



Branch website: <https://tigardarea-or.aauw.net/>



March 2021 *UPDATE* Newsletter

Wednesday, March 10th

7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Local Scholarship at Portland Community College



The speakers for our March 10th branch meeting will be Christina Kline, Interim Executive Director of the Portland Community College Foundation, and Brianna Aragon, our scholarship recipient for 2020-2021.

Christina will speak about the Foundation's work, its impact on the students who receive scholarships, and the changes that have occurred since a Supreme Court ruling on gender and age discrimination. She will explain the

impact on schools that receive federal funding. For several years, Christina has been a strong advocate for our scholarship and the women it supports.

Brianna will share her educational journey, her plans for the future, and how our scholarship has helped her continue her education.

This spring, Marsha and I will once again read essays and give input into the selection of next year's scholarship recipient. It is because of your support of our yearly "Clean Closets for College," and your monetary support, that we are able to continue our scholarship for a deserving student at PCC.

Submitted by Linda Talluto, Local Scholarship Chair

Click [HERE](#) to view the YouTube of our February general meeting with Christy Wilson. You can also find it on our website under Branch Programs.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we approach the end of this most unusual year, it is time to review our accomplishments and prepare for next year.

First, we are grateful for our loyal members who have been with us year after year and for the vibrant new members who joined despite the circumstances.

Second, we applaud the skills of our program and communication officers for delivering highly interesting and educational events virtually.

Third, we celebrate the creativity of our fundraising crew who modified the "Clean Closets for College" to be safe and contactless. The local scholarship at PCC has the highest priority for our branch and we delivered yet again.

Now we need to lay the groundwork for another successful AAUW of Tigard Area year. Three important items of business will occur at the March 10th meeting: the election of branch officers, selection of delegates to the state annual meeting, and voting on the branch named gift honoree.

The two-year terms for president, program vice president, and secretary are ending. Because the nominating committee has not been able to report a finalized slate, we will be taking nominations "from the floor". We are entitled to two delegates from our branch to the state annual meeting on April 18th via

Zoom. Delegates will vote on state officers and approve the state public policy program. Please consider becoming an officer or a delegate.

Each year we select a branch honoree by secret ballot. Branch members choose the person who has done the most to sustain and support the branch during the year. Ilga Ross, Linda Liebenstein, and Randa Blanding were recent honorees. Who is your choice this year?

Click [HERE](#) for the agenda for the March 10th meeting and [HERE](#) for the December 2, 2020 minutes.

Submitted by Ilga Ross



March 10th General Meeting
March 18th Lobby Day*
March 21st Oregon Town Hall re AAUW
Bylaws Change Proposal*
March 23rd Book Group
April 18th State Annual Meeting*
April 20th State Celebration & Awards*

* info to follow

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BOOK GROUP

As we enter the month of March it is amazing to realize that we have been in lockdown to varying degrees for an entire year as we try to keep ourselves and others safe from Covid-19. We have experienced and learned so many new things in a year filled with events that back in the summer of 2019 we could never have imagined would be changing our world in the coming months.

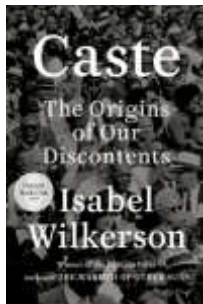
A pandemic which has a worldwide case count of 113,550,202 and 2,519,328 deaths as of the time I am writing this article. We have learned more about viruses than we ever thought we would, we have learned how to wear masks and social distance and we learned how to ZOOM! We have experienced extreme social unrest and we are facing the consequences of racial injustice and inequity. We watched in horror as our center of government was attacked and desecrated by a mob of our own citizens. We are seeing and experiencing the effects of climate change with the horrific wildfires of the summer and fall, the longest hurricane season in history, and the unprecedented winter storms in places that have never experienced an extended period of subzero temperatures.

All of these events have added to the terrible toll on the lives and wellbeing of thousands of people. We talk about "returning to normal" but in fact, the world has changed and so have we, even though most of us in this group have been safely cocooned in our comfortable homes. As vaccines get distributed and we begin to carefully break out of our cocoons we will be looking at a "new normal" and we will adapt and face whatever comes next.

Speaking of next....I will halt my ramblings and return to Book Group! We have just the following three books left until our summer break.

Please consider joining us and I look forward to seeing everyone on Zoom.

Submitted by Dorothy Wilson 408-596-0403 19dorothy74@gmail.com



Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents by Isabel Wilkerson

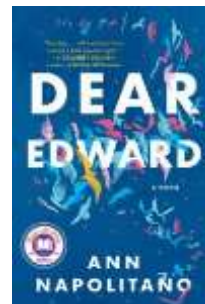
3/23/2021 @ 7:00 pm Leader - Randa Blanding

A brief history of racism, sexism, classism, ageism, homophobia, xenophobia, and the reasons for them.

Dear Edward by Ann Napolitano

4/27/2021 @ 7:00 pm. Leader - Judy Silverforb

The story of a boy who is the lone survivor of a plane crash and his coming of age.





The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett

5/25/2021 @ 7:00 pm. Leader - Dorothy Wilson

A fiction bestseller about light-skinned black twins who take separate paths as adults with one living her identity as a woman of color and the other passing as white.

AAUW BYLAWS CHANGE PROPOSAL

National AAUW is proposing a Bylaws change that would remove the membership requirement of a degree. Voting begins on April 7th.

Rationale: AAUW's mission is to advance gender equity, yet the requirement for membership explicitly denies access to membership to those without college degrees. AAUW does not promote equity for all women and girls if the organization maintains exclusionary membership requirements. The membership requirement is not fair, is not right, and is not equity. This is simply the right thing to do.

Click [HERE](#) for a further explanation of why this is being proposed and championed and what the exact changes are.

The AAUW Oregon Board of Directors will host a Town Hall meeting regarding this proposal on March 21st. A Zoom invitation will be sent out soon.

AAUW ART COMPETITION

The Light at the end of the Covid Tunnel



In the art world, women are underrepresented and undervalued. [Only a third of artists](#) represented by commercial galleries are women, and women working in arts professions are paid on average [74 cents to every dollar paid to men](#). This is what motivates AAUW to host an annual art contest — to give women artists the attention they deserve.

Don't miss out on your chance to vote in this year's AAUW Art Contest! Through March 3rd, AAUW members can [vote](#) for their ten favorite entries. The six winning entries will be featured on a collection of AAUW note cards mailed to members this spring.

[Vote today!](#)

**Mission Statement – To advance gender equity for women
and girls through research, education, and advocacy**

Vision Statement – Equity for all

Value promise – Nonpartisan. Fact-based. Integrity.

Inclusion and Intersectionality.