

February 2026



## President's Message

Dorothy Sandahl

Exciting events taking place in the next couple of months. In March, the proposed **By-Laws will be distributed** for you to discuss, evaluate and review. Approval will be at the annual meeting on April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Also in March, we are gathering at the Capital to once again strive to encourage our legislators to approve ERA, **Equal Rights Amendment**. **On March 12<sup>th</sup> both AAUW and the League of Women Voters will show up to show support and demand this gets approved.** It's been too long on hold. We will contact our legislators and give them the message.

Exciting March activity, we have our first interactive program, She Engineers with the elementary schools on March 4, Pinecrest; March 10<sup>th</sup> at McAuliffe and March 26<sup>th</sup> at Kennedy. The board decided this first time to rely on the Works Museum to provide leadership and materials. Our volunteer time will be used to mingle, make friends, and assist the kids with the program.

**Nominating Committee meets in March. If you are interested in serving, let me know.**

Following our Annual meeting in April, the State AAUW Annual meeting will be April 24-25 in Brainerd at the Rutgers Resort. **Growing Together - Rooted in Strength will be the theme** This event promises to be both enjoyment and relaxation, featuring a great speaker and opportunities to connect with colleagues from other branches across the state. We are entitled to six delegates, so let me know if you would like to represent our Branch at the meeting. It is important to spend a little time finding out what is going on in the State and National from various members.

This is a good time to reflect on what you would like to do, how you would like to become active, what roles look of interest to you. Connect with a team, contact me, let's make some move to become invested in some program, or committee or whatever...start something new! The more you are involved, the better to get to know you.

**Come and have some fun in the various activities at AAUW!**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb. 9 ..... Book Club  
 Feb 23... ..... Meeting, & Program  
 March 9 ..... Book Club

## HASTINGS BRANCH

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

## 2025-2026 PROGRAMS

September 22, 6:00 pm      Salad Supper  
**Inclusion Benefits All**  
 Basma Ibrahim DeVries, Ph.D

October 27, 7:00 pm  
**Cancer Legal Care**  
 Meghan Scully, Managing Attorney

November 24, 7:00 pm  
**Guatemala Dentistry, Common Hope**  
 Kelly Marthaler

December 6, 10:00 am  
**Holiday Celebration at the Hastings Golf Club**

January 26, 6:00 pm      Chili Supper  
**Your Story, My Story, Our Story - A Community Grows Together**  
 Pat Branstad

February 23, 7:00 pm  
**Cases, Trends & Insights**  
 Kathy Keena, Dakota County Attorney

March 23, 7:00 pm  
**Women's Health**  
 Dr. Mona Roach

April 20, 6:00 pm      Spring Social & Annual  
**Hope Tree Counseling**      Meeting at Hastings Services  
 Public House  
 Sarah Kiani, M.A

May 18, 7:00 pm      Book Sale  
**Tourism in Hastings**  
 Kristy Barse, Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce President

## **Program**

Barb Hollenbeck

### **Cases, Trends, and Insights**



Kathy Keena was appointed as the Dakota County Attorney by the Board of Commissioners May 2021 and elected November 2022. She is the 24th Dakota County Attorney and the first woman to serve in this position.

Kathy has been at the Dakota County Attorney's Office for more than 25 years, serving in multiple roles including criminal division head and chief deputy. Prior to Dakota County, she was the county attorney in Lyon County and worked in private practice.

Ms. Keena graduated from Minnesota State University Moorhead with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and sociology and received her J.D. from Hamline University School of Law, now Mitchell Hamline School of Law.

County Attorney Kathy Keena will share insights about both adult and juvenile cases charged and prosecuted by the Dakota County Attorney's Office. She'll also discuss youth and adult diversion programs, crime trends and current homicide cases.

Submitted by Pam Petersen

## **SAVE THE DATE**

**Spring Social, Meeting, Program Date Changed to April 20**

MONDAY, APRIL 20  
at the Hastings Public House,  
2015 Westview Drive, Hastings, MN 55033

More Information about the Spring Social Will Follow

## **Hospitality**

Nancy Ahn, Darla Kimmes, & Lois Twedt

Thank you to everyone who contributed to making the AAUW Chili Supper a successful gathering. Over sixty people were in attendance in person or on ZOOM to be updated on AAUW activities and hear a story of community building. With gratitude

## **Membership**

Linda Ferris & Jody Rudh

If you've received a reminder regarding membership renewal and have yet to remit payment, AAUW does offer multiple ways to pay. The total cost for membership renewal is **\$105.00** (\$74 national, \$9 state, \$22 Hastings). You can:

1. Pay by check. You can mail your check directly to Linda and she will process it through the system for you. Please mail your check to: **Linda Ferris, 320 6<sup>th</sup> St. W., Hastings MN 55033**
2. Pay by credit card online. It's super easy! Follow the step-by-step instructions outlined in this video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3vXUvq-1JY4>

## **Treasurer's Report**

Xilian Maceda

Beginning January 2026 Balance: \$15,196.50

Total Deposits: \$404.00

Total Expenses: \$1,061.74

- We made a payment to Hastings Reads for \$500.00

Ending January 2026 Balance: \$14,598.76

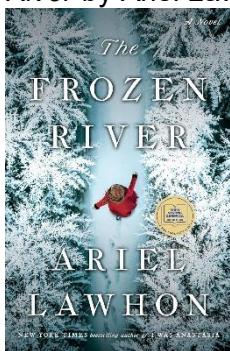
Notice: I will not be able to drive to Hastings for the foreseeable future, please make sure that addresses are included on the form/email for checks needed. If someone would like to pick up the check, just let me know.

## Book Club

Linda Bindman, Ann Johnson, & Cindy Toppin

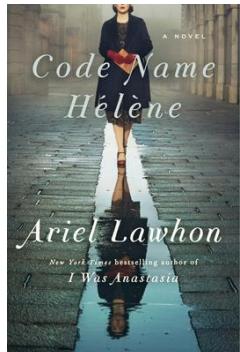
The book club meets the second Monday of the month at the Pleasant Hill Library at 1:30pm in the Old Mill Ruins room. Please join us, all are welcome!!

Our book selection for February 9<sup>th</sup> is *The Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon.

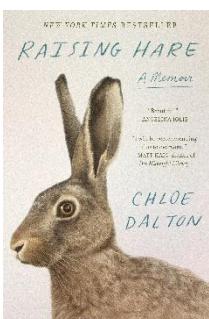


This is a historical fiction novel and mystery, inspired by the real-life diaries of 18th-century Maine midwife Martha Ballard, following her investigation into a body found in the frozen Kennebec River in 1789, uncovering secrets of scandal, power, and resilience within her community while navigating the limited role of women in that era.

On March 9<sup>th</sup>, we will discuss another Ariel Lawhon book, *Code Name Hélène*. This book is historical fiction inspired by the real story of Nancy Grace Augusta Wake. Told in interweaving timelines organized around the four code names Nancy used during the war.



Our April 13<sup>th</sup> selection is *Raising Hare: A Memoir* by Chloe Dalton



## Hastings Reads 2026

The 2026 Hastings Reads theme is **Water, Wilderness, and Wisdom: Coming Together Through Native American Teachings**.

The three books that have been selected are: *We Are Water Protectors* by Carole Lindstrom (Elementary Book) *Where Wolves Don't Die* by Anton Treuer (Middle Grades Book) *Everything You Wanted to Know about Indians but Were Afraid to Ask* by Anton Treuer (Teen & Adult Books – there are two versions)

Anton Treuer will be speaking in Hastings on February 17<sup>th</sup> at the Hastings Arts Center at 6:30pm.

The Hastings Reads Flyer and activities information are attached at the end of the TWIG.

## NCCWSL

Gail Glashan

Last spring, at our Annual Meeting, we voted where to invest our energy in 2026. We chose to support and empower women and girls, by championing their success in higher education. This became part of our Strategic Plan, including funding scholarships. In addition to our high school scholarships, our branch is offering a scholarship to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders. The conference is May 27–30, 2026, in College Park, Maryland. Since 2015, we have sent 20 college women to this conference.

I was in contact with AAUW national and they will be at the conference, providing an Information Table, Keynote Speech, Workshops—including AAUW's Work Smart, and Scholarships!

We are relying on you, AAUW members, to help spread the word that we are now accepting applications to this inspiring leadership conference!

Applications due **March 25, 2026!**

An informational flyer and the application are at the back of the TWIG. The application is also an attachment to the email.

Thanks to all for supporting our AAUW Branch!

## STEM Nights at our Elementary Schools

Jodi Husting

The AAUW Hastings Branch is excited to partner with McAuliffe (March 10), Kennedy (March 26), and Pinecrest (March 4) Elementary Schools to host science experiment stations during each school's STEM Night.

Each event will feature **five hands-on science experiment stations**, along with information highlighting *She Engineers*, a program developed by The Works Museum of Minnesota. The *She Engineers* program shares inspiring stories and real-world examples of women in STEM and engineering, helping students see themselves in these careers.

