



EMPOWERING WOMEN
SINCE 1881

San Antonio Branch NewsLetter

DECEMBER 2013 Vol 105 • Issue 8

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

As we are aware, when school budgets are tight, the arts and culture programs are often the first to be cut, which in turn has increased the need for quality "Out of School Time" Arts Programs. And nowhere is this more evident than in the urban, low-income neighborhoods.

In 2009, YOSA started YOSA's Music After School (YOSA MÁS) which offers intensive string instruction to at-risk and underserved students on San Antonio's west side. YOSA MÁS is a music and social program that is accessible to at-risk children, to aid their development of the executive function skills that promotes long-term social, school, and career success.

I am delighted that at our December meeting, we will learn more about YOSA and its mission, "to enhance education, enrich the community, and transform lives by pursuing excellence in classical music in a stimulating, nurturing, and fun environment that is equally accessible to all youth."

~ Barbara Kyse

BENEFITS OF ARTS EDUCATION

[Source: *Americans for the Arts*, 2002]

- **Stimulates** and develops the imagination and critical thinking, and refines cognitive and creative skills.
- **Has a tremendous impact** on the developmental growth of every child and has proven to help level the "learning field" across socio-economic boundaries.
- **Strengthens** problem-solving and critical-thinking skills, adding to overall academic achievement and school success.
- **Develops** a sense of craftsmanship, quality task performance, and goal-setting skills needed to succeed in the classroom and beyond.
- **Teaches** children life skills such as developing an informed perception; articulating a vision; learning to solve problems and make decisions; building self-confidence and self-discipline; developing the ability to imagine what might be; and accepting responsibility to complete tasks from start to finish.
- **Nurtures** important values, including team-building skills; respecting alternative viewpoints; and appreciating and being aware of different cultures and traditions.

DECEMBER MEETING

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2013 • 10:00 am - 12:00 pm • **Paloma Blanca**
5800 Broadway • 210-822-6151 • **Reservation deadline is Wednesday, December 4.**
Contact Kate Veters, kveters@sbcglobal.net or 210-696-1804.

BRUNCH BUFFET • Cost \$20 • **Chilaquiles and Migas a La Mexicana.** Served with Refried Beans
Papitas • Mixed Fruit • Corn and Flour Tortillas • Mexican Pastries • Orange Juice or Coffee

PROGRAM YOSA Youth Orchestra of San Antonio

SPEAKER Martha Bryant, Development Director. **Details on page 2.**

YOSA: YOUTH ORCHESTRA OF SAN ANTONIO

WHAT DOES LEARNING TO PLAY AN INSTRUMENT DO FOR YOU?

Adult musicians have long talked about the life-changing experiences they had learning to play an instrument when they were young. As early as World War II, researchers looked at the impact of music on primary school students. More recent research in neurobiology and psychology have, in some ways, supported the anecdotes. Howard Gardner considers music one of his multiple intelligences and describes it as a "way of knowing." The Wallace Foundation commissioned a study to explore the impact of music beyond that as an economic driver and triggered research into the intrinsic benefits of music. Studies following the Wallace Foundation work describe a correlation between music and math, between music and memory, between music and K-12 grades and SAT scores. Still other studies focus on improved self-esteem, improved sense of belonging, and improved ability to focus.

Reviewing the research, one might conclude that music in K-12 schools could solve the problems of American education. What does YOSA think? Do we want to see a violin in the hands of every student? Or does YOSA's experience as the premiere orchestral experience for students in San Antonio suggest something else?

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES. YOSA has volunteer opportunities throughout the year, some are listed below:

- YOSA needs ushers at every concert
- Volunteers at events, especially at the sprint Beethoven 5k/10k race
- Office volunteers for data entry, direct mail, music library, etc.

~ Martha Bryant, Development Director, YOSA

AAUW SAN ANTONIO SCHOLARSHIPS

Many thanks to Karen Cool, Diantha Perelli, Ann Marie Rehner, and Pat Sanford for agreeing to serve on the graduate scholarship committee; and also to Leslye Altemeier, Cheryl Davis, Susanne O'Brien, and Kate Vettters for agreeing to serve on the textbook scholarship committee. Scholarship announcements went out to the colleges/universities the week of November 11, 2013. Deadline for applications is **February 8, 2014**. Presentations will be made at the Branch meeting on **April 5, 2014**.

