



P.O. Box 65303  
Tacoma, WA 98464

<http://tacoma-wa.aauw.net/>



TACOMA (WA)  
BRANCH

*“By Joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through economic and educational barriers so that all women have a fair chance.”*

February 2020

## Events and News

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### Valentines and Chocolates



February is Interest Group Sampler Month! We will **not** have a typical Saturday branch program this month. Instead, we are giving you a little EXTRA time to visit

one of our many interest groups [see below, MeetUps]. Who knows, you might fall in love...

We also have a special **evening opportunity**:

### **The Fight in the Fields: Migrant Workers Fight for Their Rights in Washington State**

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

Panel Discussion: 5:30-7:00pm

Exhibit Tour: 7:00 - 8:00pm

Washington State History Museum

1911 Pacific Avenue, Tacoma

Exhibit: Washington's Fields: Photographs by David Bacon

This event is free and open to the public, so please do invite friends and family.



The hands of Manuel Ortiz show a life of work. Ortiz came to the U.S. from Mexico as a bracero in the late 1950s and early 1960s, and spent decades as a farm worker in California and Washington. © 2016 David Bacon

The discussion panel is held in conjunction with *In Washington's Fields: Photographs* by David Bacon, featuring the captivating work of this photo journalist, author, activist and organizer. Following the panel conversation, Bacon will lead a tour through the exhibition, which opens February 1 and is on view through May 10, 2020.

While the people in Bacon's photographs are integral to the process of putting food on tables throughout our country, their daily lives are often unseen. This selection of photographs conveys the struggles and hopes of individuals working in farm fields across eastern Washington, the challenges they face, and their efforts to organize to improve their conditions. A skilled storyteller and analyst, Bacon has also written books on this subject.

The panel has been organized by Dr. Michael Honey, University of Washington Tacoma's Haley Professor of Humanities and Labor Solidarity Project Chair. In addition to Bacon, panelists include Rosalinda Guillen, director of Community2Community, which helped workers organize at Sakuma Farms, Ramon Torres, president of the new farm workers union Familias Unidas por la Justicia, and UWT Associate Professor Vanessa deVeritch Woodside. Farm workers and community members will also participate in the conversation about worker and immigrant rights in Washington State.



Members of the Yakima Nation of Native Americans join farm workers and other immigrants and community and labor activists marching through Yakima to celebrate May Day. © 2017 David Bacon

According to Honey, "Immigrant's and worker's rights can hardly be separated in today's climate of racism and repression at the border and in the notorious detention centers of ICE in Tacoma and elsewhere. This exhibit and discussion are

designed to shine a light on the continuing struggle of farm workers for a degree of dignity and justice.”

Can't make an evening event? David Bacon will also give an opening talk at University of Washington Tacoma in BB 104 from 12:30-1:20 on February 11, open to the community and free of charge.

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### *President's Corner*



This month, President Susan has graciously ceded her column to a report on politics and government posted by AAUW National.

## **5 Issues We're Watching in 2020**

October 29, 2019

As the 2020 presidential campaign gets underway, the power of women is on full display.

Maybe it's that there are so many women in the race — the largest number in history — or because the candidates are eager to earn our support. Whatever the reason, the issues that matter most to us are finally getting attention.

As a non-partisan organization, AAUW doesn't endorse specific candidates. But that doesn't mean we're not advocates for the policies that matter most to us. Indeed, we have a long history of championing policies that advance equality for women in education and the workplace.

So, in the months ahead, AAUW will be watching closely to see where candidates stand on these five issues:

1. **Equal Pay for Equal Work.** To close the stubborn wage gap, we need leaders who will pass the federal Paycheck Fairness Act and advocate for laws and policies that ensure women are not discriminated against at work.

2. Investing in Education. Education is the pathway for women and girls, but too many of our schools are falling short. We need to raise teacher pay, invest in STEM education, protect Title IX and make education a top national priority.
3. Reducing Student Debt. Women hold two-thirds of the nation's \$1.46 trillion educational debt. Policymakers should protect grant programs, champion tuition- and debt-free options and expand loan forgiveness programs.



4. Strengthening Social Security. Because of lower wages and time off from work, women collect about \$320 a month less than men do in Social Security benefits. Our lawmakers need to address the retirement wage gap women face.
5. Implementing Paid Leave. The U.S. is the only developed country without paid family and sick leave. Let's adopt policies to give workers paid time off for illness and caregiving.

