

# Update

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April 2023

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## CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITES:

AAUW Michigan

<https://www.aauwmi.org>

AAUW National

<https://www.aauw.org>  
[connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org)

AAUW Northville–Novi

<https://aauwnn.org/>  
[info@aauwnn.org](mailto:info@aauwnn.org)

AAUW–NN

P.O. Box 511

Northville, MI 48167

## AAUWNN MEETING

**Tuesday, April 11, 6:45 PM**  
**Northville Art House, 215 Cady Street**

*VP Programs*

*Patty Domin*

[pdomin@hotmail.com](mailto:pdomin@hotmail.com)

## DUSHEE INTERNATIONAL



Dr. Michelle Dushee' Williams is an educator, designer, author and leader developer who cares deeply about motivating and empowering others. Ms. Williams began to develop her business with the idea of creating beautiful scarfs, installations, and prophetic art.

Her design concepts are created through much ruminating. Her work is inspired by flowers and arrays of colors. Each design is hand-painted originals that include a poem specific to the wearer. Her designs have broadened to apparel (swimwear, resort, and her accessories). She teaches painting, textile, and fashion illustration workshops.

Dr. Williams has been featured in various articles, magazines (Hour and Source) and interviewed on On-TV regarding her works and accomplishments. Dr. Williams conducts workshops and master classes in education, fashion illustration, and design. In her spare time she enjoys great conversation and meaningful relationships.

**Welcome**  
**Spring**

coloringpage.me

## Northville–Novi (MI) update



### NORTHVILLE–NOVI (MI)

<https://aauwmi.org/>

#### President

Jane Hecker  
(734) 276-6160

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#### Vice President Programs

Patty Domin  
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[pdomin@hotmail.com](mailto:pdomin@hotmail.com)

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##### Diversity

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[jgmurdock12051942@wowway.com](mailto:jgmurdock12051942@wowway.com)

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#### Editor

Mary Ann MacLaren  
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[info@aauwmi.org](mailto:info@aauwmi.org)

#### AAUW Mission

The AAUW MISSION is to advance gender equality for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

#### AAUW Diversity Statement

AAUW values and seeks an inclusive membership, workforce, leadership teams and board of directors. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic basis.

Update is published monthly, August through June, for the members and friends of the American Association of University Women Northville–Novi (MI)

### President's Message

Jane Hecker

[jhecker101@gmail.com](mailto:jhecker101@gmail.com)



## MARCH HIGHLIGHTS AND MORE

We are home after spending a very enjoyable three weeks in South Carolina. We spent two of the weeks on Hilton Head Island. A first for me! Weather was unusually warm there, just like here! So, on to other things happening this past month:

Most exciting for me was spending Friday, March 17 with the thirty 8th grade girls from Meads Mill Middle School STEM class and two of their teachers. Our return to Career Path Day is under way! The tour at the Schoolcraft Manufacturing and Engineering Center was excellent. The girls enjoyed lunch at Genetti's and the excellent presentation by Nancy Darga about opportunities to be involved in the Rouge Project. She provided an excellent map of the proposed features I will share at April's meeting. Thanks to Carol Murchison and Christine Verleye for their participation and help. Select photos are on page 10 of this newsletter. All the photos on the website!

Spring forward! A great idea, but it takes me a while to adjust. Hmmm.

Wonderful presentation at our March meeting by Mary Pollock from AAUWMI. She is really "in the know." Thanks to Mary Jane Kearns (and Jim for getting the WIFI/Video to work) for organizing. Thanks also to the Sports Den staff for "hosting" our three winter luncheon meetings. Nice to return to that winter plan!

New event and year-end planning is under way. Watch for information throughout this newsletter and in the future regarding:

- Named Honoree nominations – send your brief nomination comments to me by Monday, April 17, 2023. The Executive board will make the selection to be announced at our Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 9, 2023 at Rocky's.
- Annual Meeting and Celebration – see the information and reservation flyer on page 3. *NOTE:* Mary Ann will be unavailable to manage the process through PayPal, so we will be "doing it the old fashioned way" in person or by mail! Note the location, dinner choices, program, and deadlines! Don't miss it!!
- Michigan Designer Fashion Show Luncheon 3 - thinking and planning is underway, scheduled for April, 2024. Look elsewhere in this newsletter for meeting notices and information. Be a part of it!
- NCCWSL selections - I was happy to join Corinne Vincent at Schoolcraft College recently to help select our recipients for this year. Schoolcraft scholarships cover the registration costs (sometimes in partnership with AAUW) and we cover transportation costs for two students. We had 10 applicants. Thanks to Lee Doyle, Ruth Rickard, Carol Zuniga, and Michelle Williams who also read applications.

