



# UWCM

University Women's Club of Montreal Inc.

Club des Femmes Universitaires de Montréal Inc.

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## DECEMBER 2018 / JANUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER



**DINNER MEETING: WEDNESDAY,  
DECEMBER 5, from 6 pm, at  
LE GLADSTONE,  
4114 Ste-Catherine Street West**

**Jenna Smith**, Director of Innovation Youth

Jenna holds a master's degree from Université de Montréal and is an associate lecturer at Université de Laval. Born and raised in Montreal, she is the

founding director of Innovation Youth whose mission is to offer a community space to some of Montreal's most vulnerable (teens at risk of dropping out, new immigrant families, those living in social isolation). It opens up to youth and families the possibilities of harmonious integration into family, social and academic life. It also promotes education and personal development, urban agriculture initiatives, community development and collective kitchens for families.

Jenna is the author of several articles for *Faith Today* magazine and of the 2014 memoir *A Way: The Story of a Long Walk*. In 2015, she won the Word Guild Award for best long feature article. Jenna was born and raised in Montreal and lives in Verdun with her husband, Nicolas.

*Editor's Note:* Our previously scheduled speaker, Hubert Lacroix, had to postpone due to an unexpected scheduling conflict. But he will return as our speaker at a future date.



**DINNER MEETING: WED., JANUARY 16  
Lucinda Chodan**, Editor-in-Chief (*Montreal Gazette*) and Vice-President, Content Eastern Region, Postmedia

*Media: Real, Fake, and What's In-Between*

Lucinda Chodan's first writing job was at the *Edmonton Sun* in 1979, coming about quite abruptly

as she was interviewing a Monte Carlo-based drag queen ballet troupe. Chodan is herself a musician, a folk song composer married to bluegrass-picker Dave Clarke of the folk-country trio Steel Rail. It's hard to believe she has found time to write songs given her dynamic climb up the *Gazette* ladder: "I worked in every department except sports." The newshound is proud of the sections she introduced to the Montreal paper: WomanNews, eXpress and Weekender. One thing is for sure: She is driven by facts!

### DECEMBER DINNER ALTERNATIVE VENUE

#### Le Gladstone

4114 Ste-Catherine Street West

#### DECEMBER 5 DINNER MENU

- *Soup of the day*
- *Honey-glazed chicken, roasted potatoes, cranberry sauce*
- OR
- *Salmon, lentils or mashed potatoes, green beans*
- *Dessert, coffee and tea*

*\$38 plus service and tax. Happy Hour prices for drinks until 7 pm.*

**Reserve your spot! Contact Donna Jensen before November 27.** Any cancellations after November 27 may result in you being charged for the meal.

Don't forget your name tag!

### JANUARY DINNER back at Club Atwater

#### JANUARY 16 DINNER MENU

- *Mulligatawny soup*
- *Duck confit and vegetables*
- *Warm pecan pie with ice cream*
- *Coffee and tea*

**Member and her guest(s): \$34.50** each, including tax (wine extra), payable by cash, credit or debit card.

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



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

“November comes,  
 And November goes,  
 With the last red berries  
 And the first white snows” - Elizabeth Coatsworth

But, dear members, November brings you also a basket of opportunities to get involved in the **16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence**, taking place from November 25 to December 10.

November 25 is the **International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women**. For this occasion, make sure to “orange your world” — wear something orange and share our Facebook page to demonstrate your support in fighting multidimensional violence done against girls and women. One outcome of violence is poverty. Our **Shoebboxes for Shelters** project, spearheaded by Publicity Chair Judith McTavish, will bring moments of joy and dignity to several homeless women. It's not too late to bring in your shoebox. (See last month's newsletter for more details.)

Those of you who attended the CFUW Quebec Regional meeting on November 17 (hosted by our club) had the opportunity to hear representatives from HerStreet talk about challenges faced by homeless women in Montreal.

At our December dinner, get your Rose Button (for only \$2). Wear it to commemorate the **National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women in Canada**. Until December 6, sign your pledge to end gender-based violence at <https://www.swc-cfc.gc.ca/commemoration/vaw-vff/pledge-en.php>.

On December 6, from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm, join me to launch the second edition of **Les Olympes de la Parole** competition at the Forget House (1195 Sherbrooke Street West). Participants from four schools will be accompanied by their parents and school principals. As usual, the theme of the competition reflects the UN review theme which will be debated at the sixty-third session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW63) in New York City in March 2019: *Women's empowerment and the link to sustainable development*. Our participants are asked to reflect on the impact of poverty on the empowerment of women and the development of girls in Canada. So far, 45 registrants are confirmed and we are anticipating more. Send me an email to add your name to the attendance list.

