



WOMAN'S NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CLUB

From The Right To Vote...The Power To Lead

Newsletter February 2017

President's Letter

These past two months have been momentous. A president we do not deserve gets sworn in. A multitude of alarmed, concerned women mobilize. The momentum builds to a crescendo. The idea of a March on Washington goes viral on social media. Community groups organize locally and feed into the National Women's March on Washington (WMW) efforts. The WNDC coordinates with these groups and is named the clubhouse or hub of the WMW. And four days of activity and activism at the club take shape.

The March on January 21 is a huge success. 1.2 million women and supporting men rally and march in the nation's capital. Globally, the number of marchers is over 5 million. More than 3.3 million people march in over 500 U.S. cities. The *Guinness Book of World Records* announces the March as the single largest march in history.

At WNDC, in less than two months we organized four packed days of events leading up to the March. The Club hosted day-long open houses with poster/sash/flag-making activities. Friends Committee on National Legislation led daily workshops on climate change, human rights, and criminal justice reform.

We hosted celebrities, activists, and performers including the Reverend Jesse Jackson, Fran Drescher, Senator Chris Van Hollen, Jack Evans, and Royce Gay, spiritual adviser to the Oglala Lakota Sioux Tribe. We had bands, a ballet performance, and singer Sarah Lee Guthrie and other songwriter/performers. We hosted a sold-out breakfast the 21st. New WNDC member Mercy Morganfield hosted the "Power of a Woman" event from 2 – 6pm, and the March organization team held a rollicking private party from 7 pm on.

And now we move to stage 2 – a resistance movement with the help of other progressive organizations. We are seeing new member applications pouring in. Women are charged! They want to engage. We are getting ready to lead the way.

— Nuchhi Currier

DNC Update: Upcoming Elections

A vigorous race for DNC Chair is now in full swing, with 7 official candidates reaching out to all 443 DNC members with personal phone calls, some general conference calls, and e-mails. The new chair and all officers will be elected at the DNC winter meeting in Atlanta, GA, February 23–26, 2017.

No one yet appears to be breaking away from the pack, and all of their platforms are similar: build state parties, develop the apparatus to elect Democrats up and down the ballot, and stop focusing only on presidential elections. Disappointingly, only one of the DNC Chair candidates is a woman. But happily, all candidates have agreed the chairmanship is a full-time job (which was an early issue), and the candidate who is currently a member of Congress has agreed to resign his seat if elected.

The DNC has held two regional forums (Phoenix, AZ, and Houston, TX), open to the public, for all candidates for DNC office to introduce themselves to all DNC members. Two others are scheduled: February 4 in Detroit, MI, and Saturday, February 11, 2017, in Baltimore, MD, from 9 am to 6 pm at the Baltimore Convention Center.

I will attend the Baltimore forum with my fellow DC DNC members (former DC Council Chairman Arrington Dixon, current DC Democratic Party Chair Councilwoman-at-Large Anita Bonds, and Vice-Chair Ed Pottillo). Our MD and VA colleagues are likely to join us. If enough WNDC members are interested in attending the Baltimore forum, I will help arrange rides to and from the event. Please notify Pat Fitzgerald pfitzgerald@democraticwoman.org if you are interested in attending. As the DNC finalizes arrangements, I will forward information directly to you.

As we go to press, our WNDC president is arranging for the candidates for DNC Chair to appear in a forum at the WNDC on the evening of February 15. (See page 4 for details.) And stay tuned for my report on the election in our March newsletter.

— *DNC Update is a new feature from our Vice President for Administration, MaryEva Candon, Esq., who is DC Democratic National Committee-woman, elected citywide in 2014 to a four-year term.*



CLUB NEWS

Wednesday, February 1, 2017 (Evening)



Marianne Williamson:

Sisterhood Is Giant – Peace, Social Justice, Feminism, and Spirituality in the Age of Trump

TIME: 6:00PM—8:00 PM

Marianne Williamson, celebrated, *New York Times*' best-selling author of 11 books, spiritual teacher, and activist for a new feminist-empowered politics, brings her prophecy of the power of love to build a new, progressive politics, and to spell out where we go from here in the age of Trump. Based in part upon the set of books called "A Course in Miracles," a self-study program of spiritual psychotherapy drawn on universal spiritual themes, her point of view is rooted in how to link head and heart. Her first priority is to encourage women to run for (and win) political office and align their politics with their spiritual as well as progressive values. She will discuss two of her recent books, *Tears to Triumph* and *Healing the Soul of America*, which aim to help people reclaim their voices as "spiritual citizens", as well the large conference, "Sister Giant 2017," February 2-4, in Arlington, where Senator Bernie Sanders will deliver the keynote address.

