



December Luncheon

December 18, 2024

Iroquois Club
43248 Woodward Ave.
Bloomfield Hills, MI. 48302
Social Hour - 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Lunch at 12:00 p.m.

Program: Stuart Johnson, a popular music historian, takes us back to the days after World War I when a mass migration of African Americans fled North to escape the harsh realities they faced in the South. Many settled in Harlem where they flourished in the Arts that included music and dance.

Menu: Iroquois House Salad, rolls and butter, Cheese Ravioli
Mini Desserts

Please send your check payable to AAUW Birmingham Branch
for \$32, by Wednesday, December 11 to:

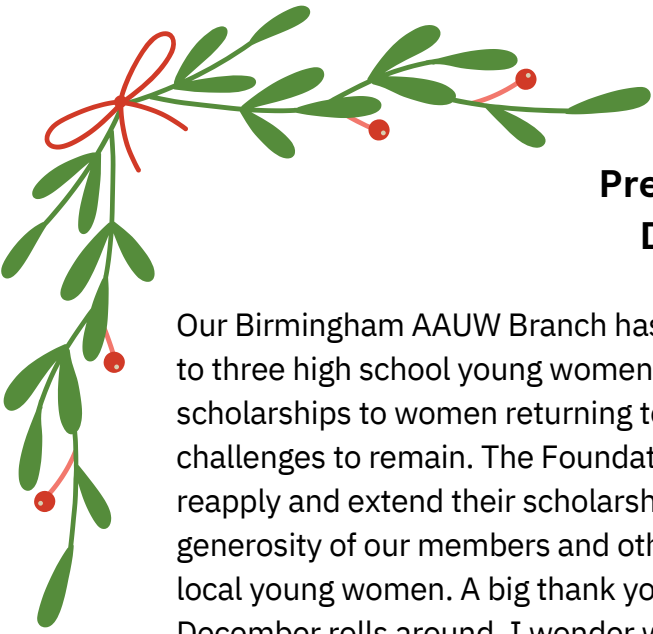
Christine Dagenais
1668 Trading Post Lane
Bloomfield Township, MI 48302
Please indicate any dietary restrictions.

December Community Outreach **Haven of Oakland County**

The Haven is a nationally recognized nonprofit leader that provides programs to promote violence-free homes and communities and help victims of domestic violence. Their mission is to eradicate sexual assault and intimate partner violence, and heal those affected by its injustices.

They need food, toiletries, baby items, and household supplies. Some volunteer possibilities are garden help, hosting a game night with youth, cooking a meal in the shelter, or being a greeter at the A2SF Festival. Check online to sign up.

Please bring your donations to the December Luncheon.



President's Message December 2024

Our Birmingham AAUW Branch has much to celebrate. We continue to award scholarships to three high school young women starting their college studies. We have also given three scholarships to women returning to college or beginning college and facing financial challenges to remain. The Foundation Board encourages these scholarship recipients to reapply and extend their scholarship if they meet certain criteria. This is all thanks to the generosity of our members and others who support this endeavor to improve the lives of local young women. A big thank you to each of you for doing your part. Each year when December rolls around, I wonder where the time has gone. It is a good moment to reflect on the positive changes to your life which usually take us to thoughts about things missed or just ignored.

The mission of our Branch is to have influence in the lives of women. Our Branch members contribute and benefit from the relationships they form with other members in a study and interest group or working on volunteer opportunities.

Each month members donate items to organizations, who let us know their needs, to help the people they serve. Bound Together, Big Family of Michigan, and Haven are a few of the groups that benefit from your donations and volunteering. Other groups who will receive our help this year are Ruth Ellis Center, Vista Maria, Michigan Animal Rescue League, Hope Against Trafficking, and Open Hands Food Pantry. A couple Board members made calls, in addition to what they already do, contacting these groups and asking what they need. Since September, I have tried to encourage you to become the Community Outreach Chair. It involves a few hours of your time to create a calendar for donations. Fortunately, we have some board members who are temporarily filling this need. But, if you feel you can do the job, ask one of the Board members about this valuable service to your AAUW Branch.

In addition to the Community Outreach Chair, we also have a vacancy for the eBay liaison. Neither of these positions require Board meeting attendance (although you are welcome to do so) and the work can be done from home.

What else have our Branch members done to volunteer their time? Fun Day Monday and tutoring for Bound Together are once a month or more often, depending on personal schedules. Check out pictures in this bulletin to see familiar holiday elves wrapping gifts for Big Family of Michigan. It is fun and brings smiles to nearly two thousand foster children in Michigan.

I send wishes for a beautiful holiday season to you all. Members of our community celebrate many different holidays, but all involve family and friends, giving, and reflection. See you in the New Year.

Jean

News from the Branch

Global Connections - AAUW at the United Nations

AAUW works to advance equality for women and girls across the globe. Barriers still keep education, economic security, and leadership out of reach for millions. Support and access to resources, education, health care, and job opportunities are essential to give women pathways to thrive. AAUW has awarded fellowships and grants to 13,000 women in more than 150 countries. Our work also supports and is aligned with the UN, UN Women, the U.S. Department of State, and multiple global coalitions to improve the status of women and girls throughout the world.

