

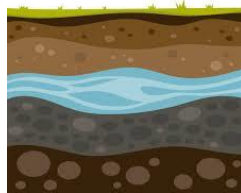


AAUW Pendleton Branch Newsletter
April 2024

AAUW Pendleton Branch
April Membership Meeting

Program: “Groundwater, the Gift of Life
New Research on Natural Recharge to Groundwater”

Speaker: Kate Ely, Hydrologist, CTUIR



Wednesday, April 3
7:00 p.m.
Vert Club Room

May 2024 Membership Meeting
Wednesday, May 1, 7:00 pm, Vert Club Room
Morgan Matteson, “StirrUp Hope Therapeutic Riding”

AAUW Pendleton Branch Leadership Team 2023–2024

Co-Presidents

Susan Doyle 969-7660
Mary Davis 969-9669

Communications Vice President
Joan Deroko 310-9175

Co-Finance Vice Presidents

Marlene Krout 276-7596
Dues, Kate Mace 276-1006

Membership Vice President

Sue Petersen 276-4569

Co-Program Vice-Presidents

Kate Ely 278-1997
Blanche Hill 360-649-4337

Co-Recording Secretaries

Kathy Ward 276-0308
Beth Condon 276-7187

Appointed Leaders:

BMCC Liaison

Marie Hall 379-5250

AAUW Funds

Jill Heffner 278-4791

Grapefruit

Karen King 278-2151

Newsletter & Directory Editor

Susan Doyle 969-7660

Public Policy

Regina Braker 663-6148

STEM

Miriam Munck 278-5805

Website

Marty King 276-8210

AAUW Association website
aauw.org

AAUW of Oregon website
aauw-or.aauw.net

AAUW Pendleton website
pendleton-or.aauw.net

Notes & Announcements

April Dinner Divas: Dinner before the membership meeting at Joe's Cantina on Main Street (Cantina is Joe's addition).

April Membership Meeting, April 3: Kate Ely will increase our awareness of natural recharge to basalt aquifers in the upper Umatilla Basin. **New research** conducted by the Umatilla Tribes and the US Geological Survey has brought about **a new understanding** of our groundwater supply.

April Board Meeting: Wednesday, April 17, 5:00 p.m., at Kate Mace's home, 1040-C NW 12th Street.

April Lunch Bunch: Thursday, April 18, 11:45 a.m., at The Vault Tavern, Pilot Rock (formerly Archie's).

Don't forget to bring donations for the BMCC Student Pantry to the membership meeting on April 3!

StirrUp Hope Therapeutic Riding's Chocolate Derby!

**Pendleton Convention Center
Saturday, April 6, 6:00 pm**

StirrUp Hope Therapeutic Riding, formerly Dream Catcher Therapeutic Riding Center, is having a "Chocolate Derby!" fundraising event Saturday, April 6, 6:00 pm at the Pendleton Convention Center. Music by Whiskey for Breakfast. \$40 per person.

For tickets, contact:

Sue Petersen, suepetersen60@gmail.com, 541-377-0752, or
Morgan Matteson, morgansjourney@yahoo.com, 541-377-0777



Empowering those with physical, emotional and developmental challenges to improve their lives, discover their abilities, and "StirrUp" hope through equine assisted services.

**AAUW PENDLETON
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES
March 2, 2024**

Call to Order: Program VP Kate Ely called the meeting to order at 12:10 pm. There were 13 members present.

Minutes: approved as distributed

Reports:

Finance VP Accounts and budget: Marlene Krout

Savings acct funds: \$4815.79

Checking acct funds: \$2170.04

Finance VP: Kate Mace

No report

Program VP: Kate Ely/Blanche Hill

Next membership meeting is April 3at the Vert @ 7:00 pm. Umatilla County district attorney Dan Primus will be the speaker.

