

# THE BULLETIN

May 2017

## 2017 NATIONAL SPEAKER FORUM

### GREEN TIP :



#### A PLASTIC-FREE LIFE

- Give up plastic water bottles.
- Use sports bottles instead.
- Carry reusable shopping bags.
- Use bar soap, not liquid soap.
- Use powdered dishwashing detergent in cardboard box.

~ Mary Gerson

Woman's City Club's 24<sup>th</sup> National Speaker Forum on April 20 celebrates the 102<sup>nd</sup> year of WCC's history and its contributions to civic reform. This time-honored tradition held each spring brings a nationally known woman to come to Cincinnati and enlighten our community.

This year's forum was held at the Netherland Plaza's Hall of Mirrors and featured guest speaker **Maria Hinojosa**, award-winning broadcast news correspondent and journalist. As anchor and executive producer of the PBS show *America by the Numbers*, Maria covers America's untold stories of Latino and immigrants.



Hinojosa's talk, entitled ***Latinos and***

***Immigration: The U.S Mambo***, focused on critical issues relative to immigration - an especially timely topic at this critical juncture in our nation's political history. Latinos are the fastest growing demographic in our country but the rhythm of progress has been highly uneven, and this past year progress has taken a steep turn for the worse. Hinojosa's presentation was memorable for its poignant, personal and often humorous stories, revealing the deeper truths and real statistics about our nation's immigration policies. Cincinnati -- now proud to be a Sanctuary City -- loved her! As Susan Noonan says, "Maria is a delightful, intelligent, passionate, and caring person as evidenced by the audience's response to her presentation and her attention to each person at our reception."

And Hinojosa loved Cincinnati! "I will never forget my day in Cincinnati," she said. "Thank you so much for opening your heart and your city to me. What an honor!"

Many thanks to the tireless leadership of the National Speaker committee led by Carole Donnelly and Marge Davis. This year's forum was one of our greatest successes. This annual fundraising event will help finance WCC's civic work. Thank you all for your contributions.

The Monthly *e-Bulletin* keeps us connected with our membership, our network and our community. The next issue - Our Annual Report -- will appear in JUNE. Deadline is MAY 24.

*Managing Editors: Jeanne Nightingale & Melissa Rowland.*

### Inside This Issue:

National Speaker Forum	1
Photos from National Speaker	2-3
Letter from President	4
ACT ONE update	
CEDAW	5
Annual Meeting	
Seasongood	6
Thriving Cincinnati	
Member Profile	
Playhouse	7
Upcoming Events May-June	
Refugees in Cincinnati	8
News From our Network	9-10
Calendar	11



# Maria Hinojosa with WCC National Speaker Committee



Standing L to R: Cassandra Barham, Jeanne Nightingale, Marge Davis, Hera Reines, Nancy Walters, Carole Donnelly, Barbara Myers, Janet Buening, Jeanette Rost, Alice Schneider, Sarah Gideonse; Sitting L to R: Jane Anderson, Kay Yount-Smith, Maria Hinojosa, Mary Wells, and Susan Noonan



David Mann with Hinojosa



Francie Pepper with Hinojosa



Manuel Perez with Hinojosa



Welcoming Hinojosato the stage at the Hillton Hall of Mirrors





Alphanso Cornejo with Hinojosa



Lourdes Ribera with Hinojosa



Judge Marilyn Zayas with Hinojosa



Jose Cabrerra with Hinojosa



Giovanna Alvarez with Hinojosa



Lorena Mora-Mowry with Hinojosa

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT:



**Alice Schneider**

### Getting Involved in Woman's City Club.

*Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in".*

~ Author Unknown

Last month I wrote about the benefits of being a member of Woman's City Club. This time I would

like to explore the rewards of volunteering in the club. By volunteering I mean serving on a committee or chairing an event or just helping with some jobs in the club. Volunteering helps you to forge new relationships with people, builds leadership skills, and brings personal satisfaction. Earlier in the year, I asked several members to write about their experience with Woman's City Club. Their comments help to illustrate the rewards that come with volunteering in Woman's City Club.

