



# CHANGING THE WORLD ONE WOMAN AND GIRL AT A TIME

January Agent  
Volume 40 Issue 7

presented by



On Saturday, December 18, Patricia Griffith, Terri Bawden, and Karan Hannah presented awards to three of our contest winners at Johnny Picasso's. Although response for the event was not what we hoped for, the outcome was close to our goal of \$5000 raised for STEM scholarships and awards.



# january



GUEST  
SPEAKER

**Lisa Amatangel** will join us via Zoom on Thursday, January 13, at 7:00 p.m. Watch for the link that will be sent to members that week and encourage friends and neighbors to register by contacting us through [aauw.meeting@gmail.com](mailto:aauw.meeting@gmail.com).

It was noted throughout her college years that Ms. Amatangel was very competitive. Her athletic acumen and mental determination continued after she graduated magna cum laude in social psychology from Tufts. She worked as a paralegal at Covington & Burling LLP in Washington, D.C., for two years, and decided to pursue a career in law. Prior to attending Boston College Law School – and seeking to continue challenging herself mentally and physically - she climbed her first mountain. In 1996 she went to Africa and scaled Mount Kilimanjaro (19,341 feet). While studying how best to attempt the demanding Denali in Alaska, she learned about the Seven Summits Challenge which requires climbing the highest peak on each continent. Join us as she shares with us her exciting and challenging journey.

## February "Joyful Art" with Terry McDonald

"If my work makes someone smile or brightens their day I am fulfilled as an artist."

As 2021 comes to a close, the Anacortes Branch is financially thriving. We have almost \$2,000 in our checking account, about \$1,500 in the special events account, and over \$6,000 in savings. Donations made to ASF for scholarships amount to about \$13,000. The Merman event, calendar and tote bag sales, Jingle All the Way and additional fundraisers through the Nutcracker Holiday event, Papa Murphy's and Fidalgo Fudge have made this a banner year for our branch! I hope you can appreciate the hard work that went into creating new and innovative fundraisers and improving our social media presence. More volunteers are needed on committees to continue expanding our scholarships, awards, and Tech Trek programs.



*you are  
invited*

to attend a board meeting as we make decisions that will continue to grow our branch both in numbers and financially. This will give you an opportunity to understand the various board positions and hopefully find one that suits you. Currently several of our officers have extended their time in office past the two-year term. New people are needed. What a great time to be involved while we are experiencing success. I believe every board member will agree with me when I say that being on the board has been worthwhile, forged friendships and helped me appreciate our branch more. Think about it!

*Happy New Year, Bonnie*



**Registration** opens for Lobby Day on Jan. 5 — registration fee \$15

Also on Jan. 5, from 5 – 6 pm — **Keep Our Care Act event** [SB5335, the “hospital merger bill”] – a panel discussion facilitated by ACLU-WA and co-hosted by AAUW-WA. **If you are interested in joining this webinar, please contact me and I will forward the link.**

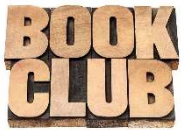
1/10/22 Washington State Legislative Session opens



1/24/22 MONDAY — AAUW-WA Lobby Day — 9 am to 12:30 pm — Week of January 24 – meet with your legislators. Sign up for the Legislative Update if you haven’t already. Email [legupdate@aauw-wa.org](mailto:legupdate@aauw-wa.org) and ask to be added to the list.

**AAUW Anacortes!**

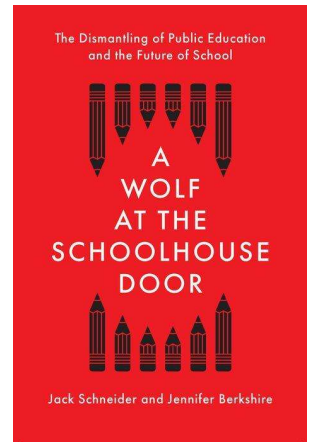
Twenty-two of our 49 Washington State legislative districts include only one AAUW-WA Branch. We need you on Lobby Day! Many of our legislators, especially the ones sponsoring bills we are supporting, are looking forward to meeting with you. They are expecting your email or phone call to schedule a meeting.



A state-wide book club meeting is being hosted by AAUW on March 30, via Zoom. The book being discussed is *A Wolf at the Schoolhouse Door* by Jack Schneider and Jennifer Berkshire. There will be a morning and evening meeting. Watch for the link. Here’s an overview:

While support for public education today is stronger than ever, the movement to save our schools remains fragmented, variable, and voluntary. Meanwhile, those set on destroying this beloved institution are unified, patient, and well-resourced.

In *A Wolf at the Schoolhouse Door*, Jennifer Berkshire and Jack Schneider, co-hosts of the popular education podcast *Have You Heard*, lay out the increasingly potent network of conservative elected officials, advocacy groups, funders, and think tanks that have aligned behind a radical vision to unmake public education. They describe the dogma underpinning the work of the dismantlers and how it fits into the current political context, giving readers an up-close look at the policies—school vouchers, the war on teachers' unions, tax credit scholarships, virtual schools, and more—driving the movement's agenda. Finally they look forward, surveying the world the dismantlers threaten to build.



As teachers from coast to coast mobilize with renewed vigor, this smart, essential book sounds an alarm, one that should incite a public reckoning on behalf of the millions of families served by the American educational system—and many more who stand to suffer from its unmaking.

AAUW General Meeting 12/9/2021

**PRESIDING:** Bonnie Underwood, President

**PRESENT:** Betsy Cave, Rosette Dawson, Patricia Griffith, Karan Hannah, Linda Hendrick, Judy Higgins, Sandra Huggins, Nelle Jacobson, Ora Jonasson, Vivian Kolhoff, Karen Laws, Diane Marr, Sandy Norris, Megan Taylor, Gina Van Hess, and many community guests.

Call to order: 7:00

Bonnie Underwood welcomed the members and guests to the AAUW Zoom Meeting and extended a special welcome to Debra Lekanoff, our guest speaker. She announced that the meeting would be recorded for future viewing.

Gina Van Hess introduced Debra Lekanoff who is our local representative to the House of Representatives of the Washington State Legislature. Debra is the only Native American woman currently serving in the State Legislature. She has served since 2019.

Debra Lekanoff began her presentation with some of her personal history as a member of the Salmon & Seal culture in Alaska. She gave great credit to her grandmother who helped raise her and reminded the viewers that our future leaders are being nurtured and educated by the women of today. She spoke about some of the major problems that are being addressed in the legislature and how she is making a difference in working on these problems.

Ms. Lekanoff spoke for about 45 minutes and then answered questions that had come in via the Chat Box. Diane Marr managed the incoming questions and presented them to Ms Lekanoff. The meeting ended at 8:15 pm.

**Business meeting** called to order: 8:15 pm

- Program Committee:  
Gina said that the January Speaker would be Lisa Amatangel, a mountain climber who has completed the Seven Summits Challenge.  
The February Speaker would be Terry McDonald, a local artist.
- Jingle All the Way: Patricia said that we need to have more participants in this On-Line scavenger hunt to make it a good fundraiser. The Link to the game needs to be made more accessible.

Adjourned: 8:25

Respectfully submitted,

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Judy Higgins, Secretary