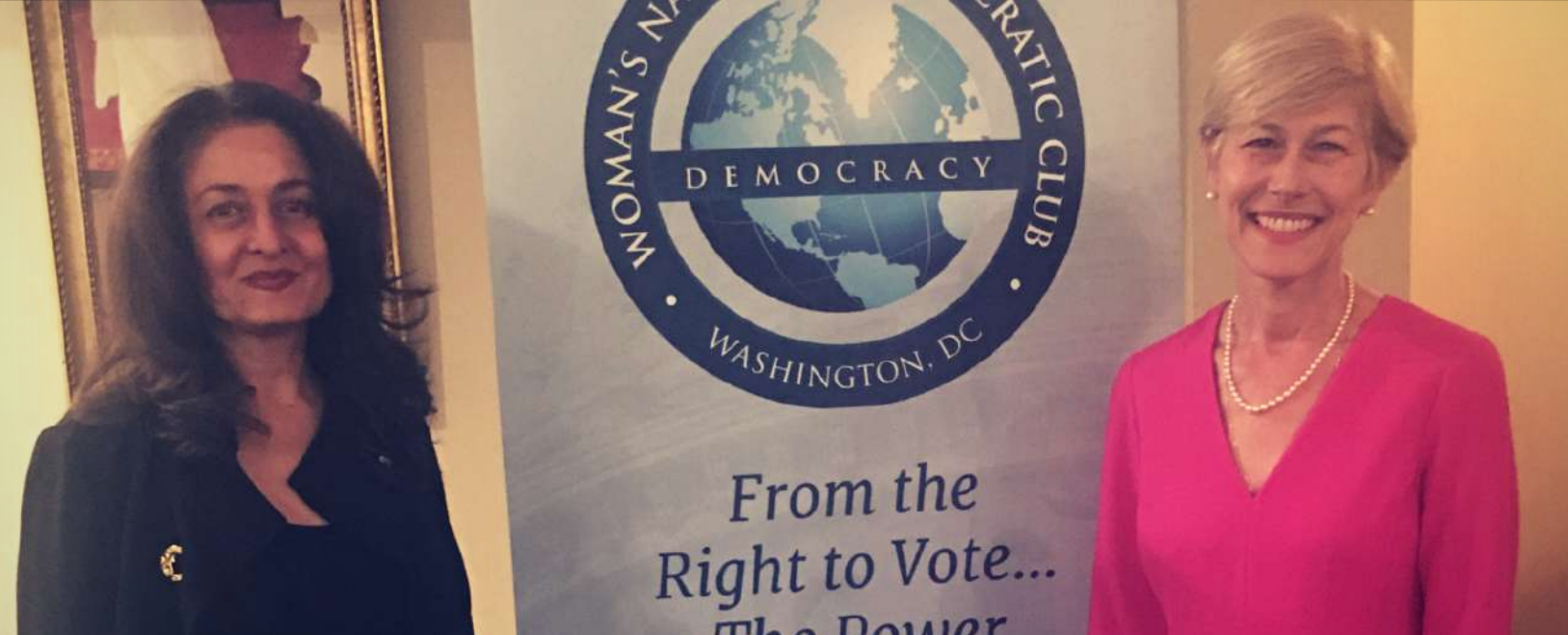


WNDC

NEWSLETTER | JANUARY 2018



From The Right To Vote... The Power To Lead
www.democraticwoman.org



WNDC President Nuchhi Currier and former NC legislator and Senate candidate Deborah Ross, who spoke at the Club on voter suppression and gerrymandering.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

A new year dawns. After the tumultuous reversals of 2017 in progressive policies, women's rights, and minority rights, we cannot help but be optimistic about 2018. The backlash to the Trump triumph in 2016 generated an outcry epitomized by the Women's March in January and resulted in organized and sustained activism by women not seen before. The 2017 elections in Virginia were the crowning glory, bringing large numbers of women into elected office and the trend appears to be continuing. Georgia just elected a woman mayor in Atlanta and women swept most vacant offices. The midterm elections appear likely to see this trend continue.

