

# Rose City Reporter

## December 2021 – January 2022

**AAUW HOLIDAY FUNds Event**  
**Saturday, December 4, 10:00-12:00**

Please join us for our Annual Holiday gathering to celebrate AAUW and the season of giving. It will take place via Zoom in the comfort of your own home. You may want to get together in small groups for brunch. If you do, we suggest bringing a device (phone, iPad, tablet) so you can participate in the auction. Holiday garb is suggested.

Our guest speaker will be Molly Pringle, Executive Director of Portland Street Medicine. Formed in 2018, Portland Street Medicine is a growing coalition of 125+ volunteer clinicians, care managers, and lay people dedicated to reaching out to our most forgotten community members. Their mission is to improve the health and wellbeing of Portlanders who are facing unstable housing or sleeping outside. <https://www.portlandstreetmedicine.org>

As usual, the major focus of the event is supporting National AAUW Funds. Even though this year will be virtual, we are putting some **FUN** into fundraising on that day.

We will have three drawings for Powell's Gift Cards. One will be for those members who contributed funds prior to November 25, another will be for all who contributed by November 30 and the third will include all donors and those who register for the event.

This will require some creativity on our part. We will also have an auction. It will include such items as a MahJongg set; collections of wines from Oregon women winemakers, a 3-night stay at a fully furnished N. Portland apartment with fireplace, a gift card grab bag, knitted scarves and hats, wine tote bag, lavender scented microwavable booties, a still-life painting, plus so much more. A full listing of auction items with descriptions and pictures will be e-mailed to you on November 30, 2021.

*We are asking that branch members register for this meeting. In the coming days, you will receive an invitation to register for the Zoom meeting. When you receive that email, just click on the Register Now button, enter your name and email address and click on the submit button. After registering, you will receive a confirmation containing information on how to join the program meeting.*

*If you have any questions, contact Diane Winn (714-470-4528) [dgwinn@uci.edu](mailto:dgwinn@uci.edu)*

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## **Presidents' Corner**

Halloween with its pumpkins, all kinds of costumed creatures on our doorsteps, and leftover candy has come and gone—beautiful weather that day, a blessing—and now we have falling leaves, sunlight early, darkness early (thanks to time change), and some rain as we get ready to head into various holidays, i.e., something for everyone! Speaking of holidays, Judy Holt and Diane Winn have devised a program for December 4<sup>th</sup> that will be fun, informative, and lucrative (for AAUW)—AAUW Holiday FUNds Event! Individuals may benefit, too, via the auction and raffles. Watch the Newsletter and a special mailing to each of you for more details. Look forward to seeing you on the Zoomed event.

Before all that, we wish you all a wonderful Thanksgiving Day filled with blessings of every sort!

Susan and Katie

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## **Holiday Annual FUNds event –**

Again, this year we will be supporting AAUW Funds with a ZOOM event. Even though it is ZOOM, we are putting some **FUN** in funds.

You will be receiving a mailing soon with full details – and until then –

Claudia Gray, State Funds Chair, is challenging us to celebrate the 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary of AAUW by donating \$140.00. Each member who meets the challenge will receive a special certificate from Claudia (remember anything \$100 or over also qualifies for the Century Club).

AAUW has not let COVID keep us from accomplishing great things this year.

Some examples include:

**\$3.6 Million awarded to more than 200 recipients for the 2020-2021 academic year with the goal of advancing educational opportunities for women around the globe**

**180,000 women trained in salary negotiation skills through Work Smart and Start Smart programs**

**4 research reports or updates undertaken this year, exploring the plight of Latina essential workers, women in manufacturing, how college debt disproportionately burdens women, and the effect of the gender wage gap on women of color**

**And so much more**

**Watch for the full explanation of the FUNd Holiday Event in a mailbox near you**

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## **AAUW of OREGON State Public Policy**

**Branch Public Policy Chair Project.** The State Public Policy Committee has launched an effort to foster State-Branch collaboration regarding AAUW of OR public policy. Our goals are to make sure all of us know the good public policy work that Branches are doing and to open the lines of communication about public policy advocacy between Branches and the State. Here we are with the nuts and bolts:

