

“EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS IN A MULTICULTURAL SOCIETY”

nea **W**nea **menSpeak**

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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NEA WOMEN'S CAUCUS

WINTER 2014

NEA WOMEN'S CAUCUS WINTER ISSUE—JANUARY 2014

Diane J. Humetewa, a member of the Hopi tribe and former U.S. attorney in AZ, has been nominated to serve on the U.S. District Court for the district of AZ as a federal judge. If confirmed, she would be the first active member of a Native American reservation, and first Native American woman to serve as a federal judge. Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) lobbied for Humetewa's nomination and has been a supporter since he nominated her for the federal bench in 2007. Native American governing bodies not withstanding, only 23 Native Americans have served in an elected office in the history of the United States. Humetewa will be only the third Native American represented on the federal bench in the history of the United States if confirmed.

Adapted from Maribel Hermosillo's story from PolicyMic's Get the full story at <http://www.policymic.com/articles/65911/president-obama-just-nominated-the-very-first-native-american-woman-for-federal-judge>

What is the National Education Association Women's Caucus?

- A group of Association members joining together to effect change and equal representation in the National Education Association.
- The tenacious watchdog of human rights in the NEA, standing outside the governance structure to offer assistance and affirmation, to reprimand and remedy as needed to achieve our goal of multicultural sex equity.
- A channel through which members of the NEA can work to eliminate sexism and racism in all facets of society with special emphasis on educational issues.

www.neawomenscaucus.com

Join us on Facebook to get updates, post your own comments, and share pictures of our members in action!

www.facebook.com/NeaWomensCaucus



RESOURCES:

Janet Yellen confirmed as the first female chair in the Fed's history. See the Washington Post story at http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/janet-yellen-confirmed-as-next-fed-chief/2014/01/06/14b38582-76f2-11e3-8963-b4b654bcc9b2_story.html?wpisrc=al_comboPEN_b

Top 10 Feminist Teacher Highlights

of 2013 from Ilana Jiménez of the **Feminist Teacher**: Educating for equity and justice <http://feministteacher.com/>

The Mask You Live In – Trailer http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=hc45-ptHMxo Coming in 2014, an exploration of American masculinity from the team behind Miss Representation.

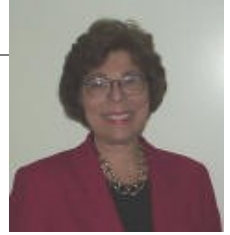
INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

A WORD FROM THE CHAIR	2
STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS	2
JANUARY IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS	3
HOW A WOMAN BECAME HEAD OF GM	3
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION	4

ACTIVITIES OF THE NEA WOMEN'S CAUCUS

- Develops new business floor strategy for the NEA convention.
- Holds informational and strategy meetings at the NEA Convention.
- Screens and endorses candidates for NEA office.
- Monitors women's issues at the NEA Board Meetings and participates in the NEA -PAC.
- Provides testimony at NEA meetings for Budget, Resolutions, and Legislative Hearings.
- Publishes the newsletter **Womenspeak**.
- Advocates and promotes an awareness of issues impacting women and girls in public education in our ever changing world.

A word from the Chair—Cecile Bendavid



We invite you to join the NEA Women's Caucus. As a member we can send you important information during the year via email and newsletter. We are setting up a new website for the caucus. Please go to <http://www.neawomenscaucus.com> to watch the website as it develops and grows. If you have pictures or articles to contribute, please email them to our webmaster Luke Flynt at lukeflynt@hotmail.com. Together we can build a wonderful site.

I would like to challenge you to sign up new members for the caucus. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we had more than 100 members from each state. California has already met that goal, and we ask all the other states to commit to recruiting more members. My theme is 100 members per state by 2015. Together we can meet this goal to help share women's issues and information with all the members of the NEA. Use the membership application on page 4 of this newsletter to recruit the new members. Have them mail the \$15 dues and application to the membership secretary, Elaine LeBoeuf, 1838 N. Alvarado St., Los Angeles, CA 90026. Retired dues: \$10; CA and KY add \$10 for local dues; FL add \$5 for local dues. Or go to the website listed above and pay on-line. This is a quick and easy way to make sure your membership is up to date.