The year 2017 will be remembered as the year when the issue of sexual harassment rose to a crescendo. A spark ignited by allegations against Harvey Weinstein mushroomed into a wildfire with politicians, Hollywood stars and executives, and media personalities implicated in sexual misconduct. The reaction of the current administration was typical. The president, himself accused of similar crimes, reversed an Obama-era order that forbade federal contractors from keeping secret sexual harassment and discrimination cases. "This was a clear sign of the administration silencing women," said Jessica Sender, senior staff attorney for Equal Rights Advocates. "The Trump administration has a clear anti-women agenda," Sender said. "This is an all-out, full frontal attack on women."

In September, Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos rescinded a key Obama-era effort that defined sexual assault and set new standards for how schools should respond to such accusations. This was meant to help victims of sexual harassment and assault on college campuses. Under this administration, it was not allowed to stand.

And then there is pay discrimination against women and minorities. A rule that was devised by the EEOC over six years was scrapped in August 2017 that would have required companies to report data on how much they paid workers, broken down by race and ethnicity. This would have allowed some sunlight on the pay gap. The National Women's Law Center and the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement are attempting to overturn the decision. Without pay transparency, women and people of color have no way of knowing if they're paid unfairly and the practice can linger.

From Mr. Trump's repeal of President Obama's initiatives on pay discrimination to the budget floated in May, the failed repeal of the Affordable Care Act, and now the Republican tax bills, actions taken or backed by this administration harm women. These actions seem like a backlash to the growing demand for female equality and assertion of female power. Unless there is greater female representation in government institutions and the political arena nothing will change. Women will continue to be victimized both sexually and in other spheres of life. Women must run for office. They must aspire to lead. And we need to support them.

--Nuchhi Currier

JANUARY 2018 EVENTS

Tuesday, Jan. 9

Sanford J. Ungar - The Paradox of Free Speech in America Today

TIME: 11:30am – Bar opens;
12:15pm – Lunch served; 1-
2pm – Presentation and Q&A

Never has speech been freer in the United States, legally speaking, than it is today. Yet never have we had a harder time figuring out how to implement and enjoy that freedom. Ungar will discuss the exquisite dilemmas and agonizing crises over free speech on college campuses, in civil society, and in national and local politics.

Ungar, director of the Free Speech Project at Georgetown University, is president emeritus of Goucher College. Formerly, he was director of the Voice of America and dean of the School of Communication at American University. He is the author or editor of six nonfiction books.

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



Thursday, Jan. 11

Peter Baker, NY Times: Obama: The Call of History

TIME: 11:30am – Bar opens;
12:15pm – Lunch served; 1-
2pm – Presentation and Q&A

Before he started covering President Trump, Peter Baker, *The New York Times* Chief White House Correspondent, covered the Obama White House for eight years. Baker comes to the WNDC to talk about his book on the 44th president, *Obama: The Call of History*. The book is a survey of the first black president's two terms in office, with stunning color photos. It covers President Obama's victories, defeats, and evolving legacy.

Baker also covered the White House for *The Washington Post* during the presidencies of Bill Clinton and George W. Bush. He is the author of three other books and has won several awards, including the Gerald R. Ford Prize for Distinguished Coverage of the Presidency (twice) and the Aldo Beckman Memorial Award for White House Reporting (also twice). He has been described as the "go-to journalist and sage on recent US presidential events."

The book will be available for purchase and signing.

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



Thursday, Jan. 11

Wine & Cheese Happy Hour

TIME: 5:30 – 7:00pm

The Membership Committee invites all members to join us at the Whittemore House for a Wine and Cheese Happy Hour. We especially want to encourage new members to participate, as it is a perfect occasion to network and socialize, and get to know your other club members while enjoying a special assortment of cheeses and wines.

Special guest: Julie Kantor, Founder & CEO of Twomentor, LLC. She will talk about mentoring women in the workplace.

PRICE: \$10 per person. Includes one glass of wine. This is a Members Only Event.



Tuesday, Jan. 16

Social Role of the Arts Series: Documentary Film: *This Is Palestine*

TIME: Bar opens at
6:00pm, followed by Film
Screening at 6:30pm,
and Discussion at 7:30pm

While traveling through the West Bank and Gaza with Trocaire, an Irish charitable organization, **filmmaker John McColgan, founder of Riverdance**, interviews Israelis and Palestinians affected by the conflict. The film also depicts those Israelis and Palestinians who are working for a peaceful settlement of the conflict. McColgan also met with Israeli activists who campaign on behalf of Palestinian communities living under military occupation. The documentary was released in June 2017 to mark the 50th anniversary of the occupation of the West Bank and illustrates the urgent need to bring peace to all the people of Israel and Palestine.

