



NEWSLETTER - APRIL 2023 (Volume 84, Issue 10)

Next Monthly Meeting

April 5, 2023 - 7:00 PM

Elmhurst Public Library or Zoom

Community Activism - What Can You Do?

Ms. Erendira Loza (Eren) is originally from Mexico City where she earned a Bachelor's degree in International Relations from the National University of Mexico. She has been in the Bensenville area since 2009 and obtained her U.S. citizenship in 2019. Recently, she was given the LatinX Community Award by Wintrust Community Bank in the fall of 2022.

Eren will be discussing the formation of the Elmhurst Resource Collaboration (ERC) and its current mission. She will also discuss the recent launch of the nonprofit: "Roots and Wings// Alas y Raices" in the Bensenville area whose mission is to: "Embrace the human dignity of all community members through services and programs that support immigrants' integration, connect community members and celebrate the plurality of cultures". <https://alas-y-raices.org>



Roots and Wings//Alas y Raices NFP
NFP



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Instructions for Attending AAUW Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, April 5, 2023 - 7:00 pm

Computer/Mobile Device: <http://elmlib.org/videochat>

From this page, click on the link for “Virtual Meeting Rooms” or “Information Desk Video Chat” Mention AAUW. If clicking one of those links does not automatically open the meeting, contact the Elmhurst Public Library at 630-279-8696.



BRANCH CALENDAR

[Branch Meeting - April 5, 2023 - 7:00 pm](#)
Elmhurst Public Library & Zoom
Community Activism - What Can You Do?
Speaker: Erendira Loza

[Half the Sky - April 18, 2023 - 5:00 pm](#)
Annual Ethnic Dinner
Maharaj Indian Grill 227 N Addison, Elmhurst IL
RSVP by April 10 to bettylaliberte2007@gmail.com

[DEI Webinar - April 20, 2023 - 7:00 pm](#)
Raising Awareness on Diversity & Inclusion
Speaker: Deanie Brown
Co-sponsored by Elmhurst, Downers Grove, Naperville and
Jane Addams AAUW Branches

[Book Discussion Group - April 27, 2023 - 1:00 pm](#)
The Music of Bees by Eileen Garvin
Discussion Leader: Adrienne Curiale
Hostess: Marcia Goltermann

[Board of Directors - No meeting in April](#)

President's Message

Happy Spring! March not only brought us warmer weather and longer days but also “celebrated” two major observances important to AAUW - Women’s History Month and sadly Equal Pay Day. I am summarizing the following information from National that you may not have had a chance to read, but I feel is very important.

On Equal Pay Day 2023—March 14th—we looked at the current state of the gender pay gap: Women working full-time, year-round are paid 84 cents, and all earners (including part-time and seasonal) are paid 77 cents on average for every dollar paid to men.

Pay equity will remain an AAUW priority until the pay gap is fully eliminated. We’ve long known that on average, pervasive pay inequities mean that women in the workforce take home less than men—and that women of color are often paid far less.

How you can help: In March, Congress took the first step and introduced the bipartisan Paycheck Fairness Act. When passed, the Paycheck Fairness Act will ensure all women have the tools they need to challenge discrimination in the workplace and all employers have the incentives they need to comply with the law. To make equality a reality, we need you to:

- Contact your members of Congress
- Write a Letter to the Editor
- Engage your communities on social media

Why are we still talking about the gender pay gap? Because it has barely changed in decades, and these historic inequities were further exacerbated when the COVID-19 crisis hit. Women over the past three years, especially women of color and mothers, were pushed into part-time or seasonal work, or out of the workforce all together. As elected officials continue efforts to rebuild our nation in the wake of the dual public health and economic crises, they must do better. We cannot build back an economy that works for everyone without ensuring that all women can work with equality, safety, and dignity—starting with pay equity.

Speak out this Equal Pay Day and [support the Paycheck Fairness Act now!](#)

--Moirra Murray, President

Half the Sky Update

Following is a recap of our year so far.

April 2023— our annual ethnic dinner will be on Tuesday, April 18, at Maharaj-Indian Grill, 117 N. Addison Ave. Elmhurst.

March 2023 discussed the situation facing Afghan women and SOLA, a school for young Afghans.

February 2023 attended Global Flicks “*Madres Paralelas*” a study of two first time mothers.

January 2023 focused on contributions made by Yemen women in the midst of their civil war.

