



W N D C

NEWSLETTER | FEBRUARY 2020



FROM THE RIGHT TO VOTE... THE POWER TO LEAD

www.democraticwoman.org

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

The Time Has Come



The year of reckoning is here. Women's issues will take center stage, yet again, in this crucial election year. With the state of Virginia turning blue came the possibility of the Equal Rights Amendment finally becoming law. There is poetic justice inherent in the fact that this struggle will be relaunched in 2020, the year of the centennial of suffrage. The 2018 elections led to historic gains for women as energized and enraged voters and first-time candidates continued a trend that started with the massive Women's March the day after Trump's inauguration and was further fueled by the #Me Too movement and Brett Kavanaugh's confirmation to the Supreme Court. Women ran, they voted, and they won—sometimes in the most unlikely races. In the November 2020 elections, as the Senate and the White House hang in the balance, Democrats will try to flip both.

Women candidates will be our primary focus.

The Iowa presidential primaries on February 3 will be followed by New Hampshire, Nevada, and South Carolina. Regardless of who the Democratic presidential nominee will be, Democrats will throw their weight behind her or him. The strategy for winning will be important. We need to focus on the districts and counties where the 2016 election was decided. While we look at state level gains for Senate seats and electoral college votes, we will also need to focus on the districts and counties where the 2016 election was decided. The WNDC will act as a hub, once again, to assist other active groups in formulating a winning strategy. We will also focus on states where there are winnable Senate seats. We will assist vulnerable House candidates as well, in order to maintain a healthy majority. And we need to keep our attention on state legislatures. Major initiatives such as gerrymandering, environmental action, and gun violence legislation usually get decided at the state level. Join us and get involved in whatever ways you are able.

As our Winning Wednesdays return in full force February 12, we will be concentrating on House and Senate races, initiating texting, postcarding, and phone banking. We will organize canvassing trips with our sister organizations, organize fundraisers, and pull out all the stops. As the election date draws close our weekly efforts will become daily ones. There is nothing we will not do to turn the tide. As the impeachment saga unfolds we see that justice and truth are victims of hyper-partisanship and venal, calculated self-interest. A firm resolve and concerted action are the only recourse. The time has come to move beyond words. Let us continue the winning trend of the last 3 years. There is too much at stake.

—Nuchhi Currier

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nuchhi Currier', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

FEBRUARY 2020 EVENTS

Tuesday, February 4 92nd Academy Awards Preview

*TIME: 12:15 pm—Lunch served;
1:00–2:00—Presentation*
\$25 members | \$30 non-members | \$10 lecture only



The *Washington Post's* chief film critic, **Ann Hornaday**, returns to the WNDP days before the 92nd Academy Awards presentation to discuss the Oscars, her analysis of her favorite movies, and other issues that roiled the motion picture industry this year.



Tuesday, February 4 State of the Union Watch Party

*TIME: 7:30 pm—doors open;
9:00 pm—SOTU Address*

FREE but registration required



Right in the middle of the ongoing uncertainty surrounding the Senate Trial, Donald Trump will go to Congress to deliver the State of the Union Address. We are all putting in everything we have to make sure it's his last. Join friends to come together to hear and discuss the speech, to fact-check together, and to find ways to take action in 2020.

Wednesday, February 5 Taking Back the Houses: The Democratic Party in 2020

TIME: 6:30–8:00 pm

\$20 members | \$25 non-Members

The leadership of the Democratic National Committee (DNC), the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee (DSCC), and the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC) come together at the WNDP to discuss their outlook, strategy and plans for the 2020 election cycle.

PANELISTS (Left to right):

Seema Nanda, CEO, DNC; **Jessica Knight-Henry**, Political Director, DSCC;
Lucinda Guinn, Executive Director, DCCC



Friday, February 7 Democratic Debate Watch

DEBATE TIME: 8:00–11:00 pm



Right after the Iowa caucuses, and right before New Hampshire primaries! One more debate. You know the drill. You bring the good cheer. We provide the bingo.

Wednesday, February 12 Winning Wednesday

TIME: 6:00–8:00 pm



Winning Wednesdays are back! Join us for the Winning Wednesday kick-off in this crucial CRUCIAL year! Learn what we plan to do this cycle and find ways to get—and stay—involved! Through the spring, Winning Wednesdays will be on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month.