*Continued on page 4...*



*Come one! Come all! Bring a guest! Time to Celebrate!*

*AAUW Northville–Novi Annual Meeting*

*Tuesday, May 9, 2023*

*Rocky's of Northville*

*41122 W. Seven Mile Road*

*5:30pm Gather - Cash Bar      6:15pm Dinner*

*Business Meeting to Follow:*

*Scholarship and Awards Presentation*

*Election and Induction of Officers*

*President's Annual Report*

*Note: Entrees include Bread, butter, house salad with Raspberry Maple Vinaigrette, one starch, one vegetable. Coffee, tea, or soda.*

*Choice: Portobello Ravioli (Vegetarian)*

*Choice: Chicken Marsala*

*Choice: Broiled Shrimp Casino (not spicy)*

*Cookie and Brownie Tray*

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*Detach and return in person or mail as below with your dinner selection:*

*NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_*

*Dinner Choice (Choose one)*

*\_\_\_ Portobello Ravioli    \_\_\_ Chicken Marsala    \_\_\_ Shrimp Casino*

*Reservation deadline: 4/26/2023*

*\$35 per person*

*Cash or Check payable to AAUWNN, P.O. Box 511, Northville, MI 48167.*

*Attn: Annual Meeting or in person to Janice Wargo.*

## IMPORTANT NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

### [AAUW State and National Elections](#)

It's that time of year again when we are asked to participate in these annual elections.

If not already, you will receive an email message with directions for you.

1) The State elections will be held during our annual meeting via ZOOM on Saturday, April 29, 2023 from 9:30am-noon. Based on our membership number, we are allowed 3 delegate votes and one president vote. Right now Mary Jane Kearns, Karen Zyczynski, and Janice Wargo will vote for us.

2) The National situation is different. Based on recent information, once the information comes from National, it will be important for you to go to [aauw.org](http://aauw.org), find the Community Hub under Membership, and set up your account with a username or email and a password. Under "My Ballot" (part of your Personal Snapshot) you will find your PIN to use for voting. Hope you find this helpful!

### [Annual Meeting Information](#)

A couple of menu questions have come up:

1) In answer to my questions, our contact at Rocky's says the Chicken Marsala and Broiled Shrimp choices are gluten free. Should you need further clarification you can contact the restaurant.

2) Our contact also said to expect fresh vegetables (cooked) and rice pilaf will be included with each entrée we have selected as choices.

3) I must submit a final count on April 26, 2023. Get your reservations in early so we can all attend, enjoy, vote, and celebrate together!



*continued from page 1...*

It appears likely the AAUWNN Board will decide to again take the required distribution from our Endowment with CFSEM this year. Disbursements will take place in June and December of 2023. Thank you for your endowment support!

Enough for this time! Please know this writing is not about reporting my activities as about publicly honoring those who have made things possible! See you soon I hope!

## Northville–Novi (MI) update

*VP Membership*  
Karen Zyczynski  
[zyczynski2002@aol.com](mailto:zyczynski2002@aol.com)



### MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Now that the pandemic is waning, AAUWNN will return to hosting a recruitment event in an effort to bring new members into our organization. At our March meeting I had formal invitations to pass along to members who knew someone they might invite. It could be a family member, a neighbor or someone you do business with on a regular basis. Below is a copy of the invitation. Feel free to copy and pass on, or on April 3 I will be available to give you a formal invitation to mail or hand out.

Our AAUWNN Branch has been an active, viable and successful organization because people like you were willing to step up and reach out within our community to help us row. Thank you for your support and dedication!

Invitation to email is on page 6.

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*Secretary*  
Caryn Doehler  
[caryn@wowway.com](mailto:caryn@wowway.com)

### BOARD BRIEFS - February 28



- CFSEM distribution will be taken June and December, 2023
- Jane Hecker, Jan Wargo and Mary Jane Kearns will attend the AAUWMI convention April 29
- Successful Career Path Day
- Annual Meeting information has been distributed
- Invite guests and attend Potential Member Member reception April 18, 6-8 pm Art House. Karen Zyczynski has invitations available
- Mah Jongg Tournament May 5
- Nominating committee is filling Board positions. Consider serving.
- Scholarships: 2 Novi awards complete, 1 Northville complete, 2nd awardee due 4/12
- NCCWSL: Candidates evaluated and 4 selected. Schoolcraft's assistance valuable.





empowering women since 1881

**American Association of University  
Women Northville–Novi**

Invites you to its

**Potential Member Reception**

Tuesday, April 18, 2023

At the Northville Art House  
215 W Cady Street  
Northville MI 48167

6:15–7:45 P.M.

