



WOMEN WHO MAKE HISTORY

Award Brunch

In conjunction with National Women's History Month,
You are invited to join the Grand Junction Branch of AAUW
at the presentation of its 2nd annual
"Women Who Make History" Award to

MICHELLE SHIAO



To learn why Michelle deserves this award....see page 2.

WHEN – Saturday, March 28.....10:00 am until Noon

LOCATION – Moss Performing Arts Center, Robinson Theater Lobby
Colorado Mesa University Campus, Grand Junction, Colorado

BRUNCH – a scrumptious brunch buffet for only \$20...includes meal & beverage

RSVP by 3/23/2020 – Contact Virginia at 201-0386 or Kathy at 261-2112, or RSVPs may
also be made via <https://grandjunction-co.aauw.net/women-who-make-history-brunch/>
Call early as space is limited.

Branch President Virginia Brown 201-0386
VP Program open
Secretary Becky Zlebnik 242-0918

VP Membership Kathy Singer 261-2112
Treasurer Jane Fitzgerald 241-9684
Newsletter Editor Jane Fitzgerald

Michelle Shiao has certainly made history in Grand Junction and Colorado since joining the staff at SCL Health St Mary's Medical Center in 2008.

Michelle started her nursing career at Indiana University receiving her Bachelors in Nursing degree in 2001, and her Masters in Nursing in 2008, working at Indiana University Health while doing so.

She began at St. Mary's as a Nurse Manager, Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit (CVICU) and Nursing Support Services. She was promoted in 2012 to be the Director of Critical Care Services, managing operations for not only CVICU, but three other units: Intensive Care, Cardiac, and Intermediate Care.

With a promotion in 2016, Michelle became Director of three different areas. One was CareFlight of the Rockies, where partnering with six other facilities was instituted, a new innovation in the U.S. Working with SCL Health in Broomfield, she directed Sepsis Services, overseeing significant advances to improve patient care and in collaborations with eight other hospital sites. The third area was Emergency Services where Michelle oversaw the redesign of facilities and procedures of the emergency room, resulting in increased satisfaction of patients and safety for the staff.

Recently promoted to Vice President Patient Services, Chief Nursing Officer, at SCL Health St. Mary's Medical Center, she serves as liaison to local nursing schools, as well as overseeing nursing practices within the hospital.

Somehow Michelle seems to find the time for community activities. She serves as a member or board member of several professional nursing associations, as well as the SCL Health St. Mary's Foundation Board in the past. She volunteers on the Hunger Alliance Task Force, and recently joined the HopeWest Board. In addition, she expects to receive her Doctorate in Nursing Practice from Loyola University this coming May.

In 2013 she received the President's Award, St. Mary's Hospital, for her contribution to the hospital's mission. Michelle is truly an innovative and compassionate leader focusing on high-quality patient care services and nursing care delivery to meet the needs of our diverse community.

Coffee & Chat Group

No meeting in March...Come to Award Brunch instead.

Join us again on **April 25th** at **The Artful Cup**, 3090 North 12th, GJ.

What You May Have Missed Last Month

Exploring the various exhibits, each of us let out our inner child at the Eureka! McConnell Science Museum. Annessa was brave enough to touch her first iguana. Speaker Jenn Moore was very informational about the connections that the museum has with the community on various projects. Who Knew? And the box lunch from Zoup! was tasty, too.



What is Next

Because the March meeting is being held so late in the month, the Board decided to omit a meeting in April, which would normally be early in that month. The next meeting will therefore be our annual meeting which will be held at Bozarth Chevrolet's Community Room.

Save the Date...Annual Meeting...May 9

Official Notification

AAUW Grand Junction Branch is excited to inform everyone that **we have become a 501(c)3 charitable non-profit** organization. In May 2019, during the annual meeting, a unanimous vote was taken to change our status. We have now completed all filing requirements. What does that mean for the branch as a whole?

- The branch is eligible to apply for more grants to promote our mission to advance gender equality for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.
- The branch is able to accept tax-deductible donations from members and the community
- More flexibility will enable the branch to offer more programs and events to advance the mission of AAUW locally.
- More visibility to offer leadership to our young people in the community
- There is more established credibility with a charitable organization with a focused mission.

What are the advantages to the AAUW Grand Junction branch members?

- Everyone is able to make tax-deductible contributions to AAUW Grand Junction.
- With additional funding, the branch will be able to accomplish much more in the community to advance gender equality and provide education.
- The branch will be able to grow more easily with the increased visibility which benefits everyone.
- More opportunities for members to offer leadership to our young people in the community.