(a) Our Branch Public Policy Chairs will provide information about branch public policy activities to our District Directors. These activities can include any kind of PP activity - even reading books that relate to public policy. The District Directors will provide this information to the State Public Policy Committee which will then collate it and report back to Branch PP chairs and District Directors - maybe through Google Docs. I'm sure there are a goodly number of great PP projects which branches are planning and working on even as I write this PP Update. Sharing this information will allow other branches to copy and expand upon these ideas, and the State Public Policy Committee to join in too! As a note, I believe the Central District doesn't currently have a District Director. I hope this will encourage someone to step up, but in the interim branch public policy information can just be forwarded to me ([garner37@mac.com](mailto:garner37@mac.com)). Thank you, District Directors, for being willing to serve in this liaison role!

(b) Peggy Shippen, Georgia Applegate and I are also working on a handbook for Branch PP Chairs. [Did you just hear another round of applause, and this time for Peggy and Georgia? Thank you!].

**AAUW of OR Legislative Priorities.** We're waiting for the 2023 Session (January - June) to re-introduce the corporate board diversity bill. As you may recall, the bill passed on a bipartisan basis in the House in 2022 but stalled in the Senate Rules Committee when the Session adjourned. We could file it in the Short 2022 Session (February - March 8), but a Short Session doesn't provide sufficient time to get a bill of this kind to pass through the many legislative hurdles. A Short Session literally races to a conclusion, and we wouldn't want to mount two unsuccessful bids for passage. The State Public Policy Committee carefully considered the pros and cons in making this decision to wait until 2023. Thank you, members of our State PP Committee!

-Trish

*Trish Garner, J.D., M.S.W.*

*State Public Policy Chair*

*American Association of University Women of Oregon*

*(she / her / ella)*

503-407-2341

[garner37@mac.com](mailto:garner37@mac.com)

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### **Nominating Committee Appointed – Board Positions Open for Nomination**

The Branch Board has selected the Nominating Committee for 2022. The committee is charged with finding the best leaders from our membership to fill upcoming officer positions. Each office may be filled by one officer or by co-officers. The election will be held at our Portland Branch Annual Meeting and, hopefully, Brunch in March.

Ginny McQueen – [ginnymaq@gmail.com](mailto:ginnymaq@gmail.com), 503-650-9933

Nancy Thomas – [nmthomas@teleport.com](mailto:nmthomas@teleport.com), 503-201-4420

Karn Hill – [karnbhill2@gmail.com](mailto:karnbhill2@gmail.com), 503-206-8444

Donna Pregill – [dmp503@gmail.com](mailto:dmp503@gmail.com), 503-292-8659

Jacque Wheeler – [wheelerjax46@gmail.com](mailto:wheelerjax46@gmail.com), 503-477-8816

*Thank you to the committee members for agreeing to serve the branch in this important process.*

#### **Positions open for nominations are:**

President Elect – This person will serve at President Elect in 2022-2023, President in 2023-2024, and Immediate Past President in 2024-2025.

President – This person will serve as President in 2022-2023 and Immediate Past President in 2023-2024

Program VP - This person will serve a two-year term, 2022-2024.

Finance VP - This person will serve a two-year term, 2022-2024.

Director-at-Large - This person will serve a one-year term, 2022-2023.

Our branch needs members to step up and bring new ideas and leadership to our branch. Becoming a Portland Branch board member is an opportunity for you to get to know and work with friendly and energetic members of our branch. ***Please consider stepping up and taking a leadership role in our branch.*** If you are interested in any of the open positions; have any questions about what duties a position entails or if you know someone whom you believe would be an excellent candidate, please contact any member of the nominating committee.

**\*\*\*Would YOU consider becoming President of the Portland Branch?** Nominations for the position will be announced in the March newsletter and voting will take place at the annual March meeting. The term begins July 2022. As committee members talk to prospective candidates, we are asked questions about the position, time commitment and responsibilities. Listed below are some frequently asked questions and our responses.

