



# Clearinghouse on Women's Issues

April 2018 Newsletter

[www.womensclearinghouse.org](http://www.womensclearinghouse.org)

**Invitation to the April 24, 2018 Meeting of the Clearinghouse on Women's Issues (CWI) Noon-1:30 PM at the Alliance for Justice, 11 Dupont Circle, 5th Floor; entrance on New Hampshire Ave., NW. (Nearest Metro Stop: Dupont Circle, south exit)**

## **Working Women, Pay Equity and Union Bargaining- Where the Rubber hits the Road**

In this CWI meeting the distinguished presenters will discuss the complex problem of pay equity, segregation of women in the service sector and lower paying jobs, the importance of unions in raising women's equity and the looming Janus case. In doing so they will highlight key questions that we need to ask of candidates about work, pay equity, and leadership. **Presenters:**

**Carolyn York** is the recently retired Director of Collective Bargaining and Member Advocacy at the National Education Association and NEA's current representative on the board of the National Committee on Pay Equity. She spent her decades long union career fighting for the issues that impact women, particularly that of equal pay while working for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Workers, the Service Employees International Union, the United Autoworkers and the state of Wisconsin Comparable worth Task Force.

**Elise Bryant**, Executive Director of the Labor Heritage Foundation and the recently elected President of the Coalition of Labor Union Women, has spent her life as an organizer, a leader and a mentor of women workers, whether in the arts or on the shop floor. A gifted labor educator, lately of the National Labor College, Elise merges the art of spoken and sung word with the workers' issues and actions.

**Elyse Shaw**, Senior Research Associate, Institute for Women's Policy Research manages projects on women's political participation with special attention to the intersectional nature of race and gender on women's lives. She also works on workforce development and job training initiatives, IWPR's Status of Women in the States project, and contributes to IWPR's research on global women's issues. She will address the "union difference" in women's pay and the slowdown in achieving equity.

**Connie Cordovilla** of the American Federation of Teachers and the National Committee on Pay Equity, and recently elected President of Virginia NOW will talk about the impending Janus Decision of the SCOTUS and its impact on women workers. Connie has worked for thirty years as a trade unionist and avowed feminist, is on CWI's Board and organized this meeting.

CWI meetings are free and open to the public. Bring your lunch. Next CWI meeting Tue. May **22, 2018**

Dear CWI Members,

Persist! That is the word that will move us forward. And indeed we do persist, and as individuals, and as an organization we will continue to persist to accomplish our mission. We do so through education and action. CWI, for over 40 years, has been at the forefront of getting contemporary issues that need addressing into the public square for action. During the recent marches our members were there. We have been active in uniting with other organizations who have the capacity to provide the needed services that we have addressed.

During the first week in April we had religious celebrations, both Easter and Passover, which celebrated activities of seeking better lives and freedom. Those long past “freedom fighters” included women who persisted, women who showed courage and persistence in pursuing their causes. At Temple Micah’s Women’s Seder, notable contemporary women, **Gloria Allred and Renee Brant** were acknowledged. Indeed they showed persistence, which was also the theme for the honorees by the National Women’s History Project this year.

**Gloria Rachel Allred** has devoted her legal career to fighting for women’s equality, handling high-profile cases of sexual harassment, work place discrimination, and hate crimes. Over the course of her career, she has sued the all-male Friar’s Club for discrimination against women, and won; sued and won a case against producer Aaron Spelling establishing the legal principle that actresses cannot be terminated because of pregnancy; and has represented women who have accused Bill Cosby and Donald Trump of sexual assault and harassment.

**Renee Brant** was a founding member of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children. She became a voice for those who could not speak for themselves. While training as a doctor, Brant realized how few services there were for women and children survivors of sexual abuse. Using her training in adolescent psychiatry and women’s health, she developed her hospital’s Sexual Abuse Training Team, as well as protocols and educational programs for doctors. Through her work, she helped create a framework for dealing with a problem that few had even been willing to speak of before. Source: Jewish Women’s Archive, <https://jwa.org>.

At our 3/27/18 meeting we also thanked our CWI Board Member, Secretary and Vice President, Legislation, **Roberta E. Stanley**, who will persist in continuing the fight for women’s rights as she returns to her home state of Michigan. We also invite CWI members to let us know if they would like to join our board as we continue to provide speakers to address local, national, and international issues and then seek to provide informed action by petitioning, marching, and other means.



