

Hilltopics



Einstein: A Stage Portrait Branch Fundraiser for Tech Trek Saturday, Feb. 13, 7:30 pm Sunday, Feb. 14, 2 pm Los Alamos Little Theater \$20.00/ticket available at CB Fox, at the door, or contact Mona Wecksung. Payment by check or cash only.

It was Einstein's letter to Pres. Roosevelt in 1939 that eventually led to the formation of the Manhattan Project centered here at Los Alamos.

2015 was the100th year of Einstein's General Theory of Relativity. MIT Museum Director John Durant writes: "If you want to say science can be something for you too — there's no better place to start than with Einstein." He was the greatest scientist in the world, yet he believed that morality was always more important than science.



Tom Schuch, an internationally acclaimed actor, will portray Albert Einstein, in Willard Simms' 1984 awardwinning play. It will be a performance of humor, introspection, science and even a little violin as Schuch keeps the audience spellbound, inviting the listener to reminisce and hear tales of Einstein the genius. Tom

Schuch's performance will give us an understanding of Einstein's ability to solve many of the world's most difficult puzzles with astounding creativity and humor.

This production is our branch fundraiser for the AAUW-NM Tech Trek STEM camp for middle school girls to be held in Socorro this June 2016. Members are encouraged to buy tickets, take friends, and volunteer to donate cookies for the refreshment table at both performances (2-3 dozen each donation, contact Nancy Nunnelley, nrn1063@msn.com, 662-4950). The goal is a full house: 120 tickets sold at both performances.

This production is a gift from our AAUW branch to the community, and the proceeds will help support 60 girls at the Tech Trek camp.

Branch News Caring for Los Alamos with LA Cares

Thanks to our members' generosity, we are able to provide a second round of fruit for the February LA Cares food distribution. Feedback from the families was extremely positive from our holiday distribution – they loved receiving the fresh fruit and appreciated the effort involved in the attractive presentation!

Patricia N. Harlow has a new e-mail address please use: <u>patricianharlow@comcast.net</u>.

Coordinating Council Nominations

With the new year comes the need to find volunteers to serve on next year's Coordinating Council. Being on the Council is a great way to learn more about AAUW, make new friends, and share the tasks that keep our branch active in supporting members and promoting education and equity for all women and girls. New Council members will be elected at our Spring Tea in May and serve a two-year term beginning in June. Please consider saying "yes" when called to serve.

Discover E 2016 Call for Volunteers

Los Alamos Branch will staff a math activity table at Discover E night at Los Alamos High School commons area February 25 from 4:30pm until 7pm. Discover E is an annual Engineering Week activity introducing elementary students to the STEM fields through interactive activities and demonstrations.

Contact Helena Whyte to volunteer at 690-7824 or <u>mozden08@aol.com</u>. If you commit by February 2, you get a free T shirt.

Two-Minute Activist Tool: Make Your Voice Heard

Numbers count, and you can make AAUW count more in Washington by becoming a Two-Minute Activist. As noted by Lisa Maatz, AAUW VP of Government Relations, during this election year, it will be critical to make sure that AAUW policy priorities such as paid sick leave, high-quality public education, access to birth control, and equal pay are discussed in the political debates. And AAUW's Capitol Hill Lobby Corps will continue advocating for legislation to address campus sexual assault, improve the climate for women in STEM, and open up more career and technical education options for girls.

When AAUW identifies an opportunity for members to weigh-in on legislation affecting our priorities, it sends email to all Two-Minute Activists with links to a message for us to send to our Congressional members via email. You can send the message as drafted, tailor it to your own views, or write a message from scratch. But the means to send your message immediately to Rep. Lujan and/or Sens. Heinrich and Udall is at your fingertips. In two minutes—or less—you've made your voice heard in Washington. And what's more, you've done so without having to leave home.

Sign up now as a Two-Minute Activist (http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/publicpolicy/two-minute-activist/) and make your voice count this year!

Book Group

The February book is <u>Plainsong</u> by Kent Haruf; Ginny White will lead the discussions. On Monday, February 1st, 7:30pm, readers will gather at Doris Lodwig's, 79 Mesa Verde, WR. Please let Doris know if you are coming (672-2797, lodwigd@comcast.net).

On Tuesday, February 2nd, 1:00pm, Carol Neal, 3451 Urban, will host. Please let Carol know if you are coming (the_neals@prodigy.net, 662-7256).

Non-fiction Book Group

The next meeting will be on March 14th. Helena Whyte will lead the discussion on the book, <u>Capital Dames: The Civil War and the</u> <u>Women of Washington</u> by Cokie Roberts. We are in need of a host; please let Denise (672-9688, <u>denisegeorge@icloud.com</u>) know if you would like to fill this slot.

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Great Decisions

The Morning Great Decisions group meets on the second and fourth Mondays at Mesa Public library at 10:00am. Carroll Thomas (672-1937, ctgb@earthlink.net) is the group coordinator.

Date	Leader	Topic	
Jan 25	Group	UN post-2015	
Feb 8	Denise George	Middle East	
Feb 22	Thelma Hahn	Migration	
Mar 14	Karin Roberts	Korean choices	
Mar 28	Ginnie Tan	Kurdistan	
Apr 11	Carroll Thomas	The rise of ISIS	
Apr 25	Jill Forman	Cuba and the U.S.	
May 9	?	Geopolitics: The	
		road to Paris and	
		beyond	

The Evening Great Decision group will have its organizational meeting Jan. 28 at 7:30pm at Beverly Cooper's house, 521 Ridgecrest in White Rock. Helena Whyte (672-9153, mozden08@aol.com) will be leading the group. All discussions begin at 7:30pm and end at 9pm.

Out 'n About

Send suggestions for our next outing to Nina Thayer (662-6835, <u>gnthayer@cybermesa.com</u>).

State News

AAUW Legislative Day is Monday, February 1 at the Roundhouse in Santa Fe. Meet at 8 am in Room 326.

Branch Calendar

Jan	23	Science Fair	
Jan	28	Evening Great Decisions	
Jan	31	AAUW-NM Leadership Team Meeting, Santa Fe	
Feb	1	Legislative Day at the Roundhouse	
Feb	1, 2	Book Group	
Feb	8	Morning Great Decisions	
Feb	13, 14	Einstein Fundraiser for Tech Trek	
Feb	22	Morning Great Decisions	

Coordinating Council for 2015-16

Marilyn Doolen	Co-Facilitator/Publicity	672-3571	mtdoolen@aol.com			
Judy Prono	Co-Facilitator/Public Policy	662-2691	djprono@msn.com			
Natalie Markin	Membership/Backup-Treasurer	662-9399	natalie@lanb.com			
Mona Wecksung	Treasurer	662-7084	wecksung2005@msn.com			
Jill Forman	At large	662-2407	jowilla.f@gmail.com			
Maryjane Giesler	University Representative	662-5574	mgiesler@unm.edu			
Mary Ann Lindahl	Secretary	663-0995	moonbeamx@comcast.net			
Margo Batha	At large	661-8746	atomicbathas@me.com			
Nina Thayer	AAUW Fund	662-6835	gnthayer@cybermesa.com			
Non-council positions						
Denise George	Newsletter	672-9688	denisegeorge@icloud.com			
Marilyn Minshall	Historian	672-3499	mjminshall@q.com			
Harriet Dodder	Nominating Chair	662-7473	harrietdodder@comcast.net			
Nancy Nunnelley	Hospitality	662-4950	nrn1063@msn.com			