

# ASHLAND VISION

DEC 2018 – JAN 2019

BREAKING THROUGH BARRIERS

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ASHLAND, OREGON BRANCH

AAUW  
ashland-or.aauw.net



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## Looking Ahead

Holiday Party	Dec 7
January meeting	Jan 12
Women's March	Jan 19
February meeting	Feb 16

**AAUW Mission:** To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

## Celebrate the Holidays



In addition to being Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, December 7 is also Letter Writing Day. The revival of the tradition and art of handwritten letter writing is the basis of this day. Letters have been written since antiquity: in ancient India, Egypt, and Sumer, and during the time of ancient Greece, Rome, and China. Throughout history they have been written on various materials such as papyrus, animal skin, and pottery, but have long since been written on paper.

The mass production of paper and advances in transportation made letter writing universal. Family and friends were able to stay connected more easily over long distances, and in some instances letter writing became an art form, both in the substance of the text, and in its calligraphy. With the advent of the telegraph, and later because of other forms of communication, letter writing

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## Meet our new State Senator, Jeff Golden

Jeff Golden, newly elected member of the Oregon State Senate (District 3), will be our speaker at the Public Policy Branch meeting on January 12. Jeff is a longtime resident of Southern Oregon. He has served as a Jackson County Commissioner and volunteered on many boards including the Rogue Valley Family YMCA and CASA of Jackson County. Jeff has focused on Southern Oregon issues and is dedicated to building community. He has been an author, a columnist, the host of JPR's Jefferson Exchange, and most recently the producer for SOPTV's Immense Possibilities.



We will ask Jeff to discuss the upcoming 2019 session, including the challenges he expects and his legislative priorities. There will be time for questions from our audience, so start thinking about what you'd like to know from Jeff.

We hope to see you at this informative look into our state legislature. Friends and nonmembers are welcome at this meeting.

**When:** Saturday, January 12. 9:30 am Social time, 10 am Program

**Where:** Diversions Room, Stevenson Union, SOU

## Calendar: 2018–2019

**December 7, 2018—FRI., 6–8:30 pm**  
**Holiday Party & Maslow Project Fundraiser**  
*Diversions Room, Stevenson Union, SOU*

**January 12, 2019—SAT., 9:30 am–12 noon**  
**Branch Meeting:** Public Policy Presentations  
*Diversions Room, Stevenson Union, SOU*

**February 16, 2019—SAT., 9:30 am–12 noon**  
**Branch Meeting:** Samara Diab, the 2018 Judy Shih Scholarship recipient, "The Importance of Funding Higher Education for Women."  
*The Gallery Room, Stevenson Union, SOU*

**March 14, 2019—THURS., 5–7:30 pm**  
**Branch Meeting:** Julie Benezet and a panel of women leaders will discuss "Leading and Succeeding in the 21st Century."  
*The Gallery Room, Stevenson Union, SOU*

**April 9, 2019—TUES, 5–7:30 pm**  
**AAUW Ashland Annual Meeting:** Election and Installation of officers, Florence Schneider & Named Gift Honoree Awards  
*The Gallery Room, Stevenson Union, SOU*

**May 18–19, 2019**  
**Upscale Sale**  
*Bellview Grange*

**May 22, 2019—WED., 5:30–8:30 pm**  
**Celebration of Scholars**  
*Rogue River Room, Stevenson Union, SOU*

**June 8, 2019—SAT., 10 am–2 pm**  
**Annual Board Retreat**  
*Ashland Public Library, Gresham Room*



I recently read an article in the *New York Times* about women's groups forming across the country. The memberships of these groups, according to the author Abby Ellin, are a "generational mix," a gathering together of women of all ages, who share about career and life issues.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/10/style/intergenerational-womens-groups.html>

These small group gatherings in homes or in social networks online provide cross-generational support, laughter, and friendship to their members. The younger members bring energy and relevance while the elder members bring history and experience. "We talk about money issues, blended families, widowhood, invisibility. We talk about problems between mothers and daughters."

The theme of the article certainly echoed my personal experience of the Ashland Branch of AAUW. The Branch can provide us with the bonding and support that makes for great friendships and fun. But this experience of our Branch only occurs when members get involved and participate on a regular basis.

