



AAUW

# TAKING ACTION

## Five Community Organizations Receive Wagy Grants

### AAUW Nettie Irene Van Der Veer Wagy Fund for Women and Girls

was founded on a mission based on a quote from Hillary Clinton, "If women are healthy and educated, their families will flourish. If women are free from violence, their families will flourish. If women have a chance to work and earn as full and equal partners in society, their families will flourish. And when families flourish, communities and nations will flourish." The Wagy Fund was established by a bequest from member Nettie Irene Van Der Veer Wagy and its purpose is to promote education, intellectual growth, individual worth and development opportunities for women and girls.



Representatives from each of the five honored community organizations attended the luncheon. (Left-right) Deidre Anderson, United Inner City Services; Angela York and Juanita Davis, Niles Home for Children; Calvin Jones, Front Porch Alliance; Camela Brooks, Dream Street Design; Alyssa Housh, Green Works in Kansas City; and (inset left) Julie Heibel, DeLaSalle.



This year marked the 15th Anniversary of the Wagy awards, and it is worth recognizing the forces behind the grant formation and the event's continued success. (Pictured left to right) Ardy Pearson, Mary Emily Kitterman,

Joyce Whitehead, Mary Kay McPhee and Karen Stelling, 2012 Wagy Committee Chair. This year also marks the total grants awarded exceeding \$100,000, as \$105,000 in grants have now been awarded.

At the luncheon on Dec. 1, we awarded \$13,000, up from \$10,500 last year, based on contributions of approximately \$7,500 from the fund, a \$1,000 bequest from Bob and Helen Brooks, and approximately \$4,500 from member contributions including contributions to the new Leadership Memorial Fund. The Memorial Fund recognized contributions

in memory of these AAUW leaders: Audrey Shafer, Bev Watkins, Marjorie Bernard, Marjorie Rees and Lucy Wright, as well as in recognition of Susan Johnson, Ardy Pearson's daughter.

2012 Wagy Committee members included Linda Berube, Jane Crigler, Connie Gray, Ellen Johnson, Mary Emily Kitterman and Chair Karen Stelling. The committee is supported by LaVon Colhour, Coordinator of Donor Relations and Education – Greater Kansas City Community Foundation.

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## JANUARY 2013 MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

Please join us for a viewing of the documentary *Miss Representation* by Jennifer Siebel Newsom. This film clarifies how the media's misrepresentations of women have shaped society, our national discourse, and, worst of all, the minds of our girls as they develop into young women.

**THURSDAY, JAN. 24 | 6:00-9:00 PM | UMKC LIBRARY**

800 E. 51st St., Kansas City, MO 64110 | Please bring your own drink plus a brown-bag meal.

RSVP to Pam Burke at (816) 361-2098 or [pamelaburke2729@gmail.com](mailto:pamelaburke2729@gmail.com)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*The most common way people give up their power is by thinking they don't have any.*

— Alice Walker

**January 1** brings us a new calendar year, 2013, but since AAUW programming follows an academic calendar (Sept.-June), our branch is now beginning the second half of our 2012-13 year. Therefore, it seemed appropriate for me to provide an overview of our remaining schedule of events, so you can make plans to be a part of our activities.

This month's membership meeting will be held on **Thursday, Jan. 24** in the library at UMKC. See the cover page for address, time and details, but here I want to talk a bit about the program itself. Some of us were privileged to attend the regional AAUW conference held in Oklahoma City this past summer. At that time, we previewed the film that will be presented at the meeting: *Miss Representation*, a documentary by **Jennifer Siebel Newsom** that premiered at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival. This film clarifies how the media's misrepresentations of women have shaped society, our national discourse, and, worst of all, the minds of our girls as they develop into young women. Driven by advertising firms and the profit motivation of big corporations, the media's exploitation of women and girls promotes violence against women and fosters a demeaning climate for both girls and boys. Research tells us that today's teenagers are immersed in the media, spending 10 hours and 45 minutes per day in media consumption of one type or another. We are reminded of Marshall McLuhan's comment from decades ago that "The media is the message." In the 1970s, Jean Kilbourne broke pioneering ground in this field with her film, *Killing Us Softly*; now *Miss Representation* demonstrates that the problem has only gotten worse in the 21st Century. As advocates for women and girls, we must ask ourselves, "How can we address this issue?" After we view the film, I hope we can develop a plan of action. Other winter programs to put on your calendar include:

• **Saturday, Feb. 16, 1:00-3:00 p.m.**

A joint dessert meeting with the Shawnee Mission Branch featuring **Jeff Lanza**, former FBI agent, speaking on human trafficking.

• **Thursday, March 14, 7:00 p.m.**

A meeting with our Kansas City Kansas Community College

members at KCKCC, featuring a panel of women faculty, administrators and students speaking about "Women and Community Colleges"

April will bring our annual 100 High School Girls event (**April 7**), our Equal Pay Day Rally in Jefferson City (**April 17**) and the Re-Entry Scholarship Luncheon (**April 20**). Our annual meeting with election of officers will be held on **May 9**, and our yearly celebration picnic will be on **June 6**.

