

THE BULLETIN

OCTOBER 2022

NOVEMBER PUBLIC FORUM

THE STATE OF THE STATEHOUSE: What You Should Know ~ What You Can Do

Thursday, November 17

6:30 pm Social Time ▪ 7 pm Program

Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church ▪ Geier Room
103 William Howard Taft Road, Cincinnati

If attending in person or via Zoom,
[REGISTER HERE](#)

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
▪ Lead Constructive Lives ▪
A Thriving City of the Future

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Woman's City Club welcomes new members. Visit our website, www.womanscityclub.org, to learn more about us and how to join.



While news and updates about actions of the federal government dominate the media, what happens at the Ohio Statehouse gets little attention but directly affects Ohio residents. We hear so little about the Ohio General Assembly, the state legislature of Ohio. We know so few of the 99-member Ohio House of Representatives and the 33 member Ohio Senate.



Woman's City Club's November Forum is your opportunity to learn about state government, and how it works — or doesn't — from two experts: David Pepper, former Ohio Democratic Party Chair and author of *Laboratories of Autocracy: A Wake-Up Call from Behind the Lines*, and Cindy Abrams, a former Police Officer for the City of Cincinnati and Councilwoman for the City of Harrison, and now the Republican Representative for the 29th District.



Pepper will share his perspective that across the United States democracy at the state level is at risk due to extreme partisanship and gerrymandering, and everyone from elected officials to business leaders to everyday citizens must work to reclaim it. He will outline steps that can be taken, from federal action to local initiatives, to restore the democratic process.

Abrams will speak about her work in the Statehouse: what led her to choose service as a State Representative, what the job entails on a daily basis, how the legislative process works, and how citizens can best be informed and have input.

THE PROGRAM IS FREE BUT PLEASE RSVP OR REGISTER IN ORDER TO GET THE LINK .



LIGHTING THE WAY...IT CONTINUES



I am continually moved and inspired by the work of the Woman's City Club. I guess that's how I became involved and continue to be to this day. We say in our mission statement that we are committed to "educate, empower and engage."

The three Es of this statement aren't just poetic; we really take them to heart in everything we do. Our forums provide an opportunity to **educate** our members and friends about issues and allow them to contribute to the conversation. We continually make efforts to **empower** citizens to take action on issues of importance to them and to build their own capacities for personal growth and change. Our organization offers opportunities to **engage** in our communities – through the Social Justice Action Group, through the Environmental Action Group, and other action groups and committees in the Club. Moreover, by acting as a group, many of our members take these skills back to their communities, whether it be village councils, neighborhood community councils, or even their homeowners' association!

In Andrea Tuttle Kornbluh's introduction to her history of the first 50 years of the Club, she wrote:

The civic activity of the Woman's City Club has been so multifaceted and comprehensive that one could write a history of twentieth century Cincinnati based on the City Club records. As much as this is a history of the WCC, it is also a history of Cincinnati for the lives of the two are so intertwined that it is difficult to talk about one without the other.

- *Lighting the Way: The Woman's City Club of Cincinnati 1915 – 1965*
Andrea Tuttle Kornbluh, 1986, p. I

This tradition has continued. Perhaps, the major change has been that we no longer simply echo the goings on in Cincinnati, but also in Hamilton County and the region. So, 107 years later, we are both the same organization and very different.

What helps us to continue to grow and change is YOU and your **involvement, passion, and commitment**. I invite you to participate in any of our committees or action groups as you see fit – or even begin a new initiative!

And, I can't help but remind you so much of our recent work, in conjunction with the Greater Cincinnati Voter Collaborative, has been to enable more people to vote. As early voting has already begun, do exercise your right to vote and take it very seriously. It's all part of lighting the way!

~ Jeff Dey



CALLING ON MEMBERS AND FRIENDS TO SUPPORT THE 2022 ANNUAL FUND CAMPAIGN

Do you value everything WCC does and everything it stands for? Do you count on WCC for excellent programs on issues that affect our community, effective civic partnerships, and a vision for a positive future for Greater Cincinnati? Then vote "YES" for WCC by making a donation to the Annual Fund Campaign.