Through AAUW's special consultative status with the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, we attend briefings, organize events, and participate in coalitions to take action on issues that impact girls and women, including access to education and training, leadership, women's economic security, opportunities in STEM, ending human trafficking, and working with the NGO Committee on the Status of Women and the UN Commission on the Status of Women.

In loving memory

A donation was made by Coco Siewert in memory of Roberta Russ and Callie Schmidt.



**Volunteers
needed**

President Jean Ivory making a plea, at the November Luncheon, for an eBay collection volunteer, Community Outreach Chair, and a member to review the books for the Foundation. Can you help? See the next page for more information.

More Branch News



Looking for someone to help with eBay sales. You would need to pick up items and coordinate with our eBay seller to deliver them to him for sale. This may require occasional storage of items and some trips to Brighton where the seller is located. Proceeds from these sales benefit the Foundation and our mission-based programs. Please contact Jean Ivory at 248-252-2581 or jean_ivory@comcast.net.



Looking for someone to help review the Foundation's financial books. It will only take a couple of hours of your time. No accounting experience needed. Please contact Cindi Hopkins at 248-924-7008 or hopkins3190@gmail.com.



The Community Outreach Chair reaches out to organizations that we have relationships with to set up a monthly donation schedule. The chair also makes contact with organizations that need volunteers, sets up dates and times, and informs members how to sign up to volunteer.



SAVE THE DATE!

Sundaes on Sunday

January 26, 2025

Iroquois Club

1-4 pm

Join your AAUW friends and bring a guest to an afternoon of friendship and fun. Enjoy a Sanders Hot Fudge Sundae Bar as you sit back and relax with members while you take part in fun and games. More information to follow in the January Bulletin.

Even More Branch News



Bound Together Christmas Collection

Bound Together's Shopping Day event will once again be the bright spot in our students' holiday season because of the tremendous generosity of the membership at AAUW-Birmingham - so many lovely items were donated at the November Branch meeting, and all of them will be part of the BT Department Store that our children will shop in to choose a gift for four of the special adults in their lives. We could not do this event without AAUW, and we are so very grateful to everyone for supporting our work with kids and for assisting us not only in ensuring that our parent/guardians have a gift under the tree but that their children have the chance to experience how good it feels to give something to someone you love. Thank you so much for making so much possible.

Wishing everyone the warmest of holidays -- Michele Wogaman, Executive Director, Bound Together

RAFFLE

50/50 Raffle returns to monthly luncheons!

Attendees at the monthly AAUW luncheon meetings have an opportunity to directly support the Birmingham Branch by participating in a 50/50 raffle. Proceeds of the raffle go directly to the Birmingham Branch to help defray operating costs. Cash donations can be given to Linda Kevorkian at the luncheon. The winner is announced at the luncheon. Watch for Linda, who is sporting an apron that you will recognize from our historic book sale! Thanks for your generous support of the 50/50 raffle. The winner of the November raffle, Judy Allie, received \$77.00.

HAPPY
HANUKKAH

News from the Foundation

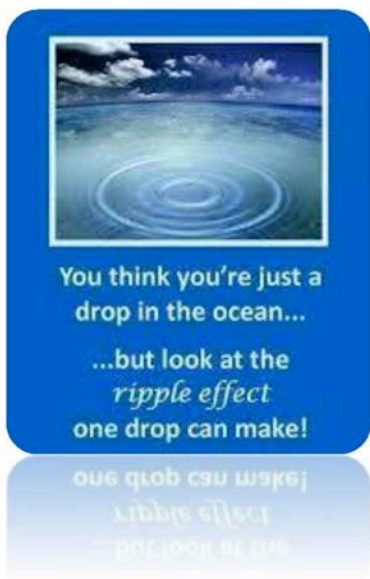


National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) Update

AAUW hosted the National Conference for Student Leadership (NCCWSL) for over 39 years. During this time, the Birmingham Branch Foundation has sponsored the attendance of many promising female student leaders at this event.

You should have received a message from National stating that they have decided that the most efficient and productive way to use their resources is to hand over the hosting of NCCWSL to NASPA – Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education. NASPA will be responsible for the planning and execution of the conference moving forward. AAUW will have a presence at the conference, as a speaker, exhibitor, presenter, and promotional supporter. Branches will still be able to register young women for the conference and to support them.

Donations made directly to AAUW designating NCCWSL support will be used in the following way: 80% will go to support student associate members' attendance at the conference; the remaining 20% will go to support staff. You may continue to donate to National and designate your donation as intended to support the continued presence of AAUW at NCCWSL. The details are not currently available, but the AAUW Birmingham Branch Foundation plans to continue to sponsor the attendance of local female leaders at this event. We are delighted that this opportunity will continue to be offered to our future leaders!



What is the ripple effect?