Membership VP: Sue Petersen

Possible new member

Communications VP: Joan Deroko

No report

Appointed positions:

No reports

Continuing business:

Scholarship recipients for BMCC and Sue Waldman Fund have not been selected yet.

Recycle update: Interest is good among members. Blanche asked everyone to make sure they only recycle appropriate items and that they are clean and sorted.

The NE Oregon director position will be vacant July 1. If anyone is interested please contact Karen King.

New business:

Karen King informed the group that the national election is coming up. The decision of whether or not to stop requiring a degree to become a member will be on the ballot. She encouraged everyone to vote. For more information check the April newsletter.

Announcements:

EO forum will be March 12 in the BMCC science building room 200 at 7:00 pm.

Lunch bunch March 21 @ Momiji's.

StirrUp Hope Therapeutic Riding fundraiser April 6 at the convention center, 6:00pm. For more information check the April newsletter.

Meeting adjourned: @ 12:25 pm

Kathy Ward, Co-Secretary

Memorial Books

By Karen King

Pendleton AAUW sponsors a book at the Pendleton Library to honor each member who have passed. Three books have been selected as memorials:

In memory of Karen Allen – *The Eyes and the Impossible*, by Dave Eggers

In memory of Kathryn Chaney – *The Monkey Wrench Gang*, by Edward Abbey

In memory of Alerita Burns – *Two Islands and What Came of Them*, by Thomas Condon, 1902. This is a geology book by Condon, for whom the city of Condon was named.



AAUW National Election Opens April 3 Vote on Open Membership

On April 3 AAUW will ask all members to vote on changing the membership requirement that members be higher education graduates to open membership. You will receive an email with an electronic ballot. **Please vote!** Note: AAUW of Oregon has endorsed a vote to change to open membership.

Check your email when National Election voting opens on Wednesday, April 3! AAUW will again this year use a third-party vendor to administer voting. You'll receive an electronic ballot with your unique voting credential from vote@simplyvoting.com. Please add this address to your safe sender list or check you Spam folder to ensure your ballot reaches you. Members without an email address on file will receive a paper ballot.

Voting closes Monday, May 15, at 12 p.m. ET

Will we have to change our name? No. We'll be "AAUW". When asked "What's AAUW?", say you are part of a national membership organization that works for gender equity then describe your local projects and events. There's really no need to use each word from the acronym, just as YMCA doesn't need an explanation.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN OF OREGON BIENNIAL ACTION PRIORITIES 2024-2026

Submitted by Regina Braker, Branch Public Policy Chair

“AAUW of Oregon promotes advocacy, takes action to empower women and girls, and connects AAUW National with branch members.”

Oregon’s AAUW Public Policy Committee, guided by our National and State Mission Statements and the National AAUW 2023-2025 Public Policy Priorities and Goals establish the following biennial priorities:

1. Support a quality fully funded K-12 and higher public education system

- Support adequate and equitable funding for education, statewide summer learning, and early learning/special education.
- Vehement support for Gender Equity and Title IX
- Oppose policies that support book banning and/or curriculum censorship.
- Support state and local public policy committees and chapters maintaining awareness of local school board proceedings. Support anti-censorship candidates for Oregon’s local school boards.
- Support implementation of current legislation for statewide science-based reading instruction to address Oregon’s Literacy Crisis
- Oppose diversion of public funds to non-public elementary and secondary education, charter and cyber charter schools
- Support legislative action on equitable, affordable, and reliable broadband infrastructure, services, and when needed appropriate devices and digital security to Oregon’s elementary and secondary students .

2. Oppose all forms of discrimination while advocating for racial, ethnic and gender equity/representation/economic security

- Support all aspects of Oregon’s Equal Pay Act.
- Support increased proportional representation of women in leadership roles, including school administration, public office, and public corporate boards, and promote opportunities in Oregon for women’s training for public office and governing and advisory boards.
- Vigorous support for enforcement of employment anti-discrimination statutes
- Support self-determination in women’s reproductive health decisions
- Strong advocacy for passage and ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment
- Support safe, livable, and affordable housing.
- Actively support anti-poverty programs to ensure greater financial security for Oregon’s families.

