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Your IWF Idaho News

October 2020

IWF Idaho Events



Hello IWF Idaho Members,

Can we talk? I chair the IWF-Idaho Program Committee and I have the opportunity each month to spend an hour or more with some amazing women.

Let me introduce them:

Peggy Goldwyn, Marcia Liebich, LeeAnne Linderman, Elizabeth Mathieu, Carol Nie, Susan Passovoy and Clare Swanger and our President Janet Gallimore.

We are committed to bringing the forum programs of interest. For the past eight month since Covid 19, we have had to operate in a different way. Many of the things that we did in the past have been reduced to virtual presentations. Looking ahead, our plan is to operate virtually until it is safe to have face to face gatherings. Currently, we try to schedule virtual programs for Wednesdays or Thursdays between 3pm and 6pm. Dates and times vary depending on speaker availability.

In addition to virtual programs, which include Pop-up programs, we plan and maintain the [annual calendar of events](#) - listing three months out. This calendar is updated monthly. We source events and speakers and draft invitations. We solicit

and coordinate Dine-a-rounds; Lunch and Learns. We work with the board to plan the Summer and Winter membership meeting, we promote regional and global programs as requested. **Starting in December we will launch a monthly cocktail hour. This is our way to connect socially and catch up. To start each gathering, we would like for a member or two to share something light and uplifting. If you would like to participate in that role, please let us know.** None of this can happen without coordinating with the Communications Committee.

As we look ahead, we need your help, if you have virtual programs ideas, please submit or discuss with a member of our committee. You can send up to three suggestions. Last April we had a great start, but in order to keep that momentum going - we need you! Maybe you have a presentation, hobby, or your work that you can share, or do you know of someone that would be of interest to our forum? We Welcome all our members to submit program ideas for review. Once you submit your suggestions to the committee for review, we look at- topic and description, presenter, time, etc., then we get back to you. Our intent is to keep cost down, if the cost exceeds \$100, board approval is required.

Finally, how are we doing? We welcome your feedback. We need your suggestion and participation. We do this for you!

Thanks to all,
Evelyn Self, Program Chair

Upcoming Virtual Events

Race, Class, & Inequality

Hosted by: Dr. S. Silvera, Professor of Public Health at Montclair State, Epidemiologist, and expert on racial/ethnic disparities in public health

When: Thursday October 15th at 5:15pm

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86051215211?pwd=em1XK3MzcDJ1TTZCUDdqMG5SYmlmdz09>

Meeting ID: 860 5121 5211

Password: 471802

Please use the Paperless Post Invitation to RSVP to this event.

IWF Global Fall 2020 Conference

A reminder that IWF Global will be hosting it's first virtual World Leadership Conference and Gala October 20, 2020 to October 23, 2020. Find more details [here](#).

Dear IWF Idaho Members,

I hope you are all as excited as I am to have received our long-awaited registration information for the “2020 IWF Virtual Conference & Awards Gala!” The International Women’s Forum *continues* to lead in an exemplary way to provide quality programming for its members while also leading in technological innovation in delivering this multi-day virtual event. Many members of our chapter have attended IWF Cornerstone and IWF World Leadership Conferences held throughout the world in the past – but many members have been unable to attend due to work and other commitments or timing; in addition to the time commitment, the financial commitment has not been insignificant between costs of air travel, hotels, and conference fees. The value for what was gained, though, has been reported by those who have attended as having been worth it. But now we have the unique opportunity to experience this high-quality programming “in the comfort of our own homes” without the travel and with an extraordinarily low cost (\$500 all-inclusive or \$250 for only the conference programming!) Please see the attached [“Quick Facts”](#) created for us by our Program Committee; it consolidates all offerings into one document. You can easily register through the link you received to the conference registration. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 208-401-8389. Special thanks to Peggy Goldwyn and Jenny Emery-Davidson for facilitating an AMAZING IWF Idaho auction package of a stay at the Sun Valley Resort, dining, and a tour of the Hemingway House! Let’s join in making International Women’s Forum history together with the “2020 IWF Virtual Conference & Awards Gala!” I hope you can join me!

Thank you! - President, Janet L. Gallimore

The Impact of Covid-19 on Opera Idaho and other Performing Arts in Idaho and Around the World

Hosted by: Carol Nie featuring [Mark Junket](#)

When: Thursday November 12th at 3:00pm

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85814471059?pwd=Y2Y4bmlBTowwK1hQYS9SVFdwUFFSQTo9>

Meeting ID: 858 1447 1059

Password: 020887

Please watch for a Paperless Post Invitation to RSVP to this event.

