

**May– June
2015**

**Lighting
the way
since 1915**

GREEN TIPS

From
**Mary
Gerson**



Big tip from Cincinnati Zoo, our nation's greenest, about going green: Making choices in our daily lives that promote a healthy planet and living sustainably so that future generations can enjoy this planet too. So.... start today and make a planet-friendly decision that works for you.

- Use sport water bottles.
- Take reusable bags.
- Stop junk mail.
- Do meatless Mondays.
- Get bills online.

Inside this issue:



THE BULLETIN

**Marief Hemingway Headlines our National Forum
Another Fabulous Event in our Fabulous Centennial Year**



Read all about it on page 3!

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**May's Roster of Programs Furthers Our Mission to
Educate, Empower, and Engage.**

"Citizens United: Are Corporations People? Is Money Speech?"

Monday May 18, 7pm, First Unitarian Church, 536 Linton Road, Cincinnati 45219 (at Reading)

Act One, junior chapter of WCC and LWV, together with the Social Justice Ministries of the Unitarian Churches and other organizations, invites the public to screen a filmed debate by legal experts for and against the following proposition: "Individuals and Organizations Have a Constitutional Right to Unlimited Spending on Their Own Political Speech" concerning Citizens United. The floor will then open to community discussion and further debate led by Dan Schneider, Co-chair, First Unitarian Church Social Justice Committee.

Election season is upon us, along with growing citizen alarm about the vast sums spent by private organizations to influence electoral campaigns, both for candidates and issues. It is an excellent time to review a major contributor to this problem-- the controversial 2010 Supreme Court decision, Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission, where the justices held that the First Amendment prohibited the government from restricting independent political expenditures by for-profit corporations, labor unions and other associations as well as nonprofit corporations.

Letter from our president



I can't believe two years have gone by since I took on the job as President of this "astounding" 100-year-old organization... as Dan Hurley called us! It has been the most amazing period of intensity, collaboration, excitement, hard work, building friendships, sharing stories and working with the wonderful, caring women of the WCC Board and Committees. I've never worked

with so many "beacons of intelligence," strong-minded women and eclectic personalities! Such an historic year for our club...

This is one of my last chances to publicly say thanks to some of you so please bear with me: to the Board, especially the officers, who have supported me in so many ways, such as spending more than we ever have- on our Centennial Celebration, National Speaker and other new projects - for example - the video on Income Inadequacy (I do keep repeating, "you have to spend money to make money!").

Thanks to the Wilder Foundation for funding our history book: *Lighting the Fire, Leading the Way* by Rachel Powell; to the cookbook committee for having the tenacity and foresight to produce a winner, *Stirring the Pot, In the Kitchen and the Community for 100 Years*; to the Seasongood Foundation for their grant for the Centennial; to Lori Nuckolls and Dot Christenson for their hard work on Centennial programs and the Centennial Dinner; to Carole Donnelly and Marge Davis for a successful and exciting National Speaker event; to Sarah Gideonse and Jeanne Nightingale for producing professional Bulletins with the help of Nancy Sheckler; to Nancy for her stamina and work to please her many "bosses" in the WCC; to Nancy Lu Walters and Roger Smith for keeping our finances understandable and in order; to all of my Committee Chairs and their members who have succeeded in presenting some of the best programs WCC has ever had in this Centennial year.

I would also like to welcome Leslie Spencer to the Board and thank Alice Schneider from the bottom of my heart for accepting the Presidency for 2015-16!

WCC has accomplished so much in the past year thanks to your hard work: attracted many new members from the Centennial Dinner and the National Speaker events (in fact, we have over 60 new members in the last year!); produced profit that we never expected because of the generous sponsors of both events,

thereby enhancing our financial stability; better visibility in the the community; renewed energy and focus on our mission and goals. The success of our the Gala dinner and National Speaker events allows WCC to give more back to the community through our free, public informational Forums every month to *educate* ourselves and the community on issues of great importance, to *engage* attendees in discussions, and to *empower* them to take action on such issues of importance to our region.

