

## AAUW BOOK CLUB READING LIST - 2023-2024

September 2

### **Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus**

Set in 1960s California, this is the hilarious, idiosyncratic and uplifting story of a female scientist whose career is constantly derailed by the idea that a woman's place is in the home, only to find herself starring as the host of America's most beloved TV cooking show.

October 7

### **The Personal Librarian by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray**

Belle de Costa Greene worked as J.P. Morgan's personal librarian and curator of his private library housed in a townhouse off of East 36<sup>th</sup> Street before the collection became the Morgan Library and Museum. While she became an influential individual in the art world and one of the country's most prominent librarians, she hid a devastating secret – she was a Black woman “passing” as a white woman.

November 4

### **Heart of Fire: An immigrant Daughter's Story by Mazie Hirono**

The intimate and inspiring life story of Mazie Hirono, the first Asian-American woman and the only immigrant serving in the U.S. Senate. Mazie Hirono is one of the most fiercely outspoken Democrats in Congress, but her journey to the U.S. Senate was far from likely.

December 2

### **The Maid by Nita Prose**

A charmingly eccentric hotel maid discovers a guest murdered in his bed, turning her once orderly world upside down--and inspiring a motley crew of unexpected allies to band together to solve the mystery. A Clue-like, locked-room mystery and a heartwarming journey of the spirit, *The Maid* explores what it means to be the same as everyone else and yet entirely different.

January 6

### **My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry by Fredrik Backman**

Elsa is seven years old and different. Her grandmother is seventy-seven years old and crazy--as in standing-on-the-balcony-firing-paintball-guns-at-strangers crazy. She is also Elsa's best, and only, friend. When Elsa's grandmother dies and leaves behind a series of letters apologizing to people she has wronged, Elsa's greatest adventure begins.

February 3

### **Washington Black by Esi Edugyan**

Young, enslaved George Washington Black is chosen to assist a gentleman scientist, kicking off a series of adventures that takes Black from Barbados to the Arctic and beyond.

March 2

### **Local : a memoir by Jessica Machado**

A rich and nuanced exploration of Hawaiian history and traditions, *Local* is a personal and moving narrative about family, grief, and reconnecting to the land she tried to leave behind.

April 6

### **Women talking: a Novel by Miriam Toews**

One evening, eight Mennonite women climb into a hay loft to conduct a secret meeting. For the past two years, each of these women, and more than a hundred other girls in their colony, have been repeatedly violated in the night by demons coming to punish them for their sins. Now that the women have learned they were in fact drugged and attacked by a group of men from their own community, they are determined to protect themselves and their daughters from future harm.

May 4

### **Tomorrow, and tomorrow, and tomorrow by Gabrielle Zevin**

Two friends--often in love, but never lovers--come together as creative partners in the world of video game design, where success brings them fame, joy, tragedy, duplicity, and, ultimately, a kind of immortality.