IWF Idaho Virtual Cocktail Hour

Topic: Guilty Pleasures During the Pandemic

When: Tuesday December 8th at 5:15pm

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89610416090?pwd=WUJNRFRldVdGdUhkV3hmdllWVoVEQTo9>

Meeting ID: 896 1041 6090

Password: 344979

You are invited to this virtual gathering to connect and catch up.

We will start by sharing your Guilty Pleasures during this pandemic!

Please watch for a Paperless Post Invitation to RSVP to this event.

Join Our New IWF Idaho Book Club

Our book club will hold their first meeting on October 15th at 7:30pm following Dr. S. Silvera's presentation, where they will discuss Eddie Glaube's book, "Begin Again." Please respond via email to [Jennifer Wilson](#) and indicate if you would like to participate, and if a monthly schedule suits your dynamic reading patterns! And make suggestions for others titles. Thank you Jennifer for heading up this project!

Collecting Diversity, Equity, Accessibility, and Inclusion Resources

The IWF Idaho Board is in the process of developing and collecting resources to discuss and share regarding diversity, equity, accessibility, and inclusion in our community and chapter. This may include engaging with experiences as well as resources. If you have any ideas to share, please reach out to one of the board members. We would love to hear from you!

Member Spotlight

IWF Idaho Outgoing Treasurer, Carolyn Lister



Carolyn grew up in L.A. and moved to Ketchum in the 1980's. Carolyn taught herself computer coding and developed the ambulance billing program for the City of Ketchum, became a firefighter and an advanced EMT when women were not welcome in these services, and obtained a 501(c)(3) status for the Ketchum Sun Valley Volunteer Firefighter Association. Carolyn served on the board of this charity and donated bookkeeping services. Carolyn began working for a private client handling large assets worldwide, and was eventually promoted into an accounting position. The non-profits ERC and The Sawtooth Botanical Garden grew out of that organization while Carolyn was on staff. In the mid 90's, Carolyn became the Chief

Financial Officer. In 2006, Carolyn created her current company, Sage Bookkeeping Inc. to provide the community with a consistent and standardized bookkeeping service. Carolyn has grown this company from 1 employee and a handful of clients to 10 employees and over 200 clients across the nation, and is currently the largest service in Idaho. Carolyn teaches bookkeeping classes and provides continuing education and consulting for other bookkeepers. Carolyn is on the board of Rotary Hailey and the IWF Idaho, to whom she donates bookkeeping services.

**Thank you so much for all your hardwork, Carolyn!
We owe a lot of our rigorous financial processes to you.**

Sarah Michael Honored as Winter Wildlands Alliance Founder



Sarah recently shared an [article published by Winter Wildlands Alliance](#), a Boise-based national non-profit representing nordic and backcountry skiers, which she founded in November 2000. In sending the article, Sarah said that it was nice to be recognized by colleagues. Mark Menlove, former Executive Director, said that Winter Wildlands Alliance wouldn't be the same without Sarah's passion for wild places and acumen in politics. "The fact that the organization exists is the culmination of those two things within Sarah," Mark said. Some highlights of the

article include:

- "Twenty years ago, Sarah Michael founded Winter Wildlands Alliance with an idea that would go on to change the way the Forest Service understands winter."
 - "Sarah has done something so profound by creating a way for a paradigm or policy change in the U.S.," Gail Ferrell, Snowlands Alliance, said. "It's not just about skiing. It's about the environment. It's about climate change. It's about quiet. All of these things are so important to preserve."
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Kendall's "Gathering Remnants" Shown at the Argyros



IWF Idaho Member and Communications Chair Kendall Nelson displayed "Gathering Remnants," Kendall's film, on [September 11th-13th at the Argyros](#). The award-winning documentary was filmed throughout Nevada, Oregon, Idaho and Texas, and portrays the last American cowboys. Congratulations Kendall on your wonderful work!

Book Recommendations

Staying Connected through Literature

Alongside efforts to keep our IWF Idaho community together via Virtual Events, Vice President Peggy Goldwyn had the wonderful idea of sharing book reviews and recommendations in our monthly newsletters. Please send your one-paragraph reviews of the books you love or are currently reading to [Mackenzie](#) to keep this connection going.