I am very excited about one of our new Status of Women action group projects inspired propelled by the Louse Spiegel subcommittee to produce a symbol and video depicting "Income Inadequacy," which will be offered to any agencies in the community to use and adapt. The video will be previewed at the Second Annual Women's Economic, Mental and Physical Health Expo on Fountain Square on May 29th from 12-1:00 pm, along with agency tables of information and resources, speakers and entertainment.

Don't forget to register for the Annual Seasongood luncheon on May 22nd at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. This year's exciting speaker - the first female Hamilton County Coroner, Lakshmi Sammarco - will surprise you with all she does as coroner.



Carol Donnelly, co-chair, National Speaker Committee, Mariel Hemingway, and Susan Noonan, WCC President

I have made my last letter too long, but please know how much I appreciate you all and that I will remain actively committed to WCC as we continue to advocate and act to improve on the issues about which we care so deeply, for the next 100 years!

~ Susan

MARIEL HEMINGWAY WOWS HER AUDIENCE AT WCC'S SUCCESSFUL ANNUAL BENEFIT

WCC welcomed Mariel Hemingway to our Queen City on April 23rd for our 24th Annual National Speaker Forum held at Music Hall's ballroom in Over the Rhine. It was an evening that will be remembered by all. Mariel Hemingway, actor, writer and granddaughter of the acclaimed award-winning author Ernest Hemingway, shared her life story with great courage and authenticity. She was delightful, unpretentious, gracious and truthful about what it was like growing up in a family overshadowed by fame while at the same time plagued with mental illness spanning several generations. She spoke of the depression, schizophrenia, alcoholism, and seven suicides that had defined her world as a child growing up in the mountains of Idaho.

Mariel took us on her own journey of how she dealt with the only sense of "normal" that she knew, in order to survive. She broke our hearts, she made us laugh, and she shared with us the solutions she found along the way. It was enlightening and freeing for many who have dealt with mental illness and suicide at various times in our lives, in ourselves, our loved ones, and friends. She made it okay to talk about things that many are ashamed to talk about.

"She broke our hearts, she made us laugh, and she shared with us the solutions she found along the way."

And that, she said, was the main point of her being here and being open and honest - to break the silence and remove the stigma around mental health issues.

Mariel's speech was followed by a private reception in Corbett Tower attended by over 200 guests and sponsored by Whole Foods Market, our presenting sponsor for the evening. Mariel stayed until the last guests had a chance to speak with her personally and have their picture taken with her. She never stopped smiling and being genuinely engaged with each and every one. We warmly invite her back to our city anytime she is able to come!

Mariel has written several books, currently available through the Bookshelf in Madeira (see page 12).

Those unable to attend can view her award-winning documentary titled "Running from Crazy" now available on Netflix.

We are so thankful for all of our Sponsors including Interact for Health, our Community Partner; Central Clinic, Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services and Merrill Lynch Wealth Management as Community Builders; 29 co-sponsoring organizations; and sponsoring individuals that made this evening a great success (all listed on page 8). And to all the members of WCC who worked tirelessly on the committees and taking care of details to make this a special National Speaker event to commemorate our Centennial Year.

~ Cindy Rowland



National Speaker Committee with Marie Hemingway. Left to right— Sarah Gideonse, Jeanette, Jeanne Nightingale, Carole Donnelly, Kay Smith-Yount, Janet Buening, Jane Anderson, Mary Wells, Alice Schneider, Mariel Hemingway, Cassandra Barham, Barbara Myers, Cindy Rowland, Susan Noonan, and Joni Baker. Absent: Marge Davis. All photos, unless otherwise noted, are courtesy of Brewster Rhoads



Introducing Mariel: Liz Atwell, Mental Health America, N. Ky. & SW Ohio



Hostesses, from left, Kay Brogle, Kay Smith Yount, Jean Crawford, Jannia Gamboa, Lisa Wilson, and Audry Dwyer. Photo by Brewster Rhoads



Mariel Hemingway with, clockwise, Jeanne Nightingale, Cassandra Barham, Melissa Rowland, Bud Haupt, and Lori Nuckolls



Reception goes enjoying refreshments donated by Presenting Sponsor Whole Foods Market... Photo by Harriet Kaufman



An attentive audience listens to Mariel Hemingway Photo by Harriet Kaufman

Cincinnati Shakespeare Company &
the Woman's City Club
An Annual Shakespeare and Justice Event