On December 8, be part of the UWCM team attending the **TEDx Montreal** conference held at Concordia University. Enjoy life learning among great inspirational speakers and role models. Last year we were a team of 15. Please contact our former VP, Nadia Ramundo, to join this year's UWCM team.

While you get busy during these 16 days, do not forget that November is **Financial Literacy Month** in Canada. Our bilingual publication *Financial Literacy: Beginning the Conversation* was integrated into the Canadian Literacy Database in 2017, among the organizations that support the National Strategy for Financial Literacy: *Count me in, Canada*. Throughout the month, link to the database and learn how to protect yourself against financial abuse. (<https://www.canada.ca/en/financial-consumer-agency/services/financial-literacy-database/organizations.html>)

November did not put our **Relocation Committee** “to rest until next spring.” Instead, it has been working diligently to find alternatives for a clubhouse and dinner venue for next year. We can rest assured a sustainable solution by next spring will be found. I take this opportunity to thank the committee for its efforts and I thank all members for their patience as we go through this transition period.

Next year will mark a century since representatives of the University Women's Clubs of Canada met in Winnipeg to organize the **Canadian Federation of University Women** in 1919. The centennial celebrations will be held in Winnipeg during the AGM, from August 15 to 17, at the Fort Garry Hotel. In planning for this event, CFUW has introduced the SAGE Award, which recognizes members with “the longest number of collective years in CFUW.” Clubs have until March 2019 to send nominations to their Regional Director. Names of recipients will be displayed in the CFUW celebration brochure. Information regarding registration and accommodation can be found at <http://www.fcfd.org/whatwedo/annualgeneralmeetings/AGM2019.aspx>

The **Graduate Women International** will celebrate its 100th anniversary under the “Peace Through Education” theme from July 25 to 28, 2019, at the University of Geneva in Switzerland. Early-bird registration is open until February 28, 2019. For more, visit <https://graduate-women-international.events.idloom.com/Centenary>.

Use this “basket of opportunity” to make a difference in other women's lives while November rests in peace. Meanwhile, allow yourself time to relax, to love yourself, to enjoy precious time with your loved ones and to stay healthy enough to welcome in the new year.

Have a joyful holiday season. Best regards,  
*Saõde Savary*  
**President**





## INTEREST GROUPS

### DINING IN

**Wednesday, January 23, 6:30 pm**

Hostess and theme will be determined shortly. Contact the convenor if you are interested in attending and to reserve your spot. Limited space available, so first come, first served. The hostess will contact you and you'll decide together what you will bring. Convenor: Elizabeth Wirth.

### WINE TASTING

**Date and theme to be determined**

The long-running interest group is meeting in late November where they will taste and discuss hybrid varietals. A date in January will be decided upon only then. Reservations a must!  
 Convenor: Linda Snell

### LADIES WHO LUNCH

**Tuesday, December 11, 12:15 pm**

(RSVP December 4)

Restaurant Da Vinci

1180 Bishop (Guy-Concordia metro)

**Tuesday, January 8, at 12:15 pm**

(RSVP January 2)

Restaurant BIS

1229 rue de la Montagne (Peel metro)

Convenor: Laretta Alexander

### STAGE & SOIRÉE

**February 1, 7:30 pm (with reception)**

**February 2, 7:30 pm; February 3, 2:00 pm**

*Magic Flute* Opera McGill, Monument-National

For information: Convenor Elizabeth Wirth

## Burns Night at the Coach House



**Thursday, January 24,  
 6:30 pm, \$15 each**

While Europe's eye is fix'd on mighty things,  
 The fate of Empires and the fall of Kings;  
 While quacks of State must each produce his plan,  
 And even children lisp the Rights of Man;  
 Amid this mighty fuss just let me mention,  
 The Rights of Woman merit some attention.

...

But truce with kings, and truce with constitutions,  
 With bloody armaments and revolutions;  
 Let Majesty your first attention summon,  
 Ah! Ca ira! The Majesty Of Woman!

- *The Rights of Woman*, Robert Burns (1782)



You will share Scotch, haggis, *neeps* and *tatties* — and shortbread! Of course, poems and songs of Robbie Burns will make an appearance. Space is limited, so reserve early.

Contact Elaine Bander before January 18.

