



March 2021 CWI Newsletter <https://womensclearinghouse.org>

**Invitation to CWI Zoom Meeting, Tuesday, March 23, 2021 (12:00-1:30 PM EST)**

## **“Next Steps in Creating the Smithsonian American Women’s History Museum”**

Tuesday, March 23, 2021, 12:00-1:30 pm via Zoom

Registration Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZEvdOivpJliE9LImRm0GXDs0VuPbbIJAzt8>

(Please register for this free public meeting by 3/22/21)

The Clearinghouse on Women’s Issues is delighted to celebrate Women’s History Month by sharing information on the recent passage of the Smithsonian Women’s History Museum Act to create a museum for which the federal government will pay half the development and operating costs of this museum under auspices of the Smithsonian Institution.

Many of us have supported the development of this museum mainly via the privately funded and mostly virtual National Women’s History Museum (NWHM) incorporated in 1996. To show equal treatment of women, many believed the museum should be partly supported by the federal government and be part of the Smithsonian. We are delighted that this is now to become a reality. A Congressional Commission created in 2014 to study the establishment of the museum issued a detailed report (<http://AMWH.us>) in 2016 recommending not only that the U.S. needs and deserves a physical women’s history museum but that it be part of the Smithsonian and located on or near the National Mall in Washington, DC. The bipartisan Commission was created by a bill sponsored by Congresswoman Carolyn B. Maloney.

**Congresswoman Maloney** then introduced H.R. 19 in the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress and H.R. 1980 in the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress based on the Commission’s recommendations. The bipartisan Smithsonian Women’s History Museum Act passed the House in 2019. The legislation was then included in the bipartisan omnibus spending package at the end of 2020, which was signed into law on Dec. 27, 2020. Representative Maloney will outline key accomplishments and next steps for funding and building the museum.

**Wendy Pangburn**, who served as the Executive Director of the American Museum of Women’s History Congressional Commission will add brief insights from the Commission to help guide the museum’s creation.

We are delighted that both **Holly Hotchner**, President and CEO of the National Women’s History Museum, and Museum Board Chair, **Susan Whiting**, will join us to highlight NWHM’s historic role in getting legislation passed for a museum. They will also discuss NWHM’s current programming and how the Museum will continue to shine a light on women’s contributions to American history while the plans for the Smithsonian develop.

To conclude, we hope to hear from a Smithsonian Representative who will inform us of some of the current details of fundraising, site selection and more as they also work on developing the newly authorized National Museum of the American Latino. They will also provide insight from the experiences of the Smithsonian Director, Lonnie Bunch who led in the creation of the National African American Museum of History and Culture.

We hope to reserve time for the presenters to comment on each other’s presentation and for some audience questions to them.

## Summary of CWI Zoom Meeting on “Wise Aging – Living with Joy, Resilience, and Spirit” Tuesday, February 23, 2021, 12:00-1:30 PM

“Wise Aging uses texts, poetry, experiential exercises, secular writings, and heartfelt dialogue to challenge participants to develop their own sense of what it means to “number their days” and grow a heart of wisdom.”

Today, with work life and work patterns engulfing our time and our thoughts, fear of retirement or loss of an identity after leaving the work force is ever so prominent. Along with this, a denial about the realities of aging can cause us to face harsh realities that can be challenging to handle.

This is why the Clearinghouse on Women’s Issues chose to focus this month on Wise Aging: Living with Joy, Resilience, and Spirit, based on the book *Wise Aging* by Cowan and Thal. Wise aging is a senior program, designed for people aged 55 and older, that considers mindfulness and contemplative practices such as meditation, text study, journaling and gentle movement as key tools.

This CWI meeting is organized and led by **Harriett Stonehill**, past CWI Co-President, mega skills trainer of trainers, professor at the University of the District of Columbia (UDC), author, and an experienced Wise Aging facilitator. Harriett noted that Wise Aging was particularly important for people who were switching from active careers to a productive retirement. She arranged for the following trained Wise Aging Facilitators who are active nationally and internationally to lead attendees in various interactive activities in this CWI meeting.



