



# **ARLINGTON BRANCH REPORT AAUW OF VIRGINIA**

December, 2017  
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***Mission of AAUW- Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.***

***In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a 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.***

[arlington-va.aauw.net](http://arlington-va.aauw.net)

## **OUR CO-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE on CELEBRATIONS**

After spending a wonderful Thanksgiving with visiting out-of-town family, I want to encourage each of you to follow your instincts to celebrate this holiday season.

Because we recognize our existing challenges to equity for women and girls, it is sometimes difficult to disengage, change the tone, and recognize that there are many reasons to celebrate, even in this difficult time. For example, we have three women Supreme Court Justices, but most of us remember our thrill when **Sandra Day O'Connor** was nominated and confirmed. We've just had the first major political party female Presidential nominee, who won the popular vote. More women are getting higher education than ever. And many young women today cannot conceive of a time when women could not attend some of our finest public universities, such as the University of Virginia—because it's become unthinkable, or even unimaginable, in today's world.

So while we will not cease our identification of issues, analysis of the causes and possible solutions, and tireless fighting for what we see as the best solutions, there is also a time, and a season, to celebrate advances in women's equity and the other joys of life.

Happy Holidays!

**Carol Dabbs**

**COMING JUST OVER THE HORIZON**



**RESERVE YOUR SEAT FOR**  
**OUR HOLIDAY LUNCHEON DECember 2**

The traditional holiday luncheon for Arlington AAUW will be held this year at noon Dec. 2 at the **Arlington Career Center** at 816 South Walter Reed Drive. Two young women from the Dream Project will be our featured speakers.

What will the future hold for them?

As you probably know, the project that has allowed 800,000 undocumented children to attend public schools, may end in January but let's dream with the Dreamers and learn their stories and their plans for the future.

Our own **Emma Violand Sanchez**, who founded the Dream Project in Arlington and is a former chair of the Arlington School Board, will lead the program.

The speakers will be **Lizette Arias**, who helped in starting the Dream Project in Arlington in 2010 and will be on Dec. 15 the new executive director of the Arlington Dreamers. She was a valedictorian at Wakefield High School and is a graduate of Moravian College in Pennsylvania. **Flor Caceres**, our other speaker, is a senior at Yorktown High School and being mentored under the Dream Project for college.

The young women will talk about their activities in Arlington and their plans ahead. The Dreamers could face deportation to countries they do not know. Lizette arrived in the United States when she was just two months old.

The program should be a most interesting and informative event with good food prepared by the culinary arts students at the Career Center. **Make certain you sign up.** See menu and details for reservations below.



## **December 2 – AAUW Holiday Luncheon**

### **12:00-2:00 PM**

**Our holiday luncheon on December 2<sup>nd</sup>** will be prepared by a group of Arlington dreamers—the culinary students at the Arlington Career Center on 816 South Walter Reed Drive. The luncheon will be held in the main dining room with holiday décor and traditional foods. The menu will feature grilled beef and turkey loin, garlic and herb roasted vegetables, pasta primavera, slider rolls, fruit and vegetable platters, dessert of blueberry crumb cake and beverages.

Come join former Arlington School Board Chair **Emma Violand-Sanchez** and members of the Dream Project. The Dream Project empowers students whose immigration status creates barriers to education by working with them to access and succeed in college through scholarships, mentoring, family engagement, and advocacy. These young people came to this country without documentation to attend school and now are facing potential deportation after high school graduation. Come, join us in starting the holidays with delicious food, fellowship and an opportunity to learn more about the hopes of members of the Dream Project.

PLEASE REGISTER by calling or emailing, **Betty Dunn** 703-536-4930, [betty.dunn3@verizon.net](mailto:betty.dunn3@verizon.net) by Nov. 29.

NAME(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Cost is \$20 per person – cash or check.(bring to luncheon)

Please make check payable to Arlington Association of University Women.

### **"Inclement Weather Reminder"**

From November 2015 BoD minutes:

"We follow the Arlington Public Schools regarding whether to hold meetings or not in case of inclement weather.

