



Orlando *** Winter Park BRANCHLINE

DECEMBER PROGRAM



GABE PREISSER

Executive & Artistic Director
of Opera Orlando

Born and raised in Apopka, Mr. Preisser has deep ties to the Central Florida area. He graduated *summa cum laude* from Florida State University with a major in vocal performance and a minor in business and completed a master's degree in voice at the University of Houston.

Critically acclaimed by the *New York Times* and *Opera News*, Mr. Preisser has

performed leading-man roles for various companies throughout the U.S. Praised for his "matinee idol charm and charisma," "a beautiful, luscious baritone," and "a compelling, commanding stage presence," he created the role of Lt. Gordon in Kevin Puts's Pulitzer Prize-winning "Silent Night" at Minnesota Opera, with subsequent performances at Opera Philadelphia and Cincinnati Opera and on national PBS broadcasts.

He excels not only in the classical repertoire, but is especially noted for his work in musical theater, operetta, and contemporary works. He maintains a very active performance schedule throughout the US with over 40 roles in his repertoire and several debuts upcoming. This season, Preisser performs the role of Figaro in *The Barber of Seville* with Opera Orlando and in *Le Nozze di Figaro* with Inland Northwest Opera.

Outside of his performing career, Mr. Preisser co-founded Angels & Demons Entertainment, an opera/music theater production company focusing on semi-staged and site-specific opera and music theater presentations. He currently lives in Winter Garden with his wife, son, and daughter.



GENERAL MEETING

SATURDAY

December 8, 2018

9 a.m.

First Congregational Church of
Winter Park

225 S. Interlachen Avenue
(at New England Ave.)
Winter Park, FL 32789

\$18.00 per person
Reservations Required

RSVP: Phyllis Hall
407-265-7164
phylliscath814@gmail.com

Cash or check
payable at the door
(Checks should be made out to
"AAUW Orlando/Winter Park")

Or mail your check to:
Phyllis Hall
481 Forest Court
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714

**You must RSVP no later than
Wednesday, Dec. 5!**

You are responsible for
payment in full if you do not
keep your reservation.

From the President



Dear Orlando/Winter Park Branch Members,

This year has gone by so quickly, although at times the campaigning seemed to be interminable! In general, voters have delivered an early holiday gift to AAUW members by electing women and men who champion policies

of gender equity in pay, health care, education, and the workplace.

In this season of giving, our members have shown enormous generosity with the PACE Thanksgiving dinner, miracle boxes, and \$2,455 to the Legal Advocacy Fund. We are especially thankful to the Mahjongg group for their donation of \$500.

We also thank Karen Buchan for her donation of \$500 on behalf of our Branch to place AAUW notices in the "Portrait of a Queen" program book. It was a fundraiser for PACE.

Wishing you a jubilant, loving holiday season filled with peace and joy as we celebrate Hanukkah, the Winter Solstice, Christmas, and Kwanzaa with family and friends.

Leslie Sue Lieberman, Ph.D
President, AAUW Orlando/Winter Park Branch
Professor Emerita UCF

From the Director for Development/Fundraising



AAUW Orlando-Winter Park Branch members, give yourselves a rousing round of applause! ***I have sent \$2,455 to the Legal Advocacy Fund in our name.*** The generous \$500 contribution from the Mahjongg group made this the biggest contribution in

our recent history. Don't forget, donations to all AAUW Funds are qualified charitable contributions, along with \$56 of your \$59 national dues. Of course, you can make contributions any time directly to AAUW.

Every day of the year, there are brave women and men in the intimidating environment of a courtroom whose courage is bolstered by our solidarity with them. We are called to maintain our persistence for the long term.

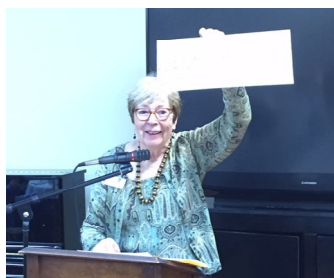
Rosemary Vendena



At the General Meeting on NOVEMBER 10, 2018, Rosemary Vendena spoke about LAF and its importance to AAUW. The Mahjongg group surprised her by presenting a check for \$500 to kick off the donations. Way to go Mahjonggers!



Rosemary Vendena speaks about LAF.



The Mah Jongg Group 0001
85-27/001
418

DATE November 10, 2018

PAY TO THE ORDER OF Legal Advocacy Fund \$ 500.00

Five Hundred and 00/100 DOLLARS

Bank of 1 Bam
2 Crak, N.A.