Thank you to all of you who signed up at our January AAUW meeting to volunteer at these events. As I mentioned at the meeting, volunteers will help facilitate activities at the experiment stations. **All planning, instructions, and materials will be provided**, so no prior preparation or STEM background is required.

Thank you for supporting STEM learning and helping inspire the next generation of girls and future engineers.

Contact Jodi Husting 651-235-9133 or [jmhusting@yahoo.com](mailto:jmhusting@yahoo.com) with questions.

In 1925, when Dr. Carter G. Woodson planned the inaugural week-long observance of Black history, he could hardly have anticipated the imprint he would leave on the world. From Negro History Week to Black History Month, Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) has carried forth the tradition, and the observances have become part of the warp and weft of American culture and increasingly the global community.

For our 100th theme, ASALH, the founders of Black History Month, urge us to explore the impact and meaning of Black history and life commemorations in transforming the status of Black peoples in the modern world. The ASALH remains strong through today. Check out their website <https://asalh.org/> for more information.

**International Day of Women and Girls in Science** will be recognized on 11 February. On 20 December 2013, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution on science, technology and innovation for development, in which it recognized that full and equal access to and participation in science, technology and innovation for women and girls of all ages is imperative for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.

Diversity in research expands the pool of talented researchers, bringing in fresh perspectives, talent and creativity. This Day is a reminder that women and girls play a critical role in science and technology communities and that their participation should be strengthened.

**Women and Girls in STEM** will be celebrated on 7 February from 11am-3pm at the Science Museum of Minnesota.

Sources: ASAHL website, United Nations Website, Science Museum of Minnesota website

Submitted by Lisa Hedin

## Diversity

Jodi Husting

2026 marks a century of national commemorations of Black history. Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson, George Cleveland Hall, William B. Hartgrove, Jesse E. Moorland, Alexander L. Jackson, and James E. Stamps institutionalized the teaching, study, dissemination, and commemoration of Black history when they founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH) on September 9, 1915.

## Funds and HS Scholarships

Marilyn Tennessen

Last fall we voted to approve \$1000 to National AAUW to promote our goals at the national level. Our branch was also given credit for making \$280 dollars at our State Convention last April for our Silent Auction baskets.

For 2025, our individual branch members have contributed \$2,908.70!! Therefore, we are able to award four Honorees from our branch at the State Convention. Great job everyone!

After 4 hours of reading 15 High Honor scholarship applications, we chose two winners and two alternates. Besides most having a 4.0 GPA, they exhibited leadership as Captains of their sports teams, officers of various clubs, as well as volunteering through their church and school. And uplifting essays of resiliency and grit. All 15 are amazing women, and we wanted to offer all of them the \$2,500 scholarship.

Wednesday night another committee of 7 AAUW members met to review 11 scholarships for the 2-YEAR Scholarship, such as someone going to Inver or DCTC.

We chose two amazing women who will each receive \$1,500. Their essays showed their interests, compassion, and their role models (parents, siblings, and teachers).

At this time, they are just number IDs to us, but in May, we will meet them at the Hastings High School Awards Night.

I would like to thank the following members for their time and enthusiasm in reading these applications: Natalie LaTourneau, Marjorie Peterson, Susan Just, Pam Ponzer, Michelle Tjomsland, Jacqui Rigelman, Nancy Ahn, Sharon Anderson, and Jan Hertel.  
Marilyn Tennessen, Chair

PS. We see the impact of Title 9 offering high school sports to girls, by providing them with more leadership positions, plus exercise.

## Historian

Lisa Hedin

History pics are inspired by the nostalgic 2016 picture postings on Facebook.



1996 Holiday Party

## 2006 Gadabouts



2006 Gadabouts



2016 Program

## Communications

### Julie Hicks

Again, congratulations to fellow AAUW member Karin Grossman as Hastings Chamber of Commerce Volunteer of the year for 2025!



## **Brainerd branch to host AAUW MN State Meeting at Ruttger's April 24-25, 2026**

**Growing Together - Rooted in Strength**, highlights the value of collaborating and coming together to support women with higher education goals.

The event starts on Friday afternoon, April 24, exploring activities such as Art Gallery, boutique or salon. Then gather for social time in the rustic lodge's Bear Pine Bar at 5:00 with a delicious dinner served in Ruby's restaurant. After dinner, Joy Persall, a woman of Ojibwe Metis' descent and Brainerd Lakes branch member, will give a presentation on "Seed Sharing: A World View of Indigenous Seed Stories".

