

Update

Volume 49 No. 5
December 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
FESTIVE GATHERING**
Tuesday, December 10, 7 p.m.
Northville Art House, 215 W. Cady Street

Programs

Janice Wargo, Facilitator
janicewargo@gmail.com

“Breaking the Canvas Ceiling - Celebrating Women”



Shannon Karol

Shannon Karol is the Executive Director of the Northville Art House. A graduate of Northville High School, she holds a master’s degree in art history from the University of Iowa. Prior to joining the Art House, Shannon spent 18 years working as a museum educator at art museums across the country, including the Dallas Museum of Art, Cincinnati Art Museum, Speed Art Museum (Louisville, KY), and the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts.

Shannon will provide an overview of ten women artists who broke boundaries in the art world, including Mary Cassatt, Helen Frankenthaler and Artemisia Gentileschi.

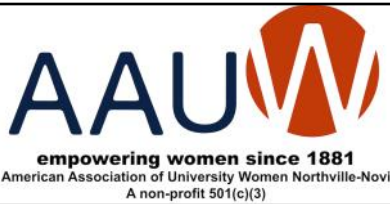
Come join in the spirit of the holidays at our Festive Gathering at the Northville Art House.

You are invited to bring a festive dessert to share.

In this Season of Giving, we will gladly accept donations for Northville Civic Concern.

The Civic Concern Mission is to provide temporary food assistance to Northville residents in need. Their goal is to build pride and self-confidence resulting in better decision making and improved quality of life. At this time of year Civic Concern really needs canned fruit, canned meat such as tuna and chicken, cereal, side dishes such as Knorr’s and Rice-a-Roni, and pasta sauce.

Simply bring items to the December meeting.



NORTHVILLE-NOVI (MI)

<https://aauwnn.org/>

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AAUW Mission

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

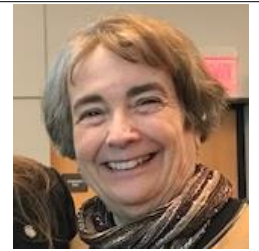
AAUW Diversity Statement

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-Novu (MI)

President's Message

Karen Zyczynski
zyczynski2002@aol.com



Reflections on 2024

As the year rapidly comes to a close, I thought I would take the opportunity to reflect upon all the educational, inspiring and fun activities our affiliate was involved in during the past year. Unless you actively participated in one or more of these activities, you may not be aware of the scope of our community involvement.

In January, we approved an increase in our college scholarships from \$1,000 to \$1,500 per student for this year. Thanks to Caryn Doehler for researching this topic for us and for leading the team of scholarship application readers.

Thanks to the leadership of Corinne Vincent and her support team, this past spring we hosted two Career Path Days for sixty-four eighth grade girls to explore STEAM careers, visiting Schoolcraft College and meeting local business leaders. Judy Sherman will be our 2025 Career Path Days Coordinator.

In collaboration with the Livonia AAUW Affiliate, we sent seven Schoolcraft College Women who demonstrated leadership abilities to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) in College Park, Maryland. This was coordinated by Corinne Vincent, our college coordinator, and Rhonda Donovan, our Schoolcraft College Coordinator. Ruth Rickard is our College Coordinator for 2024-26.

Our monthly meetings are intended to support our mission as well as an opportunity to network, socialize and have some fun. This past year we learned about The Impact of Ageism, The Job of a County Commissioner, The Impact of Gun Violence and What Works, Breaking the Canvas Ceiling and we heard from our NCCWSL participants from 2024. We also had fun learning about Yoga, Urban Gardening and sharing our personal passions and hobbies.

Our various interest groups provided opportunities for fun and building friendships including going to the movies, dining out, reading and discussing good books and important topics of the day, playing bridge and Mah Jongg and more.

So how can we afford all of this? We have to raise money! How did we do it?

- Our 2024 Michigan Fashion Designer Showcase Brunch, thanks to Mary Ann MacLaren and her Fashion Show Committee netted \$14,769.
- Two Mah Jongg Tournaments thanks to Emily Doubler, Janice Wargo and Mary Ann MacLaren, raising close to \$2,000.
- Our Shoe Drive, thanks to Mary Jane Kearns and Rhonda York and all of you out there collecting shoes for us. Amount TBD.
- And last, but most importantly, a payout from our endowment of \$6,000.