**Harriette Kinberg**, is a retired Federal Government Manager who worked at FEMA and she is a Wise Aging Facilitator in DC, Maryland and Virginia. She provided an overview of the Wise Aging program and described what happens during a typical Wise Aging group session using power point materials.

**Francie Schwartz**, retired from the Union of Reform Judaism, where she worked as the Adult Jewish Learning Coordinator and still loves to teach all things Jewish to our community. She is now a Wise Aging Facilitator at Temple Micah in DC. She guided participants through a meditation exercise.

**Evelyn (Evi) Torton Beck** is a scholar-activist, a founder of the discipline of Women's Studies, and Professor Emerita at the University of Maryland where she served as Chair of that department for two decades. She is also a long-time teacher and choreographer of the healing practice of Sacred Circle Dance, which she has brought to many countries around the world.

### **Introduction to Wise Aging Programs - Harriette Kinberg**

Developed by the Institute for Jewish Spirituality, Wise Aging helps to counter stereotypes about age and aging, replace those stereotypes with positive, realistic images of what elderhood can be, helps foster the transition between constant doing to the cultivation of being, and allows us to grow into our truest selves.

The Wise Aging process consists of core components, including establishing ground rules for safety, openness and trust, and contemplative or active listening, which means to listen with care, without commenting, interrupting, or judging so that others feel heard and find their inner voice.



The program also involves text study from a variety of texts, poems, and stories that address the themes of each unit. Participants engage deeply with the text, discern its deeper meaning, and explore whether we agree or disagree with it.

Mindfulness meditation and sacred practices are also involved in the process. Mindfulness meditation is used to help us live more in the present, and less in our stories of the past or our wishes for the future, helping develop patience, trust, and equanimity. Along with this, sacred practices help participants touch the realm of the sacred through prayer, practice, silence, nature, music, community.

The primary topics revolve around the nine chapters in the Wise Aging book. If you would like to begin this process you can find a Wise Aging group to join or read the book with a partner, or a group of your own. Use the exercises and mediations provided in the book and enjoy the journey.



***Mindfulness Meditation – Francie Schwartz***

Francie Schwartz introduced participants to mindfulness meditation, a practice that is relatively simple, straightforward, and well-suited to the goal of developing self-knowledge. As she stated, “Though we may not have choices about what happens, we do have choices about how we want to respond to what happens.” By practicing mindfulness, we can approach aging with patience, trust, and equanimity.

Francie Schwartz guided participants through a meditation activity.

***Sacred Circle Dances – Evi Beck***

Evi Beck introduced participants to Sacred Circle Dance, a gentle form of meditative movement that aims to integrate mind, body, and spirit, in which the "sacred" is not associated with any religion, but on the intention of being fully present. These dances draw upon ancient steps and music from around the world. By moving together, we can get in touch with the oneness of human existence and be moved to make positive changes in the world. The dances involve working with our chi and flowing with it, giving oneself over to the dance.



Participants were shown different steps of Sacred Circle Dance, dancing to Bread and Roses, Breathes, and a Hawaiian song called E Malama. She ended with teaching us a Jewish Klezmer dance.

Evi Beck teaches dance classes Tuesdays from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm and Fridays from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. Classes are free. For more information, email her at [etb@umd.edu](mailto:etb@umd.edu).

You can find the lyrics to **E Malama** here: <https://www.musixmatch.com/lyrics/Jivan/E-Malama-I-Ka-Heiau>.

***Further Information:***

The public video of this 2-23-21 CWI meeting is available on [https://youtu.be/r7BdfM\\_hejl](https://youtu.be/r7BdfM_hejl) and posted to a playlist on the CWI website <https://womensclearinghouse.org>

Harriette Kinberg email: [hkinberg@yahoo.com](mailto:hkinberg@yahoo.com)

Francie Schwartz email: [FS925@aol.com](mailto:FS925@aol.com)

Evi Beck Email: [etb@umd.edu](mailto:etb@umd.edu)

Wise Aging Book: *Wise Aging Living with Joy Resilience and Spirit* by Cowen and Thal.