We will persist! **Harriett Stonehill, CWI Co-President** And **Sue Klein CWI Co-President** in photo with **Roberta “Bert” Stanley**, center, with her Best Wishes cake which we all enjoyed.

## Meeting Summary, March 27, 2018: “Networking Women’s History Organizations and Sites”. View the recorded meeting here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZSQIMKxLufk>

**Molly Murphy MacGregor**, Co-Founder and Executive Director of the National Women’s History Project (NWHP) described the origins of NWHP in 1980. She told the story of being a second year teacher in CA when one of her students asked about the Women’s Movement and her subsequent research to provide substantial answers. She was struck with her own lack of familiarity about the topic that now allowed her the simple luxury of wearing pants as a teacher, and became more and more involved exploring the history while noticing the very limited resources available. MacGregor and the NWHP proposed women’s history week to local schools to celebrate and include women who work in and out of the home, and offered to provide curriculum. President Carter issued a resolution establishing women’s history week during March 8 (International Women’s Day) and in 1987 NWHP led the successful campaign to establish March as Women’s History Month.



*Press Democrat, Feb 27, 2015"*

NWHP used to be the “Google” and “Facebook” of the women’s history movement – and now women’s history resources are more available, so NWHP is changing its name next year to National Women’s History Alliance with a major web and social media presence. It is transitioning away from being a provider of resource materials (except for particular themes) into becoming a major networking clearinghouse. For example, you can find women performers who bring history alive on the website. As a clearinghouse they plan to answer questions like what individual or organization might have done something in the past or who is currently working on a particular issue, or what listserv you might join, (in addition to resources and curriculum available). To sign up to be a free part of the Alliance, on <http://www.nwhp.org/> under “Keep in Touch”, enter your email address and you will be redirected to a secured site to submit your contact information. This year NWHP’s theme is “Nevertheless she persisted”. The theme for 2019 will be on “Peace and Nonviolence”. Do nominate honorees who exemplify this. A major goal of the NWHP and National Women’s History Alliance is to generate a national holiday in the Centennial year of 2020 commemorating women’s right to vote from the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment. View NWHP’s Gazette here to learn more about this history: [http://www.nwhp.org/wp-content/uploads/gazette\\_How-Women-Won-Vote-.pdf](http://www.nwhp.org/wp-content/uploads/gazette_How-Women-Won-Vote-.pdf). NWHP will continue to connect people and resources. MacGregor (and our other presenters) emphasized the power of people knowing their own history to increase their own empowerment.

NWHP is funded through donations, partners, and sales of women’s history materials. They are open to ideas for what gaps they can fill as they transition into becoming the National Women’s History Alliance.

One meeting attendee asked about the term “herstory” and MacGregor explained that NWHP uses the term “history”, because it’s not really “his story”, but rather the word comes from the Greek word meaning “inquiry”. NWHP does not use the term “herstory” anymore as its nuance marginalizes women’s history and almost has a connotation of applying to suffragettes only.

**Becky Schergens**, long-time National Advisor to the [National Women’s History Museum](#) (NWHM) described and quoted their new report “Where are the Women? A Report on the Status of Women in the United States Social Studies Curriculum.”



Her presentation begins at the 17<sup>th</sup> minute of the video. Download this report <https://www.womenshistory.org/social-studies-standards> to learn how your state’s K-12 curriculum standards compare to other states. Sadly, women’s history is rarely well represented in the classroom unless a teacher makes a special effort to identify and use the many existing resources.

Schergens discussed the study results and provided handouts of highlights. State standards underemphasize women in general, but overemphasize women in domestic roles. The takeaway is that state standards should be increased and improved so that they are more comprehensive in requiring coverage of key aspects of women’s history.

Schergens briefly updated the 2017 Women’s Museum Acts (HR 19 and S. 1498) to establish two possible sites on the National Mall and require private funds for the Museum construction while allowing federal funds for planning, design and operation of the museum.

While these Acts have numerous co-sponsors, the Women’s History Museum’s physical status in Washington, DC has received recent set-backs due to the administration change and statements of the Smithsonian Director. An April 1, 2018 Washington Post [article](#) by Peggy McGlone titled “A Smithsonian initiative to celebrate women --- Programs will highlight historic achievements, but the institution’s chief says it’s not in a position to open a dedicated museum” explains some of the current obstacles and their new women’s history initiative to highlight women’s achievements. This initiative will use \$2 million from Congress to hire “curators and create programs to elevate the profile of women and their contributions”. Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney chief sponsor of the bill to establish the NWHM said Smithsonian officials also “should put in writing their support for a women’s museum so that we can proceed.” In the meantime the NWHM is plowing ahead with research to be ready with facts and data to back up the position that such a stand-alone museum is needed with or without major federal funding.