Please make plans to join us for each of these occasions. We hope you will also attend some of the special DOLLARS for SCHOLARS events scheduled for the winter and spring months. We are an active group and we must sustain our activism with vigor and enthusiasm. While we have made gains in the House and Senate as a result of the Nov. 2012 election, one scholar has estimated that if we continue at this pace, it will be 500 years before we reach parity in the U.S. Congress. Surely we can't let that be the case!

With all good wishes for 2013,

***Moving Forward...Fighting the Backlash!***

*Mary Emily Kitterman*

Mary Emily Kitterman  
President, AAUW-KCMO

**Reminder to Board Members:** AAUW-KC Board Meeting, 4:30-6:00 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 3, 2013, Waldo Library

**JOIN OR RENEW**

*We are making inroads on education equity, reproductive choice, health care, work place equality, civil rights and more. Join us and continue to make our voices heard!*

Annual dues 2012-2013: \$79.00

For more information, please contact Janelle Ramsburg at [ramsburg@kc.rr.com](mailto:ramsburg@kc.rr.com) or (913) 831-9763.



(continued from cover)

## Five Community Organizations Receive Wagy Grants

Grants are reviewed against interest areas, including:

- Economic opportunity and security
- Measurably Enhanced self-image
- Lifelong education
- Healthcare throughout a woman's life
- Personal safety
- Legal and human rights
- Reproduction rights
- Respect and opportunities for girls so they are equally valued in their families and society
- Equal access politically, economically and culturally in their communities

The five Grant Recipients this year, and the organization representatives who attended the luncheon to accept the grants, are as follows:

**DeLaSalle Education Center - \$2,525** for a High School Seniors Seminar to help students understand and prepare for success beyond high school and into careers. This grant is the first Leadership Memorial grant, funded through the membership contributions to recognize the AAUW leaders who have recently passed. Rep: **Julie Heibel**, Director of Experiential Learning and Secondary Readiness

**Front Porch Alliance - \$2,000** for Dream Street Design, a T-shirt silk screening business that teaches students entrepreneurship and business skills while helping them earn money to assist them in developing skills to be successful, contributing members of their community. Rep: **Calvin Jones**, Program Manager and **Camela Brooks**, a senior at University Academy

**Green Works in Kansas City - \$2,525** for Girls Lead, a program for alumni of the Green Works school program that will train 10 girls to work with business entrepreneurs in the inner city to coordinate environmental and energy efficiency audits to help businesses understand opportunities for savings and implement best practices. Rep: **Alyssa Housh**, Project Manager



At the 2012 Wagy Awards members and friends enjoyed a wonderful Holiday meal together and festive music by the Treblemakers.

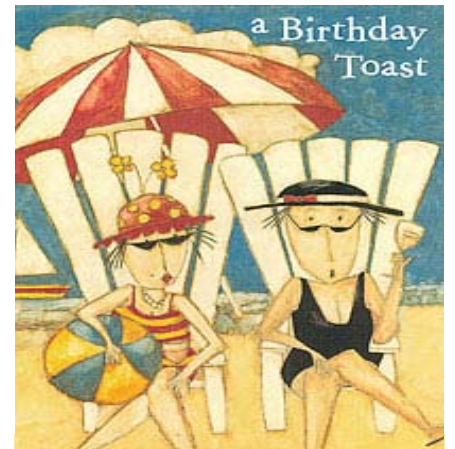
**Niles Home for Children - \$2,950** for a Financial Literacy Initiative, the grant will fund a cap stone weekend retreat for ten students, where the students will plan and run a mock retail area to apply all the financial skills they have learned, from budgeting for all expenses, including purchasing and preparing food for the group, to managing their mock funds and businesses. Rep: **Angela York**, Niles Home Residential Manager and **Juanita Davis**, Niles Home Agency Trainer

**United Inner City Services, St. Marks - \$3,000** for TEAM (a Teacher Education and Mentoring Program). This program will be used to train women from within the community to help them exceed basic requirements for teacher and teaching assistant services for children attending St. Mark's pre- and elementary school. Employment within the community served, and also improved student teaching, are the target outcomes. Rep: **Deidre Anderson**, Executive Director

If you are interested in contributing to the Wagy Fund, contributions can be sent to: Greater Kansas City Community Foundation, c/o LaVon Colhour for AAUW Wagy Fund, 1055 Broadway, Suite 130, Kansas City, MO 64105 or you can donate online at <https://gkccfonlinedonations.org/donations/donation.asp>.

Checks should be made payable to: AAUW Wagy Fund/Amer01. Please note in the memo line if this is a contribution to the

Leadership Memorial Fund. If you are contributing to the Leadership Memorial in recognition of an individual, please indicate the member's name. Contributions are tax deductible — you will receive a letter from the GKCCF recognizing your contribution.



