



UWCM

University Women's Club of Montreal Inc.

Club des Femmes Universitaires de Montréal Inc.

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FEBRUARY 2016 NEWSLETTER



DINNER MEETING: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, from 6:00 pm

Dolores Meade, M.Ed., psychotherapist

Stephen Lewis Foundation: Grandmothers helping African grandmothers to raise their AIDS-orphaned grandchildren

The Grandmothers' Campaign is a collection of about 250 groups of grandmothers (and grand others) who raise money to support those who are affected by the AIDS pandemic in sub-Saharan Africa. These grandmothers have lost their children to AIDS and are caring for their grandchildren, often with no support. The campaign — unusual among philanthropic organizations in that it supports grassroots organizations and offers flexible and minimum bureaucracy — donates through the Stephen Lewis Foundation and raises awareness in our own communities of the situation facing these women.

Dolores Meade, who has an M.Ed. from McGill in counselling, began a grandmothers' group in Hudson/St-Lazare in 2007 and is currently the volunteer regional liaison for Quebec. Upon becoming a grandmother, Dolores realized that, merely by being born in Canada, she had the privilege to love her children and enjoy the company of her grandchildren. That less fortunate grandmothers needed to take on so much responsibility and with so little support moved her greatly. Dolores will highlight these differences and give insight both into the situation in Africa and the role and contribution of Canadian grandmothers.

NEXT MONTH – WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

Dr. Joe Schwarcz, McGill science professor, author, radio-show host

Celebrity Science: From Suzanne Somers to Dr. Oz



Dr. Joe, no stranger to the UWCM, is Director of McGill University's Office for Science and Society, which is dedicated to demystifying science and separating sense from nonsense. Professor Schwarcz has received numerous awards for teaching chemistry and for interpreting science for the public. He also hosts "The Dr. Joe Show" on Montreal radio.

Reserve with Club Atwater

Avoid any last-minute disappointment: reserve by Thursday, February 11.

Email reception@clubatwater.ca
or call 514-935-2431.

FEBRUARY 17 DINNER MENU

- Sweet potato and carrot soup
- Homemade stuffed pasta
- Tiramisu
- Coffee and tea

Our dinner meetings are held at:

Atwater Club
3505 Atwater Avenue

Cocktails: 6:00 pm
Dinner: 7:00 pm

Member cost: **\$31.04, incl. tax**
Non-members: **\$50.00, including a glass of wine**
(by cheque payable to UWCM)
Guest cover charge: **\$5.00**

Please reserve with the Atwater Club at **514-935-2431** or reception@clubatwater.ca by Thursday, February 11.

Cancellations made any later than 5:00 pm on the Monday before a Wednesday meeting will result in a 50-percent charge of the cost of the meal.

Mention any food allergies or dietary restrictions when you make your reservation.

Don't forget your name tags!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

We have officially entered the new year and have been blessed so far with a fairly mild winter. Moments like these are great, in that they can make us appreciative of little things. We can so often forget the positive side of things amid the hectic pace and moving pieces of life. Truth is that we are very lucky to have numerous opportunities and friendships. I certainly feel blessed to have joined this club and to have the occasion of interacting and learning from this group of great women. My role as President is to lead our group, protect it and ensure its growth. I will continue to do so with my heart in 2016.

The club has been around for close to 90 years and I hope that friendships and respectful bonds are made in such a way as to protect the club, the sisterhood, the image and reputation, as well as the ambience within. The club must remain a place that we all love to visit and of which we can be proud to be members. I see our club slowly evolving, with new members joining — this is exciting. I hope everyone sees our club this way, sees the collaboration, harmony and care that we show for each other. We are leaders by example inside and out. We must continue supporting each other and our common mission in order for the club to survive and thrive. We can make our predecessors proud and continue their

legacy of hard fights to have rights and our own Club. Our mission statement of “Social interaction, social responsibility and growth of women in all areas of life” means that we foster the development of friendships and associations between women eager to share experiences and interests. It means we advocate for women worldwide in their pursuit of higher education and socio-economic stability, and we enable our members to develop and use their expertise to effect change and promote the improvement of the status of women and children everywhere through the belief in the importance of lifelong education. I hope that every member can somehow play a role this year. This, too, will help ensure our growth, not just as a local group, but as a global group where we are all united by the bond of identity: being a woman. We should all be proud of the common solidarity that unites us all. As more fortunate women, we can use our knowledge for the betterment of others.