Good news! There are so many opportunities to get involved, make connections, and make friends at our Branch. Any small offer makes a connection—from being a greeter at meetings to joining a book group to attending a meeting—that is how it all begins. According to Shasta Nelson, the author of the book "Frientimacy," "only three things are necessary (for friendship) to flourish: positivity (it has to feel good); consistency (you have to be in touch on a

regular basis); and vulnerability (you have to feel safe with each other.)"

As a New Year's resolution, I would propose that we each capitalize on this "women's group intergenerational" trend. Let us be positive about the AAUW experience wherever we go, be consistent in attending meetings, and participate in some Branch venture, no matter how small. What a gift it would be for us to create more opportunities for energy and wisdom to flow among us. We all need the encouragement and support of friends. So, let us be "a gathering of women of all ages" who share our joys, our challenges, and our hopes—in 2019 and beyond.

On behalf of the entire Board, I wish you a blessed and peace-filled holiday season.

—Pam Shay



### In Our Thoughts

A card was mailed to Friends and Family of Sarah Cottrell at the time of her passing, as a result of lymphoma, in the latter part of October.

Thinking of the 42 AAUW sister-members who lost homes in the Paradise fire.

—Rosemary Adalian, Contact Secretary



Only 36 more directories to go! If you are among the 36 who has yet to pick up her directory, please contact me at [catwomanbsas@gmail.com](mailto:catwomanbsas@gmail.com), to make arrangements to get it. These are very useful tools for contacting other members. This year's directory has a neighborhood/carpool map, so you are able to see who lives close enough to ride to meetings with!

Please welcome two new members:

**Linda Thomas** moved from Sacramento to Ashland three years ago to enjoy the beautiful hiking trails and cultural opportunities. She has a BA from Arizona State University and an MA from San Diego State—both in radio/TV. She worked in broadcasting and video production until she was 45, when she went back to school to get a teaching credential. Linda taught 6th grade for eight years before retiring. She and her husband are enjoying life in Ashland, hiking, biking, taking OLLI classes, going to plays, and trying to take advantage of the many activities offered in this vibrant community.

**Claudette Paige** (named after Claudette Colbert) married very young and had two children. Because she was a "stay at home Mom," it took 24 years to get a BS in Health Education from San Jose State. After graduating, she and her husband went into business, eventually owning several Supercuts franchises in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. They intended to move to Ashland in 1992 but moved instead to Grass Valley, where they lived for 27 years. They moved here in September and live in Verde Village with their two dogs, Puck and Leo, who love their daily jaunts to the dog park. Theatre, music, travelling in their Airstream, and reading are her passions. She has found all that and more here in Ashland.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Holiday get together on December 7, in the Diversions Room at SOU.

—Catherine Lutes, Membership Chair

## Celebrate the Holidays December 7

*Continued from page 1*

has abated. To a large extent letter writing has today been supplanted by email and instant messages.

But not all letter writing between family and friends has disappeared, and that is why this day really exists: to keep that tradition going. Writing a letter forces us to slow down and to deepen our thoughts. It helps us be more creative, and maybe even a little poetic. Letters take time and effort, and they teach us patience—both while we are crafting them and while we wait to receive one. In the end we are left with something tangible to hold onto that represents the essence of the person who wrote it.

We invite you to bring a letter or old holiday card that either you have written or received, to share with those who come to our party. No, you won't be asked to read it. We will display these letters for the enjoyment of our guests and to honor the importance of the written word as part of our decorations.

In keeping with the season of giving, our Branch will continue our tradition by giving \$10 gift certificates to the Maslow Project, specifically for young women trying to attend school despite being homeless. We invite you to consider contributing to this annual holiday fundraiser.

Please check your email for an invitation and don't forget to RSVP.

—Mimi Pippel

**When:** Friday, December 7 at 6 pm

**Where:** Diversions Room, Stevenson Union, SOU

## Year-End Giving: Transform Women's Lives

Take the time now to give a year-end gift to the AAUW Ashland scholarship funds and help support our next cohort of women students.

