

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

AAUW is open to graduates who hold the associate, baccalaureate, or higher degree from a qualified college or university.

Who we are...

The Saint Louis Branch of AAUW supports the broad goals and actions of AAUW by holding public outreach events, engaging in political action, collaborating with local organizations and educational institutions regarding AAUW topics, and by supporting area young women and girls directly. We promote a "You Can Do It" approach. We are one of five branches in the Saint Louis, MO, area that comprise the AAUW Metro Saint Louis Interbranch Council (IBC).

**Branch Officers, 2022-2023**

**Ellen Irons**, President  
ironnew@msn.com

**Candy Low**, Finance Officer  
candy@dogwoodstudios.org

**Susan Barley**, Director  
barley702@gmail.com

**Vacant** - Director

**Carol Davis McDonald**, Director  
davis-mcdonald@outlook.com

**Carol Davis McDonald**  
Newsletter, Website

**Web Sites:**

**Branch Web Site:**  
<http://stlouis-mo.aauw.net>

**IBC Web Site:**  
<http://stlouis-ibc.aauw.net>

**State Web Site:**  
[www.aauwmo.org](http://www.aauwmo.org)

**National Web Site:**  
[www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

[AAUW St. Louis Branch | Facebook](#)

Please join us for our April 2023 Branch Program:

**Tuesday, April 18, 6:30 pm - 7:45 pm, via Zoom**

**"A Timely Update on Key National Legislation and the Status of Bipartisan Efforts in Congress"**

***Presented by Kathleen Farrell***

The Equal Rights Amendment, Title IX, and the *Pregnant Workers Protection Act*, among many other bills affecting women and girls, are currently hot topics in the news. We care deeply about this legislation, but find it is difficult to keep up with it.

Fortunately, St. Louis Branch Member ***Kathleen Farrell has offered to present us with the most current updates and changes in key national legislation.***

Kathleen will also give us insight into how our legislators are actually operating to move bills forward – is it really as divided as it seems in Washington, DC or is bipartisanship still alive? Join us for this enlightening and energizing session with Kathleen.



Zoom information to follow in email.

**Calendar**

Apr 11 International Relations lecture, 10:45  
Apr 18 StL Branch meeting via Zoom  
Apr 27 Adelante book group, 1:30 pm, Zoom  
May 5 NCCWSL registration closes

May 6 AAUW MO conference via Zoom  
May 21 Branch meeting at Linda Lindsey's, 12:00 N  
May 31-Jun 3 NCCWSL, U of Maryland  
Oct 19-21 Regional Conference, Drury Plaza Hotel, St. Louis

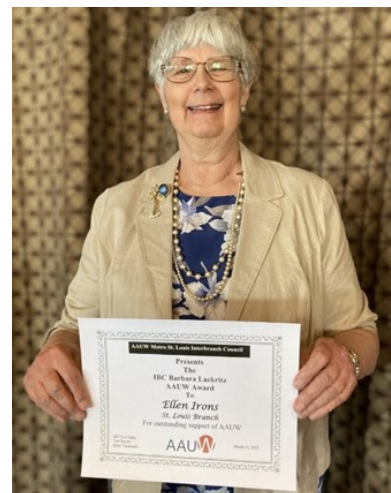
## A Word From President Ellen Irons:

*The theme for this message is: "It's amazing!"*

As we emerge from winter into a full spring, our branch has not only been active, but has accomplished an amazing number of things.