FEBRUARY 2020 EVENTS

Friday, February 14

Valentine's Day Murder Mystery Dinner

TIME: 7:30–10:30 pm

Dinner: \$80 | cocktails only \$60



DC's history comes alive for one night only at this dangerous dinner party. Grab your Valentine, your pal-entine, or your gal-entine and join us as we try to solve the Mystery of the Masquerade Ball. Valentine's Day is a day of flowers and chocolates—unless you're a scorned ex or quarreling lover out for blood. Literally.

Your Dinner Ticket Includes:

- Hors d'oeuvres, dinner, and dessert
- Wine and beer open bar with signature cocktails
- Possible sightings of the ghost of Lady Whittemore
- The chance to explore the Whittemore House to find clues and work with your friends to solve a very mysterious murder

Your Cocktail Ticket Includes:

- Hors d'oeuvres and sweets
- Wine and beer open bar with signature cocktails
- Possible sightings of the ghost of Lady Whittemore
- The chance to explore the Whittemore House to find clues and work with your friends to solve a very mysterious murder

Tuesday, February 18

2020 WOMXN on Fire Festival Preview

TIME: 6:30–8:30 pm

\$20 members | \$25 non-members



Join us at WNDC for an exclusive sneak-peek at the 2020 WOMXN on Fire Festival. Enjoy complimentary drinks and snacks, mingle with the artists, and see and hear selections from the full-length show, the solo show, the 10-minute plays, and the cabaret. You'll be the first to experience these exciting premieres all by womxn-identifying artists. Every year Keegan Theatre's Boiler Room Series produces the WOMXN on Fire Festival to celebrate the phenomenal talents of DMV womxn theater makers.

Keegan's goals are simple: to create opportunities for emerging artists, to increase representation onstage, to provoke important conversations, to crank up the artistic heat on new works in progress, and to let loose the creative voices of tomorrow's theater.

Wednesday, February 19

Birthday Luncheon

TIME: 12:30 pm



If you were born in February, celebrate with WNDC friends at a delicious lunch in your honor. Invite friends and family, who will be treated to free birthday cake at this festive event, and you will get a free lunch.

Wednesday, February 19

Democratic Debate Watch

DEBATE TIME: TBA



Who knows what the debates will look like at this stage? Come and join the melee at the penultimate scheduled debate! (Two more are supposed to be announced later in the year.)

Thursday, February 20

Building a More Diverse Judicial Branch

TIME: 12:15 pm—lunch served;

1:00–2:00—presentation

\$25 members | \$30 non-members | \$10 lecture only



Those who are appointed to serve on the bench must be qualified, fair, and impartial. They must also be diverse. It has long been the case that the federal judiciary was lacking in diversity, but under the Trump administration, this phenomenon has been exacerbated. Overall, 85% of the confirmed lifetime judges during this administration have been white and 64% have been white men. The current administration has yet to nominate an African

American candidate to the circuit courts. **Zinelle October**, Interim President of the American Constitution Society helps us understand what we all can do to help build a fair judiciary.

FEBRUARY 2020 EVENTS

Thursday, February 20

New Member Reception

TIME: 5:30–7:00 pm

Please join WNDC officers, Board members, and other members for a fun evening of conversation and refreshments—including hors d'oeuvres and a complimentary drink. Learn about opportunities to take part in the work and fun of WNDC. We will have door prizes for a few lucky winners! Guests are also welcome and encouraged to attend.

Thursday, February 20

A Colorist's DC: Pastel Cityscapes by Jean Hirons Opening Reception

TIME: 5:30–7:00 pm



Jean Hirons, works in pastels and has made an exquisite series of Washington, DC urban landscapes especially for the WNDC Ballroom Gallery, including one of the WNDC. You will find our city's canals, alleys, and architecture in this exhibition beautifully rendered for our visual delight. She is an art teacher at Montgomery College and at Artists and Makers Studios in Rockville. The author of *Finding Your Style in Pastel*, she also has signature status in the Pastel Society of America and master circle status in the International Association of Pastel Societies.