- Suggest to your friends and family to make gifts to AAUW Ashland scholarship in your name.
- Give Local—what a great way to remember and honor others with your gift to supporting women's education in community.
- Did you know age has its benefits? If you are age 70½, you may use a tax-free IRA distribution known as a Qualified Charitable Deduction (QCD). Consult with your financial advisor on the details.

Be inspired and read our scholars' updates in this issue and future newsletters. They tell their stories best, from their experiences and their heart.

—Wanda Chin and Kate Wolf-Pizor,  
Scholarship Co-Chairs



### Gift Women's Education Journeys Our Students Thank You!

**Note:** Write separate check/s to the school of your choice:

- Southern Oregon University (SOU) Foundation
- Rogue Community College (RCC) Foundation.

Write on the Check Memo Line, the account:

- AAUW Annual Fund
- AAUW Endowment.

Make a separate check to each account, if you wish to support more than one.

## In Her Own Words: Thankful Journeys

*Our AAUW Ashland scholarship awardees give us an update about their activities.*

*Some text has been edited for length. Students provided the photographs.*

### Nomi Macadangdang— SOU senior, Mathematics

“Knowing I was a recipient of an AAUW Ashland Scholarship gave me a huge relief. As a Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program scholar, I was going to participate in the 2018 McNair Research Internship.

For eight weeks of the summer, I worked hard educating myself on the niche field of cryptology. I narrowed my topic down to the strength of the RSA Algorithm, which is founded on the complexity of finding large prime numbers.

A lot of hours were needed for this internship in order to fully understand my subject. As a result, I needed to remove a substantial amount of hours from work so I could study. Although I received a stipend through the internship, it wasn't quite enough to make up for those lost work hours.

Thanks to the AAUW Ashland scholarship, I was able to comfortably adjust my work schedule to accommodate my studying without worrying about how I would pay for my last year at Southern Oregon University. This scholarship has given me the freedom to take some extra time in this crucial year to not only excel in my current studies, but also prepare for the coming years after graduation.

As a first-generation college student from a family who, as much as they wish they could, cannot financially support me, I am ever grateful for opportunities like this, which aid me in my undergraduate success.”



### Stacey Vance— SOU Graduate student, Outdoor Adventure and Expedition Leadership

“This summer I took part in the first international trip for the Masters of Outdoor Adventure and Expedition Leadership program at Southern Oregon University. Five others and I bike packed through the Caucasus mountain range in the countries of Georgia and Azerbaijan. We mountain biked over 900 miles in 30 days!

During this time we explored new territory on bike, mapping terrain, campsites, and resources all while experiencing local culture. This expensive trip is a mandatory component to my graduate degree. The AAUW Ashland scholarship allowed me to fully invest in my studies while abroad, rather than worrying about the financial burden it may cause.

I am now in my final term at SOU and finishing up my thesis. I recently accepted a position with the Health, PE, and Leadership department on campus--advising students and inspiring future outdoor leaders. I am grateful for the opportunity this scholarship gave me and thanks to all those who support the AAUW.”



*Stacey Vance on her way to earning her Masters of Outdoor Adventure and Expedition Leadership.*

*Nomi Macadangdang (center) stands with her AAUW Ashland mentor, Diana Versluis (right) and friend, Mary Hayes (left), after her 2018 McNair Symposium presentation. Photo by Naomi Mitchell*

**Mitzi Grannis—**

**RCC Associate of Arts Degree with a focus in criminal justice and psychology**

“Although I have been called for a few job opportunities in residential work, I decided to focus fully on my education for the time being. The AAUW Ashland scholarship made this choice possible. As an on-call volunteer I meet one-on-one with clients, when their counselors call me for specific areas in which they believe I can assist. I help clients struggling with spirituality and overcoming trauma.

I have been wrestling with the burnout from school. With the connections I made through AAUW Ashland, I have cheerleaders helping me along my journey. The support I have received has been such strength for me. Not just the scholarship but also all that you do to show that we [students] are not alone.

This term has been a true test of my dedication and I have had to dig in and really work hard to stay on track. Biology is not for the faint of heart! In my darkest moments it always helps to remember all of the people who believed in me and invested in my future. It keeps me going.

