



Founded 2012

Empire Times

Summer 2020

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Welcome to the New AAUW Empire State NYC Branch!

Members of the New AAUW Empire State NYC Branch meet the 1st Friday of each month at the Harvard Club in NYC from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm to discuss current issues related to women's education and other issues. Please join us for drinks and conversation.

Zoom Invitation to The Empire State NYC Branch by The AAUW Westchester Branch



Members of the
Empire State NYC Branch &
AAUW Westchester Branch
attended the Zoom meeting
on Wed, June 10, 2020!!



The Empire State NYC Branch was invited by AAUW Westchester Branch to speak at their June 10, 2020 meeting on zoom.

We talked about AAUW's Fellowships and Grants.

In addition to our president, **Maria Ellis**, there were two AAUW NYC Fellows namely, **Bolor Amgalan**, International Fellow and **Danielle Guindo**, Community Grant recipient.

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**AAUW— Empire State
NYC Branch**

973 216 4181

<http://empire-ny.aauw.net>

Founded 2012

A LETTER FROM THE EMPIRE STATE VIRTUAL BRANCH PRESIDENT, MARIA ELLIS



Dear Friends,

AAUW continues to be committed to train 10 million women in salary negotiation by 2022. Therefore, I am happy to report that we will continue to offer Smart Salary Negotiation workshop via zoom meetings at the New York Institute of Technology & The New School. I encourage each of you to start your free online salary negotiation workshop, click on the following link for details: <https://salary.aauw.org/>

We would like to Congratulate the 2020-2021 AAUW Fellows and Grantees! We are excited to announce that AAUW has granted more than 200 awards and \$3.5 million in funding for fellows and grantees in the 2020-21 award year. These exceptional recipients will pursue academic work and lead innovative community projects to empower women and girls.

As we are all learning to cope with the Covid-19, our branch meetings have taken place via zoom. We have enjoyed fun and educational zoom meeting as we covered Great Decisions topics written by contributors to Foreign Policy Association. Our members have learned and enjoyed our various global topics which have included the following:

1. Climate Change and the Global Order

Climate change has become one of the defining issues of our time. As much of the world bands together to come up with a plan, the U.S. remains the notable holdout. What is the rest of the world doing to combat climate change? What impact will the effects of climate change have on global geopolitics?

2. India and Pakistan

India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi rode a wave of Hindu nationalism to a historic reelection in 2019. His first order of business was to revoke the special status granted to the Kashmir region, inflaming the rivalry between India and Pakistan. How will the Kashmir situation affect the region, both economically and politically?

3. Red Sea Security

The Red Sea has remained vital for global trade since the time of ancient Egypt. Once home to the spice trade, the Red Sea now sees millions of barrels of oil a day transported across its waters. With major nations like China, France, Italy, and the U.S. building large ports and bases in the region, what does the future of the region look like? How important is Red Sea security for global security? Can the region be a place of global cooperation?

4. Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking

Almost every nation has enacted laws criminalizing human trafficking, and international organizations, governments, and NGOs sponsor a large variety of projects to curb trafficking and slavery. Billions of dollars have been allocated to these efforts. What is the international community doing to combat slavery and trafficking? What are the experiences like for those being trafficked?

5. U.S. Relations with the Northern Triangle

Combating illegal immigration has become a priority of the Trump administration. The Northern Triangle of Central America, made up of Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala, is a special target of the administration, which hold the nations responsible for the large flow of migrants from Latin America to the U.S. With funds from the U.S. cut, how can the Northern Triangle countries curtail migration?

6. China's Road into Latin America

As the Trump administration continues to withdraw from the world stage, China is looking to fill the void. How does Latin America fit into China's "One Belt, One Road" plan? How will the relationship with China affect the region? Should the U.S. be concerned about China's growing "sphere of influence"?

7. The Philippines and the U.S.

The Philippines has had a special relationship with the United States since the islands were ceded by Spain to the United States after the Spanish-American War at the end of the 19th century. However, since the election of Rodrigo Duterte, the country has pivoted more toward China, and away from the U.S. Duterte has also launched a largescale war on drugs that many criticize for its brutality. What does the future hold for U.S. relations with the Philippines?

8. Artificial Intelligence and Data

Policymakers in many countries are developing plans and funding research in artificial intelligence (AI). Global growth is slowing, and not surprisingly, many policymakers hope that AI will provide a magic solution. The EU, Brazil, and other Western countries have adopted regulations that grant users greater control over their data and require that firms using AI be transparent about how they use it. Will the U.S. follow suit?