The books will be available for purchase and signing.

PRICE: \$25 Members/ \$30 Non-Members; \$10 Lecture only

Thursday, February 2, 2017 (Evening)

10 Actions/100 Days: Women's March on Washington (WMW) Postcards, Letter Writing and Phone Banking



TIME: 5:00 PM– 7:00PM

Organized by the same people who put together the Women's March (WMW), [10 Actions/100 Days](#) offers step-by-step instructions for participating. First: write a postcard to your senator about an issue you care about. They even provide the

postcard. Every 10 days, a new action will be unveiled, and you'll have another chance to make your voice heard.

Speakers from the WMW and the Friends Committee on National Legislation will provide guidance on how best to write and call with examples of the most effective ways to convey your concerns to your representatives.

We will provide blank postcards, markers and stamps, but **we suggest a \$3 donation to cover supplies!**

PRICE: The event is free, but registration is required. Cash Bar.

Mondays, February 6 - April 10, 2017 (Evening)

Gentle Vinyasa Yoga Series



TIME: 6:00—7:00PM

Vinyasa Yoga is a fluid integration of breath and movement designed to awaken your inner strength, cultivate balance, and connect you with greater consciousness from within. Through meditation,

breathwork, and gentle flowing sequences, expect an accessible mixed-level practice that will both challenge and meet you where you are. Be prepared to build your practice in a safe environment with humor and ease. Come on in. The water is fine.

Dahlia Shaaban is a DC-based teacher, speaker, and coach in yoga and nutrition. Before launching her integrative health practice, she began her career in Middle East conflict resolution, serving in the Iraq Program at the U.S. Institute of Peace.

PRICE: Individual classes are \$10 per person.

Tuesday, February 7, 2017 (Lunch)

THE U.S. ROLE IN A CHANGING WORLD SERIES:

Peter Kornbluh: U.S.-Cuba Relations after Fidel and Obama: What's Next with Trump?



This talk will focus on what President Obama accomplished with his historic policy of engagement toward Cuba and the looming political fight to sustain a sane approach to relations with Havana in the Trump administration.

Peter Kornbluh is a senior analyst at the National Security Archive at George Washington University, and is the lead correspondent on Cuba for *The Nation* magazine. Last March, he accompanied President Obama to Cuba as part of the White House Press Corps. His last book *Back Channel to Cuba: The Hidden History of Negotiations between Washington and Havana* (with William LeoGrande), won an award for "distinguished writing on American diplomacy" from the American Academy of Diplomacy.

The book will be available for purchase and signing.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, February 8, 2017 (Evening)

SOCIAL ROLE IN THE ARTS SERIES:

**Mosaic Theater's Ari Roth and Anu Yadav:
Whither Diversity in the Age of Trump?
Mosaic Theater Explores Race & Identity in Our
Political Moment**



TIME: 6:00 PM—7:30 PM

In its February world premiere of "Hooded, or Being Black for Dummies" by Tarrance Arvelle Chisholm and a new play "Ism: A tragicomedy" by Anu Yadav, the edgy Mosaic Theater provokes discussion on issues of identity, racism, sexism, and lighter subjects, e.g. body hair. Ari Roth, Anu Yadav, and others associated with these productions will discuss about the intersection of art with the political moment. WNDC members will recall the exciting program that Ari and Anu participated in two years ago, when Mosaic Theater was still in the embryonic stage, and won't want to miss learning of its rapid rise to Washington leadership in engaged theater.

Ari Roth, award winning playwright of *Born Guilty*, *Goodnight Irene*, and *Andy and The Shadows*, has been a DC- based artistic director for 20 years. Anu Yadav is the writer/performer of the acclaimed *Capers*, *Capers Revisited*, and *Meena's Dream*.