**What does a president do?** The AAUW president serves as a liaison between the national organization, the state organization, and the local branch membership. That may seem overwhelming, but the president does not do this alone. She is supported by a board consisting of a competent leadership team with a president-elect, a past president, and member positions, both elected and non-elected, who share responsibility for decision making and branch operations. Now that might sound complicated, but it really isn't. It means that the president and her board work as a team to match the AAUW mission and goals with the interests of its branch. For example, responsibilities for finance, programs, membership, fundraising, study and interest groups, current affairs, scholarships, and even by-law changes are delegated to a specific branch board member. **Thus, the president is like a conductor of a strong and competent orchestra, with each member playing an important role.** Working with smart and dedicated women is a real pleasure. AAUW Portland Branch is collaborative.

**Can this job be shared with a co-president?** Absolutely! We highly recommend co-sharing of elected positions. Each of the co-presidents can share the position responsibilities according to their interests, skills and even vacation schedules. Basically, you divide the position according to each other's strengths. Our branch has had successful experiences with sharing the president's position. AAUW Portland Branch is casual and fluid.

**How much time does it take to be president?** Our existing by-laws call for five regular board meetings and four branch meetings including the Annual Meeting to be held. (Currently specified in the by-laws but there is a process for change.) The president is responsible for conducting the board meeting which consists of board member reports and group discussion and decision making. The branch meetings are planned by the program vice president and committee. The role of the president in branch meetings can be determined by the program head and president. If a president can't attend or doesn't feel comfortable in speaking before large groups, she can delegate responsibility to another board member. AAUW Portland Branch is flexible.

**I'm new to Portland and AAUW and don't feel comfortable taking on this role.** Being president builds on a lifetime of experiences and skills, so newcomers can take on this role. It is refreshing to see women who are new to Portland and AAUW bring a vision reflecting their own unique personal and professional lives. Our past presidents have worked in education, government, healthcare, and industry. There is no template of experiences that is required to become president. Rather, the president is a woman who is encouraging, empathetic, inquisitive, and decisive. Being president provides the opportunity to make a solid statement on your support for women and girls in Portland, one that reflects your past experiences and hopes for the future. AAUW Portland Branch is inspirational. Many of our board members took the leap and took on a board position after only being a member for 3 months...they are thrilled that they stepped up.

**The Nominating Committee is asking all members, whether new or experienced, to consider taking on this important branch role for the 2022-2023 cycle.** You will be part of a collaborative, casual, fluid, flexible and inspirational organization; one where you can make a difference within your own style and approach. You won't be bound by the past, but you can work towards a better day. **Interested? Have questions? Please contact Ginny McQueen at [ginnymaq@gmail.com](mailto:ginnymaq@gmail.com), 503-650-9933.**

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## **Status of AAUW's STEM Project**

As many of you already know, our venerable STEM project leader, Barbara Miner, has moved from our area. A number of years ago Barbara established our project of working with the Girl Scout organization to teach and empower young girls to enhance their skills in the STEM realm: science, technology, engineering and math. The Portland branch of AAUW offered support to the classes that were organized, both with volunteers to assist on site with the classes and through an annual contribution to Saturday Academy, the umbrella organization sponsoring these classes. Our contribution covered the cost of a stipend given to teen aged teaching assistants that Barbara herself trained.

Then the pandemic came along. In person classes went away and Barbara developed online classes that became increasingly popular and in demand this past academic year. She had online classes running all around the country last year.

This summer I spoke with Barbara to determine what might possibly lie ahead with her outstanding abilities no longer available here. She put me in touch with a class organizer at Saturday Academy named Sandy Jewell. I have spoken with Ms. Jewell several times. She has found a teacher who is someone Barbara trained and worked with last year. Her name is Rwan Abdo. She is young and enthusiastic about the classes but works full time as a computer programmer. Classes are being offered again through the Girl Scout organization. Two classes have been held so far. Sandy Jewell is offering approximately two classes per month, all scheduled on the weekends because the teacher is only available then. So far only a few of the offered dates have been taken. We have one remaining scheduled class so far on December 5th. The continuation of the COVID virus is the obvious reason for low attendance so far.

I am looking for additional volunteers. If you can offer an occasional Saturday or Sunday to support this project, I promise you that it would not be a frequent demand on your time. The classes run from 1 to 4 pm on the given day. You would not be expected to teach, but to do supportive activities to enable the teachers to keep the full attention of their students. Classes will be held once again at the Girl Scout Headquarters Building located at 9620 SW Barbur Blvd., Portland 97219. If you would like to help with this worthwhile and ongoing project, please contact me either by phone or email. Thank you for your interest!

