



TAKING ACTION

WOMEN'S EQUALITY COALITION GKC

CELEBRATING THE 99TH ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN GAINING THE RIGHT TO VOTE!

Join us for these WEC events, planned and executed by an ad hoc coalition of organizations and agencies, co-chaired by **Alice Kitchen** and **Gail James**, members of AAUW-KC:

Fannie Lou Hamer and the Quest to Get the Vote

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22

Guest Speaker: **Teona McGhaw-Boure**, Great Niece of Fannie Lou Hamer
All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church, 4501 Walnut, KCMO

6:00 p.m. Refreshments; 6:30 p.m. Program

Fannie Lou Hamer was a founder of the National Women's Political Caucus and the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party.

WEC Launch

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25

American Jazz Museum, 1616 E 18th St.,

KCMO (Please enter through Blue Room.)

5:30–6 p.m. **Networking and Refreshments**; 6–7 p.m. **Program**

Organization representatives will share their voting initiatives: **Melissa Stichler**, ACLU-Kansas and **Evelyn Maddox**, LWV-Missouri
Performances by Djember Djanes Drummers, Heartsong/Women's Chorus and KC Girls Choir.

WEC Make Your Voice and Vote Heard

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28

Guest Speaker: **Trish Hall**, *New York Times* Op-Ed Editor
KC Public Library-Plaza Branch, 4801 Main St., KCMO

6 p.m. Wine & Cheese; 6:30 p.m. Program
Drawing for her new book *Writing to Persuade: How to Bring People Over to your Side*, Hall discusses how women (and men too) can find their voices.

MainStream Coalition and Women for Kansas: What's Percolating with Kansas Politics and Voting Issues?

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29

Leawood Pioneer Library, 4700 Town Center Dr., Leawood, KS

9:30–11 a.m.

Coffee and Refreshments will be served.

Programs are free and open to the public. Some require reservations. For further details, visit <https://www.facebook.com/WomensEqualityGKC/> Additional events will be announced throughout the year focusing on voter rights, pay equity and prevention of violence against women and girls.



You're invited!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

1–3 P.M. AT ALL SOULS CHURCH

4501 Walnut St. / KCMO 64111 (Across from Kemper Museum)

Gather with exuberant branch members and guests and discover what AAUW is all about!

Light refreshments and sparkling conversation will be provided. Members are encouraged to bring friends and family.

RSVP TODAY! SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2019

THORPE MENN LITERARY EXCELLENCE AWARD LUNCHEON

SEE PAGE 5 FOR A LISTING OF THE 2019 NOMINATED AUTHORS/BOOKS AND EVENT RESERVATION DETAILS.





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our Kansas City, Missouri Branch is ready and eager to start the 2019-2020 program year. I'm **Wanda Perkins**, the incoming branch president and this is my personal invitation to you to join us on **Saturday, September 14, 2019** at our annual **Fall Fling** held at All Souls Church from 1-3 p.m. We will kick off our exciting new year with treats, games, information, introductions and invitations to various events.

Speaking of various events, our year starts with the **Thorpe Menn Literary Excellence Award** luncheon at the Kansas City Public Library - Central Branch on **October 5th** from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. In December at our **Wagy Award** luncheon we recognize local community organizations who are advancing education and equity for women and girls. February we have a joint meeting with the **Shawnee Mission Branch**. March we celebrate **Women's History Month** and in April we honor our **Reentry** women who have returned, after a five year or longer absence, to higher education to complete degrees that were not finished. May is our **Annual Meeting**, and we end our program year with a **June Picnic** at Loose Park. In addition to our monthly programs, we have several interest groups that will also be at the Fall Fling encouraging you to join them. Of interest are: **Cuisine Club** that meets 3rd Thursday at 11:30 am at various restaurants around town. **Books and Brews** also can be found on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Waldo Library starting at 6 p.m. **Friday Forum** is also held at Waldo Library at 10 a.m. on the 2nd and 4th Fridays. Those attending Books and Brews and Friday Forum often continue the conversation with lunch or dinner after their meeting. Everyone is welcome!! Grab a friend and come join the fun!

I'm often asked how and when I joined AAUW. My journey with AAUW started over 40 years ago in St. Joseph. A colleague I was teaching with invited me to attend a branch meeting. I went, liked what I heard and joined. I've been a member in some capacity ever since. My husband and I moved back to Kansas City when he left Channel 2 in St. Joseph. I transferred my membership to the Kansas City branch. There is more to my story and if you would like to hear it I will be telling it at our Fall Fling. I'll see you there and invite you to also bring a friend to learn more about our branch history and its activities.