The Mah Jonggers



The Mah Jongg group poses with Rosemary.

V.P. Membership



Maria Bonnet

Welcome to our new members

Anderson, Ann
annandrs@hotmail.com
Univ. of FL, B.A. Edu. 1958

McCormick, Camri
Skipperss2@hotmail.com
Mesa State College, B.A., Mass Comm.,
'96



Correction

Cooper, Roberta
407-616-8342

The Branchline does not publish members' addresses and phone numbers. Information on all our members can be found on our website (Orlando-fl.aauw.net) under the Members Only menu. Contact Linda Fessel (LFessel@embarqmail.com) or Maria Bonnet (Marpazbonnet@gmail.com) for the password to the Members Only menu.

Blankets! Blankets!

Please gather your old (gently used) or new blankets AND coats. They will go to the Health Care Center for the Homeless. Bring them to the next general meetings (Dec. 8 and Jan. 12). They need to be in good shape, and please, no afghans. Thank you.

Eleanore Cowan



I am asking all members to collect any NEW 2019 calendars and bring them to the next AAUW function. These will be collected at Booklovers' meetings, board meetings, and general meetings then forwarded to me. I will distribute these in early January to elderly and disabled adults in Winter Park who live on very minimal fixed incomes and would be delighted to have a free calendar in which to record appointments and outings.

Lynda Hinckley



Cooking Globally met on October 19, 2018. Dishes were made using recipes from Myra Gaziano's recently published cookbook.



Dining Couples is baaaack!

PACE

Several years ago, our AAUW branch began the tradition of giving each girl from PACE a gift box filled with items that most teenage girls would like to receive for the holidays. More recently, we have asked each girl what three items she would most treasure receiving. We then ask our members to choose a girl to shop for, based on what the girl would like to receive. Gifts are placed in a shoe box that has been festively wrapped (top and bottom separately) and brought to the December meeting. This box has the girl's name on the top. Boxes are taken to PACE to be distributed to the girls, usually on the day that the school closes for winter holiday. AAUW members are welcome to attend this distribution—a most heart-warming event.

Pat Stamm patsnpans@yahoo.com 407-312-8544
Karen Gillett karen555g@hotmail.com 407-252-3169



Reminder: Please bring any food for the PACE pantry to our December meeting for drop-off at PACE.

PACE Thanksgiving



November 15, 2018



Still More from PACE

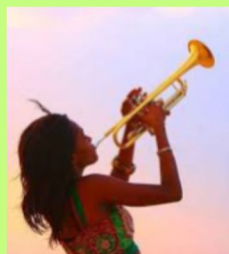
PACE has also asked us for some items for their STEM projects. Below is the list of their needs as I received it. Please do not ask me to explain things like Wikistix or coding kits. I have no idea what these might be.

Rolls of masking tape & scotch tape
2-3 boxes of uncooked spaghetti noodles
Wooden blocks/ building blocks
Clear, plastic cocktail cups (9oz)
Ping pong balls
Small, rubber bouncy balls
Pipe cleaners
Cardboard tubes (toilet paper and paper

towel tubes)
Rolls of aluminum foil, saran wrap, and wax paper
Match box cars
Small action figures
Flexi straws
Toothpicks
Marbles
Paint sticks
Milk jug and/or water bottle caps
Brads
Large Ziplock bags (2 or 3 gallon sized)
String: yarn, twine, fishing line
Small pebbles or rocks
Rubber bands
Clothespins
Wikistix
Magnets

Duct tape
Straws
Cupcake liners
Coffee filters
Playing Cards
Christmas Lights
Circuit (electric) kits (EX; Makey-Makey)
Batteries (various)
Robotics Kits (EX: cublets robot blocks, sphero sprk)
Coding (simple) Kits
Foam paper, Felt paper

Anne Landrum
alandrum2@cfl.rr.com



SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY

MARCH 2, 2019

11 A.M.

18TH ANNUAL SPRING LITERARY LUNCHEON

Author: Charlene Edge

Undertow: My Escape from the Fundamentalism & Cult Control of the way International

For more information, check out the website (Orlando-fl.aauw.net)



Scholarships

It is not too early to remind your friends, family and others that the Branch Scholarship deadline is March 1, 2019. The application is

on the website and can be emailed to Karen Buchan. Remember that only women pursuing Bachelor's, Master's or Doctoral degrees are eligible. Preference is given to students in STEM subjects.