Enjoy browsing through The Northville Art House displays and let us share the AAUW–NN Story focusing on our more than 45 year history of empowering women and girls.

Refreshments will be served.

*Please respond by April 10 to  
Karen Zyczynski  
[zyczynski2002@aol.com](mailto:zyczynski2002@aol.com)  
or text 734 718-3341*

[aauwnn.org](http://aauwnn.org)

Nominations  
Pat Noworyta  
[prnoworyta@yahoo.com](mailto:prnoworyta@yahoo.com)



## NOMINATIONS

At this time the Nominations Committee is happy to announce the nomination of Christine Verleye to the Nominating Committee beginning July 1, 2023. This is a three year position. Janice Wargo has accepted the nomination for Treasurer - a two year position. Both bios are below.

The position of *VP – Programs* is still open. It is a two year position and vital to the workings of our branch. Details about these positions are available from any member of the Nominating Committee – Pat Noworyta, Karen Zyczynski, and Deena Parks-Alam, from the member currently in position, or in Policies and Procedures on our website.

Voting will take place during our annual meeting at Rocky's on Tuesday, May 9, 2023. There will also be an opportunity for nominations from the floor as part of electing each position.

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Christine (Demas) Verleye 16200 Lairdhaven Drive, Northville, Michigan 48168

Education:

Western Michigan University/Wayne State University Bachelor of Science Degree  
Major: Business Management Professional Associations  
Phi Gamma Nu, Professional Business Sorority

Work Experience:

Retired

33 Years as a Bank Officer/Manager - PNC Bank  
(Areas: Training, Wealth Management, Corporate Services, Trust &  
Financial Services, Bank Operations)

Personal Interests:

Traveling with Husband - Cruising, Land Tours, River Cruises Golfing - Weekly Golf League  
Weekly Mah Jongg Group, Learning Greek Language

I became a member of the American Association of University Women - Northville/Novi Branch in 2022. I believe in giving back to the community through the various fund raising programs AAUW develops to help young women with scholarships and shaping their career paths as well as assisting other women with their career objectives.

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Janice Wargo is running for Treasurer of the organization. Here is her bio:

- I have a BS in Math from University of Michigan Ann Arbor and MBA in Finance from Wayne State
- I worked for many years at Comerica as an internal auditor and trust officer and retired from Plante Moran as an employee benefit consultant
- I enjoy spending time with my grandchildren (one in MI and three in IN)
- I also play cards, Mah Jongg, travel and volunteer at Greenmead and the Northville Library

Public Policy

Mary Jane Kearns

[mjkearns1@outlook.com](mailto:mjkearns1@outlook.com)



## **PUBLIC POLICY MATTERS**

*March 14 Was Equal Pay Day 2023*

Each year, this symbolic day is used to raise awareness around and combat the impact of pay inequities. Equal Pay Day 2023 was on March 14 and marks the current state of the gender pay gap: 84% for full-time workers and 77% for all workers (including part-time and seasonal).

This date is based on the latest U.S. Census figures showing that the average woman who works full time is paid on average just 84 percent of the typical man's pay. Started by the National Committee on Pay Equity (NCPE) in 1996, the goal of Equal Pay Day is to raise awareness about the gender wage gap. Because the pay gap varies significantly among different communities, particularly for women of color, other Equal Pay Days have been added to the calendar over the years to reflect that fact that many women must work far longer into the year to catch up to men.

In 2022, the coalition made a new change to the methodology: The Equal Pay Day Calendar now encompasses a broader cross-section of women, including those who work part time or seasonally, to represent a more accurate picture of how the gender pay gap impacts diverse communities. The COVID-19 pandemic pushed many women, especially women of color, into part-time or seasonal work, or out of the workforce all together. Because of this, past methods of calculating the wage gap fell short of accurately capturing the full picture. With the new inclusive methodology, we can advocate on behalf of all women in the workforce.