Please give as generously as you can to keep WCC strong and viable in this challenging time. Membership dues alone cover only about 20% of our annual operating budget. We do a lot with a little, but we have fixed costs for rent, telephone, internet, office equipment, printing and postage, as well as our annual education awards. We rely on a volunteer working board and our paid staff—part-time Communications Manager Donna Tukel and Business Manager Roger Smith—but **we also depend on you to give!**

The easiest and fastest way to donate, on a one-time or monthly basis, is through our website, womancityclub.org/donate. You can also mail a check to Woman's City Club or call our office at 513-751-0100 on M/W/F from 10 am to 2 pm to donate by credit card. You can set up a recurring gift through your banking institution or credit card, or work with your financial advisor to explore other ways to support us. WCC is a 501(c)(3) organization, so your donation is tax-deductible to the extent of the law.

Your support will allow WCC to continue to **Light the Fire** of equity and opportunity and **Lead the Way** forward to a just and sustainable community where all citizens are engaged in shaping our shared future.



THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL FEIST TEA SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2022

Feist Tea Celebrates Its 13th Anniversary In Person!

1:30 pm - Refreshments ▪ 2 pm - Program
Kennedy Heights Arts Center Annex
6620 Montgomery Road, Cincinnati

Please join us as we gather for an elegant and fun tea to honor several exceptionally feisty individuals. And...

- To celebrate Woman's City Club — its civic engagement and feisty and dedicated members
- To recognize all past presidents and honorees who have served and supported WCC across the many years
- To honor Feisty individuals who embody the mission, vision, and spirit of WCC and have contributed to WCC or the Greater Cincinnati Community

*Feist Tea is a free event, but we welcome your donations in honor of our 2022 honorees.
Invitations will be emailed by mid-November.*



*Feisty Honorees 2021:
(L-R) Barbara Myers,
Aurelia Candie Simmons
Iris Roley*



NATIONAL SPEAKER FORUM 2023

MARCIA COYLE
SPEAKING ON

A LOOK INSIDE THE CURRENT SUPREME COURT

THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2023, 7 PM
MEMORIAL HALL ~ 1225 ELM STREET ~ CINCINNATI



After a momentous year of Supreme Court rulings, what does the coming year portend? Join us March 23 for an inside view of the Court from the uniquely qualified lawyer and journalist Marcia Coyle, the award-winning Chief Washington Correspondent for *The National Law Journal*.

Coyle's remarks will focus on recent and anticipated decisions of the Court, particularly those that have the biggest societal impact.

Watch for information on how organizations can cosponsor this event at \$300, as well as corporate sponsorships at \$500+. Beginning in mid-December, individuals can purchase tickets at \$50 and up through Memorial Hall.



SEPTEMBER FORUM: FINDING A WAY FORWARD Protecting Our Rights without Roe V.Wade

EXPERT PANEL ON THE FUTURE OF ABORTION RIGHTS INFORMS AND INSPIRES

Collaboration and persistence are the keys to necessary action for those who agree abortion is health care and health care is a human right. That seemed to be the consensus reached at the September 21 Woman's City Club public forum, the first to be held in person in two and a half years.

Titled, "Finding a Way Forward: Protecting Our Rights without *Roe v. Wade*," the forum featured Dr. O'dell Owens, noted OB-GYN specialist, former medical director of the Cincinnati Health Department and CEO/President of Interact for Health; Kersha Deibel, President/CEO of Planned Parenthood Southwest Ohio Region; and Elizabeth Hopkins, Organizing Director, ACLU Ohio. The fact-filled program at Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church was introduced by Jeff Dey, club president, and moderated by Susan Noonan.

"Abortion is between a woman and a gynecologist and nobody, nobody else," said Dr. Owens, beginning a broad-ranging presentation focused on impact on community health services, the concerns of physicians and other medical staff, and the potential inequity of Ohio's laws on lower-income and minority women.

He cited Ohio statistics to start: Of 20,000 abortions in 2020, 95% were for Ohio residents, 31% had other children, 2.5% were under age 18, and the majority were between 25 and 55. Other important issues raised by the Dobbs decision, he said, are the impact on contraception availability, in vitro fertilization, and the two percent of pregnancies that are ectopic and potentially dangerous, when babies are in the abdomen, not in the uterus. "You can get a heartbeat from one, even though it cannot survive," he said.