Newsletter Editor: Donna Jensen  
 Proofreading: Zofia Laubitz



# DECEMBER 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5 Dinner meeting at Le Gladstone 	6 École Polytechnique Massacre commemoration	7 Launch of Les Olympes	8
9 International Human Rights Day	10	11 BOD meeting / Ladies Who Lunch	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 	26	27	28	29

# JANUARY 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31 	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Ladies Who Lunch	9 BOD meeting	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 Dinner meeting	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 Dining In	24 Robbie Burns Night	25	26
27	29	30	31	1 Stage & Soirée	2 Stage & Soirée	3 Stage & Soirée



# Les Olympes de la Parole Launch

**LAUNCH DATE:** Friday, December 7  
 11:30 am to 1:00 pm

**PARTNERS:** Festival Stella Musica  
 Surrey House Communications

**PLACE:** Maison Forget House  
 1195 Sherbrooke Street West

**PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS:** Sacred Heart School,  
 Colège International Marie de France, Villa Sainte-  
 Marcelline, Kanawhakee High School

An academic competition open to high school students that raises awareness about gender inequality and its impact on empowering girls and women. The theme is drawn from the 63rd Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women.

**FIRST PRIZE:** \$2,000  
**SECOND PRIZE:** \$1,500  
**THIRD PRIZE:** \$1,000

**RSVP** Saôde Savary

## Coming This February

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, from 6 pm at Club Atwater**

**Dominique Fontaine** - *Haitian Women Artists: Perspectives From Now and Then*



Curator and founding director of aPOSteRIORi, Dominique graduated in visual arts and arts administration from the University of Ottawa and completed a De Appel Curatorial Programme in Amsterdam. aPOSteRIORi is a non-profit

curatorial platform that, among other things, researches, develops and facilitates innovation in diverse contemporary art practices. Dominique will present her perspective on Haitian women artists. Help celebrate Black History Month with us — and please enjoy dinner that night at Club Atwater while being our Valentine!

## CFUW News

Canadian Federation of University Women will be celebrating its 100th anniversary at its 2019 AGM in Winnipeg from August 14 to 17. It is a great time to meet members of sister clubs from other parts of our wonderful country. Start making your vacation plans!

At its last board meeting, CFUW decided it will hold face-to-face meetings in even years. To set up this sequence, it will hold a face-to-face AGM in 2020 and every second year from then. Electronic AGMs will be held in alternate years. Therefore, the CFUW is looking for a member club to host the 2020 AGM.

**GIFT IDEA:** Buy one — or more! — of these gorgeous gift bags from CFUW. Ideal for a wine bottle hostess gift! Regular design \$10 each, luxury design \$13 each. Contact Dominique Racanelli. Also available on the CFUW site, but subject to shipping and taxes.



## Sad day in Montreal history

December 6 is the **National Day of Action and Remembrance on Violence Against Women**. It is also the day to commemorate the 1989 mass shooting that killed 14 young women and injured 10 more people at École Polytechnique.



## FOUNDATION FACTS

The UWCM Foundation would like to extend its thanks to those who have already sent in their Annual Giving donations. The Trustees also wish to remind members that online giving is now available ([uwcm.com/donate](http://uwcm.com/donate)) and is working well. Also, it will help the process in light of ongoing postal disruptions. Remember, the Annual Giving Campaign runs until June 30, 2019.



## SAVE THE DATE!

Theatre Night in NDG  
*Fight On*, an exploration of Indigenous relations based upon the adventures of Charles Dickens' son who served in the early 1800s as a Mountie in Western Canada.

Friday, March 22, 2019

Tickets: \$30

Contact Elaine Bander

Details in next newsletter

### Fundraising Tour of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts

A group of UWCM Foundation supporters toured the newest pavilion at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, the Michal and Renata Hornstein Pavilion for Peace, looking at international art from the Middle Ages to 2016. On each floor, we discovered and made connections between artworks from the past to the present. The group covered all six floors of the pavilion including the education area, where young and old alike attend hands-on art workshops.

- Andrea MacKenzie

Standing in front of the breathtaking Patrick Beaulieu installation (from left): new member Sharon Smith, Nadia Ramundo, Donna Jensen, Rahila Bootwala, Zofia Laubitz, Susan Ross, Carmelita Rasquinha, Andrea MacKenzie (our tour guide), Alaka McConnell.

- Photo by Andrea de Gosztanyi

## Update your Directory with the 4-1-1 on new/returning members

- **Pilar Shepard-Cumming**, Concordia University BFA (Art History), Master in Art History, Museology, New York University and Art Appraiser
- **Shirley Gyles**, Concordia University (double Major - History and English with a Minor in Professional Writing)
- **Barbara Lewis**, UBC (BM, voice/conducting), McGill (BM, Masters)
- **Sharon Smith**, McGill University (BA), University of California at Berkeley (Teaching Certificate), Concordia University (Fine Arts), Vanier College (Early Childhood Preschool Education)