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Your IWF Idaho News

November 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 and 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, 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 suggestions and participation. We do this for you!

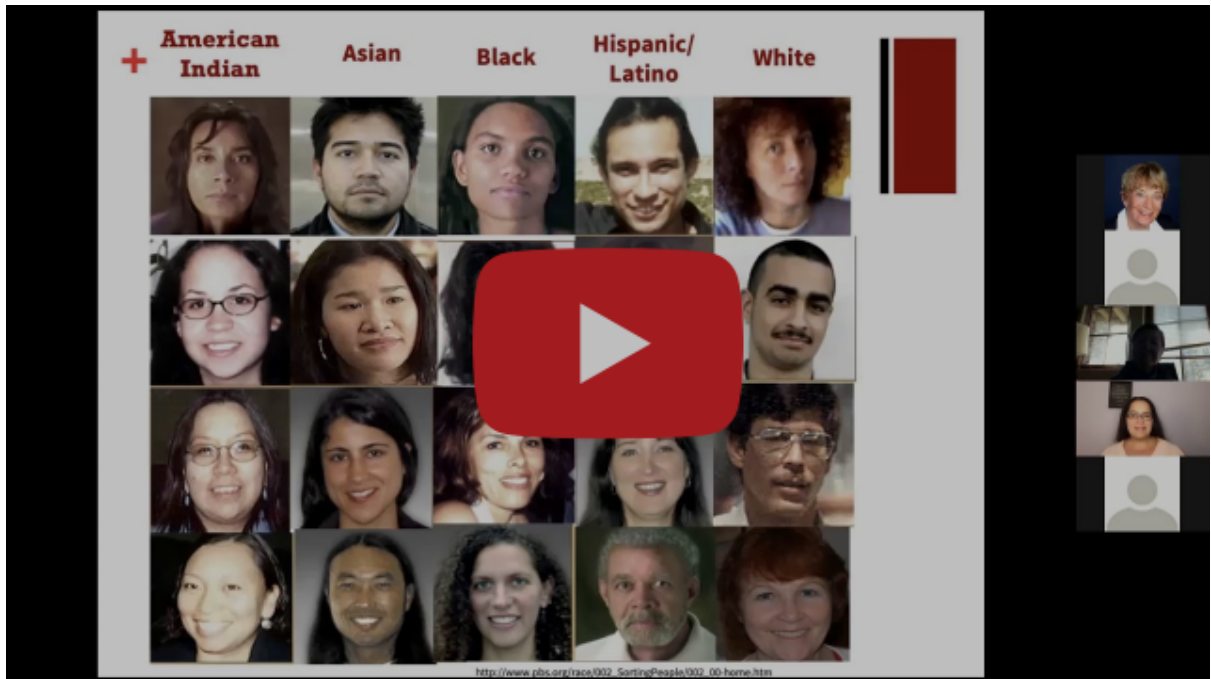
Thanks to all,
Evelyn Self, Program Chair

Events in Review

Race, Class, and Inequality

by Dr. S. Silvera

IWF Members enjoyed this virtual presentation by Dr. S. Silvera, Professor of Public Health at Montclair State University, epidemiologist, and expert on racial/ethnic disparities in public health. Take a look at the presentation and the engaging conversations below.



Thank you, Dr. Silvera for your time and expertise!

Upcoming Virtual Events

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://uso2web.zoom.us/j/85814471059?](https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/85814471059?pwd=Y2Y4bmlBTowwK1hQYS9SVFdwUFFFSQT09)

[pwd=Y2Y4bmlBTowwK1hQYS9SVFdwUFFFSQT09](https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/85814471059?pwd=Y2Y4bmlBTowwK1hQYS9SVFdwUFFFSQT09)

Meeting ID: 858 1447 1059

Password: 020887

Please use the 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?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89610416090?pwd=WUJNRFRldVdGdUhkV3hmdllWVoVEQTo9)
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

