

THE FALLS CHURCH BRANCH HOLIDAY PARTY

SUNDAY DECEMBER 11, 2016

3:00-6:00 PM

AT SUSAN CONKLIN'S HOME

2013 N. Nottingham St., Arlington

703-534-8359 (Susan Conklin)

Please sign up for refreshment contributions using this link (also including in your Evite):

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094badad22ab9-aauw/37658731>

Help Local Families in Need This Holiday Season

On Sunday December 11, please bring cash, Target or Walmart or grocery store gift cards, or a check made out to Britepaths to our Holiday Party. We will buy grocery and gift cards with the funds we receive and bring them to Britepaths to assist families who are not matched with sponsors.

Britepath's Holiday Program

Britepaths' Holiday Program seeks community support to help individuals and families in need in the Fairfax County area with food for the December holidays and gifts for their children. We have 3,000 households on our holiday assistance list this fall.

This Program is made possible by the support of our local non-profit partners and the hundreds of families, companies, faith communities and groups of all kinds who join us each year to make the holidays brighter for our neighbors who might otherwise not have food or gifts for their children while many of us enjoy so much bounty.



Help a family now!

Britepaths is seeking community members and organizations to sponsor families for holiday meals and gifts or provide funds or gift cards to help us assist families who are not matched with sponsors. Sponsoring a family is a meaningful service project for families, companies and community organizations that truly embraces the spirit of the holiday season. The need is so great. Please help if you can!

Britepaths' [Holiday Program](#) welcomes donations of **Gift Cards or Checks** to help us ensure that families who are not matched with sponsors are able to enjoy a nice holiday meal and gifts for their children. We are grateful for donations of gift cards in denominations of \$10, \$20 or \$25 that we can give to families who are not matched with sponsors.

The most-needed gift cards are for Target or Walmart so that families can purchase gifts for their children. Grocery store gift cards for holiday meals are also greatly needed. It is most helpful if these gift cards are for grocery stores that are commonly found in our community, such as Giant, Safeway and Shoppers.

Save your receipts when you purchase gift cards to donate to us! Gift card donations are "in-kind" donations and are tax deductible. Our Tax ID: #52-1596259 and the 2016 Holiday Donation Receipt ([MS Word](#)) ([PDF](#))

President's Message:

Happy Holidays! I hope your holiday planning is going smoothly and you are as stress-free as possible in this last month of the year. Have you enjoyed our programming thus far? Please let us know what has resonated with you, and if there are topics you've heard or read about that you think would be of interest to our members. You also can get a preview of what is to come in 2017 below.

Are you looking for a way to get more involved with AAUW? Please see the article below regarding the Lobby Corps training session. Our Branch has long been well-represented in Lobby Corps. Feel free to speak to any of the participating members to learn how rewarding Falls Church Flash

and interesting the lobbying is. Are you looking for a way to get more involved with our branch? In the Spring, we will be accepting nominations for Membership Chair and Treasurer. Both are positions of vital interest to our branch and could benefit from your talents. Or how about helping with the book sale? The sorting is taking a holiday break, but keep your eyes peeled for the announcement on its resumption in the new year.

I look forward to seeing you at our holiday part next Sunday afternoon, December 11. If you have not yet signed up to bring a treat, please use the link in the invite blurb on the first page to do so. Knowing all of you and having the chance to learn and work with you is one of the things for which I am thankful this year.

Stay warm this holiday season,

Kristan

AAUW Lobby Corps to Hold Training

Are you interested in public policy and having a meaningful and significant impact on legislation pertaining to issues of concern to women and their families? If so, you're an ideal candidate to join the AAUW Lobby Corps. Lobby Corps is made up of AAUW members in the metro area who meet with Members of Congress and/or their staffs on a regular basis to share AAUW's position on legislation that affects women. Typically, Lobby Corps meets Thursday mornings when Congress is in session. Members are briefed both with written materials sent out on Wednesday and orally by AAUW staff on Thursday morning. After the oral briefing and time for questions Thursday morning, members break into pairs and then visit 5 to 7 offices, typically finishing around noon. To learn more about Lobby Corps, attend the training session on Wednesday, January 11, 2017, at 10 a.m. at AAUW's offices, 1310 L St. NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC. Contact Marilyn Falksen at 703-534-8740 or falksen@yahoo.com if you're interested in attending the training or have questions.

National Office Open House

Kristan, Marilyn and Kitty joined members from other branches and AAUW National Office staff for an open house at the new headquarters at 1310 L St. NW Suite 1000. As premier tenants, AAUW is occupying the top three floors of this impressive building.