I don't know if you realize the impact you have on people like me. The money helps tremendously but the greatest gift to me is the support you all show, and believing I was worth it. That is the greatest gift I could ever receive.”



Mitzi Grannis (2nd right) stands with her family at an RCC Honor Society induction.

**\$1,000,000**



**March to a Million...  
"Ensuring Education for the Future"**

We invite you to join us in an exciting opportunity! Our Ashland AAUW Branch has been challenged to raise \$500,000 in bequests and cash gifts to the SOU Endowment Fund. A generous, anonymous donor has pledged a \$500,000 bequest to match any monies we raise up to that amount. That means that we could potentially establish a \$1 million SOU Endowment Fund that would annually provide several SOU scholarships in perpetuity! Your gift,

now, of cash and/or a bequest to the SOU Endowment Fund will continue to have an impact on higher education for women in the Rogue Valley forever!

So come join us now and be part of the future! For information on how to give a cash gift or how to set up a bequest to the SOU Endowment Fund, please email or call Jean Conger, Endowment Committee Chair.

**Holiday Gift Idea**

Are you looking for a special gift for someone?

Is there someone on your gift list that “has everything”?

Give a gift to the SOU Endowment Fund in someone's name, or in honor of someone this holiday season and help AAUW Ashland give scholarships forever.

The Endowment Committee will give you a greeting card announcing the gift that you can directly present to the person or their family.

Contact the chair of our Endowment Committee, Jean Conger.

*Upscale Sale - May 18 & 19, 2019  
Fundraiser at the Bellview Grange*

## Do You Hear the Buzz?



*We are feeling the buzz!*

Some exciting donations have been promised by members and their neighbors. New member Shirley Malcom has offered several lovely vintage pieces of furniture. We can reach our goal to surpass the \$10,000 earned in our 2016 sale if each member contributes. Start your box!

### **Storage, Storage!**

We have established a storage site. Space is limited and stored items have to be moved twice. Please hold your donations until drop-off dates in May 2019 at the Bellview Grange. However, if you must store earlier, please contact Paula Wiiken or Bessie Azari.

### **Trucks, Trucks!**

At this time we have only one source for a truck to pick up larger items. Another available truck would help us. Please contact Bessie or Paua if you have a truck we can count on to pick up or move donations.

—Paula Wiiken and Bessie Azari, Co-chairs

## WiN Fundraiser for Dunn House

WiN, Women in Need, will be having our annual fundraiser at the AAUW January meeting. The money we raise supports Dunn House clients directly. In the past we have been able to purchase everything from vacuums, a refrigerator, security cameras, and much more. At this time, the staff at the shelter is brainstorming items that would be of most benefit to Dunn House. Please bring your donations to the January meeting, and if you're unable to attend and want to contribute, you can mail your check to Sonja Friedman (please put WiN in the memo line).

Thanks ever so much,

—Carol Ryan

## Charitable Partners

These four members have pledged to make a donation to either the AAUW/SOU or AAUW/RCC Scholarship Fund every time an AAUW member uses their services or refers someone who uses their services. We thank them for their generosity and dedication to AAUW.

**Liz Murphy**, CFP MBA/Financial Advisor  
Raymond James Financial Services  
**541-779-9907**  
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**Sara Walker**, Broker  
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[sara@hatsoff2u.com](mailto:sara@hatsoff2u.com) | [hatsoff2u.com](http://hatsoff2u.com)

## AAUW Medford Branch Meetings

*Saturday, January 5, 9:30 am–12 noon,  
Rogue Community Savings.*

*Program: "Local History: Butte Falls  
Restoration Project"*

*Saturday, February 2, 9:30 am–12 noon,  
Rogue Community Savings.*

*Short subject: "Chair Yoga"*

*Main program: "Safety/Gun Violence  
in Medford Schools"*

## AAUW Grants Pass Branch Meetings

*Saturday, January 19, 10 am,  
Fruitdale Grange*

*Program: "Becoming a Healthier You: All Care  
Health and Blue Zones Weigh In"*

*Saturday, February 16, 10 am,  
Fruitdale Grange*

*Program: "Climate Change Challenge: SOCAN  
and Children's Trust Perspectives"*



### From AAUW National: Latest Research on the Gender Gap

- § The gender pay gap shortchanges women \$500 billion annually
- § AAUW launches free digital course to train 10 million women in salary negotiation