**Next Clearinghouse on Women's Issues Zoom Meeting will be Tuesday Noon, Mar. 23, 2021. To help celebrate Women's History Month it will be on "Next Steps in Creating the Smithsonian's American Women's History Museum".** It will feature Representative Carolyn Maloney, key sponsor of the recently enacted Smithsonian Women's History Museum Act, Holly Hotchner, President and CEO of the National Women's History Museum, Susan Whiting, Chair of the Board of the National Women's History Museum, Wendy Pangburn, Executive Director of the Congressional Commission of the American Museum of Women's History, and a representative of the Smithsonian.

## **DC Area and National Feminist Events and Resources**

Please send your upcoming feminist events to post in CWI newsletters to [president@womensclearinghouse.org](mailto:president@womensclearinghouse.org). LIKE and FOLLOW us on CWI's Facebook [www.facebook.com/womensclearinghouse](https://www.facebook.com/womensclearinghouse) and Twitter [www.twitter.com/CWInews](https://www.twitter.com/CWInews) pages! Also SUBSCRIBE and LIKE our video sponsor & provider. <https://www.youtube.com/user/Hanburycross>. Paid-up CWI members will receive additional forwarded email messages on additional feminist meetings and activities.

Maryland Women's History Podcast Releases Second Season

Ballot & Beyond is produced by Preservation Maryland.

Ballot & Beyond is a multi-media public history exhibit and podcast highlighting the work of remarkable Maryland women with a focus on the state's suffragists and activists. More than 55 episodes are available now for streaming and reading on: [ballotandbeyond.org](http://ballotandbeyond.org).

Tune in to episodes of Ms. magazine podcasts, On the issues with Michele Goodwin on [Apple Podcasts](#) + [Spotify](#).

**Federal Resources and Events for Women's History Month.** Check out. [Womenshistorymonth.gov](http://Womenshistorymonth.gov)

## **The Ms. Guide to Celebrating Virtual Women's History Month**

3/1/2021 by **MS. EDITORS**. The Ms. Guide to Celebrating Virtual Women's History Month

3/1/2021 by MS. EDITORS. This extensive and well described list of events will be updated daily through Women's History Month. Find it [here](#).

### **Other Events: (Time given in Eastern Time)**

**Monday, March 8, noon-1 PM. FEMA Presents: Breaking Barriers a Conversation on Developing Women in Leadership roles** via Zoom. Register [https://fema.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_335IOZ07Rwi3F5D85T1tWw](https://fema.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_335IOZ07Rwi3F5D85T1tWw).

**Monday, March 8, 2-3 PM. The Path to Leadership: The Next Chapter; Influential women in Montgomery County Politics-** Virtual. <https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/4778975>

**Monday, March 8, 6-7:30 PM. NWHM Presents! And She Could Be Next Film Screening, Episode 1,** National Women's History Museum. [Register](#)

**Tuesday, March 9. 3-4 PM From Research to Practice: An Up-to-Date Look at Gender Equity in STEM** from the National Girls Collaborative Project. [Sign up](#)

**Wednesday, March 10. Women Veterans Day, 9-10 AM.** [Registration](#)

**Wednesday, March 10, 3 PM "The Legacy of Jovita Idar" Women's Media Center.** [Register](#)

**Thursday, March 11, 5 PM. Gender Equality as the Law of the Land: The Work to Pass ERA, NOW.** [Reg#](#)

**Thursday, March 11, 5-6 PM. In Dialogue: Smithsonian Objects and Social Justice. National Portrait Gallery.** [Register](#)

**Monday, March 15, 4:30 PM #RuthsRevolution Continues: An Exploration of Reproductive Freedom in Honor of Justice Ginsburg.** National Council of Jewish Women. [RSVP](#)

