



Some Films to Get You Started*

Anne B. Real
Blue Crush
Born Into Brothels
Bride & Prejudice
The Company
Daughters of the Dust
The Day I Became A Woman
The Devil Wears Prada
Double Happiness
Earth
Eve's Bayou
Frida
Gas Food Lodging
Girlfight
The Governess
Italian for Beginners
Japanese Story
Little Miss Sunshine
Look Both Ways
Love and Basketball
Mad Hot Ballroom
Mostly Martha
The Namesake
North Country
The Safety of Objects
Satin Rouge
Saving Face
Shut Up & Sing
The Tango Lesson
Under the Tuscan Sun
Virgin
Water
The Whale Rider
Yentl

*WITASWAN films are all directed
and/or written by women filmmakers

WITASWAN is one of many AAUW-Illinois projects.

In addition to WITASWAN, AAUW-Illinois supports many activities every year including our very popular STEM programs at Lewis & Clark Community College (Girls Explore, Experience, and Experiment in Math and Science) and the University of Illinois-Springfield (Expanding Your Horizons). In 2007, we are also taking the lead in alerting schools, libraries and bookstores all around Illinois about the first annual Jane Addams Day to be celebrated on December 10, 2007.

For more information,
visit our website:
www.aauw-il.org

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

AAUW is a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.



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WOMEN IN THE
AUDIENCE
SUPPORTING
WOMEN ARTISTS
Now!



AMERICAN
 ASSOCIATION OF
 UNIVERSITY
 WOMEN

What Can YOU Do to Support AAUW-Illinois' WITASWAN Project?

- See one film every month that was directed and/or written by a woman. Convince fellow branch members to do likewise.
- Explain WITASWAN's importance to your friends, relatives, and acquaintances all over the world – men too!
- Stop by Blockbusters, Hollywood Video, etc. urging them to offer films from the WITASWAN list. Ask for a section where new films by women directors/writers can be highlighted.
- Collaborate with local colleges/universities to sponsor a WITASWAN film series with AAUW and/or start a WITASWAN movie club in your branch.

Campus-Based Presentations (2004-2007)

College of Lake County
De Paul University
Eastern Illinois University
Eureka College
Harold Washington College
Illinois College
Kaskaskia College
Knox College
McHenry County College
Monmouth College
Southern Illinois University-Carbondale
Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville
Lewis & Clark Community College
University Center Chicago
University of Illinois at Springfield

Branch-Based Presentations

Arlington Heights, Quincy, Chicago,
Park Ridge, Glen Ellyn & Waukegan
+
Cleveland, OH
Indianapolis, IN
Seattle, WA

Celebrating As Our Swan Turns Five

2002: Sparks ignited on the morning of June 2, 2002 when longtime AAUW-Illinois member Jan Lisa Huttner read an article in the Sunday *New York Times* about the "Celluloid Ceiling." The article, quoting statistics by Communications Professor Martha Lauzen, was so outrageous Jan felt compelled to take action. She wrote a letter to the *Times*, they published it, and a new project was launched.

2003: Working with Program VP Linda Henning Cohen, Jan presented a workshop at the AAUW-Illinois Spring Convention. 42 people attended, including Penny Parish, Donna Sproston, and many others who have since become critical to WITASWAN's success. They watched *A Jury of Her Peers* together, and the power of the film, combined with the subsequent discussion with filmmaker Sally Heckel, resonated with all who were there that day. Branches began inviting Jan to come speak.

2004: At the summer board meeting, President Kim Benziger and the AAUW-Illinois Board asked Jan to provide an update for the 5 Fall District Conferences, so the project needed a name. After weeks of brainstorming with input from over 2 dozen AAUW-Illinois members, Barbara Zeitz had a brilliant insight: with a slight but significant modification to the acronym WITASWA, we could all be swans. Everyone agreed: We were "Women in the Audience Supporting Women Artists **NOW!**" The roll-out began at Illinois Valley Community College on October 2, 2004, and we've been growing every since.

Join our Illinois-based initiative, and become a "swan." Through our support for women filmmakers, we will redefine what consumers get to see on their movie screens, and, in the words of Martha Lauzen:

"If we change media messages, we change the world."

Meet Our WITASWAN Coordinator



Lifelong movie buff Jan Lisa Huttner has been a member of Chicago Branch AAUW since 1983. She has served at both the branch and state levels, and she is currently Director of International Relations for AAUW-Illinois. Jan received her B.A. from St. John's College in Annapolis, Maryland (the "Great Books" school), and Masters degrees in Psychology from Harvard University and the University of Chicago.

An award-winning author, Jan writes regular columns as well as freelance articles for multiple print and internet outlets, and in the past 4 years, she has done over 2 dozen presentations on WITASWAN-related topics for campuses and/or branches. Her professional memberships include: Association for Women Journalists, Chicago Film Critics Association, and Illinois Woman's Press Association.

To reach Jan directly, visit her website (www.films42.com) or call her at 312.663.5832.