I know there are many more people who stepped up and helped us make things happen and I want you to know how much your efforts mean to the success of our affiliate. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Wishing you all the very best this holiday season and throughout the coming year!



Karen

Pictures from November Meeting



Elyse J. Thulin, PhD





Your Favorite Fundraiser is Back!

Help Us Meet Our Goal of 2,500 Pairs of Shoes

- **Collect** new or gently worn footwear of any type (men, women and children) from your closets, and those of friends, neighbors, and family.
- **Ask everyone** you can think of – we need a LOT of shoes!!
- **Collect what you can.**
- **Bring the shoes to our December meeting!**
- **Drop them off at 24423 North LeBost, Novi 48374 (Rhonda York's.)**
- Shoes will be distributed to micro-entrepreneurs in developing countries

PART TWO

- **Ask businesses you patronize to put up a sign and a box to collect shoes for us. ex. Hairdresser, Dentist, etc. You might use those who supported us at the time of our fashion show.**

WIN – your closet gets cleared of unwanted and outdated shoes

WIN – Shoes are recycled and not put into the garbage

Win – Assist small entrepreneurs, mainly women in developing countries

We are a 501(c)(3) charity supporting education, equity and economic security for women and girls.

Membership
Corinne Vincent, VP Membership
vincorinn@yahoo.com



Heather Swanson

Membership Matters

Welcome new member Heather Swanson, of Livonia, a Physical Therapist with an MS from Oakland University, a mom and daughter-in-law of long-time member Karen Swanson. It is another AAUW-NN family affair. Karen served as long-time Newsletter Editor and Board member and daughter Janet Morales, who now lives in Iowa, was mid 2000's Membership VP.

Important Follow-up - Thank you to the Membership Team who hosted the November Firearms Injury Prevention program. **The presentation PowerPoint will be available for you to review in depth for a lot of valuable information on our website for a few months.** "Preventing Firearms Injury: the Role of Evidence Based Research" by Elyse J. Thulin, PhD, Institute for Firearms Injury Prevention, University of Michigan. The point is well made that when motor vehicle crashes were the leading cause of youth deaths change happened like seat belts, anti-lock brakes, divided roadways. There are several helpful legislative pieces in Lansing now. If you think it is important, call and email your State Senator, Representative and Governor quickly.

Holiday Trees - AAUW-NN will feature a tree at the Festival of Trees, Northville Community Center, November 26 – December 19. Stop in to enjoy the creativity of our community organizations.

Celebrate Right Now - AAUW-NN's 50th Birthday is fast approaching in 2025-26, but let's celebrate AAUW-NN as we do our Holiday Shopping for 2024. Tackling your list ---While you are ordering gift certificates for "Remember the Ladies" books for our Northville-Novu lower school media centers, order an AAUW-NN Membership – new or renewal.... significant others included. And don't forget about our future. Make a tax-deductible gift to our Endowment established with Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan (CFSEM - see page 7). Cash, required minimum distribution, appreciated investment, bequest, memorial. Consult our Treasurer on the "how to." We didn't annoy you with a "Tuesday Giving" appeal. Just consider this a gentle nudge.



Public Policy
Mary Jane Kearns, Chair
mjkearns1@outlook.com



Public Policy News You Can Use



Summary of Michigan Results from the Recent Election

I would like to summarize the key statistics and outcomes for Michigan in the recent election: Donald Trump won the presidential race in Michigan, marking a shift from the 2020 election, where Joe Biden secured Michigan with 51% of the votes compared to Trump's 48%. This year Trump won with 52% of the vote.

Michigan has 15 electoral votes, making it a crucial battleground state. The state has swung in its support for presidents over the last three election cycles, voting for Biden in 2020, Trump in 2016, and Obama in 2012.

In the Senate race, Democrat Elissa Slotkin narrowly won the open seat vacated by retiring Democratic Senator Debbie Stabenow. Slotkin received about 76.33% of the Democratic primary votes.

Two open House seats, previously held by Democrats, were considered toss-ups: the 7th Congressional District (formerly held by Slotkin) and the 8th Congressional District (formerly held by Dan Kildee).