A PERFORMANCE OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S
Henry V

PRECEDED BY A LECTURE BY

MICHAEL L. CIOFFI
*"Shakespeare's Henry V:
Justice v. Mercy...Once More"*

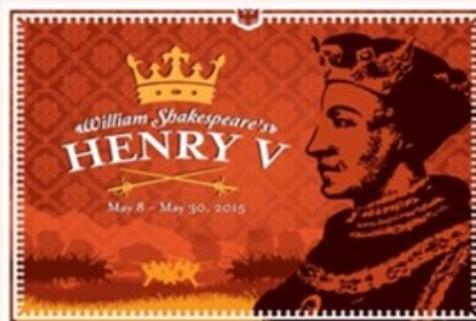
THURSDAY, MAY 21

5:30 Wine and Cheese Reception
6:00 Lecture by Mr. Cioffi
7:30 Performance of *Henry V*

ADMISSION:

Adults \$32 Seniors (60+) \$28 Students \$22
Season tickets will be honored.

**CINCINNATI SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
719 RACE STREET DOWNTOWN CINCINNATI**



At the center of Shakespeare's history cycle, and featuring some of the most powerful oratory in the canon, *Henry V* tells the unforgettable tale of those few, those happy few, that band of brothers who stood up against overwhelming odds to fight for God, King and Country. Don't miss this history cycle favorite, as Shakespeare's game of thrones continues.

~ Cincinnati Shakespeare Company website

MICHAEL L. CIOFFI is a partner in the international law firm Blank Rome LLP and an Adjunct Professor of Law at the University of Cincinnati College of Law. Mr. Cioffi has lectured on the topic of justice and Shakespeare both in the US and internationally.



Wine and cheese reception is sponsored by Blank Rome LLP and Monteverdi Tuscany (www.monteverdituscany.com)

Reserve tickets through Cincinnati Shakespeare Company.
381-2273 Ext. 1 Mention Woman's City Club when you reserve.

Education Award Program



From 2001 to 2009, our Education Award Program offered three \$500 awards to young women graduating from high school and continuing their education. After a three-year lapse, the program was resumed in 2013. This year we doubled the amount of the award, so we could offer three \$1000 awards. The award funds go directly to the students and may be used as they see fit to achieve their educational goals.

In addition, we expanded the number of schools receiving award guidelines and applications from 34 to 96, and included Saint Rita's School for the Deaf and students receiving services from Cincinnati Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired. The information suggested that the application be distributed to students with financial needs.

The young women were given an essay topic suggested by Louise Spiegel: "With the Woman's City Club mission in mind-- Growing into Citizenship: Finding my Voice and Making it Heard."

We received 44 applications, including a number of very good essays from very deserving students. I am thankful to my co-chair Leslie Spencer and the rest of the team, Alice Schneider and Mary Wells, for assisting with the reading of the students' essays and making the decision process an ease and a delight. In making our decisions, we also relied on teacher, counselor, or school authority recommendations. We considered how the student demonstrates their strengths and skills in other activities. Grade Point Average was not a criterion.

I wish all of you could have the opportunity to read these essays and feel the hope and inspiration that I feel for the future of the lives of these remarkable young women. Our three recipients this year are: Tess Baisley of Clark Montessori, Leah Hall of Mason High School, and Sandra Oate of Hamilton High School.

~ CJ Pierce



Hamilton County Coroner Dr. Lakshmi Sammarco “CSI in Cincinnati”

The role of the coroner and her office in solving crimes



Friday, May 22 at 11:45 am

Where: Crowne Plaza Blue Ash, 5901 Pfeiffer
Road, Blue Ash, OH 45242

Annual luncheon in honor of Agnes B.
Seasongood, WCC benefactor and Founder

The event is open to the public.

Presentation of WCC’s Education Award Winners:

Tess Baisley, Clark Montessori

Leah Hall, Mason High School

Sandra Oñate, Hamilton High School

The cost of the luncheon is \$40.