#### **Volunteering builds friendships and relationships with other people.**

"I became closer to many of the women I had previously known only as acquaintances and these friendships have continued to bloom." says Susan Noonan. Jeanne Nightingale felt "It was an opportunity to be part of a lively community of women who are committed to working together to improve life in our city." Dot Christenson found that she met women that she ordinarily would not have come to know. She states, "My major reason for becoming active at WCC was the opportunity to develop working relationships with women I might not otherwise have met." Nancy Walters found that through the position of president, "I worked with people that I admired. It was interesting to work with so many experienced

and capable women."

#### **Volunteering can build one's leadership skills.**

There are various opportunities to lead a committee in a supportive atmosphere in Woman's City Club. Jeanne Nightingale states, "I found it to be a perfect training ground for leadership." Susan Noonan comments, "My level of confidence and leadership skills definitely became honed and much improved during those 2 years (as president)." As for myself being president was a challenge for me. However, I grew into the job and enjoyed being president.

#### **Volunteering can bring personal satisfaction.**

While there can be some frustrations in volunteering, on the whole it can be very rewarding. Jeanne Nightingale said that serving as president of the Woman's City Club "was a welcome challenge for me personally." Mary Wells considers her two years as president "as one of the high points in my life. To me it was both stimulating and rewarding." Nancy Walters says, "Being president was a personally rewarding experience and I feel indebted to the club, for the experience." Kathy Helmbock says, "I liked preparing for and chairing the meetings, keeping them on topic and moving along."

So, I encourage those of you who would like to develop new friendships, hone your leadership skills, or find a new challenge, to join a committee in Woman's City Club!

~Alice

## WELCOME NEW ACT ONE MEMBERS!

Woman's City Club salutes the newest members of Act One.

**Kathleen Colley, Jamie Stinson, Angelica Hardee and Lisa Rebecca Elliott**

We are happy you made the decision to participate as members in The Woman's City Club and the League of Women Voters.

We invite you to take advantage of all the opportunities our two civic organizations offer as you become active in the Greater Cincinnati community.

Act One continues to accept applications from young men and women under the age of 35 for a two-year free membership in Woman's City and the League of Women Voters of the Cincinnati Area. You will be gaining access to over two centuries of civic leadership experience as well as a chance to network across the generations of men and women committed to educating, empowering, and engaging citizens in the collective effort to improve the lives of all Cincinnatians.

**ACT ONE**  
**HANDS-ON CIVICS**  
**IN CINCINNATI**





Woman's City Club is involved in so many important issues - one of the satellite groups that report in at WCC's Board meetings is the Cincinnati CEDAW Coalition. Susan Noonan and Alice Schneider participate as WCC members. Other WCC members represent other organizations: Melissa

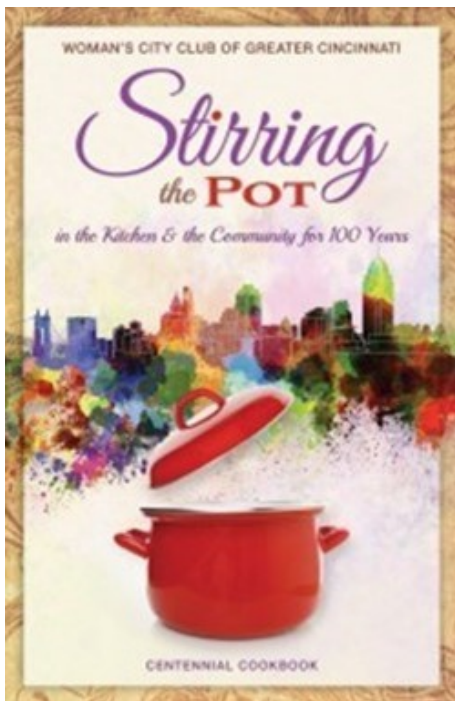
Currence from the League of Women Voters, Barbara Myers from the Women's Political Caucus, and Connie Roesch from the Zonta Club, to name a few.

