



An Evening with Utah Authors

Our annual Wasatch Branch fundraiser for the AAUW Fund brought members, and community friends together with three Salt Lake City-based authors at the 15th Street Gallery, 1519 South 1500 East, Salt Lake City.

A BIG THANK YOU to all who attended from Wasatch and Salt Lake City branches, as well as non-members and the friends and spouses who attended and supported the fund raising effort. We sent \$1,240 to AAUW to support the ElectHer project.

As always, a thank you to Anne Holman and the Kings English Bookshop for being co-sponsors with an enormous network of talented authors. They were delighted with the number of books purchased.

Meet the Authors:

Valynne E. Maetani,



Valynne E. Maetani (Pronounced Vuh-lin Mah-eh-tah-nee) grew up in Utah and obtained a Bachelor's degree from the University of Pennsylvania. In a former life, she was a project manager and developed educational software for children with learning disabilities. Currently she is a fulltime writer. Her debut novel, ***Ink and Ashes***, is the winner of the New Visions Award 2013 and is a Junior Library Guild 2015 selection. She is a member of the We Need Diversity team and is dedicated to promoting diversity in children's literature because every child should grow up believing his or her story deserves to be told. She lives in Salt Lake City.

Lily Yruko Nakai Havey

Born in Los Angeles, interned at Amache in Colorado, educated in Boston and Utah, Lily currently lives in Salt Lake City with husband John. She taught school for 13 years and had a stained glass business for more than three decades from which she is semi-retired. Her stained glass work ***Tora*** won the Juror's choice award at the AAUW sponsored Utah Women Artists Exhibition in 2013. She is also a watercolor artist. Her creative autobiography is titled, ***Gasa Gasa Girl Goes to Camp: A Nisei Youth Behind a World War II Fence***.



Susan Imhoff Bird



"I have to write. It's what I do. It's not my only occupation, but it's what I am here to do. It's what I do to solidify my place in the universe, to make sense of my world, to free what's inside, growing and burbling and seeking opportunities to escape." Susan's website gives "glimpses into my written words, my written world. Feedback is welcome, anytime, all the time, because as much as I live in my own world of wonder and words. I love to visit others' worlds as well." Susan's website includes the following observations that landscape has taught her: "To honor who and what I am. To always breathe; To remain rooted even when I'm soaring and flying; That seasons are inevitable and restorative; That peaks and summits are places to pause and celebrate; That every mountain began as disruption; To be patient; To howl." Her book is titled ***Howl: Of Woman and Wolf***



Valynne E. Maetani; Susan Imhoffe Bird; Suzanne Nissen, AAUW Fund Chair; Lily Havey

One AAUW. One MISSION. One FUND.

The AAUW Fund supports the many programs of AAUW as it advocates for women and families. Our focus is on **Education, Equity and Social Justice**.

- We help mothers return to their education.
- We provide training in how to negotiate a fair wage when women enter or return to the work force.
- We encourage STEM programs, beginning with girls in junior high, helping them to awaken to the opportunities and then helping them pursue what can become a passion as they move into college and beyond.
- We reach out to young women on campuses to see their opportunities and understand their potential.
- We provide Fellowships and Grants for career development, international studies, selected professions, or projects.
- We train women to be leaders in their community, and encourage and train them to run for office.
- We stand up against discrimination through Title IX advocacy, whether it be in athletics or in scholastics.
- We support and defend those who have been victims of sexual abuse, gender discrimination or wage discrimination through our legal advocacy and support of individual and class action lawsuits.
- We advocate for gender equity through the legislative process and are at this moment working in states that lack wage parity and discrimination protections in order to pass new or additional legislation
- We do these things, and much much more as we advocate for Education, Equity and Social Justice for all.

Some of these programs come with catchy names: \$tart \$mart, Work Smart, ElectHer, LAF (Legal Advocacy Fund), Young Women's Task Force, NCCWSL (National Conference of College Women Student Leaders). Others are simple, and made effective through the donations that our members and our friends make to AAUW Fund.

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