Karen Buchan

"Portrait of a Queen" Concert

On November 2, Martha Williamson, Barbara Buchele, Patricia Lancaster, Cynthia Pesch, and Karen Buchan got down and sang along at the "Portrait of a Queen"—an Aretha Franklin tribute concert.

Held at the Dr. Phillips Performing Arts Center, and largely benefiting PACE Orange, the show starred Orlando's own Cece Teneal, dubbed the "Voice of the Century," a renowned blues-centric soprano with a soul-stirring voice. Cece was backed by a four-piece band and two back-up singers. Their talent and energy was only surpassed by their genuine love for the work PACE does and for the PACE girls. Six PACE girls gave a stirring spoken word presentation and event proceeds benefited PACE Center for Girls-Orange.

Thanks to the Bronze sponsorship contributed by Karen Buchan, our branch received billing in the "Play Journal" and on signs at the auditorium entrance. The ad was designed by Karen's son, Michael Rizzo.



Did you know . . . ?

400 million years ago, before trees took over, Earth was covered in 24-foot mushrooms called prototaxites. Can you image decorating a 24-foot holiday mushroom?



Interest Groups

December

The Interest Groups are humming along, thanks to their capable leaders and enthusiastic members. If you would like to join one, please contact the chair or the coordinators directly.

Beaucoup Kudos to Martha Williamson for the wildly successful launch of the Booklovers Lite Book Group! Her inspired assessment of a need in the AAUW community was spot on! (Their first pick was a delightful read--*Open and Shut* by David Rosenfelt--for an upbeat holiday read or gift idea!)

And now let's see how the idea of a Walking Group for Walkers does! Please email Dee Fuentes (Tucu662@gmail.com) or Joan Liberman if you have an interest in attending an information-gathering meeting in early January—just in time for the New Year's Resolution Makers among us!!

Any other new ideas for groups out there??

Joan Liberman

Interest Group Chair
libermanjoan@gmail.com

Booklovers: In December Booklovers celebrate with a social instead of reading a selected book. We wish all Booklovers a Happy Holiday and we'll be back on our reading schedule in January.

Ellen James, Booklovers Coordinator
(407) 857-0044 or ellenjames54@gmail.com

Booklovers Lite (aka Booklovers III): Relaxation Reading has a new name. By popular vote, members chose to call themselves "Booklovers Lite." Booklovers Lite meets on the 4th Wednesday of each month except December. This group is closed just now with a full membership. There is a waiting list for those interested. Contact Martha Williamson (bibliamor@aol.com).

Cooking Globally: The next dinner will be held on **Friday, February 15, 2019**, at 6:30 p.m. at Westminster Winter Park Club 24. The theme is Italy. For more information, contact: Rana Tiwari, ranatiwari@usa.net or Karen Buchan, kgb@unknownegg.org.

Current Issues: This group will not meet in December. For more information, contact Marcy Kysilka: Kysilka@bellsouth.net

Dining Couples is Back! Dining Couples will meet monthly on the 3rd Saturday (except for December 2018). Please join us as we begin a new series of dining adventures to meet new friends, explore new foods, and visit different home venues.

SIGN UP TO JOIN

Call Robbi Willenkin at 407-960-4151.

Dining In: Meets Dec. 7 at the home of Lynda Hinckley. RSVP to Lynda at Hinckley_j@bellsouth.net or 407-259-5075. Contact Jane Rosen for more information about this group: 321-295-7689 or mjcrossen@hotmail.com

Dining Out (at night): Dining Out will meet Dec. 11 at 6:30 p.m. at El Potro, 501 N. Orlando Ave., Winter Park. RSVP to Susan Hoke: 407-637-6857 or shoke@cfl.rr.com

Exploring Central Florida (ECF) will visit Mount Dora on December 13, at 9:45 a.m. The group will enjoy a two-hour Eco Tour on the Dora Canal, followed by lunch at the Lakeside Inn. This is limited to the first 22 to reserve—others will be wait-listed. The cost is \$24 per person for the tour. Lunch is a separate cost. RSVP to Barbara Knapp, 407-282-5449 or 407-620-7357, or bcknapp1949@gmail.com by Sunday, December 9. To become a member of this group and receive more details about this and future explorations, contact Max Reed at 407-625-1664 (MaxReedFL@gmail.com.) or Collette Davis at 407-682-1912 (dcollette@aol.com)



Interest Groups Continue on Next Page

Interest Groups

Foreign Affairs: Foreign Affairs will not meet in December. Next meeting will be on Sunday, January 27, 2019, at 2 p.m. [Contact Chair Dee Fuentes (407-310-1154) or tucu662@gmail.com if you would like to join this group.]