I hope each and every member will be inspired to make this effort — for 2016, for our club, and for women everywhere. Let's be the best that we can be and contribute to the change that we all wish for women around the world.

Kindest regards,

Maya Bergeron-Metivier

President

Board Meeting Highlights

- Invoices sent to members for 2016 fees.
- Board positions discussed for 2016-17.
- Foundation president's thank you for Club's financial support and report of successful raffle at December dinner
- Discussed plans to host Quebec Council AGM in April.

WEBMASTER WANTED

Savvy with social media? Think you can manage our online presence? Are you a member who is comfortable with computers? Are you willing to learn about social networking? We need you!

Contact Maya Bergeron-Metivier for details.



EVENTS CALENDAR – FEBRUARY 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Wine tasting		BOD meeting			
14 March for Missing and Murdered Women and Children	15	16	17	18	19	20
			Dinner meeting			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
		Supper Club	Travels With My Aunt			
28						

MEMBERSHIP FEES are due JANUARY 31.

March 8 — International Women's Day

FOUNDATION

The fundraising committee of the Foundation was thrilled with the success of our raffle at the December dinner meeting. Great prizes were won — and shared!! — and Roxane Stanners was a wonderful emcee who sweet-talked members into taking a chance at the lovely prizes. A whopping \$790 was raised in just one night.



Don't put off buying your tickets to the **National Circus School of Canada** performance at Montreal's TOHU Arts Theatre on June 2. Bring your friends, neighbours, children, grandchildren! Contact me today!

Dominique Racannelli
 UWCM Foundation President

ADVOCACY / COMMUNITY

Sunday, February 14 - An annual memorial march for missing and murdered women will be held at 3 pm starting outside the St-Laurent metro station.

Tuesday, March 8 - The Organization of Women of Diverse Origins is holding its annual demonstration and march to celebrate *International Women's Day*. This will take place near Concordia University after work hours (the exact time and venue to be announced).

Please join me and other UWCM members at either (or both!) of these important events to show your support. Contact me for further information.

Rhonda Schanfield
 Advocacy and Community Affairs



INTEREST GROUPS

WINE TASTING

Monday, February 8, 7:00 pm

This month, Yoko will lead us through a tasting of sake (rice wine). Come and expand your palate! Please register by Thursday, February 4.

Convenor: Yoko Yashiro

SUPPER CLUB

Tuesday, February 23, 7:00 pm (we meet at 6:45 pm)

Restaurant Sefa (Turkish)
5136 Avenue Parc (near Laurier)

Reservations a must!!

Call Gloria Ménard before 6:00 pm, February 16.
One place reserved for a new member until reservation deadline.

TRAVELS WITH MY AUNT

Wednesday, February 24, 7:00 pm (Coach House)

The topic for the month will be decided at the January 27 meeting. All are welcome to come, share and participate.

Convenor: Valerie Markham

E-EASY DINNER RESERVATIONS

Click the link to the Atwater Club (see Page 1) and send an email. You will receive a reply, usually in the same day, confirming the reservation. This way, you reserve at any time of the day or night without having to find time during your busy day to phone. It takes only seconds — try it this month!

April Home Dinners

We will be holding Home Dinners again, this year on April 20 and 21. This event offers an opportunity for our members to join with a small group of others in organizing, preparing and enjoying a friendly dinner in a member's private home.

If you are willing to host a dinner in your home or would like to attend a dinner in someone else's, please contact me. If you are offering to host, please specify which night and how many guests you can accommodate. If you wish to participate, please mention any food or mobility restrictions.



Valerie Markham
Interest Group Coordinator

Call for Nominations

The Nominating Committee (comprising Carly Pepler, Zofia Laubitz and Dominique Racanelli) announces that, for the 2016–2017 period, the following board positions are open for nomination:

- Vice President
- Treasurer
- E-Media Chair

Any member interested in serving on the UWCM Board is asked to contact a Nominating Committee member for additional information.