Stella O'Leary, President of Irish American Democrats PAC, will discuss the ways in which the lessons learned in the Northern Ireland peace agreement could be applied to the Israeli/Palestinian conflict. Her remarks will be followed by Q & A.

PRICE: \$20 Members; \$25 Non-Members. Includes buffet. Cash Bar.





Thursday, Jan. 18

***Together We Rise:
The Women's March
- Behind the Scenes
At The Protest Heard
Around the World***

**A Conversation with
March Organizers
and Amy Siskind**

TIME: Bar opens at 6:00. Program begins at 7:00 pm, followed by book signing

On January 21, 2017, the day after Donald J. Trump's inauguration, more than three million marchers of all ages and walks of life took to the streets as part of the largest global protest in modern history. In red states and blue states, in small towns and major urban centers, people from eighty-two countries on all seven continents rose up in solidarity to voice a common message: Hear our voice.

Join us as we celebrate, honor, and hear from the March organizers in conversation with journalist and President of **The New Agenda**, **Amy Siskind**, and other special guests who will be discussing the book about the March and plans for 2018.

Compiled by Women's March organizers, in partnership with Condé Nast and *Glamour* magazine Editor-in-Chief Cindi Leive, *Together We Rise* -- published for the one-year anniversary of the event -- is the complete chronicle of this remarkable uprising. For the first time, Women's March organizers, including Bob Bland, Tamika Mallory, Carmen Perez, and Linda Sarsour, tell their personal stories and reflect on their collective journey in an oral history written by Jamia Wilson, writer, activist, and director of The Feminist Press. They provide an inside look at how the idea for the event originated, how it was organized, how it became a global movement that surpassed their wildest expectations, and how they are sustaining and building on the widespread outrage, passion, and determination that sparked it.

The book will be available for purchase and signing.

PRICE: \$20 Members; \$25 Non-members. \$15 Young Dems. Includes hors d'oeuvres. Cash bar.



Tuesday, Jan. 23

**US Role in a Changing
World Series:**

**North Korea: How Did We Get
to the Brink of War and What
Comes Next? John Feffer,
Institute for Policy Studies**

TIME: 11:30am – Bar opens;
12:15pm – Lunch served; 1-2pm –
Presentation and Q&A

More than 60 years after the Korean War, the United States and North Korea have returned to the brink of war. How did the two countries get to this point? What roles do South Korea and China play in sharpening or defusing the conflict? Is there still a chance to avert catastrophe? John Feffer has traveled several times to North Korea and is the author of *North Korea, South Korea: US Policy at a Time of Crisis*. He will discuss the origins of the current crisis and the different options now facing US policymakers.

Feffer, Director, Foreign Policy In Focus, Institute for Policy Studies, last spoke here Spring 2017 on the political role of storytelling. Besides his day job as a foreign policy expert, he also is a novelist, playwright, and performer.

Two books will be available for purchase and signing.

Aftershock: A Journey Into Eastern Europe's Broken Dreams (University of Chicago Press, 2017)

Splinterlands (Haymarket Books, 2016)

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



Thursday, Jan. 25

***The Newspaperman: The Life
and Times of Ben Bradlee*
Film screening, followed by
discussion with Sally Quinn**

TIME: Bar opens at 6:00pm.
Introduction at 6:30pm, followed
by Film Screening at 7:00pm,
Discussion Q&A at 8:15pm

John Maggio's award-winning documentary, *The Newspaperman: The Life and Times of Ben Bradlee*, which premiered on HBO December 4, is a must-see for all who care about the First Amendment and the importance of a free press in sustaining our democracy.

This intimate portrait of storied *Washington Post* editor Bradlee, the groundbreaking editor who brought down the Nixon White House with the *Post's* coverage of the Watergate scandal, could not be more relevant at a time that eerily parallels the Watergate era. Told primarily in his own words, *The Newspaperman* traces his career, which spanned the most critical moments of the second half of the 20th century, and also provides a look into his personal world, with home movies, photographs, archival footage, and interviews with a who's who of American journalism, Washington insiders, and family and friends.

Following the film, join Bradlee's widow, *Washington Post* journalist, author, and TV commentator Sally Quinn for a discussion of the film and her husband's impact on the world of journalism.