You know how much is at stake in the next election. So, please, do what you've done in the past: Tune in, get involved, make your voices heard — and ensure that we harness the power of women to drive the national agenda.

<https://www.aauw.org/2019/10/29/5-issues-were-watching-in-2020/>

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## Membership

Shout-out to our newest branch members who've joined us in the past 12 months! We're so glad to have you here!

New Branch members 2019-2020

- Susan Guidetti
- Patricia Higgins
- Joyce Hill
- Charlene Mayo
- Connie Ozmer
- Vicky Reidy
- Jenifer Reinhardt
- Christine Rose



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## Be Engaged

***Members are Invited to Observe the February Board Meeting!***

The next board meeting will be held on Friday, February 28, at 11:00 am. The location is Cutter's Point Coffee on Pearl and 21st Street (by Joesepi's and Columbia Bank).

All are welcome. Come see how branch government works! Contact Susan Hesselgrave at [susanhesselgrave@gmail.com](mailto:susanhesselgrave@gmail.com) for details.

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## Save the Dates!

### March Branch Program and Business Meeting

**Program Topic:** *Addressing Homelessness: Successful Shelter/Housing Programs in Pierce County*

Saturday, March 28, 2020

10:00 AM

Swasey Branch, Tacoma Public Library  
7001 6th Ave, Tacoma, WA 98406

Find out what's in place and working now! Hear about opportunities to expand capacity. We will have information from providers and will explore what next steps should be taken.



FYWCA Pierce County Emergency Shelter

### Business Meeting



March 28 will also include our annual branch business meeting. All information and reports will be provided in writing to the membership prior to the meeting date. There will not be oral reports at the meeting. We anticipate that the business meeting portion of the program will only take 15 minutes, and will precede the program.

Timing Note: We will need assistance from some members at 10:00 am to set up the room for the meeting (chairs and light refreshments). It will take about 10 minutes to set up the room, and we will call the meeting to order at 10:15 (or when we have a quorum).

### AAUW of Washington and Oregon Dual Convention

**Date:** April 17-19, 2020

**Location:** Heathman Lodge, Vancouver, WA

**SAVE THE DATES**  
**AAUW of Oregon and Washington**  
**Dual Convention**  
APRIL 17-19, 2020  
HEATHMAN LODGE VANCOUVER, WA

Celebrate women's suffrage with like-minded friends.  
Dress in white for "Suffrage Night" at Saturday's dinner and enjoy a festive evening of historical entertainment.

- Be part of a wonderful weekend at the beautiful and rustic Heathman Lodge.
- Network with old friends and make new ones from other branches.
- Learn from a diverse group of experts on AAUW's major themes of education and training; economic security; and leadership.
- Explore the Vancouver area with a number of guided tours on Friday afternoon.
- Watch for details of the convention in the Winter state newsletter, including hotel information, registration form and meeting agenda.

**AAUW**  
OF OREGON AND WASHINGTON  
**2020**  
TOGETHER WOMEN MAKE HISTORY

Branch officers Susan Hesselgrave and Robin Larson will be representing AAUW-Tacoma Branch at the upcoming convention this April 17-19 in Vancouver. **All current members are encouraged to attend.** Watch for registration details in the Winter edition of the Evergreen Leader.

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## May Luncheon

**Date:** May 16, 2020

**Time:** 11am – 2pm

**Location:** Asia Pacific Cultural Center



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## Interest Groups (MeetUps)

### **New Interest Group! The Civil Salon**



This month we will be discussing masculinity as a gender role and exploring the implications for men and boys. How does masculinity create meaning for men? How does it limit them? In what ways is this problematic for society? Can women truly achieve equality in a society where notions of masculinity have not evolved?

**Date:** Sunday, February 2, 2020

**Time:** 2:00-4:00pm

**Location:** Susan Hesselgrave's home

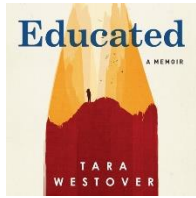
No prep required. Bring your sparkling insights and open minds!