PRICE: \$25 Members; \$30 Non-Members (includes buffet); \$10 Lecture only

Thursday, February 9, 2017 (Evening)

Spring New Member Reception



New Members at Winter Reception 2016

Please join WNDC officers, Board members, and other members to enjoy refreshments and a complimentary soft drink, wine, or cocktail. Learn about opportunities to take part in the work and fun of WNDC. All new members who joined since November 2016 are especially invited to get to know WNDC members and to learn more about the Club. Guests are also welcomed.

PRICE: This event is free, but registration is required.

Thursday, February 9, 2017 (Evening)

Spring Art Exhibition Reception

Michelle René Cobb: "The Art of Seeing: A Retrospective"

TIME: 6:30 PM—8:00 PM

In my work, I seek to see life in a deeper way, to see the invisible qualities, the ever-changing atmosphere, capturing a moment in time. Seeing is something you feel, experience and study, requiring a sustained and persistent focus. Looking and actually seeing is not the same thing. My mentor Edward Loper, Sr., once said, "Seeing is a learned thing. It's not a natural instinct, and once you've learned to see, the world will never look the same to you."

My goal is to bring the viewer into my vision. I do not worry about focusing on the objects or the subjects before me. My focus is on creating a work of art using my knowledge of color, light and a well-designed composition to seize a particular moment in time. Once I have completely surrendered to seeing, it is then in that space, that I can create.

My work as a professional artist spans four decades of my life, which includes many years as a *Time-Life* designer/art director and educator. My culminating years of experience as a designer and fine artist are present in all of my work. I am inspired by the design I see in nature, whether it's in the rugged mountains of Europe, the natural beauty of Martha's Vineyard and Chadds Ford, a remote village in West Africa, or the urban beauty of Washington, DC. Plein air painting in these beautiful locations is a major part of developing my vision." —Michelle René Cobb

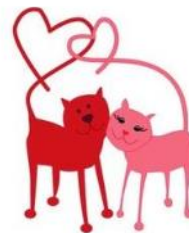


The exhibition opens on February 2, 2017, and will be on display until April 25, 2017.

Tuesday, February 14, 2017 (Evening)

Valentine Wine Tasting and Music

TIME: 6:00 PM — 8:00 PM



Couples or singles, young, old or in between – join WNDC at a special Valentine's celebration of love in all its forms and live music that makes hearts grow fonder! Price includes four one-ounce tastings of red/rose wines or non-alcoholic drinks along with refreshments and chocolates. Cash bar for additional drinks.

This program is co-sponsored with the Dupont Circle Citizens Association.

PRICE: \$25 Members; \$30 Non-members.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, February 15, 2017 (Evening)

DNC Chair Candidates Forum

TIME: 6:00 PM—8:30 PM

Join WNDP for the final forum with the candidates running for Chair of the Democratic National Committee. This is the last opportunity to meet and listen to the future leader of the Democratic Party.

Sally Boynton Brown: Executive Director, Idaho Democratic Party & President, Association of State Democratic Executive Directors

Ray Buckley: Chair, New Hampshire Democratic Party & Chair, Association of State Democratic Chairs

Pete Buttigieg: Mayor, South Bend, Indiana

Keith Ellison: Congressman, Minnesota's 5th Congressional District

Jehmu Greene: Political Strategist & Former President, Rock the Vote

Jaime Harrison: Chair, South Carolina Democratic Party

Tom Perez: Former Secretary of Labor

PRICE: This event is free, but registration is required. Cash Bar.

Thursday, February 16, 2017 (Lunch)

Amy Ziff: Living in a Toxic World: Empowering Consumers in the Trump Era

TIME: 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Luncheon speaker presentation and discussion with **Amy Ziff, founder and executive director of MADE SAFE™**, America's first comprehensive nontoxic certification to cross consumer product categories. Amy will discuss how we as consumers can get educated and protect ourselves from the unregulated toxic tsunami of ingredients allowed to be used in our everyday products.

PRICE: \$25 Members; \$30 Non-members (includes lunch); \$10 Lecture only



Friday, February 17, 2017 (Evening)

Movie Night: Suffragette

**TIME: 6:00 PM—Bar opens with light dinner
7:00 PM —Film starts**

"Suffragette", a moving drama inspired by true events, explores the passion and heartbreak of women in early 20th century Britain, who were willing to lose everything to fight for equality and the right to vote. They risked their jobs, their homes, their children, and even their lives. Their civil disobedience sparked debate across the nation.