#### Gender Pay Gap

Working women lose out on \$500 billion a year because of a persistent gender pay gap, with women paid only 80 cents, on average, for every dollar paid to a man. AAUW's annual report, "The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap," found that the jobs with the biggest collective gender gaps, where women in the profession collectively lose out on billions of dollars annually, are:

- Financial managers, \$19.6 billion (65% pay ratio)
- Physicians and surgeons, \$19.5 billion (71% pay ratio)
- Accountants and auditors, \$17.3 billion (78% pay ratio)
- First-line supervisors of retail sales workers, \$14.8 billion (74% pay ratio)
- Registered nurses, \$12.5 billion (92% pay ratio)

The only gap favoring women, among the 114 occupations analyzed by AAUW, was among wholesale and retail buyers. The professions with the smallest gaps favoring men were food preparation and serving workers, writers and authors, and pharmacists.

"While the nation's unemployment rate is down, and the number of women working is up, the wage gap is sadly remaining stagnant," said Kim Churches, chief executive officer of AAUW. "It's unacceptable. There is no gender differentiation when it comes to quality, skills, and talent."

#### Free Negotiating Course

According to "The Simple Truth," one of the key ways to help narrow the pay gap is by encouraging women to better negotiate their wages and benefits. To help with that, our organization is launching AAUW Work Smart Online, a free one-hour course designed to train women in salary negotiation skills. Salary negotiations are key to AAUW's multipronged approach to closing the gender pay gap, along with advancing fair pay laws and improving employer practices.

The full report is available at [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

AAUW National released this annual report on their ongoing research on the gender gap on October 23, 2018.

Save the dates April 11–14

## Lobby Day and State Convention



Because the state convention will be held in Salem this spring, AAUW Oregon will combine Lobby Day and the state convention in April. This will save extra trips to Salem and give more AAUW members the initiative to join in the lobbying experience. Lobby Day will be held Thursday, April 11. Those inexperienced in lobbying will partner with experienced participants. Lobby Day is a great opportunity to speak directly with our elected representatives and voice our concerns.

The state convention will be held April 12–14 and provide a state-wide opportunity to debrief on the lobbying experience. Those of us who have had the opportunity to attend state conventions have returned inspired by the speakers and the energy of members across the state. More information will follow in the next few months.

—Gretchen King

## ALERT: Proposed Changes to Title IX

The current administration is planning to change how schools handle sexual assault allegations. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos has made proposals that include narrowing the definition of sexual harassment and limiting the situations when schools would be required to investigate incidents. Public comment to the proposed changes to Title IX will be available, probably in late November. We will have sixty days to make our views known.

The Public Policy committee asks you to follow the proposed changes and make a timely public comment against the Title IX restrictions.

September 24, 2018

- Sunny Anderson reported that 2018–19 programs are scheduled with speakers, topics, and dates—check the Membership Directory for times and locations.
- Donna Wright attends the Friday Ashland Chamber Greeters meeting as the AAUW representative and will share news from our Branch during her 40-second time allotment.
- Members of the Public Policy committee are writing a 500–700 word column in the *Ashland Daily Tidings* quarterly. The next article will run November 29.
- Janet Troy will receive communications from AAUW Oregon and also due date notifications for *Oregon News* articles. Please contact Janet if you have a submission.
- Sandy Theis and Sherri Morgan will chair the 2019 Celebration of Scholars.
- Olena Black and Jean Conger have requested archive storage of AAUW Ashland memorabilia with the Southern Oregon Historical Society, to include a Digital Archive of photos and other materials.

October 22, 2018

- The October 18 Branch meeting was held in the SOU Gallery Room with Michelle Carter and Dr. Kimie Oshima as speakers: "Women in Russia and Japan: Close-up Views." The November 10 Branch meeting featured speaker Elizabeth Estabrooks: "Women Veterans and Intentional Inclusivity."
- Paula Wiiken announced that the State Senator election winner will speak at the January 2019 Branch meeting.