In closing, I encourage you to renew your membership by clicking on the link below.

https://svc.aauw.org/RECore/wMembership/NewJoinBranch_Enter.asp?branchid=NY2091

Keep Positive & Healthy!

Maria Ellis, MBA

Empire State NYC Branch President

Email: mellis@fsacap.com

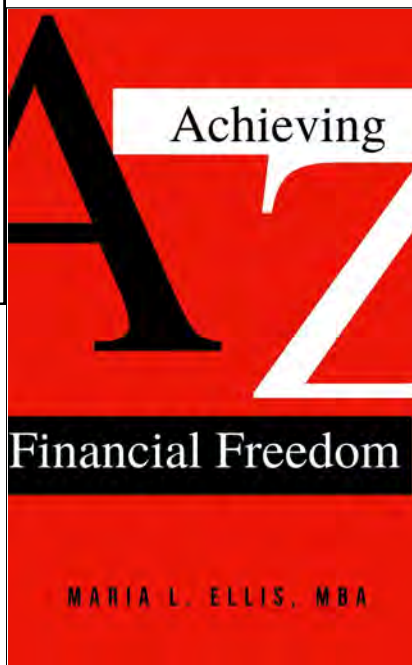
Mobile: 973-216-4181

<https://empire-ny.aauw.net/>

To become a member or to renew your membership click on the link below:

https://svc.aauw.org/RECore/wMembership/NewJoinBranch_Enter.asp?branchid=NY2091

Achieving Financial Freedom: A Roadmap to Financial Freedom by Maria L. Ellis MBA



Congratulations to our president, **Maria Ellis** for receiving the **#1 new book release status** on Amazon.com. Maria's book is entitled: **Achieving Financial Freedom**. The ebook is on a pre-order status, the print copy of video will be available this Fall. **Congrats, Marial**

AAUW NYS Virtual Annual Meeting

AAUW NYS Virtual Annual Meeting
will take place via zoom on
June 25th from 5:30 pm to 7 pm

Guest Speaker: Julia Brown, AAUW Board Chair

For details contact: Janice Brown, AAUW NYS President at 4jmac2@gmail.com

Welcome to Empire State NYC Branch Program VP!

Danielle Guindo, Community Grant recipient



Whitney Oriana, Program Vice President, ESNYCB

Whitney Oriana recently moved to NYC and have been a member of AAUW Empire State NYC Branch since 2019, but have known about AAUW’s work and mission for much longer. In the 7th grade, Whitney was invited to an **AAUW-sponsored science camp** and it made a big impression on her, from getting excited about attending college to considering a career in science. Undergraduate and two graduate degrees later, She is now a **Disease Ecologist working at EcoHealth Alliance in New York City**, a nonprofit that does research at the intersection of public health and conservation, and specializes in scientific research to prevent pandemics and promote conservation. Whitney recognizes the impact exposure to science and role models had for her in the 7th grade, and she is thrilled that her journey has come full circle and now she has the opportunity to help promote education for women and girls, with the very organization that helped inspired her trajectory in science. **Congratulations Whitney!**



Danielle Guindo, Community Grant recipient

As Executive Director, **Ms. Guindo** manages **Read Alliance’s** collaborations with schools throughout the five boroughs of New York City that benefit more than 1,500 children annually. Ms. Guindo spearheads a multitude of meaningful new organizational initiatives designed to build upon Read Alliance’s strong record of enriching the lives of its young students.

Bolor Amgalan, International Fellow



Bolor Amgalan is an experimental anti-disciplinary designer investigating the role of e-textiles, machine learning and other disruptive emerging technologies as catalysts for social change. She started out as a zero-waste fashion designer and later developed her practice further at Central Saint Martins using speculative design narratives, and yet further at Parsons School of Design using computation. Bolor programs hybrid materials that belong to both the digital and analog realms and occupy the space at the intersection of craft values, tangible interface design and embodied learning. Her designs function as culturally sensitive transition design interventions with implications for the future of work,


slow production and meaningful consumption. Bolor’s work has been exhibited in museums and shows internationally including the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences in Sydney, the Museum of Science in Boston, Milan Design Week and Dutch Design Week. She was an AAUW International Fellow from 2018 to 2020, a Women’s International Leadership Fellow for 2019-2020 and is the recipient of numerous scholarships and awards.

AAUW-NYS Centennial Lapel Pin Sale!