NEA WOMEN'S CAUCUS STEERING COMMITTEE 2013-2014

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The views expressed in this document are those of the Caucus.
The Caucus has no authority to speak for, or act on behalf of, NEA

JANUARY IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH

SOCIAL SCIENTIST ESTIMATE THAT, AT ANY GIVEN TIME, 27 MILLION WOMEN, MEN, AND CHILDREN ARE VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING:

Ingrid Cruz dreamed of being a teacher. A graduate of a prestigious university in the Philippines, she believed Lourdes Navarro wanted to help her get a job in the United States. In fact, Navarro was working with school administrators in East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana, to secure visas for Cruz and many other teachers, but Navarro charged them each approximately \$16,000 for the service. Once in America, Navarro forced the teachers to sign over 10 percent of their salaries. The teachers lived together in an apartment complex and paid Navarro rents well over market value. They aren't alone. According to the Globe, documented cases of teacher trafficking have occurred in Baltimore and El Paso, Texas, as well.

Across the ocean in Ghana, Natalia's parents promised her the chance to learn English and get an education in the United States, a dream come true for this 13-year-old. But after she arrived, her host father began to abuse her and forced her to work as a maid and a nanny for no pay, never allowing her to leave the house, let alone enroll in school. Natalia is just one of many human trafficking survivors profiled on the website of the Polaris Project, an anti-trafficking organization.

The stories of trafficking are so compelling because they are grim reminders of the horrors lurking behind the American dream. The Polaris Project estimates that at least 100,000 children are engaged in the sex trade here each year. That number doesn't include adults, and those trapped in a forced or exploitative labor situation. As globalization erases the borders between countries, the challenges of stopping the flood of human exploitation continue to multiply. Human trafficking has grown to be one of the largest organized criminal activities in the world, second only to drug trafficking. According to the U.S. Department of State's annual Trafficking in Persons report, 40,000 victims were identified worldwide in 2012, but social scientists estimate that 27 million women, men, and children are victims at any given time.

"Human trafficking is a violation of human rights where an individual is forced or tricked into work and unable to leave for any number of reasons," says Tiffany Williams, advocacy director at the Institute for Policy Studies Break the Chain Campaign. It's important to note that the definition rests on force and coercion, not movement across borders. Although many victims do travel or are removed from their home countries, a person can be trafficked within her or his own community.

Adapted from the Fall 2013 Issue of AAUW Outlook Magazine at <http://www.aauw.org/2013/11/15/human-trafficking/>

The Department of Education released a fact sheet for schools about human trafficking and how school staff can help keep students safe at <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oese/osh/factsheet.html>

How a Woman Became the CEO of General Motors in 3 (Not-So-Easy) Steps

General Motors announced that Mary Barra is set to become the automaker's first female CEO and thereby the first female chief executive officer of a major global automaker. When women make up just 13 percent of engineers (and, until now, zero percent of big auto CEOs), how exactly did Barra get to the top?

1. **She started early.** Barra had the opportunity and the drive to pursue STEM courses. "When I was in high school I loved science and math, so engineering or a math-type major seemed to be where I was headed," Barra said in an interview with Fast Company.
2. **She had access to higher education.** Barra got financial support from a somewhat unusual place: her employer. In 1980, GM's sponsored Barra's at the General Motors Institute

where Barra earned her bachelor's in electrical engineering. GM later sent to the Stanford Graduate School of Business. Way to go, GM.

3. **She had support from mentors and role models.** Our 2010 report on women's underrepresentation in STEM found that role models and mentors are key to encouraging women in these fields. Barra had both. At home, she found a role model in her father, who worked as a diemaker for GM for 39 years. "I have worked for a lot of really great leaders and mentors that I felt provided me, along with many of my peers — many of them women — opportunities."

Adapted from a blog by Rachel Wallace for AAUW.

See the full story at

<http://www.aauw.org/2013/12/12/mary-barra-gm/>



**NEA
Women's Caucus**

**“EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR
WOMEN AND GIRLS IN A
MULTICULTURAL SOCIETY”**



NEA Women's Caucus _____ Unified _____ Amt Paid

I wish to join the NEA Women's Caucus _____ Renewal _____ Date

and work toward improving the _____ New _____ Student
Status of Women in Education

Print Name _____

Print Address _____

Telephone (____) _____ Email _____

Education Associations: State _____

Local _____

U.S. _____

Mail checks & this form to:

Elaine Leboeuf

1838 N. Alvarado St.

Los Angeles, CA 90026

Membership Dues \$15 (national) -

Retired / Student Dues: \$10

plus State dues: (if applicable)

(Please make payable to NEA Women's Caucus)

Join online at <http://www.neawomenscaucus.com>

nea WomenSpeak

Cecile Bendavid

NEA Women's Caucus Chair

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Correction