

AAUW Austin, TX Branch
Next Meeting
Saturday, January 13
10:00 AM
Norris Conference Centers
2525 West Anderson Lane,
Suite 365
RSVP by Jan. 7th
to Judy Reinhart



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AAUW in Action

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BUZZzzzz

Our Mission. *Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.*
<http://austin-tx.aauw.net>

Human Trafficking in Texas: Hidden Realities in Plain Sight

Panelists:

- **Andrea Sparks, Director of the Texas Governor's Child Sex Trafficking Team**
- **Jessica Robledo, Chief of the Pflugerville Police Department**
- **Steven "Flyer" Phenix, PR and Communications Director of The Refuge for DSMT (Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking)**

Can sex slavery for children exist in today's Texas? It can and it does. It's an ugly part of the ugly reality of **human trafficking**. To define the realities of this widespread violation of human rights, three panelists will address human trafficking from a different perspective. Andrea Sparks will explain her team's work in developing best practices in prevention and victim services and in supporting the prosecution of traffickers, buyers, and facilitators of child sex trafficking. Chief Jessica Robledo will discuss the role of local and regional law enforcement in prevention and enforcement of human trafficking. Steven "Flyer" Phenix will define the support needed by traumatized minor-age sex trafficking victims.

Our panelists will explain how to determine when human trafficking is taking place in our communities and what we, as Texas citizens, can do to help end it.



MENU: Fajita Salad. Build your own Salad with grilled beef or smoked chicken, mixed lettuces, black bean and corn pico, smoked peppers and onions, cheddar cheese, sour cream, tortilla strips, jalapenos.
\$25 cash or check for lunch or \$5 for just program and beverages

JANUARY CALENDAR – Interest Groups and MORE

First Friday AM Book Review - Hiatus**PEARS**

Jan. 6 Dinner & Esther's Follies
 Planners: Charles & Diane Brewer
 Contact: Milli Stecker, 512-468-1088
 milli1251@gmail.com

Southwest Books

Jan. 8 *Circling the Sun*
 (10:30 AM) Author: Paulka McClain
 Hostess: Sylvia Garcia
 Facilitator: Ines Garcia
 Contact: Jennifer Swenson, 512-288-2894

Central Books

Jan. 8 *Pavilion of Women*
 (10:30 AM) Author: Pearl Buck
 Hostess: Mary Humke
 Facilitator: Eugenie Whelan
 Contact: Ann Marie Ellis, 512-282-9637

Contemporary Literature (at Fern Chester's)

Jan. 8 *Arthur & George*
 (7:15 PM) Author: Julian Barnes
 Leader: Sharon Duboise
 Contact: Fern Chester, 512-345-1102

Out to Lunch

Jan. 9 Troy Restaurant (authentic Turkish fare)
 11:00 AM 8105 Mesa Drive; 512-897-2860
 Hostess: Karen Werner
 RSVP: Diane Brewer, 512-328-0474
 zdramamom@gmail.com

Committee Meetings

Jan. 9 **Membership:** Contact Linda Welsh.
Jan. 10 **STEM:** Contact Lilac Bauer.

Hiking Club – TWO Thursday AM HIKES

Jan. 11 Riverplace
 (9:30 AM) Leader: Zosia Hunt
 512-923-8733; zjhunt@sbcglobal.net
Jan. 25 Mayfield Park and Laguna Gloria
 (9:30 AM) Leader: Mary Zeitler
 512 593 9272; mzeitler@austin.rr.com

January Branch Meeting - see page 1

Jan. 13 Coordinators: Linda Welsh and
 Katherine Staples, Program Committee

Creative Stitchery

Jan. 17 Hostesses: Jackie Hardy, Fern Chester
 (10:00 AM)

Culture & Cuisine

Jan. 18 Southern Home-cooking, an MLK
 (6:30 PM) Favorite
 Hostesses: Milli Stecker, Myrtle Bell
 Contact: Barbara Houston, 512-633-
 9766; barbyhouston@gmail.com

Art Tour (5th Wednesday)

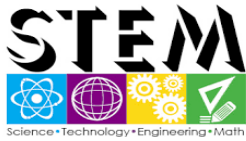
Jan. 31 Artist Mars Woodhill's Texas Art House
 Hill Country Gallery for Contemporary
 Art, 105 N. Nugent Ave., Johnson City
 Planners: Judy Reinhart, Phyllis Folarin
 Contact: Diane Brewer
 Zdramamom@gmail.com

MORE things to do this month and next:**REMEMBER GOV. ANN RICHARDS IN 2018!**

See page 5. In case you
 missed it before.
 AAUW-TX will match all
 donations in 2018.