The highlights of the event were:

- Elegant, plentiful hors d'oeuvres and wine
- An address from **Patricia Fae Ho**, AAUW Board Chair
- **Lisa Maatz** energized all present including Lobby Corps members and Government Relations staff in attendance. In her signature perpetual optimism Lisa reiterated her ideas and sentiment previously quoted in print about the recent election results:

“It is now, after an election, that the real work begins,” said Lisa Maatz, the vice president of government relations and advocacy. “AAUW will find common ground with the Trump administration and the new Congress on progress on issues that affect them, and AAUW intends to be a fair critic and a valued ally. Most importantly, in true AAUW fashion, we will not hesitate to speak truth to power.

- Numerous tours of the facility led by staffers with emphasis on archival properties beautifully displayed in cases, frames and digital devices. As one views the building there is a strong sense of our history and the heroines we follow today.

- Office spaces were pristine and designed for maximum efficiency. One highlight of the day was to meet the amazing staff that contribute to the success of our organization every day.

We can be very proud of our forward thinking AAUW.

November FC Branch Meeting



**Speakers at
our November
Branch
meeting:
Giancarla
Rojas and
Edgar Aranda-
Yanoc**

For the November meeting, we were fortunate to have one of the D.A.C.A. “Dreamers,” Giancarla Rojas, tell us her personal story and of her work with other Dreamers as a D.A.C.A. activist. She was accompanied and introduced by Edgar Aranda-Yanoc, an immigrant himself, who is now the Chair of the Virginia Coalition of Latino Organizations, with a specific concern for the Legal Aid Justice Center’s Immigrant Advocacy Program.

Giancarla’s story is one of persistence, meeting and overcoming the many obstacles presented

to young people who find themselves with major barriers to their ambitions due to their lack of documentation, yet who have spent their school years here and know little of the countries from which their parents came. They have taken advantage of this course offered by President Obama, yet know that this opportunity can be taken from them in the new administration.

These young people, with the support of people like Edgar Aranda-Yanoc, are trying to plan a course of action that will take this uncertainty from them. We wish them well and will keep them in mind as we plan post-book sale projects.

2017 FC Branch Meetings and Information

2017

Ask Me About AAUW

Remember those pins we sport at the annual Book Sale? You will be primed and ready to answer all questions—including your own-- about national, regional and local AAUW after our first quarter programs in 2017!

PLEASE NOTE THE JANUARY AND FEBRUARY MEETINGS ARE ON THE SECOND SUNDAYS OF THE MONTH, BEGINNING AT 2:30 P.M.

January 8, SUNDAY, 2:30 p.m. – 4 p.m.: What Impact and What Concerns?

Pam Yuen of national AAUW staff will speak to us on the ramifications of the recent presidential election on AAUW issues. Pam is Government Relations Coordinator with the Public Policy and Government Relations department. One of her many responsibilities in the National office includes managing the AAUW Action Fund Lobby Corps program. She says, “I’m excited for this opportunity not only because many of the Lobby Corps members hail from your area/branch but (also) speaking about the public policy program. It’s going to be a great event and I’m looking forward to joining you.” Pam welcomes guests at this meeting.

February 12, SUNDAY, 2:30 p.m. – 4 p.m.: A Conversation with Caroline

We are delighted to welcome Caroline Pickens, currently our Northern District Representative. As many of you know, Caroline has served at the regional and state officer level for many years. As our Representative, she is eager to talk with us about issues, concerns, and just plain news of regional AAUW and our branch especially.

March 13, MONDAY, 7:30 p.m.—9 p.m.: Annual Business Reports and Elevator Speeches

Last but not least, we will hear status reports from branch officers. Always interesting! And if we are super persuasive, we may get Kitty and Mollie to reprise their book sale elevator speech orientation, with practice time for members. Not a test but it may reveal how much you learned in January and February.

Book sale news

With the holiday season upon us, we are closing down book collections until after New Years. While active book collection won't resume until next year, we are accepting books on an emergency basis at the Youman's garage. Just call first before you take them over to the garage; the number is 703-528-8993.

Book collection on hiatus for
the Holidays

Book Collection to resume in
January

Garage filling again!!

When discussing book donations with your friends, please remind them we are looking for gently used books to resell for scholarships. If in doubt, here are our guidelines. We can't accept or sell magazines, encyclopedias, old reference books, or other outdated books. Nor can we accept books that are damaged, moldy or in poor condition. No cigarette-smoke or pet smells. No crumbly brown pages or badly cracked spines on paperbacks. No textbooks more than 5 years old. No magazines or technical journals etc. But we will be happy to receive your gently used, saleable books in good condition.

The Youman's garage is once again filling up. The back aisle is completely full and stacked as high as safety allows. Based on that amount of books, we may have to call an emergency sorting or reboxing if we have a good day in January. Time and the weather will tell. Just keep alert for emails asking for help!



AAUW Educational Equity Booksale

Falls Church Community Center

April 7 and 8

Promoting education and equity for women and girls

Thank you for your donation of:

_____ Soft cover books

_____ Hard cover books

_____ Other:

Value to be established by donor.

50% Tax deductible.

Benefits AAUW scholarships/projects for girls.