### *2023 Equal Pay Days*

- Equal Pay Day—representing all women—is March 14. Women working full-time, year-round are paid 84 cents and all earners (including part-time and seasonal) are paid 77 cents for every dollar paid to men.
- LGBTQIA+ Equal Pay Awareness Day is June 15. Without enough data to make calculations, this day raises awareness about the wage gap experienced by LGBTQIA+ folks.
- Black Women's Equal Pay Day is July 27. Black women working full-time, year-round are paid 67 cents and all earners (including part-time and seasonal) are paid 64 cents for every dollar paid to non-Hispanic white men.
- Moms' Equal Pay Day is August 15. Moms working full-time, year-round are paid 74 cents and all earners (including part-time and seasonal) are paid 62 cents for every dollar paid to dads.
- Latina's Equal Pay Day is October 5. Latinas women working full-time, year-round are paid 57 cents and all earners (including part-time and seasonal) are paid 54 cents for every dollar paid to non-Hispanic white men.
- Native Women's Equal Pay Day is November 30. Native women working full-time, year-round are paid 57 cents and all earners (including part-time and seasonal) are paid 51 cents for every dollar paid to non-Hispanic white men.
- Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Women's Equal Pay Day is TBD. Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander women working full-time, year-round are paid 92 cents and all earners (including part-time and seasonal) are paid 80 cents for every dollar paid to non-Hispanic white men.

*(Article copied from AAUW website)*



## Northville–Novi (MI) update

Financial Development  
Janice Wargo  
[janicewargo@gmail.com](mailto:janicewargo@gmail.com)

### FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT



Our major fundraising activity, the Michigan Designer Fashion Showcase, is tentatively scheduled for April 13, 2024. We have scheduled a planning meeting on April 12 at 6:00 PM at 18293 Blue Heron Pointe Drive (Jane Hecker's residence).

We encourage everyone with an interest in the event and/or questions about the event to attend. All members are encouraged to come, share ideas and help with this event. Please let me know if you plan to attend.

---

Great Decisions  
Jean Hansen  
[jhansen\\_48167@yahoo.com](mailto:jhansen_48167@yahoo.com)

### SUMMARY OF FEBRUARY'S MEETING



A discussion of "Laboratories of Democracy" by David Pepper. Everyone needs to read this book. After working hard and long on the preparation of this program, we want to let you know how it went. We invited all AAUW members statewide in addition to members of our own branch to join us. Approximately twenty-five attended. We were thrilled to be able to feature David Pepper, author of the book, as the main attraction. Not only did he give an excellent presentation, but took time to answer questions afterward.

While most of our guests were from our own branch, we did have visitors from around the state. It was an opportunity for our branch to gain more recognition and, perhaps, become better known--- all made possible with the use of Zoom. The following statement appeared in AAUW's spring magazine: "AAUW of Michigan thanks the Great Decisions interest group of the Northville–Novi branch for sharing its program with our members across the state".

Here is a little information about this interest group. We meet monthly over Zoom. Each year two books dealing with some aspect of foreign policy are selected for discussion, one for January and the other for February. The rest of the year we discuss the topics from the Foreign Policy Association's Great Decisions program - one per month. For more information you can check their website <https://www.fpa.org/greatdecisions/>

At David Pepper's website you will find additional information as well as the opportunity to sign up his newsletter <https://davidpepper.com/>

Laboratories of Autocracy Website <https://www.laboratoriesofautocracy.com/>

Northville–Novi (MI) update

PHOTOS FROM CAREER PATH DAY  
SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE MEC  
AND MEADS MILL MIDDLE SCHOOL, NORTHVILLE



*"Lunch and Mah Jongg" (American)*



What: AAUW-NN Fundraiser

When: **Friday, May 5, 2023 Noon-5:00 pm**

Where: *Fins Kitchen and Bar; Detroit Marriott Livonia*  
17100 Laurel Park North, Livonia, MI 48152

(East of I-275 off Six Mile Rd; Parking in front of hotel at Lobby Entrance)

*A great lunch! Play Mah Jongg!*

*Door Prizes for getting Mah Jongg on certain hands! Special treats!*

*Support scholarships and local programs for women and girls*

- 12:00 - 12:15 pm Check-in, table assignment, etc.
- 12:15 - 1:00 pm Lunch - Tomato Bisque Cup, Salad Bar, Rolls, Beverages
- 1:00 - 4:30 pm Three 65 minute rounds; two 10 minute breaks
- 4:30 - 5:00 pm Prizes awarded; Wrap-up

**\*\*WE WILL FOLLOW THE CURRENT CDC GUIDELINES for COVID**

**\*\* We will use the same modified scoring and we will use the 2023 card!**

**\*\*We will not be arranging any tables of 3! Prizes awarded for top 3 scores.**

How: **\$37 (\$20 is tax deductible)** Register below:



**Deadline to register is Monday, May 1, 2023**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\* Return form with your check payable to AAUW-NN:**