**Melani N. Douglass**, Director of Public Programs, National Museum of Women in the Arts shared (starting at about the 32<sup>nd</sup> minute of the video recording) that there are five programs per season at National Museum of Women in the Arts, including an Art and Social Change program which has five programs with a diverse audience age-wise (18-80): two family style dinners with a speaker, and Q&A during dinner, as well as a catalyst cocktail hour. The dinners have become a forum where the audi-

ence is solicited for answers at the end. The goal for programs is to increase the circular network of women interested in the Arts. The programs are live streamed.



Douglass began her career as an educator and has a Master’s degree in Fine Art in Curatorial Practice from the Maryland Institute College of Art. She founded a nomadic Family Arts Museum that celebrates family as fine art. In her CWI presentation she emphasized the importance of knowing and sharing all of history- “knowing the whole history is important, because if we don’t tell the truth, people will not have appreciation.” She provided examples including that of her young daughter watching a birth video which increased the daughter’s appreciation, perspective, and respect for her mother, giving her the “utmost status.” Another example is that Douglass became aware of an education/history gap in high school, as she had been taught history “in an interconnected way, history of people who looked like them” at home, but her classmates did not necessarily have the same advantage of learning history at home that was

more comprehensive and inclusive than that taught in school. (For example, often black students are taught about George Washington, but not that he owned slaves, or who physically built this Nation’s Capitol, or they see pictures of a white Jesus in school or among mostly white classmates.) A third example she gave was black women talking about the crack problem in the 1980s and nobody listening to the brown bodies telling the story, and now we have meth drug problems that could have been prevented.

Douglass posed many more thought-provoking questions, including “What would have happened if we had listened to Anita Hill?” (Would we have prevented years of sexual harassment and harm?) What if we had learned from what Black women said after Reconstruction? (Would this have helped us be more prepared for Trump’s winning the election?) What if we had listened to the Queen of Hawaii and her struggle for independence of her people? (“We wouldn’t have these disagreements about what it means to understand [our] independence and really [have] a relationship with the government that does not dehumanize people.”)

Douglass also gave the audience a larger appreciation for the meaning of the scope of the NWHM research and results. She explained that there are so many education standards, that for women to be represented or even mentioned in so few is truly indicative of the lack in equality.

During the Question and Answer session on this celebration of women’s history month we discussed: Women written out of film history, Academics forgetting about activists, and the bottom line that we must keep recording history and must question what we’re not learning – be aware of gaps.

Here is some information about the organizations/sites that sent information but could not be present at our 3-27-18 CWI meeting.

**Turning Point Suffragist Memorial.** The Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Association is raising funds to honor the suffragists who fought for and won women’s right to vote through construction of a national memorial, establishment of the Turning Point Institute and development of a Constitution

Trail. The memorial will be located in NOVA Park's Occoquan Regional Park in Lorton, Virginia, part of the historic prison grounds where the women were incarcerated. Website: [www.suffragistmemorial.org](http://www.suffragistmemorial.org).

**Maryland Women's Heritage Center.** An outgrowth of the Maryland Women's History Project that began in 1980, the Maryland Women's Heritage Center honors women and girls who have been inducted into the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame as well as the Unsung Heroines who have shaped their families and communities. Additional exhibits include Women in the Military, STEM Careers, Civil Rights and Social Justice and the Arts. The website provides information about the Maryland Women's Heritage Trail, including access to a guidebook and map of historic sites . Websites: [www.mdwomensheritagecenter.org](http://www.mdwomensheritagecenter.org). The Center is looking for a new site near Baltimore to house its collection and operations.

**Nelson Diversity Surveys.** These data reveal the representation of women and minorities among faculty in 15 STEM disciplines at research universities. Data are full populations, which are disaggregated by discipline, by race/ethnicity, by rank, and by gender. More about them is available at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nelson\\_Diversity\\_Surveys](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nelson_Diversity_Surveys).

