

INDIVIDUAL PROJECT/ PROGRAM/ EVENT 2011-2012:

Note: Any program since last year's deadline is eligible.

Category: (Please circle or highlight the category for which this program is being submitted.)

- Women - Education - Community - International - Cultural - Diversity - Public Policy

Title: Evening with Madam Curie - Living History Presentation and Dinner

Part I:

Other community groups involved, if any (list):(5 points) The Zonta Club and Jamestown Community College (JCC) ✓

Number of members involved in **planning or putting on** the program (5 points) 5 ✓

Number of nonmembers involved in the program (5 points) 6 ✓

Number of members who attended or benefitted (5 points) 37 ✓

Number of nonmembers who attended or benefitted (5 points) 63 ✓

Number of new members who joined (if any)(5 points) 0

Part II:

Describe your project/ program/ event in 75-150 **words**. Be sure to include:

how the project addressed **AAUW's mission** (15 points)

branch goals in doing this program (10 points)

specific action steps in planning this program (15 points)

steps taken for **community visibility** (Attach newsletter and newspaper articles.)(10 points)

measurable **impact on the community** (10 points)

lessons learned for future programs/ projects/ events (10 points)

Attach copies of newsletter and newspaper articles about this project/ program/ event.

(No more than 4 pages maximum)

Mail or email the original of your entire application with supporting materials to:

- Peggy Kelland, AAUW-NYS Program Vice President

- 13 Susan Lane, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

smkell45@aol.com

Questions? (845)297-0507

The Manya Living History of Madam Curie Presentation and Dinner Event

This event took place at Jamestown Community College on September 21, 2011. The two hour presentation followed dinner. The performance was open to the public.

This event addressed our mission of advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy & education. The program brought awareness to those in attendance that women can break through barriers and make a difference in our world.

Our Branch, the Zonta Club, and JCC collaborated to provide the dinner. Each organization invited ten young women from the community who would benefit from learning about women like Madam Curie. We planned a Polish menu for 100 and worked with JCC for site arrangements and publicity. We advertised to members using a program flyer, e-mail, facebook and our calling committee. JCC produced a large poster for display and local newspaper/radio coverage.

The program brought awareness to the AAUW and Zonta missions: empowering women to achieve. *Many lessons have been learned* through this collaboration: We can achieve much through teamwork, shared leadership, and organizational skills.

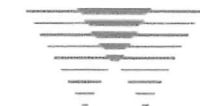


*Dinner in honor of
Marie Curie*

JCC, AAUW and Zonta Collaboration

- When:** Wednesday, September 21
5:30 pm Dinner - Weeks Room
7:00 pm Free Performance "Manya- Living History of
Marie Curie" - Scharmann Theatre
- Cost:** Dinner Tickets \$15 each. Bring a guest.
Mail checks payable to AAUW Jamestown Branch to -
Mary Lenda, 43 E. Chautauqua St., Mayville, NY 14757
- RSVP:** By Sept. 12. - Mary Lenda, (716) 753-0744
mlenda@hotmail.com

For more performance information visit www.storysmith.com






AAUW

Advancing equity for women and girls through
advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

Actress To Give Presentation At JCC Sept. 21

September 16, 2011

The Post-Journal

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"Manya: A Living History of Marie Curie" will be presented by actress Susan Marie Frontczak at 7 p.m. on Sept. 21 in Scharmann Theatre on Jamestown Community College's Jamestown Campus.

The performance is free and open to the public. Program sponsors are JCC's college program committee and Faculty Student Association and the Katharine Jackson Carnahan Endowment for the Humanities.

The one-woman drama illustrates the life of Polish scientist Madame Curie from the political oppression of her childhood through fame and tragedy to world prominence in the scientific arena.

Madame Curie, best known for the discovery of radium and radioactivity, was the first woman to receive a doctorate in the sciences in Europe and the first woman to receive a Nobel Prize. She was also the first person to receive a Nobel Prize twice.

Ms. Frontczak, who views science and art as outlets for creativity, portrays the human and historical contexts behind Madame Curie in "Manya." She has presented the performance over 250 times throughout the U.S., Canada, and Europe.

In dramatizing the life of Madame Curie, Ms. Frontczak pays homage to their shared Polish heritage. Ms. Frontczak believes academic excellence can lead to outstanding achievement.