Special Interest Groups

THE JANE QUIMBY BOOK GROUP

At the February meeting, presenter Lois Jarre led a spirited discussion of Delia Owen's background and her book Where the Crawdads Sing. We learned much about each other when we shared facets of our upbringings in relation to that of the main character in the book.

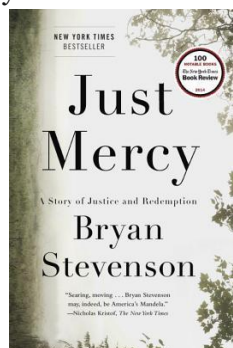
March's read is

Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption

by Bryan Stevenson

This is a powerful true story about the potential for mercy to redeem us, and a clarion call to fix our broken system of justice—from one of the most brilliant and influential lawyers of our time

Bryan Stevenson was a young lawyer when he founded the Equal Justice Initiative, a legal practice dedicated to defending those most desperate and in need: the poor, the wrongly condemned, and women and children trapped in the farthest reaches of our criminal justice system. One of his first cases was that of Walter McMillian, a young man who was sentenced to die for a notorious murder he insisted he didn't commit. The case drew Bryan into a tangle of conspiracy, political machination, and legal brinksmanship—and transformed his understanding of mercy and justice forever.



Just Mercy is at once an unforgettable account of an idealistic, gifted young lawyer's coming of age, a moving window into the lives of those he has defended, and an inspiring argument for compassion in the pursuit of true justice.

The book was made into the 2019 well-acclaimed film *Just Mercy*, starring Michael B. Jordan and Jamie Foxx, which recently was shown in GJ.

Friday, March 20th, 9:30 am

American Lutheran Church, 631 26^{1/2} Road, GJ

Presenter: General Group Discussion

Peggy Rawlins recalls purchasing a microphone a number of years ago which could be passed from person to person during book group, amplifying sound. No microphone has been at the meetings for many months, and Peggy wonders if anyone has any information as to its whereabouts.

Happy Birthday to You

Your AAUW Branch wishes to acknowledge its members and let you know we appreciate you, but currently, no members have a birthday in March.

Culture Club



The AAUW Culture Club is a loosely organized effort to inform interested members about movies, music and other cultural events in the Grand Valley. It is also a way to find others to attend these events with. Note: Peggy Rawlins at 263-4741 is the contact person for the group.

- March 1 @ 2:00 pm, March 5 & 6 @ 7:30 pm, March 7 @ 2:00 pm and 7:30 pm
CMU Theater presents **Fiddler on the Roof** – Robinson Theater in the Moss Performing Arts Center
- March 4 @ 1:00 pm & 6:30 pm (encore performance)
Fathom Events presents **Live from the Met**: Handel's **AGRIPPINA** (opera) –Regal Theater (4 hours)
- March 4 @ 7:30 pm
Sandstone Concerts presents **SAM BUSH** – Avalon Theater
- March 8 and March 22 @3:00 pm
Frank French plays **J.S. Bach: The Well-Tempered Clavier** - Unitarian Universalist Church
- March 11 @ 7:30 pm
CMU Music presents **Wind Symphony** – Robinson Theater in the Moss Performing Arts Center
- March 11 @ 7:30 pm
Indies at the Avalon : **PARASITE** (recent award winning movie)
- March 13 @ 7:30 pm
BEATLES vs STONES (tribute band sing-off) – Avalon Theater
- March 14 @ 10:55 am and encore performances on March 18 @ 1:00 pm & 6:30 pm
Fathom Events presents **Live from the Met**: Wagner's **Der Fliegende Hollander** (opera) – shown at the Regal Theater (2 hours, 45 minutes)
- March 15 @ 7:30 pm
Community Concerts of the Grand Valley presents **SONS OF SERENDIP** – GJ High School Auditorium
- March 15 @ 7:00 pm
Pepper Entertainment presents **KANSAS** - at the Avalon Theater
- March 24 @ 7:30 pm
DIAMOND RIO performs at the Avalon Theater
- March 26 @ 7:30 pm
CMU Music presents **Choral Concert**– Robinson Theater in the Moss Performing Arts Center
- March 28 @ 2:00 pm and 7:30 pm
CMU Theater presents **SOMEONE WHO WILL WATCH OVER ME** – Mesa Experimental Theater in the Moss Performing Arts Center
- March 29 @ 10:55 am
Fathom Events presents **Bolshoi Ballet: Romeo and Juliet (2020)** - at the Regal Theater (3 hours)