- **January 18** was a virtual program on: **"Unconscious Bias and Microaggressions: How to Handle in Real Time."** I feel honored to have delivered that program to both branch members and leaders from our AAUW MO state organization. I have made the materials available to other branches and have been asked by AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield to present the program to their members in February 2024. Truly a powerful program, and it's amazing (and a privilege) for us to be in alignment with AAUW and other organizations in exploring this important topic.
- On **March 10** Sally McGowan and I were invited to participate in St. Louis University's Women in Leadership conference – "Be Heard." We were given a full pass to attend the entire conference, and simultaneously we held a tabling event for AAUW (see separate article).
- On **March 22** we had a virtual program on: **"Celebrate Women's History Month through the Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri (GSEM) Patch program."** This branch program described what the GSEM 2023 Women's History Month patch program entailed (see separate article). We went over what the actual patch activities are and the resources that were developed to support them. Then we looked at videos and discussed cool facts about seven women for our own inspiration. The women included: \* Frankie Muse Freeman \* Katherine Dunham \* Jackie Joyner-Kersey \* Annie Malone \* Maj. Gen. Jeannie Leavitt and \* Edna Gellhorn.
- The **IBC 2023 Spring Luncheon was on March 18**, and St. Louis Branch showed up in spades. Nine members and two guests attended the event and had an amazing time (see separate article).
- Our monthly **Movie Club on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday** of each month continued with three amazing movies and discussions. In January we discussed *Becoming*, Michelle Obama's post-White House documentary. For February, we viewed *Women Talking* in the theaters separately and explored the very tough issues the movie raised in our Zoom meeting. Finally, our March selection was *Molly's Game*, a look at Molly Bloom's life running a high-stakes poker game and the fallout from that. We have three amazing titles for the next three months, too (see separate box).

I hope everyone is well, and I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming April program on national legislative updates, at our Movie Club chats, and at our annual meeting in May. We are an amazing group of women.



Ellen, receiving her Barbara Lackritz Award certificate at the IBC luncheon on March 18 (see article, next page).

### **Make plans to come to our St. Louis Branch Annual Meeting...**

**When:** Sunday, May 21, noon - 2pm. In person!

**Where:** At Linda Lindsey's home in Glendale. We will have beautiful and comfortable indoor and outside spaces to enjoy for our socializing, program, and business.

**What:**

- ◆ A potluck luncheon & games
- ◆ Honoring of Carol Davis McDonald for her 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of AAUW membership!
- ◆ Conduct our annual elections: \*President position is up for election. \*There are some open slots on the Board (nominees to be sent out soon – let us know if you are interested in being on the board!)
- ◆ Brief program (to be announced)



This is a wonderful opportunity for newer members to get to know our branch members better and for all of us to enjoy AAUW fellowship in a relaxed setting. Please plan to come!

## Sorry if you were unable to attend

On February 14, 2023, our own **Dr. Linda Lindsey** presented a talk on “Afghan Refugees and their Resettlement in St. Louis: Focus on Education of Women.” Her presentation spotlighted the issues, challenges, and resilience of Afghans as they resettled in St. Louis, and the specific issues faced by Muslim women caring for their families under the Russians, the Taliban, the Americans in Afghanistan, and now in the United States. It was one of the best presentations sponsored by the Tuesday Women’s Association of the Ethical Society and AAUW.

## Celebrating Strong Women: A Successful IBC Event

On March 18 the AAUW Metro St. Louis IBC Luncheon was held, and sixty-six members and guests enjoyed sharing friendship, good food, and fundraising for worthy causes. Kudos especially to Jan Horner (Ballwin-Chesterfield) for her great work in finding and working with EdgeWild Winery and Restaurant for this event. Our program honored five members with the Barbara Lackritz Award, and the day was completed with an excellent presentation by **Nicole Evelina**, who, sadly for us, will be moving to Indiana next month; but you can keep up with her at: <https://nicoleevelina.com/>.

For our Barbara Lackritz Program, **Pat Shores** (left) once again gave a heartwarming and enthusiastic presentation



of each of our Honorees. The knowledge and information she shared allowed us to further recognize the accomplishments of these five amazing women.

Our speaker, Nicole Evelina, shared her



Lackritz honorees: Marcia Block (B-C), Barb Johnson (K-WG), Pat Kelemen (F-F), Barb Olive (StC), and Ellen Irons (StL)

love of history and reminded us all why it is important to keep re-telling strong women’s stories. She gave highlights of St. Louis suffragists Virginia and Francis Minor, who are featured in her latest book. Nicole offered a much-appreciated Q&A session, and guests enjoyed a book signing at the end of the program. Thank you, Nicole!



Nicole Evelina talks with Diane Sher (St Louis) at the book signing.

The fund-raising committee, presented us with three raffles: a scratch-off lottery ticket bouquet, a 50-50 raffle, and St. Louis attractions gift cards. Raffle purchases and donations raised \$1,065. Thank you for your creativity and hard work!