Tuesday, February 25

Democratic Debate Watch

DEBATE TIME: TBA



It's the final scheduled candidate debate!!! Two more will be announced later in the year. So for the last time (that we know about), swing by the WNDC to hear the candidates and discuss their views.

Thursday, February 27

Congresswoman Debbie Dingell

TIME: 12:15 pm—Lunch served;

1:00–2:00—Presentation

\$25 members | \$30 non-members | \$10 lecture only



What is the House Democratic Caucus' policy agenda for 2020? What do they hope to achieve this year? Why have they prioritized these issues? What successes, challenges, and debates do they foresee? How can the electorate support them? Congresswoman **Debbie Dingell** (MI-12), Co-Chair of the House Democratic Policy and Communications Committee (DPCC) and Senior Whip, will walk us through the answers to these questions, as well as others that members and friends of the WNDC may have.

ON THE RADAR

Thursday, March 5

Feminist Bingo



We've rescheduled! Join us for a new date!

Join feminists and allies alike at the Whittemore House for a night of games, wine, and exceptional artwork. We'll be welcoming special guest Maggie O'Neill, artist, designer, and creative entrepreneur, to lead our Feminist Bingo game! Maggie will be showcasing multiple prints and originals of her artwork throughout the night.

CURRENT MEMBERS GET FREE ADMISSION TO EVENTS!

During our membership drive, current WNDC members receive free admission to any of our regular programs for each new member they recruit.

JOIN WNDC IN FEBRUARY: THREE FREE EVENTS

What a fantastic time to join the WNDC. As a new incentive during our membership drive, members who join the WNDC in February and pay a year's dues up-front will be invited to attend their first three regular program events for free.

BECOME A WINNING WEDNESDAYS GREETER

The Get Out the Vote (GOTV) Committee has an exciting schedule of Winning Wednesday events starting on February 12 and continuing through the 2020 election. Winning Wednesdays provide a wonderful opportunity for the WNDC to recruit these motivated and politically active women and men to multiply their strengths by joining us. If you want to welcome Winning Wednesday participants and tell them how politically and socially smart it is to be a member of the WNDC, please contact our Membership Committee co-Directors, Linda Wiessler-Hughes and Michael Hughes michaelinda88@hotmail.com.

JOIN THE WNDC MEMBERS-ONLY FACEBOOK PAGE

Now is the time for WNDC members to join our private Facebook page. Within the next couple of months, we will transfer the live stream of our events from the public page to our private page. We will continue to post our events publicly, but in order to see them you will have to be a member of the Club. If you are not yet a member, you can keep up with our wonderful programs by joining! Register for the Facebook page on <https://www.facebook.com/groups/wndc.communty/>

NEWS FROM THE *Educational Foundation*



FUNDRAISER TO TRANSFORM THE PUB: EF announced that it has raised more than \$32,000 to transform the Pub into a vibrant new gallery and multi-purpose space thanks to donations from more than 80 donors combined with a generous match from one of our wonderful donors! Thank you all!

WOMEN AND THE VOTE: In recognition of the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment and the 150th anniversary of the 15th Amendment—both essential milestones in the struggle for women's suffrage—EF has created and is distributing resources to support teachers and students, including a new interactive timeline on the history of Women and the Vote. Please visit WNDCEducationalFoundation.org/teachers-corner.

SAVE THE DATE: EF will celebrate International Women's Day with a tea on March 10, 2:00–4:00 with a panel of women ambassadors moderated by retired US Ambassador Adrienne McNeal. They will discuss women's voting patterns in their countries.

BACK TO THE 20s: On January 17, a collection of debonair denizens of the 20s marked the centennial of the day that the 18th Amendment went into effect. They lifted their glasses of French 75 and Gin Rickey (made by our man in the Green Hat with DC-brewed Green Hat gin) and listened and danced to songs from the era by "hypnotic" Steve Washington and his band, wonderful "chansons" by Jade Jones and her colleagues from the Keegan Theatre and ended the evening with Steve's rendition of Minnie the Moocher.