Reserve online at

[http://womancityclub.org/membership/meetings/
seasongood-luncheon/](http://womancityclub.org/membership/meetings/seasongood-luncheon/)

More Information at: 513-871-6927

Woman’s City Club is a leading non-partisan civic organization celebrating 100 years of promoting justice, civic reform, and citizen engagement through education, advocacy, service, and collaboration. More about WCC can be found at <http://womancityclub.org>

Dr. Sammarco was appointed as the Hamilton County Coroner in February 2012 and was elected on her own terms to the position last year. She has been much in the news as she advocates for a new and modern crime laboratory, arguing, as Krista Ramsey reported, that “an adequately housed, efficient, well-maintained crime lab and morgue are essential infrastructure for any county.... Timely toxicology reports, firearms tests and DNA results are the means of convicting the guilty and, equally important, exonerating the innocent.”



Dr. Sammarco is also a board certified neuroradiologist who is in clinical practice.

Women's Economic, Mental and Physical Health Expo: "Pennies on the Dollar--Moving Beyond Surviving to Thriving"

May 29, 2015, noon on Fountain Square, Downtown Cincinnati



Filming of Video-"Pennies on the Dollar"
" Photo by Harriet Kaufman

The public is invited to join the Woman's City Club (WCC) for the Second Annual Women's Economic, Mental and Physical Health Expo, an event that brings together a wide array of agencies and resources. The Expo will have several brief speakers, including State Representative Denise Driehaus, as well as entertainment. Visitors may peruse many tables of information from participating agencies, including the Greater Cincinnati Foundation's Women's Fund, Planned Parenthood, Cincinnati Union Bethel and many others. Melissa Rowland's new mannequin artwork titled, "Perceived Value," will be exhibited on the Square. . Bring your lunch and enjoy the program and information!

A program highlight is the premier showing of a three and a half minute video portraying the economic inadequacy many people are trying to survive and overcome. Created by Pushpop Media

for WCC, it will be shown on the Fountain Square Jumbotron. The video introduces a crystal shaped symbol representing the five community sectors--community, employers, nonprofits, public policy makers, and funders-- that need to be involved to act on income inadequacy. The video and the symbol are open source material available for all who are working to address this problem

The Expo is presented by the Louise Spiegel subcommittee of the Status of Women Action Group of Woman's City. Louise's values of including all parts of our community guided the committee's work.

You may have seen the article in the *Enquirer* about the 51% of children in our city--many with single moms--living in poverty without enough food, clothing, familial support and often housing -- a bed to sleep in. We all know that lack of adequate income causes lack of everything else -- the basic survival needs, but also physical and mental health needs do not get met. Cincinnati is basking in the recent kudos for being such a great city to live and work in -- and it is with street cars, condos in OTR, big tax breaks for businesses -- but where does that leave the 51 % living in poverty...? Behind, that's where. This expo event represents a call to action for livable wages and access to mental and physical health services.

~Susan Noonan

Changing CO₂urse: Local Solutions to Global Crises



Woman's City Club has cosponsored the *Changing Course* series over the past two years. Meeting every fourth Sunday of the month at St. John's UU Church, these community gatherings discuss ways we can respond locally as a community to environmental and economic crises that threaten our city, our nation and our planet.

With the majority of the world's population now living in cities, new challenges have arisen in development and sustainability. Most cities are facing complex social, economic, and environmental crises as a result of increasing population, inadequate infrastructure, poor social services, escalating health problems, and the challenges posed by climate change. This series focuses mainly on environmental justice issues: the need to ensure a better quality of life for all, now and into the future, in a just and equitable manner, whilst living within the limits of supporting ecosystems.

Our discussions have often centered on food and water issues: the growing problem of hunger and food deserts in our cities, food and water safety issues, how meat production impacts our environment and our health, innovations in agriculture that promote biodiversity and ensure our survival. More recently, we discussed the power of community in Cuba and what we can learn from their survival strategies before the embargo is lifted. This was followed by a discussion on connecting our own neighborhoods to local sources of fresh healthy food. Last month we discussed the documentary "Groundswell: Saving our Children's Air & Water," the human side of the fracking debate. And this month, we will screen FOODCHAIN\$ - the story of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) and their fight to ensure a dignified life for farmworkers and a more human, transparent food chain. Please join us and bring your voice to these ongoing discussions.