Evaluations: A total of 51 evaluations were received, filled with positive comments and wonderful suggestions. These comments and suggestions will help with next year’s planning. Thank you to all who attended to make this a wonder-

ful and special event. We also want to thank the planning committee and their branches for their hard work and months of planning:

**Ellen Irons** - Chairperson (StL)  
**Jan Horner** - Arrangements (B-C)  
**Pam Meyer** - Registration & Evals (F-F)  
**Pat Shores** - Barbara Lackritz Chair (B-C)  
**Joyce Katz** – IBC Website, other (B-C)

**Kay Meyer, Deb McWard, Jeanne Webdell** - Fundraising (K-WG)  
**Rose Ann Weeks** - Publicity (StC)  
**Ellen Irons** - Program (StL)  
**Teri Brecht & Pam Kulp** - Photographers (StC)  
**Carol Davis McDonald** – IBC Finance Officer (Registration)

## Report on Tabling Event at St Louis University on March 10, 2023

The St. Louis Branch was invited to have a vendor table at St. Louis University's conference, Be Heard: Women Leadership. Sally McGowan and Ellen Irons participated and had a table in a prominent location. The conference was sold out with over 200 participants. About 25% of them were students.

Sally created a PowerPoint show that played on her laptop continually with about eight different photos and informational slides. They used various AAUW pamphlets and materials to create their display. About six student members signed up, and a handful of others signed up for more information. Many women stopped by for conversation. They collected leads from Maryville, Washington University, and other organizations. Announcements were made from the main podium to make sure to visit AAUW's table. This promoted visiting the table, as well as general awareness of AAUW, too. A great event.



## The Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri 2023 March Women's History Fun Patch Program was a Huge Success!

The AAUW St. Louis Branch collaborated with GSEM to create this Fun Patch program, which was launched on March 1. Almost 200 girls participated! The girls worked on their own to complete activities from a checklist or could earn points by attending four virtual programs on significant women in four categories - **Women Entrepreneurs: Then and Now; Health, Wellness, & Women's History; The Art of Women's History; and Invent the Change: Women in STEM.** Dual Member Christine Nobbe was a guest panelist at the program on STEM.

AAUW St. Louis was given thanks at the bottom of the checklist: *"Many thanks to the American Association of*

*University Women (AAUW) St. Louis Branch for its help with designing this program and to both national and regional AAUW for their many resources provided."*

What a great project!



### Women's History Month

Patch Program Activity List

March is Women's History Month, which is devoted to celebrating women's often-overlooked contributions to United States' history, society, and culture. In this month, we are encouraged to study, commemorate, observe, and pay tribute to women—while recognizing their vital role in US history.

There are eight themes and 24 total activities to choose from on this list. Some activities you can do completely independently by using the internet or going to the library to research and study. Other activities are designed to get you out in the community to visit a museum or meet with women in the fields you are studying. Throughout the list, you will see four themes with virtual programs. Each program will start at 6:00 PM and will help you accomplish at least one activity item. All programs will be recorded if you are unable to join us live.

**Number of activities required to earn the patch:**

Daisy (3) - Brownie (4) - Junior (6) - Cadette (8) - Senior (10) - Ambassador (12)

*Patch will be mailed at end of program.*

**Artists**

- Visit the Missouri History Museum or St. Louis Art Museum in person and go through the collections to find pieces made by women. Take pictures of 5 of them you like.
- Draw a picture or write a poem in the style of a famous woman artist. Try to capture the style of their work while using your own experiences of a person, place, or object
- Research local historical women artists of note, pick one, and write a paragraph. We recommend Anne Bauchens and Katherine Dunham.

📅 **Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> - The Art of Women's History**

**Athletes**

- 11 Top Female Athletes Share their Secrets to Success.** Review the athletes and their words of wisdom. Pick one quote that speaks to you and create an inspirational poster.
- Find a historical sport or game that was created by women. Learn the rules and try it out!
- Research Jackie Joyner-Kersey. Write a paragraph about what her story means to you and how it can inspire you.

**Business & Entrepreneurs**

- Arrange to go to a local woman owned business in person and talk to the owner. What are three new things you learned?
- Come up with a business idea that could help your community. Draw a picture of your business.
- Research local entrepreneur Annie Malone. Share her story with a friend or family member.

📅 **Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup> - Women Entrepreneurs: Then and Now**

**STEM**

- Interview a woman in the STEM field. Ask her why she chose this career and who inspired her.
- Explore inventions created by women in history. Design a prototype or product that could help solve a problem facing women today.
- Study the life of Barbara Anna Schaal, a local woman with many impacts in STEM, or Major General Jeannie Leavitt, an engineer. Draw or write about what you learned.