3. Social and Racial Justice for all.

- Promote great availability of and access to benefits that promote work and life balance, including quality and affordable dependent care
- Support legislation addressing sexual harassment, assault, physical violence, and human trafficking
- Advocate for affordable child and youth care and early childhood education programs that link state and local community partnerships to include health, nutrition, and other supportive services
- Support equal access to quality affordable health care, family planning, and housing, including expansion of patients' rights .
- Actively support anti-poverty programs to ensure greater financial stability.

4. Protection of our democracy

- Actively support campaign finance reform to enhance political equality for all citizens.
- Promote equal access in the voting process, combatting voter suppression efforts.
- Support redistricting efforts by citizens.

5. Expanding our influence through partnerships with like-minded organization and individuals

- Provide ongoing education to all Oregon AAUW chapters throughout the year covering our state priority issues, current legislative reports, monthly updates of local chapters and statewide advocacy, and providing access to research and training opportunities
- Collaborate with other non-profit organizations and agencies sharing mutual interests and issues, widening our impact.

Only two Remaining AAUW Pendleton Branch Programs for Spring 2024

Wednesday, May 1, Membership Meeting, 7:00 pm, Vert Club Room, Morgan Matteson, StirrUp Hope Therapeutic Riding.

Saturday, June 1, Membership Meeting, 11:00 am, Picnic/Potluck Location TBA, Kate Ely, Rocks of the Umatilla River.

An Interview with Bette Husted

Bette Husted is one of our most beloved regional writers and poets. She read from her new work at the First Draft Writers' Series, Pendleton Center for the Arts, on Thursday evening, March 21. Bette is a well-known author and poet in Pendleton. Roberta Lavadour provided the following question-and-answer interview with Bette.

Here's a quick Q&A with Bette:

1. Are there specific themes that run through your work? A sub-genre that you work within?

I'm pretty passionate about facing our ongoing history honestly, acknowledging its inherent racism and questioning the narrative that white settlement occurred on a nearly empty continent and was both inevitable and necessary. My 1950s childhood has made me equally passionate about inequality of opportunity for girls and women and for people of all social classes. (I want everyone to have a chance to learn everything.) And of course there is much to love, to celebrate in human relationships and the natural world, and that's in my writing too.



2. Any interesting anecdotes that would give a feel for your point of view?

*My books have been finalists for the Oregon Book Award and the Women Writing the West WILLA Award; I was a Fishtrap Fellow and a recipient of the Oregon Arts Commission Award. But the honor that has meant most to me, by far, came when an elder from the Umatilla Indian Reservation offered to make me a beaded white buckskin bag in return for a copy of *All Coyote's Children*, the novel set on his reservation. It felt as if the circle every writer strives for was closing, was unbroken.*

3. Why should someone who doesn't know much about poetry, or thinks they don't care for it, experience your work?

Stories shape the world. Stories connect us. I try to tell good stories.

PENDLETON CENTER FOR THE ARTS
First Draft Writers' Series
Third Thursday of each month, always FREE

The current exhibit at Tamástslíkt on Missing and Murdered Indigenous People is a profound and moving presentation that complements the AAUW Pendleton Branch sponsored EO Forum on Murdered and Missing Indigenous People last November.

Portraits in Red Missing and Murdered Indigenous People Painting Project


Tamástslíkt Cultural Institute
Closes May 4 (admission is free on the first Friday of the month)

Nayana LaFond's painting project began in 2020 with one painting, "Lauraina in RED," created for the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls. Since then, she's painted more than 50 commissioned portraits. Each portrait is of someone who is missing, was murdered, survived, their family member or friend, or an activist/hero fighting for the cause. LaFond hopes to make sure the missing and dead are never forgotten, to raise awareness about this serious issue, and to provide help with healing to the families.

