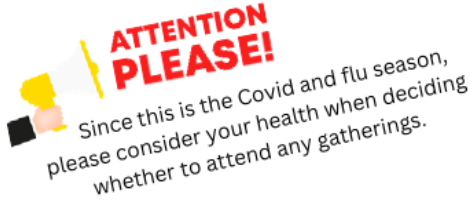


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**Communities include:  
Lake Oswego, Oregon City,  
Sherwood, Tigard, Tualatin,  
West Linn, Wilsonville,  
and more**



# Newsletter

**Volume 50, Number 3**

**November 2024**

***Your November 3, 2024***

***Daylight Saving time  
ends Turn the clocks  
back***



***Fall Back***

# Rothko Pavilion Spurs Portland Art Museum Campus Transformation

## Saturday, November 9th

### 9:30- Social Time - 10:00- Program

#### Oswego Heritage House

#### Avenue A and 10th Street, Lake Oswego

John Goodwin is a community builder, art collector, and cultural innovator who has been the Director of Community Philanthropy at the Portland Art Museum since 2018.

Prior to this appointment, John was the Director of Premium Services for the Portland Trail Blazers. During his tenure there, he served on the Boards of the Art Museum and the Oregon Cultural Trust. A previous job was Director of Membership and Marketing at the University Club of Portland, so to say John is a people person is quite an understatement!

He earned a Bachelor's degree in Journalism/Speech at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and received certificates for studies in History and Economics from the University of London.

The Portland Art Museum project is expected to play a key role in the rebirth of downtown with the transformation of its campus. As the only major art museum between Seattle and San Francisco, it has always been a civic cornerstone and an important educational resource for visitors, and it has existed for more than 130 years..

By the close of 2025, Goodwin speculates "that everyone, whatever their walk of life ..... their race .....or religion will also feel (*as he does*) that the Portland Art Museum is a beacon of hope."

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## Prez Sez



Clearly, the most important thing happening in November happens on November 5th. Do you know why we vote in November? Voting on Tuesday in November isn't as arbitrary as it seems. The month marks the end of the harvest, and it offers mild weather for traveling voters. In **1845**, Congress passed a law mandating that the presidential Election Day would be held every four years on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in the month. Weather? Oregonians don't have to worry! Oregon established the vote-by-mail- as the standard mechanism for voting with **Ballot Measure 60, a citizen's initiative, in 1998**. It is stated that, as a result, this system contributes to the highest voter turnout rate in the nation.

We are very excited to hear our November speaker, John Goodwin, from the Portland Art Museum, at our next meeting on November 9th. Additionally, two activities are happening during the month of November! Hope to see many of you at these activities.

- Our first **coffee gathering** to welcome our newest members to LOAAUW. All members are invited to attend. *See below for details.*
- A **tour** of the Early Childhood program on the Sylvania PCC campus. *See below for details.*

May we reflect on the wonderful harvest that has been created at LOAAUW. Able to gather for conversations of importance. Partake of each other's friendship. Know that others care, as we do, about the world around us and wish to make it a better place for women and those they love. Much to be **thankful** for.

**Submitted by Jeanne Lemieux & Diana Ricks**

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## Membership Matters



There will be an LO AAUW Member Coffee on Wednesday, November 13th at 10:00 am at Elephants Deli (3970 Mercantile Drive, Lake Oswego, OR 97035.) This will be an opportunity for newer members to learn more about the branch and not-so-new members to reconnect. Please join us, and if you have a friend or neighbor who might be interested in AAUW, please bring them along.

**Submitted by Patti Watkins, Co-Membership VP**



-  Board Mtg
-  General Mtg

### INTEREST GROUP HAPPENINGS – NOVEMBER 2024

**If you are interested in joining any of our Interest Groups, please reach out to the contact listed for each group.**

**Lunch Bunch**, 3rd Tuesday at 11:30 am, Contact: Charlene Vojtilla, [charjoy8@gmail.com](mailto:charjoy8@gmail.com)

Date: November 19th, Location: Gubanc's, Lake Oswego

RSVP to the invitation email is required to ensure seating.

**Delightful Dining**, Contact: Jane Taft, [taft.jane@gmail.com](mailto:taft.jane@gmail.com)

The next meeting will be a German-themed menu on December 7th.

Please contact Jane Taft if you want to receive an invitation.