~ Jeanne Nightingale

Changing CO₂urse: Local Solutions to a Global Crisis

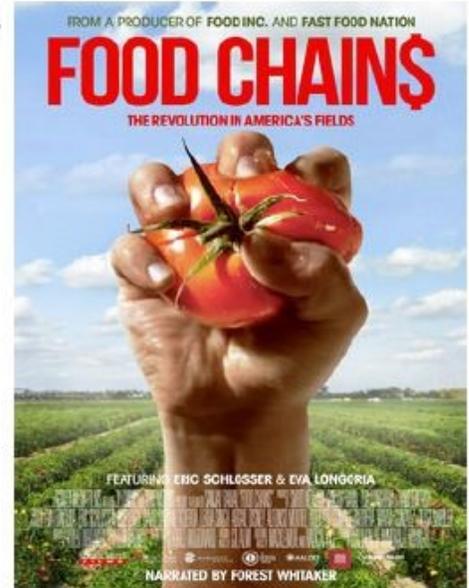
Sunday, May 24 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm.
St. John's UU Church, 320 Resor, Clifton

FOOD CHAIN\$: The Revolution in America's Fields

There is more interest in food these days than ever, yet there is very little interest in the hands that pick it.

FOOD CHAIN\$ reveals the human cost in our food supply and the complicity of large buyers of produce like fast food and supermarkets. Fast food is big, but supermarkets are bigger – earning \$4 trillion globally. They have tremendous power over the agricultural system. Over the past three decades they have drained revenue from their supply chain leaving farmworkers in poverty and forced to work under subhuman conditions. Yet many take no responsibility for this.

The narrative of the film – premiered at the 2014 Berlin Film Festival – focuses on an intrepid and highly lauded group of tomato pickers from Southern Florida – the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) – who are revolutionizing farm labor. Their story is one of hope and promise for the triumph of morality over corporate greed – to ensure a dignified life for farm workers and a more humane, transparent food chain.



COSPONSORS: St John's UU Green Sanctuary Partners, Social Justice Committee First Unitarian Church, Unitarian Universalist Justice Ohio, Cincinnati Interfaith Workers Center, Cincinnati Union Cooperative Initiative, Apple Street Market, Our Harvest Cooperative, League of Women Voters, Woman's City Club

National Speaker sponsorships

Woman's City Club wishes to acknowledge the generosity of the following members and friends who purchased sponsorships for our 2015 National Speaker Forum with Mariel Hemingway. We are deeply grateful for your ongoing support.

ANGEL

Francie Pepper

UNDERWRITERS

Kathy Hamm, Principled Wealth Advisors
Nancy Lu Walters

BENEFACTORS

Barbara Elleman
Suzanne Joiner
Doreen Quinn
Jeanette H. Rost
Cindy Rowland, Merrill Lynch
University of Cincinnati College of Nursing

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Susan Schultz
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Mary Wells

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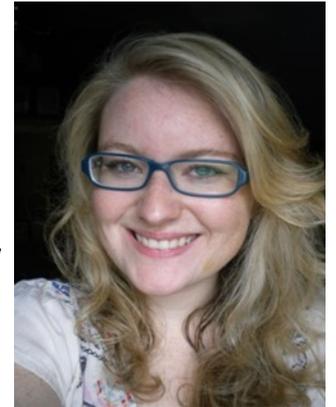
Marjorie Davies

Carol Friel
Future Hicks
Harriet Kaufman
Barbara McFarland
Diana McIntosh
Cheryl Meadows
Lynne Meyers Gordon
Barbara Myers
Lori Nuckolls
Jeanette Rost
Donald Rucknagel
Rina Saperstein
Jane Simon
Katherine Smith
Beatrice Winkler

A CENTURY OF WOMEN

To commemorate the Centennial year of Woman's City Club and Woman's History Month, the Club convened a panel discussion – “A Century of Women” -- at the Harriet Beecher Stowe House in March. Featured were three local scholars of women's history: Rachel Powell, author of *Lighting the Fire: Leading the Way*, the centennial volume of the City Club 1956-2015; Dr. Andrea Tuttle Kornbluh, author of *Lighting the Way: The Woman's City Club of Cincinnati 1915-1965*; and Dr. Deborah Meem, Department chair of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at the University of Cincinnati. We asked the panelists to comment on the changing role women have played in American civic life throughout the past century.

