



Program

Tina Folch & Deb Saunders

Navigating Loss and Grief

Donna Mathiowetz will talk about navigating loss and grief. She is an inspirational speaker and author. She has been working in this arena since 1997 following the death of two teenage sons within two years. She and her husband have been foster parents for four children from foreign countries with medical needs that weren't available to them in their countries of origin. Her passion to help others thrive as they rise to the challenges of changes in their lives comes from her own life experiences. Donna and her husband Dick live in Hastings and they have helped many people to deal with loss and grief.

Community

Margaret Goderstad

Friends of LeDuc & Historic Hastings

- Burns Night Scotch Tasting:

January 25th at 6:30 p.m.: A celebration of Scottish culture and Burns poetry. There will be 5 choices of single Scotch Whiskies, paired with delectable foods. Music will be by bagpipes & Dunquin. **Reservations required**

- Valentine's Tea:

February 8th at 3:30 p.m.: Three courses with interpretive program on china & teapots. Readings by costumed reenactors & a tour of the LeDuc house. Reservations, please.

- A Night at Spiral Brewery:

February 13th at 7:00p.m.: Spencer Johnson will speak about the history of brewing in Hastings & owners of the brewery will discuss the history of this start-up. Free & open to the public.

Hastings Arts Center

- "Fred Astaire at the Movies":

January 12th at 2:00 p.m. with Jennifer Eckes & Arne Fogel. Make Reservations Now.

- Coffee Concert:

January 14th at 10:30 a.m. Sherry Minnick & Phil Nusbaum Duo. Toe tapping old time & bluegrass that will make you smile.

- Compass Rose Brass Ensemble:

February 1st at 7:00 p.m. One of the newest & most exciting brass ensembles in Minnesota. They have collaborated with film makers with their music. Reservations may be made now.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 13 Book Club
 Jan 27Chili Supper & General Meeting
 Feb 10 Book Club

HASTINGS BRANCH

Meets on Mondays
 St. Philip's Lutheran Church
 1401 15th Street West,
 Hastings, Minnesota 55033

2019-2020 PROGRAMS

September 23, 6:00 pm Salad Supper
Groundwater Protection
 Jill V Trescott

October 28, 7:00 pm
Challenges Young Women Face in Academia
 Dr. Margaret Smerud-Clikman

November 25, 7:00 pm
Documentary Film: Women Outward Bound
 Maxine Davis

December 9, 6:30 pm Holiday Party
 Hidden Greens Event Center
Food, Music and Celebration

January 27, 6:00 pm Chili Supper
Navigating Loss and Grief
 Donna Mathiowetz

February 24, 7:00 pm
History of Hastings Part 3
 Heidi Langenfeld

March 23, 7:00 pm
College Possible
 Amy Browender

April 27, 6:00 pm Spring Social
 Local Comedian Janet Martin

May 18, 7:00 pm Book Sale
Dementia Friends
 Colleen Fritsch

HPAAC

Please take the Arts survey at Hastingsisarts.com (a flyer is attached)

Save the Date for the Annual Gala, April 23 at Carpenter's Nature Center.

Scholarships are available in any medium of art. Check website (www.hpaac.org) for application instructions.

Volunteer Opportunity

There are several volunteer opportunities at the Dakota County Juvenile Center in Hastings. Several of our AAUW members have been volunteering as “court callers” for 10+ years, but two of them are retiring and need to be replaced. If anyone is interested in giving 3-4 hours a month to this worthwhile program, please call Brandon Head, Volunteer Coordinator in Dakota County at 952-891-7151 or Shirley Tammen 651-437-9206 for more information.

Book Club

Shirley Tammen

Piecing Me Together by Renee Watson will be discussed on Monday, January 13th at 1:00pm at Pleasant Hill Library. This selection is the main book chosen for Hastings Reads 2020 and the author will be speaking at Hastings Art Center on Monday, March 30.

This Tender Land by William Kent Krueger will be the AAUW Book Club's read on February 10.

Books at the Bierstube

Author for Thursday, January 16th is Judy Kerr, who writes short stories and mystery novels. Her book, in a planned series, is entitled *Black Friday*. Dinner at 5:30pm and speaker at 6:30pm.