The IWF Book Club met for the first time on October 15 to discuss "Begin Again" by Eddie Glaude Jr. Because our ZOOM meeting followed another IWF ZOOM on race, class and diversity, Wendy gave a quick review of that discussion which, fit so well into ours. At the conclusion of our session we agreed that Glaude's book inspired us to learn more about the work of James Baldwin. For our next meeting on Thursday, Nov. 12 we'll discuss "No Name in the Street," one of his most admired essays. It is an extraordinary history of the turbulent sixties and early seventies that displays James Baldwin's fury and despair more deeply than any of his other works, and powerfully speaks to contemporary conversations around racism. It's not lengthy, so please join us next month if you're interested. Please respond via email to [Jennifer Wilson](mailto:jennifer.wilson@iwf.org) 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 Secretary, Randi McDermott



Randi McDermott has spent the last 25 years working in public higher education in Idaho. She began her career at the Idaho State Board of Education, initially in grants administration, but ultimately moved into government relations and policy. During those years, the Board's oversight extended to all public education in Idaho, K-20, including serving as the governing board for all state colleges and universities plus Idaho Public Television, Professional-Technical Education, and Vocational Rehabilitation among others. Problem solving, public service, leadership and organizational effectiveness are areas of great interest and focus. In 2003, after staffing the search for a new president at Boise State, she accepted a position with newly hired president Bob Kustra as special assistant. She became chief of staff in 2009, further expanding her role collaborating with the

leadership team in planning, organizing, guiding and executing the president's initiatives. In 2018, Randi was appointed Vice President & COO at Boise State University. She holds a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's degree in public administration, both from Boise State University. Randi is married to Ed Walker and is a proud mom to Davis and Ruby. Baxter, Daisy and Lola (spoiled dogs) round out the family. She has enjoyed volunteer opportunities with the Boise City Club, Girl Scouts, North Boise Little League, YMCA, the Idaho Humane Society and Fuzzy Pawz Rescue. In her spare time, she can be found on the sidelines of sporting events, in the audience at concerts, skiing, camping, hiking, reading, and most frequently, walking in the Boise foothills with any dog who wants to come along.

Thank you for all of your work, Randi!

Rhea Schwartz Appointed to the Board of the Jewish Community Center Association of North America



IWF Idaho Rhea Schwartz was recently appointed to the Board of the Jewish Community Center Association of North America. It is the umbrella organization for Jewish

Community Centers, Camps, and the Maccabi Games in the United States, Canada and Mexico. Congratulations, Rhea!

Ellen Ochoa Shares Valuable Message

with Latinx STEM students



IWF Idaho Member Ellen Ochoa and NASA's first Hispanic astronaut was recently highlighted by ABC News for the words of encouragement she has for Latinx STEM students - "We need you!" Read the article and more about Ellen's words [here](#).

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 List of Recommended titles from Jane Conard

Recommended Reads on Racism in the U.S.

Jane Conard, November, 2020

To follow up my book review of *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo, in last month's *Your IWF Idaho News*, here is a list of ten top rated books (taken from a list published online from *Real Simple*, June 16, 2020). These books, all recently published, focus on racism and inequality in the U.S. They would be great holiday gifts or a nice treat for your own reading enjoyment as we head into winter weather perfect for reading by the fire. I have read a few books from the list, but not all – yet!

1. Michelle Alexander, *The New Jim Crow*.
2. Ta-Nehisi Coates, *Between the World and Me* (non-fiction).
3. Ta-Nehisi Coates, *The Water Dancer* (fiction).
4. Tressie McMillan Cottam, *Thick: and Other Essays* (a 2020 MacArthur Genius Award winner/feminist author).
5. Jerry Craft, *New Kid* (a graphic novel for middle schoolers; awarded the 2020 Newbery Medal and the Coretta Scott King Award).
6. Ibram X. Kendi, *How to be an Antiracist*.
7. Ibram X. Kendi and Jason Reynolds, “*Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You*” (a version of Kendi’s book, *How to be an Antiracist*, written for a younger audience as well as adults).
8. Ijeoma Olvo, *So You Want to Talk About Race*.
9. Layla F. Saad, *Me and White Supremacy*.
10. Bryan Stevenson, *Just Mercy* (by a brilliant African American lawyer who has devoted his career to the fight against the death penalty).

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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