**RSVP required, as space is limited to 12:** Click [here](#) to RSVP.

If you'd like some thought-starters, here are a couple (so many to choose from, send Susan others if you have them, and she will pass them along to those who RSVP):

- From TED Talks, [Why I'm done trying to be 'man enough'](#) by Justin Baldoni
- From the January/February issue of *The Atlantic*: [The Miseducation of the American Boy](#) by Peggy Orenstein

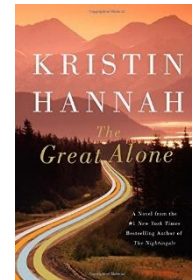
## Daytime Book Group



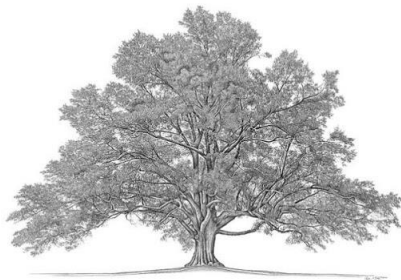
The Daytime Book Group will meet at 10:00 am on February 26 at Robin Larson's home to discuss *Educated* by Tara Westover. Joyce Hill will review.

## Evening Book Group

The Evening Book Group will get together on February 24 at 6 pm. We'll read and discuss *The Great Alone* by Kristin Hannah. Joye Bucklin will lead the discussion, and Patricia Higgins will be our hostess.



## Genealogy and Family History



The Genealogy and Family History group will visit the Tacoma Washington Family History Center on February 20.

Long an important resource for genealogists, the Tacoma Center is a branch facility of the Family History Library in Salt Lake. Our local center has a variety of resources—books, computer access to data bases and knowledgeable volunteers. It's been a while since we visited the center and we hope to investigate any changes as a result of their remodeling and reorganization. Please join us to get started on your family tree or to seek answers to persistent puzzles in your research. We'll meet for brunch before heading to the library.

Brunch: **11:00 am** at IHOP  
1802 South Mildred in the James center South 19th and Mildred  
Tacoma **12:30-3:00 pm**  
Washington 5915 S 12th Street [South 12th and Pearl in the Church of Latter Day Saints]  
Family  
History  
Library

Please RSVP to Dorothy so we can save you a place at brunch.



## Papercrafters

Papercrafters will meet on February 13 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Lakewood Presbyterian Church, 8601 104th Street S.W. Join us to work on your own project and you won't be distracted by things you think you should do around the house! You can set up at your own roomy table and still close enough to visit. Bring your own brown bag lunch or snack. Coffee and tea are provided. For information and directions to the church, contact Connie at (253) 565-7518.



## Second Saturday at the Cinema



Second Saturday at the Cinema will be going to the Grand Cinema on Saturday, February 8th. The movie and time will be listed on the [Meetup](#) page the Tuesday before, on February 4. If you have questions, contact Robin Larson at [lro32@gmail.com](mailto:lro32@gmail.com).

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## [Stay Connected with AAUW](#)

- AAUW Washington State Website <http://aauw-wa.aauw.net/>
- AAUW Washington State Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/aauw.washington>
- AAUW Washington State Tech Trek <http://techtrek-wa.aauw.net/>
- AAUW National Website <http://www.aauw.org/>
- AAUW National Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/AAUW.National>
- AAUW Tech Trek Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/AAUWTechTrek>

## [Communications Team Notes](#)

- We welcome your ideas for interest groups, activities, priorities, recruitment, and anything else! Our goal is to attract new members by expanding our social media presence ([Facebook](#) and [Website](#)). We'd like to use our [MeetUp Tool](#) to reach out to other Tacoma-area groups.
- Please send notices of events and news to the newsletter team at [aauwtacomaneewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:aauwtacomaneewsletter@gmail.com). You can send photos as well. Please


send by the **16<sup>th</sup> of the month** unless otherwise noted. We reserve the right to edit as we see fit.

~Mary Letterman and LesLee Eicher, AAUW WA Communications Co-Chairs

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# February 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 <b>The Civil Salon</b> 2 – 4 pm RSVP required!	3	4	5	6	7	8 <b>Second Saturday at the Cinema</b> <i>Clemency</i>
9	10	11 <b>Evening Discussion at the WA State History Museum: <i>The Fight in the Fields</i></b> 5:30 pm	12	13 <b>Papercrafters</b> 10 am – 2 pm	14 <b>Happy Valentine's Day!</b> 	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 <b>Evening Book Group</b> <i>The Great Alone</i> 6:30 pm	25	26 <b>Daytime Book Group</b> <i>Educated</i> 10 am	27	28 <b>AAUW Branch Board Meeting</b> 11 am	