December 2022 visited Half the Sky Café in Wheaton to learn how the owner created her own action plan after reading the WuDunn and Kristoff book.

November 2022 Farrah Qazi, an immigrant lawyer and Human Rights Advocate, shared insights into challenges within the immigrant system.

October 2022 enjoyed gathering for “coffee with a purpose”, learning about fair trade like Dean’s Beans and women-led companies like Rumi Spices.

Action components this year included a session of packing food for Feed My Starving Children, snack bags for ICDI and collecting bras for Free the Girls.

All AAUW members and friends are welcome at any meeting. Come when you can. Bring ideas for us to study. That's what makes Half the Sky so fascinating.

--Betty Laliberte

Like this Newsletter?

The Branch newsletter has a new look this month, thanks to publishing software provided through ConstantContact, which we can also use for creating and sending out e-blasts and flyers. Curious about ConstantContact? Looking for a way to help the Branch? We desperately need someone to assist our

newsletter editor Perry Doubt. The work is easy -- just a couple of hours a month - and no special experience is required. Call Perry at 708.288.3337 for details. Thanks!

DEI WEBINARS SPONSORED BY AAUW NATIONAL

Celebrating Diversity Month

Monday, April 24, 2023, 2 p.m. ET

AAUW's upcoming webinar on Celebrating Diversity Month has been rescheduled to April 24, 2023 at 2:00pm ET. If you haven't yet registered, please join us by [registering](#) today. We hope to see you there!

Workshop: Diversity and Intersectionality

Wednesday, May 10, 2023, 7:30 p.m. ET

The national Inclusion and Equity Committee invites all AAUW members to participate in a virtual workshop on Wednesday, May 10, from 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm ET in preparation for World Day for Cultural Diversity (observed on Sunday, May 21). This workshop provides a hands on learning opportunity for AAUW members to explore aspects of diversity and intersectionality. Please join us on May 10!

[**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER**](#)



DEI STUDY GROUP REPORT

I'm so looking forward to April. Not just because of daffodils and warm weather, but because it's finally time for our "Raising Awareness of Equity and Inclusion," program with Deanie Brown, attorney and Diversity and Inclusion Officer for the Illinois Supreme Court in Springfield, on **Thursday, April 20th, at 7 pm on Zoom.**

Deanie is a member of the Springfield Branch of AAUW, a member of the Springfield Disability Commission, and the winner of the 2022 AAUW Agent of Change award. Not only that, but this very special program is being co-sponsored by the Elmhurst, Downers Grove, Naperville and Jane Addams (Statewide) AAUW Branches. And last, but far from least, Deanie is a charmball!

I've asked Deanie to discuss the concepts in the AAUW DEI Toolkit, and to place a special emphasis on "Creating Allyship," because I've recently come to realize that creating allyship is a much bigger and more complicated topic than I realized.

When I was at the U of I, I lived in a dorm and ran with a group of students from my floor. One day, they got into some kind of tangle with the floor's Resident Adviser, an African American, and I found out about it when they started trading racial epithets to describe her. I didn't know our R.A., but I had met her one day when I was in tears because of family problems. My R.A. insisted that I tell her what was wrong, even though I didn't want to, and really helped me to feel better.

When my R.A.'s boss called me and asked me if my friends were racist, I was really on the spot. I didn't want to betray my friends; but I also felt I owed my R.A. some loyalty because she had been kind to me. I was too much of a coward to rise to the occasion and said, "I don't know how you can see into people's hearts," which is pretty darn funny because I think I'd probably just had a big picture window into their hearts. I now realize that this was a missed opportunity to be an ally.

I hope you will join me on April 20th at 7 pm for Deanie's talk. See registration link below. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. For questions about registration, contact **Kate Skegg**, Zoom registrar, at kate@skegg.net.

Elizabeth Neill
Director - Diversity/International Affairs

"Raising Awareness of Diversity and Inclusion" Webinar Thursday, April 20th, at 7 – 8:30 pm, via Zoom (Registration Required)

Hosted by the AAUW Jane Adams Branch

Deanie Brown, presenter, is an attorney and the Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer for the Illinois Supreme Court in Springfield. She has been an associate chancellor, chief of staff, and director of HR and internal relations at universities in Illinois, California, and New Orleans, and serves on several boards supporting equity, education, the community, and the arts. A member of AAUW Springfield, Deanie was honored as the 2022 AAUW Agent of Change at the AAUW Illinois State Conference.

