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**Orange, Durham, Chatham
Counties (NC) Branch**

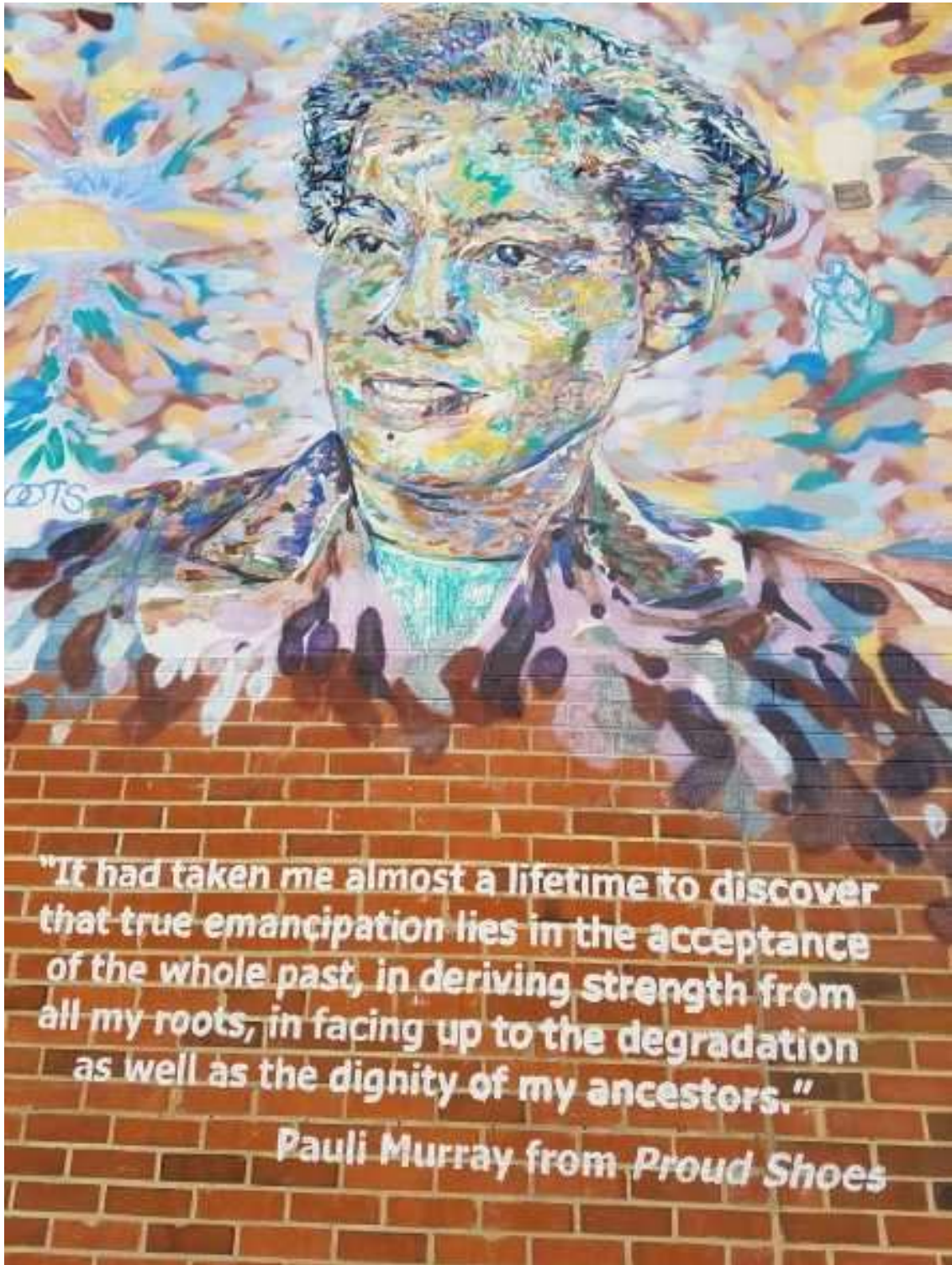
“While we have many voices, all AAUW members share a commitment to advancing gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy. More than ever, we must embrace our values and continue to strive towards diversity, equity and inclusion; it’s a journey that will never end.” AAUW.org