**Interpretive Books**, 3rd Thursday at 9:30 am, Contact: Diana Gough, [oldgypsy1169@gmail.com](mailto:oldgypsy1169@gmail.com)

Date: November 22nd, Book: Solito by Javier Zamora

**Murder by the Book**, 2nd Wednesday at noon, Contact: Jane Taft [taft.jane@gmail.com](mailto:taft.jane@gmail.com)

Date: November 13th, Book: The Spy Coast by Tess Gerritsen

**Non-Fiction Books**, 2nd Monday at 11:00 am, Contact: Diana Ricks, [dmricks472@gmail.com](mailto:dmricks472@gmail.com) and Cathy Croghan Alzner, [c.croghan.alzner@att.net](mailto:c.croghan.alzner@att.net)

Date: November 11th, Book: The Ride of Her Life by Elizabeth Letts

**Thursday Evening Books**, 4th Thursday at 7:00 pm, Contact: Suzanne Kaveckis, [smkaveckis@icloud.com](mailto:smkaveckis@icloud.com)

Date: December 5th (due to Thanksgiving), Book: A Table for Two by Amor Towles

**4th Tuesday Books**, 4th Tuesday at 11:00 am – 1:00 pm, Contact: Lynda Bigler, [libigler@easystreet.net](mailto:libigler@easystreet.net)



### INTEREST GROUP SPOTLIGHT ON...MURDER BY THE BOOK

Are mysteries part of your leisure reading genres? If you like to shiver your way through thrillers, lose yourself in a team of detectives in a police procedural, or curl up with an amusing cozy, you will be welcomed by other fans in Murder by the Book at noon on the second Wednesday of each month. Lunch is usually at the home of, and provided by, co-chair Stephanie Carter. You might find yourself exploring the manners and preoccupations of another era, country, or even both. If you'd like to receive this year's reading list, be put on the email list, or just find out more about the group, get in touch with co-chair Jane Taft ([taft.jane@gmail.com](mailto:taft.jane@gmail.com) or 503-709-3185)



## Member Profile

### Patti Watkins



Patti grew up in Columbus, Ohio, very close to The Ohio State University where she went on to earn a degree in Social Work. She has many fond memories of college including participation in the Buckeye Sailing Club and frequently playing tennis.

After college, she spent two years as a social service worker for the local county Department of Family Services. She then joined the Peace Corps and lived in the mountains of northern Ecuador. After three months in Quito for language and cultural training, she

volunteered for two years in a Community Development program working with women's groups in rural Ecuador. While there, she met her future husband who was from Portland, Oregon.

After the Peace Corps, she moved to Portland, married, and had two sons. At this point she took a career break to focus on family. Ten years later, she enrolled at Portland Community College to complete the prerequisites for an Occupational Therapy program. She enjoyed participating in prerequisite "hands-on" art activities including a watercolors class, dance (cha-cha, polka ect.) class, and learning to use a pottery wheel in ceramics class.

She then attended Pacific University in Forest Grove, and received a degree in Occupational Therapy. Most of her career as an Occupational Therapist was spent working with preschoolers with a variety of disabling conditions, in educational settings such as Head Start classrooms and private preschools. When Covid occurred, she worked for a year and a half providing OT consultation services to families of preschoolers virtually.

Patti enjoys spending time with family and traveling. She has explored icebergs in a zodiac, and traced her "roots" in Ireland. She loves reading and belongs to the Tuesday book group. She is currently the membership co-chair for the LO Branch. She also belongs to a Mahjonn group and recently began knitting prayer shawls.



# Scholarship

Be sure to pick up a blue envelope at a program meeting so that you can mail in your check to the special projects fund that has all gifts going to two students at PCC in the Early Childhood Education program. You can also go online to the LO AAUW website and click on the [scholarship](#) option, scroll down until you see the red button and follow the additional instructions.

Please enjoy the letter from Hsah Moo who is thanking us for her scholarship.

I am writing to thank you very much for awarding me this scholarship. I am truly honored and deeply grateful for your generous support. This scholarship is a significant milestone in my academic journey and personal development. It will alleviate the financial burden of tuition, books and other educational expenses, allowing me to focus more intently on my studies and extracurricular activities. I am deeply grateful for your confidence in my potential and your commitment to supporting my educational journey.

