

Hello AAUW members. ***Please see updated information in the Fundraising / Membership Matters Section.***

We have some great updates and events for our Branch in the upcoming months. Our February meeting had great attendance and was an engaging presentation, and our March meeting promises to be inspiring. More about all of this following in this newsletter.

Any questions or concerns? Reply to this email or contact me directly, JenniferL91@hotmail.com.

Jennifer Long
AAUW ESK Newsletter Coordinator



Edmonds SnoKing (WA) Branch

**Together, we can achieve a vision
of equal opportunity for all**

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Newsletter | March 2024

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President's Message

Hello wonderful members,

By the time this newsletter goes out our snow will be melted away, but for now, I am enjoying the pretty dusting we received overnight (especially since I don't have to travel in it).

March is looking to be a great month! March 12 is equal pay day for all women. However, for women of color equal pay day is much, much later in the year. The gender pay gap is narrowing, but it has not improved much in the last decade or so. There are many reasons still, but underrepresentation in the STEM fields, access to affordable daycare, access to flexible work environments are still areas we need to continue to fight for in the workplace.

Our presenter for our March meeting is Debbie Dimitre telling the story of Rachel Carson, a famous scientist who wrote the book "Silent Spring" which has been credited with starting the global environmental movement. A meeting not to be missed.

In other news, we are looking for 4-5 people to help stuff swag bags for the in-person *Expanding Your Horizons* event for girls in 7th-12th grade held on Edmonds Campus. This year the event is on March 27th and we need people to come for a few hours on the 26th. If you're available, please reach out to me so we can coordinate time and place for everyone to meet (I hear lunch will be provided for the helpers).

Committees are forming to plan both the spring fundraiser and our annual "*An Evening of Art for Scholarships*". Also, we will start a committee to work on the end of the year Scholarship Brunch held on the Edmonds Campus. The planning meetings are held via Zoom and all are welcome to join the fun!

Jodi Forsell
President

These links take you to sections of our newsletter.

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Membership News
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Diversity Book Group
Public Policy Updates

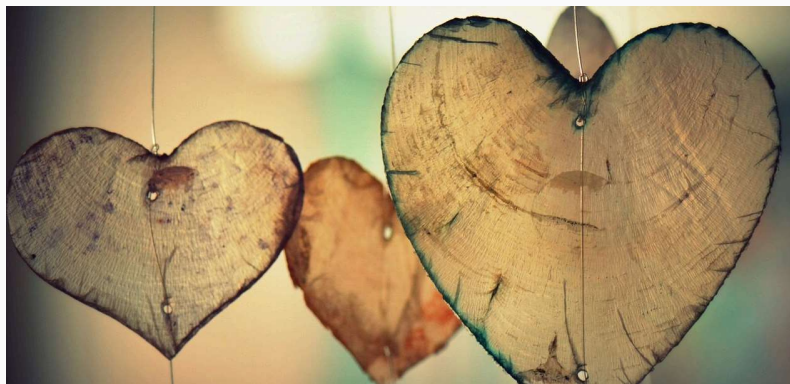


Put These Dates in Your Calendar

Saturday, March 9, 10:30am, monthly Branch meeting at Mountlake Terrace Library, 23300 58th Avenue West.

Thursday, March 14, 3:30-5pm, monthly Branch board meeting via Zoom. Details on the Branch Website.

Wednesday, March 20, 11am-noon, Coffee & Conversation, Cafe Louvre, 210 5th Ave S, Edmonds



Fundraising / Membership Matters

Two exciting announcements this month! As shared, the ***An Evening of Art for Scholarships*** date and location have been announced. Thanks to our intrepid event chair, Elena Cervantes, WSU graciously agreed to offer the location for free. They are allowing us to use the very large lobby and adjoining classroom, both of which are right inside the front door. There will be lots of free and accessible parking as well.

the preparation begins. There has been discussion and angst concerning asking for sponsors; however, it is understood that's not in everyone's skill set. There will be multiple areas in which to be involved and for each the time and effort necessary shouldn't be daunting. Members will be supported and given all the needed to information for whatever they sign up to do.

As with everything, the art show will only be as successful as the level of involvement and effort given so everyone is encouraged to find some way in which to share their time and skills.

In May there will be another fundraising event to benefit the Branch. I'll be able to share more about it soon but, in the meantime, I'll leave you with this teaser:

- Who doesn't have jewelry they haven't worn in ages?
- Who doesn't like a little bit of new bling?
- Well, this will be an opportunity to part with the unworn and unwanted and perhaps find some new (to you), shiny replacement!

Stay tuned for more in the Week AheadsUp, at the March meeting, and in the newsletters.

Linda Clay
VP for Membership
lindarclay@gmail.com




Programs



MARCH PROGRAM:

Join Edmonds SnoKing AAUW as we take in Debbie Dimitre's live performance as Rachel Carson- American scientist, marine biologist and author of SILENT SPRING, the book many believe started the environmental movement.



FREE TO ATTEND

MARCH 9, 2024
10:30 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.
MOUNTLAKE TERRACE LIBRARY
23300 58TH AVE W.



April 13: This is our business meeting, election of officers, and we will also take an opportunity to socialize with brunch on the agenda!

Ann McNulty
VP for Programs



Outreach

Mark your calendars! Commonly referred to as “The Art Show” in our Branch...this year’s ***An Evening of Art for Scholarships*** event will be held on Friday, October 4, 2024, at the WSU Everett campus. Event timing TBD.

Thank you to Jodi Forsell, Linda Clay, Ann McNulty, Harriet Fuji, Sandra Distelhorst, Victoria O’Gorman, Pat Hooper, Debby Smith, and Cathy Draper for volunteering to help create this Branch event!

If you would like to join the team of volunteers and find a task that interests you, please join me via Zoom on Friday March 8th at 5:30pm to learn more. Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88463550354>

Elena Cervantes

Community Outreach & Scholarship Fundraiser Event Coordinator



Notes From the Board Meeting

On Lobby Day bills, there continues to be bipartisan support across the aisle on some bills, including three of our bills: HB1332, Since Time Immemorial curriculum on indigenous culture; SB 5850 addressing chronic absenteeism; and SB 5424 on flexible work for police officers. Bills facing challenges include SB 5421 on hospital merger regulations and SB579 on paid sick leave. New bills our branch supports are HB 2266 concerning sanitary conditions for construction workers, and ESB 5462 promoting Inclusive Learning Standards.

Our College and High school scholarships information has been posted on our website, and the schools have been contacted.

At the April business meeting Jodi will bring to vote the issue of whether to broaden our high school scholarship criteria to include the arts and apprenticeship programs.

About 40 people attended the very successful February meeting featuring Diane Johnston and her presentation "And It has Pockets." Our March meeting will feature Debbie Dimitre as environmentalist Rachel Carson.

For the coming year, our Branch will need volunteers to lead the following functions: Membership, Communications, and Programs. Also, the State Board currently has two open positions.

Sita Bhaskaran

Secretary



There will not be a book sale at the March Branch meeting as the public library does not allow sales within their facility. Please save your books and bring them to the April Branch meeting.

The Diversity Book club will

discuss the book "Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood" by Trevor Noah. All members are welcome to read the book and join the conversation. Please let Sita know if you are coming.



Public Policy Updates and Actions

Election day is Tuesday, March 12...be sure to cast your vote!

Sandra Distelhorst
Public Policy Team Leader
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