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION BOARD

President: Pamela R. Johnson
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WNDC President: Nuchhi Currier (ex officio)
WNDC Treasurer: Karen O'Connor (ex officio)



MONDAY	03	TUESDAY	04	WEDNESDAY	05	THURSDAY	06	FRIDAY	07
Democracy & Human Rights Task Force 4:00 pm		Lunch Available with Reservation		Lunch Available with Reservation		Lunch Available with Reservation		Lunch Available with Reservation	
Public Policy Committee 5:00 pm		Ann Hornaday Luncheon GOTV 6:00 pm		Taking Back The House Evening Program		Program Committee 12:30 pm		Debate Watch Party	
MONDAY	10	TUESDAY	11	WEDNESDAY	12	THURSDAY	13	FRIDAY	14
Environment Task Force 6:00 pm		Lunch Available with Reservation		Lunch Available with Reservation		Lunch Available with Reservation		Lunch Available with Reservation	
		VAMA Committee 2:30 pm		Board of Directors 10:30 am Winning Wednesdays		Membership Committee 5:00 pm		Valentine's Day Murder Mystery Newsletter Deadline	
MONDAY	17	TUESDAY	18	WEDNESDAY	19	THURSDAY	20	FRIDAY	21
President's Day Club Closed		Lunch Available with Reservation		Birthday Luncheon		Zinelle October Luncheon		Lunch Available with Reservation	
		WOMXN on Fire Festival Preview		Debate Watch Party		Young Dems 6:30 New Members Reception Art Exhibit Opening			
MONDAY	24	TUESDAY	25	WEDNESDAY	26	THURSDAY	27	FRIDAY	28
		Lunch Available with Reservation		Lunch Available with Reservation		Lunch Available with Reservation		Lunch Available with Reservation	
		Debate Watch Party		Winning Wednesdays		Congresswoman Debbie Dingell Luncheon			

WINNING WEDNESDAYS ARE *Back!*

It's that time again to kick off Winning Wednesdays at the Woman's National Democratic Club!

Join us to kick off this years edition on Wednesday, February 12 from 6:00–8:00 pm as we write letters and postcards, learn how to use social media for political activism, and get to work to take back the Senate and White House in 2020.

Winning Wednesdays will be held the second and fourth Wednesday of every month through the Spring. All are invited to bring their laptops/tablets, phones, and chargers to the Woman's National Democratic Club to take part in Winning Wednesday activities and help elect Democrats.

Lunch service available with reservation Tuesdays through Fridays, 11:30–2:00

Speaker luncheon schedules: 11:30 am bar opens | 12:15 pm lunch served | 1:00 pm presentation

Reserve 24 hours ahead via (202) 232-7363 or democraticwoman.org | Cancellation credit is given if cancellations are made at least two business days in advance.

WNDC OFFICERS

President: Nuchhi Currier
Vice President: Heather Bonnie McCabe
Treasurer: Karen O'Connor
Co-Secretaries: Cheryl Gannon & Pege Gilgannon

Directors:
Building and Grounds: Michael Lee Beidler
Communications: Winfield Swanson
Development: Cliftine Jones
Human Resources: Winfield Swanson
Public Policy: Karen Pataky
Programs: Molly McCartney
Membership:
Linda Wiessler-Hughes & Michael Hughes
Visual Arts & Museum Affairs: Nuzhat Sultan
Public Liaison: Patricia Bitondo & Gretchen Bloom

March Newsletter Deadline:
Friday, Feb. 14

We gladly post late entries on the website, but we cannot print any items submitted after the deadline. You may send your event write-up or article to lolliison@democraticwoman.org.

Publisher Information:
Anna Fierst, Newsletter Editor
Winfield Swanson, Director of Communications

ON THE RADAR

Mar. 5: Members Wine and Cheese
Mar. 10: International Women's Day
Mar. 11: Winning Wednesday
Mar. 17: Mayor Sharon Pratt
Mar. 19: Congressman Jamie Raskin
Mar. 25: Winning Wednesday
Mar. 20 & 27: Word Dance Theater

PUBLIC POLICY & POLITICAL ACTION

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Karen Pataky
Secretary
Jean Stewart
Communications
Elizabeth Vasquez

DC Metro
Pat Bitondo
Gretchen Bloom
Earth and Environment
Jean Stewart

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Woman's National Democratic Club

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YOUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



WNDC