On August 3rd a board retreat was held to get acquainted, review our programs for the year, set priorities, and create a calendar for the year. We tossed out ideas, discussed programs and worked as a team to involve as many members as possible in our year-long activities. The more members involved the more inspired we all are.

- Here's a list of our 2019-2020 officers:
- Elected Officers:
 President - **Wanda Perkins**
 President-Elect - **Joan Shores**
 Past Co-Presidents - **Stefanie Hatfield, Ellen Johnson**
 Co-Program VP's - **Patty Cahill, Lee Rathbone McCuan**
 Membership VP - **Hortense Burr**
 Secretary - **Corinne Mahaffey**
 Finance Officer - **Linda Berube**
- Appointed Officers:
 Communications - **Sara Pedram**
 Finance - **Jane Vincent**
 Funds - **Earline Bentley**
 Public Policy - **Lynn Bruner, Kay Engler**
 College/University - **Stephanie Holthaus**

- Wagy Fund - **Ellen Johnson**
 Newsletter/Website - **Carrie Maidment**
 Thorpe Menn Event - **Carrie Maidment, Anita Parran**
 Thorpe Menn Reading Committee - **Jane McClain**
 Start Smart - **Ellen Johnson**
 100 High School Girls - **Kim Flynn**
- Interest Group Leaders
 Cuisine Club: TBD
 Books and Brews - **Carol Cowles, Jane Hatch**
 Friday Forum/Great Decisions - **Joan Shores**
- In the May *AAUW Equity Express Newsletter*, **Kim Churches**, Chief Executive Officer, stated "Even though we have made progress in the workplace and in society the status of women still has a long ways to go to be truly equal. She went on to state: "It is women like you who will make the difference. Together, we can close the pay gap, improve workplaces to make them inclusive and harassment-free, and find a work-life blend to support ourselves and our families while we continue to thrive." Each month you will be receiving updates on equity issues and tips on how all of us can make a difference. One step at a time we can do this: **Aspire, Achieve, Universal Equity for all Women.**

Don't forget to **Work Smart**.
Wanda Perkins
 AAUW-KC President



"Follow your passions, and dare to dream to change the world."
 - **Jane Marie Chen**, social entrepreneur and 2019 AAUW Woman of Distinction

JOIN OR RENEW	MISSION AAUW advances gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy.	2019-2020 ANNUAL DUES: \$89 Dues cover National membership (\$59), State membership (\$10), plus Kansas City membership (\$20). Send \$89 , payable to AAUW-KC to: Jane Vincent, 6919 W. 101st St., Overland Park, KS 66212 , or you can pay online at www.aauw.org .
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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.



2019 IBC REENTRY SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

On April 20th the Kansas City InterBranch Council presented the annual Reentry Scholarship Award to eight outstanding women who returned to college after an absence of five or more years.

Individual branch members within the IBC made generous donations to ensure support for this scholarship program. Hopefully this donation trend will become even stronger because students' needs are greater than ever. While all applicants were very worthy candidates, these women best exemplified the courage and personal resolve to overcome significant barriers to pursue their academic, career, and life goals. Their stories upon receiving their awards at the annual IBC Reentry brunch were incredibly inspiring! These women are determined to make a difference in the lives of others and the community.

The 2019 IBC Reentry Award recipients each received \$550 toward their education. They are (pictured top, l-r): **Karol Pineda**, Respiratory Therapy, Kansas City Kansas Community College; **Megan Lashbrook**, Art Education, UMKC; **Victoria Norton**, Science, MCC-Longview; **Laura Theel**, History, UMKC; **Kelly Mackenzie**, Occupational Therapy, MCC-Penn Valley; and the Parkville Branch Reentry Scholarship Fund winner **Amy Sanborn**, Accounting, Park University. Not pictured: **Leslie Carter**, Nursing, Kansas City Kansas Community College and **Antonia McMonigle**, Chemistry Pre-Med, UMKC.



Special thanks for the hard work of 2019 IBC Reentry Scholarship committee members.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

THE CONTINUING HIV CRISIS AMONG AFRICAN WOMEN: CRITICAL CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 6:30–8 P.M.
UMKC DIASTOLE CENTER, 2501 HOLMES, KCMO

Dr. Carole McArthur, Dept. Oral/Craniofacial Sciences, will share her experiences and slides about maternal to child disease transmission in developing countries. Dr. McArthur is a well-known international researcher and scholar who has devoted decades of her career to the development of effective diagnostic approaches for HIV and related diseases. She is a Professor of Medicine at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, Director of the Afrihealth Partnership International (API) and currently conducts research at 47 clinical HIV sites in Kinshasa, Congo. Light Reception starts at 6:30 p.m. / Program from 7–8 p.m.

