



Kansas City, Missouri Branch

NOV/DEC 2016

TAKING ACTION

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL PRESENTATION OF "SHE KILLS MONSTERS"

You are invited to support our newest College/University Partner, Metropolitan Community College at the Penn Valley campus for the play, "She Kills Monsters" on Thursday, November 17, at 7:00 p.m. This fast-paced production, performed by students at the campus theater, incorporates themes such as loss, closure and second chances, while working within the realm of a teenage girl's fantasy world. The hour-and-a-half-long production highlights issues such as bullying and self-acceptance as it blends humor with serious subject matter and 90's pop culture.



The address for Penn Valley is 3201 Southwest Trafficway, Kansas City, MO 64111. The theater is in the Science/Technology Building, Room 101. Free parking is located in the garage off Broadway between 31st and Linwood. From the parking structure you will walk across a small road and up the long sidewalk that leads to the Campus Center. You will be greeted and directed to the theater in the Science Building.

Tickets are \$10 with a 50/50 split to help support production of the play and benefit AAUW-KC. Mail your check (payable to AAUW-KC) to **Sara Pedram, 4428 Harrison, Kansas City, MO 64110, by November 15.** (Tickets will be available at Will Call on the night of the performance.) AAUW will be recognized in the program book and also have a table set up to promote membership.

****If you wish to carpool, plan to arrive at 6:30 p.m. at All Souls UU Church, 4501 Walnut. The row of parking spaces closest to the building (south side) is reserved for AAUW!**

This is a unique opportunity to connect branch members to our newest College/University Partner, Metropolitan Community College, and share a delightful evening with AAUW sisters, as well as meet and greet students and cast members.

Nettie Irene Van Der Veer

WAGY AWARDS & HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

Join us for this festive event to honor and award local community organizations for their work in advancing education and equity for women and girls.

This year marks the 19th year of the Wagy Awards, underwritten by a generous bequest from Irene Wagy, a longtime member of the KC Branch of AAUW, and donations from Branch members. Awards from \$1,000 to \$4,000 are made for projects benefitting women and girls in the Kansas City area.



Saturday, December 3, 2016 Mission Hills Country Club

(Club Room) 5400 Mission Dr., Mission Hills, KS 66208

11:30 a.m. Social
12:00 p.m. Luncheon
12:30 p.m. Awards Program

\$35 per person. Reservations required by Tuesday, November 29. Mail checks payable to AAUW-KC: Wagy Holiday Luncheon, 4428 Harrison St., KC MO 64110. Questions? Email spedram45@kc.rr.com. Call Ellen Johnson at 816-931-5288 for door-to-door rides to/from the event.

Directions: From Ward Pkwy., turn west on 55th St. Follow to stop sign and curve to the right. Look for fence and gold sign. Park on south side of the building and enter the south door. The Club Room is just down the hallway.

"One of my favorite AAUW-KC events of the year!"

"It is wonderful to hear about the projects for women and girls that the Wagy Awards help support each year."

"Always a festive event to start the holiday season!"



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*The Winds of Change*

Fall is finally in the air and she has brought with her the winds of change. When our founding mothers started the KC branch in 1893, did they imagine the struggles it would take to win the right to vote in 1925? Would

they be happy to know that we now celebrate our right to vote every chance we get, and that we encourage others to do the same?

Could they have imagined the candidates and the tone of our presidential political debate? Would they have been encouraged that we have come this far or disheartened by our lack of progress?

When I get disheartened, I channel that energy into something positive, like inviting a friend to join our branch. In fact, I actually carry around applications with

me in self-addressed envelopes for this purpose. It cheers me up when women want to learn more about our Get Out The Vote efforts, Women's Equality Week, and our growing connections with local Colleges and Universities. When I get discouraged, I remember how much fun our 38th Annual Thorpe Menn Award luncheon was, and the loud discussions, fun bingo, student presentations and great food at Fall Fling.

No matter the outcome and aftermath of this political season, I am happy to be a part of a group that has shaped history for the better for women for 123 years. I can't wait to enjoy our Fall programs.

I am proud of us. And I think they would be, too.

Marian McClellan

AAUW-KC President



FALL FLING MEMBERSHIP KICK-OFF RECAP

BY STEFANIE HATFIELD, MEMBERSHIP VP



Fall Fling 2016 emphasized "Discover AAUW!" Our first step in recruiting new members is to make them aware of our mission *to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research*. Each member was asked to bring a friend and we were happy to welcome several guests, including three young women who attended NCCWSL as well as the parents of one young woman.

A special thanks to those who participated in the program: **Patti Jachowicz** for her NCCWSL presentation, **Marian McClellan** for her enthusiastic description of AAUW, **Teri Wichman** for her get-acquainted Bingo games, **Linda Berube** for her information about National AAUW, and **Sara Pedram** for arranging for the room and set up. Thanks to those who brought snacks and prizes, and to our event and group leaders who spoke about upcoming projects: **Ellen Johnson**, **Wanda Perkins**, **Jane Hatch**, **Joanie Shores** and **Patsy Kile**.