AAUW-NYS CENTENNIAL PIN SALE

• REDUCED PRICES:
\$35 EACH PIN
\$100/3 PINS
FREE PIN-\$100 DONATION OR MORE TO AAUW GREATEST NEED FUND

• PAY ONLINE VIA PAYPAL OR SEND CHECK TO PAYABLE TO AAUW-NYS
JANICE BROWN
27708 ROGERS RD
EVANS MILLS, NY 13637



Choose Silver or Gold Pin

2020 Great Decisions on Zoom

Great Decisions Conversation Invite!

Empire State NYC Branch members and friends are invited to join us, on the 2nd and the 4th Thursdays starting Thurs. Feb. 13th from 5:30 pm to 7 pm at the Harvard Club for drinks and conversation. Please see below the 2020 Great Decisions topics and register to participate by emailing our International Director, Julie Kleszczewski at juliek@msn.com.

Topics for Great Decisions* 2020 on Zoom	Date	Leader
5. U.S. RELATIONS WITH THE NORTHERN TRIANGLE Combatting illegal immigration has become a priority of the Trump administration. The Northern Triangle of Central America, made up of Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala, is a special target of the administration, which hold the nations responsible for the large flow of migrants from Latin America to the U.S. With funds from the U.S. cut, how can the Northern Triangle countries curtail migration?	3 rd Sun, June 21	Dr. Sharada Jayagopal
7. THE PHILIPPINES AND THE U.S. The Philippines has had a special relationship with the United States since the islands were ceded by Spain to the United States after the Spanish-American War at the end of the 19th century. However, since the election of Rodrigo Duterte, the country has pivoted more toward China, and away from the U.S. Duterte has also launched a largescale war on drugs that many criticize for its brutality. What does the future hold for U.S. relations with the Philippines?	4 th Sun, June, 28	TBD
8. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND DATA Policymakers in many countries are developing plans and funding research in artificial intelligence (AI). Global growth is slowing, and not surprisingly, many policymakers hope that AI will provide a magic solution. The EU, Brazil, and other Western countries have adopted regulations that grant users greater control over their data and require that firms using AI be transparent about how they use it. Will the U.S. follow suit?	2 nd Sun, July. 12	Whitney Oriana

Zoom Meetings (COVID-19), 5:30—7:00 p.m. For more information, email Julie K: juliek@msn.com

*Check back with us for a finalized list of authors and titles for each topic.



Great Decisions 2020 Discussion Participants on Zoom

Host: Maria Ellis, President, ESNYC Branch

Organizer: Julie Kleszczewski, International Director, ESNYC Branch

Start Smart/Salary Negotiation Workshop

Ask the President

Learning to Negotiate the Wage Start Smart Workshop
Sponsored by
AAUW's Westchester and Empire State Virtual Branch!
Place: New York Institute of Technology
Date: Zoom Meeting TBD
Time: TBD

https://www.nyit.edu/box/features/know_your_value_how_to_negotiate_salary

https://www.nyit.edu/events/aauw_work_smart_salary_negotiation_workshop



Suzanne DeChillo/photographer, The New York Times Annie Houle of the WAGE Project uses \$1 bills and play money to show men's pay advantage over different groups of women. Her program teaches women how to negotiate for better salaries.

Did you see the article on the wage gap on the front page of the business section of the New York Times? If you haven't read the article, click on the link below for details:

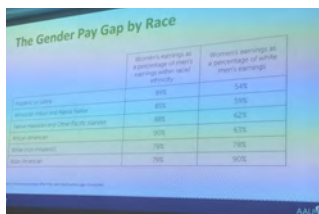
<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/12/16/business/to-solve-the-gender-wage-gap-learn-to-speak-up.html?ref=business&r=1>

AAUW StartSmart Salary Negotiation - NYIT



My Start Smart AHA moment was when I realized that I could have gotten a much higher salary during the role playing exercise. I feel that instead of taking the employer's word, I should have negotiated more; now I know better! I really enjoyed the workshop and I learned quite a bit. I want to thank you and everyone involved for taking the time to share this very valuable information with us.

Maryam Khan, NYIT Student



**YOU ARE
YOUR OWN
BRAND**

What are the current AAUW Fellowships and Grant Opportunities?

AAUW provides fellowships and grants to exceptional applicants who want to pursue academic work and lead innovative community projects to empower women and girls. For more information, click on the link below: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/fellowships-grants/current-opportunities/>

The current opportunities include:

1. American Fellowships

For women pursuing full-time study to complete dissertations or conduct postdoctoral research, or to those preparing research for publication for eight consecutive weeks.

Deadline November 1

2. Career Development Grants

For women pursuing a certificate or degree to advance their careers, change careers, or reenter the workforce and whose bachelor's degree was received at least five years before the award period.

