

# BRANCHING OUT

OUR MISSION: *Advancing Equity for Women and girls through advocacy, education, and research*

March 2016

## FEBRUARY 29 MEETING

### Days for Girls International

Kay Hertz will be speaking about her unique project with Days for Girls International that makes and provides feminine hygiene supplies to girls in South Africa.



School attendance is an issue for South African girls during their monthly menstrual periods, and Kay's organization seeks to alleviate this impediment to girls' education.

You can find out more at <http://www.daysforgirls.org/>

Our upcoming general meeting begins at 5:30 at Smokey Row Coffee House, 1910 Cottage Grove Avenue. Plan to bring a friend. If you choose, you can order from their huge selection of drinks, refreshments, and sandwiches to consume before, during, or after the meeting.



PHOTOS SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER  
Making crafts at the Young Women's Resource Center holiday party are Katheena Hampton, Ariana Marrow, Isabelle Dalin, Sarah Terry, Rakyia Bradley, Michaela Brundies, DiMaucia Phanfil, Michaela Brundies and Hillary Hanson.

## In This Issue

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Members Faith Sherman and JoAnne Cook Made the Paper! See Page 4

## REVISED BRANCH BYLAWS

We were required to make some slight additional mandated revisions to our branch bylaws to align them with the AAUW Model branch bylaws.

Our branch policies now reflect our local dues increase from \$8 to \$10.

The revised bylaws will be emailed to members who have online capabilities. If anyone else would like a paper copy, please contact Faith Sherman at 278-2242.

## Email?

Would you rather save the some trees and receive this newsletter in email? If so, please send your email address to Amy Getty at [agetty@grandview.edu](mailto:agetty@grandview.edu)

## HOLIDAY TEA ON DECEMBER 5 ENJOYED BY ALL

Our festive holiday tea was held at Grand View University in the Rasmussen Building on December 5.

Anna and Elana Steenson, Drake students who have formed the group Clear Joy, entertained with holiday music played on the viola and cello.



Five members contributed \$305 to AAUW Funds. Guests attending were Josie Thurmond (GV C/U Branch Member), Kyrstin Shelly, and Kristina Cottrill, both of whom have since become AAUW members.



## Mark Your Calendars!

### KRISTIN GRIFFITH, SPEAKER AT APRIL 4 GENERAL MEETING

The Young Women's Resource Center named Kristin Griffith their new executive director last December. She has ambitious plans for the organization that we will hear about on April 4 at 5:30 at Smokey Row Coffee House, 1910 Cottage Grove Avenue.

Our branch has supported the YWRC over the years with contributions of clothing, volunteer help with their holiday party, and supplying food for the Monday suppers they have for their clients, mentors, staff and resource people.

### BUILD A BRIGHTER FUTURE EVENTS

On April 11-14, the Office on the Status of Women, the Des Moines AAUW branch, and Grand View AAUW will team up to sponsor four days of panels and workshops at Grand View University. The target audience is local college students, young women professionals, and recent graduates.

Kristen Corey, Program Planner of the Office, and Amy Getty, AAUW Des Moines branch member, have lined up sessions that will feature a Women's Bureau panel on equal pay (details below), a financial literacy workshop, a networking panel followed by a meet and greet, and a \$tart \$mart Salary Negotiation Workshop.

All events are free and open to the public. For more details contact Amy Getty at [agetty@grandview.edu](mailto:agetty@grandview.edu).

### Closing the Wage Gap: What Can We Do In Iowa?

A Panel Discussion

MONDAY, APRIL 11th, 6:30 – 9:00 PM

Grand View University, Student Center, Speed Lyceum

Panel moderator: Grace Protos, U.S. Department of Labor, Women's Bureau

Panelists: Phyllis Peters, Chair, Iowa Commission on the Status of Women; Maxine Lampe, AAUW; Andrew Daley, Federal Investigator, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; Ella Heinicke, Grand View recent graduate (STEM field)

The panel discussion will be followed by a reception and exhibition tables in the hallway outside of the Speed Lyceum.

ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR MAY 23

Isaiah McGee, coordinator of Title IX compliance for the Des Moines Public Schools, will be our speaker at our May 23 annual meeting at 5:30 at the Northwest Community Center. He will share with us the strides being made in gender equity in our Des Moines schools. A light supper will be provided.

The meeting will include the election of Leadership Team members. New nominations will be announced in the May newsletter.



## YWRC HOLIDAY PARTY

On December 15, the Young Women's Resource Center hosted a holiday party for 200 of its clients at Central Presbyterian Church.

Three AAUW branch volunteers helped with the cookie decoration station: JoAnne Cook, Sharon Gee, and Faith Sherman.

*See picture on page one.*

## We're on Facebook!

Join us at <https://www.facebook.com/AAUW.Des.Moines>, or just type in AAUW Des Moines the next time you log on. Find out about events and issues!

