



Staying Connected



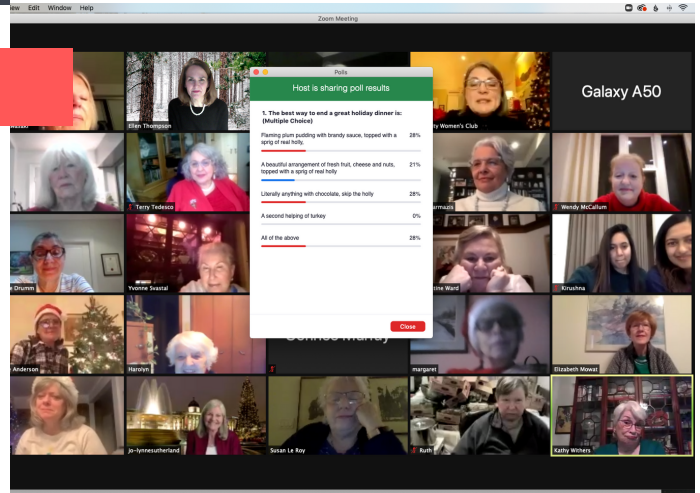
DEAR MEMBERS

We don't generally do a January newsletter, but this year is an exception... in so many ways!

We have much to be thankful for and want to share our appreciation. We also have lots going on, and want to remind you of some interesting events and new interest groups starting in January. We hope you can join us!

FESTIVE PARTY

We had a large and enthusiastic turnout for our Zoom Festive Get Together on December 14. Some members came in their holiday finery, set against virtual backgrounds of snow covered fir trees and Christmas street scenes, and many brought along a glass of wine to join in the wonderful year end toasts made by Susan Freeman and Ruxandra Pop. Marianne Anderson encouraged us to support the deserving young women in our Scholarship Program by making a donation to the UWC Foundation. Ellen Thompson put together a nostalgic slideshow of UWC people and places from 2020, and Ruxandra entertained us with a Christmas movie trivia quiz, complete with clips of classic scenes and movie scores. Members voted in fun seasonal "North Polls", and participated in a raffle draw for a lovely gift basket of goodies from "Baskits" (congratulations to the raffle winner, Leanne Kloppenborg!)



The event ended with a fascinating talk on "Victorian Christmas Traditions" by U of T historian Dr. Carolyn Harris, whose presentation brought to life a typical Victorian Christmas and all the customs and traditions associated with it. All in all, the Zoom Festive Get Together was a great success and showed us that, even in this COVID year, we can continue to get together and celebrate.

- Pam



As Marianne reminded us during the Get Together, please consider a year end donation to support our **Foundation's Scholarship Program.**

Donations may be made by e-transfer, to foundation@uwctoronto.ca OR by cheque made out to UWC (Toronto) Foundation and mailed to Kathy Nolan-Garner, 2005 - 438 King Street West, Toronto, ON M5V 3T9

TO LILY

We would like to give a thunderous round of applause to Lily for all of her amazing hard work with the Advocacy Christmas Flowers. She picked up carloads at 6 a.m., stored them all in her house, sorted and wrapped. She is amazing and did a miraculous job. Thank you so much. Our own Christmas miracle. Thanks also to her daughters, Julia and Katherine, to the drivers and runners: Terry, Wendy, Susan LeRoy, Mary Jane, Cecelia and Jo-Lynne... It has been such a resounding success. Thank you, Lily.



TOAST TO 2020

Pam asked me to give a toast to 2020. I thought 'Well, that won't take long'. We had 2 ½ months of successful events and were very pleased with the University Women's Club. We had such great plans for all sorts of events, then came Friday, March 13th, a day that will live in infamy. How to continue? How to cope? How to survive? I could go on and on about all of the things we have missed, but then we have gained so much through Zoom speakers, groups, meetings and lectures, on line courses, on line bridge and most important quiet time.

In that more quiet time we have, in fact, adapted and found things to enjoy and learn. We are among the most fortunate people on earth to live in Canada. We have also learned to value the things that are truly important: friends, family, a good book.

But the significance of 20/20 is also important. It is perfect vision. Perhaps this year gave us a way to see important things much more clearly. With the shut downs the environment benefitted greatly. The solution was simple: stop taking all of the beauty of the planet, the landscapes, the plants, the seas, the animals for granted. The pandemic forced us to slow down or stop altogether and take stock. For that we are grateful. 2020 has also seen the development of a vaccine to fight the virus, another great accomplishment. But I think that realizing how simply we can slow down climate change, how much we must be concerned about our fellow man, and our environment, how we are all globally connected and must seek solutions together has been a very powerful lesson.

We have been forced to see more clearly. 2020 has given us an opportunity to stop and smell the roses. May the lesson of 2020 stay with us and prepare us for better things to come. To 2020!

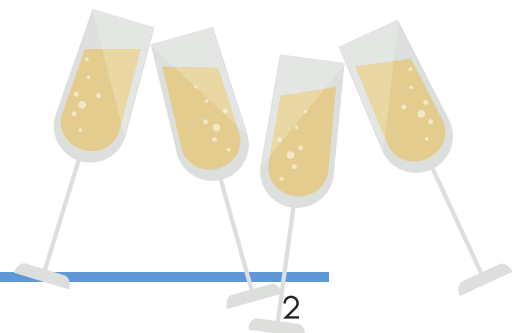
-Susan

Now that 2020 has come to a much anticipated end, we look forward with joy to a more tranquil 2021. Although it may take a while for our lives to return to the normal we knew, I am hopeful that in the months to come we will be able to take part in some of those favorite activities that brought us joy and that we perhaps took for granted. I am also hopeful that we can take the lessons we learned from having lived through the year 2020 with us moving forward into 2021.