In addition to speaking about raising awareness, Deanie will explore the concept of "allyship": how to become an ally and to develop the skills for responding to a situation that requires a "Stand Up, Speak Out" response.

Deanie will also highlight the harms that persist when we don't prioritize diversity, equity, inclusion, and opportunity.

This program is being co-sponsored by the Elmhurst AAUW Branch, the Downers Grove AAUW Branch, the Naperville AAUW Branch, and the Jane Addams (Statewide) AAUW Branch.

Please **Register in advance** for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/joinmeeting/register/tZwode6rqTlqGNTNzT1f6948EAez9XEEKzjW>

FINANCIAL REPORT

February 28, 2023

Jennifer Jordan
Director of Finance

Fundraiser Fund \$13,212.53
Conferences Fund 1,411.75
General Fund 8,839.14
TOTAL \$23,463.42

ANNUAL MEETING

April 5, 2023 - 8:00 PM

The Annual Meeting of the Elmhurst Branch will convene at approximately 8PM on April 5th at the Elmhurst Public Library immediately after the program. We will be voting on the slate of officers listed in the March Newsletter as well as making other important announcements. We will be using the same ZOOM connection for those wishing to attend and/or vote remotely.

2023

AAUW

Returning Student Scholarships

\$3,000

The AAUW Elmhurst Area Branch is offering **three (3) grants of \$3,000 each** to local women who need financial assistance to continue their education at the undergraduate or graduate level.

Eligibility includes:

- Resident of Elmhurst, Addison, Bensenville, Berkeley, Northlake, Oak Brook, Oakbrook Terrace, or Villa Park
- Age 25 or older
- Completion of at least 12 credit hours at an accredited community or undergraduate college/university
- Full or part time enrollment

For an application or more information, go to www.aauwelmhurst.org or call 630-254-0500.

Application Deadline is April 15, 2023

IMPORTANT!

... **ONE HUNDRED!** Belated congratulations to our long time member Jeanette Flaningam turned 100 on March 13th. If you wish to send her a card, please use Jeanette's new address: 5519 S Garfield St., Hinsdale, IL 60521.

... **EIGHTY-FIVE!** AAUW Elmhurst Area Branch will reach its 85th Anniversary in 2024. We are hoping to have a celebration in May 2024 similar to the one we had when the branch had its 75th Anniversary. The planning process will start soon and we will be calling for volunteers to help to put together a really special event. Please think about it. We can discuss this at the April Branch Meeting that will occur immediately after the April Speaker at the Library on April 5th (Live and via Zoom).

... **SCHOLARSHIPS.** Per vote of the Board of Directors, current members are not eligible to apply for scholarships that are funded by AAUW Elmhurst Area Branch; children and other family members are still eligible to apply. The clarification was prompted by an inquiry from the Illinois Department of Revenue. The policy is effective immediately.

... **MEMBERSHIP.** Welcome to our newest member, Julie Hennein. Julie joined this last month after our Fly Girls of WWII program at the library. Julie lives in Elmhurst. Her address and phone number have been added to the local website. Please welcome her into our fold.



May Branch Luncheon

Our spring luncheon will be on Saturday, May 13, at the River Forest Country Club. Please join us at 11:30 AM for cocktails and conversation. Lunch will be served at 12 noon. At this event, our Returning Scholarship winners will be introduced. We look forward to hearing about their lives and seeing how our book sale efforts can make a difference. Bring a guest. We love potential new members! See the attached flier to send in your reservation.

Suzanne Stock, Program Committee

[Click here for May Luncheon Reservation Form](#)

2022 Member Donations – Thank You!

Many branch members generously donate their time to keeping our branch running, including all the time put into our summer used book sale. Our branch would not be successful without these efforts. Additionally, we want to acknowledge those members who made monetary donations to AAUW National and / or to our branch during 2022 – thank you for your generosity!

Connie Baker	Azra Haque
Bonita Boerger	Janet Hodge
Janice Caudy	Barbara Hunter
Adrienne Curiale	Jane Klenck
Elaine Davison	Betty Laliberte
Judy Ekblad	Jo Mulvihill
Linda Fischer	Sally Ott
Peggy Fox	Frances Peshkin
Marcia Goltermann	Eileen Ward

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AAUW Elmhurst Area Branch, NFP | PO Box 243, Elmhurst, IL 60126

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