Madame Curie's perseverance in purifying a grain of radium from a ton of pitchblende, in part, inspired Ms. Frontczak to major in engineering, a field in which she worked for 14 years before pursuing full-time writing and acting.

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'Scientists Are People Too'

Traveling Actress To Bring Marie Curie Show To Jamestown Community College

September 15, 2011

By Scott Shelters - Features/Entertainment Reporter (sshelters@post-journal.com) , The Post-Journal

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Actress Susan Marie Frontczak will bring her concoction of science and entertainment to Jamestown Community College's Scharmann Theatre on Wednesday night. Located on the Jamestown campus, the theater will host Frontczak's "Manya: A Living History of Marie Curie," beginning at 7 p.m.

The performance is free and open to the public thanks to sponsorship from JCC's Faculty Student Association, the college's program committee and the Katharine Jackson Carnahan Endowment for the Humanities.

Frontczak's one-woman show highlights the life of Curie, a groundbreaking scientist and two-time Nobel Prize winner, who persevered through childhood oppression to reach fame in the scientific world.

Frontczak named the show "Manya" after Curie's childhood nickname. "The idea is it makes her story accessible," said Frontczak. "People with no scientific background get a lot out of this performance."

After performing "Manya" more than 250 times across North America and Europe, Frontczak has found that to be true. "I've been told by people who don't have scientific backgrounds that it's accessible," she said. "Scientists are people too."

Curie's story, one of continuous perseverance, sorrow and ultimate success, provides an easy connection for those who attend, according to Frontczak. "It's amazing to me how audiences everywhere really connect with her," she said. "She was a very determined person. She was very focused."

Born in Poland in 1867, Curie hit multiple obstacles along her way to scientific prominence. First, she could not attend college in her native land. Then, Curie discovered she could further her studies in France, a nation that admitted women into its universities, but she did not have the funds to do so.

Somehow, Curie earned the money, made it to France and became the first woman to earn a doctorate in the sciences in Europe. "She found a way to do it," said Frontczak. "There were no other women in the sciences when she got there."

That did not stop Curie from making her mark. Nor did the unexpected death of her husband, Pierre, the man she worked alongside of in a University of Paris laboratory. Prior to his death, the two were awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1903.

"She almost quit then," Frontczak said, noting that Curie spent six months away from the laboratory after Pierre died.

However, when the university's faculty offered her Pierre's former position of Professor of General Physics, she accepted, becoming the first woman to hold the title after 600 years of existence for the University of Paris.

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Susan Marie Frontczak will bring her one-woman show, w...

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From there, Curie reached a new level of fame, becoming the first person to receive a second Nobel Prize thanks to her work in the field of chemistry, where she discovered radium and radioactivity.

BECOMING?CURIE

A mixture of Frontczak's Polish heritage and her respect for Curie's determination and accomplishments led her to major in engineering.

"Those got me caring about her. I just remembered being so impressed with her sense of perseverance,"she said. "Whether your background is in science or not, every one of us runs into a brick wall at some point in life. We all ask, 'Should I just quit here?' She didn't quit."

Frontczak spent 14 years in the engineering field before pursuing a career in writing and acting, after which she began planning out "Manya."

Eleven years later, she still enjoys portraying Curie. "Her passion sort of oozes out," said Frontczak. "You can't help but get caught up in this infectious aura of discovery."

With over a decade of experience under her belt, Frontczak's show has evolved over the years. "One of the things I didn't have when I first started out was some of her scientific equipment," she said.

Even with an increase in scientific tools at her dispense, Frontczak still tries to avoid overwhelming non-scientifically minded audiences. "I don't go into great detail unless someone from the audience asks during the Q and A."

In recent years, Frontczak has altered her show based on the audiences in front of her, evolving her product on the fly. "By now, I can stay in character without sticking to the script," she said.

As a result of the legacy Curie left behind, women from all over the world have contacted Frontczak, telling her that Curie's life inspired them to explore careers in the sciences.

For those who have yet to be inspired by Curie, Frontczak invites them to stop by the Scharmann Theatre on Wednesday. "Come meet the person. It's a heart-warming story. Audiences will laugh and cry if they come, and I hope they do."

For more information on "Manya: A Living History of Marie Curie," call 338-1318.


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