Rachel Powell received her Master's degree in History from the University of Cincinnati with a special interest in Women's History and the history of gender and sexuality. In Rachel, the Club was very fortunate to have found such a talented young woman to document its continuing history. This volume promises to be an important contribution both to women's history and Cincinnati history. Rachel congratulates the City Club for its resilience despite the identity challenges women continually faced as the century unfolded.



Dr. Andrea Tuttle Kornbluh brought to the writing of the first volume of the City Club's history her broad interests in the flow of the women's movement, its impact on public opinion and urban history, and the emergence of women's civic clubs in the early twentieth century. While she applauds WCC for its empowerment of women, she would like to see us be more active in strengthening the “City” part of our name.

Dr. Deborah Meem specializes in Victorian literature, LGBTQ studies, and 19th century novels by women. Among her many publications, a few titles stood out for the evening's program: “*Challenging the Divides: Race and Sexuality in the Greater Cincinnati Area*,” “*Feminism in Action: Teaching Our Daughters*,” and “*Hidden Agenda: The Subversive Message within Three Women's Sensation Novels*.” When asked how we could be more inclusive as an organization, Dr. Meem cited her experience with MUSE, Cincinnati's Women's Choir: “To make the choir more representative of the diverse population of Cincinnati, we simply changed the repertoire of songs we sung!”



~ Jeanne Nightingale

ACT ONE

HANDS-ON CIVICS IN CINCINNATI

FEMINIST STORIES FROM WOMEN'S LIBERATION

1963-1970 A FILM BY JENNIFER LEE

On April 7, Act One members and friends viewed the film *"Feminist Stories from Women's Liberation"* by award-winning filmmaker Jennifer Lee. The history of the fight for women's rights in the 60s and 70s is on the verge of being totally forgotten. Jennifer Lee is concerned that her own daughter does not

fully understand what the Women's Liberation Movement even fought for! After the film, we had a Q & A with Jennifer Lee via conference call.

Lee feels a strong need to resurrect the feminist movement as a way of confronting the new challenges we face throughout the world as women continue to battle for their rights. The film featured interviews with the bold women of the 60s and 70s who sowed the seeds of

change for women and the importance of "Conscience Raising Groups" to whom we owe a great deal.

The film inspired some intergenerational sharing. Together, we listed action topics that could connect us across the generations. A few on the list: Big money in politics, economic inadequacy, the need to teach civics & contemporary history in our schools, exploitation of marginalized people (including women), reform of drug laws, cultivating skills of compassionate non-violent communication, resurrecting face-to-face exchange via "Consciousness Raising Groups" (to supplant Face Book).

Next Act One Meeting: Monday, May 18 at 7 - 9 pm when Act One will cosponsor a filmed debate on *Citizens United* at the First Unitarian Church at 536 Linton Street & Reading Road: **Are Corporations People? Is Money Speech?**

This is a debate between legal experts for and against the following proposition: *"Individuals and Organizations Have a Constitutional Right to Unlimited Spending on Their Own Political Speech."* After viewing the debate, we will open the floor to community discussion and further debate.

~ Jeanne Nightingale

The Transformational Work of Dr. Catherine Roma

Woman City Club was honored on April 14, 2015 to have Dr. Catherine Roma as our guest speaker for our *City Conversations* program.

For 40 years, Dr. Roma has been creating vibrant choral communities that reach across barriers of race, religion, class, sexual orientation and age. She uses music to translate the values of social justice and inclusion into our experience of community.

Founder and past director of MUSE, co-founder of the Martin Luther King Coalition Chorale, Professor emerita of music at Wilmington College, past minister of music at St. John's UU Church, and now founder and Director the World House Choir, Catherine Roma has been working to build musical opportunities for men and women who are incarcerated in three area prisons.

She founded **UMOJA** Men's Chorus at Warren Correctional in 1993, **UBUNTU** Men's Chorus at Madison Correctional in 2012, and now a new women's choir **HOPE THRU HARMONY** at Dayton Correctional in 2014.