Owens believes that since the majority of Americans believe abortion services should be available, "Put it on the ballot," he said, "Let the people decide."

"Abortion is health care, and health care is a human right," said Planned Parenthood's Kersha Deibel to start and end her often fiery remarks that included the effect on services available through Planned Parenthood, navigation through the new laws, and ways people can advocate for women's health and civil rights.

"Some of you all have been fighting this fight for many, many years," she said. "You have shown up time and time again for 50 plus years." She was introduced to Planned Parenthood when her stepmother took her there at age 18 for birth control. "Now, it's a true honor to be able to lead and make sure that



young people and all the others Dr. Owen mentioned have the information and understand what's there for them."

Planned Parenthood can continue to provide abortion care "that is inclusive" -- until October 12 after Judge Christian Jenkins extended his hold on the six-week abortion ban, because "Hopefully there will be another extension and if we can get the preliminary injunction," she said, praising Hamilton County Judge Jenkins' decision.*

Patients coming recently to Planned Parenthood for abortion services include those who have children, those who want children in the future, sexual assault survivors, and some with mental health issues. "We feel fortunate to serve them without adding to their burdens that forced them to come to us," she said.

I'm not a lawyer," said Hopkins, "so legal jargon is not my thing." After asking attendees "to be vulnerable," she asked anyone who had had an abortion, or knew someone who had, to stand. At least two-thirds of the audience stood. "Look around," she said. "That is a reflection of Ohio as well; 82% of the people support abortion access in some form or fashion."

Addressing the legal issues and steps ACLU is taking to challenge the state laws and ensure that women are "able to make the right decision for their lives, and I worry now about my children that they will be able to make the right decisions for their lives."

Abortion providers, who enable people to have access to abortion care, "are choosing to be viable and adjust in this moment . . . Two weeks ago their doors were not closed, right, because we will never close our doors. However, they were like "maybe politicians were trying to shut them, and we're not letting them."

(continued on page 5)



SEPTEMBER FORUM: FINDING A WAY FORWARD

(continued from page 4)

She said ACLU is not only in the courtroom litigating around these restrictions, like Senate Bill 23 that some people try to name the heart-beat bills. “We see how often politicians are using language to invoke emotion, to use language of shame, of fear, of purity.”

Citing the successful referendum in Ireland not too long ago, she said. “That’s how I believe we will win. People like me, people like you, people you know with access to abortion care deserve compassion. We deserve love. We deserve to be protected. We deserve to live full lives. That’s the movement we’re trying to build.”

“We’re also looking to a battleground when it comes to the Ohio Supreme Court right now,” she said, pointing out that party designations of justice candidates will be on the ballot for the first time. The aim is to have courts that will actually rule in the favor the will of the people who elected them, not as politicians to put money in their pockets. Emphasizing that this election “really, really matters,” she said this year the ACLU has created a candidates’ scorecard about the Ohio Supreme Court. On the website ACLUOhio.org, you check how candidates responded to the ACLU questionnaire.

“We know that when people lose access to abortion care, crime skyrockets, domestic violence skyrockets, domestic murders and assaults skyrocket. Crime will go through the roof. These things are very interconnected,” she said.

As voters are mobilized, two and two should be put together, she said, “We need to ensure that everyone we know votes for values, for beliefs to vote in a way that allows these values to be respected.”

To ‘enshrine’ reproductive health care in the Ohio Constitution won’t be easy, Hopkins asserted. “We have to do everything to not go back to pre-Roe times,” she said. Regarding a ballot initiative, she said “It’s not a matter of if we do it, but when we do it.”

If you missed it, the forum can be viewed at: youtube.com/jKtvPlceaFc.

~ Jo-Ann Huff Albers

*Footnotes:

On October 7, Hamilton County Common Pleas Court Judge Christian Jenkins blocked the state’s 6 week abortion ban indefinitely. The ruling means abortion will now be legal in Ohio until 20 weeks post-fertilization or 21 weeks and six days after the woman’s last period. The state is expected to appeal the ruling.

On October 12, Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost appealed Judge Jenkin’s decision to block the state’s six-week abortion ban indefinitely.