## IN MEMORIAM

**Our Branch lost two former members, and we extend our sympathy to their families:**

Althea Rausch (January 1)

Marcia Ann Hyde (January 10)

## We need you for the AAUW-IA Lobby Day on March 9!

Pay Equity and adequate K-12 school funding are the focus of AAUW-Iowa's 2016 Lobby Day.

A Pay Equity law has been on the books in Iowa since the 1990s, but it needs to be amended to include protections for discussing salaries in the work place and other additions to bring the results women need for equal pay.

Both major political parties have equal pay as a party platform plank, so there should be support from both sides of the aisle.

Adequate K-12 school funding is a perennial issue. Everyone wants Iowa schools to be strong, but getting the financial support to maintain excellence is the difficult part.

Bring a car-load from your Branch to sharpen your skills for advocating for these and other AAUW-IA issues!

Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. in room 304 at the Iowa Capitol Building, 1007 E. Grand Ave., Des Moines, IA

To register, email Jane Nettleton, Co-Director Public Policy, at [nedjane@mchsi.com](mailto:nedjane@mchsi.com) or call her at 515-295-3704 and give her your name, your branch name, and your email address.

## YWRC SUPPER PROVIDED ON January 11.

We volunteered to provide a beef burger supper at the Young Women's Resource Center on January 11.

On Mondays and Wednesdays clients who are at risk, girls and young mothers, meet with counselors, mentors, and staff over a meal to discuss the problems and challenges facing the girls and to provide encouragement, help and fun for them.

Thanks to the branch members who donated food for this endeavor.



## STATE AAUW CONFERENCE APRIL 16-17 at GRAND VIEW UNIVERSITY

“...and Justice For All” will be the theme of this year’s AAUW Iowa conference. It will span Saturday, April 16 and Sunday, April 17 this year to accommodate working delegates. Complete information on content and registration will be in the spring the Iowa Initiative.

If you would be willing to host a delegate or two from across the state in your home on the night of April 16, please contact Faith Sherman at 278-2242.

### **Fran Shoop Appreciation!**

Please join us in thanking Fran Shoop for her many years of service on the AAUW Des Moines Leadership Team.

She has recently resigned due to increased caregiving duties at home, and she will be missed on the team.

### **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

We heartily welcome Kristina Cottrill, sister of Brittany Cottrill, and Kyrstin Shelley, Grand View graduate, to our Des Moines branch.

### **MORAL MONDAYS IOWA.**

The mission of Moral Mondays Iowa is to highlight the moral progress at work in the Iowa legislature by discussing legislation that spans a range of progressive issues working for the advancement of Iowa values like equity, fairness, and justice.

A series of discussions has been arranged by the Interfaith Alliance in collaboration with several progressive organizations, including AAUW Iowa .

These meetings are held on Mondays at noon during the legislative season in room 304 at the Capitol. Adequate funding of Iowa’s schools, including its infrastructure, was the topic of the first session on January 25. Rep. Cindy Winckler (D-Davenport) and Melissa Peterson, Government Relations Director of the Iowa State Education Association were the speakers.

Water quality was the topic February 8.

More information can be found on the website [www.interfaithallianceiowa.org](http://www.interfaithallianceiowa.org).

If you would like to attend any of these future sessions, please let Faith Sherman know 278-2242.

### **C/U NEWS.**

The Grand View CU group has been busy with programming this year. They had several meetings in the fall, one about how to prevent sexual assault on campus and another about the “He for She” movement. This spring we have already been visited by a representative from Planned Parenthood, and will be helping out with the GV Theatre’s production of the *Vagina Monologues* on Thursday, February Eighteenth.

**AAUW Des Moines**  
c/o Amy Getty  
804 Grandview Ave  
Des Moines, IA 50316

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

## Upcoming Dates

Ongoing — Moral Mondays Iowa on Mondays, noon, throughout the legislative session in room 304 at the Capitol.

February 29 — Branch meeting at 5:30 p.m. at Smokey Row Coffee House.

March 8 — Iowa AAUW Lobby Day at the Capitol, 9 a.m. sign-in.

March 23 — Contemporary Literature Book Group, 1-3 p.m. Contact Sharon Gee for details.

March 28 — International Relations, 9:30 a.m. at the Boy Scout Center on South 63rd in Des Moines.

April 4 — Branch general meeting 5:30 p.m. at Smokey Row Coffee House

April 11-14 — “Build a Brighter Future” events at Grand View University

April 16-17 — AAUW Iowa conference at Grand View University

April 25 — International Relations, 9:30 a.m. at the Boy Scout Center on South 63rd in Des Moines.

April 27 — Contemporary Literature Book Group, 1-3 p.m. Contact Sharon Gee for details.

May 23 — International Relations, 9:30 a.m. at the Boy Scout Center on South 63rd in Des Moines.

May 23 — Branch annual meeting 5:30 at Northwest Community Center

May 25 — Contemporary Literature Book Group, 1-3 p.m. Contact Sharon Gee for details.

## Contact Us

The Leadership Team is at your service.

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