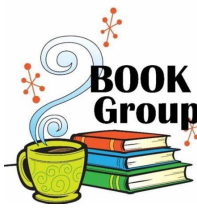
📅 **Wednesday, March 29<sup>th</sup> - Invent the Change: Women in STEM**

## AAUW METRO ST LOUIS

St. Louis is **one of the five branches** that form the AAUW Metro St. Louis Interbranch Council, more commonly known as IBC. They meet 4 times a year, some virtually and some in person. Each branch is allowed 3 voting delegates, and historically the officers of each branch have served as those delegates.

The purpose of IBC is to foster cooperation among member branches and to financially support programs and projects and to open channels of communication among branches for the sharing of ideas and interests.

**The next IBC meeting is at 7 p.m. on February 21, 2023, via ZOOM.** The website is <https://stlouis-ibc.aauw.net/>.



### IBC ¡ADELANTE! BOOK GROUP

This group meets in September, October, and January through May to discuss books written from diverse perspectives.

**Where:** Currently via Zoom

**When:** 1:30 pm the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month in September, October, January, February, March, April, May

**Contact:** Deb McWard (314-607-2908).  
Send suggestions for book selection titles/authors to Teri Brecht [tebrecht@yahoo.com](mailto:tebrecht@yahoo.com).

**Apr 27** *The Bookshop of the Broken Hearted*, by Robert Hillman; sexual assault awareness (304 p); Teri Brecht or Karen Francis, facilitator

**Sep 28** *This Tender Land: A Novel*, by William Kent Krueger; Asian-Pacific American heritage; Lynne Roney, facilitator

## St. Louis Branch Movie Club Upcoming Movies

*(4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of the month; all on Netflix)*

**April 24** – The Swimmers (Ellen leads)

**May 22** – Summerland (need lead)

**June 26** – Descendant (Diane leads)

## Metro St. Louis Branch Programs

**Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch**—April 13—Branch meeting at 9:30 at Ballwin Golf Course Events Center. Speaker: Joell Aguirre, manager of Municipal Services at Republic Services, who will give an overview of accepted recycling practices.

**Ferguson-Florissant Branch**—DEI/PP Branch Zoom Meeting, all Invited, 6 pm, Zoom Meeting ID 886 9724 8133

**Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch**—Thursday, April 20—Branch meeting at Grant's View Public Library, Room 1, 9700 Musick Rd at Gravois, 63123. STEM presenter Erin Patton, sales director, Biomonitoring Division of MilliporeSigma.

**Saint Charles Branch**—Their April 6th meeting featured Speaker Ted House, who recently helped St. Charles County Families for Public Schools “to provide an avenue for those who love our schools to get involved and to make a positive difference.”

## 2023 International Relations Lecture Series

**Ethical Society of St. Louis**  
9001 Clayton Road  
St. Louis, MO 63117

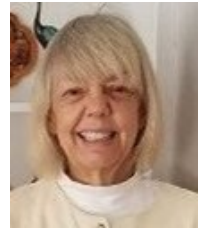


AAUW is a sponsor of the lecture series, which has been a joint venture with the Tuesday Women's Group (TWA) of the Ethical Society for over 95 years. Each meeting will begin promptly at 10:45 am on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, January through April, in the upper auditorium. The public is cordially invited. There is no fee, but all contributions are greatly appreciated. Free parking is available in the rear of the building. The 45-50 minute lecture will be followed by a question and answer period. Attendees are invited to bring lunch and to stay and discuss the day's topic. In case of inclement weather, you may call 314-991-0955, ext. 224.

**April 11 Truly Global Problem: Coping with Climate Change—Speaker Dr. Marlene Katz**

As a result of the warming atmosphere changes are occurring that are environmental, economic, and societal. On our planet everything is connected to everything else. This makes dealing with climate change more difficult while it also makes the impact of corrective changes more dramatic. This presentation will illustrate how human ingenuity is developing solutions to the problems that climate change brings and will emphasize the importance of recognizing both the difficulties of learning to cooperate on a global scale and the necessity for this kind of action.

