

## THE BRANCH CONNECTION

DALLAS, TEXAS BRANCH SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2015

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

### **Message from the President**

Our first American Association of University Women Dallas Branch meeting for 2015-2016 will take place on August 29th. Please come and help us kick off the year! We closed out 2014-2015 by recognizing outgoing and incoming officers and 2015 scholarship winners at our May luncheon. This year, we awarded new scholarships to five young women and renewed scholarships for fifteen continuing students.

Each of the last three years, AAUW Dallas has sponsored a scholarship winner to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL), AAUW's summer student leadership conference in the Washington, D.C. area. This year Jeamileth Hernandez attended NCCWSL, and she wrote and thanked us for the inspiring and empowering sessions. Last year Diamond Amie attended NCCWSL, and Diamond will be coming to our August branch meeting to tell us about her conference and college experiences. Other topics at our August meeting will be membership growth and programs for the coming year.

AAUW is thriving! We had 1,000 members and guests at AAUW's National Convention in San Diego in June. I enjoyed attending—along with 40 others from Texas—and heard more about AAUW's accomplishments and programs. Some of the hot topics included Title IX, the ERA, Fair Pay, STEM, women in office, and social media. Many staff members from AAUW's national office attended the convention and gave presentations about their work. One of national's initiatives is to build tools to track public policy issues.

We will be hearing more about the initiative and look forward to our ongoing participation in efforts to influence policy issues.

(See *Message* continued on Page 3)

# **Announcements Upcoming Meetings**

September Meeting will take place on the last Saturday in August

Date & Time: August 29, 2015, 10:00 AM -

12:00 PM **Location**:Center for Community Cooperation

2900 Live Oak St, Dallas, TX 75204

Cost: Free

**Speaker:** Diamond Amie on the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders

#### October Meeting

Date & Time: October 3, 2015, 10:00 AM

**Location:** Meadows Museum Southern Methodist University 5900 Bishop Blvd, Dallas, TX 75205

Cost: Free with Membership



Guided tour of the exhibition, *Treasures from the House of Alba: 500 Years of Art and Collecting.* The branch will pay for admission. Please sign-up at the August meeting or call Barbara Benson if you plan to attend, since we need to provide Meadows with a headcount. More information about the Meadows Museum is available at www.meadowsmuseumdallas.org.

### Community

Our Branch sponsors Women's Equality Day

Wednesday, August 26, 2015 @ Noon Dallas City Hall, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor Flag Room (see flyer on page 4)

Join us to celebrate the 95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Women's Right to Vote!

#### THESPIANS — A call to ACTion!

At the Saturday, November 7, Branch meeting, we will be presenting my play, WE HOLD THESE TRUTHS, the history of the suffrage movement in the United States told in first person narrative by the key leaders. This year we celebrate the 95th Anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment that gained women the right to vote in 1920.

The play is a readers' theater production meaning that actors read from a written script but with expression. I will need seven actors. We will have two rehearsals before November 7—probably at my apartment, 8020 Frankfort Road, corner of Frankfort and Coit, just south of George Bush—or at another location if one can be found that it more centrally located. Please call or email me if you have an interest in participating; otherwise, I will hope to complete cast recruitment at the August 29 Branch meeting

The play runs about 35 plus minutes. And it is fun to do. PattyJantho, 469-443-0882. pnjantho@gmail.com (Vacation through Aug.23)

#### Contemporary Literature Group

The AAUW Dallas Contemporary Literature Group meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM.

#### 2015 Selections and Schedule

September 9	Shadow Divers by Robert Kurson
October 14	The Martian by Andy Weir
November 11	A Reunion of Ghosts by Judith Claire Mitchell
December 9	Norwegian by Night by Derek Miller

For more information, including a full schedule and list of selections for 2015 -2016. contact Barbara Davis 972.850.9918.

#### Special Thanks

Members of AAUW Dallas.

Thank you for your cards and heartfelt words of appreciation to me upon my four years as AAUW Dallas President. Clarence and I have enjoyed the beautiful orchid and will use the \$50.00 gift card for an anniversary dinner in August. I truly appreciate our board and all of our members and quests.

Margaret B. Gilmore, Ph. D., Past President 2011-2015, Membership VP, 2015-2016

#### For our Younger Members...

YWTF, an affiliate entity of AAUW for younger women, is up and running! Over the past year, YWTF Dallas has hosted social gatherings, a gubernatorial debate watch party, partnered with NARAL Pro-Choice Texas at their "Our Bodies. Our Lives" event, and has formed an active board of directors.

YWTF Dallas is looking for bright,

motivated women in their 20s and 30s to join them, so spread the word



to your favorite younger women! YWTF memberships are free **AAUW** with an membership. All events are announced on their website, Facebook page, Meetup.com group, and a new website, so visit http://ywtfdallas.aauw.net/ to stay up-to-date. Contact Ellenbogen-Najera, Director of Communications & Marketing, at vwtfdallas@gmail.com

### **Past Meetings**

#### May 2015

At our May Scholarship Luncheon, we were delighted to have our scholarship recipients and their mothers and quests. Also, we welcomed Edna Moazzami, a former member now living in Louisiana, and Rahel Tekola. Additionally, we welcomed Mona Hirsch-Cochran, Ph.D. who also joined our branch.