Deadline November 15

3. Community Action Grants

For individuals, AAUW branches and states, and nonprofit organizations that fund innovative programs or non-degree research projects that promote education and equity for women and girls.

Deadline December 1

4. International Fellowships

For women pursuing full-time graduate or postdoctoral study in the United States who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents

Deadline November 15

5. International Project Grants

For alumnae of AAUW's International Fellowships program who are living in their home countries and pursuing community-based projects to improve the social advancement and economic empowerment of women and girls

Deadline November 1

6. Research Publication Grant in Engineering, Medicine and Science

For women conducting basic research in engineering, medicine or the physical or biological sciences and who have a doctorate degree in one of those fields are invited to apply for this funding. Grantees are required to publish their research in a scholarly scientific publication and be listed as a primary author.

Deadline December 1

7. Selected Professions Fellowships

For women pursuing full-time study in a master's or professional degree program in which women are underrepresented, including STEM, law, business and medicine.

Deadline December 1

Maria L. Ellis, MBA
 Licensed Real Estate Associate Broker
 Keller Williams NYC
 377 Broadway, Ground Fl.
 New York, NY 10013
 Mobile: 973-216-4181
 Direct: 646-677-0596
 F: 212-504-8212
www.kwnyc.com

Download & Share my Mobile App
<http://app.kw.com/KW1L0GOOT>

Diversity and Inclusion



Diversity is critical to AAUW's mission. Issues of equity — from fair pay to sexual assault to access to health care — affect all women, and women in marginalized

groups often disproportionately experience the effects of these issues. To succeed in empowering women and girls, we must have diverse voices contributing different perspectives.

AAUW-Appraises Passage of The Paycheck Fairness Act

By passing this important bill, the House of Representatives has demonstrated its commitment to the economic security of American women and their families. We know there is a pay gap for all women, at every age, in every part of the country, and in nearly every industry. The gap has closed by less than a nickel in the 21st century, and it's obvious that something needs to be done to ensure families can thrive.

"The Equal Pay Act of 1963 was a powerful first step, but the law has been weakened over time as the workforce demography has changed. We need new tools to fight discriminatory pay practices, and we need effective incentives and assistance to help employers comply with the law. The Paycheck Fairness Act provides these tools by closing loopholes in the Equal Pay Act and putting new protections in place for the benefit of all American workers. Its passage is long overdue.

"AAUW commends Representative Rosa DeLauro (D-Conn.) for her leadership on this bill for over 20 years. We urge the Senate to follow the House's lead and act now to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act. We can't wait any longer for equal pay."

Mary C. Hickey, AAUW

YOU CAN: GIVE WOMEN TOOLS TO NEGOTIATE THEIR SALARIES

Did you know that 57% of men try to negotiate their salary, but only 7% of women do?

HOW CAN YOU PROVIDE WOMEN WITH THE SKILLS THEY NEED TO NEGOTIATE TO HELP CLOSE THE GENDER PAY GAP?

THE ANSWER: You can spread the word about the **FREE** AAUW salary negotiation workshop course **"WORK SMART ONLINE"** at <https://salary.aauw.org/>. It is a complete computer course, comprehensive, amazing, informative, and worthwhile. It gives women the tools they need to negotiate for better salaries and benefits. They'll learn the market value of their skills and experience; be able to determine an equitable "target salary"; and have more confidence and better negotiating skills to ask for and get the pay they deserve.

Do contact family, friends, and acquaintances who would benefit from taking this **FREE WORK SMART ONLINE** class and encourage them to us it and to tell others about it.

AAUW LEADING THE WAY TO GENDER PAY EQUITY!

Nancy Mion, AAUW Empire State NYC Branch

Public Policy



Public Policy Corner
With the Hon. Edwina Frances Martin, Esq., PPVP

New York State 2019 Legislative Wrap Up

2019 ended on a strong note for legislation on AAUW's public policy priority list:

Protecting Victims of Sexual Assault: The *PEP (Post-Exposure Prophylaxis) Act* and the *Safe Way Home Act* were signed at the end of 2019. The PEP Act aims to reduce HIV transmission by making PEP available to minor survivors of sexual assault; the Safe Way Home provides survivors with no-cost transportation from medical facilities.