Lisa Perrine  
(503) 648-1691  
[lperrine76@gmail.com](mailto:lperrine76@gmail.com)

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## **Study and Interest Groups**

**Breakfast in Bridgetown** (open)

Second Thursdays, 9 am, unless otherwise stated

Group on hiatus

**Current Affairs** (open)

Date: Tues., December 14, 1:30 pm

Leader: Nadyne Rosin, 302-519-3715, [nadgerro@gmail.com](mailto:nadgerro@gmail.com)

Zoom – contact Sue for link

Date: January TBD

Contact: Sue Thomas, 925-699-7880, [sueonoak@comcast.net](mailto:sueonoak@comcast.net)

**Curtain Call** (open)

Group on hiatus

Contact: Kathe Hart, 503-372-6338, [kathehart@hotmail.com](mailto:kathehart@hotmail.com)

**First Tuesday Reader's Theatre** (open)

Group on hiatus

Contact: Judy Holt, 503-652-6524, [jholt58@gmail.com](mailto:jholt58@gmail.com)

**International Lunch Group** (open)

Group on hiatus

Contact: Petie Padden, 503-235-0892, [petiepad@icloud.com](mailto:petiepad@icloud.com)



**Literary Comments and Criticism** (open)

Fourth Thursdays, 11:30 am

Date: December 2

The Man in the White Sharkskin Suit by Lucette Lagnado

Hostess: Lisa Perrine; Zoom

Date: January 27

Paragon Hotel by Lyndsay Faye

Hostess: Katie Raetz, Zoom

Contact: Petie Padden, 503-235-0892, [petiepad@icloud.com](mailto:petiepad@icloud.com)

**Mahjong** (open)

Beginning mahjong lessons

Currently on hiatus

Contact: Mary Shaw, 503-939-4589, [docsu@hotmail.com](mailto:docsu@hotmail.com)

**Modern Fiction** (open)

Fourth Tuesdays, 11:30 AM

Date: December 28, Zoom

March by Geraldine Brooks

Date: January 25, Zoom

Prairie Nocturne by Ivan Doig

Contact: Nancy Thomas, 503-201-4420, [nmthomas@teleport.com](mailto:nmthomas@teleport.com)

**Movie Mavens** (open)

Group on hiatus

Contact: Suzanne Fleming, 714-898-6456, [multiteach@aol.com](mailto:multiteach@aol.com)

**Non-Fiction Book Group I** (closed)

Third Wednesdays, 10 am, Elephant's Deli on NW 22<sup>nd</sup> Ave.

Date: December 15

The Power Worshipers by Katherine Stewart

Leader: Mary

Date: January 19

Leader: Diane

The Premonition by Michael Lewis

Contact: Kathe Hart, 503-372-6338, [kathhart@hotmail.com](mailto:kathhart@hotmail.com)

**Non-Fiction Book Group II** (open)

Third Fridays, 6 pm, Joyce Lew's, 2545 SW Terwilliger Blvd.

Date: December 17

Why We're Polarized by Ezra Kline

Date: January 21

Break It Up by Richard Kreitner

Contact: Kathe Hart, 503-372-6338, [kathhart@hotmail.com](mailto:kathhart@hotmail.com)

**Overbooked** (closed)

Second Tuesdays, 10 am

Date: December 14

Klara and the Sun by Kazuo Ishiguro

Zoom meeting

Date: January 11

The Women of the Copper Country by Mary Doria Russell

Zoom meeting

Contact: Linda Stern, 503-473-3616, [lindamstern@comcast.net](mailto:lindamstern@comcast.net)

**Sleuth Sisters** (open)

Fourth Wednesdays, 12 noon

Date: December 22

In the Bleak Midwinter by Julia Spencer-Fleming

Leader: Ilga Ross

Date: January 26

The Tale Teller by Ann Hillerman

Leader: Dorteia Petersen

Contact Carla Huegli, 503-457-6145 or [cshuegli27@gmail.com](mailto:cshuegli27@gmail.com)

**Wimpy Walkers** (open)

First Saturdays, 10 am

No walks scheduled for December or January

Contact: Joyce Kligman, 503-309-3185, [joycekligman1@gmail.com](mailto:joycekligman1@gmail.com)