Three-time Academy Award winner Meryl Streep and Academy Award nominees Carey Mulligan and Helena Bonham Carter head the cast.

PRICE: \$25 Members/\$30 Non-Members (Light dinner and movie); \$10 Movie only. Cash Bar.



Tuesday, February 21, 2017 (Evening)

Peter and the Starcatcher: A Panel Discussion with Allison Arkell Stockman, Dallas Tolentino and Megan Graves

TIME: 5:30 PM— 7:30 PM



Get the word from the two young stars of this incredible Broadway musical theater hit, staged by Constellation Theater Company,

playing at Source Theater from February 9 – March 12.

These two talented "triple-threats" — as the leads of this adult prequel to J.M. Barrie's "Peter Pan" — will talk about how they developed their roles. Dallas is one of the "lost boys," the one who becomes (later) Peter Pan, and Megan plays "Molly," who will later become Wendy. Plus Allison Arkell Stockman, the co-founder and artistic director of Constellation — now in its 10th anniversary season with string of critical and commercial hits — will take us behind the sense of its creative shaping and staging. The show features a superb cast and is a musical treat, integrating on a small stage a stylish script, stunning choreography, and catchy tunes.

WNDP members will also be offered discount tickets.

PRICE: \$20 Members; \$25 Non-members.

Wednesday, February 22, 2017 (Evening)

April Ryan: At Mama's Knee: "America in Black and White"

TIME: 5:30 PM — 7:30 PM

Celebrated journalist and author April D. Ryan, White House bureau chief and correspondent for American Urban Radio Networks, will talk about race in America, from a black mother's perspective, at the dawn of the post-Obama era, when mothers are on the front lines of racial revolution, and reconciliation. Her latest book, *At Mama's Knee: Mothers in Black and White* (2016), is an explosive look into what mothers really teach their children about race in America. She also draws from interviews with iconic Americans, including Presidents Barack Obama and Jimmy Carter, Hillary Clinton, Congressman John Lewis, Congresswoman Barbara Lee, Harry Belafonte, Senator Cory Booker, and Obama White House advisor Valerie Jarrett.

The book will be available for purchase and signing.

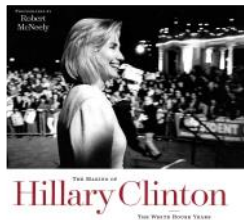
PRICE: \$20 Members; \$25 Non-members. Includes Hors d'Oeuvres. Cash Bar.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday February 23, 2017 (Lunch)

Robert McNeely: "The Making of Hillary Clinton: The White House Years"



McNeely, official White House photographer during the presidency of Bill Clinton, reveals never-before-seen, candid, intimate images of the First Lady, Hillary Rodham Clinton, in a photo-chronicle of her transformation in the 1990s into a national policymaker on health care reform and so much more.

This remarkable photo essay foreshadows her unprecedented role as a trailblazer for women in presidential politics, leading to her nomination for President in 2016.

It is impossible to comprehend the past twenty-five years of American politics without understanding both Hillary and Bill Clinton. She redefined the role of First Lady, taking an office in the West Wing. She became a key member of her husband's inner circle of policymakers as well as traveling overseas, including to Beijing, China to deliver her famous speech that "women's rights are human rights."

The book will be available for purchase and signing.

Thursday February 23, 2017 (Evening)

Good Neighbors or a Closed Door?

THE REFUGEE CRISIS IN AMERICA

Trump's Ban on Entry, and a Local Response on Capitol Hill



TIME: 5:30 PM—7:30 PM

How ought we treat "strangers in a strange land"? How can we counter the prejudice and fear of Americans towards Muslim refugees fleeing lands of civil wars? One way is to extend helping hands to new refugee families. Three residents from the multi-faith group Good Neighbor of Capitol Hill describe how they mobilized to support a family that arrived January 17 and to help two additional families. Homes are being furnished with clothing, linens, kitchen and bath supplies, cell-phones and computers. Arriving families are met at the airport; offered help with transportation, medical appointments, and job interviews; and supported financially during their first year here.