Forum speakers (L-R):
Elizabeth Hopkins, Kersha Deibel
and Dr. O'dell Owens
Forum Organizer (R): Susan Noonan





WCC ENDORSEMENTS OF LEVIES AND ISSUES ON THE NOVEMBER BALLOT

Vote “yes” on the four local levies: Three are renewals and so will not increase taxes: Indigent Care levy, Senior Services levy, and a levy for the Cincinnati public school district. The fourth, a levy to support the Mental Health and Recovery Board, asks for a well-justified increase.

INDIGENT CARE RENEWAL LEVY

The Hamilton County Health & Hospitalization (Indigent Care) renewal levy (Issue 11), funds medical, mental health, and prevention services needed by County residents who are “medically indigent” (unable to afford medical care).

This ballot issue is a renewal of a five-year levy in place since its passage in 2017, when it was expanded from a three-year levy to a five-year levy. It provides for a five-year renewal beginning in 2022 at the same 4.07 millage and the same cost to taxpayers of \$42.41 per \$100,000 property valuation.

The levy supports hospital care for the indigent at the University of Cincinnati Medical Center (UCMC) and Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center (CCHMC) (\$13.4 million and \$4.2 million, respectively). The remainder of the levy revenues have funded a variety of health-related services within the County, many of which are legally mandated.

The COVID-19 pandemic impacted the community, especially the low-income population during the federally declared Public Health Emergency (PHE). The services funded by the levy are well delivered. Many of the services are mandated by state law; without the levy, the County would have to pay for them with general revenue funds.

MENTAL HEALTH LEVY

The Hamilton County Mental Health Levy (Issue 9) renews and increases the levy to fund mental health services. The five-year Hamilton County Mental Health Levy was last renewed by voters in 2017 and is up for renewal. This would require a \$13.30 tax increase per \$100,000 of home value, for a total \$54.23 per year.

The levy funds the Mental Health & Recovery Services Board, which provides a wide range of services to adults and children with mental health or addiction problems. The COVID and opioid crises saw much greater demand for such services.

Levy-funded services include treatment, housing, employment, vocational help, and court assistance, via MHRSB contracts with 37 agencies, including 26 mental health providers.

Many factors support the need for the levy’s increase. The MHRSB is well run and cost-effective. The levy hasn’t kept up with inflation.

The pandemic has affected everyone’s mental health, causing a substantial rise in the need for mental health services, including for those who educate our children and parents. Parents, teachers, and students all have had increasing levels of anxiety and mental health challenges over the past decade, and the pandemic only exacerbated that trend line. Southwest Ohio is seeing a rise in deaths among teens and young adults. A levy increase will allow the MHRSB to address a critical need for school-based suicide prevention programming.

Without an increase, it is projected that MHRSB will be unable to meet the rising need for services and will lose its operating reserve and run up a \$37 million deficit by 2027.

SENIOR SERVICES RENEWAL LEVY

The Hamilton County Senior Services renewal levy, Issue 10, funds services needed by the elderly to continue living independently. This ballot issue would renew a levy in place during 2018-2022 with no increase.

Levy funds at present support seven programs. About 90% of senior levy funds support Elderly Services Program at the Council on Aging, which helps elderly persons remain in their own homes as long as possible. In a typical year this program serves approximately 5500 seniors. The COA serves as the broker for vendors who provide an array of services from home medical equipment to minor home repairs to meals and transportation

The Tax Levy Review Committee (TLRC) was highly complimentary of the COA and all of the providers, particularly in how they showed great creativity, flexibility, and commitment to seniors during this most extremely disruptive time of this levy cycle, in the midst of the COVID pandemic. COA developed some innovative projects that enhanced service delivery recognizing not only the growing population of seniors but also the increased needs to this population.

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WCC ENDORSEMENTS OF LEVIES AND ISSUES ON THE NOVEMBER BALLOT

CINCINNATI PUBLIC SCHOOLS RENEWAL LEVY

Issue 3 renews an existing levy imposed by the Cincinnati City School District for the purpose of providing for the emergency requirements of the school district in the sum of \$51,500,000 per year, for a period of 10 years. This levy request is a third renewal. If passed, it will be in effect for a 10-year period instead of five years. Moving to a 10-year levy will reduce the number of levies voters must pass, reducing voter fatigue; it also provides some financial stability, helping the district better to plan.