The local effort was begun by Jan Marie Fritz, a University of Dayton professor, as a class project. As other cities around the country started passing Resolutions, our group expanded, and in 2015, with Council member Chris Seelbach's help, a

CEDAW Resolution was adopted by Cincinnati City Council. When it came to passing an ordinance (since we know a Resolution has no teeth), movement became stalled. The Coalition, now including other groups such as YWCA, The Women's Fund, Tri-State Freethinkers, Amnesty International, Chamber of Commerce, and several departments at University of Cincinnati, continue working under Co-Chairs Susan Noonan and Connie Roesch. Now with Vice Mayor David Mann and his chief of staff, Ioanna Paraskevopoulos, the Law Department has drafted the Ordinance. All of the major "asks" were included: the \$8,000 funding from City, the creation of a task force, the gender analysis study, and recommendations from the task force on actions needed as well as a timeframe and annual progress reviews. *We just learned that it is going before Council on May 3 for recommendation to the Finance/Budget committee on May 8. On May 10<sup>th</sup> we hope for final passage! Come to Budget on May 8<sup>th</sup> or Council on May 10<sup>th</sup> to support! This is a major move forward for women and girls in our City!*

~ Susan Noonan

## WCC's ANNUAL MEETING 2017



**Bring your ideas for "stirring the pot" and breathing new energy into the life of the Club.**

- What civic issues are foremost in your mind?
- How can WCC best address them?
- What actions can we take to empower women and help families succeed in Cincinnati?
- What can we do to strengthen our engagement with city leadership?
- How can we help make our city a thriving City of the Future?

Woman's City Club will hold its Annual Meeting on June 22 at 5:30 pm in the

Geier Room at Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church.

There will be a potluck dinner and members are invited to bring dishes celebrating recipes from our own published cook book *Stirring the Pot*.

In addition to reporting on our past year of work, the plan for the Annual Meeting will be to re-vision and revitalize our Action Groups initiated way back in 2005.

As we prioritize our areas of advocacy, this will be a unique opportunity for you to share your passion for promoting your favorite issues: safe and equitable neighborhoods, environmental justice, affordable public housing, criminal justice, public education, quality public health, income equality and economic stability, responsive government and spirited civic participation.

~ J. Nightingale



# SEASONGOOD LUNCHEON 2017

Friday, May 26, 2017, 11:45 - 1:00pm

Speaker: Major Charmaine McGuffy

***"A Woman is Running the Hamilton County Jail: Another Glass Ceiling Broken!"***

Crowne Plaza Cincinnati/Blue Ash (Right at exit I-71 & Pfeiffer Rd.)



Our speaker, Major Charmaine McGuffy, is a pioneer in corrections. She was one of the first women deputies in Hamilton County and retired after a career with Hamilton County Sheriff's Department. Sheriff Neil called her back from retirement to run all operations of the Hamilton County Justice Center – a first for a woman! She will tell us about her new program for women heroin addicts in the jail – another first.

At the Seasingood luncheon, we honor our tradition of awarding three female High School seniors education awards of \$1,000 each for an essay on "How they can become engaged in their communities." Tickets to the Seasingood Luncheon are available at [womanscityclub.org](http://womanscityclub.org) or 751-0100.

~ Susan Noonan

## THRIVING CINCINNATI AWARD!

On May 1, the Thriving Cincinnati Initiative received an award from the Cincinnati Interfaith Workers Center for its efforts to promote equity for all in wages, stop wage theft, and create a sustained effort to help families achieve livable incomes. The award, presented by Julie Sellers of the Cincinnati Teachers Union, was part of a May Day celebration of workers and award luncheon, held at St Monica- St George Church.



*Thriving*  
CINCINNATI

~ Sarah Gideonse

## MEMBER PROFILE: Travis Reis

How many people you know call elected officials every day? Travis Reis, a relatively new Woman's City club member, is one.