The panel includes Karen Getman (Episcopalian), Bendan Daneher (Methodist) and Kathryn Tobias (Lutheran). Their challenge is simple: We are called to acts of radical hospitality. Also invited is former Secretary of State Madeline Albright, who has called this ban on refugees "a cruel measure" and "a stark departure from America's core values."

PRICE: \$20 Members; \$25 Non-members.

Rescheduled Trip to Stratford-upon-Avon for the 401st William Shakespeare Anniversary Sunday, June 11 — Saturday, June 17, 2017



Postponed due to the fall election campaign, the Club's Shakespeare tour is again being organized with the help of the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust (SBT), a small group tour (maximum 20 - 25 persons) of Stratford, New Place (the bard's home as an adult), and a few surrounding historic sites. Plays at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre for that time period include Julius Caesar and

Anthony and Cleopatra. The idea for this tour was sparked by a luncheon talk last year by SBT's executive director, Diana Owen. Please email or phone Pat Fitzgerald at the Club (pfitzgerald@democraticwoman.org) for full details on pricing and a detailed itinerary.

We will meet in London over the weekend, and then proceed to Stratford. We have secured a sufficient number of rooms at the White Swan hotel--check out their website--and there are still several rooms available. A few are on the ground floor, and it is located in the center of Stratford. **For attendees, either confirmed or just interested, our next organizational meeting is on February 9, 2017, at 11:00 AM.**

Tuesday, February 28, 2017 (Lunch)

Honoring Black History Month

William Ferguson Reid: "From Segregation to Political Activism – A Life Story Continues"

Still politically active past age 90, Dr. William Ferguson Reid ("call me Fergie") recounts his story of growing up in segregated Richmond, getting his MD at Howard University and Master's Degree in Public Health at New York University, and working around the world as a regional medical officer with the State Department. Dr. Reid also led voter registration, fair housing, and civil rights campaigns. He won election to three terms on the Virginia House of Delegates as the state's first black elected legislator since Reconstruction. His political activities continue to the present. Dr. Reid's website is 90for90.org, the meaning of which he'll explain in his presentation.



Calendar — February 2017

MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI
		<p>1</p> <p>Luncheon Available with Reservation</p> <p>Arena Stage: Roe 11:00 AM</p> <p>Marianne Williamson 6:00 PM</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Program Committee Meeting 10:00 AM</p> <p>10 Actions/100 Days 5:00 PM</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Luncheon Available with Reservation</p>
<p>6</p> <p>Gentle Vinyasa Yoga Class 6:00 PM</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Public Policy Committee Meeting 10:30 AM</p> <p>Peter Kornbluh: The U.S. Role in a Changing World Series Speaker Luncheon</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Executive Committee Meeting 10:30 AM</p> <p>Ari Roth: Social Role of the Arts Series 6:00 PM</p>	<p>9</p> <p>New Member Reception 5:30 PM</p> <p>Spring Art Exhibition Reception 6:30 PM</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Luncheon Available with Reservation</p>
<p>13</p> <p>Gentle Vinyasa Yoga Class 6:00 PM</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Valentine Wine Tasting and Music 6:00 PM</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Luncheon Available with Reservation</p> <p>Board of Governors Meeting 10:30 AM</p> <p>DNC Candidates Forum 6:00 PM</p>	<p>16</p> <p>EF Board Meeting 10:15 AM</p> <p>Amy Ziff 12:00 PM</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Luncheon Available with Reservation</p> <p>VAMA Committee Meeting 10:30 AM</p> <p>Movie Night "Suffragette" 6:00 PM</p>
<p>20</p> <p>CLUB CLOSED — HOLIDAY</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Global Women Task Force Meeting 10:30 AM</p> <p>Social & Economic Justice Task Force Meeting 11:30 PM</p> <p>Peter and the Starcatcher 5:30 PM</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Luncheon Available with Reservation</p> <p>April Ryan 5:30 PM</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Robert McNeely Speaker Luncheon</p> <p>National & Local Perspectives: Welcoming Refugees to America 5:30 PM</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Luncheon Available with Reservation</p>
<p>27</p> <p>Gentle Vinyasa Yoga Class 6:00 PM</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Dr. William Ferguson Reid Speaker Luncheon</p>	<p>Luncheon Available with Reservation</p>		

Luncheons available Wednesday and Friday. **Cost: \$20 (buffet) or \$25 (plated).** Reserve 24 hours ahead at (202) 232-7363 ext. 3003
Cancellation policy: Credit is given if cancellations are made at least two business days in advance.