Money from this levy will continue to fund district operations: faculty, texts and other types of learning materials, transportation, neighborhood schools, and utilities. The levy supports the district's ability to maintain small, student-centric classrooms and to hire well qualified teachers. Importantly, passage will allow the district to function with up-to-date technology as it prepares students for further education, careers, and training beyond their CPS experiences. Failure of this levy will cause drastic cuts in K-12 programs, teachers, staff, and student technology – roughly \$25 million a year.

CPS' board has taken courageous stands: against allowing school personnel carry guns and state bills and several "discriminatory legislative proposals" of late "targeted at LGBTQ students in Ohio" as they do not align with the board's commitment and efforts to support diverse students. CPS board is also committed to strong social-emotional learning and other mental health interventions to address students' emotional distress and behavioral issues.

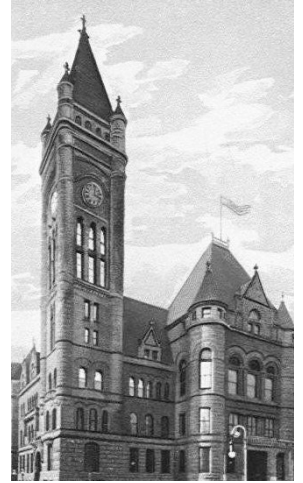
VOTE "YES" ON ISSUE 11 TO STOP THE MAYOR'S POCKET VETO

WCC strongly supports issue 11 on the November ballot, a proposed City Charter amendment to the City Charter to require the Mayor "to assign a legislative matter to the appropriate committee by the fourth regularly scheduled meeting" following the date it was submitted to the Clerk of Council. The amendment's purpose is to remove the mayor's power to unilaterally block pieces of proposed legislation by failing to refer them to council for a vote. Issue 11 spells out the timeframe and responsibilities of the Mayor, Clerk of Council, and Council in assuring timely consideration of the proposed legislation.

The Cincinnati's charter currently gives the mayor the sole power to refer proposed legislation for a vote, but it does not set a deadline. This means that the mayor can sit on a

proposed ordinance for an entire City Council term, effectively killing it. In the past, this has enabled the mayor to prevent passage of legislation that has the support of a majority of council, which action is anti-democratic. This action has been known informally as the "pocket veto."

The council unanimously voted to place this amendment on the November 8 ballot, and the measure also has Mayor Pureval's support. The amendment is one of a bundle of recommendations proposed by the National Civic League in its November 2020 report entitled, *Enhancing Governmental Effectiveness and Ethics in Cincinnati*, commissioned by the Murray and Agnes Seasongood Good Government Foundation.



VOTE "NO" ON ISSUE 1, TO AMEND THE STATE CONSTITUTION RE "BAIL REFORM"

WCC strongly urges the defeat of an Ohio constitutional amendment "to require courts to consider factors like public safety when setting the amount of bail."

Ohio Issue 1 was proposed to enable a judge to consider public safety in setting bail, "including the seriousness of the offense, as well as a person's criminal record, the likelihood a person will return to court, and any other factor the General Assembly may prescribe." On the face of it, this sounds reasonable, but prosecutors can already keep dangerous suspects in jail, and a judge can also decide to hold a defendant without bail, thus another law is not needed. According to the Bail Project, "What the amendment does is double down on the use of money as a proxy for who is detained or released before trial -- a practice that discriminates against the poor and disproportionately people of color."

Perhaps even more threatening to true bail reform was the second part of the proposed amendment – removal of "the requirement that procedures for establishing the amount and conditions of bail be determined by the Supreme Court of Ohio." If passed, the amendment would prevent judicial review of the legislature's actions, now elected from unconstitutional and undemocratic gerrymandered districts, on matters of bail.