**If APS is closed, we do not meet."**

## **A REMINDER FROM OUR NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER regarding our January 22 evening meeting.**

Meet **Alice Tangerini**, our guest speaker for the January 22 Branch meeting at the Women's Club of Arlington, 700 South Buchanan St., Arlington, VA 22204 from 7:00 – 9:00. As a Staff



Illustrator for the Botany Department at the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, **Alice** has been specializing in drawing plants in pen and ink and graphite since 1972. And, since 2007, her illustration media has included digital color. She has illustrated at least 1,000 species of plants appearing in scientific periodicals, floras, and botanical and nature books.

In addition, **Alice** teaches classes in illustration techniques in botanical gardens and in academic institutions. Her responsibilities in the department also include managing and curating an extensive collection of botanical illustrations, a portion of which can be viewed in the Department of Botany public website; <http://collections.mnh.si.edu/search/botany/?ti=6>

We are very much looking forward to hearing her speak and share her career and her art. Please feel free to invite friends and family to join you at this very creative January meeting.

We are keeping **February** open as a possible snow month.

## **MONTHLY BRANCH ACTIVITIES**

### **LET'S TALK ABOUT BOOKS**

On Monday, December 18 at 6:30 p.m. we will have our annual Holiday Pot Luck Dinner at the home of **Vivian Kallen**, 2705 N Upshur Street, 703/525-

7053.

This is a joint gathering of both afternoon groups. There will be no afternoon sessions in December.

Our book selection is **A Man Called Ove** by Fredrick Backman.

Please coordinate with me about your contribution to the dinner. This will allow us to determine what is still needed. Also, please note the earlier start time. Vivian has limited seating so get your reservation in early!

**Barbara Gallagher**

703/243-1043

bgallag2@gmail.com

## **ARLINGTON INTERNATIONAL COFFEE GROUP**

The THIS/AAUW International Coffee Group will end the year with a Holiday Luncheon on December 13 from 10:30 to 12:30 at the home of **Karen Russo** in McLean.

Co-Hostesses will be all members who are requested to bring a dish for the buffet.

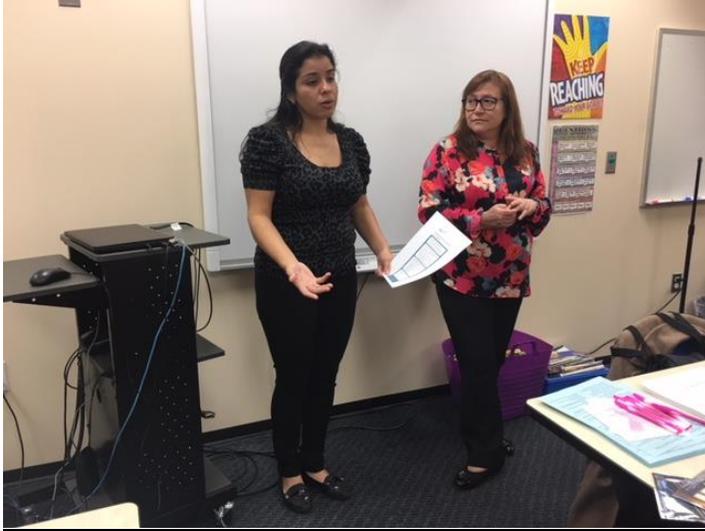
All Branch members are invited to join. Please contact Priscilla Becker at 703-841-0647 or [JBecker841@aol.com](mailto:JBecker841@aol.com)

-NOTE: Our Coffee Group will skip January and meet again in February. Priscilla



## **LUNCH BUNCH**

On November 16, Lunch Bunch welcomed **Louisa Aburto** and **Marlene Alvarez** from the Arlington Free Clinic. They presented information about the



Free Clinic and explained all their services and how to become a patient. Also, Ms. Aburto and Ms. Alvarez described how to do a Breast Self-Examination and what unusual signs to look for when examining your breasts.



