



Birmingham Branch January 2025 Newsletter

Birmingham-mi.aauw.net
Vol 52 Issue 5



January Luncheon January 15, 2025

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

**Menu: Minestrone Soup, chicken Marsala, mashed potatoes,
green beans and brownies**

**Program: Four AAUW members, Judy Allie, Barb Gash, Pam Kiesel, and
Sue Winowiecki, will discuss Women Artists in Paris from 1850 to 1900.**

**Please send your check payable to AAUW Birmingham Branch
for \$32, by Wednesday, January 8 to:**

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

January Community Outreach The Ruth Ellis Center

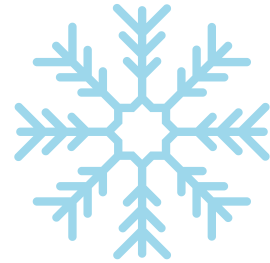
The Ruth Ellis Center provides primary and behavioral healthcare, long and short term safe space support services for runaway, homeless, and at risk LGBTQ young people.

Suggestions for donations: any non-perishable food item that has a long shelf life such as canned fruit and vegetables, sauces, rice, pasta, and ramen. They also need toiletries like shampoo, conditioner, body wash, toothpaste, toothbrushes, tampons, sanitary napkins, shaving cream and deodorant.

Please bring your donations to the January Luncheon.



President's Message January 2025



As we step into the year 2025, let us celebrate the incredible difference you have made in the lives of women and girls in our community and beyond. Your continued compassion and dedication have created ripples of hope, courage, and change.

This year, let us continue to work together, empowering one another and those we support. Let us embrace current and new challenges as opportunities to gain experience and make an even greater impact. Some of these challenges are ongoing and some are new. We continue to welcome new members and returning members. When you are asked to do something for our branch AAUW and you feel you cannot add anything else to your “plate,” remember that it’s your past accomplishments that make you valuable to others. Please respond by saying “yes”. Even better, encourage a friend to join the AAUW. If you are compelled to make a difference in the lives of women and girls, chances are your friends hold the same values. Every small act contributes to a larger story of transformation.

Remember, your passion and efforts inspire countless others to believe in a better world. Together, we are unstoppable. The study and interest groups you belong to not only provide relaxation and camaraderie, but also lead you to understand why we support other women who do not have the same opportunities. Take time to consider joining one more special group activity and/or consider a board or committee chair. You might bring a fresh insight into what we do and how we volunteer our time.

We continue to meet for our monthly lunches and learn from the speakers who present interesting and timely topics. Find out where you can best serve the branch.

Here's to another year of purpose, progress, and unity. Let's make it extraordinary.

Thank you for all you do for our community. Happy New Year – may it bring you health and wisdom for a better future.

Jean

News from the Branch

December 2024 Branch Board Highlights

The Board reviewed upcoming luncheon programs and Kathy Norton provided some additional background information on the two December luncheon speakers. Discussion followed on the ongoing need to monitor the missions of monthly donation recipients to ensure that these match our AAUW mission.

Jean Ivory (for Katie Wiese) reported Branch Foundation news. The Foundation wants to promote Branch pursuit of grant opportunities to support our mission. To do this the Branch will need to strengthen its impact reporting. Julie Blair has created a spreadsheet to track information, and Katie is seeking volunteers to assist. We need to track the value of monthly donations, numbers of members who help in various volunteer activities, photos of activities, etc. Please contact Jean or Katie if you can help in any way.

Jean Ivory reported that Zonta, an organization that promotes women in business, approached her about the possibility of collaboration on projects. Jean will follow up on this. Contact her if you would like to know more.

Jean also reported on AAUWMI news and recent activities. Our long-time lobbyist, Mary Pollock, has retired. She will be missed! The state Board is working on a AAUWMI app. It will be able to notify members in a timely way of legislation that meets or directly opposes our Public Policy goals and make it easier for members to send messages to their elected representatives.



Make your reservation now!

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.

Please send a check payable to **AAUW Birmingham Branch for \$20 by Saturday, January 18** to:

Christine Dagenais
1668 Trading Post Lane
Bloomfield Township, MI 48302

OR

Bring cash or check to the January Luncheon. Christine will have an envelope on the name tag table.