Thoughts from the Branch President

Recently Kathy Singer, Dusty Dunbar and I attended Public Policy Day hosted by AAUW Colorado in Denver. In addition to the information on the House and Senate bills being followed by the Public Policy Committee (elsewhere in newsletter), they often have a speaker on a different but related topic. This year the topic was **Immigration**, presented by Colorado State Senator Julie Gonzales who spoke about Immigration from 1492 to Today. In a nut shell, life as an immigrant under President Trump is rough. She encouraged us to think about where did our ancestors come from? (*Mine were from Wales and England in the early 1900's on my father's side, and much farther back, from Germany and greater Europe on my mother's side.*) The point she made is that we (the United States) are a melting pot of mixed nationalities.

Over the years, there has been a shift from 'All Are Welcome' to the INS (Immigration Natural Services) and ICE (Immigration & Customs Enforcement) trying to make migrant workers lives so difficult that they leave on their own. Are you aware that World War II's "Bracero Program" encouraged a circular immigration pattern for migrant workers who were badly needed then? However, when WWII ended, the policy changed to "Operation Wetback" which deported over a million "brown" people back to Mexico in the summer of 1954.

Currently within the immigration system, there is a low intensity warfare on normal processing times of immigration paperwork, with an intense backlog in the court systems.

I think it was when she was talking about Operation End Game, that Senator Gonzales asked us: "What do you actually carry in your wallet that you could use to prove that you have been in the country for a specific length of time?" *I could pull out an older passport ID card that was issued to me in 2008. However, what else would I have in my wallet? My driver's license was issued in 2018. Not long enough to prove that I have been here long enough so that I would not be automatically detained for deportation. Maybe my Sam's Club card might say I have been a member since the local Sam's opened. Maybe.*

In summary, the history and perspective presented was not only interesting, but eye-opening. We need to not make assumptions about a person based on skin color or languages spoken.

I would like to encourage you to attend AAUW Colorado and Regional events with us. So much can be learned. You can always see what is coming up at: <https://aauw-co.aauw.net/>. Please do save the date for Regional Convention, to be held in Fort Collins, June 19th to June 21st. Also Fall Leadership Conference will be September 11th and 12th in Colorado Springs.

******State AAUW is accepting applications for NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women Student Leadership) scholarships: <https://aauw-co.aauw.net/student-application-for-nccwsl-support/>. Please encourage all young women college students in your life to apply for the scholarship by April 1 and attend this event.

*******Both Jane and I are term limited for our particular board positions. While we have a little over a year to serve in our current positions, we would love to encourage others to not only consider joining our board as members at large, but to also start to shadow us to learn about what we are doing, our goals, our needs, our mission. To learn more about board positions, please refer to your membership handbook.

Colorado AAUW - 2020 Legislative Agenda

Priority #1. PAID FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE – ACTIVE SUPPORT

The bill is not yet drafted and introduced, but we have worked with the FMLI Coalition and supported the 2019 version of the bill. We support a statewide public social insurance model that is most comprehensive, providing best coverage for women (they give birth and are the most likely caregivers of family members) and low wage workers (more likely to be women). Too often private insurance plans leave out the people who are most in need of the coverage and can least afford the premiums.

Priority #2. ACTIVE OPPOSITION TO ANTI-CHOICE BILLS AND UNFRIENDLY TO WOMEN'S REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH RIGHTS AND JUSTICE as well as ACTIVE SUPPORT OF BILLS SUPPORTIVE OF WOMEN'S REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH RIGHTS AND JUSTICE.

HB 20-1033	Rep. Humphrey Live and Let Live Act	OPPOSE	H-SVMA
	Sanctions Discrimination		
HB 20-1075	Reps. Humphrey & Saine; Sen. Marble	OPPOSE	H-HI
	Protect Human Life Beginning at Conception (Personhood)		
HB 20-1068	Rep. Sandridge	OPPOSE	H-SMVA
SB 20-077	Sen. Woodward; Rep. Sandridge	OPPOSE	S-MVA
	Identical Bills - Enforcing the Rights of a Living Child After an Abortion		
HB 20-1098	Sen. D. Williams	OPPOSE	S-SMVA
	Prohibit Performing Abortion after 22 Weeks Gestation - Identical to language of Ballot Issue		