WAGY AWARDS & HOLIDAY LUNCHEON
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 11:30 A.M.–1 P.M.
CAFÉ TRIO, 4558 MAIN ST, KCMO

Luncheon Reservation: \$37 / Watch the Nov/Dec *TAKING ACTION* newsletter for further details.



Through the online **AAUW Work Smart** workshops you'll gain confidence in your negotiation style. Through facilitated discussion and role-play, you will learn:

- How to identify and articulate your value.
- How to develop persuasive responses and other negotiation strategies.
- How to conduct objective market research to benchmark a target salary and benefits.
- About the wage gap and its long-term consequences.

Click and share the link (<https://salary.aauw.org>) and encourage your friends and colleagues to participate!



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





THE NCCWSL EXPERIENCE!

NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR COLLEGE WOMEN STUDENT LEADERS

Emily Wesley, from UMKC received the 2019 AAUW-KC Scholarship to attend the National Conference for Women Student Leaders at the University of Maryland in June. This premier conference provides a transformative experience that prepares the next generation of women leaders. Emily is majoring in Biology and is president of the UMKC chapter of GlobeMed, which actively promotes global health and social justice by forming partnerships with grassroots organizations in developing countries to empower others to make change within their own communities. Emily stated, “This conference has assured me that I can be confident and powerful as a woman in today’s society and that I do not have to change who I am to conform to society’s expectations of my role as a woman.” The keynote speaker was **Roxane Gay**, author of *Bad Feminist*, *Hunger: A Memoir of (My) Body*, and *Difficult Women*. Another speaker was **Dr. Tererai Trent**, a scholar, humanitarian, motivational speaker, educator, and author. Emily remarked that, “Gay presented an emotional poem discussing the fight for women’s rights in the midst of today’s political climate and Trent told her heartwarming story of perseverance and of her undying passion for education. The atmosphere these women created with their powerful words was liberating and inspiring, if not life-changing. This conference has assured me that I can be confident and powerful as a woman in today’s society and that I do not have to change who I am to conform to society’s expectations of my role as a woman.”



Emily Wesley, 2019 AAUW-KC NCCWSL Scholarship winner.



KCKCC participants: Jalah Danks, Edith Garcia, Karol Pineda, Bailee Malia, Biak Sung, Jordan Thanxton, Jordanne Paxton, and Faith Mathews.

Kansas City Kansas Community College had a record eight students attend this year’s national conference thanks to the encouragement and leadership of AAUW advisors **Shai Perry** and **Jolene Morel**, both former conference participants. Congratulations to **Edith Garcia**, **Karol Pineda**, **Bailee Malia** and **Jordanne Paxton** for receiving national NCCWSL scholarships!

ACCESS STATE & BRANCH MEMBER ROSTERS ONLINE

It was decided last year to save money by producing a directory every other year. So, we will have a printed roster for 2019-2020. In the meantime... member information is available at <https://www.aauw.org>

To access State and Branch Officers lists as well as current branch member lists do the following: At the top of the screen, click on “LOGIN.” If you don’t know your member ID, click on Forgot Member ID, fill in the info requested, to receive your Member ID.

Return to login and sign in, choosing a password if necessary. After you have signed in, click on “MSD” at the top of the screen and continue clicking on Enter Member Services Database until you get to that page.

For AAUW-KC officers, click on “STATE & BRANCH OFFICER” listing. For current branch members, click on “BRANCH MEMBER ROSTER.”

PLEASE verify that YOUR information is correct. **If you need changes and have already renewed your membership for 2019-2020, please contact **Jane Vincent** or **Linda Berube** with the correct information. If you have not renewed, submit the corrected information with your renewal.

MONTHLY SPECIAL-INTEREST GROUPS

2ND & 4TH FRIDAY FORUM

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

If you’d like to take part in free-wheeling discussions of topics ranging from current events and world news to literature, science, art and beyond, join us! Bring a cartoon or article of interest from newspapers, magazines, books, etc. For more information, contact **Joan Shores**, 660-200-5809 or joanhores1010@gmail.com.

- SEP 13 & 27
- OCT 11 & 25

3RD THURSDAY CUISINE CLUB

- AUG 15 **JASPER’S ITALIAN RESTAURANT**

1201 W 103RD ST (EAST OF STATE LINE), KCMO / 11:30 AM

- SEP 19 **GRAND STREET CAFÉ**

4740 GRAND AVE (EAST OF MAIN ST/PLAZA), KCMO / 11:30 AM

- OCT 17 **BRISTOL SEAFOOD GRILL**

5400 W 119TH ST @ NALL (TOWN CENTER/NW CORNER), LEAWOOD, KS / 11:30 AM

RSVP to **Beverly Ryan** via phone at 816-333-2159.

