

# Update

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January 2024

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## CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITES:

### AAUW Michigan:

<https://www.aauwmi.org/>

### AAUW National:

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

### AAUW Northville-Nov:

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

AAUW-NN

P.O. Box 511  
Northville, MI 48167

**AAUWNN Meeting**  
**Tuesday, January 9, NOON**  
**Northville Sports Den**  
**133 W. Main Street, Northville**

### VP Programs

Lee Doyle

[leedoyle@umich.edu](mailto:leedoyle@umich.edu)

## THE IMPACTS OF AGEISM

As we age, many of us feel increasingly comfortable in our own skin and have a strong sense of purpose. Some though, don't have such a positive experience. How we feel can be dramatically impacted by how we are treated. Ageism, or discrimination, prejudice and stereotyping based on age, can negatively impact older adults.

Our January session, led by Caitlin Bearer, will address this important topic. We will learn how to react to prejudice as well as how to avoid sending messages that can harm our aging population. And ageism doesn't just impact the older adults. Young people can also feel the effects of stereotyping against their youth and perceived inexperience.

Please note that for the next few months, we will meet at noon at the Northville Sports Den. Lunch will be available for purchase.





**empowering women since 1881**  
American Association of University Women Northville-Nov  
A non-profit 501(c)(3)

**NORTHVILLE-NOVI (MI)**

<https://aauwnn.org/>

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[info@aauwnn.org](mailto:info@aauwnn.org)

**AAUW Mission**

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

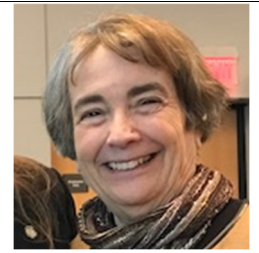
**AAUW Diversity Statement**

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-Nov (MI)*

President's Message

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



**HAPPY NEW YEAR  
2024 IS HERE**

It is my privilege to be able to wish you and your family a happy, healthy, and exciting new year. I personally always look at the new year as an opportunity to reinvent myself. An opportunity to rethink where I am and where I want to go. New opportunities, new challenges, and new beginnings.

As an organization we have a lot to look forward to. In January, over lunch, we will learn about "Handling the Ageism Bias and other Elder Law Issues". Our third fashion show, 'Peek at the Unique II', will take place on April 13 at VisTaTech Center. And our next Mah Jongg Tournament is already in the works. These are just a few of the events to look forward to in 2024 so watch this newsletter for future updates.

Looking at the broader world view the ERA (Equal Rights Amendment) has still not passed in Congress. Affirming the ERA as the 28th amendment will strengthen legal protections against discrimination based on gender. Women's healthcare rights are in jeopardy across the country. Women's pay continues to lag behind that of men. This lifelong pay gap culminates in the fact that women have significantly less income than men during their retirement years, a time when they are particularly vulnerable. You can find information on these issues and more by visiting [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org).

Last, but certainly not least, 2024 is a presidential election year. In Michigan we will be electing a new U.S. Senator and lots more. Who we vote for matters, so I urge you to pay attention!

*Karen*



Membership  
Corinne Vincent, VP  
[vincorinn@yahoo.com](mailto:vincorinn@yahoo.com)

Membership Matters

**AAUW-NN Happy New/Improved 2024!**

The traditional season of “Good Will and Kindness” has been celebrated ‘round the globe. Your Membership Team offers an AAUW Northville-Novu Challenge to each member.

**AAUW-NN celebrates the “Season of Goodwill and Kindness” every day, all year, every year.**



Let’s just call it “A Little Help from My Friends” (thank you, Beatles!)

**It’s an Open Door... It Swings Both Ways .... Give sometimes, Receive sometimes.**

Over just the past year, an unbelievable number of our members, of all ages, have suffered heartbreaking, temporary, or sometimes life changing events. Too frequently ....no one thinks AAUW-NN cares enough to let us know. Please help change that right now!

For others there is no drama. - Some of us would simply appreciate a little help from our friends...like a ride to events or help with a project...but probably won’t ask.

**Minus an organized structure...let’s keep this challenge uncomplicated, self- propelled .... with productive results!**

**The Open Door**

Give a Little: Is your car empty when you drive to an AAUWNN event? Who lives near you who would have gone too, if asked.

Short Term Peer Support- would you run a few essential errands or drive to a medical appointment. Check in for a news sharing phone call, visit or lunch date every now and then. Encourage and offer helpful assistance on Zoom participation. Help identify community resources.

**The door swings the other way.**

Receive a Little: Let someone in AAUW-NN know when things are not going right in your life. Be specific if you know what would be helpful. Privacy will be honored. Even a very bad day is a little bit better with “A Little Help from My Friends.”



