

Book & Author Luncheon
Saturday, October 31, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Country Club of Fairfax, 5110 Ox Road, Fairfax, VA

Come and join in the fun, support our member whose book is featured, and give to help women achieve their educational goals. That's what it's all about.

With less than a month to go, it's time to get hopping with your support for our Book & Author Luncheon. The details are coming together, but much is still to be done.

- Invite friends, neighbors, and associates to join you at your table on October 31. Print out our flyer at the end of this newsletter so they can see all the details. Your guest could be our next new member.
- Volunteer to help the day of the event. Call Barbara Klementz if you are available and can participate (703/978-3961).
- Make a donation to the Silent Auction. Call Sonja Palomaki (703/455-0876) to let her know what you plan to donate.
- Interest groups that are still considering what to put together for their basket can get suggestions from Sonja that are quick and inexpensive. The Silent Auction committee will wrap it for you.
- For those of you who are still uncertain as to how to support the Silent Auction, make a donation to the "Money Basket" by October 15. Again, Sonja is the contact person.
- Buy an extra ticket or two for the luncheon and call it a donation. This is a great idea if you can't be there in person.
- Buy your tickets early! Remember the deadline for reservations is October 28!

Membership

We currently have 52 members and two student affiliates. We may gain some new members from the Book & Author Luncheon. Bring your family and friends! Since the luncheon is a public event, those who sign up at the event will receive national dues at half off! This is a perfect time to gently encourage friends to join us.

Joan Dimengo will be at the membership table before and after the luncheon. So stop by, say hello, and let her tell you why you should join AAUW and the Fairfax City Branch!

Three more reasons to join Fairfax City Branch AAUW:

1. We advocate for equal pay for women.
2. We raise money through our Book & Author Luncheon for scholarships for women continuing their education.
3. We have a genuine interest in our members—both longtime and new. All members are needed and valued.

Have any questions? Please contact Joan Dimengo at jdimengo@gmail.com or C:703/203-2765 or H:703/815-1586.

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Nourishing Complete Intelligence

On the rainy Saturday morning of September 12, Professor Robert I. Matz's talk filled the meeting room at the Burke Center Library.

Recent emphasis on the importance of studying and pursuing careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) has raised concerns among many. Professor Matz questioned whether we are educating students to take on the difficult human-to-human tasks such as making hard ethical judgments and communicating effectively with diverse populations. He argued that such proficiencies are needed to complement the "apps" we use to efficiently carry out everyday tasks and that studies outside STEM are important for developing these proficiencies.



Professor Robert I. Matz

Professor Matz argued that one can study liberal arts and still work in a STEM field. Employment graphs based on recent graduates revealed that many who study STEM fields move into non-STEM careers and vice versa. He also countered the argument that a STEM career necessarily leads to higher earnings. Another chart showed that a significant proportion of individuals pursuing STEM careers earn less than many following other careers.

Professor Matz had no difficulty eliciting comments from the audience. Some told of their own experiences while others spoke of relatives who found their careers uninteresting and

moved on to other areas of interest. The audience also gave evidence that bias against women participating in STEM fields is still an issue.

The sense of the meeting was that in making choices of studies and careers: money should not be the sole decision criterion; bias needs to be countered; and all fields of study deserve consideration.

STEMtastics 2016: March 12

The intent of STEMtastics is to help girls overcome cultural biases in pursuing STEM careers by introducing them to role models. A planning committee coordinates with Fairfax County Public Schools and NOVA-Annandale to arrange the facilities, invite the girls, and enlist the role models. But making it all run smoothly are the numerous volunteers who come for just the day.

The STEMtastics planning committee is still looking for someone to coordinate the volunteers for the day of STEMtastics. Working with other committee members, the coordinator obtains contact information for volunteers. Using task descriptions developed by other committee members, the volunteer coordinator matches volunteers with tasks. On the day of STEMtastics, the coordinator works at the check-in table for volunteers, handing out name-tags and directions to guide them to their activity. For example, volunteers helping with the parent workshop are given the time to arrive. Once at the volunteer check-in table, they are given the name of the parent workshop coordinator and guided to the theatre area.

The coordinator's time commitment is between the first of the year and the day of STEMtastics. The primary technical skill required is email. Have fun while working with the 8 other members of the planning committee. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Suzanne Mahoney at suzanne070946@mac.com.

AAUW Public Policy Program

“AAUW believes that high-quality public education is the foundation of a democratic society and the key to economic prosperity and gender equality. We advocate equitable climates free of harassment, bullying, and sexual assault. We support academic freedom, civic education, protection from censorship, bias-free education, and responsible funding for all levels of education, including early childhood education and programs for students with disabilities. We advocate increased access to higher education, especially for women in poverty. We promote equitable efforts to close the persistent achievement gap that disproportionately affects low-income children and students from minority communities.

“AAUW promotes the economic, social, and physical well-being of all persons. Essential to that well-being are an economy that provides equitable employment opportunities; reduction of poverty; a living wage; quality affordable dependent care; paid family and medical leave; safe, livable, and affordable housing; quality affordable and accessible health care including reproductive health care; and a clean and healthful environment.”