PRICE: \$20 Members; \$25 Non-members. Includes hors d'oeuvres. Cash bar.

Tuesday, Jan. 30

"Pollster of the Year" Anna Greenberg: Past and Future Voter Impact

TIME: 11:30am – Bar
opens; 12:15pm – Lunch
served; 1-2pm –
Presentation and Q&A

Hear from Anna Greenberg, of Greenberg, Quinlan, Rosner Research, the 2014 AAPC "Pollster of the Year," about her thoughts on the November 2017 Democratic election successes, and indications for the 2018 midterm elections and a possible reorganization of Congressional leadership. Greenberg has over 15 years of experience polling in the political, non-profit, and academic sectors. She joined GQRR in 2001, after teaching public opinion and survey research methodology at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. Greenberg works with a wide range of NGOs on issues ranging from women's health to LGBT rights to attitudes about religion to reducing gun violence to reforming drug laws. She heads GQR Digital and is a leader in the growing field of data analytics and micro-targeting, measuring the impact of social media on public opinion and using social media to move voters, consumers, and activists.

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



DNC Update

Our regular DNC Update column by DC Democratic National Committeewoman MaryEva Candon will resume next month.

DC Democratic National Committeewoman MaryEva Candon with DNC Chair Tom Perez

GCC National Messaging Project – Survey and Summit



Jobs-First.org is partnering with the Woman's National Democratic Club, Grassroots Coordinating Committee, to create a National Messaging & Policy Task Force. Its mission is to connect grassroots activists and Democratic Party officials in order to coalesce around a unified Democratic message for the 2018 Midterm elections and beyond. The Task Force's primary goal is the development of a "National Messaging & Policy Task Force - Strategic Plan," which can be integrated into the campaign platforms of Democratic candidates.

To include as many voices as possible, the Task Force is launching a National Messaging and Policy – Survey,

which will be in the field from November 20, 2017 – January 15, 2018. The survey asks for your top ten issues (five economic and five social justice) and selected groups will be invited to present their messages during the first "National Messaging & Policy Summit, scheduled for January 23, 2018, at the WNDC.

WNDC members are encouraged to take this survey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NationalMessagingTaskForce>.

The Task Force is also recruiting "Issue Teams" (five economic and five social), which will be responsible for organizing meetings, conducting literature reviews, and obtaining polling data. These teams also will draft "Issue Team Policy Proposals," which will be included in the Strategic Plan.

On January 23, 2018, the Task Force will hold the first "National Messaging & Policy Task Force - Summit" at the Woman's National Democratic Club. Among the topics that will be discussed are:

- Mission and goals of the National Messaging & Policy Task Force
- Results from the "National Messaging & Policy Task Force - Survey"
- How Democratic elected officials can work closely with grassroots groups to develop and deploy new messages and policy ideas
- Crafting an aspirational new message to win back the voters we lost in 2016
- The most important issues to voters and what types of policies will resonate in midterms

The Summit will include panel discussions on the future of Democratic messaging and policies, as well as breakout sessions to recruit "Issue Team" leaders and members.

For additional information, contact Ricardo Coleman at rcoleman@jobs-first.org.

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Administration: Marcie Cohen
Communications: Carol L. Rogers
Public Policy: Elizabeth Clark
Programs: Naomi Naierman
Membership: Maria R. Ross
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Public Liaison: Patricia Bitondo

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2017-2018

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Mark Your Calendar! Upcoming Spring 2018 Series Programs

Social Role of the Arts

January 16: Documentary *This is Palestine*
February 8: *Arts Venues Not to Miss in Anacostia* by Directors of Theater Arts Co. and Smithsonian's Anacostia Community Museum
March 13: WPAS President Jenny Bilfield and Student Performers on *How WPAS is Bringing Instrumental Music to DC Schools*
April 6: Poet and Activist Ethelbert Miller returns with his latest book, *If God Invented Baseball*
May (date TBD): Larry Rubin on *The Role of Songs in the Labor Movement*

US Role in a Changing World

January 23: John Feffer on North Korea: *How Did We Get to the Brink of War and What Comes Next?*
February 27: Golun Tol on *US-Turkish Relations*
March 27: Lori Wallach on *US Trade Policy under Trump*
Date TBD: Melvin Goodman on *The CIA* (To be rescheduled from November 30, 2017, cancelled program)

