



# News By Degrees

SCHAUMBURG AREA BRANCH

NOVEMBER 1, 2022—JANUARY 2023

## President's Message

The election is upon us. It is a time to reflect on what is most important to us and which candidates will best represent our viewpoints. To do this we must be well informed. The AAUW action website is a great non-partisan resource. (<https://www.aauwaction.org/>) I am also grateful for AAUW and its research into many areas that impact women. (<https://www.aauw.org/research/>) Furthermore, the research better helps me understand women's issues from the perspectives of different demographics than my own

as well as a global view.

The Schaumburg Branch is actively contributing to the larger effort and mission. At the October 26 General Meeting, the Branch voted to contribute \$1150 to the Greatest Needs Fund which, in part, funds the AAUW research in addition to important programs to encourage young women to consider STEM careers. We also voted to continue to fund the \$650 Harper College scholarship. Thank you all for your hard work contributing to our fund-



raising efforts throughout the year. We can also remain active beyond election

day by contacting our elected officials about issues that are important to us. Maybe citing the AAUW research to bolster the points we are making. If our elected officials are voting for bills that we favor, we can send letters of thanks. Ken has a great template attached to the newsletter. Of course, we will be fundraising. Maybe we could ask additional people if they would like to participate in our fundraisers this year. Every step or action forward doesn't need to be big to be meaningful.

- Genevieve

## Upcoming Events

- *Vote: November 8*
- *Chicago AAUW branch Zoom with AAUW Fellows: November 12*
- *Give thanks to a Veteran: November 11*
- *Novel Approach: November 21*
- *Sunshine Breakfast: December 3*
- *Celebrating Women: December 12*
- *Novel Approach: January 16*
- *Novel Approach: February 20*

## December Sunshine Breakfast



Join all your Schaumburg AAUW friends for a divine apple pancake or another delectable breakfast entree served up at Richard Walker's on Saturday December 3.

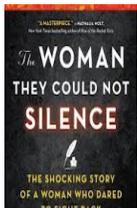
We will meet at 9:00. This is the Richard Walker restaurant on Roselle Rd north of Golf. I checked out the menu and it appears that Bloody Mary's and Mimosas are available. We will also be finishing up the stockings for WINGS Mark the date on you calendar today!

-Mary and Lynn

## Celebrating Women: Dec 12

The *Celebrating Women* interest group plan to discuss the amazing story of Elizabeth Packard (1816-1897) an Illinois woman and mother of six who took on the legal system after being committed to the Illinois State Hospital in Jacksonville, Illinois in 1860 at the request by her husband. The book, *The Woman They Could Not Silence* by **Kate Moore**, is her story.

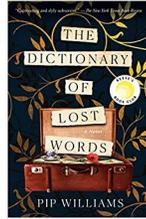
Links to information about her will be sent later for those who aren't able to read the book. Plan to join via Zoom on Monday December 12 at 1pm. Peg and Kathy



## Novel Approach: Nov 21

### *The Dictionary of Lost Words* by Pip Williams

The *Book of Lost Words* is a debut novel by Pip Williams. The story centers on Esme, a child who has lost her mother and is being brought up in a world of words. Her father is helping to write the first Oxford Dictionary of Words.



As she grows to womanhood, she is surrounded by various characters, the maid who takes care of her, the various men writing for the dictionary, the people she meet on the street and her Aunt Ditte. Throughout the story we learn that words have meanings. The story takes place in the early 1900s in London, when women were battling for the right to vote. Her story is meaningful and inspired me. We must keep fighting to protect our way of life. Fran

## Jewel Fundraiser: Nov 29

Our next Jewel Gift Card order will be placed on Tuesday, November 29th. If you would like to be included in this order, please let me know the denominations that you would like to purchase. Amounts can be \$5 to \$250 per card.

This is always a great time to purchase extra gift cards to donate to a charitable organization or to give to someone who would appreciate a little extra help with the cost of food for the holidays (newspaper delivery person for ex).

Please make your check payable to Schaumburg Area AAUW and mail to Barb by November 29th. Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions about these cards, please call or email me. Sue

**Public Policy:** The major upcoming policy item is the mid-term election on **November 8**. Hopefully everyone has or will vote in this important election. Democrats seem certain to retain control in Illinois, but at the federal level there is uncertainty in both Houses of Congress. President Biden will continue to lead, but he is still dependent on Congress if legislation is to pass.

The Illinois General Assembly accomplished a great deal in the last session that we have highlighted in the past. Both AAUW supported Pay Equity Resolutions (HR 751 and SR 925) were not passed this year. They may be dealt with in Veto Override Session otherwise action will be required in the next session. Normally the Veto Override session is scheduled on the last day of the regular session, but this fall's veto session will be held November 15, 16, 17, 29, 30, and December 1. It follows the 2022 general election, but the current General Assembly members will still be seated; the newly-elected (or re-elected) ones will be inaugurated in January 2023.

In Congress several significant pieces of legislation were passed by the current Congress including COVID relief; an infrastructure bill that will improve roads, bridges and airports; a gun safety bill and the Inflation Reduction Act that will help lower prescription drug costs. If the Democrats maintain control of both houses strong efforts are expected to provide the funding needed by this year's legislation and new efforts can be expected relative to reproductive rights, voter rights and more.

There are certain to be many opportunities for advocacy in the coming year. Be sure to watch for and respond to requests for action from the AAUW Two Minute Activist (<https://www.aauw.org/act/>). After the election we will plan to write our elected officials to congratulate them and share some of our legislative priorities with them.