## Additional Spring Luncheon Photo



**St. Louis Branch Photo** – left to right

**Back row:** Sue Rice, Janet Banks (guests), Christine Nobbe, Kathleen Farrell, Ellen Irons, Barbara Johnson, Sally McGowan

**Seated:** Jan Scott, Carol Davis McDonald

**Picture inserted top,** Diane Sher, and bottom, Linda Lindsey (attended event, but missed the picture)

### AAUW of MISSOURI

*October 19-21  
AAUW Regional  
Conference at  
the Drury Plaza*



Planning is under way for the 14-state AAUW Regional Conference. Plan now to attend and meet members from states in the Midwest, share program and fundraising ideas, and learn more about AAUW. There will be plenary speakers, large-group sessions, and smaller breakout sessions.

Discussions have begun on how best to carpool for driving and parking so that no one has to travel alone. Look for details in the next editions of *Missouri in Motion*. Let's make it a FUN weekend!

#### MO State Conference

**Saturday, May 6, via Zoom 9:00 am**

**Speakers:** Malinda Gaul, AAUW National Board; and Jenny Garmon, KC Library, Civic Engagement Specialist

**Topic:** Intellectual Security/Protections

**Awards and Installation of Officers**

Watch for details and the Zoom link.

### AAUW NATIONAL

**AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) will be in person this year.**



May 31—June 3, 2023

University of Maryland, College Park

Each year we bring together hundreds of college women from around the country for three days of leadership training, inspiration, and networking. NCCWSL has grown

rapidly since its founding more than three decades ago, attracting over 10,000 student leaders. At our last in-person conference in 2019, the conference brought together 800 attendees representing 48 states and over 300 colleges and universities. The diversity of backgrounds and ideas at NCCWSL is part of what makes it such a transformative experience. The workshops, panels, speakers, and activities provide endless opportunities to learn from experts, while peer networking allows learning and lifelong connections.

## It's Time to Renew Memberships!

AAUW opened its online membership renewal form April 1. Here's how to renew your membership:

1. Go to [aauw.org](http://aauw.org) and click on the menu item **Log In** (to the Community Hub); enter your name and AAUW ID# and click on **LOG IN**
2. Scroll down and click on **RENEW**
3. Select our branch #MO7070; scroll to the very bottom and click on the Next button
4. If you belong to more than one branch, choose your primary branch using the drop down arrows; click on the Next button
5. Ensure that the "MO-Missouri State Dues" box is checked; scroll to the very bottom and click on the Next button
6. Choose to make a donation to the Greatest Need Fund; click on the Next button
7. Scroll down to the "Payment Type" and select "Pay Now—New credit card"
8. Enter your card information; click on **SUBMIT**

Allow time for the system to process your information. When completed, you will have the option to print a receipt.

Moving forward —>

Existing memberships expire on June 30 each year and have a three-month grace period (until September 30) to renew and keep the same expiration month (June 30). Renewing after the grace period changes the expiration month.

NEW memberships will expire 12 months from the date of joining with a three-month grace period to renew and keep the same expiration month IF they renew before the 16<sup>th</sup> of the third month. Renewing after the 16<sup>th</sup> changes the expiration month.

### Diversity Equity Inclusion / Public Policy by

Lisa Taylor, MEd, Ferguson-Florissant Branch

I hope all of you had a chance to participate and enjoy some of the celebrations for Black History Month. I had the opportunity to participate, and I learn more about Black history each year and every day.

Some of you may have heard of the National Women's Law Center. I receive their newsletter and thought I would share some information with you from their most recent edition. The Florida High School Athletics Association wants to force student athletes to provide their menstrual history to participate in school sports. This proposal would violate students' privacy and bodily autonomy and could put them at risk for discrimination.

To stop this action from taking place, we were asked to send an electronic letter to the Board of Directors. There was a huge response, and the request was squashed! To be exact, 5,000 messages were received in 48 hours, and the Board held an emergency vote. Not only did the Board of Directors quietly decide against requiring students to submit their menstrual cycle history, they quietly moved from asking a student's "sex assigned at birth." All of this activity was an attempt to monitor trans students and violate their bodily autonomy.

There is still work to be done in this area. We need to protect

trans, nonbinary and intersex students who just want to play sports alongside their peers without bullying and exclusion.

Think about this information, not only as we finish celebrating Women's History month in March but also throughout the year.