Cathy Roma and UMOJA and three World Choir Games Judges

The men at Warren Correctional Institution have written compositions that serve, in many respects, as the spirituals did in the 18th and 19th centuries.

The songs of the UMOJA Men's Chorus have now been released on CD. We were privileged to hear some of these new spirituals in a lively Power Point presentation with film and recorded clips. (UMOJA is Swahili for "unity.")

Cathy Roma became one of the founding mothers of the women's choral movement, an international network of over 70 women's choruses, when she started Anna Crisis Women's Choir in her native Philadelphia in 1975. She founded MUSE, Cincinnati's Women's Choir, in 1984 after coming to Ohio to do graduate work at the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music where she completed her Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in 1989. Comprised of over 60 singers, MUSE serves as a beacon of diversity in the Cincinnati community. MUSE sang at WCC's Centennial Celebration in March.

In the 2012 World Choir Games in Cincinnati, MUSE, UMOJA, and the MLK Coalition Chorale, all won Gold medals. Roma edited *A City that Sings: Cincinnati's Choral Tradition 1800-2012* in anticipation of the Games in Cincinnati (Orange Frazer Press). Last year, Cathy received the YWCA Gala Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of her passion, vision, courage, and perseverance.

~ Jeanne Nightingale

“Ohio’s Charter Schools: Are They Accountable?”

WCC joined the League of Women Voters and other co-sponsors in presenting a public forum on April 20 of varied perspectives on Ohio’s “community schools,” commonly referred to as charters. The panel included Aaron Churchill, research analyst of the Thomas Fordham Institute, also a charter school sponsor; Steve Dyer, an attorney and education policy fellow of Innovation Ohio; Mary Ronan, superintendent of Cincinnati Public Schools; and Ohio Senator Bill Seitz of the 8th District, who once served on the CPS Board of Education. Journalist Krista Ramsey served as moderator for the forum.

Charter Schools were authorized by the Ohio legislature in 1997 to offer urban school children an alternative to their public schools. As incubators for innovation, they have fewer regulations so they can try different educational approaches. They could also provide competition to public schools, which would need to improve in order to maintain enrollment. They have proved popular with parents: about 380 are currently in operation, serving over 100,000 students.

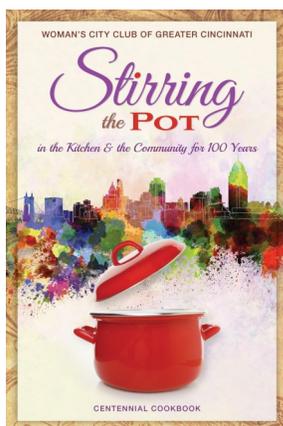
A large crowd at the Cincinnati Recreation Center heard the panel discuss whether charter schools are achieving their promise of offering innovation, choice, and salutary competition. We learned that in Ohio their performance has been lackluster – particularly among the for-profit schools -- and finances sometimes mismanaged. Their accountability is in question. Critics worry that charters are competing with public schools for scarce resources. The panelists both acknowledged these problems and argued the need for reform. Enabling legislations had structural flaw and standards were not enforced.

We learned about proposals before the Ohio General Assembly, Senate bill 148 being the one garnering more critics and they are still works in progress. The League’s Education Committee (with WCC members) is encouraging citizens to watch proposed legislation carefully, to assure that charter schools can delivering what they promise for the students they serve. Urge legislators to vote for effective provisions to make charter schools more accountable and effective.

HONORARY DEGREES AWARDED TO LOUISE SPIEGEL AND MARIAN SPENCER.



On Sunday, May 3rd, honorary degrees were awarded two women who have long been active in Greater Cincinnati’s civic and civil rights movements, and both longtime Woman’s City Club members, at Cincinnati State’s commencement Ceremonies at Xavier University: Marian Spencer and Louise Spiegel. Both are women we recognized at our Centennial Celebration as icons in the community, and how fitting that they should be awarded Honorary Degrees in recognition of their work on civil rights, social policy and civic engagement. Congratulations to Louise and Marian – WCC is honored to have you both as members.



