

## APRIL PROGRAM



## An Agribusiness Woman Speaker – Paola Legarre



Owner of Sage Creations Organic Farm, **Paola Legarre**, has worked in organic farming and marketing for the last 25 years. In 2001 she received her MBA in agribusiness from the University of Santa Clara. Looking to continue her commitment to organic farming, and wanting to raise her family in Colorado's clean air and wholesome way of life, she and her family moved to Palisade, Co in 2005.

Paola's first lavender planting was in 2006. As her lavender fields grew, she extended her product line to include certified organic essential oils; lavender inspired home décor, bath and body products, and lavender plant starts. Sage Creations farms 10 acres and currently has 5 acres in lavender production and grows 3 species and over 60 different cultivars of lavender. For the last 11 years she has been trialing different species and cultivars of lavender to see which is best suited for the Colorado climate and its different zones. She has worked with numerous growers throughout the State and the Southwestern states. Her lavender plugs and plants have been sold throughout the US.

Paola is \*Founding member of Lavender Association of Western Colorado, \*Member of United States Lavender Growers Association, \*Lavender Curriculum Advisory Committee Member, Michigan State University, \*Past President of Western Colorado Horticultural Society, \*Past Appointed Advisory Committee Member, Colorado Department of Agricultural Organic Program

**Saturday, April 10 starting at 10 am**

**See next page for Link to the ZOOM meeting:**

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**Branch President** Virginia Brown 201-0386

**VP Programs** Open

**Secretary** Becky Zlebnik 242-0918

**VP Membership** Kathy Singer 261-2112

**Treasurer** Jane Fitzgerald 241-9684

**Newsletter Editor** Jane Fitzgerald

## Link to the ZOOM meeting on April 10:

<http://us02web.zoom.us/j/77343197556?pwd=UnNHVnoxUOdkLOFnc3hFWjJTQ1I2Zz09>

Meeting ID: **773 4319 7556** Passcode: **2UG9HB**

**If you are just phoning in for sound, choose one of the numbers below, then enter the ID and Passcode below.**

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: **773 4319 7556**

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Passcode: **298124**

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

## Attend AAUW State Convention Virtually

**AAUW of Colorado Virtual Annual Convention**  
***“Women as Catalysts for Change”***  
**Saturday, April 24, 2021**  
**9:00 am - 12:30 pm**

[Register For Webinar](#)

Keynote Speaker  
*“Why is Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion So Important Now?”*



Drew L. Houston  
 Exec. Director Citizens Project

*“Embodying Equity”*



Kimberly Churches  
 CEO AAUW

*“Diversity Officer How-to: Resources for Success”*



Melissa Ingram  
 AAUW I&E Toolkit  
 Subcommittee  
 Chair



Jesse Ohrenberger  
 AAUW Inclusion &  
 Equity Committee

Diversity Officer  
 Panel Q&A:  
 Moderated by  
 Susan Brodie



Kay Brocato  
 Mississippi



Linda Carpenter  
 Florida



Cyndi Shanahan  
 Virginia



Suzanne Young-  
 Mercer  
 New York



*“Turning Your World Around After the Pandemic”*  
 Dr. Laurie Weiss  
 Psychotherapist, Coach, & Author

**Use this registration link:**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_bpY39RI9T4KOwXVbwJLlCg](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_bpY39RI9T4KOwXVbwJLlCg)

## Special Interest Groups



### Culture Club

The AAUW Culture Club is a loosely organized effort to inform 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. Peggy Rawlins at 263-4741 is the contact person for the group.