**AAUW-NN c/o Jane Hecker**

**P.O. Box 511, Northville, MI 48167 (or in person!)**

**For more information contact: [jhecker101@gmail.com](mailto:jhecker101@gmail.com) 734-276-6160**

Sponsored by American Association of University Women Northville–Novi Branch

[www.aauwnn.org](http://www.aauwnn.org) Look under Branch Programs or Community Events

***Hope to see you May 5, 2023***

## Northville–Novi (MI) update

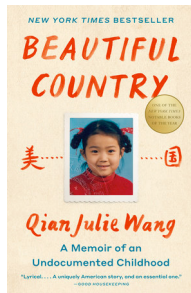
### Daytime Book Group

Marian Brockie, Contact

On Friday, April 14, 2023 we will discuss “Beautiful Country” by Qian Julie Wang. Discussion leader is Mary. We are meeting at the Northville Library in the Friends Community Room 10:00-11:30 A.M.

Please [click here](#) for the list of books for January through May, 2023.

Also, for more information on joining this group please contact Marian Brockie at [mbrockie@umich.edu](mailto:mbrockie@umich.edu).



### Bridge Group

Marian Brockie, Contact

The Bridge Group currently is meeting at Laurel Park Food Court area every Wednesday at 1:00 P.M.

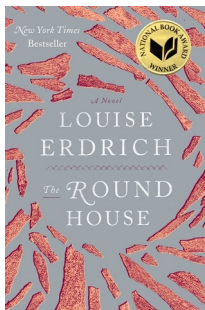
For more information on joining contact Marian Brockie at [mbrockie@umich.edu](mailto:mbrockie@umich.edu).



### Evening Book Group

Mary Jane Kearns, Contact

April 24, 2023 we will be discussing “The Round House” by Louise Erdrich. This is an in-person meeting at Evelyn’s home starting at 7:00 P.M. with Julie leading the discussion.



The complete list of books for 2022-2023 can be found on our website by [clicking here](#) or from our home page, click on About Us, then click on Interest Groups and Evening Book Group.

New members are always welcome. Please contact Mary Jane for details at: [mjkearns1@outlook.com](mailto:mjkearns1@outlook.com).

### Restaurant Rovers

Joyce Murdock, Contact

We are gathering Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at 6:00 PM at Big Tommy’s Parthenon and Comedy Club, 40380 Grand River, Novi, 248-615-2102

**Note - This is the fourth Wednesday.**

If you plan on joining us, please contact Joyce Murdock at [jgmurdock12051942@wowway.com](mailto:jgmurdock12051942@wowway.com) or at (313) 381-2350 by 6:00 P.M. Monday, April 24.



### Movie Goers

Rhonda York, Contact

Movie Goers are now meeting the first Tuesday of the month. Rhonda will send an email to those on the list. To be added or for information contact Rhonda York at [rlYork03@gmail.com](mailto:rlYork03@gmail.com).



### Great Decisions

Jean Hansen, Contact

The Great Decisions group will meet on Tuesday, April 18, 2023 at 1:30 P.M. via ZOOM. Discussion is “Politics in Latin American” from the new Great Decisions Briefing Booklet. Diane is the discussion leader.

We encourage guests and welcome new members. For more information or a ZOOM invite contact Jean Hansen at [jhansen\\_48167@yahoo.com](mailto:jhansen_48167@yahoo.com).



### Mah Jongg

Jane Hecker, Contact

The group meets every Friday 1:00–4:00 P.M. in a player’s home.

To join the group please contact Jane Hecker at [jhecker101@gmail.com](mailto:jhecker101@gmail.com)



MICHIGAN FASHION DESIGNER SHOWCASE LUNCHEON 2022 SPONSORS  
PLEASE FREQUENT THEIR BUSINESSES





Articles for the May, 2023  
issue due **May, 20, 2023** to:  
Mary Ann MacLaren  
[info@aauwnn.org](mailto:info@aauwnn.org)

**AAUW Northville–Novi (MI) Calendar of Events**  
visit the website for more information at

<https://aauwnn.org/>

Board Meeting .....Fourth Tuesday, 6:45 P.M.  
Bridge Group.....Wednesdays, 1:00 P.M.  
Mah Jong.....Fridays, 1:00 P.M.  
Restaurant Rovers.....Third Wednesday, 6:00 P.M.  
Day Book Group.....Second Friday, 10:00 A.M.  
Evening Book Group..... Fourth Monday, 7:00 P.M.  
Great Decisions .....Third Tuesday, 1:30 P.M.