Hastings Reads

The theme for Hastings Reads 2020 is Speaking, Listening and the Space in Between. The main selection is *Piecing Me Together* by Renee Watson. The Middle School selection is *Some Places More Than Others* by Renee Watson. The Preschool/Elementary selection is *Say Something* by Peter H. Reynolds.

Unlike previous years, 2020 HR activities will be scattered throughout February and March. The kick-off will happen at Pleasant Hill Library on Saturday, February 8th, from 12-1pm

when spoken-word poet, Kevin Yang, will share some of his poetry.

The Hastings Reads 2020 flyer is included in this newsletter along with a list of events that will take place during February and March.

Diversity

Marlys Schmitt

This article is a summary of the partnership with WGU North Carolina, an accredited online university offering affordable and personalized online [bachelor's](#) and [master's](#) degree programs and was found on the AAUW.org website.

Student loan debt and debt forgiveness have been in the news as of late, with many presidential candidates addressing the issue in their campaign speeches and websites. It's an important issue because the national student debt load is currently \$1.6 trillion.

[A study by the American Association of University Women](#) found that while women comprise 56% of enrolled college students nationally, they hold 65% of outstanding student loan debt — nearly double the amount owed by men. Women with bachelor's degrees owe on average \$2,700 more in student loans than men.

Despite significant gains women have made in higher education, it's well-known that they have not achieved the same economic gains in the workplace as their male counterparts for many reasons. What is less well-known is that women carry an extra financial burden because, as a group, they must borrow more than men to earn their degrees.

One reason for this disproportionate debt burden is that women, because of work and family obligations, tend to choose colleges that offer convenience and flexibility with courses and general scheduling; these are usually for-profit schools offering online education.

Yet when women select for-profit universities for the flexibility, the cost — and resulting student debt — is significantly higher than at both public and nonprofit universities.

With colleges, universities, and employers working toward a common goal of employees' career success, we can improve the quality of life for women and their families across our state by helping them lower their college debt.

Treasurer's Report

Mary Charlson

The checking account balance as of December 31, 2019 is \$5,756.32. The Holiday Raffle brought in a total of \$600.00 which will go to AAUW Funds. Donations in memory of Kay Leadholm were deposited. As requested by the donors, the memorial gifts will be used for our future Hastings Branch programs and our local AAUW Scholarship. Expenses in December totaled \$493.00 including November guest speakers, use of Lecture Hall for Nov meeting and Holiday Social at Hidden Greens.

Historian

Lisa Hedin



Gadabouts Tea – January 2018

Web Page

Mary Ellen Fox

Accidentally delete your email with the latest directory? Forget where our meeting is located this month? Then, check the website!
Here's the link: <https://hastings-mn.aauw.net/>
Member protected section PASSWORD: hastings2017

Secretary

Betty Hoeschen

The AAUW Hastings Branch met Monday, November 25, 2019, at Hastings High School lecture room. The meeting was called to order by President Lisa West at 7:02 PM. Forty members and guests were present.

Lisa West welcomed all to the meeting. She encouraged members to check out the webinar from AAUW CEO, Kim Churches, on Thursday, December 5, 2019, at 2:00 PM titled: "Together in 2019, Together in 2020."

Pat Powers moved the minutes of the October meeting be approved as published in the Twig. Pam Pontzer seconded and the motion passed.

Mary Charlson's treasurer's report was given by Lisa West. A checkbook balance of \$5,374.32, with little activity in November, was reported. Nancy Techam moved the report be approved and Vicki Amundson seconded. The motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Since there was a longer program, committee reports were limited. See the Twig for information.

The Holiday Party will be December 9, 2019, at 6:30 PM, at the Hidden Greens Event Center. If you need a ride, contact Kathy O'Keefe. If you are able to contribute an appetizer, dessert or \$10 toward the event, contact Peggy Horsch. There will be a cash bar. There will also be a chance raffle to make money for National Funds that were previously earned at the AAUW State Convention with the basket auction.