**Monday, March 15, 6-7:30 PM. NWHM Presents! And She Could Be. Next Film Screening, Episode 2,** National Women's History Museum [Register](#)

**Tuesday, March 16, 11 AM. "Amman Principles" for the National Mechanisms for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.** [Create a free profile to register.](#)

**Wednesday, March 17, 6-7 PM, Ai-jen Poo, director of the National Domestic Workers Alliance, will deliver a lecture on the theme, "Our Politics, Our Selves."** Poo will address her evolution as an organizer, the impact of the pandemic and uprisings for Black lives on her organization's members, and the significance of the 2020 US elections. A conversation with immigrant rights lawyer, Alina Das (NYU School of Law), follows. [More Info & RSVP](#)

**Thursday, March 18, 9 AM. Root Causes of Women's Economic Inequality: Discriminatory Family Laws.** [Create a free profile to register](#) or join us on [Facebook Live](#).

**Tuesday, March 23, Noon to 1:30 PM. Next Steps in Creating the Smithsonian American Women's History Museum,** Clearinghouse on Women's Issues. See page 1 for details and [zoom registration](#) .

**Thursday, March 25, 12:30 PM. Social Protection for Vulnerable Women during Crisis.** [Create a free profile to register](#)

**Wednesday, April 7, 12 Noon Brave Girls Virtual Storytime; Marjory Saves the Everglades: the Story of Marjory Stoneman Douglas.** [Register](#)

*CWI's newsletter is endowed in loving memory of our previous longtime editor, Roslyn Kaiser*

*Meeting summary by Sascha Shroff, NOW intern and the meeting presenters. Newsletter edited by Sue Klein*

#### **CWI BOARD OF DIRECTORS, JULY 2018 – JUNE 2021**

**OFFICERS:** Co-Presidents, Sue Klein and Connie Cordovilla also VP Membership; Treasurer, Holly Taggart Joseph; Secretary and VP Global Issues, Megan Corrado, VP Media, Loretto Gubernatis; VP Legal Affairs, Jeanette Lim Esbrook; VP Technology, Sherry Klein; VP Organizational Management, Anne Martin; VP Diversity, Alotta Taylor; Director, Linda Fihelly; **DIRECTOR EMERITA:** Elaine Newman, **EX OFFICIO:** Co-President, Harriett Stonehill

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# Clearinghouse on Women's Issues Membership Form

<https://womensclearinghouse.org/>

The CWI membership year is: **July 1-June 30**. Multi-year and Gift memberships are encouraged and discounted! Please fill in beginning and end years (e.g. 2020-2023 for a 3-yr membership). Members will receive CWI newsletters and meeting announcements as well as other feminist news and event notifications. Membership dues and contributions are tax-deductible to the extent provided by Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

### INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE: H/W \_\_\_\_\_ CELL \_\_\_\_\_

OR

### ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

ORGANIZATION NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization website address (URL): \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME & EMAIL of Org. Rep.: 1) \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME & EMAIL of Org. Rep.: 2) \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Years Covered: 202\_ - 202\_ (Check your Membership Type)

	Individual	Organization	Young Adult (< 30 yrs. old)	Virtual (outside DC area)
One-year	\$25	\$40	\$15/yr.	\$20/yr.
Two-year	\$45	\$70	Gift Membership (insert information in individual or organization membership)	
Three-year	\$65	\$100		

Membership Dues Amount: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tax deductible donation: \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL ENCLOSED = \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Payment \_\_\_\_\_

- Mail form & check to Connie Cordovilla, Membership Chair, CWI, 7439 Patterson Rd., Falls Church, VA 22043-1332; or
- Pay through PayPal, by selecting the desired membership option on our website's membership page <https://womensclearinghouse.org/membership/> & please send this form by mail to the above address or email it to [MembershipChair@womensclearinghouse.org](mailto:MembershipChair@womensclearinghouse.org); or
- Bring a check, payable to CWI, and this completed form to a CWI meeting. (Form Revised: 10/13/20)