## Branch plans for 2023 ...

### *Go Back From Where You Came From You Terrorist!* by Wajahat Ali

**Discussion: January 16**



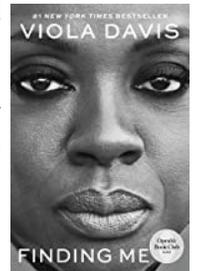
This is just one of the many warm, lovely, and helpful tips that Wajahat Ali and other children of immigrants receive on a daily basis. Go back where, exactly? Fremont, California, where he grew up, but is now an unaffordable place to live? Or Pakistan, the country his parents left behind a half-century ago?

Growing up living the suburban American dream, young Wajahat devoured comic books (devoid of brown superheroes) and fielded well-intentioned advice from uncles and aunts. (“Become a doctor!”) ...he was as American as his neighbors, with roots all over the world. Then, while Ali was studying at University of California, Berkeley, 9/11 happened. Muslims replaced communists as America’s enemy #1, and he became an accidental spokesman and ambassador of all ordinary, unthreatening things Muslim-y. Now a middle-aged dad, Ali has become one of the foremost and funniest public intellectuals in America. In this refreshingly bold, hopeful, and uproarious memoir, Ali offers indispensable lessons for cultivating a more compassionate, inclusive, and delicious America. *Genevieve*

### *Finding Me: A Memoir* by Viola Davis **Discussion: February 20**

This fascinating book is narrated by the accomplished actress, Viola Davis, of *How to Get Away with Murder*, *The Help*, and *Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom*, where she has earned an Academy, Emmy, two Tonys, and Screen Actors Guild awards. Listed by Time Magazine as one of the 100 most influential people in the world, Viola Davis introduces a little girl who ran from her oppressive past until she made a life-changing decision to stop running forever. It takes you from a crumbling apartment in Central Falls, Rhode Island to the stage in New York City and beyond. Viola searches to find her purpose in life and her voice in a world where she was initially overlooked and rejected. She continues to show courage on her quest to find self-love. She shows us where her heart, determination, grit, and resilience were born. This is an extremely inspiring, motivational, and joyous book to read that will captivate your heart right from the beginning making it extremely hard to put down.

*Judy S.*



## 2023 AAUW-IL, 98<sup>th</sup> State Convention

Friday - Saturday, May 5 - 6, 2023

**Embassy Suites by Hilton East Peoria Riverfront Hotel & Conference Center, East Peoria, IL**

Following on the heels of our very successful face to face AAUW-IL convention in 2022, plan to join AAUW friends and colleagues from around the state at the [2023 AAUW-IL Convention in East Peoria](#). The rooms at the Embassy Suites are truly a suite with a separate bedroom, a fold out sofa in the front room, and a shared bath in between. Very conducive to bringing a friend to the conference. We are lucky enough to be using the 2022 prices. You can use this link today to reserve your room [AAUW IL Convention 2023 Embassy Suites](#) or you may call 1-800-EMBASSY and use the code AUW.

Please mark your calendars and watch for additional details in Connection and on the AAUW-IL website. You won’t want to miss this annual meeting where together we advance the AAUW mission.

Reach out to Becky Glimco or Peg Gallagher, AAUW IL Program Chairs, for questions [aauwilprograms@gmail.com](mailto:aauwilprograms@gmail.com)

## Program sponsored by the Chicago (IL) Branch of AAUW!

### November Program Event

The Chicago Branch, in partnership with the Jane Addams Branch, is once again hosting a virtual meeting via Zoom to showcase **three AAUW Fellows and Grantees**. Join us from 10:30 to noon on Saturday November 12, 2022.

This year's presenters include:

Xiao (Angel) Bohannon, recipient of an American Fellowship for graduate study at Northwestern University to complete her PhD. Her project is "Attending to Leadership Attention: School Leadership during COVID."

Monica Reyes, American Fellowship recipient, to study writing, rhetoric and discourse at DePaul University. Her project is "Shelter Rhetorics: Understanding Narrative Pathways and Assemblages of the U.S. Asylum Process."

Chinyere E. Oteh, used her Career Development Grant to pursue an M.L.S. degree at the University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign. She is interested in providing library access to information, preservation and resources for underserved populations.

Register in advance for this meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwufoqDsvHNd0KeD8vCBhsRnpLwovehkA>

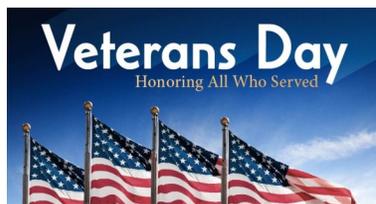
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

The AAUW Funds—as one of the world's largest sources of funding exclusively for graduate women—supports aspiring scholars around the globe, teachers and activists in local communities, women at critical stages of their careers, and those pursuing professions where women are underrepresented. AAUW Funds is providing nearly \$5 million in 2022–23 in support of 250 scholars. AAUW has been a leading source of funding, providing more than \$11 million in fellowships and grants to more than 13,000 women and organizations in the US and around the world.

Sponsored by Chicago Inc. branch in partnership with the Jane Addams Online branch of AAUW. For more information, contact [chicagoaauw@hotmail.com](mailto:chicagoaauw@hotmail.com) or <http://chicago-il.aauw.net/>

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## Thank you to all of our Veterans, Nov 11



**Read about 7 famous female Veterans: <https://www.military.com/veterans-day/famous-women-veterans.html>**