

BRANCHING OUT

OUR MISSION: *Advancing Equity for Women and girls through advocacy, education, and research* **Winter 2015-16**

Holiday Tea Set for December 5th at Grand View University

We will meet at the Rasmussen Building, room 103, at Grand View University for our holiday tea on Saturday, December 5, from 2:00 – 4:00. This will be an excellent opportunity for you to give your support for AAUW funds, which help graduate students, projects, and research. You can also enjoy festive music and refreshments. Sisters Anna and Elana Steenson will be playing holiday music on violin and cello.

Join us at the Fleur Cinema to enjoy the movie *Suffragette*

We will meet at the Fleur Cinemas in Des Moines for the 4:40 p.m. showing of *Suffragette* on Monday, November 16. The movie tells the story of the women who fought for voting rights in the 1800s and early 1900s, risking everything to do so.



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- Recap of September 21st Meeting
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Nancy Mwiroti, director of pi515, spoke at our October 19th Meeting at Smokey Row in Des Moines

NANCY MWIROTSI SPOTLIGHTED REFUGEE GIRLS' CHALLENGES AND SUCCESSES OCTOBER 19 AT SMOKEY ROW

Ambitious for the success of all our community's new young refugee girls, Nancy Mwiroti, herself from Kenya, spoke at our October meeting about the program she has developed called Pursuit of Innovation 515. It teaches computer coding, but so much more. She's an advocate for underserved students, leading college tours, communicating with parents, giving help with homework, working with schools, and making business connections. More about her program can be found at www.pi515.org.

Our meeting was held at the Smokey Row restaurant where we sat around a table in their meeting room. We felt it was a friendly, environment that we will try again.

The motion was passed, having been recommended by the Leadership Team at its Oct. 5 meeting, that the Branch dues for 2016-17 be raised by \$2.00. This will result in an increase of total dues next year to \$69.00. Our local portion will be \$10 instead of \$8.00, an amount that has not increased in several years. It was felt that the increase is needed to cover costs of printing, postage and meetings, and should not affect our ability to fund and support such projects as the Tech Trek summer camp and the upcoming Build a Brighter Future conference. Our membership base has declined, while those 50 year members who, as honorary life members, no longer pay dues, has grown.



*We're now 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!

Upcoming Dates

November 18 — 1-3 p.m. — Contemporary Literature Book Group. Contact Sharon Gee for details.

November 23 — 9:30-11:00 a.m. — International Relations Group. Contact Joanne Page (page@dwx.com) for details.

December 5 — 2-4 p.m. — Holiday Tea at Grand View University.

December 10 — Noon — Modern Ideas — Merle Hay Perkins

December 16 — 1-3 p.m. — Contemporary Literature Book Group. Contact Sharon Gee for details

February 29 — 5:30 p.m. — General Meeting, Smokey Row Café, Des Moines. Kay Hertz, who organizes distributing health supplies to girls in South Africa, will be our speaker.

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

April 4 — 5:30 p.m. — General Meeting, Smokey Row Café, Des Moines

April 17-18 — AAUW Iowa State Convention, Grand View University

May 23 — 5:30 p.m. — General Meeting, Smokey Row Café, Des Moines

Contact Us

The Leadership Team is at your service.

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NEW 2015-16 AAUW Des Moines Directory Is Out

New names appeared in the new Branch membership directory sent out recently, thanks to Barb Zimany. We welcome the following new members, who have not been listed in the newsletter previously: Kristen Corey, Ammerette Deibert, Avilah Getzler, Carol Henderson, Sara Hlad, Therese Judge, Janet Pickerell, Susan Pundzak, and Arleen Sweet. If you find any errors in the directory please let Barb Zimany, 254-0121, know.

Our revised Branch bylaws were also emailed out, with the changes that were mandated by the national AAUW.

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

HE NAMED ME MALALA ENJOYED BY MEMBERS

This award-winning documentary is about Malala Yousafzai, a spunky Pakistani girl who bravely spoke out for the universal right to education for girls in a place where that is an unwelcome concept by many. For her courage she received a near fatal gunshot wound by Taliban forces, and also the 2013 Nobel Peace Prize.

Eight Branch members attended the movie on October 13.

NEW DIRECTOR OF YOUNG WOMEN'S RE- SOURCE CENTER

The YWRC has a new executive director, Kristen Griffith, from Toronto, Canada. We have supported the YWRC by providing occasional Monday suppers and helping with their holiday party. We have agreed to provide another meal on January 11.

Join a Special Interest Group!

International Relations Group

This group meets the 4th Monday of the month from 9:30– 11:00 a.m. at the Boy Scout Service Center, 6123 Scout Trail Road, Des Moines. Dates this winter are November 23 and March 28. Please contact Joanne Page (page@dwx.com) for a more complete schedule. All are welcome!

Contemporary Literature Group

This group meets on the 4th Wednesday of every month from 1:00 -3:00 p.m. at various members' houses. Winter meeting dates are November 18, December 16, March 23, and April 27. Please contact Joanne Page (page@dwx.com) or Sharon Gee (derfgee@mchsi.com) for a detailed schedule of readings and meeting locations.

Modern Ideas

Modern Ideas is a group that meets every second Thursday at the Perkins on Merle Hay Road at noon. Their next meeting will be December 10 at noon. Contact Faith Sherman for more details (wsherman41@gmail.com).

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

PLACE
STAMP
HERE



» » Holiday Tea



Please join us for a
celebration of the holidays!

Saturday, December 5th,
2-4 p.m.



AAUW Des Moines

**At Grand View
University**

Rasmussen Building
On the Corner of E.
14th Street and Boyd
Room 103
Des Moines, IA

We will be raising donations for
AAUW Funds.

Anna and Elana Steenson will
play holiday music on violin and
cello.