



Elmhurst Area Branch News

Volume 84, No. 5 • November 2022

November 2, 2022 Branch Meeting Half the Sky's Study of Women's Issues: Immigration

7 PM, Elmhurst Public Library
Kossman Room

Attorney Farrah Qazi, a practicing Immigration Lawyer for over 18 years and a Human Rights Advocate, will be our guest speaker on November 2, 2022 at our AAUW general meeting.

Join us for a very timely and informative presentation about immigration. Half the Sky is so pleased that this award winning lawyer is willing to share her knowledge with us.

From her website we learn of her passion. Farrah Qazi writes:

"I am not your typical lawyer. I am a human rights advocate who actively helps immigrants, refugees, women, and children achieve their most impossible goals. I am also very passionate about community service.

"I have even founded and presided over two charitable foundations. I love speaking publicly about immigration, estate planning, and human rights. I strongly believe that every individual deserves their legal papers and should know his/her human rights.

"I also write articles and books about pressing matters on these subjects. I live and breathe immigration and human rights. To me, this isn't just a job, but a way of life!"



November 2022

Branch Meeting & Business Meeting

November 2 - 7 pm
Half the Sky Study of Women's Issues:
Immigration
Farrah Qazi
Elmhurst Public Library
Kossman Room

Half the Sky & DEI Study Groups

November 29 - 7 pm
Members attend the discussion at the Elmhurst History Museum on *Americans Like Me: Reflections on Life Between Cultures*, featured book under "One Book - One Elmhurst". Register by calling the Library (630-279-8696) or the Elmhurst History Museum (630-833-1457)

Board of Directors

November 30 - 7 pm
Elmhurst Public Library

Book Group

December 1 - 1:00 pm
Tess of the D'Urbervilles
by Thomas Hardy
Discussion Leader: Sally Allen
Hostess: Marcia Goltermann



AAUW Hotline 1-800-326-2289
Email: info@aauwelmhurst.org

Mission

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy.

Values

Nonpartisan. Fact-based Integrity. Inclusion and Intersectionality.

Vision

Equity for all.

Membership

The American Association of University Women is open to any graduate holding an associate or equivalent, baccalaureate, or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution.

AAUW FUNDS

The AAUW Funds support educational fellowships and grants, legal advocacy, public policy, leadership programs and research reports.

ELMHURST AREA BRANCH

NEWS is published ten times a year (August/September through May) by the American Association of University Women - Elmhurst Area Branch.

FINANCIAL REPORT

September 30, 2022

Jennifer Jordan

Director of Finance

Fundraiser Fund	\$21,083.58
Conferences Fund	2,611.75
General Fund:	<u>8,655.34</u>
Total	\$32,350.67

AAUW Reacts to Latest Pay Gap Stats

AAUW Chief Executive Officer Gloria L. Blackwell issued the following statement in response to figures released on September 13th by the U.S. Census Bureau:

Women’s economic security is under constant threat and, no matter how you measure it, the gender pay gap remains persistent and unacceptable.

In a calculation of the latest data from the U.S. Census Bureau comparing full-time, year-round workers, women took home 83.7% of the pay that men did—a figure that is not statistically different from the pay gap in 2020. In addition, a more comprehensive calculation that compared everyone with earnings in 2021 (including part-time and seasonal workers) found that women were paid a shocking 77% of men’s wages last year.

In coalition with other equity organizations, AAUW this year used this new calculation that assesses all workers. Our goal was to get a fuller sense of the wage gap at a time when millions of women were forced out of the workforce due to layoffs and increased caregiving demands. The results underscore a grim reality: Women still face a pay gap that has, at best, stagnated over the past several years and, at worst, widened further.

Moreover, the pay gap continues to be most egregious for so many women of color. Using the analysis that included all wage earners, AAUW found that Black women were compensated a mere 64% of what white, non-Hispanic men were paid in 2021. For Latinas, the gap was even more abysmal: 54%.

We’ll keep pushing to provide the most inclusive and accurate data possible. In the meantime, we cannot get distracted from our critical work to achieve pay equity for all, which includes prioritizing racial equity.

AAUW remains strongly committed to advocating for laws and policies to ensure fair pay, relieve the disproportionate burden of student debt on women of color, and provide paid leave and affordable child care. Employers and legislators must do better. We won’t stop fighting until all women are paid fairly and have the same opportunities to build secure economic futures for themselves and their families.

Remember to VOTE!

FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am so happy to be experiencing a remarkably beautiful fall season this year. I hope everyone has had a chance to get out and do some “leaf peeping”.