Please support the **Visa Card Raffle** so we can give many textbook scholarships. Each ticket is **\$10 or three for \$25** and will be available at the **December 7** brunch. The drawing for the winning ticket will be at the end of the meeting. ~ Karen Reichensperger, Scholarship Chair

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2012-2013

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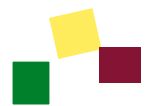
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FOR RESERVATIONS

kvettters@sbcglobal.net

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INTEREST & STUDY GROUPS

DECEMBER

CHAT-N-CHEW

Sunday, December 8, 2013 • 2:00 pm
Contact Malinda Gaul 210-410-8992 or
mgaul@satx.rr.com

CULINARY ADVENTURES

On a Holiday Break

HISTORIC SOUTHWEST

Saturday, December 14, 2013 • 12:00 pm
Program **The History of Christmas, Past and Present**
Speaker **Helen Kyse**, AAUW member, writer and speaker
Location **Doubletree Hotel** at McCullough and Lp 410
Contact Sophie Lim (before Thursday, Dec 5)
210-445-0654 or limsoph@gmail.com

NIGHT BRIDGE

Monday, December 2 and 16, 2013 • 6:45 pm
Location **La Madeleine Park North** (Lp 410 & Blanco)
Contact Marilyn Traylor 210-696-8299 or
mjanetray@yahoo.com

SATURDAY BOOK DISCUSSION

Saturday, December 14, 2013 • 11:00 am
Book **The Well and the Mine** by Gin Philips
Location: Fran Vetter's House
Contact Diantha Perelli 210-497-4121 or
cyclobabe1946@yahoo.com

WORLD AFFAIRS DISCUSSION GROUP

Tuesday, December 3, 2013 • 10:00 am
Topic **Threat Assessment**
(#8 in Great Decision 2013)
Contact Margaret Mayberry 210-496-5333 or
mfmayberry@aol.com

JANUARY

CULINARY ADVENTURES

Thursday, January 16, 2014 • 11:30 am
Location **John the Greek** (johnthegreek.com)
16602 San Pedro Ave • 210-403-0565
Contact Fran Vetter's to reserve 210-481-7765 or
frankenvetters@sbcglobal.net

HISTORIC SOUTHWEST

Saturday, January 11, 2014 • 12:00 pm
Program **The Scenic Loop - Boerne Stage Historic Corridor**
Speaker **Susan Beavin**
Location **Doubletree Hotel** at McCullough and Lp 410
Contact Sophie Lim (before Thursday, Jan 9)
210-445-0654 or limsoph@gmail.com

NIGHT BRIDGE

Monday, January 6 and 20, 2014 • 6:45 pm
Location **La Madeleine Park North** (Lp 410 & Blanco)
Contact Marilyn Traylor • 210-696-8299 or
mjanetray@yahoo.com

SATURDAY BOOK DISCUSSION

Saturday, January 11, 2014 • 10:00 am
Book **In the Garden of Beasts: Love, Terror and an American Family in Hitler's Berlin** by Eric Larson
Location Mary Heye's House
Contact Diantha Perelli • 210-497-4121 or
cyclobabe1946@yahoo.com

WORLD AFFAIRS DISCUSSION GROUP

Tuesday, January 21 or 28 • 10:00 am
Topic **#1** in upcoming **2014 Great Decisions book**
Contact Margaret Mayberry • 210-496-5333 or
mfmayberry@aol.com

WANDERING WONDERS

Friday, January 24, 2014 • 10:00 am
Location **Mission Reach from Mission San Jose to Espada Mission** (southern portion)
Contact Nancy Fix Anderson for information,
sign-up, arrange carpooling • 210-370-9459
or anderson@loyno.edu

PHILANTHROPY CORNER

#GivingTuesday — December 3, 2013

After a successful inaugural effort during the fall of 2012, a unique giving experience will take place this year on **December 3, 2013** called **#GivingTuesday**, which is catching on across the country and around the world.