Nov. Branch Newsletter

[Join the January book talk. Here’s what we’re reading:](#)

***Proud Shoes* by Pauli Murray**

Pauli Murray crafted a broad vision of justice, equity, and human rights using words as her primary tool in the fight for liberation. Pauli resisted categories of race, class, gender, and sexual orientation, wrestling with issues raised by her own racial identity, economic struggles, and sexual and gender identity. S/he aspired to an integrated body, mind, and spirit that aligned with a holistic sense of self. - **Mary Kolek, AAUW-ODC member**



"It had taken me almost a lifetime to discover that true emancipation lies in the acceptance of the whole past, in deriving strength from all my roots, in facing up to the degradation as well as the dignity of my ancestors."

Pauli Murray from *Proud Shoes*

Join us for book talk in January 2022.

Mary Kolek is our book talk facilitator. Mary worked as a public school principal and as Superintendent in another state. Quote from Mary: *"We must get back to caring, serving and working in cooperation for a shared good future."*

[Branch Book Talk - click here](#)

The Firebrand and the First Lady: Portrait of a Friendship: Pauli Murray, Eleanor Roosevelt, and the Struggle for Social Justice

Wednesday, October 27, 2021 4:00pm ET

AAUW's 140th Anniversary Webinar Series: AAUW in Conversation with Dr. Patricia Bell-Scott

Join us for a discussion with AAUW fellowship alumna Patricia Bell-Scott, Ph.D., an award-winning author and professor emerita of women's studies and human development and family science at the University of Georgia. Her most recent book, [*The Firebrand and the First Lady: Portrait of a Friendship: Pauli Murray, Eleanor Roosevelt, and the Struggle for Social Justice*](#), won the Lillian Smith Book Award and was named Booklist Best Adult Nonfiction Book of the Year by the American Library Association.

[Register Now](#)



Happy to share our branch with more birds

New Members - joined in October:

- **Cindy Aldrich**
- **Emily Hare**
- **Sophia Santillan**

Cindy Aldrich is a FOMH (friend of Michele Hoyman, past branch President / current Program Chair) and a supporter of our branch scholarship funds. We're so happy she's now a full-fledged AAUW member. Emily Hare is in her 10th year as Executive Director of the Central Carolina Community College (CCCC) Foundation. She eagerly joined AAUW after Dr. Donna Wilson (branch C/U Partnership Director) contacted her about establishing a branch scholarship for a Chatham or Orange Co. resident at CCCC this year. Sophia Santillan joined AAUW after finding our branch website - yay! We look forward to meeting and introducing Sophia and perhaps a few more interested folks to our flock soon!

Domestic Violence Awareness

For those who missed our **Oct. 16th program, “Sometimes I Sing,”** we wanted to share a wonderful resource our panelist, “Nancy,” a domestic violence survivor, made available to us. If you’d like tips on **what to do if you suspect someone you care about is in an abusive relationship**, this guide will help. If you’d like to know how to talk to a child who may have witnessed abuse, this guide will help. You may **download your copy** of the [Break the Silence packet from the Compass Center HERE.](#)

There is also a **recent film** that Dr. Milbre Burch referenced, **“And So I Stayed.”** It is a moving portrait of Kim, Tanisha, and Nikki, three survivors whose strikingly similar stories are separated by over 30 years. None of them were believed, and each of them was criminalized for fighting back. For more [about this film, click here.](#)

Birthday Dollars:

Do we have any November birthdays? Please let us know so we may celebrate and raise a few scholarship bucks in your honor! [Report your birth MONTH only here and learn more.](#)



Mark your 2022 Calendars:

Program theme: Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Feb. 19th - AAUW Fellowship & Grant recipients from NC report on their work
(Zoom)

March 19th - Power of *Inclusive* History at our Places of Memory: A Conversation
(Zoom)

May 21st (10AM-11:30AM) Stagville Inclusive History Experience (IN PERSON
TOUR)

Membership Matters:

Your membership makes AAUW's powerful voice even louder on critical issues affecting women and girls.

