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

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Dear Members and friends,

In our 100th year, WNDC members and leaders owe so much to our predecessors dating back to 1922. During our celebrations this year we will be mining the Club’s archives to find inspiration, round out a picture of WNDC’s impact, and to take lessons from past victories (and past mistakes).

One critical element in learning from the past is to vigilantly call out where the context has changed. While it may be comforting to build a case using the argument “this is what [WNDC founder] Emily Newell Blair would have wanted,” leaning too heavily on that brand of thinking risks setting us next to conservative “originalists” in the judicial system (notably Justices Thomas, Gorsuch, Kavanaugh, and Coney Barrett) who strive to apply the Founding Fathers’ literal words from circa 1789, blind to the societal growth, community awakening, and general march of progress.

Below I list three assumptions that I’ve observed at the Club that we would do well to revisit in 2022, so that our work may remain appealing, relevant, and Democratically productive:

- **Assumption #1 (social connection work): The Club is a place for women to learn and network over lunch.**
  - Reality: The scheduling of programs and Board meetings during weekdays has excluded the growing portion of WNDC members who work part- or full-time jobs. During COVID we’ve shifted many of these events to evening and (for now) to Zoom. Our investment in hybrid audiovisual equipment allows even more flexible collaboration. Of course, the best news of all will be an eventual safe and healthy return to the lunch culture that is a dear memory—but supplemented with co-working spaces upstairs and a balanced schedule that allows working and retired members to participate.

- **Assumption #2 (policy work): WNDC is a unique source for information, expertise, and opinion about politics and policies.**
  - Reality: Partly due to the influx of money after Citizens United, there has been an explosion in extremely effective and well-funded organizations in DC and beyond focusing on issues we care about. Among the roles WNDC can credibly play is to provide a forum for these professional experts to recommend action, to co-sign statements, to spread the word via our communications channels and social media, and to foster personal and professional networking under the Club’s auspices.

- **Assumption #3 (electoral work): Voters of color will vote for Democratic candidates.**
  - Reality: We have seen that the coalition has split up, and Republicans are aggressively making inroads into traditional Democratic voter blocs. Our GOTV activists will be wise to approach EVERY voter they encounter in battleground states as a persuasion target, engaging them rather than taking them for granted.

I believe that members of WNDC carry a very evolved view on how the world works: we know that principles from the past can guide us, but we open-mindedly incorporate new ways of thinking. Let’s keep that up, as we continue to adapt our social Club to become a vital asset that can boost all of our influence in life, politics, or society!

**Toto, We’re Not in 1922* Anymore

*or 1952 ... or 1972 ... or 1992...**
NEW MEMBER PERK

In early March, the doors will open for co-working at the Club! We know a lot of you have been WFH, so we are making the investment to create a shared, productive, welcoming workspace at the WNDC. Our pilot is open now: members may add a subscription for Wednesdays and/or Fridays, or just drop in for a day pass when you need a break from your apartment. Visit democraticwoman.org/membership/co-working-collective-spring-2022 to learn more and sign up.

WEEKLY FRIDAY HAPPY HOURS

This month our weekly happy hours are themed for bonus fun. Register at democraticwoman.org/events to help us plan adequate supplies. Cash bar.

March 4: How to Make a Cocktail Night! Want to make a fun cocktail that will impress everyone you know? Our March 4th happy hour is the place to do it!

March 11: College Night! Wear your college colors or whatever makes you feel like a student again and come for a casual happy hour that will have you reliving your heyday.

March 18: Pub Quiz Night! Think you know enough to pass a proper British pub quiz? Let's find out....

March 25: Club closed for private event

April 1: How to Talk About Wine Night! Get dressed up to enjoy an elegant evening to learn what makes a *good* glass of wine... Is it the bouquet? The tannins? The legs? What does all of that even mean?! This is the place to discuss and find out.

MEMBERS RECRUIT MEMBERS!

By popular demand, we are continuing our recruitment drive. If they join the WNDC before March 31, they will get $25 off Club fees per quarter. If you recruit 5 new members, you get a free glass of wine to toast them. For details, call Pat Fitzgerald at 202-232-7363.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Friday Happy Hours
5:00–7:00 pm
every Friday*

Join us each Friday* for a cash bar and special themed drinks. See details above. Registration is not required but is appreciated.