#### April 2015

The AAUW Dallas, Texas Branch welcomed their member Catalina Garcia, M.D. as speaker on April 18, 2015 when they honored nine Named Gift Honorees to the Ann Richards American Fellowship AAUW Texas State Award. Dr. Garcia, a graduate of the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, practicing anesthesiologist, and a community volunteer spoke of her experiences growing up in El Paso, her life as a student, her career, and her passion as a volunteer ESL instructor.

Dr. Garcia has been recognized as a Living Legend of DFW Hispanic 100s, a donor to the SMU Women's Symposium in 2008, and a founding member of the Dallas Women's Foundation.

Ann Richards American Fellowship AAUW Texas State 2015 Named Gift Honorees: Ruth Bernard, Marva Jo Curry, Barbara Davis , Isabel DeCampo, D. Min., Patty Jantho, Njoki McElroy, Ph. D, Elizabeth P. Mouritsen, Beth Newman. Ph.D., Hattie Henderson Simmons.

Visitors: Jill DeVoto, Ph. D., Ann Martin, Holly Nichols, Sharon Robertson, Leena Sanders. Ruthie Tunnel, and Sharon Varney.

## **Message from the President**

(continued from page 1)

The AAUW Dallas Board met in July and discussed programs and goals for the year. Providing mission-based programs is one of our goals, plus we plan to include an educational and fun museum visit, continue with scholarships, and fundraise for the legal advocacy fund.

August 26th is Women's Equality Day, and AAUW Dallas will be a co-sponsor of the celebration at Dallas City Hall. Several of our board members plan to attend; please join us! A flyer is included in this newsletter with details.

Women in the United States were granted the right to vote on August 26, 1920, when the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution was certified as law. We celebrate the Nineteenth Amendment and wear white that day to honor suffrage activists and to symbolize our continued fight for equal rights.

Summer seems to have raced by. We look forward to cooler weather and catching up with branch friends at our upcoming meetings. Please let me—or any board member-know your ideas to enrich vour participation with AAUW Dallas. We welcome and appreciate help with branch activities. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as president of the Dallas branch. I look forward to working with you all these next two years.

#### Carla Young

AAUW Dallas President 2015 - 2017

#### **Editor's Note**

Thank you all for electing me as your Dallas Branch Corresponding Secretary and Yearbook Editor. I am excited to lead our branch in increasing opportunities for women and young girls by employing the talents and skills my education has allowed me to cultivate. In this role, I will be Editor of the Branch Connection, Yearbook, and AAUW Dallas Branch website.

The Internet has become a powerful communications tool, and I am so pleased to assume the responsibility of using it to advance AAUW's mission in Dallas. Please take a moment to visit http://aauwtx.aauw.net/locator/dallas/ . When you visit, please bookmark the website and utilize it to stay current on our branch's events and to spread the word to your friends and colleagues.

Thank you to all of you help us communicate our mission through the various media available to us, including mail, telephone, in-person conversations, email, social media. Every effort counts and contributes to our overall success.

#### Melissa Chapman



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# MAKE PLANS TO CELEBRATE THE 95<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN'S RIGHT TO VOTE

WOMEN'S ISSUES NETWORK invites you to join us for

#### Women's Equality Day

Commemorating the passage of the 19th Amendment

Wednesday, August 26th, 2015 @ 12:00 Noon Dallas City Hall 6th Floor Flag Room

Mayor Rawlings and Members of the Dallas City Council will join us for a proclamation recognizing the anniversary.

> Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins and Members of the County Commissioner's Court

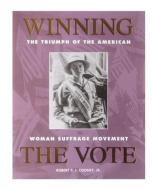
> > This year's event will capture the moving history of The Suffrage Movement and the Women who led the way.

Invited guests include Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Sojourner Truth, Susan B. Anthony, Frances E.W. Harper, Rose Winslow, and Alice Duer Miller.

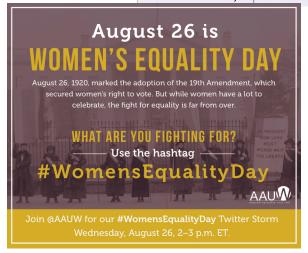
You, your friends, and all members of your organization are invited. We ask that you wear white in honor of the suffragists.

Sponsors to date for this event are:

AAUW Dallas Chapter
Dallas Women's Foundation
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
League of Women Voters of Dallas
National Council of Jewish Women Greater Dallas
Peacemakers
Planned Parenthood
Population Media Center-Yvette Hanshaw
Temple Shalom
United Nations Association Dallas Chapter
Women's Bureau, U.S. Department of Labor



Members may want to ride DART. The DART website www.dart.org has a trip planner and fare information, or you can call DART's Customer Information Center at (214) 979-1111.



## **#WomensEqualityDay**AAUW Twitter Storm!

Does Gender Equity Matter to You?

August 26, 2015 Time: 2-3 p.m. ET

Location: On Twitter! Follow @AAUW and

#WomensEqualityDay

Cost: Free

**Event Description:** Wednesday, August 26, marks 95 years since the passage of the 19th Amendment, which secured women the right to vote. This Women's Equality Day, join <a href="mailto:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omarker:omar

to share what you're fighting for!