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



## **MICHIGAN FASHION DESIGNER SHOWCASE BRUNCH 2024**

### **PEEK AT THE UNIQUE II**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Michigan Fashion Designers Showcase Brunch is Saturday, April 13, 2024, 9:15 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Schoolcraft VisTaTech Center DiPonio Room. Tickets go on sale February 1 for \$75 each. Tables of 8 and a few tables of 10 are available.

Volunteers are needed for setup starting at 7:30 a.m. to assist with arrival of accessory designers and runway designers. Your immediate assistance in this major, biannual fundraiser are as follows:

- Sponsors – since we are compiling a booklet like the Home Tour one, sponsors and advertising are needed. You can do your part by acquiring just a business card size ad from your favorite service person, such as the person that mows your lawn, removes your snow, cleans your home, styles your hair, does your home repairs, etc. Contact Mary Jane Kearns for a packet with all the forms and information.
- Donations and/or door prizes – along with sponsors and ads is the need for donations (a person may prefer this) and/or items for door prizes at the event. Again, contact Mary Jane Kearns for the forms.
- Accessory designers – the search is on for accessory designers that create anything wearable or to carry. Some designers from the 2022 show will attend. All items are available for purchase the day of the event. If you know of an accessory designer, contact Janice Wargo for agreement form and information.
- Runway designers – we are inviting previous fashion designers to return and securing new designers. If you have someone in mind, contact Karen Zyczynski.
- Save the Date postcards – we will have postcards available for you to give to family/friends and leave at businesses. Contact Mary Ann MacLaren or pick up a few at the January lunchtime meeting.

Mary Ann MacLaren, Chair  
April 13, 2024 AAUWNN Fashion Show  
[maryann@maclareninc.com](mailto:maryann@maclareninc.com)



*This is our major fundraising event for the 2023-2024 year. The involvement of all members is necessary for reaching our financial goal.*





**Public Policy (continued from page 5)**

The young vote in Michigan is also ranked No. 7 in the nation regarding competitive U.S. House races, as well.

A news release from the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE) indicates that the highest young voter turnout in the nation during the 2020 election cycle was in Michigan, where 36% cast a ballot, which was more than any other state.

The study links that to Michigan's automatic voting, same day voting registration, and online registration for producing the high participation of a traditionally low voter segment in the voting universe.

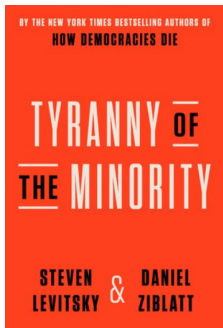
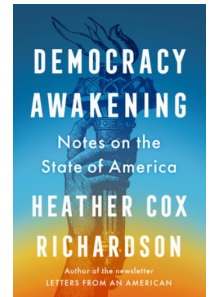
CIRCLE described Michigan's laws as some of the "easiest" in the country to comply with, and it also forecasts with its number 5 ranking, the state's **18-to 34-year-old voters could have a significant impact on the results in those important races.**

*Great Decisions*  
Diana Chirillo, Chair  
[chirillodic@gmail.com](mailto:chirillodic@gmail.com)

**GREAT DECISIONS**

Our Great Decisions topical discussions from the Foreign Policy Association will begin in March 2024. To kick off our season, we have once again selected two books for discussion in January and February. These books give us a chance to explore our self-selected topics of interest. Both books were published in September 2023.

January's selection is **"Democracy Awakening: Notes on the State of America"** by Heather Cox Richardson. She is a professor of history at Boston College and the author of several books. In 2019, she launched a daily Facebook essay providing a historical background for the turbulent politics in DC at the time. This turned into a newsletter, "Letters from an American," with over 2 million dedicated readers who rely on her plainspoken and educated take on the present and past in America. In this book, Richardson describes how to use our nation's history as a road map to guide us through the future.



In February, we will discuss **"Tyranny of the Minority"** by Steven Levitsky & Daniel Ziblatt. In 2022, our group read another book by these authors, **"How Democracies Die"** and look forward to this new book which is a call to examine and reform our politics, and how to thrive as a multicultural democracy. We invite you to join us in what promises to be two interesting book discussions, on January 16 and February 20.

Great Decisions meetings take place via Zoom the third Tuesday of every month at 1:30 p.m. Contact Diana Chirillo at [chirillodic@gmail.com](mailto:chirillodic@gmail.com) for details.



**\$\$\$ PASSIVE FUNDRAISING \$\$\$**

Shopping, it's what we all do well, several times a week. We visit Kroger for food and gasoline and browse AAUWNN spirit clothing from Big Frog. You can EASILY add to the coffers of AUWNN by signing up with these two companies. A portion of your purchase will go directly into our account. You do not have to do a thing but shop! **You know how to do that, don't you???** Sign up now!



**KROGER**

Sign up for the Kroger Community Rewards Program to help AAUWNN achieve its financial goals! Go online to <https://www.kroger.com/o/store-services/community-rewards>. Sign in using your email address and designate American Association of University Women Northville/Novi as the recipient of your rewards. If you do not already have a Kroger Plus Card, you will be issued one.