*Note: Co-working space closing early and no happy hour on March 25 due to a private event.

Sabih Iqbal
Artist Reception
Wednesday, March 2
6:30–8:00 pm
Meet Sabih Iqbal, the artist behind the current exhibit "Where Stars Go to Dream," which is based on the poetry of the artist’s mother. Cash bar. Registration required. Event nearing capacity at press time.

Women & Wine Dinner
Wednesday, March 23
6:30 pm
Join us for the second event in our Wine Dinner series, celebrating Women’s History Month with five delicious courses and wine pairings from female winery owners and vintners.

See p. 7 for menu and details.
EXHIBITS

Our winter exhibiting artist, Rackie Diankha, was selected to display three paintings, including Door of No Return (Gore Island), in the United Airlines Club at Reagan National Airport in February to celebrate Black History Month. View her work and the other works selected to be featured here. Congratulations, Rackie!

Our next exhibition, opening February 24th, features the beautiful paintings of Sabiha Iqbal. Her exhibition, "Where Stars Go to Dream," is inspired by the poetry of her mother, Ada Jafarey. Iqbal's mother was a feminist, seeking her freedom and identity despite that imposed by society. Iqbal's images are somewhere between abstract and representational. Verses from her mother's poetry accompany each elegant and ethereal work.

Iqbal's work is a visual delight that cannot be missed and is only amplified by reading the lines of poetry that accompany them. Please join us at the artist's reception on Wednesday March 2 at 6:30 pm! This event is a chance to meet the artist and view the exhibit with your friends; cash bar and light snacks. Don't wait to register—this event is filling up!

DOCENT PROGRAM

REMINDER: Our much anticipated first docent training is scheduled for Friday March 11, at 1:30 pm. This is a perfect chance to enjoy lunch at the Club beforehand and meet us in the Post Room for training after. A second session will be scheduled in the evening to accommodate those who cannot join us during the day.

GOTV

Join the GOTV Committee for the monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 2 from 6–7 pm on Zoom. We will plan for the kickoff of our monthly conversations in which we will invite political and policy experts to speak with WNDC members about various topics related to the upcoming 2022 midterm elections. Additionally, we will be planning for the relaunch of Winning Wednesdays this spring.
After learning that the pandemic had hit the Columbia Heights Educational Campus (CHEC), one of our partner schools, like a “tsunami,” the Educational Foundation (EF) launched Food*4*DC*Kids. Now, 2 years later, we have delivered almost 30,000 meals to needy students and families at CHEC with the support of: the Washington, DC Rotary Foundation; partners such as WNDC, the Arts Club of Washington, Francis in the Schools, Celestial Manna, and the District Church; and many generous individual donors and volunteers.

Recent data from the DC Food Policy Council show two interesting facts: First, as the chart shows, the 2020 tsunami of hunger diminished somewhat in 2021. Second, food insecurity in DC households with children remains a significant problem, especially in Hispanic and Black households.

How can you help? Volunteer! Every Tuesday, our volunteers assemble at the Whittemore House from 10:30–12:00 to put together 200 meals and deliver them to CHEC. Please consider donating to support Food*4*DC*Kids. Every donation helps. Thank you.

wndceducationalfoundation.org/food4dckids

In April, EF is planning a workshop on food insecurity, which will bring together groups working on this issue. We will include our partners and others who have supported food programs in response to the pandemic. All WNDC members will be invited.

How can you help? Volunteer! Every Tuesday, our volunteers assemble at the Whittemore House from 10:30–12:00 to put together 200 meals and deliver them to CHEC. Please consider donating to support Food*4*DC*Kids. Every donation helps. Thank you.

wndceducationalfoundation.org/food4dckids

In celebration of Women’s History month, please preview the walking tour at DCWomenOrganize.stqry.app. Your feedback is welcome; email wndcef@gmail.com.

### FOOD*4*DC*KIDS

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As Jean wrote in her pledge solicitation letter, “I do this for a cause I truly believe in and an organization that’s making a real difference. You pledge a donation to my plunge, I freeze, and together we will help to raise a very important part of CCAN’s budget for the year. We had an excellent turnout for the DC Sierra Club Plunge Team. We didn’t join the main group over at the National Harbor but instead plunged at a canoe club near Georgetown. The air was mercifully warm (mid-50s), although not a good sign for the climate. The water, however, was “refreshing;” none of us lingered in the water, and all were glad to towel off, get into dry clothes, and have cider and snacks.”