"Politically, I'm no one special and just a regular guy, which is my point. Anyone can do what I do to engage with elected officers and give them your input, and it's not that hard to do," he said. Travis, a native of northern Kentucky, is a specification Engineer at General Cable Corp.



"After the election I determined I needed to engage more in politics and with communities that I share values with," said Travis. He decided WCC membership could advance his goals. His Facebook posts start and end with the word "Sunlight!" A post he made on March 14th was "'Sunlight! Made my calls. I 'really' hope y'all make yours.' Government works best when people pay attention to it. That's why I call this sort of thing Sunlight!" he said.

Travis' says his main hobby is calling his elected officials, "but hobbies are supposed to be for reducing stress." He's a big gamer and he reads a lot. "Though mostly lately that's been comics," he said.

Melissa Rowland, WCC office manager, who recruited Travis, at the 2016 Feist Tea, said, "Since last fall he has become engaged in local government meetings at his city and county level on a consistent basis. He volunteers at a warming shelter every Friday evening and continues to inspire everyone he comes across to become more engaged in government at the local and national level."

The three people who inspire him most are Jim Henson, the late puppet master; Jane Goodall, world renowned primatologist; and Stephen Hawking, regarded as one of the most brilliant theoretical physicists since Einstein.

~ Jo-Ann Huff Albers



Present a City Conversations Event

May 10, 6:30 pm

Geier Room, Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church, 103 Wm. H. Taft, Cincinnati

## **“What We Need to Know about Refugees in Cincinnati & How We Can Help”**



### **SPEAKERS**

**Sheryl Rajbhandari,**  
**Executive Director, Heartfelt Tidbits**

A grassroots volunteer organization  
providing support, services, and programs  
refugees need during and  
beyond the first days of resettlement, to  
become truly settled in our city

**Robyn Lamont, Program Director**  
**RefugeeConnect**

Junior League project aiming to improve the lives of  
refugees in Cincinnati, to foster community  
acceptance and inclusion, and to construct a  
sustainable support system

Join us to learn about who refugees are compared to others coming to the U.S., including misconceptions; what brings them to the United States and Cincinnati; and where they move from. The speakers will discuss what their organizations offer refugees to integrate them into our community and what they offer our community in gaining greater understanding of refugees. Discussion will include how the community can become engaged in supporting refugees. Light refreshments.

Learn more about these terrific organizations:

<https://heartfelttidbits.com>

<http://www.refugeeconnect.org/>

More information about the program at 513-751-0100 or [womanscityclub.org](http://womanscityclub.org)



## American Feminist History Panel: Playhouse Perspectives

On the evening of April 10, the Cincinnati Playhouse presented, in partnership with the Woman's City Club, a "Playhouse Perspectives" event. In order for their audience to learn more about the foundation of American feminism within the context of the time periods represented in the play *All the Roads Home*, the Playhouse has been presenting a series of discussions addressing the foundation of the feminist movement and the successive waves of its history up through today.

The play highlights three generations of women throughout the 1950s, 1970s and today. As they face the ripple effect of



### ALL THE ROADS HOME

BY JEN SILVERMAN March 25 - April 23, 2017

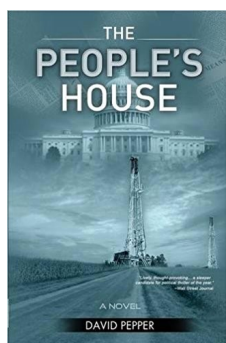
their mothers' choices, they wrestle with their own half-buried dreams and desires. Each presentation is being facilitated by local feminist activists. WCC members Jane Anderson, Sarah Gideonse, Rina Saperstein, Marge Davis, and Alice Schneider participated in the panel discussion.