Saturday begins with a continental breakfast followed by business meeting and awards. A keynote presentation by Meghan Kissel, AAUW National that will focus on public policy. "It's My Vote" initiative. Further a panel discussion with three branch representatives will follow.

On the side, Minnesota branches donate a basket of items to raise money for AAUW Funds. The

auction will begin Saturday morning and wrap up by 3:00 p.m.

**Registrations are due March 31** and to get the AAUW discount rate of \$135 for a double room, you need to make your Ruttger's lodging reservations by March 24. See registration attached at the end of the TWIG.

## Community

### Lesley Lesch

## **FEBRUARY – Happy Galentine's and Valentine's Day!**

**A Galentine's/Valentine's Affair Evening Tea at LeDuc is Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.** Enjoy a Victorian tea, followed by a Valentine's presentation. \$40 per person, \$35. for members. <https://www.dakotahistory.org/leduc-events>

**Rom-Com Trivia at Alexis Bailly is Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup> from 6 – 8 pm.** Sip on some delicious wine while you test your Rom-Com movie knowledge! Friendly competition and fun prizes for the winning team! <https://www.abvineyards.com/about-5>

**Stand Up Comedy at the Public House is Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm.** – Bring your sweetheart... OR your fantastic friends and enjoy a delicious dinner and LOL stand-up comedy. \$50.00 per person. <https://hastingspublichouse.com/hph-events-%26-classes>

**Black Dirt Improv at the American Legion Post 47 is Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.** Improv is a unique performance that is never the same, and it sure to leave you with a smile! \$15.00 per person. <https://www.blackdirttheater.com/improv>

**Perfect Pairing's at Alexis Bailly is Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup> from 5 – 6:30 pm.** You will be guided through a curated tasting of five exquisite wines, each perfectly paired with decadent cheeses, artisanal chocolates, and more. \$30 per person. <https://www.abvineyards.com/about-5>

**Frozen Mulligan in Downtown Hastings is Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup> from 12 pm – 4 pm.** Enjoy a nine-hole mini-golf tour of downtown

Hastings! It is free to play and offers great prizes.  
<https://hastingsdba.com/frozen-mulligan>

**Masters of the Sky: A Gathering of Owls is Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup> & March 1<sup>st</sup>** hosted by Carpenter St. Croix Valley Nature Center is a captivating program about birds of prey. Learn about eagles, hawks, falcons, and owls from around the world and see them close up.  
<https://carpenternaturecenter.org/plan-your-visit/annual-events/masters-of-the-sky/>

## MARCH

**Spring into Downtown** features Spring sales at local retailers throughout the downtown area.

**Carpenter Nature Center Maple Syruping is Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> from 1 – 3 pm.** Welcome spring by joining the CNC staff in making maple syrup. <http://carpenternaturecenter.org/>

**Carpenter Nature Center Apple Tree Pruning is Saturday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> from 1- 3 pm.** Join CNC Orchardist Sam Behrends for a hands-on pruning workshop in the CNC orchard. <http://carpenternaturecenter.org/>

**Black Dirt Theater** is proud to present another hilarious season of Black Dirt Improv. Black Dirt Improv's 2 teams of performers are ready to entertain you, with some new performers joining in, and some returning familiar faces. Improv is a unique performance that is never the same, and it sure to leave you with a smile! Tickets are **\$15.00 per person**

<https://www.blackdirttheater.com/improv>

American Legion Post 47; Sat, Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm  
The Confluence Hotel; Sat, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm  
Hastings Public House; Sat, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm  
The Confluence Hotel; Sat, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm  
American Legion Post; 47 Sat, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm  
2nd Street Depot; Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm

**Hastings Arts Center Concerts** 216 4th Street East Hastings – <https://www.hastingsartscenter.org/> 651-437-4320

- **FREE 2025-2026 COFFEE CONCERT SCHEDULE**

(All FREE Concerts are on Tuesdays at 10:30am at HAC – confirm location)

March 10<sup>th</sup>: Jennifer Eckes presenting Broadway highlights

April 7<sup>th</sup>: Amos Lucidi, pianist  
May 19<sup>th</sup>: The Paper Clips, trombone quartet

- **SPECIAL EVENTS**

March 6<sup>th</sup> – 7:30 pm. **The Kaleidoscope Quartet**  
April 12<sup>th</sup> – 2 pm. **Sprig of That**  
April 19<sup>th</sup> – 2 pm. **River Valley Community Orchestra Chamber Music Concert**

## Winter Fun Skiing

Being a part of the Mississippi River Valley gives Hastings the opportunity to be close to several premium level ski areas and cross-country & snow shoeing parks right in our backyard.