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WCC ENDORSEMENTS OF LEVIES AND ISSUES ON THE NOVEMBER BALLOT

VOTE “NO” ON ISSUE 1, TO AMEND THE STATE CONSTITUTION RE “BAIL REFORM.” *(continued)*

This part of the amendment appears to be in part a reaction to a 4-3 ruling by the Ohio Supreme Court that money bail can be used only to ensure someone’s return to court and that excessive bail is unconstitutional. Setting a high bond simply to keep someone charged with a crime in jail before trial was found “both statutorily and constitutionally unlawful,” by the court.

The amendment also diverts from proposals for true bail reform. The current Pretrial Bail system creates a two-tiered system of justice in which people who can afford their release go home to their families, and those without financial resources are forced to unnecessarily suffer in jail. Before ever seeing a judge, someone with means can “buy their release.” Cash bail does not keep people safe: it locks up people who are in poverty.

These are the consequences of the current cash bail system:

- It is incredibly expensive to hold people in jail unnecessarily. Bail reform could save Ohio up to \$264 million each year.
- Pretrial detention causes worse case outcomes. People who remain in jail pretrial are more likely to get convicted, are more likely to get sentenced to jail or prison and receive longer sentences. Bail reform is needed so that convictions are based on guilt and not resources.
- Our current money bail system disproportionately affects people of color. Black individuals are more likely to receive financial conditions of release and are more likely to receive higher financial conditions of release than white individuals charged with the same crime.
- People who remain in jail pretrial are put at risk of losing their jobs, their homes, and even custody of their children. It is also very difficult for them to prepare a defense with a lawyer.

WCC Committee Report



PROGRAM COMMITTEE EDUCATES AND ENGAGES

Woman’s City Club is known and respected for its excellent free public programs and forums on topics of both immediate and ongoing concern, often presented in partnership with other Greater Cincinnati organizations and agencies.

We take our mission statement — to educate our members and the community, and to empower them with the information and resources they need to become engaged — so seriously that we have a Vice President for Program and a robust committee dedicated to this work.

Following up on the discussion at WCC’s Annual Meeting in June, the Program Committee is planning forums on our members’ expressed interests and concerns. We have already presented an excellent panel discussion on the impact of the Supreme Court’s setting aside of *Roe v. Wade* (September) and joined with the Cincinnati Bar Association and others on a forum open to all Hamilton County judicial candidates (October).

We are currently organizing a comprehensive look at Ohio state government practices and policies for November with David Pepper, whose book *Laboratories of Autocracy* details what is taking place in Ohio’s legislature and statehouses across the

country, and a sitting state representative. In months to come we will address many of our members’ other concerns: affordable housing and inequitable housing policies, voters’ rights, the erosion of civil rights and the increase in radicalism, environmental issues, food deserts and urban gardens, restrictions on education, and more.

In response to our members’ request for more opportunities to come together for activities and discussion, the Program Committee hosted a conversation with photographer and WCC member Harriet Kaufman at the *Beyond Guilt* exhibit at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center. On November 30 we will have an event for members and their guests with Elissa Yancey of *A Picture’s Worth* (<https://apicturesworth.org/>) to learn the power of stories and effective story-telling techniques. Look for an invitation in your email in early November.

The Program Committee is actively seeking new members to assist in planning and carrying out WCC’s programs. We meet online at 7pm on the 4th Wednesday of the month. Please contact Program VP Janet Buening if you want to join us or have suggestions for future programs: wccpresident2018@gmail.com.

~ Janet Buening



MEMBER EVENTS

WCC organized two terrific Sunday in-person events this fall especially for our members and their guests. A picnic took place on a beautiful mid-September day in a St. Bernard park. People gathered, beginning at noon, for animated conversation and delicious food – a chance to be together outside after so many Zoom meetings. A special guest, the almost-two granddaughter of Janet Buening and niece of Anne Buening, made an appearance and enchanted us all!



Bob Whelan and Marge Davis



Anne Buening with her niece
Madeline blowing bubbles



Jan Seymour, Mike Maloney,
and Jeanne Nightingale

A conversation with photographer and WCC member Harriet Kaufman took place October 9 at the *Beyond Guilt* exhibit at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center.

The exhibit consists of eight poster presentations, with candid photos taken by Harriet and excerpts from interviews by Ohio State scholar-activists of six former prisoners who received early release with the assistance the Ohio Justice and Policy Center. They were part of OJPC state-wide advocacy project *Beyond Guilt* to represent individuals who had served a significant portion of their sentences, are rehabilitated, and can be safely released to the community.