## SAVE THE DATES FOR UPCOMING EVENTS IN MAY & JUNE

**Wednesday, May 10, 7 pm City Conversations:** "*What We All Need to Know About Refugee and Immigrant Families in Cincinnati and How We Can Help*"

This discussion with "Heartfelt Tidbits" will be a follow-up to the National Speaker event with Maria Hinojosa. It will be held in the Geier Room, Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church 103 William Howard Taft Road. Do you know the legal difference between Immigrants and Refugees? **Immigrants** are subject to the laws of their adopted country. They may only come if they have work or a place to live. **Immigrants** are usually driven by economic factors, or they want to be close to family.

**Refugees** are forced to relocate for reasons such as fear of persecution due to war, religion or political opinion.



**Saturday, May 20, 10 pm WCC BOOK CLUB FOR MAY: David Pepper's *The People's House***

The Wall Street Journal crowned David Pepper's *The People's House* the "sleepers for political thriller of the year," and a former Governor said she almost missed her connecting flight because she couldn't put it down.

It's the story of the political reporter Jack Sharpe, who is logging time at the tail end of a disappointing career -- jaded about politics and stung by personal hard knocks. But after an odd election result in the Ohio Congressional district he covers, Sharpe stumbles across voting irregularities that spur him to dig deeper. The story takes him far beyond his corner of Ohio as he discovers an international plot one that strikes at the heart of American democracy. His reporting leads to a showdown with a philandering Congressman and Presidential contender, and an eccentric but deadly Russian mogul. In order to save himself and the country, Sharpe must rekindle his old fire to navigate a treacherous journey through danger, betrayal, and atonement. And yes, it was all written before eerily similar events occurred in the 2016 election!

May's book club will be held at the home of Jeanne Nightingale. All members are welcome to join us! RSVP to [inightingale@fuse.net](mailto:inightingale@fuse.net). Some of us are also reading *The Federalist Papers*, a collection of 85 articles and essays written (under the pseudonym Publius) by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay promoting the ratification of the United States Constitution.

**Sunday, May 21, 7- 9 pm Changing Course** at St. John's UU Church, a community discussion and screening of the new PBS award-winning documentary *SEED: THE UNTOLD STORY*. In the last century, 94% of our seed varieties have disappeared. As biotech chemical companies control the majority of our seeds, farmers, scientists, lawyers and indigenous seed keepers fight a David and Goliath battle to defend the future of our food. In a harrowing and heartening story, these heroes rekindle a lost connection to our most treasured resource and revive a culture connected to seeds. *SEED* features Vandana Shiva, Dr. Jane Goodall, Winona Laduke and others.

**Thursday, June 1, 6- 8 pm Public Forum:** "*How do we Protect the Environment Today?*" The Woman's City Club will host a program with the Ohio Environmental Council at the United Way Convening Center, 2400 Reading Rd. It promises to be an exciting Panel with a speaker from Washington, DC, the Director of Ohio Environmental Council, and a local speaker. Other agencies are coming on board as cosponsors: League of Women, Voters, Air, Inc. The discussion should be lively! Light refreshments provided.

**Friday, June 16, 11:30 am - 1 pm** Fourth Annual Women's Economic, Mental and Physical Health Expo on Fountain Square. Speakers: Margot Spence of First Step Home and Billie Mays, organizer of the Women's March. Others TBA. We hope to have MUSE singers for inspiration and the PONE dancers again to end us on a positive and enthusiastic note! Join us for an engaging, informative program in your lunch hour.



# HOW DO WE PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT TODAY?



*Join us for a conversation on protecting the  
environment from an uncertain future*



**June 1st, 2017: 6:00 - 8:00 pm**  
United Way Building Convening Room  
2400 Reading Rd. Cincinnati, OH 45219  
OEC@theOEC.org or 614-487-7506

Registration Required



## NEWS FROM OUR NETWORK

The following items are listed because they may be of interest to our members in keeping with our mission to educate, empower and engage citizens. A listing does not imply that Woman's City Club sponsors, endorses or has a studied judgment about the event, speakers or content.