**AAUW members present for the Lunch Bunch meeting were Patricia Sanguinetti, Betsy Marron, Betty Dunn, Susan Nelson, Susan Senn, Arlene Wilson and Michele Milden.**

**Michele Milden**  
mbmilden@aol.com  
703-820-7794

and **Mary Ann Ullrich**  
maryann.ullrich.va@gmail.com  
703-573-2002

**SOME TIMELY SUBJECTS OF INTEREST**

## **AAUW Summer Convention Materials Available Online**

For those who missed the AAUW National Convention in DC this summer, or who couldn't be at simultaneous sessions, the materials used or handed out are NOW available for each of the sessions and breakout groups at:

<https://convention.aauw.org/2017/07/12/2017-convention-materials/>.

Enjoy!

**Carol Dabbs**

### **SHOULD WE GIVE TO AAUW FUNDS? WHY?**

A question that arises, especially among newer members, is, "What are AAUW Funds and why do we give to them?" **McLean Area Branch member Nancy Richardson**, who has 36 years of experience with McLean's book sales (serving many times as chair, as well as twice branch president and as state president in the 90's), recently replied to that question with as good an answer as we've ever read. Here's Nancy's response:

Dear Virginia **MEMBER**,

I may not be the best person to answer your question, but I have strong feelings when it comes to our funds allocation. When I first joined the branch, we chose to give 80% of our book sale net to AAUW's Educational Foundation. Not long thereafter, interest in local college scholarships arose. In response, the branch set aside money for these scholarships and began giving AAUW's Educational Foundation only 66%. As interest in the local scholarships grew, the branch again responded, agreeing that at least 50% of our net would be used to support AAUW Funds (new name for Educational Foundation), with much of the rest designated for local giving.

Many members think local scholarships and awards provide more visible community outreach, give the branch more control over use of the money we earn, inspire young girls, and give women in need the financial support that enables them to return to college to complete their degrees.

Others point out that Virginia AAUW and our branches have contributed more than most at the national level. We've supported AAUW research into learning and have built multiple AAUW endowments that support, and will continue to support, post-graduate education for women. It's long been felt that AAUW's support for post-graduate education is a strong driver of systemic change because the women

selected to receive this money are among the best and the brightest, women whose future work may well impact millions of people.

Another AAUW iron in the fire includes support for female college educators justifiably seeking but denied tenure, redress for discrimination, and justice in sexual harassment cases. Often women are not able to stand up alone against a college or university's money and power. Recently AAUW expanded this support to women in the work place. Virginia AAUW has regularly contributed funds for this work as well.

Most recently, AAUW launched a series of far-reaching projects aimed at young women, projects focusing on STEM education, landing a good job, negotiating fair pay, learning how to run for campus office, and more. What a boost for this population!

What I've written thus far may not cover all that AAUW Funds do, but what is certain is that we are branches of AAUW, not independent clubs. We subscribe to AAUW's mission, goals, and efforts to support women and girls. Without AAUW we'd simply be another gaggle of women, a small group with relatively small clout, and likely a group destined for the dust heap. Through its extensive network, trusted national reputation (especially on Capitol Hill), and multiple diverse efforts to support women and girls, AAUW gives us life, and a highly respected life at that.

**Bottom line**, let's continue to support the many talented women and girls who've come before our branches and wowed us with their determination and accomplishments, but let's never forget the true source of our widest reach and greatest success for women, AAUW.

## Nancy

The Arlington Branch Report is published monthly from September through June by the Arlington Branch of the AAUW. Articles for the **January, 2018 Branch Report** should be mailed or emailed by December **15, 2017** to Editor **Cece Michelotti** cecemich@gmail.com **NOTIFY ME IF YOU NEED MORE TIME, PLEASE.**

Address changes or corrections should be made to **Elizabeth Dunn.**

betty.dunn3@verizon.net

## *Calendar of Events*

Branch Members meeting dates to consider:

### **GENERAL MEETINGS:**

12/02/17 (note that date has changed)  
01/22/18 Smithsonian Inst. Speaker Gen. Mt.  
02/19 (possible if snow)  
03/12/18  
04/18 TBD

### **BOARD MEETINGS**

NOVEMBER 29

Jan 24  
March 28  
May 23  
July 25