JANUARY

2018

MONDAY 01 TUESDAY 02 WEDNESDAY 03 THURSDAY 04 FRIDAY 05

Holiday - Club Closed		Health Policy Task Force Mtg 10:30am		Luncheon Available with Reservation
		Luncheon Available with Reservation		

MONDAY 08 TUESDAY 09 WEDNESDAY 10 THURSDAY 11 FRIDAY 12

	Sanford Ungar Luncheon	Membership Committee Mtg 9:00am	Executive Committee Mtg 10:30am	Educational Foundation Board Mtg 10:30am
	Young Dems Mtg 5:30pm	Luncheon Available with Reservation	Peter Baker Luncheon	Luncheon Available with Reservation
			Wine&Cheese Happy Hour 5:30pm	
			Public Policy Committee Mtg 6:30pm	

MONDAY 15 TUESDAY 16 WEDNESDAY 17 THURSDAY 18 FRIDAY 19

Holiday - Club Closed	VAMA Mtg 11:00am	Board of Governors Mtg 10:30am	Program Committee Mtg 10:30am	Luncheon Available with Reservation
	Building & Landscape Committee Mtg 2:00pm	Luncheon Available with Reservation	Together We Rise WMW Anniversary 6:00pm	
	Social Role of the Arts Series: <i>This Is Palestine</i> 6:00pm	February Newsletter Deadline		

MONDAY 22 TUESDAY 23 WEDNESDAY 24 THURSDAY 25 FRIDAY 26

	Social & Economic Justice Task Force Mtg 10:30am	Luncheon Available with Reservation	Ben Bradlee Documentary with Sally Quinn 6:00pm	Educational Foundation Board Mtg 10:30am
	John Feffer Luncheon			Luncheon Available with Reservation

MONDAY 29 TUESDAY 30 WEDNESDAY 31

	Anna Greenberg, Democratic Pollster Luncheon	Luncheon Available with Reservation		
	Foreign Policy Task Force Mtg 6:00pm			

Luncheons available upon request Wednesdays and Fridays. Cost: \$20 (buffet) or \$25 (plated).
 Speaker Luncheons schedules: 11:30am - Bar Opens | 12:15pm - Lunch Served | 1:00pm - Presentation | 1:45pm - Q&A |
 PRICE: \$25 Members/ \$30 Non-Members/ \$10 Lecture Only.
 Reserve 24 hours ahead at (202) 232-7363 | Cancellation policy: Credit is given if cancellations are made at least two business days in advance.

On the Radar February 2018 Events

Tuesday, Feb. 6 (Lunch)

UltraViolet's Shaunna Thomas

Thursday, Feb. 8 (Lunch)

Social Role of the Arts: Colin Hovde

Tuesday, Feb. 13 (Evening)

Educational Foundation Mardi Gras Party

Thursday, Feb. 15 (Evening)

New Members Reception

Thursday, Feb. 15 (Evening)

Art Exhibition Reception: Debebe Turufe Tesfaye

Tuesday, Feb. 27 (Lunch)

US Role in a Changing World:

Gonul Tol on Turkey

Tuesday, Feb. 27 (Evening)

Arena Stage: *The Great Society*



February Newsletter Deadline: Wednesday, January 17

We gladly post late submissions on the website, but we cannot print any items submitted after the deadline. Please request a template if interested in submitting an event or article via idescartes@democraticwoman.org.

Young Dems Monthly Meeting

The Membership committee is holding a monthly meeting for the **Young Dems** (18-40). The purpose of the meeting is to have ongoing conversations as to how we can meet the needs of the Young Dems and encourage them to have a voice as members of the Club. **We will meet on January 9, 2018, at 5:30pm** at WNDC. We will have ongoing meetings the second Tuesday of the month at 5:30pm.



Adopt a Sofa

The wooden frame of the Blair Room sofa has been restored, thanks to a generous donation from a member. The WNDC Educational Foundation is inviting members to adopt the sofa for the upholstery and fabric. \$6,000 will put this elegant piece back in the regal corner it has occupied for over 80 years. Donations made to WNDC-EF toward this project are fully tax deductible.



Woman's National Democratic Club

1526 New Hampshire Ave NW

Washington, DC 20036

YOUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



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