My major before was early childhood education but now I have changed to Medical Assistant and am pursuing my degree at Portland Community College. I was born in Mae Surin, a small village in Thailand refugee camps. Growing up in a refugee camp was challenging me since I did not receive a good education, and the education system was poor. Furthermore, because English is not our first language, teachers in schools do not teach students much about reading and writing in English. I struggled with my English when I first came to the United States. Moving to a new country was a significant challenge for me. I never imagined I'd move to the United States and start a new life. When I first arrived in the United States, I began learning to read and write. I was only 12 years old. I started school in middle school. My first day of school here was really strange and tough for me because I didn't know English. I still remember getting into class on the first day. I was quite frightened and had no friends. Sometimes I didn't want to attend to school anymore because I find it hard to understand what the teacher is teaching. I almost gave up on my studies and told my parents I didn't want to attend school anymore since it was too challenging for me. However, my parents constantly encouraged me to work hard and to not give up quickly. My parents did not have the opportunity to attend school when they were young because they were poor and needed to work to support their family. I was the first generation of my family to attend college. My parents immigrated to the United States, and the fact that they do not speak English, they work extremely hard to provide a better life for me and my brother. I always push myself to work hard and be a good student. Sometimes I feel tired and anxious, and don't want to study but I remind myself I have goals for my future. I always motivate myself to keep going. I am deeply thankful to have parents who love and support me throughout my life. They constantly encourage me to put effort toward my goal. My parents want the best for me and I would continue to work hard for my goals.

Receiving this scholarship is a tremendous honor, and I am deeply appreciative of the confidence you have shown in my potential. I am committed to making the most of this opportunity and to working hard to achieve my academic and professional goals. Thank you once again for your generous support.

As you learn about Hsah, you know how important it is to reach our goal again this coming year. I want to ask that you take the time to send in a blue envelope with your check and/or go onto the website and make a donation. Thank you!!!

## A Tour of the PCC Early Childhood Education Facility

The branch has arranged to take a tour of the PCC Early Childhood Education facility. It will be on **Wednesday, November 20th at 9:30 am**. Typically the tour of the facility is 30 minutes long. If there is a large group of folks, it may be split into smaller groups, so the children don't feel overwhelmed by a large presence of adults entering classrooms.

The Sylvania campus has many hills and stairways, and there will be a walk to the CDC, which may be difficult for some of our members who have mobility issues. Please let me know if you need accommodations, and I can see what PCC may be able to do to meet your needs so that you can attend.

### **We will need to carpool and get parking permits for those who are driving.**

Please RSVP to Sharon at [sharonbrabenac@comcast.net](mailto:sharonbrabenac@comcast.net) by November 11th. She will need the names and email addresses of the drivers. She will also need to know who will be attending and not driving. Sharon will arrange for carpooling and provide the drivers with a PCC map of the campus and some parking suggestions.

**Submitted by Sharon Brabenac, Scholarship/Education Liaison**

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The **International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women** is on Monday, November 25th this year. This day is honored because back on this day in 1960, the Mirabal sisters were assassinated because of their identity as women activists. NGOs, governments, and international organizations are all invited on this day, created by the United Nations.

In times of peace and conflict, consider wearing orange on this day to show support. And take action to end violence against women and girls in communities, at home, at schools, and at workplaces. Promoting women's independence and the ability to make decisions in relationships and their public life helps to prevent violence. The distribution of power is just one of the significant drivers of violence against women.

**November 11th-15th focuses on the anti-bullying** and this year the theme is "Choose Respect". Schools and communities come together to focus on anti-bullying actions. Children in school will often learn through class discussions using scenario discussion cards. People are encouraged to wear the color pink on this week to show support for anti-bullying. Training and creating safe methods to report bullying is making an impact in our communities worldwide. Teaching children early on about the importance of kindness and empathy is important in order to choose respect. At times, we all need to consider choosing respect in challenging situations.

Lastly, **World Kindness Day is on November 13th**, and this is also turning into a week now! This global celebration promotes kindness to yourself, others and to the world.



Kindness is a bridge that can help to reduce the divide between race, religion, politics, gender, and location. Using empathy and understanding can create a ripple of change that transforms lives in our communities. As we move through the month, think of the good deeds in our local community and maybe also do a good deed or two.

**Submitted by Sharon Brabenac**

## 2024--2025 Branch Officers



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**Our mailing address is:**

Lake Oswego AAUW  
PO Box 2078  
Lake Grove, OR 97035

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