- **AFTON ALPS.** 6600 Peller Ave. S., Hastings, MN 55033 Nestled on the scenic St. Croix River Valley just outside Minneapolis and St. Paul, this sprawling resort offers 300 skiable acres, 48 trails, 18 lifts and four terrain parks. Located just North of Hastings, this ski resort has something for experts to beginners. Details at [www.aftonalps.com](http://www.aftonalps.com)
- **WELCH VILLAGE SKI & SNOWBOARD AREA.** 26685 County Road 7 Blvd, Welch, MN 55089 Located just 20 minutes South of Hastings, Welch Village offers 140 acres of skiing in addition to a terrain park, food service, rental center, kids club, and Ski Link Learning Center. Details at [www.welchvillage.com](http://www.welchvillage.com)

## Cross Country and Snow Shoeing

- **HASTINGS GOLF CLUB.** 2015 Westview Drive Hastings, MN 55033
- **SPRING LAKE PARK.** 8500 127th St E, Hastings, MN 55033. Spring Lake Park offers cross-country ski trails with spectacular views.
- **AFTON STATE PARK.** 6959 Peller Ave S, Hastings, MN 55033. Afton State Park also offers cross-country ski trails. With 12 miles of cross-country trails, you can choose beginner to advance and intermediate levels.
- **CARPENTER NATURE CENTER.** 12805 St. Croix Trail S., Hastings, MN 55033. Carpenter Nature Center has beautiful snowshoeing trails and hosts a special moonlight snowshoeing event for adults.

## Secretary

Becky Arenivar

AAUW Hastings Branch - General Membership  
Business Meeting Minutes  
January 26, 2026, 7:00 p.m. Location: St. Philip's  
Lutheran Church and Zoom

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by L. Hedin. Meeting was presided over by J. Rudh  
Attendance: 60-65

1. November 24, 2025 Meeting Minutes: L. West moved to approve; R. Allgor seconded; approved unanimously by show of hands.
2. Treasurer's Report: L. Hedin (X. Maceda) In December 2025, our Treasurer, Pam Onnen, resigned. The AAUW Hastings Board offered the position to Xilian Macea for the remainder of the current term and she accepted.  
Current balance is >\$14,000. There are no outstanding checks or bills.  
The financial team needs a second member. Please contact Lisa or Dorothy if you are interested in helping.
3. President's Report: J. Rudh  
Four guests are attending tonight's Chili Supper and meeting.  
The 2026 AAUW Minnesota State Convention will be on April 24-25 in Brainerd. The deadline for submitting resolutions is March 1, 2025.
4. Committee/Activity Reports
  - a) Diversity – J. Husting  
Three STEM nights at elementary schools are scheduled in March. Jodi passed around volunteer sign-up sheets. 10 volunteers are needed for each night. The Works Museum will set up each program. Volunteers will help children and families participate in the activities.
  - b) Communications – M. Tjomsland  
Karin Grossman, a member of AAUW Hastings, has been chosen as the Hastings Chamber of Commerce Volunteer of the Year and will be honored at the Chamber's Awards dinner on Jan. 29. Karin talked about a few of her many volunteer activities.
  - c) Scholarship – M. Tennesen  
Contact Marilyn if you want to help read

and review scholarship applications in February. She needs two groups of volunteers. Time commitment is 2 hours.

- d) Membership – J. Rudh  
The Membership Committee is distributing "Thank You" baskets to schools and clinics/hospitals. Tonight's meeting is a Shape the Future event; any new member joining tonight receives the discounted dues rate of \$68.
- e) Public Policy – P. Powers  
AAUW National has established 3 current funding and action priorities:
  - 1) Threats to student loans – new federal criteria will downgrade some job titles, which will disqualify women from student loan eligibility for advanced degrees; 2) dismantling of the Dept. of Education; and, 3) attacks on civil rights.
- f) Book Club – L. Bindman  
*Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon will be discussed on February 9 at 1:30 p.m. at the Pleasant Hill Library.
- g) NCCWSL – G. Glashan  
The 2026 conference is scheduled for May 27-30 in College Park, Maryland. We are offering one scholarship this year. More information and the application will be posted on our website.  
Gail played a video from our 2025 Scholarship recipient, Emma Hagen, describing her experience at the 2025 conference.
5. Adjournment: G. Schnirring moved to adjourn; B. Hoeschen seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

### AAUW Mission Statement

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

### AAUW Vision Statement

Equity for all.