3RD THURSDAY “BOOKS & BREWS”

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

Co-sponsored with the Kansas City Public Library, “Books & Brews” meetings are held at the Library’s Waldo Branch on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. Facilitated by **Jane Hatch** with **Carol Cowles** and **Sue Coy** providing assistance. Meetings are lively as diverse opinions and preferences are shared. Books are selected yearly by the membership and members volunteer to lead the discussions. The benefits of this interesting community collaboration are many including acquainting newcomers to our community with AAUW-KC. New members are always welcome!

- AUG 15 **A GENTLEMAN IN MOSCOW** BY AMORTOWLES

MODERATOR: KATHY KISER

- SEP 19 **WE WERE YOURS** BY LISA WINGATE

MODERATOR: JANE HATCH

- OCT 17 **EDUCATED: A MEMOIR** BY TARA WESTOVER

MODERATOR: KAY ENGLER

Questions? Contact **Carol Cowles**, carolcowles63@gmail.com / 847-846-3450



You're invited to attend the 41st Annual
AAUW-KC and KC Public Library
THORPE MENN AWARD LUNCHEON

Celebrating the literary excellence of local authors.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

11:30 A.M. SOCIAL / LUNCH 12 NOON

KANSAS CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY—CENTRAL BRANCH

HELZBERG AUDITORIUM, 14 WEST 10TH STREET, KANSAS CITY, MO

Keynote Speaker

CAREY GILLAM



Carey Gillam is a veteran investigative journalist, researcher and writer with more than 25 years experience covering corporate news, including 17 years as a senior correspondent for Reuters international news service. She works now both as a writer and researcher on food and chemical policy issues. Gillam has won several industry awards for her work and has been

recognized as one of the top journalists in the country covering food and agriculture. Her book ***Whitewash: The Story of a Weed Killer, Cancer, and the Corruption of Science*** won the Rachel Carson Book Award from the Society of Environmental Journalists and the 2018 Thorpe Menn Literary Excellence Award.

TICKETS \$40 PER PERSON / \$400 TABLE FOR 10

RSVP by Tuesday, Oct. 1 by calling **Ellen Johnson** at **(816) 931-5288**

—OR— Mail your check payable to **AAUW-KC**:

Ellen Johnson, 4505 Headwood Dr. #7, Kansas City, MO 64111-3439

—OR— Reserve and pay online at:

<http://kansascity-mo.aauw.net/events/thorpe-menn-literary-award/>

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
2019 THORPE MENN AWARD NOMINEES**

Mommy, Please Don't Go to Work! by Rhiannon Ally

Kansas Stories by Randy Attwood

Hitchhiker by Beth Lyon Barnett

A Handbook of Disappointed Fate by Anne Boyer

Alambre de púa / Razor Wire by Arlin Buyert

No Such Luck by Ian Cahill

After All by Pat Daneman

Searching for My Heart: Essays about Love by Dawn Downey

Care & Custody: A Novel of Three Children at Risk by Martha Gershun

*Padre Miguel: A Memoir of My Catholic Missionary Experience in Bolivia
Amidst Postcolonial Transformation of Church and State*
by Michael Gillgannon

*Benevolence, Moral Reform, Equality: Women's Activism in Kansas City,
1870 to 1940* by K. David Hanzlick

So Many Questions by Susan Howard

Forever Mine: Love Along the Oregon Trail by Theresa Hupp

No Place Like Home: Lessons in Activism from LGBT Kansas
by C.J. Janovy

Erasmus Plumwood by Seán Thomas Kane

8 Seconds to Midnight by John Leifer

The Count's Knife by Marily Ruff Locke

Windshift by Barbara Loots

Dog Alley by Hugh Merrill

Sand Script by Shelton Edward Ponder

God, Maybe by Trish Reeves

Homeless, with Honor by Sharon Rodriguez

Working Class Rage: A Field Guide to White Anger and Pain
by Tex Sample

The Killer Knows by Bob Sands

The World is My Rival by Charlotte Seley

The Search For Your Best Furever Friend
by Julie Snodgrass and Anne Martucci

Losing Francis: Essays on the Wars at Home by Robert F. Sommer

Rewriting the Body by Wyatt Townley

Flatlands by Ruth Williams