- April 7 @ 6:00 pm  
**CMU Music** presents **Rowdy Brass Band Concert** – Academic Quad
- April 7 @ 7:30 pm  
**CMU Music** presents **Percussion Ensemble Concert** – Love Recital Hall
- April 8 @ 7:30 pm, April 9 @ 7:30 pm, April 10 @ 2:00 pm & 7:30 pm  
**CMU Theater** presents **Miss Holmes** - Moss Performing Arts Center – Robinson Theater
- April 8 & April 9 @ 7:30 pm  
**CMU Music** presents **Opera Performance** – Love Recital Hall
- April 14 @ 6:30 pm  
**CMU Music** presents **Faculty Gala** – Academic Quad
- April 14 & April 17 @ 4:30 pm  
**CMU Music** presents **Choir Concert** – Love Recital Hall
- April 23 @ 7:30 pm and April 24 @ 2:00 pm & 7:30 pm  
**CMU Dance** presents **LIVE: Shifting Focus: the Spring Dance Concert**  
Moss Performing Arts Center – Robinson Theater
- April 26 @ 7:30 pm  
**CMU Music** presents **Jazz & Commercial Ensembles** – Robinson Theater
- April 27 @ 7:30 pm  
**CMU Music** presents **Wind Symphony Concert** – Robinson Theater
- April 28 @ 7:30 pm  
**CMU Music** presents **Orchestra Concert** – Robinson Theater

Many Senior Music Recitals at CMU are scheduled in April. Information for these may be found at: <https://coloradomesa.universitytickets.com/w/default.aspx?>

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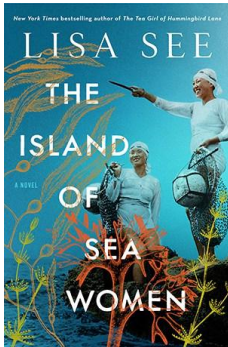
FYI....AAUW [joins](#) nearly 1,200 organizations and institutions calling on Congress to double the maximum Pell Grant.

## THE JANE QUIMBY BOOK GROUP

On March 27, after some initial kerfluffles with the Zoom mechanics, we had a nice discussion of the book *The Poppy Field*, hosted by stand-in Sam Singer. Much of the discussion centered on the author's background, as well as battlefield conditions during WWI. Former member Della Mottram was able to join us. **Please read April's book and join us for the ensuing discussions via ZOOM.**

### The Island of Sea Women by Lisa See

**THE ISLAND OF SEA WOMEN** offers up an evocative tale of two best friends whose bonds are both



strengthened and tested over decades by forces beyond their control. Set largely on the remote Korean island of Jeju, **THE ISLAND OF SEA WOMEN** follows Young-sook and Mi-ja, girls from strikingly different backgrounds who bond over their shared love of the sea. Working in their village's all-female diving collective, the two friends come of age in a community where gender roles are anything but typical. Here, women are the primary breadwinners, the heads of household in all but name, and yet, as Mi-ja and Young-sook come to realize, there are limits to their control that can prove devastating.

**THE ISLAND OF SEA WOMEN** deftly explores the complexities of female friendship and introduces readers to the remarkably strong and spirited female divers of Jeju Island. It's also an eye-opening portrait of a country ravaged by decades of conflict and unrest, and a searing examination of the effects that foreign intervention can have on the evolution of a nation and of course individual lives.

### Saturday, April 24, starting at 10 am

**Join Zoom Meeting** by clicking on this link with your computer or tablet..... then enter meeting ID and passcode, if needed

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85882292248?pwd=OGVGMThJTtITVThXZTNJR01tOVZPUT09>

Meeting ID: 858 8229 2248

Passcode: 738737

**To listen by telephone** only, dial one of these numbers.... then enter meeting ID and passcode, if requested.... +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose) OR +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

### UPDATE RECEIVED ABOUT JAN SCHEEVEL

My name is Jay Scheevel. I am Jan Scheevel's son and I am handling correspondence for her most of the time. She is bed bound at home now with debilitating liver disease, so is not really in a condition to accept visitors comfortably and phone calls are difficult for her, so any written correspondence, either by US mail or e-mail is better. She is reading when she can. I told her that I can relay any comments she may have about the book via e-mail to you or to the group, and others can respond to here in like fashion via this e-mail account [ajs@scheevel.com](mailto:ajs@scheevel.com). I will print those comments for her to read and respond to if able. Best wishes from my mother.

## Coffee & Chat Group



This informal (fun) group will meet on **April 3, 9:30 am**....on the patio at Spoons Bistro & Bakery at 9:30 am to try to solve world/local problems through discussion. There is no set agenda. Call Jane at 241-9684 with any questions.

