

Title: Status of Women in North America

Part I:

- Other community groups** involved, if any (list):(5 points) Friends of the Women's Rights National Park, Buffalo-Niagara Chapter + 12 other co-sponsors
- Number of members involved in planning or putting on** the program (5 points) 12
- Number of nonmembers involved** in the program (5 points) 5
- Number of members who attended or benefitted** (5 points) 65
- Number of nonmembers** who attended or benefitted (5 points) 12
- Number of new members** who joined (if any)(5 points) 1

Part II:

Describe your project/ program/ event in 75-150 **words**. Be sure to include:

- how the project addressed **AAUW's mission** (15 points)
- branch goals** in doing this program (10 points)
- specific action steps** in planning this program (15 points)
- steps taken for **community visibility** (Attach newsletter and newspaper articles.)(10 points)
- measurable **impact on the community** (10 points)
- lessons learned** for future programs/ projects/ events (10 points)

Attach copies of newsletter and newspaper articles about this project/ program/ event.

(No more than 4 pages maximum)

Mail or email the original of your entire application with supporting materials to:

- Peggy Kelland, AAUW-NYS Program Vice President
- 13 Susan Lane, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

smkell45@aol.com

Questions? (845)297-0507

The Buffalo Branch of AAUW celebrated International Women's Day on March 6 at a brunch entitled *The Status of Women in North America*. The speakers were:

- the Consul General of Canada, Marta Moszczenska, who had also been Canada's ambassador to Romania and Hungary
- Jose Buscaglia, PhD, Director of Caribbean Studies at UB who spoke on Mexico, particularly the Yucatan state where he does research
- Myrna Young, Executive Director of Everywoman's Opportunity Center for Buffalo and Niagara. She is a well known women's advocate and has been honored by the governor of NYS.

This is the ninth program of the Buffalo Branch on recognizing the history of struggle of women worldwide to obtain equity and advancement. The Friends of the Women's Rights National Park invited two young women who are active in a program sponsored by a former Afghanistan Peace Corps volunteer from the area who has engaged numerous high schools to support building girls schools in Afghanistan. These two young women spoke of their efforts. One of them hopes to become a diplomat and is interring at the Canadian Consulate here in Buffalo.

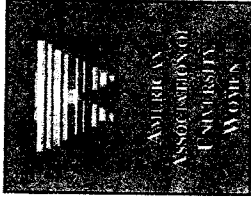
The Buffalo Branch and AAUW nationally promote women and girls through advocacy, education and philanthropy; all of these goals are advanced by inviting participation of the entire community in this special day. The cosponsors include many groups that touch the lives of women from different perspectives. We are always grateful for their involvement. Steps taken to organize the event included numerous contacts with the Canadian Consulate, great help from a woman professor of public policy at UB to engage Professor Buscaglia and the gracious commitment of Ms. Young. Reservations, contacts with cosponsors, programs, flowers, publicity, etc. came together and we had a wonderful day. March is Women's History Month and there were many events scheduled so our publicity was limited to an article in the Amherst Bee despite our best efforts.

Each of the speakers noted the struggles of women in their respective countries: Canada's efforts to increase the number of women in political office, Mexico's efforts to improve the lives of women, and the needs of American women for public policy programs that support families. The community that listens to voices from other nations always benefits in our interdependent world (especially from those who share in that world). The consul general spoke of the writings of Margaret Atwood, Canada's premier writer who has exposed the dark side of women's need to establish political and economic parity. The lesson for doing any worthwhile program is persistence; people are interested and willing to help, both members and non members. Women worldwide deserve to be heard; through such a day, they can be heard.

Lillis McLean

**Co-Sponsors of the
International Women's Day Celebration**

- Both Your Hands International
- Buffalo Peace House
- Deaf Adult Services
- Everywoman Opportunity Center, Buffalo/ Niagara
- International Institute of WNY
- Jericho Road Ministries
- Judges and Police Conference of WNY
- Pamela Kefi, Cross Cultural Consulting
- League of Woman Voters of Buffalo/Niagara
- Minority Health Coalition
- Mothers Clubs of Tanzania
- National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs Inc. Buffalo Club
- Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Western New York (RPCV/WNY)
- Saint Joseph University Parish Social Justice Committee
- School of Social Work, University of Buffalo
- Sister to Sister Connection Of WNY
- Tanga, Tanzania Educational Support Association (Canadian), Usagara Secondary School
- Ten Thousand Villages
- Westminster Presbyterian Church
- WNY Peace Center
- Zonta Club of Buffalo



AAUW
Buffalo Branch
<http://aauw.buffalo.edu>

American Association of University Women,
Buffalo Branch

and

Friends of the Women's Rights National Park,
Buffalo/Niagara Chapter

present

The Ninth Annual International
Women's Day Celebration and Discussion

The Status of Women in
North America

Saturday, March 6, 2010

at

Samuel's Grande Manor
8750 Main Street
Buffalo, NY 14221



International Women's Day

International Women's Day (IWD) is celebrated by women's groups annually around the world on March 8. The historical origins of IWD date to the early twentieth century when women in Europe and the United States were struggling for voting rights and better working conditions. Initiated as a day to recognize the political rights of working women, the day continues to provide an opportunity to address women's issues in new ways. During the International Women's Year in 1975, IWD was officially recognized by the United Nations.



Brunch Menu

Samuel's Grande Manor Champagne Brunch

Reception and Mimosas at 11:00 am

Brunch and Networking at 11:45 am

Speakers starting at 12:30 pm



Organizing Committee

Chairpersons: Lillis McLean and Judy Weidemann
Reservations Chair: Lillis McLean
Décor and Display: Carol Griffith
Program Brochure Design: Anne Szczesny
Name Tags: Tamara Brown
Public Relations Chair: Pat Swift
Buffalo Branch President: Marguerite Collesano
Branch Program Vice-President: Yvonne Curry
Hospitality: Cynthia Mehary, Judy Dolan,
Tamara Brown, and Mary McCarthy

Program

Welcome

Marguerite Collesano
President of AAUW / Buffalo Branch
Kathryn Littleton, President
Friends of the Women's Rights National Park

Program Introduction

Lillis McLean

Introduction of Speaker

Teresa Gessner, PhD
Marta Moszczenska, Consul General of Canada

Introduction of Speaker

Carol Griffith
Myrna Young, Executive Director,
Everywoman's Opportunity Center, Buffalo, NY

Introduction of Speaker

Ruth Fierro-King
Jose Buscaglia, PhD, Director of the Program in
Caribbean Studies, University at Buffalo

Questions and Comments

Anastasia Johnson, PhD

Concluding Remarks

Lillis McLean