AAUW fights for **fair pay** and **economic equity**. AAUW has awarded more than **\$115 million** in **fellowships and grants** to more than **130,000 scholars and organizations** in 50 states, Washington, DC, Puerto Rico and Guam. [Learn more.](#)



"Though we are non-partisan, we are not values neutral: We fight to remove the barriers and biases that stand in the way of gender equity ... And we advocate for federal, state and local laws and policies to ensure equity and end discrimination." - AAUW.org

In case you missed it (ICYMI)

"Sunny places for shady people" - [Carol Burris, National Education Policy Center](#)

By: Cindy Parks

This is a follow-up to the Lynn Edmonds, Public Schools First NC, Sept. 9 branch program. **Highlights from Public Schools First NC's Oct. 9th Workshop on Privatization:**

- There's a growing for-profit sector running Charter Schools in NC. They love places like Florida, Arizona and the Carolinas.
- One of the largest, National Heritage Academies, set up in Michigan in the mid-1990's, is now appearing in NC. When J.C. Huizenga (heir to Waste Management conglomerate fortune) was asked why he became interested in starting a school, he quipped, "I got to thinking about the possibility of starting a charter school that would overlay the business model on top of the education model." Regarding the for-profit part of the enterprise, NHA's VP pointed to Huizenga's interest in various bond markets. The company does not disclose its financial operations, makes money off management fees and reportedly began making a profit in year 2000. In 2020, it reported educating nearly 60,000 students across 9 states.
- Torchlight Academy in NC is a non-profit school, run by a for-profit entity owned by the same person. His spouse is the principal at the school. His real estate company leases the building to the school. Federal money, local tax dollars and grant money goes to the for-profit entity to operate the school. Any unspent money is in the hands of the for-profit entity (e.g. owner's pocket).
- Some tout low student/teacher ratio with parental volunteer requirement. One in NC allows parents to make a "payment in lieu" of the requirement at a rate of \$20/hr.
- Schools are more segregated now than ever. Silos created based upon religious beliefs at the expense of public school mandate of teaching civic engagement that includes ideas from all beliefs and people of all socio-economic backgrounds.

What YOU can do:

- Push back against federal charter schools grants. Contact your US Representatives, both Senate and House. (Corporate welfare for the rich.)
- Lobby at the state level for regulations and elect candidates who are not so chummy with the charter school model. However well intentioned "school choice" advocates may be, the data show that the current course of privatizing schools isn't helping disadvantaged children.

Be sure to watch the special program with Jane Wettach, Duke University

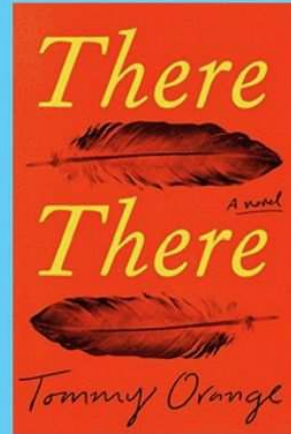
NC Voucher Program: <https://youtu.be/F0iLbtSVNJY>

**In Case You're Interested: AAUW-
Greensboro Program (in person or
virtual)**

The Pursuit of Healing



ONE CITY
ONE BOOK



**Saturday, November 13
at 4 pm**

Tommy Orange's novel *There There* represents the diversity and complexity of Native women and identity. Join us for a discussion with award winning author Annette Saunooke Clapsaddle and local playwright, Patsy Hawkins of the female characters in *There There*.

The program will be in-person and online. Please email Ronald.Headen@greensboro-nc.gov and specify which when registering. A book signing of Clapsaddle's *Even As We Breathe* will follow.



Greensboro History Museum

130 Summit Avenue, 336-412-6199

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AAUW-ODC
PO Box 9303
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