# INTEREST GROUPS

Contact the Coordinator to join a group.

## Arts and Language

**AFTERNOON MOVIE GROUP** meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month to watch a movie at the Varsity or Ashland Street Cinemas. We meet in the lobby 10 minutes before the selected movie begins. If you wish, we can discuss the movie at a local hotspot afterward. The selected movie and the time are announced by email. *Coordinator: Jean Conger*

**MUSICALS** meets the 3rd Monday of the month at 4:30 pm, usually at the home of Ed Perkins. Look for a group e-mail. *Coordinator: Diane Novak*

**OPERA** meets the first Tuesday of each month at 4 pm at the home of Ed Perkins. On December 4, we will watch the Met's 2018 production of Massenet's "Cendrillon (Cinderella)." Our January meeting will be on January 8, (not January 1) and we will watch Anna Russell's hilarious analysis of Wagner's Ring Cycle. Bring an appetizer or potluck dish, and wine or other beverage to share. *Coordinator: Nancy Kramarenko*

**PLAY READING** will be Friday, December 28 and January 25 at 4 pm at Annette Lewis's home. We will be reading "Alice in Wonderland." *Coordinator: Annette Lewis*

**SHAKESPEARE AT OSF** meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 12:30 to 3:00 pm at Barbara Willson's. We are reading "Macbeth." If you need more information, contact Michaelae Rae. *Coordinators: Michaelae Rae and Peggy Audibert*

## Book Groups

**BRAIN BOOKS** will meet in December and January. "Altered Traits: Science Reveals How Meditation Changes Your Mind, Brain, and Body" (2017) is the book for December 18. Some claims made about the effects of meditation are bogus, while some are validated by science. Co-authors Daniel Goleman and Richard J. Davidson sort through the evidence and recommend how we can derive the greatest benefits from the practice. The group will also meet on January 22, 2019, but the book is not yet determined. Meetings are 1:30-3:30 in Ashland Public Library Guanajuato Room. *Coordinator: Sandra Coyner*

**DAY NONFICTION** We meet on the 1st Wednesday at 1 pm. Our December 5 meeting is at the home of Linda Lipkind, who will lead us in discussing "Destiny of the Republic" by Candice Millard. January's meeting will be hosted and led by Diana Quirk. We will discuss "Love, Life, and Elephants: An African Love Story" by Daphne Sheldrick. *Coordinator: Linda Lipkind*

**DAYTIME FICTION** meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month in members' homes. Currently we are not accepting new members due to the size of the group. For information please call Kate Wolf-Pizor.

**EVENING NONFICTION** meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7 pm. On December 19 we will meet at the home of Sylvia Whitman for our annual holiday book exchange. On January 16 we will discuss "The Orchid Thief" by Susan Orlean, location TBA. *Coordinator: Ellen Fowler*

**MONDAY EVENING BOOKS** On December 10th at 7 pm, Sylvia Whitman will host our annual holiday book exchange (no book to read), and on January 14th at 7 pm, Ellen Fowler will be hosting and leading the discussion on "The Song of Hartgrove Hill" by Natasha Solomons. *Coordinator: Shannon Stuver*

**THURSDAY EVENING MYSTERY** On December 13, the group will meet at the home of Ginny Dugan to discuss "The Trespasser" by Tana French. Jean Conger will host the group on January 10 when Nevada Barr's "Blind Descent" will be discussed. *Coordinator: Rosemary Adalian*

## Games, Genealogy, Knitting & Dining

**BOARD GAMES** will meet on Wednesday, December 26 at 7 pm, with Joan Vogel hosting. And we will meet on Wednesday, January 23 at 7 pm, with Marcella Theeman as host. *Coordinator: Marcella Theeman*

**GENEALOGY GROUP** We meet at 1:30-3:30 pm on the 4th Thursday at the Jackson County Genealogy Library, 3405 S. Pacific Hwy., Medford. We will meet December 27 and January 24. Any AAUW Ashland member interested in genealogy is invited to join us in sharing family histories, stories, photos, and research tips. Beginners and experienced family researchers are equally welcome. *Coordinator: Linda Lipkind*