To learn more about the annual “Keep Winter Cold” Polar Bear Plunge visit www.keepwintercold.org.
**Wednesday, March 23**

**Women & Wine Dinner**

*6:30 pm*

*Dietary needs can be accommodated*

Join us for the second event in our Wine Dinner series celebrating Women’s History Month! We will pair five delicious courses with wines from from woman-owned wineries and women vintners.

$125.00 per person; tax and gratuity included. $880 for a table of 8. COVID vaccination with booster required for entry.

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**Menu**

**APPETIZERS**

- Arancini Balls with Marinara Sauce
- Vegetable Spring Rolls with Spicy Sweet Chili Sauce
- Sartarelli, Spumante Brut, Verdicchio dei Castelli di Jesi Classico, NV, Italy by Cristina Sartarelli

**FIRST COURSE**

- Gravlax with Dill Mustard and Watercress
- JJ Prum Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Kabinett, Mosel, Germany by Katarina Prum

**SECOND COURSE**

- Chopped Smoked Barbequed Brisket in Beef Gravy with Cole Slaw and Corn Bread
  - Boedecker “Athena” Pinot Noir 2016, Willamette Valley, Oregon by Athena Boedecker

**THIRD COURSE**

- Grilled Andalusian Duck Sausage with Lentil Ragout
  - Martinet Bru, 2019, Priorat, Spain by Sara Perez

**DESSERT**

- Strawberries Romanoff
- Château Les Justices, 2016, Sauternes, France by Julie Gonet-Médeville

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**Tuesday, March 8**

**2022 Oscars Expert Forecast**

*6:00–7:00 pm (Zoom only)*

Join us on International Women’s Day for a preview of the 94th Academy Awards with Washington Post’s chief film critic Ann Hornaday. This year’s Oscars nominations have already stoked the flames of audiences’, critics’, and fans’ passions—hear from Hornaday on the who's-who of nomination snubs, her expert forecast for the awards, and her take on issues related to the film industry going into a third year of pandemic-impacted Hollywood. Hornaday has been a film critic at The Washington Post since 2002.

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**Tuesday, March 9**

**Amnesty International's Report on Apartheid**

*1:00–2:00 pm (Hybrid event: in-person lunch or Zoom)*

Paul O’Brien, new Executive Director at Amnesty International USA, will discuss Amnesty’s recently published research report, *Israel’s Apartheid Against Palestinians: Cruel System of Domination and Crime Against Humanity*. The report details laws, policies, and institutional practices “all [working] to expel, fragment, and dispossess Palestinians of their human rights.” Join us in person at the Club (bar opens at noon, lunch served at 12:30 pm) or on Zoom.
# MARCH 2022

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<td>2022 Oscars Expert Forecast Ann Hornaday 6:00–7:00 pm</td>
<td>The Global Far-Right’s Assault on Democracy John Feffer 12:00–1:00 pm</td>
<td>Happy Hour College Night 5:00–7:00 pm</td>
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<td>Electing Madam Vice President: When Women Run Women Win Nichola Gutgold 6:00–7:00 pm</td>
<td>Women &amp; Wine Dinner 6:30 pm</td>
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### On the Radar:
- April 19: Deputy Secretary of Transportation Polly Trottenberg
- May & June: Title IX Panel and Celebrations

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**Winter Hours & COVID Safety Measures**

The Club is open Wednesday 9:00 am–5:00 pm and Friday 11:00 am–7:00 pm. Proof of vaccination is required for entry; masks must be worn when not actively eating or drinking, air purifiers are in use, and stringent cleaning and hygiene protocols are in place for your protection. The Club is closed to members Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. WNDC staff are available Monday through Friday, 9:00 am–5:00 pm at 202-232-7363. Please call ahead to coordinate docent tours and other business.

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**Register for programs (see p. 7): democraticwoman.org/events**

**WNDC COVID safety protocols detailed below**

Woman's National Democratic Club
1526 New Hampshire Ave NW, Washington, DC 20036
202.232.7363
democraticwoman.org