A Review of *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism* by Robin DiAngelo submitted by Jane Conard

After the tragic killings of Breonna Taylor and George Floyd last May (not to mention other lamentable incidents of civil rights violations before and since), many of us have been motivated to become better educated and more understanding of the racial discrimination and tensions that are so enduring in our country. While there is a plethora of good fiction and nonfiction books on the subject, I want to focus on one book that has been on the New York Time bestseller list since it was published in 2016, with mixed reviews. It has become controversial; people either love it or hate it. After a note about the author, a brief synopsis of the content, and a sample of reviews about the book, I'll share my opinion.

Robin DiAngelo's *White Fragility*, published in 2018, met with generally positive reviews and a place on the New York Times bestseller list. DiAngelo's short book, 192 pages, draws heavily from her experience as a diversity training consultant for large corporations. After five years in that occupation, she began work on her doctorate in multicultural education at the University of Washington. She coined the term "white fragility" in 2011 to describe the defensive behavior of whites she had observed when they were challenged about their assumptions about race in her diversity training sessions. Her book titled after her invented term includes an academic overlay of sociological analysis of whites' attitudes about racism, "identity politics," and assumptions about the moral superiority of whites reflected in American history. DiAngelo claims the anger, fear, and guilt elicited when whites are confronted by the racist aspects of our culture belie the underlying desire to maintain white dominance. Her analysis of white reactions finds a pervasive sense of superiority and entitlement. She offers anecdotal evidence from her

years of diversity training to support her thesis. She continues her reasoning to assert that merely being non-racist is not good enough because then you are a bystander who does nothing in face of active harm to a Black victim. Any protestation to the contrary, she argues, demonstrates inherent racism. If you are a passive observer, you are complicit; you are a racist. Whites must actively do “the work” to identify and change their inherent racism in order to become a non-racist.

The 2018 reviews of *White Fragility* focused primarily on the explanation of racism. The Los Angeles Review of Books praised the author’s perception and commitment to revealing racism, but saw her work as a description of the status quo, not as a guide to correcting it. Similarly, the Publisher’s Weekly praised the book as being a comprehensive book challenging racism, but faulted it for offering no concrete solutions. The New Yorker magazine, while acknowledging the book as an “irrefutable exposure of racism,” viewed it as diagnostic, not solution oriented.

In 2020 with the growing strength of the Black Lives Matter movement, *White Fragility* again topped the New York Times bestseller list. But this time there was a surge of negative reviews. The Guardian described the book as “psychobabble” that shifts the focus from necessary structural change to individual bias, leaving the real issues untouched. The Atlantic (see its online Issues publication, July 15, 2020) headlined a harsh review by John McWhorter, linguistics professor at Columbia University, under the title “The Dehumanizing Condescension of *White Fragility*.” McWhorter labeled the book as a “racist tract” that is condescending to Blacks to the point of infantilizing and dehumanizing them.

My assessment is closer to the Guardian review. DiAngelo’s confrontational and pseudo academic style is off-putting and negative. Instead of persuasion to urge the reader to examine and change racial biases, she proves and enhances her theory of white fragility, which indeed may have been her objective. Instead of labeling whites as racist because they are unaware or unsuspecting victims of their implicit bias, it would have been more productive to inspire whites to change their views through a plan of specific actions. Although it is said that people can’t change their attitudes, they can change their actions. Perhaps with changes in actions we can halt the generational creep of implicit bias throughout American society and begin a path toward the end of systemic racism.

Don't Forget to Use Our IWF Idaho Website

Visit our website at <https://iwfidaho.org> for information on our Idaho chapter, upcoming events, newsletter archives, and contact information for each of our members. If you have any questions or troubles accessing the site, contact [Mackenzie](#) for assistance.

IWF Global has also released guidelines and updates for IWF branding, log-in [here](#) to take a look.

Send your news on awards, career changes, board appointments and events to [Kendall Nelson](#) and [Mackenzie Moss](#) for inclusion in upcoming newsletters.

Thanks!

ABOUT IWF IDAHO

IWF Idaho is the Idaho chapter of the International Women's Forum, an invitation-only, membership organization. In Idaho, we are 64 members strong, globally, there are more than 7,000 diverse and accomplished women from 33 nations on six continents. IWF is dedicated to building better leadership locally and globally.

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