I will close my article with a quote that was shared at a Black History event. This quote came from Shirley Chisholm: "If they won't give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair."

#### ***From AAUW MO STEM Chair Sandra Murdock***

A STEM tab has been added to the home page of the state website. Its purpose is to encourage sharing of STEM programs, events, and other relevant information among branches. It is not difficult to contribute materials to be posted. Just submit write-ups, photos, or forms to the state web manager. Links to STEM-related materials already present on the internet also can be posted.

<https://aauw-mo.aauw.net/>

An inspiring documentary titled "Not the Science Type" addresses negative stereotypes and the need for greater diversity, equity, and inclusion in science, technology, engineering, and math.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AgHloyZiMCI>

# The National Votes for Women's Trail

Pat Shores, Votes for Women, Missouri Trail Coordinator

## Alma Nash Historical Roadside Marker Installation

Alma Nash was honored at the installation of the final Pomeroy Roadside Historical Marker in Missouri on Friday, March 24, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. The marker was installed at a small pocket park on the corner of Main Street and Third Street in Maryville, Missouri. Alma was the lead Maryville woman in the Missouri Ladies Military Band in the National Women's Suffrage Parade in D.C. and the Suffrage Tour of Central Missouri in 1913.

The National Votes for Women's Trail, a project of the National Collaborative for Women's History Sites, has collaborated with the William G. Pomeroy Foundation to install historical roadside markers in every state to commemorate events and leaders of the women's suffrage movement. Altogether, Missouri received four roadside markers. The three previous installations that AAUW and the League supported were arranged by the National Votes for Women Missouri Representative, Cynthia Holmes.

This installation has been arranged by Dr. Elyssa Ford, associate professor of History and Honors Program director, and coordinator of Public History & Museum Studies Program at Northwest Missouri State University. You can contact her at [www.elyssaford.com](http://www.elyssaford.com).

About Alma Nash's band leading the Washington, DC, parade, in her own words:

*"We did not have time to stop and think about the really important thing we did when our band led the parade down Pennsylvania Avenue. We were not right in the lead*



Alma Nash and her band pose for a photo preserved at the Nodaway County Historical Society Museum. The band was made up of Nash's music students. [Maryville] Forum File Photo

*when the parade started: a number of women escorts, a number of walking officers of the National Equal Suffrage Association, with our band following, was the order when we first started. We had gone but a short distance when the crowd started closing up toward the line of the parade, and men blockaded a place in the street a short distance ahead. One of the suffrage officers*

*came rushing back to us and told us to march on ahead and lead; that it would be necessary for the band to open the way proved true. We were not molested in the least and although the march was slow on account of the crowds, no one offered to stand in our way down the avenue."*

— Alma Nash, leader of the Maryville Ladies Marching Band, who led the 1913 Women's Suffrage parade in Washington D.C. <https://missouriwomen.org/2021/03/21/missouri-women-talk-suffrage/>

MARYVILLE, Mo. — Alma Nash was one of those people who never stopped working, and she didn't let the fact that she was born a woman in 1883 limit what she could do. Nash is most well-known in the state of Missouri for her direction of the Missouri Ladies Military Band, which participated in the women's suffrage parade

Alma Nash, pictured later in life in a display at the Nodaway County Historical Society Museum. As a music teacher for nearly 50 years, she taught thousands of students. [Maryville] Forum File Photo



in Washington, D.C., in 1913, but her involvement in music went much further than that.

After leaving school, she traveled the country as a performer and returned to Maryville in her twenties to open her own music school where she taught lessons in instruments like the banjo, mandolin and guitar. She also performed several different string orchestras and concert bands — some with male and female musicians, and some, like the Missouri Ladies Military Band, with just women.

Nash's groups performed regularly in Maryville and the surrounding communities, and after their success in the national suffrage parade, the Missouri Ladies Military Band performed across the state of Missouri to continue to push for women's right to vote.

Following her father's death, Nash and her mother moved to Kansas City in 1918. There, she continued to give private lessons and taught thousands of students over the next 47 years. She also worked with several Kansas City orchestras, played the piano for silent films, and performed on the radio. Nash worked up until the day she died in 1965.

More information about her extraordinary life by visiting the Nodaway County Historical Society in Maryville.

Elyssa Ford is an associate professor of history at Northwest Missouri State University and president of the Nodaway County Historical Society.