Dominique Racanelli
Nominating Committee Chair



CFUW News

- The CFUW webinar series pilot program's third seminar, "Early Learning and Childcare" is scheduled for this month or next.
- We have received the new Advocacy Toolkit, including proposed resolutions for amendment at the 2016 AGM.
- Our expert panel is recommending to the federal government that all Canadians should have equal access to publicly funded, doctor-assisted dying, with no age limitations.
- As we emerge from a month of awareness on violence against women, the CFUW implores us to consider that this problem continues year-round, all over the world.
- Since the adoption of the CFUW policy on Increased Funding for Aboriginal Education, the Quebec Council has focused on improving members' knowledge of issues pertaining to Aboriginal education in Quebec.
- As to the recent speech from the throne, the CFUW was pleased to hear the promise of serious action to be taken on climate change and on missing and murdered Indigenous women. It noted, however, the absence from the speech of child-care and pay-equity legislation, and urges the government to take bold action on these and other issues.

Zoya Duba
Vice-President



Festival Stella Musica Women in Music



The Stella Musica Festival, under the artistic direction of Katarzyna Musial, invites you to a unique and electrifying concert. The evening showcases the talents of select musicians from diverse backgrounds, united in honour of International Women's Day.

Discover local and international singers, musicians and composers. The program includes composers Ana Sokolovic, Isabelle Panneton, Grazyna Bacewicz, Elisabeth Jacquet de la Guerre, Benjamin Britten, Johannes Brahms, John Cage and Piotr I. Tchaikovsky, among others, performed by Katelyn Clark (harpsichordist), Katarzyna Musial

(pianist), Matt Haimovitz (cellist) and l'Orchestre de l'Université de Montréal conducted by Lori Antounian, Nadège Foo Fat and Véronique Lussier.

Tickets: \$39 (Seniors \$34, Students \$18), incl. taxes
VIP tickets: \$100 — includes exclusive seating (centre orchestra – rows C, D, E, F) and a post-concert reception with the performing artists

Theatre Outremont Box Office
1248 Bernard Ave. W., Outremont,
(Monday-Saturday, 12-6 pm; Sunday 10-4 pm)
Phone: 514-495-9944, ext. 1
Online: <https://billetterie.theatreoutremont.ca>



FEBRUARY IS MEMBERSHIP MONTH

Your membership fees have brought you many knowledgeable and interesting speakers on diverse and thought-provoking topics.

Your membership fees help support many women and social organizations.

Your membership fees give you the chance to share a glass of wine with friends.

Your membership fees, over the past year, helped to support:

- Friends of the Mount Royal Cemetery
- McGill University
- Concordia Student Emergency Fund
- Quebec Writers Federation
- McGill University Keyboard Lending Program for the Montreal Heart of the City Piano Program
- Imago Theatre production of *Mrs. Pirandello*
- Chez Doris
- Auberge Shalom
- Auberge Madeleine
- Native Women's Shelter



- Betsy Barber Fund
- Concordia University bursaries

Your membership fees have lent a voice to important and worthwhile advocacies such as:

- Discouraging climate change through the use of carbon taxes and working against the use of neonicotinoid pesticides (CFUW resolutions)
- International Women's Day
- "Up for Debate" petition to ensure women's issues were on federal election agenda
- MCW panel discussion of women candidates in the 2015 federal election.
- Quebec Bill 52 (Dying with Dignity)
- Centraide March of 1,000 Umbrellas
- Called on Stephen Harper to start inquiry into missing and murdered women and children

Show some love! Ask a friend to be your Valentine: Ask her to join the UWCM!

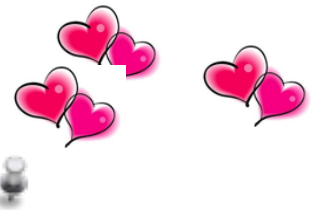
Directory Update

- Members Louise Piché and Teresa de Genover have regretfully resigned.
- Johanne Desrochers has changed her email address.
- Andrea de Gosztonyi has changed her mailing address.
- Martine Dubois's mailing address has been corrected.
- Maya Bergeron-Métivier's home and office phone numbers are no longer applicable.

Please update your directories accordingly!



Anelia Wright
Membership Chair



Newsletter editor: Donna Jensen

Copy-editing and proofreading services:
 Zofia Laubitz