### **Minnesota State Website**

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

**National Website**

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

## **AAUW Hastings Board**

President -----	Dorothy Sandahl
VPs Membership -----	Linda Ferris
	Jody Rudh
VP Programs -----	Barb Hollenbeck
Secretary -----	Becky Arenivar
Treasurer -----	Xilian Maceda
Book Club -----	Linda Bindman
Community -----	Lesley Lesch
Diversity -----	Jodi Husting
Fundraising -----	Julie Larson
	Ceil Strauss
Funds & HS Scholarships -----	Marilyn Tennessen
Gadabouts -----	Sarah Kiani
Historian/School Liaison -----	Lisa Hedin
Hospitality -----	Nancy Ahn
	Darla Kimmes
	Lois Twedt
NCCWSL -----	Gail Glashan
Public Communication -----	Julie Hicks
Public Policy -----	Pat Powers
Technology -----	Linda Ferris
TWIG -----	Linda Bindman



AAUW Hastings Branch invites college women  
to apply for a scholarship to a leadership conference!  
May 27 - May 30, 2026...College Park, MD

Every year, the National Conference for College Women Scholars (NCCWSL) takes place at the University of Maryland, College Park, near Washington, D.C.

This event brings together hundreds of college women from across the nation for an immersive, multi-day experience of leadership training, inspiration, and networking. Through engaging workshops and hands-on activities, NCCWSL challenges and inspires attendees to make meaningful impacts on their campuses and communities long after the conference ends.

### **Leadership Development**

- Develop a leadership narrative through voice, skills, and mind-set
- Identify and deepen the appreciation of one's own leadership gifts and areas of growth

### **Civic Engagement, Policy, and Advocacy**

- Learn about issues and policies affecting women locally, nationally, and globally
- Develop insight into how, why, and when to take action

### **Awareness of Self and Others**

- Reflect on personal identities and positionality and how they apply personal growth career development
- Develop a mindset that prioritizes listening, adapting, and collaborating across cultural differences

### **Career Engagement**

- Connect with mentors and a network of cohort peers
- Develop a plan for next career steps

**Applications due March 25, 2026!**

**College women, sophomores, juniors and seniors, are encouraged to apply!**  
Information including an application for a NCCWSL 2026 scholarship can be found on the  
AAUW Hastings Branch webpage...

<https://hastings-mn.aauw.net> or email Gail at [aauwhastingsbranch@gmail.com](mailto:aauwhastingsbranch@gmail.com)

The American Association of University Women (AAUW), officially founded in 1881, is a non-profit organization that advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

## National Conference for College Women Student Leaders!



**NCCWSL**

May 27– May 30, 2026

University of Maryland, College Park (DC Metro Area)

Together, we can reach gender equality in education, economic security, and leadership. Learn more about our priority issues and how we work to achieve our mission. Equity for all.

### AAUW Hastings Branch 2026 NCCWSL Scholarship Application

American Association of University Women

<https://hastings-mn.aauw.net>

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

College/University \_\_\_\_\_

What will be your academic status fall 2026?  Sophomore  Junior  Senior

Mailing address: Street Address, City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of high school attended, city, state: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Community Involvement and Leadership Experience...

- Please provide, in 100 words or less, your definition of leadership.
- Please describe in 100 words or less, how your background and interests will contribute to the diversity of the conference and what you personally would like to gain from this experience.
- Please attach a resume or vitae, including any extracurricular activities...  
e.g. clubs, employment, memberships, internships, volunteer activities, along with conferences or training sessions in which you have participated.
- Please send your completed application by **March 25, 2026**, along with the above information to:  
AAUW Hastings Branch NCCWSL Committee, c/o Gail Glashan, 2120 Louis Lane, Hastings, Minnesota 55033  
or email to Gail at: [AAUWHastingsBranch@gmail.com](mailto:AAUWHastingsBranch@gmail.com)

#### Applicant's Certification

I verify that the information provided in this application is correct. I agree to notify the sponsoring AAUW Hastings Branch within three business days the status of my acceptance. I agree that if awarded a scholarship, I am responsible for participating in all conference activities and providing a written report to the sponsoring AAUW branch.

I will provide full reimbursement to AAUW should I fail to participate fully, or if I am unable to attend the conference for any reason.