Ending the Gender Pay Gap: (i) On January 6th New York's *Salary History Ban Law* went into effect! Salary history has become an important issue in the fight to end the gender wage gap because this practice perpetuates the wage gap that many women and people of color experience because it assumes that prior salaries were fairly established at your previous employers and thus, inadvertently, perpetuates the cycle; employers should pay what the position is worth to their organization and not base compensation on a worker's worth in a different job with a different company. This new law prohibits all employers – public and private – from asking prospective or current employees about their salary history and compensation; (ii) starting in January 2020, domestic and foreign corporations doing business in New York must report on gender diversity on their governing boards; and (iii) by order of the NYS Department of Labor, "tipped" workers will receive the state minimum wage instead of the lower minimum wage for positions that also receive tips; unfortunately this order excludes restaurant and bar workers, but it is a start in the right direction for jobs that are overwhelmingly dominated by women.

Combating Sexual Harassment: Beginning February 8th, New York's sexual harassment law will be updated to expand the definition of "employer" to apply to all employers regardless of the number of employees, so that all employers will be held accountable by the New York State harassment laws.

Federal Spotlight: What's Next for the Equal Rights Amendment?

In 2020 the United States Constitution was amended to include the 19th Amendment, finally granting women the right to vote. Three years later, an Equal Rights Amendment ("ERA"), to instill equal rights regardless of sex in our Constitution, was first introduced in Congress. The current version was introduced in 1972, and on January 15th, close to a century after being first introduced, Virginia's legislature voted to ratify the ERA, making it the 38th state to do so. That means that the necessary three-quarters of all states have ratified the amendment as Constitutionally required.

So, is the ERA now ready to be added to our Constitution? Not quite, there are several legal hurdles still to overcome. When Congress passed the ERA in 1972 it attached a seven-year deadline (1979) for three-quarters of all states to ratify the amendment, which was extended to 1982. When this deadline passed, advocacy for passage ended until the passage of the 27th Amendment. Referred to as the "Madison Amendment" it was first introduced by James Madison in 1789 but wasn't ratified until 1992, 203 years later! Based on this precedent, and the fact that most amendments to the Constitution were ratified without deadlines (calling into question Congress' authority to set deadlines), advocacy for the ERA was reignited, leading to the January 15th Virginia ratification.

Thus, the stage is set for what are sure to be numerous court battles over (i) the validity of ratification post-deadline, (ii) whether Congress has the authority to set deadlines for ratification, and (iii) if a state that ratified the amendment can now revoke its ratification. Passage of the ERA is an important issue for AAUW and its members because it impacts many issues we advocate for. As an example, in *Ledbetter v. Goodyear Tire* (2007), a case championed by AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund (which was started in New York!), the Supreme Court ruled that a woman lost her case of pay discrimination due to the applicable statute of limitations – something that could not happen with an Equal Rights Amendment in place, because of the sex-based nature of the cause of action. Stay tuned!

Edwina Frances Martin, Esq.,
NYS Public Policy Liaison
ESVB Public Policy Co-VP

Diversity Director Anita Nahal

Congratulations to our Diversity Director, Anita Nahal, Ph.D. on her two latest books:



- Hey...Spilt milk is spilt, nothing else (book of poems)
- Life On The Go-Flash fictions from New Delhi to America (book of very, very short stories)

The Role of a Diversity Practitioner



The Role of a Diversity Practitioner

by Anita Nahal, Ph.D., CDP

Change agent? The elephant in the room? The un-defined but pertinent pianist? What is the role of a diversity practitioner?

<https://societyfordiversity.wordpress.com/2014/02/27/change-agent-the-elephant-in-the-room-the-un-defined-but-pertinent-pianist-what-is-the-role-of-a-diversity-practitioner-by-anita-nahal-ph-d-cdp-2/>

EYO Pictures! Cont'd

Explore Your Opportunities:
The Sky's the Limit!™

Explore Your Opportunities:
The Sky's the Limit!™
2020 Conference
Date: TBD
College of Mount Saint Vincent
Riverdale (Bronx), New York