The branch is now accepting applications for the \$1000 scholarship to NCCWSL. Young women who are sophomores or juniors in college are encouraged to apply. Contact Gail Glashan for more information.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:14 PM

Deb Saunders introduced filmmaker Maxine Davis. She showed her film, *Women Outward Bound*. Maxine and Cathy Crowson answered question following the film. The film is available to view on Amazon Prime. It was such a reminder of how far women have come since 1965 in many areas. AAUW is important in keeping this movement going in the right direction.

AAUW Mission Statement

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

AAUW Vision Statement

AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

Minnesota State Website

<http://aauw-mn.aauw.net>

National Website

<https://www.aauw.org/>

AAUW Hastings Board

President -----	Lisa West
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	Ruth Versaw
Co-VPs Programs -----	Tina Folch
	Deb Saunders
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	Karen Holmquist
	Nancy Techam
Historian -----	Lisa Hedin
Hospitality -----	Nancy Ahn
	Kathy Stockman
	Patty Todnem
NCCWSL -----	Gail Glashan
Newsletter -----	Linda Bindman
Public Policy -----	Pat Powers
Garage Sale -----	Tricia Hawkins
	Ceil Strauss
Web Page -----	Mary Ellen Fox



We want to hear from you!

A collaborative community-wide effort is underway to create an arts and cultural plan for the community of Hastings. This plan will be the community's roadmap to the future and we need your help with directions!

Take the survey at hastingsisarts.com

And enter a drawing to win this stunning watercolor by Hastings artist Andy Evansen.

Hastings is Arts!

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter: Hastings is Arts



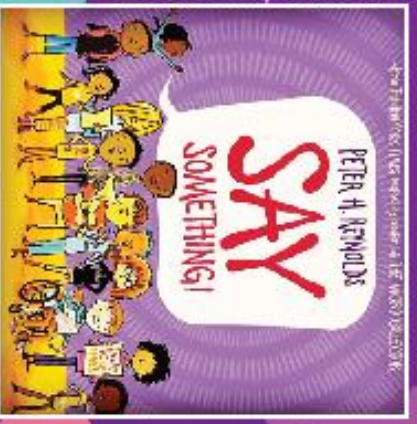
HASTINGS READS 2020

Speaking, Listening, & the Space In Between

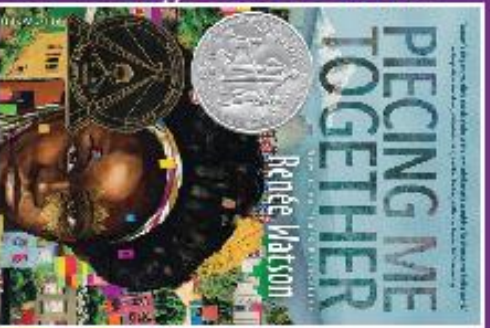
Middle Grades



Elementary Grades



High School & Adults



Hastings Reads is a community-wide reading program that seeks to encourage reading and discussion of books and the ways in which they can help us understand the lives and experiences of ourselves and others. It is sponsored by Dakota County Library, Friends of the Pleasant Hill Library, HastingsAAUW, Hastings Community Education, Hastings Public Schools, Hastings Public Schools Foundation, Hastings YMCA, KDWA Radio, Ruth and George Doffing Charitable Gift Fund, SEAS School, and many volunteers.