Applicant's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



**AAUW MINNESOTA STATE MEETING**  
**April 24-25, 2026**  
**Ruttger's Bay Lake Resort, Deerwood, MN**  
**"Growing Together – Rooted in Strength"**



**Registration:**

Name (Please print) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_ Branch: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Information (please check all boxes that apply):

Branch Member <input type="checkbox"/>	State Board Member <input type="checkbox"/>	College/University Student <input type="checkbox"/>	Visitor/Guest <input type="checkbox"/>
Member at Large <input type="checkbox"/>	Past State President <input type="checkbox"/>	College/University Rep <input type="checkbox"/>	Legacy Circle <input type="checkbox"/>

**The AAUW MN State Meeting fee, \$140,** includes Friday banquet, Saturday breakfast & lunch, and featured speakers.

Please note any dietary restriction here: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate the meals you will attend: \_\_\_\_\_ Fri. dinner \_\_\_\_\_ Sat. breakfast \_\_\_\_\_ Sat. lunch

**BOOK YOUR LODGING:**

Ruttger's Bay Lake Resort (double/queen or single/king): \$135 plus \$27 resort fee and 7.385% tax.

Reservation link: <https://www.reseze.net/servlet/SendPage?hotelid=1723&skipfirstpage=true&page=61969>

**Deadline: March 24, 2026, for AAUW discount rate.** Later registrations will cost \$176-196 plus fees.

For questions on lodging (some buildings have stairs with no elevator) call 218-678-2885.

**Other Area Hotels:**

Country Inn, 23884 Front St., Deerwood, 218-676-7317 (5 mi. away)

Forty Club Inn, 960 2<sup>nd</sup> St. NW, Aitkin, MN, 218-927-2903 (14 mi. away)

**OPTIONAL FRIDAY AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES:**

**Ripple River Gallery** (outstanding original artwork from regional artisans, free admission, 3 mi. from Ruttger's)

**Ruttger's Boutique Shops** (clothing, home décor, gift items)

**Ruttger's Salon** (facial/pedicure/manicure/massage), call for appointment at 218-678-4667

**PAYMENT**

Checks required. **Registration deadline: March 31, 2026.**

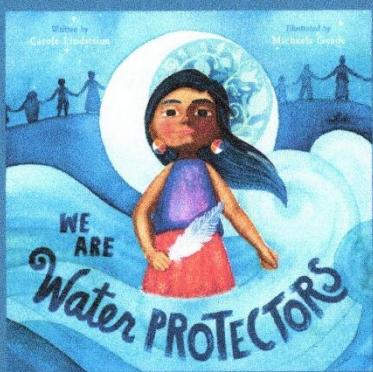
Make checks payable to AAUW Brainerd Lakes. Mail registration form & check to:

**Bev Lundorff, 18117 Riverwood Dr., Little Falls, MN 56435**

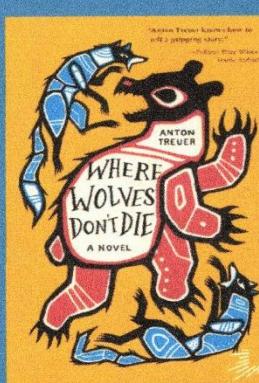
**Total Payment Amount:**  \$140 Registration  Check enclosed

# WATER, WILDERNESS, AND WISDOM:

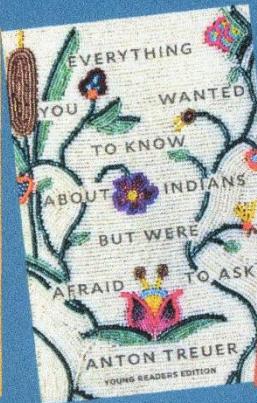
## Coming Together Through Native American Teachings