Book Club News

We break for Dec. and will have our next meeting Tuesday evening Jan. 17th at 7:30 PM at La Madeleine in Baileys Crossroads, 5861 Crossroads Cir. (Leesburg Pike).

Please join us fascinating bookworms for stimulating conversation and wonderful snacks! You can join us on a regular basis or just come sporadically if you are interested in one of the books we're reading. You don't even have to have read the book!

Below are our selections for Jan., Feb., and March 2017.

Jan. 17th "The Distracted Mind: Ancient Brains in a High-Tech World by Adam Gazzaley and Larry D. Rosen. Location: La Madeleine

Feb. 21st "Hag-Seed" by Margaret Atwood. Location: member home TBA

March SPECIAL EVENT "To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee, read book and go to the play. This will be last week of March or first week of April. More details to follow.

Here is a brief description of the Jan. selection "The Distracted Mind":

Most of us will freely admit that we are obsessed with our devices. We pride ourselves on our ability to multitask--read work email, reply to a text, check Facebook, watch a video clip. Talk on the phone, send a text, drive a car. Enjoy family dinner with a glowing smartphone next to our plates. We can do it all, 24/7! Never mind the errors in the email, the near-miss on the road, and the unheard conversation at the table. In *The Distracted Mind*, Adam Gazzaley and Larry Rosen--a neuroscientist and a psychologist--explain why our brains aren't built for multitasking, and suggest better ways to live in a high-tech world without giving up our modern technology.

Please join us!

Movie Notes

There are two types of moviegoers – those that like to read reviews before going to see the movie and those who want to make up their own mind so read the review after they see the movie.

Which ever type you are here are two interesting movie reviewers on line.

Our own **Susan Conklin** has a blog and rates the movies she sees with our movie group and in other venues. Her site is:

<http://suzismovies.blogspot.com>

Another interesting site is:

MovieMom.com

This blog is written by Nell Minnow. She happens to belong to my Curves so we frequently exercise and talk movies. Her host website is a Christian site (Nell is Jewish) which recognizes Nell's talent and expertise so leave her to self-edit her work.

Nell reviews the films but also gives parents information about the appropriate age for viewing these films. She gives information about why a film is or is not suitable for a certain age.

If you want to read about her fascinating life so far you can Google Nell Minnow. Goodness – I think I have been standing still much of my life!

Hope to see you at the movies. Kitty

**An Invitation to “A Discussion on Authentic Leadership” December 6th, 2016
3:00 pm – 5:30 pm at GMU**

Dear all,

I hope this email finds you well. We are excited to invite all GMU students and their friends to this event (Please see the flyer) organized by Women's E-Learning in Leadership, WELL, collaborated by Women and Gender Studies Program, and sponsored by AAUW (American Association University Women).

Students get an opportunity to learn more about authentic leadership, A talk by Dr. Wendi Manuel-Scott, learn more about WELL-Student Union at GMU, and the 132 years old non-profit organization, AAUW. This event is a good chance for students to connect with us, and expand their network.

We appreciate your time for sending this flyer to your students.

Refreshments provided by AAUW. Please let Sandy Lawrence (sandyaauw@juno.com) know if you can bring a snack

Thank you and warm regards,

Fariba Parsa, Ph.D. Researcher and Affiliated Faculty at Center for Women and Gender Studies
Founder of Women's E-Learning in Leadership, (WELL)
George Mason University 4400 University Drive, 5B6 Fairfax, VA 22030
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Come Join Us!

Wendi Manuel-Scott Director of African American Studies Guest Speaker "Authentic Leadership"

December 6th, 2016 3:00 pm – 5:30 pm

GMU- Merten Hall ([map](#)) Room #1204

Women E- Learning in Leadership, *Affiliated with the Women and Gender Studies Program at GMU* and Event Co-Sponsor: American Association of University Women (AAUW)

Present "A Discussion on Authentic Leadership"

Come learn about WELL's Student Union organization and how to join us!

A note from Kitty Richardson: "Sandy Lawrence and I plan to go to this event. An invitation went out to all branches in No. VA. If anyone would like to ride out with me I have two spaces - first come first serve. Since I have refreshments to take I will go a little early. I would be delighted to pick up any treats anyone would like to provide." Kitty

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 11	3:00 PM	FC Branch Holiday Party Susan Conklin's Home (See Evite)
January 8	2:30 PM	FC Branch Meeting Falls Church Community Center
February 12	2:30 PM	FC Branch Meeting Falls Church Community Center
March 13	7:30 PM	FC Branch Meeting Falls Church Community Center

CONTACT US

- President: Kristan McMahon (kkcmcmahon@gmail.com)
- Co-Vice Presidents for Programs: Diane Bodeen (bodeendv@verizon.net) and Sally Brett (sally.brett@gmail.com)
- Membership: Kitty Richardson (kittyrichardson6@gmail.com)