver

Recording Secretary – Anne Bell

Corresponding Secretary – Marlene Gordon

Treasurer – Cheryl McKeiver (Acting)

Assistant Treasurer – TBD

Assistant Treasurer for Membership – Gwen Clifton

Public Policy Director – Cynthia Herriott-Sullivan

College and University Relations – Barbara LeSavoy

Educational Loan Fund – Judy Trabert

Educational Opportunity Fund - TBD

Legal Advocacy Fund – Lynne Mitchell

Women Helping Girls – Cheryl McKeiver

Past President – Marilyn Tedeschi

GREATER ROCHESTER**AREA BRANCH****AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY WOMEN**

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**The deadline for the
February Newsletter is
January 15, 2015**

**Please email items to
grabaauw@gmail.org.**

We welcome suggestions or contributions to include in future newsletters. Please contact us at the addresses above.

**Articles submitted are printed at the
discretion of GRAB.**