Our next meeting is scheduled for **May 1**...same place and time.

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## Happy Birthday to You

Your AAUW Branch wishes to acknowledge its members and let you know we appreciate you.

Those members celebrating a Birthday in April are:

**Betsy Zollner on April 11<sup>th</sup>**   **Samantha Singer on April 20<sup>th</sup>**

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## Become a Two-Minute Activist

Members of AAUW's Action Network receive urgent e-mail notices and text messages when their advocacy is needed most. With our online Two-Minute Activist tool, it takes just minutes and an internet connection to make your voice heard on issues impacting women and girls! Sign up at [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org).

**Top Priority!** Use Two-Minute Activist to ask your legislators to support the [Paycheck Fairness Act](#) (pay equity) and the [Equality Act](#) (sexual orientation and gender equity). At each link, you'll find contact info and detailed bill explanation.

**The ERA saga continues.** On March 17, despite a recent federal court ruling that the deadline to ratify the amendment has passed, the U.S. House passed a resolution to remove the deadline. Urge your senators to do the same, if a hearing is held.

**Education at the forefront in Colorado:** The Governor has signed SB21-053, adjusting school funding so that it won't suffer from Covid-related attendance declines. A bill to increase the diversity of K-12 educators is moving through the CO House (HB 21-1010), and a bill to reverse Covid-related learning loss was introduced in the CO Senate (SB21-013).

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**Legal Advocacy Fund case update:** For years, Professor Jennifer Freyd has been [asking for corrective action](#) to be taken regarding the gendered pay disparity in University of Oregon's Psychology Department. On March 15, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit agreed with Professor Freyd, reversing the lower court's decision in part and allowing her case to move forward to trial. AAUW will continue to offer Professor Freyd our support as her case moves through the process.



## An Article shared by Virginia Brown, Branch President

by: Deborah Takahara Posted: Feb 18, 2021

DENVER (KDVR) — The pandemic has presented many challenges to working parents, but women have been hit particularly hard. A new report is sounding the alarm about women leaving the workforce.

Two non-partisan groups have been studying this issue for the past year. Common Sense Institute and Executives Partnering to Invest in Children noticed the trend that women were not returning to the work force as quickly as men. They have some ideas that could help.

President and CEO of Common Sense Institute, Kristin Strohm said, “Economists across the nation and in Colorado have dubbed it the **‘she’-cession.**”

Common Sense Institute is a non-partisan research organization dedicated to the protection and promotion of Colorado’s economy.

“Women have had to leave the work force. The working mother is being disproportionately impacted and it’s a siren call to elected leaders that we need to do something, or our economy is never going to recover.

“A lot of the virtual learning issues tend to fall on the mom in the home. As a working mother, it’s a delicate balance. It’s hard to work full time while also provide learning opportunities to child at home or watch your children if there are not options.”

Nicole Riehl is President and CEO of Executives Partnering to Invest in Children, a non-partisan group of prestigious business executives partnering to serve as the business community’s non-partisan voice for early childhood.

“Speaking as someone who has a first grader, it’s really difficult to manage a full-time job and manage virtual learning and supporting your child at home,” Riehl said.

Their report found the labor force participation rate for women dropped from 63% in February, to 54% in May, the lowest point in 2020, indicating 175,000 fewer women in the labor force. While the overall female participation rate recovered through the end of the year, the December labor force participation rate for Colorado mothers remained 6% below the February 2020 level of 79%.

According to the report, mothers were nearly twice as likely to have reduced work hours; 17% compared to 9% of fathers.

“If we don’t get women back to work, the economy is not going to recover, and we will lose generation of progress for working women,” Strohm said.

Both groups say more affordable, quality childcare is part of the solution. Some of their recommendations include providing incentives for commercial building owners to lease space to childcare businesses, incentives for employers to invest in family friendly childcare solutions, and for those that offer childcare expense stipends.

“Part of what has changed this conversation is this pandemic has revealed childcare is an essential piece of our economic infrastructure just like roads and bridges and communication networks. We need a system of childcare that is accessible and affordable to families to support our workforce,” Riehl said.