**I am Psyched!** (American Psychological Association). *I am Psyched! Inspiring Histories, Inspiring Lives* is a multimedia initiative that explores the history and contemporary contributions of women of color in psychology. The exhibit, which is currently on national tour, is encouraging young women and girls of color, and others, to consider careers in psychology, use psychology to improve their daily lives and create positive social change in their communities, and to be excited by the museum experience. <http://www.apa.org/pi/women/iampsyched/default.aspx>.

We would also like to mention that there are some small DC sites that are only open part time. You may be interested in the **Clara Barton Museum** 437 7<sup>th</sup> St. NW Washington DC 20004. [www.ClaraBartonMuseum.org](http://www.ClaraBartonMuseum.org) and **The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG)** 409 12 St, SW, Washington DC [www.acog.org](http://www.acog.org)

## Coming 2018 DC Area and National Feminist Events and Resources

In 2018 we will send selected events to CWI members on our e-mailing list. Please share your upcoming feminist events to post in 2018 CWI newsletters to [president@womensclearinghouse.org](mailto:president@womensclearinghouse.org). Check out CWI's Facebook [www.facebook.com/womensclearinghouse](http://www.facebook.com/womensclearinghouse) and Twitter [www.twitter.com/CWINews](http://www.twitter.com/CWINews) pages! LIKE and FOLLOW us.

**Friday, April 13, Noon Eastern Time. Webinar. From reflection to action: Systemic inequities affecting Black girls and what educators and clinicians can do. By Sara Goodkind.** Please click the link below to join the webinar: <https://psu.zoom.us/j/205195971> Or iPhone one-tap : US: +14086380968,,205195971# or +16468769923,,205195971# Or Telephone: Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location): US: +1 408 638 0968 or +1 646 876 9923 or +1 669 900 6833 Webinar ID: 205 195 971

**Sunday April 15 to Thursday April 19, National Summit for Educational Equity**, National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity, Hilton Crystal City, Arlington, VA. Details at [nape@napeequity.org](mailto:nape@napeequity.org).

**Tuesday, April 17, 7 -9 PM. To Buy the Sun: The Challenge of Pauli Murray**, Pauli Murray Center for History & Social Justice. Howard University West Campus, Dunbarton Chapel, 2900 Van Ness St NW, Washington, DC 20008. [Tickets](#): \$15.

**Wednesday, April 18, 1-3 PM ET. Advancing Financial Literacy for Individuals with Disabilities** in person Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board, 1300 I Street NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20005 or by Webinar. [More Information](#).

**Monday, April 23, 6 PM. Marching to Progress: Women in 2018, NYU DC featuring clips from Robin Hamilton's Fannie Lou Hamer film, followed by a Panel discussion.** 1307 L ST NW DC 20005 [RSVP](#)

**Tuesday, April 24, Noon CWI Meeting, Working Women, Pay Equity and Union Bargaining-Where the Rubber hits the Road**, Alliance for Justice, 11 Dupont Circle NW, Washington, DC. See page 1.

**Wednesday, April 25, 10 AM-5 PM Enough is Enough Summit**, NOW, Feminist Majority and other Partners, Congressional Visitor Center, First St NE, Washington, DC 20515. See [enough@now.org](mailto:enough@now.org).

**Monday, May 7, 4-5:30 PM. Launch of book by Jill Norgren about the 100 Women Trailblazers in the Law** (the Women Trailblazers in the Law Project is a project of the Senior Lawyers Division of the American Bar Association), of whom Sonia Fuentes, former CWI member, is one. You can read about the Women Trailblazers in the Law Project here:

[https://www.americanbar.org/groups/senior\\_lawyers/resources/women\\_trailblazers\\_project.html](https://www.americanbar.org/groups/senior_lawyers/resources/women_trailblazers_project.html)

and about Jill Norgren's book here: <https://nyupress.org/books/9781479865963/>. Woodrow Wilson Center, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor Moynihan Boardroom. Register to attend. [http://pages.wilsoncenter.org/20180507WHSNorgren\\_Registration.html](http://pages.wilsoncenter.org/20180507WHSNorgren_Registration.html)

**Wednesday, May 9, 6:30-8:30 PM. Feminist Majority Presents Feminist Wave Rising Campaign**, Bracewell LLP 2001 M Street, NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20036. Please join Eleanor Smeal, President of the Feminist Majority, and Dee Martin, Feminist Majority Board Member, for a cocktail fundraiser to launch the Feminist Majority's Feminist Wave Rising Campaign to advance women's rights and discuss plans for the critical 2018 elections. [Purchase Tickets or Sponsorships](#).