# MUSE

Cincinnati's Women's Choir



**MUSE invites you to her 34th Annual Spring Concert, WELCOME!**

**The concert is an exploration of immigration through reckoning with the past, modern hospitality, and expansive patriotism.**

MUSE is pleased to welcome **Bradley Kauffman** to the podium as Interim Director for the 34th Annual Spring Concert.

**Please join us for WELCOME! at Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church at  
103 William Howard Taft Road, Cincinnati, on  
Saturday, May 20 at 7:00 pm and Sunday, May 21 at 2 pm.**

**Early-bird pricing is available now through May 13<sup>th</sup>.**

**Go to [www.musechoir.org](http://www.musechoir.org) to purchase your tickets today.**



# Changing CO<sub>2</sub>urse: Local Solutions to a Global Crisis

St. John's UU Church, 320 Resor, Clifton

Sunday, May 21, 7- 9 pm

## SEED: THE UNTOLD STORY



**Come join a community discussion on this new award-winning PBS documentary.**

In the last century, 94% of our seed varieties have disappeared. As biotech chemical companies control the majority of our seeds, farmers, scientists, lawyers and indigenous seed keepers fight a David and Goliath battle to defend the future of our food. In a harrowing and heartening story, these heroes rekindle a lost connection to our most treasured resource and revive a culture connected to seeds.

**Which future will you grow?**

**Few things on Earth are as miraculous and vital as seeds. Worshipped and treasured since the dawn of humankind.**

**SEED features Vandana Shiva, Dr. Jane Goodall, Winona Laduke and other well-known environmental activists.**

**COSPONSORS: Citizens' Climate Lobby, Woman's City Club of Greater Cincinnati, League of Women Voters of the Cincinnati Area, Our Harvest Cooperative, Apple Street Market Cooperative, St John's Green Sanctuary Partners.**

- Our Mission:** Woman's City Club is committed to building a strong Greater Cincinnati community through educating, empowering, and engaging all citizens to participate in promoting the common good.
- Our Vision:** We envision a just and sustainable community where all citizens are engaged as informed stakeholders in the shaping of our shared future.
- Our Values:** Collaboration -- Citizen Empowerment -- Civic Literacy -- Equity and Justice -- Children and Youth on Positive Trajectories to Achieve their Dreams and Lead Constructive Lives -- A Thriving City of the Future.

## Calendar of WCC Events

**Wednesday, May 10, 6:30pm**  
**City Conversations**

Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church  
103 William Howard Taft Road

**Saturday, May 20, 10pm**  
**WCC Book Club**

David Pepper's The People's House  
RSVP: Jeanne Nightingale  
513-471-6622

**Friday, May 21, 7-9pm**  
**Changing Course**

St. John's UU Church  
320 Resor Avenue

**Friday, May 26, 11:45am-1pm**  
**Seasongood Luncheon**

Crown Plaza Hotel  
5901 Pfeiffer Road, Blue Ash

**Thursday, June 1, 6-8pm**  
**"How do we Protect the Environment?"**

United Way Convening Room  
2400 Reading Road

**Friday, June 16, 11:30am-1:15pm**  
**Annual EXPO on Fountain Square**  
**"Equity for All"**  
Fountain Square

**Thursday, June 22, 5:30pm**  
**Woman's City Club Annual Meeting**

Geier Room  
Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church  
103 William Howard Taft Road



**WCC COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

For the latest schedule of Committee Meetings, check our Website Calendar at [womanscityclub.org](http://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/](http://cincinnati-oh.gov/council/).



Like Woman's City Club Cincinnati on Facebook to keep up with the latest news and commentary.



Like us on Twitter  
[@womanscityclub](https://twitter.com/womanscityclub)

The Monthly *e-Bulletin* keeps us connected with our membership, our network and our community. The next issue - Our Annual Report -- will appear in JUNE.  
Deadline is MAY 24.

*Managing Editors: Jeanne Nightingale & Melissa Rowland.*