May your age spots be small, and your wrinkles be few, may you wear a bikini 'til you're 102!

SYLVIA DILLON	1/13
JANE HATCH	1/15
KAREN MAJOR	1/16
BECK SHUBERT	1/21
SARA PEDRAM	1/23
BRENDA BETHMAN	1/23
JANICE MCINTYRE	1/28



### AAUW-KCMO MONTHLY EVENTS

#### • JAN. 11 & 25 – FRIDAY FORUM

WALDO LIBRARY, 75TH & GRAND, KCMO, 10:00 A.M.

This is an informal discussion group on current affairs, with participants bringing articles of interest or summaries of radio/TV shows to stimulate conversation. Interested? Call **Joanie Shores**, (660) 200-5809.

#### • THURSDAY, JAN. 17

11:30 AM, REMEDY FOOD + DRINK, 500 W. 75TH ST., KCMO 64114

Remedy's menu focuses on farm-to-market food that is locally sourced and seasonal. Max Watson's culinary team applies fine dining techniques to the classic foods we grew up loving. RSVP to **Ellen Johnson** at [ellen.johnson@gmail.com](mailto:ellen.johnson@gmail.com) or (816) 931-5288 by Jan 15.

#### • 4TH TUESDAY BOOK CLUB



WALDO LIBRARY, 75TH & GRAND, KCMO, 6:00 P.M.

**JAN. 22 - *The Last Letter* by Kathleen Shoop** Katherine Arthur's mother arrives on her doorstep, dying, forcing her to relive a past she wanted to forget. When Katherine was young, the Arthur family had been affluent city dwellers until shame sent them running for the prairie, into the unknown. Discussion Leader: **Winnie Weinrich**

**Feb. 26: *The Age of Miracles* by Karen Thompson Walker**

**March 26: *Canada* by Richard Ford**

**April 23: *Nothing Daunted: The Unexpected Education of Two Society Girls in the West* by Dorothy Wickenden**

Copies of featured books are available on reserve at the Waldo circulation desk, 30 days in advance to its club date. For more details, please contact **Wilma Major** at (816) 942-5044 or **Jane Hatch**, (816) 838-7626 or [janehatch@yahoo.com](mailto:janehatch@yahoo.com).

#### • JAN. 25 – BRIDGE GROUP

10:30 A.M. THROUGH LUNCH

Help raise money for our mission-driven activities of the branch by paying a little to play. Interested? Please call **Fran Weeks** for location and more information, (913) 649-7048.

Please visit [www.aauwkc.org](http://www.aauwkc.org) for more information.

## DOLLARS for SCHOLARS

We hope you will plan to support our latest fundraising effort, DOLLARS for SCHOLARS, by attending a series of new winter and spring activities that will be both fun and educational. Proceeds from each event will be directed to scholarship funds for AAUW-KC's 100 High School Girls and Reentry Woman of the Year programs.

**SATURDAY, JAN. 19, 2013 | 2:00 PM**

### TOUR of NATIONAL ARCHIVES at KANSAS CITY

100 WEST PERSHING ROAD (JUST WEST OF UNION STATION)



This is one of 13 regional branches of the National Archives that covers the central plains region. The facility houses original records from nine federal agencies in the region.

Current exhibits are "School House to White House: The Education of the Presidents" and "Between the Rivers: Steamboating in Missouri and Iowa." Through special arrangements we will also view documents relevant to *Brown vs. the Board of Education*. The tour also includes a short film "Democracy Starts Here." Our tour guide is AAUW member **Stephanie Holthaus**. Dessert reception to follow.

Members and non-members are invited. Cost: \$12.50 (Proceeds go to DOLLARS for SCHOLARS.) Reservations required by Jan. 16, please email **Dana Perry** at [dana.perry08@live.com](mailto:dana.perry08@live.com).

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR: AAUW-MISSOURI & NATIONAL EVENTS

### APRIL 17, 2013 | EQUAL PAY DAY RALLY

We've reserved the capitol rotunda to let our legislators know we women must be paid equally to men. A large turnout is key to our success.

We need YOU, your family, friends and neighbors!

Elevators are available for easy access to the rotunda. Car pooling is available. For more information, please contact **Joanie Shores** at [joanashores101@aol.com](mailto:joanashores101@aol.com), phone (660) 200-5809 or **Jane Crigler** at [jcrigler@kc.rr.com](mailto:jcrigler@kc.rr.com), phone (816) 523-7781.

### MAY 3-5, 2013 | ILLINOIS-MISSOURI CONVENTION | ST. LOUIS

Keynote Speaker: AAUW Executive Director **Linda Hallman**

### JUNE 9-12, 2013 | AAUW NATIONAL CONVENTION | NEW ORLEANS

—**Linda Berube**, AAUW-Missouri President



AAUW-KC members at 2012 Equal Pay Day Rally.