**BIG FROG**

Sign up from the homepage of our website: <https://aauwnn.org/>. Scroll down to Spirit Wear and click to be linked to Big Frog, Novi.



*Remember the Ladies*  
*Joyce Murdock, Chair*  
[jgmurdock12051942@wowway.com](mailto:jgmurdock12051942@wowway.com)

**THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**

Many thanks to all who contributed items to the Remember the Ladies Silent Auction. Most of you claim the standard deduction on your tax return and do not want a contribution receipt. However, if you do want one, contact Janice Wargo, our treasurer, and she will send you one. Many thanks to all of you who purchased those donated items.



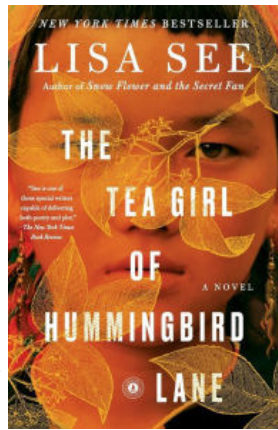
Many thanks also to those of you who sent individual donations to the program. If you have not received a receipt from the media specialist by, say, January 15, contact me and I will get in touch with them. I sent a receipt with your check in an addressed stamped envelope, and they just had to sign it, date it, and put it in the mail.

**NORTHVILLE-NOVI (MI) UPDATE**

Daytime Book Group  
Marian Brockie, Contact

Our January 11 book discussion will take place at the Northville Library Friendship Community Room from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

The book discussion is “**The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane**” by Lisa See and led by Caryn Doehler. 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 p.m. For more information on joining contact Marian Brockie at [mbrockie@umich.edu](mailto:mbrockie@umich.edu).



Restaurant Rovers  
Joyce Murdock, Contact

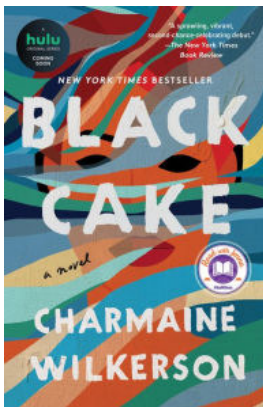
The Restaurant Rovers will be meeting Wednesday, January 17, at 11:30 a.m. at the Brentwood Grille (formerly Steve & Rocky’s), 43150 Grand River, Novi.



Please contact Joyce Murdock at [jgmurdock12051942@wowway.com](mailto:jgmurdock12051942@wowway.com) or (313) 381-2350 by January 15 if joining.

**Note: We are going to our lunch time meetings.**

Evening Book Group  
Mary Jane Kearns, Contact



The Evening Book Group will again meet via Zoom on January 22, 2024 at 7 p.m. We will discuss “**Black Cake**” by Charmaine Wilkerson. Two estranged siblings delve into their mother’s hidden past—and how it all connects to her traditional Caribbean black cake—in this immersive family saga, “a character-driven, multigenerational story that’s meant to be savored” (Time).

Lee Doyle will lead our discussion.

Interested in joining? We’d love to have you. Contact Mary Jane at (248) 449-8693 or

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

Movie Goers  
Rhonda York, Contact

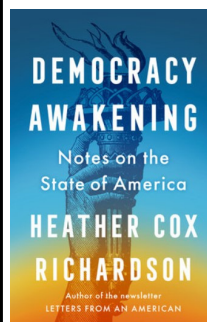
Movie Goers are now meeting the first Tuesday of the month. Rhonda will send an email to those on the list.



To be added to the list or for information contact Rhonda York at [rlyork03@gmail.com](mailto:rlyork03@gmail.com).

Great Decisions  
Diana Chirillo, Contact

Great Decisions will meet on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. to discuss “**Democracy Awakening: Notes on the State of America**” by Heather Cox Richardson.



This will be a Zoom meeting. Diana Chirillo will be the discussion leader. We encourage guests and welcome new members. For more information

or a Zoom invite contact Diana Chirillo at [chirillodlc@gmail.com](mailto:chirillodlc@gmail.com).

Mah Jongg  
Mary Jane Kearns, Contact

The group meets every Friday 1 to 4 p.m. in a player’s home.

To join the group please contact Mary Jane at [mjkearns1@outlook.com](mailto:mjkearns1@outlook.com).







**empowering women since 1881**

American Association of University Women Northville-Nov  
A non-profit 501(c)(3)

Articles for the February 2024 issue  
due **January 20** to:

Mary Ann MacLaren  
info@aauwnn.org

**AAUW Northville-Nov (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 p.m.  
Day Book Group.....Second Thursday, 10 a.m.  
Evening Book Group..... Fourth Monday, 7 p.m.  
Great Decisions .....Third Tuesday, 1:30 p.m.  
Mah Jongg..... ..Fridays, 1 p.m.  
Restaurant Rovers.....Third Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.