1. In Michigan's 7th Congressional District, Republican Tom Barrett defeated Democrat Curtis Hertel, flipping the seat from Democratic to Republican control.
2. In Michigan's 8th Congressional District, Democrat Kristen McDonald Rivet won the open seat, defeating Republican Paul Junge. This district was previously represented by Democrat Dan Kildee, who did not seek re-election. These two races were among the most closely watched in Michigan, as they represented potential shifts in the balance of power in the U.S. House of Representatives. The 7th District flip contributed to Republicans gaining control of more congressional seats in Michigan, with the final tally being 7 seats for Republicans and 6 for Democrats.

Voter turnout was significant, with 3.4 million Michigan voters casting their ballots early, while 2.2 million voted on Election Day. This high turnout led to long lines in some areas, with some polling places remaining open past 8 p.m. to accommodate voters in line. However, by Election Day, nearly 45% of active registered voters had already cast a ballot. Women represented 55% of the early vote, compared to 45% of men.

The state implemented new voting policies for the 2024 election, including:

- 9 or more days of early voting
- Expanded options for returning absentee ballots
- Improved absentee ballot tracking
- Permanent absentee voting option
- Expanded options for voter ID

These changes were aimed at speeding up the election process, though final unofficial results were not available until midday on Wednesday following the election.

(Continued on next page)

Summary of MI Results from the Recent Election *(Continued from page 5)*

Comparison to 2020:

The total turnout of 5.6 million voters in 2024 was somewhat higher than in the 2020 presidential election. As of the most recent update, Michigan had 8,435,960 registered voters.

New Voter Registration:

Nearly 22,000 new voters registered and voted on Election Day, with many in East Lansing, Ann Arbor, Grand Rapids, and Detroit.

Michigan has a large Arab American population, which played a role in the election dynamics, particularly regarding foreign policy issues. While they shifted from the Democrats, 18.7% voted for the Green candidate.



Our tree for the Festival of Trees at the Northville Community Center decorated by (left to right) Duane and Pat Noworyta, Carol Murchison, and Emily Doubler.

**Our Endowment at
Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan**

It has been a while since we have discussed our endowment at the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan. When it grew to \$100,000, we started taking distributions from it. It was set up so that we could work smarter and not harder. No donation is too small or too big.

There are a number of ways to give: Direct gifts of cash, stocks, bonds, real estate; Bequests by will or living trust; Name AAUWNN Endowment Fund as a beneficiary in your life insurance or retirement plan; A Charitable Gift Annuity lets you receive tax benefits or donate cash or property now, while receiving a fixed income for life; or Set up a Charitable Remainder Trust.

For those of you with IRAs who have to take Required Minimum Distributions (RMD), a good way to reduce your income is to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) to the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan for our endowment. You must notify the trustee of your IRA of your intention because the donation must go directly from the trustee of your IRA to the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan. You will then receive a letter saying the donation has been made to give to your tax preparer. However, you cannot take the donation as a charitable contribution. Remember you are not taking it as income.

If you just want to make a check out to Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan, write AAUW-NN in the memo line and mail to AAUW-NN, P.O. Box 511, Northville, MI 48167. This would not be a QCD.

Kudos to Member Jackie Duggan



In October, member Jackie Duggan was chosen from over 54,000 of her firm's associates to represent the top 400 employees committed to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at Edward Jones.

Jackie attended the "Connecting Through Collaboration, Culture and Action" Conference in St. Louis and attended various breakout sessions and group discussions designed to "create a place where everyone can feel seen, heard, respected and valued."

Mrs. Duggan feels honored to continue to generate positive impact on continuous learning and inclusive leadership in this field and ultimately utilize these skills with her diverse clients to help them achieve their financial goals.



\$\$\$ 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.

BOARD BRIEFS - NOVEMBER



Your board met on November 26, 2024.

Anniversary committee is hard at work

Motion by Corinne Vincent: "AAUW gift the Community Financial Credit Union carryover (budget line item 47) of \$1,000 to Sanctum House for job preparedness of women survivors of human trafficking enrolled in the program."