Like a single pebble creating waves across a pond, every scholarship we award sets in motion a series of transformative events - not just for the recipient, but for their family, community, and future generations. The effect starts when our scholarships help women start or restart their education and a pathway opens to better careers, improving their health, well-being, and economic stability. Our students then become beacons of hope and progress to other family members and their neighborhoods. The ripple continues as our scholarship beneficiaries become tomorrow's benefactors with the promise of uplifting others and triggering positive change for all.

Your support of the AAUW Birmingham Branch Foundation is creating change in our community. We're proud to be members of AAUW Birmingham Branch and help create the ripple effect in our community. Watch your mail, to learn about the impact that you are making.

More News from the Foundation

Endowment Fund Established



Are you aware that your AAUW Birmingham Branch Foundation has designated \$50,000 to establish our educational Endowment? This money will be invested and this seed will grow. The annual interest will grow the Endowment and ensure that we can continue to provide scholarships and educational opportunities for women and girls in perpetuity.

To have enough money to generate adequate interest we need to enlarge this initial gift. We are so thrilled to announce that the first member to step forward with a donation is our former President, Sally Doty. Thank you, Sally, for leading the way by becoming the first “Brick” in our new educational building (Endowment). Would you like to be one of the early donors? A donation from your MRD is an easy and tax-free way to provide more educational opportunities for women. Need more information? Call our Foundation Treasurer, Cindi Hopkins at 248-924-7008.

Photos from November Luncheon



Speaker, Mary Callaghan Lynch and
VP of Programs, Kathy Norton



Carolyn Packard, Mary Callaghan Lynch,
Cheryl Cross and Bev Dinsmore

HAPPY
KWANZAA

Santa's Elves Wrapping Gifts at Big Families of Michigan



Kathy Stasys and Elizabeth Snyder



Patti Bannasch and Jane DuBay



Mary Samulski and Susan Mundy



Cathy Hurley and Joan Birnie



Karen Brant



Jean Ivory



Study Group Calendar -December 2024

International Relations 10:00am, Mon., Dec. 2
 Topic: Government and Politics of Indonesia
 Contact: Lorrie D'Angelo, lorriedangelo@gmail.com

Public Policy Thurs., Dec.19
 Topic: Lunch at Fillmore 13 in Pontiac.
 Contact: Carol Pyke, cpyke@comcast.net

The Breakfast Bunch No Program Planned

ARTS & HUMANITIES

Modern Art 12:00 noon, Thurs., Dec. 19
 Topic: Tour of art at Corewell Hospital, Royal Oak
 Contact: Kathy Norton, kathleennorton45@yahoo.com

BOOK CLUBS

Belles Lettres No Program Planned

Beyond Adelante 1:00pm, Tues., Dec. 3
 Topic: *Dinner with the President: Food, Politics, and a History of Breaking Bread...*, Alex Prud'Homme
 Hostess: Sue Winowiecki, suewinow@gmail.com

Contemporary Books No Program Planned

Morning After Readers 10:00am, Mon., Dec. 9
 Topic: *Midnight in Peking*, Paul French
 Contact: Cheryl Van Zetten, cvanzetten@comcast.net

Mystery Book Club 1:00pm, Wed., Dec. 4
 Topic: *The Hunter*, Tana French
 (suggested that you read *The Searcher* first)
 Contact: Joan Birnie, jb03bbs@gmail.com

Potpourri No Program Planned

Thurs. Morning Readers 10:00am, Thurs., Dec. 19
 Topic: *Tom Lake*, Ann Patchett
 Hostess: Louise Juntunen, louise5041260@yahoo.com

Green Thumb. No Program Planned

Let's Cook No Program Planned

Needleworks 12 noon, Wed., Dec. 4
 Hostess: Becky Valenti, rebec1234@aol.com

ON THE TOWN

Opera Divas No Program Planned

Theater Goers No Program Planned
 Contact: Sue Winowiecki, suewinow@gmail.com

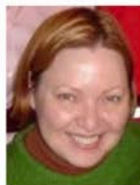
Two Thumbs Up Time TBD, Thurs., Dec. 5
 Hostess: Judy Allie, jallie2@gmail.com

JUST FOR FUN

Canasta 1:00pm, every Monday
 Contact: Sue Winowiecki, suewinow@gmail.com

Mah Jongg 2:00pm, every Wednesday
 Bloomfield Township Library. Beginners are welcome.
 Contact: Janet Brown, janet.brown@wayne.edu

Bridge
 2nd Friday: 10:30am, Dec. 13, The Village Club
 Hostess: Marge Thomas, 248-626-6098
 4th Friday: 10:30am, Dec. 27, The Village Club
 Hostess: Carol Cummings, 248-540-2178

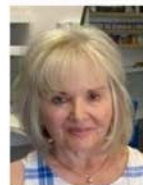


Please submit calendar changes by the 20th of the month.

Contact:

Sharon McKenna 313.570.2013
sharonmck.aauw@gmail.com

Linda Kevorkian 248.219.1915
kevorkianlk@gmail.com



Merry
 Christmas