Educational Workshops for EYO

1. **Blizzard in a Bottle!** Create a "snowflake crystal" scene in a jar using Chemistry!
2. **Brain Games.** Learn about some of the mind boggling things a brain can do from making memories to controlling emotions.
3. **Egg-cellent Parachutes Don't let it Splatt!** Learn about the basic of flight in order to ensure your egg's safe landing in a parachute.
4. **Hands-On Cosmetic Chemistry.** Step into the laboratory and design your own cosmetic portion.
5. **It's a Sugar...It's a Base...It's DNA!** Discover the structure of DNA and learn how to isolate DNA from your own cells painlessly.
6. **Kitchen Concoctions!** Ransack your kitchen and come learn the chemistry behind the products you see in your cabinets every day!
7. **Lifting the Chemical Fingerprint.** Learn to be a detective and start using your eyes, ears, nose and some weird tools to track down strange smells ... let's hunt down those clues!
8. **Paper Engineering + Origami = (Fun)!²** You will learn how to use paper to build a icosahedron shaped container in which you can store jewelry and other small items. You will also make a spinning top.
9. **Play Doctor.** Learn the physical exam components and tools that the doctors and PAs use to evaluate sick patients.
10. **Playing Games in Alice World!** Learn to create interactive games using "Alice" programming.
11. **Rolling DroneBots.** Manually operate and program Unmanned Ground Vehicles.
12. **Using Leverage to get Super Powers.** Learn basics about how levers can multiply force and how leverage is used in everyday items. Build and take home a model of a common type of lever.
13. **Wading through the Web.** Smarter searching on the Internet—DeeperWeb, Clusty, Carrot, website reliability checks. Oh My!
14. **What is a Cell?** Ever wonder how big cells are? Play a computer game to help scientist's measure cell sizes.
15. **Whatever Floats Your Boat.** Keep your boat afloat with your knowledge of material science and forces.
16. **Women & Machine.** Learn about and create mechanical systems that mimic or interact with the human body in beautiful and useful ways.



Blizzard in a Bottle!



Lifting the Chemical Fingerprint



Monthly Events

In All The Spaces: Diverse voices in global women's poetry

In All The Spaces: Diverse voices in global women's poetry

Edited by Roopali Sircar Gaur and

Anita Nahal, Diversity Director

BOOK RELEASE set for March 2020

Publishers: Authorspress, New Delhi, India



living, loving, dying, surviving and thriving. Also, you will find spellings that are both British English and American English.

We hope this volume will be useful as required reading for literature, sociology, anthropology, gender, international and multicultural courses around the globe. It could well be a strong reference book of women poets writing about humanity and our world in different parts of the planet, and in varied manners, styles, and voices. We chose not to have well known poets in this volume for we want to share with you those poets who aren't under the limelight. Our poets have lived in the shadows, at the periphery, and at the center of life's myriad realities and dreams, and created new pathways, new journeys and like alchemists they seek to employ their hidden, unknown, seemingly magical powers to urge on the process of transmuting of experiences...yours and ours.

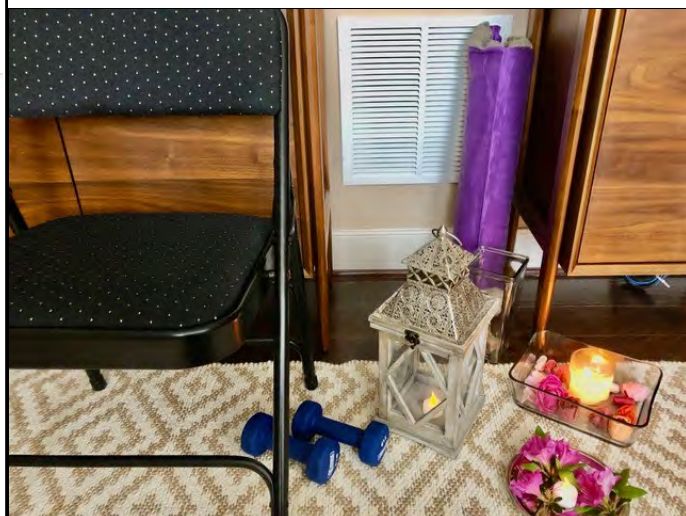
Roopali Sircar Gaur and Anita Nahal

If you would like to contact the authors, please email at:

anitanahal@yahoo.com and roopalisircar@gmail.com

(The above review pulls a lot from the introduction to the book)

Virtual Chair Yoga



Diversity in a poetry volume

We worked for three years on this volume...a lot of time, energy, discussions, frustrations, tears and smiles went into this effort! We wanted to bring out an edited book with poems by women from all over the world. Some asked us, "why just women poets?" Our answer, said quite in unison, "because women don't often have a space for themselves only." We were in a kind of frenzied dedication to find women poets from different countries, and also those who were not so well known. So, we wanted to uplift others and ourselves. And today, the hard work, long hours, and continuous drafts has brought us to the wondrous moment when we have just received a contract for the publication of the book. It stands at 23 poets strong with their diverse writings, styles, themes spread over 272 pages!

Four generations of intelligent and smart women have contributed their poems to this volume which we believe could become a great reference book on how women from diverse cultures, nationalities, ethnicities, religion and so forth select the themes they want to write about and how they express their thoughts and emotions. In a growing divisive world, our poets are rooting for peace and understanding, friendship and humanity. Through projecting commonality and divergence of experience despite the diverse cultures we are positing the truth of humanity and questioning the false ideology of hatred and separateness.