OTHER BILLS, INCLUDING POSITIONS TAKEN IN PREVIOUS YEARS

HB 20-1002	Reps. McLachlan & Baisley; Sens. Zenzinger & Story	Support	H-ED
	College Credit for Work Experience		
	CCHE to implement a plan for determining and awarding credit		
HB 20-1006	Reps. McCluskie & Sirota; Sens Pettersen & Story	Support	H-PHC
	Early Childhood Mental Health Consultants		
	CDHS create and implement a program		
HB 20-1014	Reps. Tipper & Rich; Sen. Gardner	Monitor	H-JUD
	Uncontested Use of Donor Gamete in Fertility Treatment		
HB 20-1015	Rep. Buentello; Sen. Bridges	Support	H-ED
	Future Educator Pathways Grant Program		
HB 20-1016	Reps. McCluskie & Wilson; Sen. Pettersen	Monitor	H-ED
	Increase Quality in Early Childhood Education Programs		
HB 20-1048	Reps. Herod & Buckner; Sen. Fields	Support	H-BUS
	Race Trait Hairstyle Anti-discrimination Protection		
	Education and Workforce Issue		
HB 20-1053	Reps. Sirota & Wilson; Sen. Story	Monitor	H-ED
	Supports for Early Childhood Educator Workforce		
HB 20-1058	Rep. Froelich; Sen. Bridges	Monitor	H-ED
	Behavior Analysts in Public Schools		
HB 20-1088	Rep. Gonzales-Gutierrez	Monitor	H-JUD
	U Visa Certification Requirements		

HB 20-1110	Reps. McLachlan & Exum Higher Education Student Emergency Assistance Grants	Monitor	H-ED
HB 20-1112	Rep. Hooten Expand Child Care Contribution Income Tax Credit Increase maximum child age from 12 to 18	Support	H-FIN
HB 20-1114	Rep. Sandridge Protect Minors from Mutilation and Sterilization Focus on sex reassignment of transgender folks	Oppose	H-SMVA
HB 20-1120	Reps. Carver & Roberts; Sens. Gardner & Fields Enforcement of Sexual Exploitation of a Child Human Trafficking related	Support	H-JUD
HB 20-1131	Reps. Titone & Caraveo; Sen. Winter Menstrual Hygiene Products in School Program	Support	H-ED
HB 20-1138	Reps. Coleman & Larson; Sens. Bridges & Gardner Public Real Property Index (Create Inventory)	Monitor	H-TLG
HB 20-1141	Reps. Caraveo & Gonzales-Gutierrez; Sen. Gonzales Fees Charges to Tenants by Landlords Housing& Immigration	Support	H-BUS
SB 20-001	Sen. Fields; Rep. Sirota Expand Behavioral Health Training for K-12 Educators	Support	S-ED
SB 20-004	Sen. Fenberg; Reps. Herod & McCluskie Postsecondary Education Loan Repayment Assistance	Support	S-FIN
SB 20-009	Sens. Zenzinger & Rankin; Rep. McLachlan Expand Adult Education Grant Program Not just for employment anymore	Support	S-ED
SB 20-029	Sens. Fields & Moreno; Reps. Coleman & Duran Annual Cost of Living Adjustment to the Basic Cash Assistance a Colorado Works Program Recipient Receives	Support	S-FIN
SB 20-059	Sen. Hisey; Rep. Larson Sexual Assault on a Student by an Educator Closes gap for 18 years and older in secondary education	Support	S-JUD
SB 20-072	Sen. Gardner; Rep. Larson Requirement to Provide Information to Parents Regarding the Materials Used During Comprehensive Human Sexuality Instructions Adds 90 day requirement and more information for already required notification	Oppose	S-SVMA
SB 20-081	Sens. Danielson & Bridges; Reps. Sullivan & Larson School Information for Apprenticeship Directory Rep. from every public high school and district	Monitor	S-ED
SB 20-083	Sen. Gonzales; Rep. Herod Prohibit Courthouse Civil Arrest	Support	S-JUD
SB 20-108	Sen. Gonzales Landlord Prohibitions Tenant Citizenship Status	Support	S-LG

This is the list of bills AAUW Lobby Corps Coordinator, Betty Boyd, and members of the Public Policy Committee will be supporting, opposing, or monitoring for the Legislative Session.

Feel free to contact your State Representative or Senator with your own thoughts.