[http://www.maryvilleforum.com/features/alma-nash-on-the-march/article\\_beffad7c-9b01-11ec-a9c4-c7cd7b293a56.html](http://www.maryvilleforum.com/features/alma-nash-on-the-march/article_beffad7c-9b01-11ec-a9c4-c7cd7b293a56.html)



## Programs of Interest



### Women Mayors Talking: How Gender, Race, and Politics Intersect In Our Communities

**Thursday, April 13, 7 p.m.**

In-person program at The Center of Clayton  
50 Gay Ave., St. Louis, MO 63105  
Doors open at 6:30 p.m., program begins 7 p.m.  
Program will also be available on Zoom.

[Registration is required; please register here!](#)

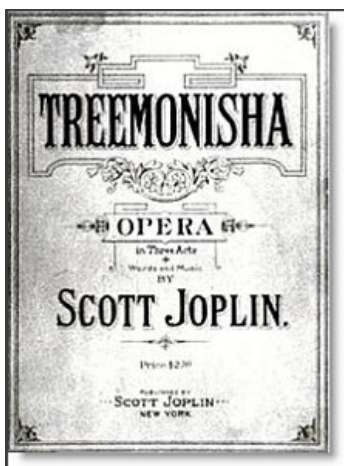
Recent St. Louis elections have resulted in the election of numerous women to local public offices, including many in the top political positions of their jurisdictions. Three area mayors will join us in an exploration of whether and how the race and gender of our elected officials affects the successful and equitable administration of our municipal governments, as well as challenges women mayors may experience along the way.

### Scott Joplin's Opera

Thursday, April 13  
2-3 pm (in person)



He made ragtime a national craze, but did you know St. Louis' own Scott Joplin also created an opera inspired by Freddie, his new bride, and muse? Attend this special Mirowitz Center program narrated by **Ingrid Neufeind**, an Opera Theatre of St. Louis docent, to learn more about how the reimagined *Treemonisha* opera not only celebrates the strength, beauty, and wisdom of



Black women but also brings back to light a forgotten figure of history: Freddie Alexander Joplin.

To register, [click here](#), call (314) 733-9813, or email [skemppainen@mirowitzcenter.org](mailto:skemppainen@mirowitzcenter.org).

### April Lunch & Learn:

#### Criminal Justice with Lindsay Runnels

**When:** Thursday, April 20 | 12:00 N - 1:00 PM

**Where:** Zoom - [Register Here](#)

Lamar Johnson was convicted in 2004 of shooting a man several times in broad daylight. No physical evidence connected him to the incident. After spending 13 years in prison, the state's attorney's office concluded that eyewitness testimony during the trial was flawed and that the two witnesses who identified Johnson as the gunman had said that he merely "looked similar" to the shooter.

One of the attorneys instrumental in securing his freedom is **Lindsay Runnels**, whom we are thrilled to welcome as our April Lunch and Learn speaker. Runnels is an attorney at Morgan Pilate, LLC in Kansas City, Missouri. She specializes in trial and post-conviction criminal defense, innocence, and civil rights litigation. She is a former clinical professor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law and University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law where she was the director of the Wrongful Convictions Clinic in partnership with the Midwest Innocence Project.

Please join us to hear about this incredible effort to free an innocent man and what we can do to advocate for others who are wrongly convicted. Questions? E-mail Jen Bernstein at [jbernstein@ncjwstl.org](mailto:jbernstein@ncjwstl.org) or call (314) 993.5181.

### "Tony Messenger: The Journalist Advocate"

Thursday, April 27, at 2 pm  
(free & in person)

Co-sponsored by the **St. Louis Press Club**  
and **Mirowitz Center**



Tony Messenger, longtime *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* reporter, editor, and columnist, always has his finger on the pulse of our community. In 2019, he won the Pulitzer Prize for commentary for his series of columns on debtors' prisons in Missouri. In 2015 he was a Pulitzer finalist for his series of editorials on Ferguson. Tony also is the author of *Profit and Punishment: How America Criminalizes the Poor in the Name of Justice*. Come hear Tony's perspective on current headlines and public policy issues first hand! RSVP is required by emailing [skemppainen@mirowitzcenter.org](mailto:skemppainen@mirowitzcenter.org) or call 314-733-9813.