Through their moving stories, “we learn about the human consequences of second chances and the ethical necessity to see and treat people beyond their guilt.”

Harriet Kaufman graciously described the “back story” of the exhibit. She told us about spending a rewarding hour or so in each person’s home just taking candid pictures of their wonderful faces. The subjects decided which of the pictures would best represent them in their “poster.”

The *Beyond Guilt* project is also a platform to influence community conversation about sentencing laws and prison reform. The exhibit includes a panel about ways members of the community can “take action” — learn more about excessive punishment, deepen knowledge of mass incarceration, and volunteer.

“Beyond Guilt” can be visited at the Freedom Center through Thanksgiving weekend.



A selection of *Beyond Guilt* portraits

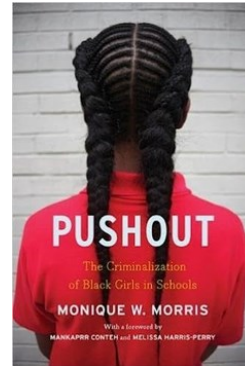


WCC members and guests at the Freedom Center outing.
Harriet Kaufman is at the center in striped sweater.



JOIN THE CONVERSATION

PUSHOUT
The Criminalization
of Black Girls in Schools
by Monique W. Morris
November 19, 10 am
via Zoom



The powerful exploration of the harsh and harmful experiences confronting Black girls in schools, and how we can instead orient schools toward their flourishing.

In a work that Lisa Delpit calls “imperative reading,” Monique W. Morris chronicles the experiences of Black girls across the country whose complex lives are misunderstood, highly judged—by teachers, administrators, and the justice system—and degraded by the very institutions charged with helping them flourish. Painting “a chilling picture of the plight of black girls and women today” (*The Atlantic*), Morris exposes a world of confined potential and supports the rising movement to challenge the policies, practices, and cultural illiteracy that push countless students out of school and into unhealthy, unstable, and often unsafe futures.

At a moment when Black girls are the fastest growing population in the juvenile justice system, *Pushout* is truly a book “for everyone who cares about children” (*Washington Post*). *From Amazon’s writeup for the book.*

We also recommend: A documentary film based on the book at <https://pushoutfilm.com/>

Several short PushOut videos on YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0wYKDv77k_H94Gwa7AN-BQ/videos

The book is available at booksellers in multiple formats, including used. The library has a few, in different formats, plus access to the film.

The book club invites all members to participate as they wish – all the time or occasionally. Friends and family members may join in, depending on space availability. To RSVP, receive the Zoom link, or ask questions, email: SarahGideonse@womanscityclub.org

Monique W. Morris, EdD, founded and leads the National Black Women's Justice Institute, an organization that works to transform public discourses on the criminalization of Black women, girls, and their families. For three decades, she has been involved in social justice advocacy and scholarship, working with research and academic institutions, civil rights organizations, nonprofits, public agencies, and activists to advance policies and practices that promote racial and gender equity. She's the author of *Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools* and *Sing a Rhythm, Dance a Blues: Education for the Liberation of Black and Brown Girls*, as well as other books, publications, and articles.





WCC MEMBER PROFILE

Anne Buening's involvement with the Woman's City Club started as a volunteer. "My mother, Janet Buening, recruited me to pour wine at a Feist Tea, and then I began to come to some of the programs."

"My true involvement with WCC started when I was asked to write the history sections for the cookbook *Stirring the Pot* (2015). Since then, I have been an active member." Anne has been active since joining the board in 2017, while her mother served as President. She has been membership vice president and secretary.

Born and raised in Cincinnati, Anne studied anthropology and minored in art history as an under graduate at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado. She has a graduate certificate in museum studies from UC's College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning (DAAP), and for the last 18 years she has been a curatorial assistant at the Cincinnati Art Museum, currently working with the curators of American and European paintings, sculpture and drawings.

"Most of my family, with the exception of my sister who lives in New York City, are in town," she said. "Our newest addition to our family is my niece, and it has been such a joy to watch her develop and learn new things — she's not quite two, but already seems ready to conquer the world. We're hoping that she will become the third generation of the family to join WCC."