It is time again to nominate our members
 deserving to be recognized as **NAMED GIFT**
 honorees. Contributions to National AAUW funds
 (primarily the Ann Richards American Fellowship
 Fund) in fiscal year 2017 total over **\$5000**, allowing
 TEN Named Gift honorees. Anyone can nominate
 someone, and the Board and AAUW Funds
 Committee selects the winners from the
 nominations. See history of past honorees on our
 website at [https://austin-tx.aauw.net/about-
 us/history-of-grants-fellowships-for-austin/](https://austin-tx.aauw.net/about-us/history-of-grants-fellowships-for-austin/).

AAUW in ACTION – see more at <http://austin-tx.aauw.net/>



STEM/STEAM News:

from Lilac Bauer, 512-743-6338, la_azucena@hotmail.com

Committee members will meet on Wed., January 10th from 6-7:30 pm at 3701 E Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. Please confirm if you can be there--we have a lot of planning to do for Spring!

Upcoming Event Dates: Sign up by contacting the specific group leader or sign up at the Jan 13 Meeting!

Mid-January on your own time: DATA ENTRY for Girlstart. Contact **Ginny Tannebring**.

Mid-January orientation for CURRICULUM RE-FORMATTING for Latinitas (day and time TBA). Contact **Lilac Bauer** if interested.

February 4, Sunday 12 Noon -3pm WEATHERFEST at the Bob Bullock Museum. Contact **Judy Reinhart**.

March 16: (time TBA) GOODY BAG STUFFING for Girlstart's Girls in STEM Conference on March 24. Contact **Jackie Hardee**.

Continuing to put the FUN in FUNd-rai\$ing for AAUW!!

Debbie Starr and Anita Knight, co-Chairs

Bring cash or checkbooks for the raffle at our January meeting: Amy's ice cream tix, Alamo Drafthouse tix, and Paramount movie tix. Valentine's Day is coming so these may come in handy for bringing a smile to the face of a loved one! Chances will be \$3 each, 2 for \$5, or 5 for \$10. We will have multiple winners.

Many of the funds raised by the branch are and have been targeted to help complete the Ann Richards American Fellowship started by AAUW-TX. At the January 13th meeting, we will give an accounting of the ~ **\$5000** contributions raised in 2017, and we will share plans for 2018.

***We hope that you will continue giving these businesses
your support and a nice thank you for supporting AAUW Austin:***

**Embellish Nails and Boutique, Face2Face Spa, Kendra Scott, Ten Thousand Villages,
Collin Street Bakery, Barnes & Noble, Alamo Drafthouse, Amy's Ice Cream, Paramount Theatre**

FUNds Co-Chairs **Anita Knight** and **Debbie Starr** would like to give a hearty THANKS to the many members who participated in our AAUW FUNdraising activities during 2017 either by volunteering or shopping or both (!): Kendra Scott, Ten Thousand Villages, Holiday Social heart ornaments and greeting cards, Collin Street Bakery, holiday gift wrapping, and raffles. Committee will meet soon to plan more FUNd activities.

Many thanks to the FUNds Committee for their hard work. Specifically, let's call out **Jennifer Swenson** (greeting card salesperson *extraordinaire*), **Eugenie Whalen** (coordinated Kendra Scott night), **Jean Bessent** (obtained multiple raffle items), **Lilac Bauer** (coordinated Holiday Gift Wrapping), **Susan James** (shopper *extraordinaire*, activity volunteer and FUNds Cheerleader), plus all of you who brought goodies to Ten Thousand Villages and volunteered to man tables for ornaments and cards at the Holiday Social.

Wow, what a year!