Portraits in Red

Missing & Murdered Indigenous People Painting Project

"I want to paint them the way the spirits would see them."
- Nayana La Fond



Nayana LaFond (b.1981) is a full-time multidisciplinary artist and activist who resides in Western Massachusetts. She attended Greenfield Community College and Massachusetts College of Art for Photography before becoming a full-time painter.

"After leaving art school I went on to own and run a cafe and record label as well work as a curator for over 20 years in various galleries and museums, eight of which as Chief Curator. Through my work as an art organizer, I have been honored to now sit on the executive board for Artist Organized Art as well as several other arts and cultural boards. My paintings and sculptures can be found in galleries, museums, and private collections around the world."

Nayana's work often deals with issues related to trauma and violence including her experiences as a Leukemia and Bone Marrow transplant and DV survivor.

Nayana LaFond is an enrolled Citizen and Member of the Metis Nation of Ontario. She also has additional ancestry including Anishinaabe, Mi'kmaq, Abenaki, French and German descent.

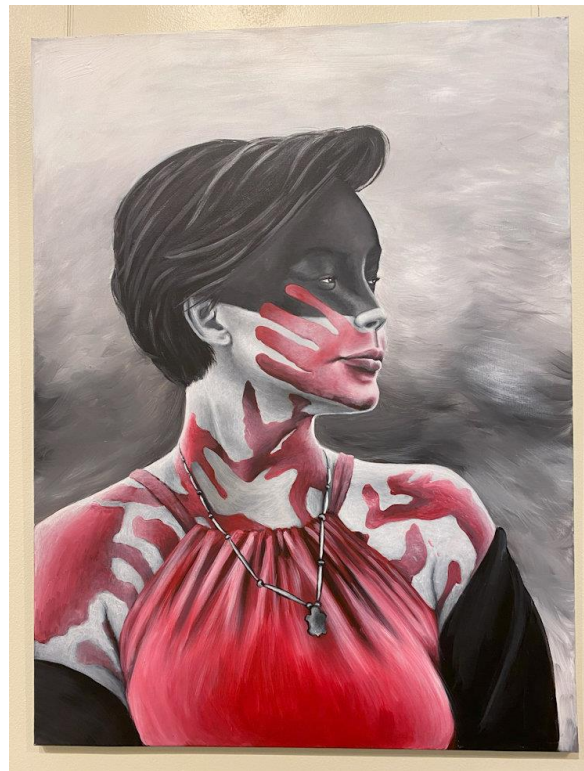
What is the
MMIP
Movement

MMIP stands for "Missing and Murdered Indigenous People". It's a movement that advocates for the end of violence against Indigenous People. It also seeks to raise awareness to the high rates of disappearances and murders of Indigenous People.



The Red Hand

A red hand over the mouth has become the symbol of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW). It stands for all the missing sisters whose voices are not heard. It stands for the silence of the media and law enforcement in the midst of this crisis. It stands for the oppression and subjugation of Native women who are now rising up to say #NoMoreStolenSisters.



Ribbon Banner

This ribbon banner was created by members of the Siletz Tribe during the first installment of Portraits in Red at the Pacific Maritime Heritage Center in Newport, OR. The banner will continue to travel and grow with the exhibition as you and others add your thoughts. It will be presented to the artist at the end of the exhibit's tour.

Shawls and Red Ribbon Skirts are very symbolic to Native people. The fringe is said to represent the tears of Indian women crying for the pain and suffering the people have endured for generations; yet it also represents strength, beauty and solidarity.

Statistic:

- About 4 out of 5 Native women have experienced violence.
- Native women were about twice as likely than most other women to experience violence.
- Native women face murder rates 11 times the national average.
- The murder rate for Native women is about 3 times more than that of most other women.
- 98% of Indigenous people experience violence in their lifetime.
- There is only a 6% prosecution rate.