WNDC Officers, Committees, Meetings

WNDC Officers 2016-2017

President	Nuchhi Currier
Vice Presidents:	
Administration	MaryEva Candon
Communications	Elizabeth Joyce
Public Policy	Karen Pataky
Programs	David Hoffman
Membership	Vacant
Visual Arts & Museum Affairs	Nuzhat Sultan
Public Liaison	Gail Gottlieb
Treasurer	Miae Song
Secretary	Judy Hubbard

Educational Foundation Board 2016-2017

EF President	Jean Rogers rogersm@cox.net
Vice President	D. Anne Martin dannemar83@gmail.com
Financial Secretary	Dianne Lorenz dianne.lorenz@verizon.net
Nuchhi Currier	Ex officio,
Michael Beidler	Michael@troutdesign.com
Nuzhat Sultan	nuzhatsultan@gmail.com
Betsy Clark	
Patricia Leslie	patricialeighleslie@yahoo.com

WNDC Committees Chairpersons

Arts & Museum	Nuzhat Sultan artswndc@gmail.com
By-Laws	Susan Rao susanraorealtor@gmail.com
Communications	Elizabeth Joyce lafleurjoyce@gmail.com
Program Planning	David Hoffman djhoffmanscreen@aol.com

February Meetings

Thursday 10:00 AM	February 2 Program Committee
Tuesday 10:30 AM	February 7 Public Policy Committee
Wednesday 10:30 PM	February 8 Executive Committee
Wednesday 10:30 AM	February 15 Board of Governors
Thursday 10:15 AM	February 16 Educational Foundation
Tuesday 10:30 AM	February 21 Global Women Task Force
Tuesday 11:30 PM	February 21 Social & Economic Task Force

Public Policy and Political Action

Vice President	Karen Pataky kjpataky@comcast.net
-----------------------	---

The Committee for Public Policy and Political Action is composed of task force chairpersons and at-large members. All WNDC members are welcome at PPC meetings. If you wish to join a task force, please contact Karen Pataky or the Task Force Chair.

Public Policy Task Forces	Chairperson
DC Statehood	MaryEva Candon candon@candonlaw.com
Education/Children's Issues	Maria Ross mrosaross@aol.com
Earth & Environment	Jean Stewart jean.stewart@rcn.com
Faith & Values	Kristin Cabral Cabral@KristinCabral.com
Global Women	Veena Trehan veena0323@yahoo.com
GOTV Campaign Committee	OPEN
Gun Policy	Gail Gottlieb mgailgottlieb@gmail.com
Health Care	Karen Pataky kjpataky@comcast.net
Social & Economic Justice	Veena Trehan veena0323@yahoo.com
Voting Rights/Election Reform	Kristin Cabral

ON THE RADAR

Wednesday, March 1, 2017

WNDC/Demlist DNC Chair Welcome Reception

Thursday, March 2, 2017 (Evening):

Panel Discussion — Turkey

Tuesday, March 14, 2017 (Lunch):

The U.S. Role in a Changing World Series:
Dr. Shibley Telhami

Thursday, March 16 (Lunch):

Tess Masters & Ashley Koff: Better Nutrition

March Newsletter Deadline: Wednesday, February 15

We gladly post late submissions on the website, but we cannot print any items submitted after the deadline.

Luncheon Schedule

11:30 AM	Bar Opens
12:15 PM	Lunch Served
1:00 PM	Presentation
1:45 PM	Q&A

Pricing: Members \$25 /Non-Members \$30/
\$10 Lecture Only



[DemList](#), a new WNDC partner, is a *free*, daily national political column, calendar and resource site for Democrats and allies — a unique, central source that connects people to the who, what and where of Democratic events, issues and activism. [Sign up](#) for the Daily political column!



**Woman's National Democratic Club
1526 New Hampshire Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036**