From Mary Ellen King: We would restrict the funds specifically for our women to learn interviewing skills, skilled labor training, introduction to computers, resume writing and job etiquette. Our women will greatly benefit from learning all of these skills so they can be part of the workforce. Second by Karen Zyczynski. Motion unanimously carried.

Caryn Doehler, secretary



Remember the Ladies
Joyce Murdock, Chair
jgmurdock12051942@wowway.com



REMEMBER THE LADIES



Abigail Adams

The holidays are here and it's time to think about what a great gift for a mom, sister, daughter, granddaughter, father, son, brother, or grandson or anyone else on your list would be that tells you not to get them anything unless they can eat it or wear it. A donation of a book to one of the Novi or Northville elementary schools through our Remember the Ladies Program might be just the thing you've been looking for. It would make a great hostess gift, too. To donate a book call me at (313) 381-2350 or contact me at my e-mail address, jgmurdock12051942@wowway.com. The minimum contribution is only \$15, and an order form is on page 11 of this newsletter and on our website.

For those of you who are new to our branch our "Remember the Ladies Program" was developed around a quote from a letter Abigail Adams sent to her husband John: "I long to hear that you have declared an independency. And, by the way, in the new code of laws which I suppose it will be necessary for you to make, I desire you would remember the ladies and be more generous and favorable to them than your ancestors." – Abigail Adams to John Adams, March 31, 1776.

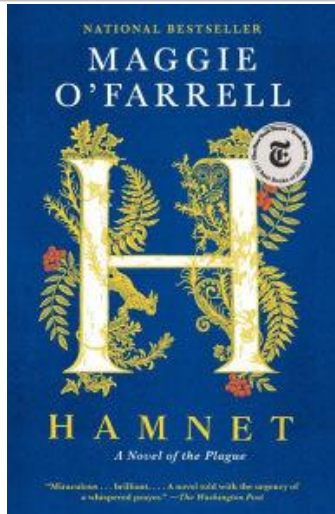
During the year, AAUW Northville-Novi collects donations for the purchase of books on women in history. The donation is sent to the school media specialist who selects a woman's biography, history, or related resource based on the needs of that particular media center and places the order. A receipt for the tax deduction is then sent to the donor from the media specialist. Books or other media may also be purchased in honor of or in memory of a loved one, in which case, a book plate is provided and placed in the book or other media. A certificate is also sent to the family of the loved one or of the person being honored notifying them of the donation. If it is a gift, it is sent to the person themselves.

NORTHVILLE-NOVI (MI) UPDATE

Daytime Book Group

Marian Brockie, Contact

On Friday, December 13, we will be discussing “**Hamnet**” by Maggie O’Farrell. We will meet at the Northville Library Study Room (lower level) with Zoom link availability from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Several group members will lead the discussion.



For more information on joining this group please contact Marian Brockie at 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.



Restaurant Rovers

Joyce Murdock, Contact

The Restaurant Rovers will not be meeting in December. On January 15, we will go to Doyle’s Irish Pub, 44045 Five Mile, Plymouth, for lunch at noon. This is in St. John’s Resort.

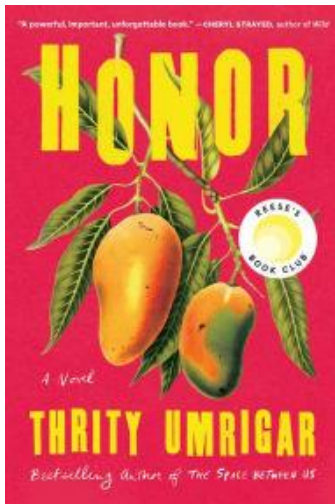


If you would like to join this group, please contact Joyce Murdock at (313) 381-2350 or jgmurdock12051942@wowway.com.

Evening Book Group

Mary Jane Kearns, Contact

The Evening Book Group does not meet in December due to the holidays. On January 27, we will discuss “**Honor**” by Thrity Umrigar. Judy Poole will lead our discussion that evening. This will be a ZOOM meeting.



A chart outlining our choices for 2024-25 can be found on our website. Interested in joining? We’d love to have you. Contact Mary Jane at (248) 449-8693 or 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.