AAUW in ACTION – see more at <http://austin-tx.aauw.net/>



Co-President Elaine Penn's Message

It is so difficult to believe that another year has literally flown by! Welcoming a new year is always such an exciting proposition! Fresh starts. New adventures. Waving goodbye to the last year with alternating sadness and joy – and sometimes relief. Whatever you are leaving in 2017, Mary Ellen and I wish you the very BEST to come in 2018!

May it be filled with the joys you have hoped for, health for family and friends, and all the happiness the world has to offer!

However you felt about 2017, it certainly held a little bit of everything! The tragedies that we have witnessed have also shown us the incredible human spirit! Women in all different walks of life have stood up for themselves – and together. It has been heart-warming and overdue, and a hopeful model for young women coming behind us.

The New Year brings more incredible AAUW programs – see info for January! We hope to see you every month. Our program committee manages to outdo themselves each month. Be sure to thank them --- and enjoy the monthly meetings. We have new members joining every month and your new good friend is waiting to meet you!

With the New Year comes the beginning of the process to find new officers for our branch. We are looking for a committee to help nominate for the several positions open. Additionally, if you would like to serve on the Board, we would love to hear from you! It is a rewarding experience and as you might guess, involves a lot of visiting and laughter. We have serious decisions to make at times, but it is always fun to hear everyone's thoughts. Please let me or Mary Ellen know if you would like to be a part of the board or the nominating committee.

Most of the board we have this year will continue to guide us through 2018 – and beyond – and is an amazing group of women. I am proud to be a part of this group and I know you will be too!

Hugs, **Elaine**



Thanks, **Kay Keys**,
for photos at
Holiday Social!





Branch BUZZzzzzz

For donations to the Ann Richards American Fellowship Fund between January 1, 2018 and March 1, 2018, individuals will receive a yellow rose pin to signify you as *a Sister of Ann* and recognition in the 2018 State Convention program. All branches that donate during this time will receive special recognition at the 2018 State Convention.

Individual *Sister of Ann* Member--- \$250 and higher

Branch *Sister of Ann* Member-- \$500 and higher

Donate online at www.aauw.org, click on Donate, search for a Specific Program, select Fellowships, then select Ann Richards American Fellowship. Or mail your check to AAUW National designated for fund #4324. OR contribute to your branch's FUND-raising as described **per page 3.**

Tebrikleeeer!!!! That's Turkish for CONGRATULATIONS - to Mina Tafolar, former Austin member and AAUW Fellow at UT. We learned on Facebook that she was recently married in Chicago!



Now, more than ever, Girlstart reminds us that it's critical to let girls know their dreams and their futures are important to us.

"My favorite thing about Girlstart is the fact that any opportunity seems more possible or reachable."

- Emma, 8th grade, Summer Camper

BECAUSE OF YOU...

- 81% of Girlstart After School participants want to take more STEM.
- 94% understand that doing well in STEM at school means they are more likely to get into college; and
- 94% of Girlstart After School girls want to go to college.

Thank you for investing in girls, their futures, and our future. You make it possible for girls to dream big and see themselves as LIMITLESS!

Thanks to the following for the great **Holiday Social** in December at The TFWC Mansion. **Marsha Endahl Kramer** and **Marina Rivers**, Co-Chairs as Past Presidents, were delighted to welcome over 110 members and guests in attendance.

Committee:

Ann Berasley*

Darlene

Berghammer

Roberta Coffin

Lynn Cooksey

Clemmie Cummins

Ines Garcia*

Kay Goodwin*

Nita Hornbeck*

Anita Knight*

Janie Maldonado*

Renee Mauzy

Barbara McGrail

Elizabeth Newell*

Marilyn Poole

Karen Pope (nametags)

Martha Pyle

Delia Quintanilla*

Judy Reinhart*

Brenda Scholin*

Debbie Starr &

Funds Comm.

Milli Stecker*

Linda Welsh &

Membership

Committee

Pam Wolfe*

(* PAST BRANCH PRESIDENTS)

Ushers: Lee Blanchard, Bill Boyd, Charles Brewer, Wendell Harwell, Don Knight

Pianist: Paul Pew is an Austin School teacher & Musician, and the happy son-in-law of Frank and **Lynn Cooksey**.



Photos: Dr. Kay Keys

P.S. Do these eyeglasses look familiar? Someone left them at the Mansion on Dec. 3. Anita Knight has them.