What is **#GivingTuesday** exactly? It's a national movement during the holidays dedicated to charitable giving, similar to how **Black Friday** and **Cyber Monday** have become days that are synonymous with holiday shopping. The goal of **#GivingTuesday** is to encourage people everywhere including retailers, charities, online organizations, community centers, individuals, and families to come together with one common purpose — to help others and incentivize ways to give more, give smarter, and celebrate the great American spirit of generosity through charitable contributions and volunteerism.

[From the Charity Navigator Website]

On **#GivingTuesday**, please consider making a *tax-deductible contribution* to one or more of the following non-profit 501(c)(3) organizations on the branch agenda this year:

- **AAUW Funds** <http://www.aauw.org/contribute/>
- **Expanding Your Horizons** (payable to the University of the Incarnate Word, c/o Dr. Tina Lopez, 4301 Broadway CPO#99, San Antonio, TX 78209)
- **San Antonio Children's Museum** <http://www.sakids.org/home.aspx>
- **San Antonio Food Bank** <http://www.safoodbank.org/>
- **San Antonio Youth Literacy** <http://www.sayl.org/>
- **Slow Foods South Texas** <http://slowfoodsouthtexas.org/>
- **Women & Girls Development Fund** <http://www.saaafdn.org/Women-Girls-Donate>
- **YOSA, the Youth Orchestras of San Antonio** <http://www.yosa.org/>

Random Moments in AAUW History – the First 65 Years

- 1885 First research report issued
- 1888 First fellowship granted
- 1905 Supported the first federal pay equity legislation
- 1907 Began study of equal pay
- 1913 Report on Civil Service jobs and pay found that women were paid about 78% of what similarly employed men earn
- 1938 Documented Discrimination in academia
- 1940 AAUW War Relief Fund set up to assist European scholars and university women displaced by the military occupation
- 1942 AAUW and the war effort supported the establishment of women's armed services units and advocated for equal pay and rank for women
- 1946 AAUW became a permanent U.N. observer after being a vocal advocate for the establishment of the United Nations

AAUW Fund Spotlight

The Eleanor Roosevelt Fund

In 1988, the AAUW Educational Foundation established the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund, which expanded the AAUW's education focus to girls in grades K12. This Fund supports AAUW research to provide analysis, data, and accurate information about important issues for women and girls. Past reports include *Why So Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics* (2010), *Crossing the Line: Sexual Harassment at School* (2011), *The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap* (2012), and *Graduating to a Pay Gap: The Earnings of Women and Men One Year after College Gradation* (2012). Over the years, outstanding teachers have received fellowships from the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund to explore new teaching methods to enhance education for girls.

The annual **Eleanor Roosevelt Fund Award** honors an individual, project, organization, or institution for outstanding contributions to equality and education for women and girls. This award is given for a broad range of activities including classroom teaching, education and research, and legal and legislative work in equality for women and girls.

Watch your emails in January, as the **San Antonio branch is planning a fundraising event in mid-January** to benefit the National AAUW Funds. Due to the long-standing, generous contributions of AAUW members, a broader community of women continues to gain access to educational and economic opportunities—breaking through barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

AAUW Public Policy

Stand UP for Texas Women and Families

The stakes for Texas women and families have never been higher. We need our elected officials to stand with Texas women and families and provide them with the support they need for a healthy and well-rounded future. AAUW Texas requests you sign the, *Stand Up for Texas Women and Families* petition, that follows and make your voice heard!

STAND UP FOR TEXAS WOMEN & FAMILIES PETITION

We call on you to...

- Support women's access to birth control, cancer screenings, and other preventive care services.
- Support access to affordable health care for all Texans.
- Support paid family, medical, and temporary disability leave laws.
- Support equal pay legislation.
- Support quality education that includes curricula based on scientific principles.

AAUW Texas plans to deliver all the signatures to Governor Perry on **Equal Pay Day, April 8, 2014**. Use the following link to go to the **Two Minute Activist** where you can sign the petition.

http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/50796/c/23/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=9070