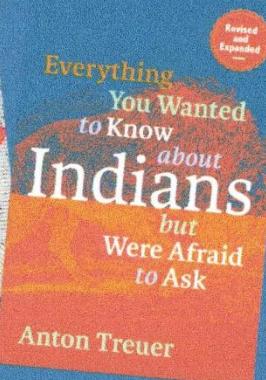
Elementary Book  
by Carole Lindstrom



Middle Grades Book  
by Anton Treuer



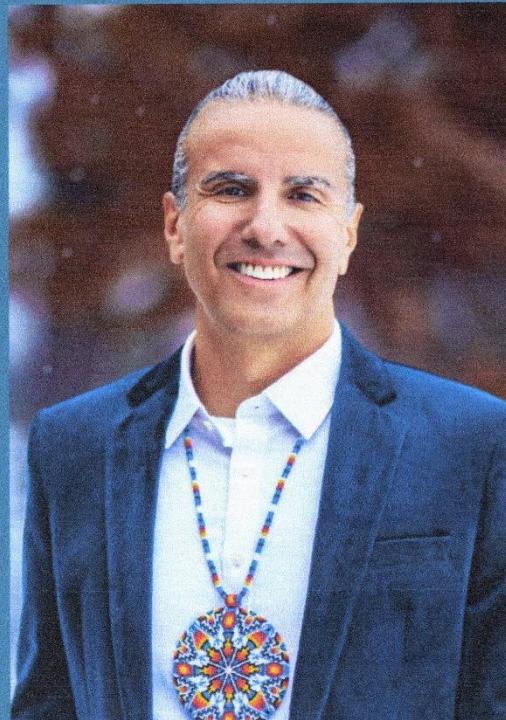
Teen & Adult Books  
by Anton Treuer



Featuring author Anton Treuer

**Hastings**  
**Reads**

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 planned and sponsored by the Hastings Reads Committee, Ruth and George Doffing Charitable Gift Fund, Dakota County Library, Hastings Public Schools, Hastings Community Education, Hastings YMCA, Hastings AAUW, Friends of the Pleasant Hill Library, and KDWA Radio.



Follow Hastings Reads on Facebook for updated event information.

Middle School Book Events TBD Hastings Middle School	Middle school students, listen for updates from your teachers about events at school and in the community related to <i>Where Wolves Don't Die</i> .
LeDuc History Book Club Thursday, February 5, 6:30–7:30 p.m. LeDuc Historic Estate	Join the LeDuc History Book Club for a lively discussion of <i>Everything You Wanted to Know about Indians But Were Afraid to Ask</i> in anticipation of Treuer's visit to Hastings on 2/17.
Bad River Film Screening Saturday, February 7, 9:30 a.m. Hastings High School auditorium	This 90-min documentary chronicles the Wisconsin Bad River Band and its ongoing battle to save Lake Superior, the largest freshwater resource in America. Narrated by Quannah ChasingHorse and Edward Norton; written and directed by award-winning filmmaker, Mary Mazzio; and produced by Grant Hill and Allison Abner (writer for <i>Narcos</i> and <i>West Wing</i> ).
Where Stories Meet Stewardship Monday, February 9, 6–7:30 p.m. Schaar's Bluff Gathering Place	Join us for a night of environmental hope and action, as we learn about the history of the environment in Dakota County and hear about what local organizations are doing to make a difference. From small steps to big impact, discover how you can help.
Pleasant Hill Evening Book Group Wednesday, February 11, 6–7 p.m. Pleasant Hill Library Old Mill Ruins Room	Join the Pleasant Hill Library's Evening Book Group for a discussion of <i>Everything You Wanted to Know about Indians But Were Afraid to Ask</i> . New members are welcome. For adults. This is a great way to prepare for Treuer's visit to Hastings on 2/17.
Nature's Teas Thursday, February 12, 5:30–6:30 p.m. Pleasant Hill Library Large Meeting Room	Learn about and taste a variety of teas you can craft from common native plants. Presented by Dakota County Parks. Registration required. Register via the library website. For adults and teens.
<b>Author Visit: Anton Treuer</b> Tuesday, February 17, 6:30–8 p.m. Hastings Arts Center	Anton Treuer, professor of Ojibwe and award-winning author, is coming to Hastings! After spending the day with middle school and high school students, he will join the community downtown to discuss his work and insights. He will sign books, and copies of his books will be for sale. <i>Paid for by the Ruth and George Doffing Charitable Gift Fund and St Croix Valley Foundation.</i>
Family Event Friday, February 20, 6–7:30 p.m. Hastings YMCA	Families with children in elementary school are invited to bring their young ones to the Y for pizza, books, and fun! Pizza will be served from 6–6:30, and then we'll complete activities related to <i>We are Water Protectors</i> led by Carpenter Nature Center. You do not need to be a member of the Y, and no registration is required.
Intro to Beading Saturday, February 21, 1–3:00 p.m. Pleasant Hill Library Large Meeting Room	Work with Ojibwe artist, Alicia De La Cruz, to make a beginner-friendly beading project from start to finish. Participants can choose to make loop earrings or a loop necklace. Presented by ArtStart. Registration required. Register via the library website. For youth ages 12–18.
High School Book Discussion Tuesday, February 24, 2:45 p.m. HHS Media Center	HHS students are invited to enjoy refreshments while discussing Treuer's book and visit to Hastings.

All events are free!

eBooks and audiobooks are available from the library via the Libby app.

Book Club in a Bag for *Everything You Wanted to Know...* is available at the library.

Books are available for purchase at the YMCA and Tilden Community Center.



Ruth and George  
Doffing  
Charitable  
Gift Fund