Foreign Films: No foreign film in December. The next foreign film (TBA) will be on Monday, January 28, 2019, from 1-4 p.m. For more information and to be included on the contact list, contact Linda Fessel: LFessel@embarqmail.com

Lunching Out: Lunching Out will meet on Monday, December 10, at 11:30 a.m. For more information, contact Linda Fessel: LFessel@embarqmail.com

Mah Jongg: Mah Jongg will meet on Thursday, December 6, 13, 20 and 27. Beginners welcome. For more information, contact Linda Fessel: LFessel@embarqmail.com or Karen Deo: Karen.deo@gmail.com

PACE Center for Girls: The PACE Library, which was set up and organized by AAUW a few years ago, is in need of some resorting and renewal. If you would be able to join the group that will be improving the library, please contact Anne Landrum (407-539-1667) or alandrum2@cfl.rr.com

Theater Group: The Chair for this group is Jean Bubriski, jbubriski33@gmail.com (or 949-278-7293). See below for more information about upcoming shows and dates.

AAUW 2018-2019 Theatre Group

Group Leader: Jean Bubriski

The Theatre Group will be going to Saturday matinees at the Annie Russell Theater at Rollins College. Here are the dates and names of the plays:

Dec. 1, 2018	2 p.m.	Avenue Q
Feb. 23, 2019	2 p.m.	A New Play (based on the <i>Me Too</i> movement)
Apr. 27, 2019	2 p.m.	Sweet Charity

If you do not have the brochure about these plays, please go to the www.rollins.edu/annie website, or call Jean at 949-278-7293 and she will mail one.

YOU NEED TO BUY YOUR OWN TICKET FROM THE BOX OFFICE. My seat is F124. When you call or email the Annie Russell Box Office, ask to be seated near Jean Bubriski and the AAUW Theatre Group. Their phone is 407-646-2145 and the email/website is annieboxoffice@rollins.edu.

The Box Office Manager, Chelsea Highland, knows about our group.

Please email Jean at jbubriski33@gmail.com or call 949-278-7293 if you are planning to join us for any of the plays.

LET'S MEET IN THE ROSE GARDEN BETWEEN THE ANNIE RUSSELL THEATER AND THE COLLEGE CHAPEL AT 1:45 FOR EACH PLAY!

If you hear of any member who is ill, undergoing surgery, has experienced a loss, etc., please let our corresponding secretary know so that a card can be sent on a timely basis.

Contact: Judy McDonald
murran@bellsouth.net



In a world full of color, most people prefer **black** and **white**—at least when it comes to cars. For a second consecutive year, **white** is the most popular color for new cars.

But at a recent Board Meeting, the parking lot (with one exception) was filled with **red** cars. So what does that say about the women of AAUW?

DECEMBER 2018

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Hanukkah	3	4 <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers I **	5 <u>10 a.m.</u> B-Lovers IX ** <u>11:30 a.m.</u> B-Lovers II ** <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers VII **	6 <u>1 p.m.</u> Mah Jongg	7 <u>7 p.m.</u> Dining In	8 <u>9—11 a.m.</u> General Meeting
9	10 <u>11:30 a.m.</u> Lunching Out	11 <u>1:30 p.m.</u> B-Lovers VI ** <u>6:30 p.m.</u> Dining Out	12	13 <u>9 a.m. thru lunch</u> Exploring Central FL <u>1 p.m.</u> Mah Jongg	14 <u>11:30 a.m.</u> B-Lovers IV **	15 <u>6 p.m.</u> Dining Couples
16	17	18 <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers V **	19	20 <u>1 p.m.</u> B-Lovers X ** <u>1 p.m.</u> Mah Jongg	21	22
23 <u>1 p.m.</u> Foreign Affairs	24 Cristmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26	27 <u>1 p.m.</u> Mah Jongg	28	29
30	31 New Year's Eve	 New Year's Day				

**** NOTE:** Some Booklovers groups may be meeting on different days and/or different times in December. Some have incorporated a book exchange along with the festivities. If the dates and times shown above do not match with your own calendar, please check with your Booklovers chair to verify day, time, and place of your Booklovers lunch/dinner. [ed.]

As another year draws to a close, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all who have contributed to the Branchline in 2018. We hope that you will continue to support YOUR newsletter in 2019. From the entire Branchline staff, we would like to wish you all a wonderful holiday season and the healthiest and happiest of new years. [Linda Fessel, ed.]

P.S. Don't forget to check out the website: Orlando-fl.aauw.net

