

# NWPC-NYC





# AMessage From The President: Sharon Nelson

Dear Members and Friends:

As we begin this month, we look forward to a great Fall. Our Membership department and Political Director will be hard at work interpreting the controversial issues surrounding Planned Parenthood, School Bussing, Healthcare Reform and other pending legislation as well as organizing discussions via the various committees. If you have not already selected a committee, please check with Membership for an assignment. We are also waiting to hear back following several exploratory meetings with one of the largest hospital groups in the nation for regular Healthcare seminars for our membership, and educational institutions for possible Queens meeting locations.



Our Candidate Training class at CUNY was launched with an amazing 17 students blazing this trail with us - We are deeply grateful for their support as this is our first time conducting an Experiential series. The feedback thus far has been very positive. Congratulations to Elaine Fraizer our Master Trainer, for her focus, depth of knowledge and nurturing of the students in their quest to define their voices and ambitions.











Meanwhile, kudos to our member Varahn Chamblee who has been working diligently to open our Bronx location - scheduled for October 13 at 5:30pm at Mercy College (1200 Waters Place). Special thanks to Lenny Caro, Chief Community Relations officer at Mercy, for welcoming the NWPC and establishing this relationship for us. State Senator Ruth Hassell Thompson will be our meeting keynote speaker while Assemblyman Mark Gjonaj adds his personal Welcome to our Bronx membership.



And, on October 27th, NWPC NYC will celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with the National Urban Fellows at their beautiful offices on 6th Avenue. Miguel Garcia, NUF Executive Director, reached out to us and will be hosting this reception as most of his alumni are women and our organizations do share so many common interests. We are doing well and looking forward to a dynamic month.

As an aside, NWPC NYC was invited to the book signing of "Sisters in Law" by Linda Hirshman, a charming and thoughtful exploration paralleling the careers of Supreme Court Justices Sandra Day O'Connor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg. As a result of these ladies' input, the opinions of a changed male-dominated court are evident. It's a great read! Kudos to Legal Momentum's Carol Robles-Roman and thanks to our life member Barbara Lifton for the invitation.



# As We See It by Howard Lowe

NWPC-NYC has some tough battles ahead. We are truly seeing a direct attack on Women's health by attempts to defund federal dollars from Planned Parenthood.

NWPC NYC has taken a very proactive position joining with Congressman Charlie Rangel, Assemblyman Keith Wright, Hon. Tish James, Gale Brewer, Melinda Katz and others at a recent press conference to promote and defund the work of PP, reiterating that abortions only represent 3% of the services being provided by this community based



organization. The remainder is dedicated to providing ongoing quality healthcare to women.

This is only the beginning. The 2016 election cycle is critical for us to get out in front of in order to protect women's rights and insure equality through the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA). It has been too long and way overdue. Social media will play a major role during this election cycle. As the Political Director for NWPC-NY, it is my hope to keep our members apprised of the positions taken by candidates for office that either support or oppose our mission goals. One thing is for sure: We are here to be heard - We are here to stay.

### Meet Our Member: Varahn Ghamblee

Varahn Chamblee, proud Bronx resident, licensed cosmetologist, and NWPC-NYC member, carefully schedules her time to meet the challenge of an active professional life while also truly engaged in advocating and organizing for the interests of the local community and businesses.



#### Why did you join the NWPC?

I wanted to join with other powerful women who are making a difference! Women have made significant strides at higher levels and now, more than ever, are equipped to take on a larger share of the political process and policy making decisions. These decisions impact our families and communities daily. NWPC is the only organization I have identified as preparing women to meet that challenge head on, representing women from ethnically, racially and politically diverse backgrounds.

I care about the work that NWPC-NYC is doing because.......

Each month I look forward to hearing from yet another dynamic woman with proven leadership skills who will share her story of success and struggles. These candid conversations serve as an inspiration, not only for me but for others to follow suit and take on more meaningful roles. My take away is that when women join forces, we are capable of tremendous accomplishments, among them, securing and holding elected office effectively.

My favorite experience with the NWPC-NYC has been......

This summer I attended the the 22nd Biennial Convention of NWPC held in Washington, DC and experienced the enthusiasm and influence of "women power" at work in the nation's capital. They came from the western, southern and all other regions of the country to voice their concerns about the important issues of health, domestic violence, human trafficking, and many other areas of politics, policy and advocacy. While we did not all speak with one voice, we were ALL heard and represented...it was a place for women to contribute and participate in the important discussion of the day which impact our lives, families and communities.

In 2016 and beyond, I look forward to the NWPC-NYC (doing).....

I know that NWPC will play a significant role in the election of the first female President of the United States. We have become a force to be reckoned with and each day we play an even greater role in the political process representing women's issue. My personal commitment is to expose women in the Bronx to the benefits of this process starting with the NWPC-NYC meeting being held on October 13 at Mercy College.

#### On Our Minds:

NWPC-NY's new Kings County location at the Brooklyn Art Salon was successfully launched via a brunch hosted by Norma Krieger, NWPC-NY member, curator and owner of





the BROOKLYN ART SALON I PRIVATE
GALLERY, opposite the Brooklyn Museum. It was an inspiring gathering of stimulating dialogue with about 25 attendees, including some young NWPC candidate hopefuls. A perfect blend of "Politics & Art", the event offered insightful discussions by two distinguished speakers: Assemblyman Walter



Mosley and featured fiber artist Dindga McCannon, and stimulating interchanges of ideas by the attendees.

The NWPC-NY Brooklyn launch was a normal day in the life of Norma Krieger, who lives life in the creative lane. She is principal of the Krieger Creative Group (KCG) which represents renowned visual artists, a perfect blend of FINE ART and BRANDING. KCG is made up of experienced creative professionals with accomplished careers that collectively span 30 years. KCG has become the place to go to for amazing fine art for acquisition and commission, Graphic Design, Branding ID, Collateral Material, and Marketing. For more info click: www.kriegercreativegroup2.com. Meanwhile, each time our members gather for their meetings at this ideal Brooklyn location, they will continue to benefit from the beauty and treasures that will surround them.











Recently, life came full circle for Norma, when her daughter, journalist Earlene McMichael, interviewed the iconic NWPC founder Gloria Steinem on the state of feminism and pressing issues facing women domestically and abroad. The interview is scheduled to air Oct 19 at <a href="https://www.wmuk.org">www.wmuk.org</a>, the NPR station at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo. Her daughter also talked about Norma to Ms Steinem, suggesting she look up Norma Krieger who was

featured in a Life Reimagined documentary by AARP. http://lifereimagined.aarp.org/renewyear/Norma

## NWPG-NY Mission

Started by Gloria Steinem, Congresswomen Shirley Chisholm and Bella Abzug, the National Women's Political Caucus (NWPC) was Co-founded in 1971 by Democratic & Republican women with a common vision to support a Pro-Choice platform and the passage and ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA). It is a non-partisan organization with membership throughout the United States.

NWPC - NEW YORK CITY Chapter was revitalized on February 11, 2015 under the leadership of the NYC Chapter President Sharon Nelson. Moving forward with "Marching towards Parity" 50/50 by 2020, NWPC NEW YORK CITY continues to grow.

Hoping to see you at the Grand Opening of our BRONX location at Mercy College, 1200 Waters Place, October 13th at 5:30pm, at our Monthly Meeting on October 14th at 4 West 43 Street at 5:30pm, and at the October 27th Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration hosted by The National Urban Fellows at their offices, 1120 Ave of the Americas at 6pm.

FACEBOOK:https://www.facebook.com/groups/1582096185362390/ WEBSITE:http://normakrieger.wix.com/NWPC-new-york