Looking for the perfect present for a graduate heading out to live solo, or a wedding shower gift that will be treasured for years to come? Consider WCC’s beautiful new cookbook, *Stirring the Pot in the Kitchen and the Community for 100 Years*. Filled with recipes that range from family favorites to company dishes to everyday quick and easy cooking, this book will please both accomplished and novice cooks. Spiced up with culinary history and fascinating food facts, plus helpful Editors' Notes to guide you, this book is as fun to read as it is useful to cook with. The book has 208 pages including a full index, a sturdy glossy cover, and a premium spiral binding so it lies flat when open. Available from WCC members Janet Buening (871-9294) and Marge Davis (321-6835), at the Spice & Tea Exchange in Rookwood, or at the WCC office (751-0100) or on our website www.womanscityclub.org. Books are \$20 each, with a \$3.00 shipping

THE BOOKSHELF

Your source for reading pleasure!

To make Mariel Hemingway's books available for sale at the 2015 National Speaker Forum at the Music Hall Ballroom, Woman's City Club collaborated with the owners of *The Bookshelf* on Camargo Road in Madeira. To accommodate members and friends of Woman's City Club who would still like to purchase books autographed by Mariel Hemingway, *The Bookshelf* will reserve these five books until the end of May.

<i>Out Came the Sun</i>	\$27.00
<i>Finding My Balance</i>	\$18.00
<i>Invisible Girl</i>	\$20.00
<i>Running With Nature</i>	\$22.00
<i>Healthy Living</i>	\$18.00

20% of sales go to the Woman's City Club of Greater Cincinnati

Store Hours: Monday to Friday 10 – 6 Saturday 10 – 5 Buy Your E-Books Locally @ cincybookshelf.com



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Woman's City Club is proud to support Cincinnati's Women in Business. In this frenetic age of megastores and e-commerce, it is comforting to know that there still remains within our community a place where time has gracefully been held at bay. *The Bookshelf*, located at Camargo Station in Madeira, is beginning its 38th year of service. True to the vision of its founders *The Bookshelf* continues to be a small, independent retailer where every book is carefully selected by the current owners, Chris Weber, Betsy Schram, Jacque Gentile and Jenny Magro. While paying close attention to contemporary literary trends and bestseller lists, *The Bookshelf* continues its rich tradition of personalized service. Customers are greeted by name, recommendations of good books are happily provided, hard to find titles are willingly researched and books are gift wrapped at no extra charge.

~ Jeanne Nightingale



Woman's City Club of Greater Cincinnati

The mission of Woman's City Club of Greater Cincinnati is to educate, empower, and engage the citizens of Greater Cincinnati to participate together in promoting the common good.

103 William Howard Taft Road

Cincinnati, Ohio 45219

Phone: 513-751-0100

wcc@womanscityclub.org

We envision a just and sustainable community where all citizens are engaged as informed stakeholders in the shaping of our shared future. Committed to promoting diversity and inclusiveness, the organization reaches out to collaborate with other community organizations in the city and work toward shared goals.

Calendar of WCC Events

Monday, May 18, 7 pm. "Citizens United: Are Corporations People? Is Money Speech?" Film and discussion led by Dan Schneider of First Unitarian Church Social Justice Committee

May 21st: Annual Shakespeare and Justice Lecture by Michael L. Cioffi. In collaboration with the Cincinnati Shakespeare Company's production of Shakespeare's Henry V.

May 22nd: Seasongood Luncheon. Dr. Lakshmi Samamarco, Crown Plaza Blue Ash.

May 29th Noon: Status of Women event on Fountain Square.

June 24, 2015 WCC Annual Meeting First Unitarian Church Linton and Reading. See the full video of our longtime members!

WCC COMMITTEE MEETINGS

For the latest schedule of Committee Meetings, check our Website Calendar at womanscityclub.org (click on the "Calendar & Events" tab at the top)

CINCINNATI CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

For an updated list, go to the City website at cincinnati-oh.gov/council/.

This e-Bulletin, together with emailed Weekly Updates and our website at www.womanscityclub.org, keeps our membership connected. The next issue will appear in May .Deadline for copy will be April 25st, (word limit 250 words).



Sarah Gideonse, Managing Editor.
Jeanne Nightingale, Assistant Editor.
Nancy Sheckler, Layout Editor.



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