Our next emphasis is "AAUW Recruitment!" Members are asked to bring a friend to our programs, events and meetings to experience AAUW-KC for themselves.

JOIN
OR RENEW

MISSION

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

2016-2017 ANNUAL DUES: \$79

Dues cover National membership (\$49), State membership (\$10), plus KC membership (\$20). Send \$79, payable to AAUW-KC to: Nicky Stanke, 1101 Walnut St #905, Kansas City, MO 64106, or you can pay online at www.aauw.org.

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.



PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE

BY RIVA CAPELLARI AND CAROL COWLES
PUBLIC POLICY CO-CHAIRS

The Public Policy Committee has been focusing on voter registration in collaboration with College/University Partnership Committee. On August 22, AAUW-KC assisted by the League of Women Voters, provided voter registration services at UMKC as part of the Women's Center "Chill Out". We collected 27 voter registration cards, started a contact spread sheet so we could remind new voters to vote, and turned in the cards to the Election Board office at Union Station, Kansas City. On September 22, we repeated this process at the Fall Resource Fair, also organized by the UMKC Women's Center. We registered an additional 15 students at this event. We talked with approximately 80 voters registered in Missouri regarding Constitutional Amendment 6. Thanks to **Linda Berube**, AAUW-KC member, we provided AAUW "Debate Bingo" sheets to encourage students and staff to focus on issues of importance to women during the upcoming presidential debates. We need additional AAUW members to join our Committee and/or to assist in calling these and other new voters during the first week of November to remind them to cast their ballots on **November 8**. Please email Riva (rivacapellari@gmail.com) or Carol (carolcowles63@gmail.com) to volunteer.

Our branch has been provided with approximately 800 postcards detailing the reasons that the ballot proposal "**Constitutional Amendment 6**" is actually a voter suppression issue and why a "**NO**" vote is recommended on November 8. The postcards were supported by AAUW-MO and nine other women's organizations. Several members of AAUW-KC made individual donations in further support for mailing/distribution. Postcards are available for members to provide to other organizations and neighborhoods, please email Riva or Carol to request copies.

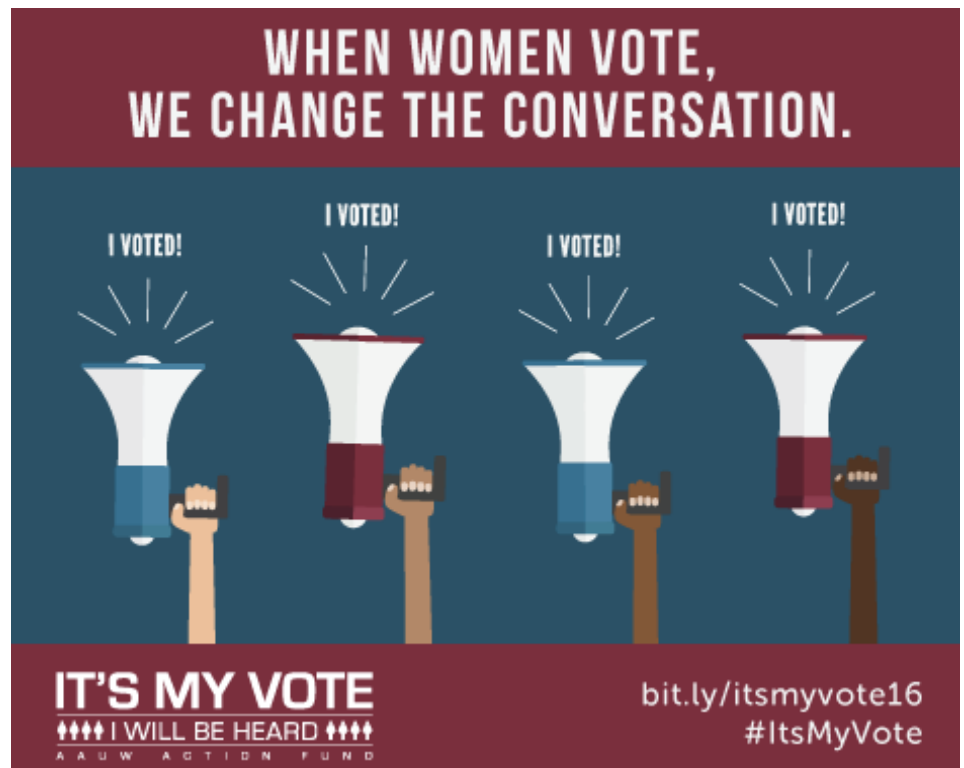


August 2016 WEW Powerful Solutions: When Women Lead event at the National Archives, Kansas City.