The WCC activity Anne enjoys the most are the forums the Program Committee organizes. "It is amazing how often WCC is able to pull together events that reflect timely concerns and gets such fantastic speakers," she said. "The recent forum,



Finding a Way Forward: Protecting Our Rights Without Roe v. Wade, was incredible."

Anne believes WCC makes a difference in Cincinnati life as it brings people together and continues to educate as many as possible on civic and social justice issues.

Anne goes to museums as often as she can, "Despite working at one and volunteering for another, I just can't seem to get enough of them in my life. Art and history museums offer so many ways to learn about cultures, people and locales." She has volunteered for six years at Harriet Beecher Stowe House.

In her down time, she reads or engages in an artistic or craft project. "I also sew stuffed animals and dolls — It's such a calming way to relax after work. And I absolutely love to see how much children enjoy playing with toys I have made (of course, my niece regularly gets a new toy from me). During the pandemic, I began to create my own patterns and kept my spirits up during quarantine by making what I called my COVID monsters — happy creatures who end up looking like a mix of something designed by Jim Henson and Maurice Sendak. "

~ Jo-Ann Huff Albers

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Jeff Dey, *President*
Sharon McCreary, *VP Administration* (2020-2023)
Jan Seymour, *VP Civic Engagement* (2022-2025)
Cathy B. Bailey, *VP Membership* (2022-2025)
Janet Buening, *VP Programs* (2022-2025)
Sherri Adams-Davis, *Secretary* (2021-2024)
Michelle Dillingham, *Treasurer* (2021-2024)
Beth Sullebarger, *Past President* (2022-2023)

BOARD MEMBERS

Deborah Mariner Allsop (2022-2025)	David Siders (2019-2024)
Anne Buening (2017-2023)	Aurelia Candie Simmons (2021-2024)
Laurie Frank (2022-2025)	Marcia Togneri (2022-2023)
Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney (2021-2024)	Christa Zielke (2021-2024)
Helen O'Neal (2021-2023)	

CALENDAR

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER PUBLIC FORUM

Thursday, November 17 - see page 1 of this Bulletin

ANNUAL FEIST TEA

Sunday, December 4 - see page 3 of this Bulletin

NATIONAL SPEAKER FORUM

Thursday, March 23, 2023

featuring Marcia Coyle, Chief Washington Correspondent for *The National Law Journal*
See page 3 of this Bulletin

WCC MEETINGS

All meetings are online, via Zoom, unless otherwise noted.

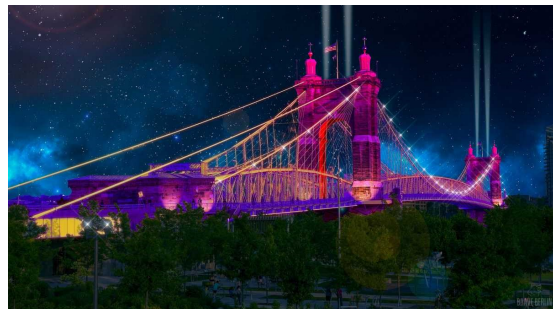
Communications Committee: Tuesday, October 25, 5 pm
Committee meets monthly on last Tuesday.
Contact: SarahGideonse@womanscityclub.org.

Program Committee: Wednesday, October 26, 7 pm
Committee meets monthly on fourth Wednesday.
Contact Janet Buening: wccpresident2018@gmail.com

Membership Committee: Wednesday, November 2, 5:30 pm
Committee meets monthly on first Wednesday.
Contact: CathyBBailey@yahoo.com

Social Justice Action Group: Thursday, November 10, 6:30 pm
Contact David Siders: dbsiders@gmail.com

National Speaker Committee: Monday, November 14, 7:30 pm in person
Contact Beth Sullebarger: wccpresident2020@gmail.com



CINCINNATI CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS: For an updated list of City Council sessions and committee meetings, go to the City website at cincinnati-oh.gov/council/.

The monthly *Bulletin* keeps us connected with our membership, our network, and our community.
Please submit all material as they are ready to Sarah Gideonse at sarahgideonse@womanscityclub.org.