The preceding quotes form part of the foundation for AAUW’s specific advocacy goals. These priorities for action are adopted every other year at the national convention. This year’s convention priorities addressing three general issues:

- A strong system of public education that promotes gender fairness, equity, and diversity
- Economic self-sufficiency for all women
- Equality, individual rights, and social justice for a diverse society

To read the specific items, go to <http://www.aauw.org/resource/principles-and-priorities/> .

Interest Groups

Afternoon Lit

Wednesday, October 21, at 1 p.m.
Home of Prativa Prasad
9030 Scott Street, Springfield
balramprasad@gmail.com or 703/866-4038

The group will discuss *A Spool of Blue Thread*, by Anne Tyler. Please let Prativa know by Sunday, October 18, if you plan to attend.

Great Decisions–Salon Discussion Group

Friday, October 9, at 12 noon
Home of Ann Slomski
7611 Clifton Road, Fairfax, Station 22039
anabbott@verizon.net or 703/250-9134

In October we will continue Great Decisions from the Foreign Policy Association briefing book, 2015 edition. Our meeting will cover the fifth topic in the Great Decisions briefing book, “U.S. Policy Toward Africa.” We will also discuss the accompanying DVD at the meeting.

Please let Ann know you will be coming to the meeting. Bring a light lunch. Drinks and dessert will be provided by the hostess.

Musical Notes

Friday, October 23, at 1 p.m.
Home of Ann Slomski
7611 Clifton Road, Fairfax Station
anabbott@verizon.net or 703/2509134

We will view the second half of *Eugene Onegin*. Please let Ann know you are coming.

Night Owls

Tuesday, October 13, at 6:30 p.m.
Home of Jan Humphrey
3604 Gawaine Court, Annandale
dandjhumph@aol.com or 703/573-6253

Light supper will be followed by our discussion of *Paper Towns* by John Green. Please let Jan know if you will be attending. This is the final call for books and baskets for our contribution to the Silent Auction at the Book & Author Luncheon.

Upcoming: The November book is *Man Alive!* by Mary Kay Zuravleff.

Our Mission

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

AAUW—FAIRFAX CITY BRANCH MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION and RENEWAL

Membership is open to all graduates who have a two-year, RN, four-year, or higher degree from an accredited institution. AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership.

You can join or renew *online* at aauw.org. Click on *Membership> Join/Renew> Branch Member*. Follow the prompts. We are "VA3042 Fairfax City."

Or, Complete the application below and mail it with your check to the treasurer.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: (H) _____ (W) _____ (C) _____

E-Mail: _____

Degree: _____ College: _____ Field: _____

Degree: _____ College: _____ Field: _____

This information will be published in our directory and newsletter, unless you indicate items to omit.

DUES: \$82 (\$49 national, \$15 state, \$18 branch) for membership through June 30, 2016.

Note: \$46 of the national dues is tax deductible.

If *transferring* from National Membership or another branch, submit dues to the treasurer:

If your National membership expires in 2015, remit \$82.

If your National membership expires in 2016, remit \$33.

Contact Joan Dimengo: C 703-203-1765; H 703-815-1586 or email jdimengo@gmail.com for verification of the dues amount.

AAUW ID #, if known: _____

Dues enclosed for transfer: _____ National membership expiration date: _____

Make check payable to AAUW—Fairfax City Branch.

Send this form and your check to the treasurer:

Dottie Joslin

11110 Del Rio Dr.

Fairfax VA 22030

j.joslin@verizon.net

703-591-9035

Would you be willing to bring someone to our meetings and events if she lives in your area? Yes or No

Do you need transportation to our meetings and events? Yes or No

The Fairfax City Branch of AAUW presents

Book & Author Luncheon

Saturday, October 31, 2015, 11 am to 2 pm

Country Club of Fairfax • 5110 Ox Road, Fairfax, VA
\$40 per person (includes luncheon and silent auction)

This year we're featuring sisters, along with national security and political turmoil.

-  **Kay Corbett, *Calla Lilies*.** A true story of four sisters and their struggle to survive abuse, addiction, and poverty in America.
-  **Karna Bodman, *Castle Bravo*.** Have a seat in the situation room when national security is threatened with a staggering potential attack of unimaginable magnitude.
-  **Nadia Hashimi, *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell*.** A tender and beautiful multigenerational family story of two women who dress as boys to obtain freedom in rural Afghanistan.
-  **Becky Hepinstall, *Sisters of Shiloh*.** Two southern sisters, disguised as men, who join the confederate army—one seeking vengeance on the battlefield, the other finding love.
-  **Alan Topol, *Washington Lawyer*.** A lively insider's portrait of political mischief featuring a senator who is a traitor and perhaps a murderer.

This annual event is sponsored by AAUW Fairfax City Branch to raise funds for scholarships for women in our area and for the AAUW Fund.

Please mail your check or Visa or MasterCard information to Suzanne Mahoney at 8313 Chapel Lake Ct., Annandale, VA 22003 • (703) 978-3258 • email: suzanne070946@mac.com • Checks should be payable to AAUW Fairfax City Branch.

Reservations must be made by October 28, 2015, and are payable in advance.

Requests for seating must be made at the time of the reservation.

Guests with special dietary requirements must make their requests when making reservations.



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Night Owls: Paulette Miller
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Salon Discussion Group : Kay Corbett
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Musical Notes: Olga Burns
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