Personally, I would like to toast to the following: To continuing meeting new people and sharing wonderful new experiences. To learning from our mistakes. To spending time with and appreciating the people we love. To remembering the ones we lost. And to recognizing every day as a new beginning and as an opportunity to start again.

- Ruxandra

TOAST TO 2021



JANUARY EVENTS

LUNATIC, A DOCUMENTARY BY IAN EVANS JANUARY 11 AT 7:00 PM

On November 16th, we had the pleasure of hosting another successful Zoom talk led by Ian Evans. A chartered accountant from Elora, Ontario, Ian has made it his life's mission to consistently step outside of his comfort zone by undertaking inspiring adventures such as skiing to the South Pole at 58, along with many other impressive feats.



All of these adventures are explored in the 2016 award-winning documentary called *Lunatic*, which showcases, using awe-inspiring images, both the struggles and the successes that Ian has encountered on his many travels. Please join us for a special Zoom screening of *Lunatic* on Monday, January 11th at 7:00pm, with a special introduction and Q and A provided by Ian himself.

- Ruxandra



ZOOM SPEAKER SERIES - BRIAN LEVINE JANUARY 18 AT 4:00 PM

Join us on Zoom on Monday, January 18, 2021 at 4:00 pm for a talk by Brian Levine, Executive Director of the Glenn Gould Foundation, on *Glenn Gould: The Making of a Canadian Legend*. Glenn Gould was one of the best known and most celebrated pianists of the twentieth century, renowned for his interpretations of the works of Johan Sebastian Bach. The Glenn Gould Foundation was formed in 1983 to honour the spirit and legacy of Glenn Gould. As Executive Director of the Foundation, Gould scholar Brian Levine is well placed to provide us with fascinating insights into the life and work of the legendary Canadian pianist.

- Pam

SPOTLIGHT ON US | JANUARY 25 AT 5:00 PM

To start the New Year off with a little extra oomph, we're bringing back **Spotlight on Us!**

SAVE THE DATE for our first zoom version on Monday January 25th at 5pm. Past President of UWC and second generation member, Judith Lewis will be sharing the inside scoop on the historical roots of our club. It will be a lot of fun and a wonderful chance to stay connected. Be sure to register now by emailing info@uwctoronto.ca. Looking forward to seeing you all on Zoom!

- Alida



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS



HISTORY OF ART JANUARY 12TH

Meeting **every other Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm**

"Why Have There Been No Great Women Artists?" Linda Nochlin 1971

We will look into this question in a series in illustrated talks....

Please let me know if you would like to be part of this group by emailing me at arlene.kushnir@sympatico.ca.

- Arlene



CURRENT AFFAIRS JANUARY 6TH



The inaugural meeting of the Current Affairs Discussion Group is planned for Wednesday evening at 5 pm on January 6, 2021. We will try this timeframe and see if the majority are available or would prefer a different time.



The objective of this group is to get together (virtually at the moment) to discuss and share insights on topics currently relevant. A suggested item is read or viewed as a starting place for discussion. I have participated in similar groups and found that I learnt a great deal and gained a number of new and different insights from the discussion. The first meeting will consist of a brief planning session with members proposing topics and agreeing to facilitate a session on the issue.

If you are interested in joining us please email me at brochunorah@gmail.com with comments and suggestions.

- Norah

EVENING BOOK CLUB | JANUARY 27TH AT 5:00PM

The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah

The Nightingale tells the stories of two sisters, separated by years and experience, by ideals, passion and circumstance, each embarking on her own dangerous path toward survival, love, and freedom in German-occupied, war-torn France.

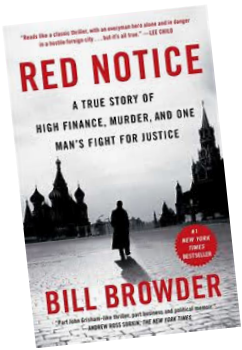


Haley will send out the Zoom links.

Convenor: Judith Lewis
judithlynnlewis@gmail.com

MORNING BOOK CLUB | JANUARY 7TH AT 10:30AM

The Morning Book Club is meeting on Zoom!
Please contact Jean Thomson 416-421-2732 or thomson149@yahoo.ca



Red Notice: A True Story of High Finance, Murder, and One Man's Fight for Justice by Bill Browder

Browder's business saga meshes well with the story of corruption and murder in Vladimir Putin's Russia, making Red Notice an early candidate for any list of the year's best books" (Fortune).



what's on

UWC EVENTS

Send an email to Haley at info@uwctoronto.ca to register

JANUARY 2021

JAN 04

Board Meeting at 4:00 pm

JAN 06

Current Events Group at 5:00 pm

JAN 07

Morning Book Club at 10:30 am

Scholarships Committee Meeting at 2:00 pm

JAN 11

Lunatic documentary at 7:00 pm



JAN 12

History of Art group at 7:00 pm

JAN 18

Speaker: Brian Levine at 4:00 pm

JAN 25

Spotlight on Us at 5:00 pm

JAN 27

Evening Book Club at 5:00 pm

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