Do women poets write differently? Is our poetry confined only to our homes? These are oft pondered and critically raised queries. The answer is simple. We women, like men, also write of personal love and loss, celebrate births and grieve deaths, and sing of clouds, nightingales and skylarks. And we write on all possible topics such as; gender, ethnicity, nationality, immigration, religion, language, domestic violence, relationships, nature and so forth. Yet, because we stride many real worlds, we freely choose the ones we wish to occupy. Other spaces and other places compelled by our hearts and souls. Our poetry keenly observes minute details of the teeming multitudinous world around us, filling rainbow colors and sometimes stark black and white. Our memories we suffuse in sepia colors.

From Delhi, Gurgaon, Vishakhapatnam, Meerut, Kohima and Goa in India to Vilnius in Lithuania to Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey, Florida in the United States, to British Columbia in Canada, Islamabad in Pakistan, Kampala in Uganda, Kathmandu in Nepal, and, London in the United Kingdom, and some originally from other places such as Japan, Afghanistan, India, Europe and Africa but now residing in the US...we are poets – and we are women. We made sincere and wholehearted efforts to find poets from other parts of the world, too. It wasn't easy. We were attempting to create that very special space that only we women can create for ourselves.

Find in this large, endearing volume a plethora of voices and writing styles, which we did not alter. Some poets write in lower caps, and for some the first letter needs to be in capital letters. For others, the title needs to be in capital letters, and for others there are no grammatical rules. Why would we go with rules, after all, as women, as humans, traversing numerous boundaries, we hope to have no rules that bind, enslave, abuse or ridicule. And so, we let our poets freely express themselves in the styles of their choosing and in the process allowed for a polarity of expressions on life,

Topic: Chair Yoga

Date: Every Saturday morning!

TIME: 10:00 AM Eastern Time, 7:00 AM Pacific Time

Join us and enjoy "Chair Yoga" with Dr. Anita Nahal, LVCY certified teaches a quick 30 minute virtual Chair Yoga class. Join in for strengthening, stretching, some asanas (poses), mudras (hand gestures, and Shavasana (meditation and relaxation). For more on Anita's class, please see: <https://anitanahal.wixsite.com/anitanahal/chair-yoga>

"Yoga is about building a better relationship with yourself!" – Anita Nahal

Anita Nahal is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Click on the link below to join the Zoom meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89324443837?pwd=MDJjYkQdTGZVnhuZDQvUVRUaDdwQT09>

Meeting ID: 893 2444 3837

Password: 797685

If you wish, please have 3 to 5 pound weights, or water, juice bottles. We might do some weight lifting!!

CALENDAR FOR JUNE - AUGUST 2020

Happy Summer!

Day	Date	Time	Event
Sat	06/20/20	10:00 a.m.—	Brainstorming Zoom session for AAUW mission based programs.
Sun	06/21/20	5:30 p.m.—	Great Decisions Zoom meeting: U.S. Relations with the Northern Triangle.
Thurs	06/25/20	6:00 p.m.—	AAUW-NYS Zoom meeting
Sun	06/28/20	5:30 p.m.—	Great Decisions Zoom meeting: The Philippines and the US: Change with continuity
Sat	07/04/20		Independence Day
Sun	07/12/20	5:30 p.m.—	Great Decisions Zoom meeting: America's uneven approach to Artificial Intelligence and its consequences.
Tues	08/04/20	5:30 p.m.—	Achieving Financial Freedom, book launch reception at the Harvard Club, <u>27 W 44 St.</u> RSVP asap
Fri	08/28/20	5:30 p.m.—	Networking at the Harvard Club, <u>27 W 44 Street</u> , RSVP asap
Sun	09/06/20	5:30 pm.—	Financial Planning Zoom meeting, session 1 Investment Portfolio & Capital Appreciation
Mon	09/07/20		Labor Day
Sun	09/20/20	5:30 pm.—	Financial Planning Zoom meeting, session 2 Investing in growth stocks and high yield bonds.

 Members interested in scheduling an event/meeting for the branch please contact the Program VP to reserve dates and confirm before publicizing the event/meeting.