### **Extras**

**Here is link to DC Area Women's Voices Theater Festival with many plays.**

<http://www.womensvoicestheaterfestival.org/>.

April 10 [video](#) of Equal Pay Day Press Conference and Petition Delivery by NWLC and Partners outside the EEOC.

**Third Hemispheric Report on the Implementation of the Belém do Pará Convention.** Prevention of Violence against Women in the Americas: Paths to Follow. [Download](#)

**“accountABILITYtoolkit” A Guide to Using U.N. Human Rights Mechanisms to Advance the Rights of Women and Girls with Disabilities.** Download in English or Spanish from [info@WomenEnabled.org](mailto:info@WomenEnabled.org).

**Beyond the Walls: A Look at Girls in D.C.’s Juvenile Justice System** by Rights4Girls and the Georgetown Juvenile Justice Initiative.

[Be Her Resource A Toolkit About School Resource Officers And Girls Of Color](#) Monique W. Morris | Rebecca Epstein | Aishatu Yusuf

Religious Liberty for a Select Few: The Justice Department is Promoting Discrimination Across the Federal Government by Gruber, Bewkes et al. [See](#)

Tune in to [52 Women](#), the official podcast of MCNOW! [Episode 41 - Equal Means Equal, Jaelynn Willey, LGBTQIA+ rights, and Stella Adler](#) #52Women [mcmdnow.org/52women](http://mcmdnow.org/52women)

The Boys Aren’t Broken, The Systems Are: Changing the Narrative about Young Men of Color [Download the full issue.](#)

Keeping Students First: Building Community Labor Partnerships for Strong Schools.” Schott Foundation [Full Report](#)

[New State Grades on the Economic Status of Women Show Stagnant or Declining Progress in Most States](#) from Institute for Women’s Policy Research.

CWI's newsletter is endowed by friends in loving memory of our longtime editor Roslyn Kaiser.

*Photos: Sherry Klein, 3-27-2018 meeting summary Sherry Klein, Carly Allen, FMF Intern,*

*Newsletter edited by Sue Klein*

**CWI BOARD OF DIRECTORS, JULY 2017 – JUNE 2019**

**OFFICERS:** Co-Presidents, Sue Klein and Harriett Stonehill; VP Membership, Linda Fihelly; Treasurer, Holly Taggart Joseph; Secretary & VP Legislation, Roberta Stanley; VP Media, Loretto Gubernatis, VP Legal Affairs, Jeanette Lim Esbrook, Directors: Connie Cordovilla, Sherry Klein, Anne Martin

**DIRECTOR EMERITA:** Elaine Newman, **EX OFFICIO:** Barbara J. Ratner

Copyright © 2018 Clearinghouse on Women’s Issues (CWI). All rights reserved.

700 Seventh St. SW, Suite 3, Washington, DC 20024 Tel. 202/438-5655



# Membership Form

[www.womensclearinghouse.org](http://www.womensclearinghouse.org)

1. Bring a check, payable to CWI, along with this form to a CWI Meeting or mail to:  
Holly Taggart Joseph, CWI Treasurer  
8504 Rosewood Drive  
Bethesda MD 20814-1434
2. Or you may also join online using PayPal by going to the membership section of [www.womensclearinghouse.org](http://www.womensclearinghouse.org)

NAME of Individual or Organization \_\_\_\_\_  
For Organizations also Provide Name and email of PRIMARY REPRESENTATIVE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
WEBSITE \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a check for CWI membership **July 1-June 30** (Please fill in year/s.) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ **Individual**    \_\_\_ \$25 for one year    \_\_\_ \$45 for two years    \_\_\_ \$65 for three years

\_\_\_ Individual under 30 years old (\$15/one year)

\_\_\_ Virtual (\$20/one year) (Email newsletter only for members outside Washington, DC area)

\_\_\_ **Organization** (\$40/one year or \$100/three years)

\_\_\_ Additional tax-deductible contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*If organizational member, indicate if you would like a link to your organization to be listed as a supporting member on CWI's website. (Listing subject to CWI approval) Circle One: \_\_\_YES \_\_\_NO  
(If Yes, provide url)

Membership dues and contributions are tax- deductible to the extent provided by Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.