In August, the Public Policy Committee prepared and implemented a program in collaboration with Women's Equality Week (WEW): **Powerful Solutions: When Women Lead**. The panel included **Ashley Beard-Fosnow**, Candidate for Missouri House of Representatives – District 55; **Rochelle Golliday**, Freelance Graphic Artist; **Begonia Klumb**, CEO, UMB Healthcare Services; **Jolene Morel**, Mother, Ottawa University Student and Headstart Parent Advocate; and **Neelima Parasker**, Founder and CEO, SnapIT Solutions. The moderator was **Lee Smithson Burd**, Ph.D., Executive Coach. Approximately

70 attended this program held at the National Archives in Kansas City. The diverse panel offered insight on preparation for leadership, and the subtle and not so subtle messages women receive during their formative years and early careers. **Riva Capellari** did an outstanding job of planning this event, assisted by **Joanie Shores** and **Carol Cowles**.

The Public Policy Committee will continue to encourage voter registration and preparation, and anticipates sharing research from the League of Women Voters regarding local and national candidate's positions on issues of importance to women.





THORPE MENN AWARD EVENT RECOGNIZES 24 LOCAL AUTHORS

Local authors and guests gathered at the Kansas City Central Library for the 38th **Thorpe Menn Literary Excellence Award** on October 1. The award was established in 1979 by AAUW-KC to honor Thorpe Menn, longtime book editor of *The Kansas City Star*, who supported all aspects of Kansas City's cultural life, especially local authors and artists.

The 2016 Literary Excellence Award was presented to **Patrick Dobson** for his book *Canoeing the Great Plains: A Missouri River Summer*. The finalists were: **Andrea Warren** for *The Boy Who Became Buffalo Bill: Growing Up Billy Cody in Bleeding Kansas* and **James P. Muehlberger**, *The 116: The True Story of Abraham Lincoln's Lost Guard*.

Special thanks to keynote speaker **Barbara Stuber**, award-winning author and museum docent, **Vivien Jennings** and **Roger Doeren** of Rainy Day Books, and the Kansas City Public Library.

We are already making plans for the 39th event in October 2017. If you would like to nominate an author, visit www.aauwkc.org and go to the Thorpe Menn page under "Events" for guidelines and instructions. The deadline for nominations is May 1, 2017.



(Above) Members of the 2016 Thorpe Menn Reading and Event Committees. (Left) Keynote Speaker Barbara Stuber, Thorpe Menn Award winner Patrick Dobson, and finalist Andrea Warren.

COLLEGE CORNER

BY PATTI JACHOWICZ, COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY
PARTNERSHIP CHAIR

The AAUW-MCC/KC partnership was instrumental in launching Penn Valley's new initiative for female students called "Women on the Move", a leadership and

retention program with scholarship incentives. **Women in Leadership: Overcoming Barriers** was the first workshop in September. Three amazing women shared their experiences and wisdom with a room full of female students eager to grow and learn.

Leadership panel: **Marquita Miller**, Five Star Tax & Business Solutions, **Keichanda Dees-Burnett**, UMKC Director of Multicultural Student Affairs, and **Rochelle Golliday**, Freelance Graphic Design Artist and former aid to the Hillary Clinton campaign.

Upcoming student programs at Penn Valley:

- **October 20: Women in STEM panel (featuring Marian McClellan)**
- **November 4: Sisterhood Success Summit**
- **November 16: Women Lifting Each Other Up panel**
- **November 17-19: "She Kills Monsters" (See cover story for details)**

AAUW-MCC/KC co-sponsored **The Juncture: Professional Development for MCC Women in Higher Education** on October 7. Guests received AAUW's recent publication, *Barriers and Bias: The Status of Women in Leadership* and were invited to join an AAUW branch affiliated with their campus. AAUW-KC participated at the inaugural **UMKC Women's Resource Fair** on September 22. It was a great opportunity to inform participants about voting, registration and the issues on the November 8 ballot, and to share the AAUW mission, branch activities and membership information.

AAUW-KC MONTHLY EVENTS

2ND & 4TH FRIDAY FORUM

WALDO LIBRARY / ROOM A / 201 E 75TH ST / KCMO 64114 / 10 AM

- OCT 14 & 28
- NOV 11 & 25
- DEC 9 & 23

If you enjoy current events, if you laugh lots and have a good sense of humor, then you are indeed qualified to join the group! If convenient, you're invited to bring an article to share from a newspaper, magazine, cartoon or book.

Moderator **Joanie Shores**, 660-200-5809 or joanashores1010@gmail.com.

3RD THURSDAY CUISINE CLUB

- OCT 20—ANTON'S

1610 MAIN ST., KANSAS CITY, MO / 11:30 AM

- NOV 17—BROWN & LOE

429 WALNUT, KANSAS CITY, MO / 11:30 AM

- DEC 15—PLAZA III

4749 PENNSYLVANIA, KANSAS CITY, MO / 11:30 AM

RSVP to **Ellen Johnson** at ellen.johnson@gmail.com or 816-931-5288.



4TH TUESDAY BOOK CLUB

WALDO BRANCH LIBRARY / 201 E 75TH ST / KCMO 64114 / 6-7 PM

For BOOK CLUB information, please contact **Jane Hatch**, 816-838-7626 or janehatch@yahoo.com.

For more information and news, visit
<http://kansascity-mo.aauw.net/>