Maria Ellis, mellis@fsacap.com
 C.S. Rani, Ph.D., csrani.rani@gmail.com

Save the Dates:

Brainstorming Zoom session for AAUW mission based programs
 Sat, June 20, 2020, 10:00 am—

Virtual Chair Yoga
 Every Saturday
 10:00 AM Eastern Time, 7:00 AM Pacific Time
 See page 8 for details

Great Decisions Zoom meetings:
 Sun, June 21, 28 & July 12, 5:30 p.m.—

AAUW-NYS Zoom meeting
 Thurs, June 25, 2020, 6:00 p.m.—

Achieving Financial Freedom, book launch reception at the Harvard Club, 27 W 44 St. RSVP asap
 Tues, August 4, 2020, 5:30 p.m.—

Networking at the Harvard Club, 27 W 44 Street, RSVP asap
 Fri, August 28, 2020, 5:30 p.m.—

Financial Planning Zoom meetings:
 Sun, Sept 6, 20, 2020, 5:30 p.m.—

Thank You for Your Donation to the AAUW Funds!

Evvie Currie Giving Circle \$100.00, Margaret Currie
 Unrestricted LAF Support \$100.00, Maria Ellis
 LAF Fund \$100, Dr. C.S. Rani
 Tech Trek Fund \$20.00, Heidi Parreño
 AAUW Fund \$20.00, Elaine Fenton

AAUW Student Organizations

AAUW Student Organizations are composed of students enrolled in college who are interested in AAUW issues and programs. To start your own Student Organization at your college, email Maria at mellis@fsacap.com



Empire State NYC Branch Membership

Join or renew your membership with AAUW Empire State NYC Branch!

AAUW national dues are \$59, AAUW NYS dues are \$13.00, and the Empire State Virtual Branch dues are \$5.00. The branch dues year is July 1 to June 30, and if you join now, your membership is good through June 30, 2020. See the various memberships below and to join, please visit our website at <http://empire-ny.aauw.net/membership/>

- § Not currently a member of AAUW: \$77 (\$59 for national dues, \$13 for NYS; \$5 for Empire)
- § Current branch member: \$5 for a dual membership
- § Current member-at-large: \$18 (\$13 for NYS; \$5 for Empire)
- § Current student member: \$17 a year (if college is not an AAUW member)
- § Current student member on an AAUW NY member campus: Free
- § New Graduate: first year free
- § Graduate Student: member \$18.81 per year
- § Primary Member & Donor for \$100 a year including a generous contribution of \$23

Membership dues can be paid by a credit card or check. This feature is available on our website. Go to:

https://svc.aauw.org/RECore/wMembership/NewJoinBranch_Enter.asp?branchid=NY2091

AAUW Chief Executive Officer: Kimberly Churches
 AAUW NYS President:: Janice Brown
 AAUW Empire State NYC Branch President:: Maria Ellis

Websites:

National: www.aauw.org
 State: www.aauw-nys.org
 AAUW Empire State NYC Branch: <http://empire-ny.aauw.net/>
 EYO: www.aauw-eyhconference.org

Webmaster: Chigurupati S. Rani, Ph.D.; csrani.rani@gmail.com
 Empire Times is published quarterly by AAUW Empire State NYC Branch
 Editor-In-Chief: Chigurupati S. Rani, Ph.D.; csrani.rani@gmail.com
 Editorial and Writing Team: Maria Ellis; mellis@fsacap.com,
 Chigurupati S. Rani, Ph.D.; & Anita Nahal, Ph.D.
 Design: Maria Ellis & Chigurupati S. Rani, Ph.D.

Members will kindly send in their articles for
 the Empire Times
 at the beginning of each quarter
 (January 7, April 7, July 7, October 7)
 to mellis@fsacap.com & csrani.rani@gmail.com.
 Send your ideas and letters to
 Maria Ellis and C.S. Rani, Ph.D.

AAUW EMPIRE STATE NYC BRANCH

Officers & Directors-at-Large

President: Maria Ellis, AAUW Empire State NYC Branch (ESNYCB)

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Membership VP: Ayesha Shakya, AAUW Fellow, ESNYCB

AAUW Funds VP: Emmelina De Feo, ESNYCB

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Jessica Sims, Ph.D., Emmelina De Feo, Ayesha Shakya, Terehas Edwards

Ellis & Friends Fund

Any individual donations to the Empire State NYC Branch
 will be matched by the fund.

American Association of
 University Women
 advances equity for women
 and girls through advocacy,
 education, and research.

AAUW will be a powerful advocate and
 visible leader in equity and education
 through research, philanthropy and
 measurable change in critical areas
 impacting the lives of women and girls.

AAUW values and seeks a diverse
 membership. There shall be no
 barriers to full participation in
 this organization on the basis of
 gender, race, creed, age, sexual
 orientation, national origin,
 disability, or class.



AAUW Empire State
 NYC Branch

973 216 4181

<http://empire-ny.aauw.net>



Moving the Mission Forward

The Empire State NYC Branch is the first virtual branch in New York State.