More Branch News



Dates to Remember

Wednesday, Jan 15 – Monthly Luncheon, Iroquois Club at Square Lake & Woodward

Sunday, Jan 26 – Member get-together at Iroquois Club – Sundaes on Sunday 1-4 PM

March – Kickoff for 2025 AAUW Funds Drive



Stagecrafters, Royal Oak

Sunday, February 9, 2pm

Tickets: \$28

Reservation Deadline:

Tuesday, January 7

On November 21, 1963, a group of young marines is gathered in San Francisco the night before they ship off to Vietnam. They decide to celebrate their last night of freedom with a cruel game they call a “dogfight” where every man sets out to find the ugliest girl he can to bring to a party.

Send checks, payable to Susan Winowiecki, to:
2957 Courville Drive
Bloomfield Hills 48302



Linda Schnorbus won \$88.00 at the December Luncheon 50/50 Raffle.



News from the Foundation



Tomorrow Begins Today – Funding the Future

Are you aware that your AAUW Birmingham Branch has designated \$50,000 to establish an educational Endowment fund? This money will be invested and will grow. The annual interest will increase 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 a second member, Carolyn Packard, stepped forward with a donation to the Endowment fund. Thank you, Carolyn, for leading the way by becoming the second “Brick” in our new education building (Endowment).

Would you like to be one of the early donors? If you qualify for an RMD, it is a terrific and easy tax-free way to provide more educational opportunities for women. Need more information? Call our Foundation Treasurer, Cindi Hopkins at 248-924-7008 or email her at hopkins3190@gmail.com.

In loving memory

(A correction from December’s bulletin)

A donation was made by Coco Siewert in memory of Roberta Russ and Jean Walker.

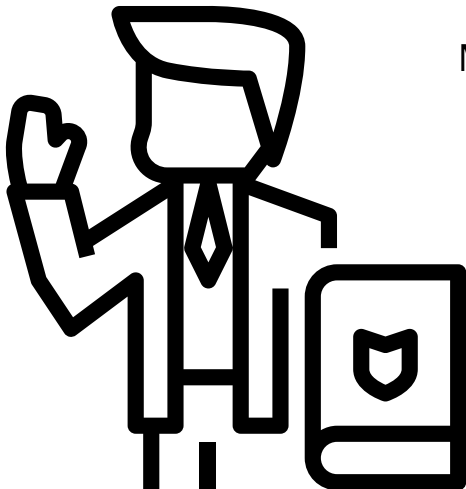


January 20, 2025

The Inauguration of President Donald J. Trump

and

Martin Luther King Jr. Day



More News from the Foundation

THANK YOU!



A good time was had by all at Little Daddy's on Tuesday, December 17th. After an invitation to join a group to stuff envelopes during this busy season, eleven people volunteered to make the task an event to celebrate our time in AAUW. I want to thank the following people for giving of their time and sharing their stories. Carol Pyke, Sally Doty, Chris Salley, Patti Bannasch, Cindi Clement, Beverly Fogelson, Grace Keane and Linda Barclay are pictured. Charlotte Mahrt, Cindi Hopkins and Joyce Schumer are not shown. You will be receiving this mailing, the AAUW Birmingham Foundation 2024 Impact Report. It is a brief report about your influence on our mission. A more comprehensive report can be found on our website <https://birmingham-mi.aauw.net/>

Nevertheless, She Persisted
Featuring Music by American Women Composers
Sunday, March 23 • 3:00 pm • Orchard Lake Community Church

The Orchard Lake Community Church at 5171 Commerce Rd, Orchard Lake, announces a concert to celebrate Women's History Month. Performers will include professional musicians - singers Julianne Laird, Leslie Mason, Chantel Woodard, Lara Alami, and Susan Wheatley, piano. Selections include classics, ragtime, cakewalks, jazz, and joyful spirituals. The concert is open to the public at no charge, with an option to give a free-will offering to benefit AAUW Birmingham Branch Scholarships.

Photos from the December Luncheon



Bloomfield Scholar recipients, Gabriella Otto and Jolle Ballouz, were the guest of Patty Beaujon.