**KNITTERS AND STITCHERS** will meet Thursday, December 13, 1-3 pm, at the home of Carryl Breon. Please contact Carryl if you would like to attend, and bring a hand project to work on. *Coordinator: Peggy Audibert*

**POTLUCK DINNERS** will get together on Tuesday, January 15 at 6 pm at the home of Elaine Sweet. Please bring a dish to share and a bottle of wine (if you drink wine). The potlucks are casual but you do need to RSVP to Elaine if you want a chair to sit in at the table. *Coordinator: Elaine Sweet*



November 2018

## Salon: Alaya Ketani



Alaya Ketani (right) at the Fall Salon

Our first Salon of the year raised more than \$360 for NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders). Diana Quirk, Karen Spence, and Gretchen King hosted the event, attended by 23 members. The featured member was Alaya Ketani, a relatively new member to our Branch. Alaya impressed attendees with her life story, which included a number of challenges and near-death experiences. Her history was inspirational, but even more impressive is the work she is currently doing in the Ashland community.

Alaya is founder and chair of Keeping Ashland Women Safe (K.A.W.S.). This organization was founded in response to the sexual assault of a female employee in an Ashland restaurant in December 2017, as well as an ongoing awareness of violence in many forms against women and increasing lack of safety felt by female residents of Ashland.

For those interested in learning more about K.A.W.S., Alaya invited members to attend the organization's holiday/anniversary party and fundraiser December 13, 8–11 pm at Standing Stone Brewing Company. The valley's premier musical group, the Rogue Suspects Lite, will provide dancing music and there will be a silent auction. For more information about K.A.W.S. and the Dec 13 event, see [www.keepingashlandwomensafe.com](http://www.keepingashlandwomensafe.com) or [www.facebook.com/KeepingAshlandWomenSafe/](https://www.facebook.com/KeepingAshlandWomenSafe/)

Supporting a mission of AAUW, K.A.W.S. is increasing awareness and creating a message of Zero Tolerance through a number of avenues including education, safety prevention, empowerment training, and active culture change.

—Gretchen King



Elizabeth Estabrooks, Oregon Women Veterans Coordinator

Elizabeth Estabrooks

- Masters in Social Work, Columbia University
- B.S. in Gender Studies and Political Science, Eastern Oregon University
- Focus on women, equitable services, safety, and women veterans in particular



Mimi Pippel: Come to our Holiday Party (see page 1)



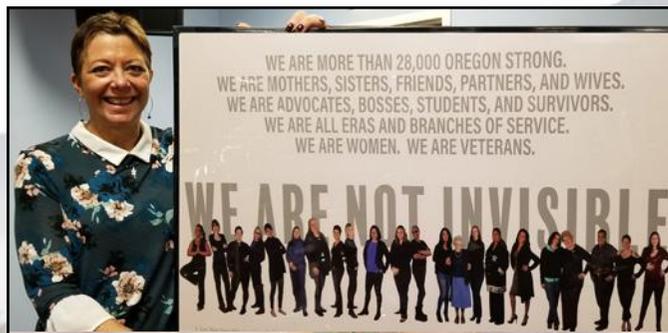
Regina Ayars: Mark your calendars for the Southern Oregon Women's March on Saturday January 19, 11 am to 1 pm, location TBA



Greeters Anne Marie Avegno, Laurie Carter, and Rae Otto

# November 2018

## Posters for the "I Am Not Invisible" project



### Ashland Vision

is a monthly newsletter of the Ashland, Oregon, Branch of AAUW

Vol. 33, No. 4 — Dec 2018 - Jan 2019

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*Gretchen King and Pam Shay*

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*Olena Black*

**Readers:**

*Margaret Karsten,  
Alice Mallory,  
Rae Otto, and  
Sylvia Whitman*

Newsletter deadline is the 15th of the month. Photos of interest group activities are welcome.

AAUW Ashland Website:

<http://ashland-or.aauw.net>

In principle and in practice, 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.