This is also a season we all have been getting a lot of information about the upcoming elections. I would like to emphasize AAUW’s stance on this subject by repeating a message from AAUW Illinois:

“Be sure to have your AAUW voice heard and VOTE on November 8, 2022! Everything AAUW is fighting for is on the ballot this mid term election! Do your research and support candidates that are pro choice, believe in strong, high quality public schools, advocate freedom from violence, expand voting rights, and firmly believe in the separation of church and state.

Our mission does not happen without Public Policy!

Thanks for all you do!
Tracey Sherman-Falcon and Paula Purdue
Public Policy Co-Chairs, AAUW IL”

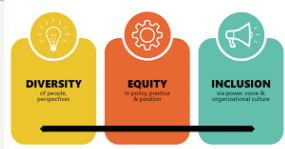
Moira Murray

REMINDER: VOTE TO AMEND/REVISE BRANCH BYLAWS AT NOVEMBER BUSINESS MEETING

Pat O’Dwyer, Director of Bylaws and Policies

At the upcoming November Branch Business Meeting which will take place on Wednesday, Nov. 2, members present will be asked to vote their approval of a list of ten proposed Revisions/Amendments to our Branch Bylaws. As required by our current Bylaws, a copy of these Revisions/Amendments was emailed to all Branch Members, for their information and review, on October 12. Members were asked to read the document in preparation for voting at the November Branch Meeting. If you would like a copy of that message, please email Pat O’Dwyer.

Thank you for your consideration and participation in our Branch administration and organization.



DEI STUDY GROUP REPORT

By Elizabeth Neill

I really appreciated the wonderful program given by Jan Alexander and Margaret Harrell of the Elmhurst Backyard Caucus.

I am grateful to the AAUW members who attended, and I would especially like to thank Suzanne Stock who did such a marvelous job of organizing the program.

Thursday, April 20th Deanie Brown will present a program, for the Elmhurst DEI Study Group, on concepts from the AAUW Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Toolkit, to be found on the AAUW website. (This program will be offered on Zoom, and it will be co-sponsored by the Downers Grove and Naperville AAUW Branches.) I hope you will plan to attend.

Deanie has agreed to place some special emphasis on “Creating Allyship,” an important topic we haven’t really discussed at our Branch.

Last month, I wrote about Wayne Hoffman. His essay, “Speak Up,” opens the Stories of Race collection. I want to return to it, because it’s a great example of “creating allyship.”

He wrote that when a local church hosted a program given by a man who’d lived in the Japanese internment camps here in the U.S. during World War II, all the attendees found when they went to the parking lot that their tires had been slashed.

Hoffman also wrote that one of his golfing buddies, a WWII veteran, said once, “I hate the Japanese.” When that happened, he was deeply shocked and stared at his friend, but said nothing—something he later deeply regretted.

Hoffman went on to write that he is now living at Lexington. One of his friends there made a racist remark that surprised him. “One of the guys,” Hoffman wrote, “talked about his hatred for Blacks, and that he thinks they’re all lazy . . . This time I said something—about how plenty of Black people work hard at our residence, including those who bring him his food and his medications. We got into it for a minute or two. . . I doubt I changed his mind, but I felt better for trying. Maybe at least I made him think a little. Hopefully I made him think twice about sharing his racist views next time.”

Allyship is just this, what Wayne Hoffman did: standing up and speaking out. More and more I’m learning that I have missed the opportunity to “stand up and speak out,” on a number of occasions and I hope that like Wayne Hoffman, I will in the future.

HALF THE SKY NEWS

Special thanks to Sarah and Carol for orchestrating a Saturday morning October 23, 2022 coffee tasting of Dean’s Beans and to Denise for her presentation of RUMI spices! We learned about Fair Trade and B corporations and are adding to our list of businesses owned by women supporting women.

I also want to recognize the work that Carolyn Heiney and Judy Ekblad have done in obtaining Spanish language children’s books as well as clothing for ICDI as that organization works to address the needs of thousands of immigrants coming into the Chicagoland area from the southern border.

Our November meeting will be supporting the Elmhurst Public Library’s ONE ELMHURST ONE BOOK discussion of *Americans Like Me: Reflections on Life Between Cultures* edited by America Ferrara. Plenty of copies of this book celebrating the immigrant experience here in the USA are available from the library. Since the book discussion is at the Elmhurst History Museum on the fourth Tuesday November 29, 2022, our usual meeting time, please register via email to the museum: ehmprograms@elmhurst.org (630-833-1457). Please include your name and phone number.

IF YOU HAVE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER STUDY during 2023 please contact Betty Laliberte. We will be digging further into the Afghanistan women’s struggle [which complements the RUMI presentation and previous investigations of SOLA School of Leadership Afghanistan] sometime in 2023. ---Betty Laliberte