Program presenters, Stuart Johnson and Sharon O'Brien with Kathy Norton.



Julie Blair, Mary Anne Mehlhope and Bev Pintar



Diane Bert, Py Wolfe and Charlotte Mahrt

More Photos from the December Luncheon



Gabiella Otto, with Linda Kervokian, picking the winning raffle ticket.



Some of your generous donations for Haven of Oakland County

A special thank you to Jane DuBay for the photos.

Study Group Calendar -January 2025

Community Outreach

No Program Planned

International Relations

No Program Planned

Public Policy

2:00pm, Thurs., Jan. 16

Topic: AAUW Public Policy priorities and planning
Bloomfield Public Library

Contact: Carol Pyke, cpyke@comcast.net

The Breakfast Bunch

10:00am, Tues., Jan. 28

Topic: TBD

Little Daddy's, 39500 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills

Contact: Patty Orlowski, porlow@sbcglobal.net

ARTS & HUMANITIES

Modern Art

11:30am, Thurs., Jan. 23

Topic: DIA tour with docent

Contact: Judy Allie, jallie2@gmail.com

BOOK CLUBS

Belles Lettres

1:00pm, Tues., Jan. 21

Topic: Horse

Contact: Cathy Liller, lillercm@yahoo.com

Beyond Adelante

1:00pm, Tues., Jan. 7

Topic: *The Book of Hope: A Survival Guide for Trying Times*, Jane Goodall

Hostess: Lucy Benham, lbenham@comcast.net

Contemporary Books

12:30pm, Mon., Jan. 20

Topic: *The Demon of Unrest*, Eric Larson

Hostess: Beckie Perry, bekieperry@hotmail.com

Morning After Readers

10:00am, Mon., Jan. 13

Topic: *The Secret Life of Sunflowers*, Marta Molnar

Hostess: Linda Schnorbus, lfsrhs76@comcast.net

Mystery Book Club

1:00pm, Wed., Jan. 22

Topic: *Excitements*, C. J. Wray

Contact: Joan Birnie, jb03bps@gmail.com

Potpourri

(via Zoom) 1:00pm, Wed., Jan. 22

Topic: *The Women*, Kristin Hannah

Hostess: Marion Muma, marionmuma@gmail.com

Thurs. Morning Readers

10:00am, Thurs., Jan. 16

Topic: *James*, Percival Everett

Hostess: Louise Juntunen, louise5041260@yahoo.com

HOME & GARDEN

Green Thumb.

No Program Planned

Let's Cook

12 noon, Tues., Jan. 21

Hostess: Erin Silverman, keaksilver@yahoo.com

Needleworks

12 noon, Wed., Jan. 8

Hostess: Cathy Hurley, cathyghurley@gmail.com

ON THE TOWN

Opera Divas

1:00pm, Sat., Jan. 25

MJR Theater, 100 East Maple Road, Troy

Aida, Giuseppe Verdi

Brunch at 10:30, Maple Leaf Restaurant, 110 West Maple

Contact: Elizabeth Snyder, happystitcherliz@gmail.com

Theater Goers

2:00 pm, Sun., Feb. 9

Dogfight, Stagecrafters, Royal Oak, Tickets \$28

Reservation Deadline: Tuesday, January 7

Contact: Sue Winowiecki, suewinow@gmail.com

Two Thumbs Up

1:20pm, Fri., Jan. 3

"A Complete Unknown" at MJR Troy

Lunch at noon at the Maple Leaf Restaurant

Contact: Sue Winowiecki, suewinow@gmail.com

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, Jan. 10, The Village Club

Hostess: Marge Thomas, 248-626-6098

4th Friday:

10:30am, Jan. 24, The Village Club

Hostess: Carol Cummings, 248-540-2178

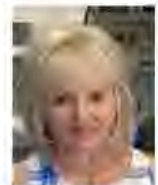


Please submit calendar changes by the 20th of the month.

Contact:

Sharon McKenna 313.570.2013
sharonmck.aauw@gmail.com

Linda Kevorkian 248.219.1915
kevorkianlk@gmail.com



HAPPY
New Year