Great Decisions

Mary Jane Kearns, Contact (Temporary)

Great Decisions will meet via Zoom on Dec. 17. We will discuss Topic 1, **The U.S. and the Middle East**. In 2025, we will continue to meet via ZOOM on the third Tuesday of the month at 1:30 p.m. Remember to order your book as soon as they are available for the new year. We would once again like to read and discuss a relevant book at our January meeting. Please send your suggestions to me at the e-mail address below.



We encourage new members and guests. This is the perfect time to join us as we will order new books shortly. **This group needs a leader.** For more information or a ZOOM invitation contact Mary Jane Kearns at mjkearns1@outlook.com or (248) 449-893.

Mah Jongg

Mary Jane Kearns, Contact

The Mah Jongg group plays Friday afternoons at members’ homes. The December schedule follows.

- Dec. 6 - Mary Ann
- Dec. 13 - Pat
- Dec. 20 - Jan
- Dec. 27 - Carol



New members are welcome. Contact Mary Jane Kearns to join us. mjkearns1@outlook.com or (248) 449-8693

NORTHVILLE-NOVI (MI) UPDATE

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

NORTHVILLE-NOVI BRANCH

“Remember the Ladies” Order Form

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

School District (Please check one) Northville _____ Novi _____

Preferred school library – Please enter the school’s name

In honor _____ In memory _____

Of _____

Would you like a certificate sent to the person or family of the person listed above?

Yes _____ No _____

If yes, to whom and where would you like the certificate sent

Send this form along with a check (minimum \$15) made payable to the proper school district with “Remember the Ladies” on the memo line to:

Remember the Ladies Committee, 12338 Woodlands Ct., Plymouth, MI 48170

Office use only

Order form # _____ Date _____

Receipt # _____ Check Amount _____

Book plate completed _____ sent _____
(date) (date)

Certificate completed _____ sent _____
(date) (date)

Thank You completed _____
(date)

NORTHVILLE-NOVI (MI) UPDATE

American Association of University Women Northville – Novi – a 501(c)(3)

An Affiliate of National AAUW, one of many local groups across the nation.
We are an association of dynamic local women committed to our Community with Action.
AAUW-NN works to break education and economic barriers so that women and girls have fair and equal opportunity, while taking time to network and enjoy personal enrichment.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2024-25

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name _____

Address _____ City/State/zip _____

Phone (c) _____ (h) _____ (w) _____

Email _____

Provide graduate associate or equivalent, baccalaureate or higher degree from a qualified educational institution:

College/University/Equivalent _____ State _____ Highest Degree _____

College/University/Equivalent _____ State _____ Highest Degree _____

Grad Year/s _____ Major/s _____

Date of Birth (optional) _____

Ethnicity (optional): Hispanic (Y or N) _ White _ American Indian/Alaska Native _ Black/African American _
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander _ Asian _ Other _

ELIGIBILITY

I am a graduate holding an associate or equivalent (RN), baccalaureate or higher degree from a qualified educational institution (). I am an undergraduate student ()

Signature _____

Date _____

MEMBER RECRUITER if applicable Name _____

Individual Annual Membership

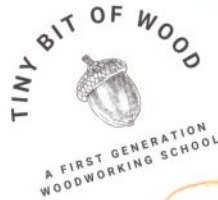
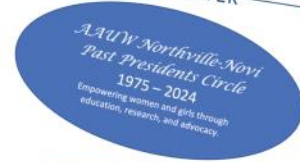
AAUW National membership fee	\$72
\$72 tax deductible	
State of Michigan fee – not tax deductible	15
AAUW-NN fee - \$10 tax deductible	10
TOTAL	\$97

Shape the Future-New Member

\$36
15
10
\$61

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO AAUWNN – mail to AAUWNN Membership, P.O. Box 511, Northville, MI 48167 AAUW fiscal year extends from July 1 through June 30. AAUW membership extends for 12 months from enrollment

MICHIGAN FASHION DESIGNER SHOWCASE LUNCHEON 2024 SPONSORS
PLEASE FREQUENT THEIR BUSINESSES





empowering women since 1881

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

Articles for the January 2025 issue
due **December 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 MeetingFourth 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 DecisionsThird Tuesday, 1:30 p.m.
- Mah Jongg..... ..Fridays, 1 p.m.
- Restaurant Rovers.....Third Wednesday, Noon