HASTINGSREADS.COM

<p>Collage Portraits Wednesday, February 5; 6 – 8 p.m. Dakota County Pleasant Hill Library</p>	<p>Make a portrait using collage techniques. Presented by Artistry. Registration with the library required. Ages: 11–18.</p>
<p>LeDuc Book Club Discussion Thursday, February 6; 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. LeDuc Historic Estate</p>	<p>Join the LeDuc History Book Group for a lively discussion of <i>Piecing Me Together</i> by Renée Watson.</p>
<p>ECFE Event Friday, February 7; 5:30–7:30 p.m. Tilden Community Center</p>	<p>As part of the popular Little Raider Winter Jam, we will have a reading of <i>Say Something!</i> by Peter H. Reynolds as well as related activities. Join in the fun!</p>
<p>Kick-off Event: Spoken-Word Poetry Saturday, February 8; 12–1 p.m. Dakota County Pleasant Hill Library</p>	<p>Kevin Yang, spoken-word poet, will explore the history of spoken word, explain how poetry helped him find his voice, and share several of his poems. (Students, check with your teachers to see if they are offering extra credit).</p>
<p>Paint Chip Projects Monday, February 10; 5:30–7:30 p.m. Dakota County Pleasant Hill Library</p>	<p>Create colorful, pigment-rich collage pieces using paint chips from your home supply or hardware store. Learn how to add pops of color, interesting texture variances and unique color combinations. Presented by Artistry. Registration with the library required.</p>
<p>Popcorn and a Movie Wednesday, February 11; 1 p.m. Tilden Senior Center</p>	<p>Enjoy a drama based on the true story of the Wiley College Debate Team in the <i>Jim Crow South</i>. Rated PG-13.</p>
<p>Open-Mic Night Tuesday, February 18; 7:00–8:00 p.m. Hastings Arts Center</p>	<p>Hastings community members and students from HHS and HMS are invited to participate in an open-mic night co-hosted by the HHS Art Club. Check our website and Facebook page for information on how to sign up to perform! (Students, check with your teachers to see if they are offering extra credit).</p>
<p>Book Discussion of <i>Piecing Me Together</i> Tuesday, February 25; 2:45–3:30 p.m. High School Library</p>	<p>High school students are invited to enjoy refreshments while discussing Watson’s novel in preparation for her visit to HHS. (Students, check with your teachers to see if they are offering extra credit).</p>
<p>Family Event: "The World Needs Your Voice!" Friday, February 28; 6–7:30 p.m. Hastings YMCA</p>	<p>This event is for families with children in elementary school. Bring your young ones to the YMCA for pizza, books, and fun! Pizza will be served from 6–6:30, and then we’ll complete service-learning projects related to <i>Say Something!</i> by Peter H. Reynolds. You do not need to be a member of the YMCA, and no registration is required.</p>
<p>Bridging the Political Divide: Listening and Understanding Saturday, March 7; 9:30 a.m.–11:30 p.m. Dakota County Pleasant Hill Library</p>	<p>Focus on listening and reflecting during this structured conversation between a balanced group of Republican and Democratic leaning community members. The conversation is designed to increase understanding of the experiences and beliefs of those on the other side of the political divide. Presented by the Better Angels Alliance of Eagan. Registration with the library required.</p>
<p>Bridging the Political Divide: Conversation Skills Tuesday, March 10, 5–7:30 p.m. Dakota County Pleasant Hill Library</p>	<p>Learn skills for having respectful conversations that clarify differences, search for common ground, and affirm the importance of maintaining relationships with those on the other side of the political divide. Practice conversation skills in pairs with someone of your same political persuasion. Presented by the Better Angels Alliance of Eagan. Registration with the library required.</p>
<p>Author Visit: Renée Watson Monday, March 30 In-school at HHS and HMS, and 6:30–8:00 p.m. at Hastings Arts Center</p>	<p>Renée Watson, New York Times bestselling author of the <i>Piecing Me Together</i> and <i>Some Places More Than Others</i> is coming to Hastings! Her books center on the lived experiences of black girls and women and explores themes of home, identity, and the intersections of race, class, and gender. During the day, she will visit with students at HHS and each lunch with the writing club at HMS. In the evening, she will join community members downtown to discuss her books and her work as an author, educator, and activist. Watson will sign books, and copies of her books will be available for purchase. (Students, ask your teachers about extra credit).</p>
<p>Book Discussions of <i>Some Places More Than Others</i> for HMS Students and SEAS Students</p>	<p>HMS students are invited to a book discussion hosted by the writing club. Your teachers will give you information on how to attend. SEAS students in grades 6–8 are invited to a book discussion during lunch. Your teachers will give you information on how to attend.</p>

Book-club kits for *Piecing me Together* are available at the library. Books are available for purchase at the YMCA and the Tilden Community Center.



Ruth and George
Kniffling
Charitable
Gift Fund

