



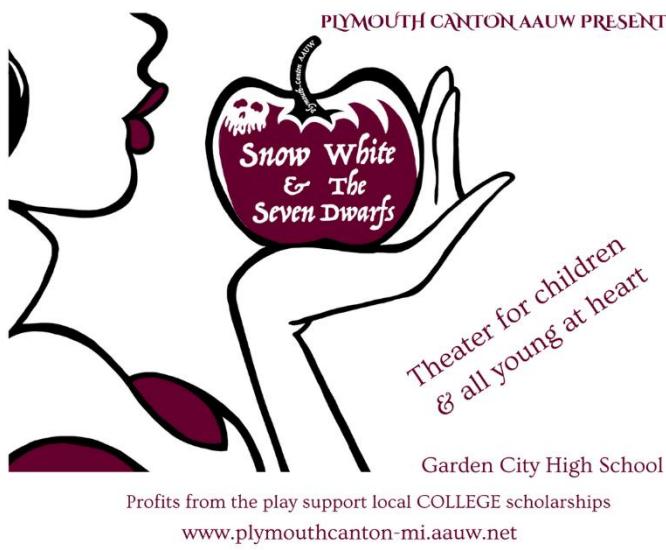
Catalyst

Plymouth-Canton Branch
January 2026

A message from your Play Directors

We are excited to be part of an amazing group of people who are working hard to present Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. Our actresses have been rehearsing for two weeks with a couple more weeks to go. We are excited to welcome back some members who haven't done

the play in recent years, and to welcome some new members who are excited to join us for the first time.



If you would like to help out at a show, volunteer to usher. Please contact Kaytee or Helene if you are interested. Otherwise, find a production to attend. You will see a side of your fellow branch members you may not have seen before. And... you will enjoy a great production! We love to see our friends in the audience!

We are grateful for the branch members who have worked to promote the play through the branch's organized marketing activities. We also thank those who have helped with costumes, props, and sets. We can't do this without all of you!!! We appreciate everything you do to support this branch fundraising activity.

See you after the show when we meet the audience --
Kaytee and Helene

While we all are working hard on lines, getting our costumes together, and practicing stage presence, there are a couple of things branch members can do to support our work. *First and foremost, you can spread the word. Let your neighbors and family know about the production. If you work, share play information with your friends at work. You can find all of the information you need in this issue of the Catalyst. Thank you.*

SHOWTIMES

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

6:15 PM - PRESENTATION
7:00 PM - PERFORMANCE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

6:15 PM - PRESENTATION
7:00 PM - PERFORMANCE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

10:15 AM - PRESENTATION
11:00 AM - PERFORMANCE
&
1:15 PM - PRESENTATION
2:00 PM - PERFORMANCE

TICKETS
ONLINE - \$7
AT THE DOOR - \$10

**AT GARDEN CITY
HIGH SCHOOL**
6500 MIDDLEBELT RD.
GARDEN CITY, MI

From the Presidents ...

Happy New Year to all!

A new year is about starting fresh, confronting new challenges and experiencing new adventures. It's a time to move forward, to enjoy each day and to work together to make our world a better place!



Our Plymouth-Canton AAUW branch will continue to make strides to empower girls and women and to support a strong system of public education that promotes gender fairness, equity and diversity. If you have access to AAUW Michigan's website, you will have received an email asking you to sign a letter to be sent to our U.S. Senators Peters and Slotkin, asking them to protect the U.S. Department of Education and to block the unlawful transfer of education programs and responsibilities. The deadline for your signature is January 18, 2026.

The Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs practices at Garden City High School are now underway. Please contact our directors, Helene Lusa and Kate Bellows, if you would like to donate some time during our play weekend of February 5, 6 and 7. We can always use extra help with ticket sales and ushering. We also hope that you will come out to see the play and bring your family and friends!

Our next branch meeting will be February 19th at the Plymouth Arts Council. It is our play evaluation meeting, but all are welcome to come and listen to the discussion and to offer compliments, concerns and/or comments. You might also want to attend, to learn more about the play process and to decide if it might be on your list of activities for next year. It sure takes a Village to put on a play production, and it is great fun, too!

May all of you experience joy and prosperity in the coming year!

Dawn and Mickey

BOOK GROUP

We are scheduled to meet on Thursday, January 22, 2026, at 5:30 pm at Kay Paupore's with Dee Bernick as co-host. Our read for this month is The Secret Life of Sunflowers by Marta Molnar.



Looking ahead, the read for February 26 is Buckeye by Patrick Ryan. If we have a host for February, Helene has forgotten who that is. Please let her know if it's you!!!!

Helene will have the copies of Buckeye soon and she will get them to you. Please keep Cyndi Naumoff in your thoughts as she is recovering from surgery for a broken ankle.

Looking forward to seeing you soon -- Helene and Mickey



Ice Hockey – you know – that game where players skate around the rink hitting at a puck (and sometimes at each other). It is chaos on the ice, and the puck is so small it is hard to see. Those with a practiced eye can see the puck go into the net. The rest of us just have to listen for the crowd to cheer.

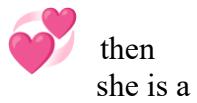
Our own **Laurie Kempisty** plays on the Stingrays, a team in the Michigan Senior Women's Hockey League (MSWHL). This League was started in the late 1990's by a woman player, her husband, and their friend – Ted Lindsey of Red Wing fame. The season is about eight months long, with practices starting in August. Games start October 1 and the season ends with a Ruicci Cup tournament in March. Schedules are set by managers, and they may have from one to three games per week. The team is in third place in their division with a 6-4-0 record. **Go Stingrays!!!**

While the game is fun, it is all about the people. Laurie wrote about them with great affection.



Laurie, Ready to hit the ice.

Maria, our captain, merged a Grosse Pointe team and our Plymouth team in 1999, secured our ice in Plymouth, and became our captain! She now leads us from Hawaii, where she is a radiology tech and is taking care of her mom.



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Kristen and Maureen, managers and assistant captains, were on my team in Plymouth. They took on the roster, scheduling, and accounting and became our assistant captains. Kristen attends a scheduling meeting in September to set the games for the season. She tries to work around players' major scheduling conflicts, — like our play.



Our team is made up of incredible people that really appreciate the time, competition, exercise, and friendship. They all lead incredible lives and are busy in so many ways and support one another when needed. Hmmm! Reminds me of our AAUW branch.

I'm not done yet! The players all have such diverse and interesting backgrounds. Administrators of IT for major corporations, administrators of finance in major corporations, my doctor, finance director at national school, lawyer, nationally renowned landscaper, business owners. I'm just so proud of them all!



And Joanne, our goalie, is a double amputee. She has won recognition, awards, and accolades over her career. But the best part is no one would ever know unless she starts joking about it.

The home rink for the Stingrays is at U of M-Dearborn. When it was closed for repairs, they played at other area rinks. Several members (with husbands and kids in tow) went to see Laurie play at the Plymouth Cultural Center ice rink. They are scheduled to play at Plymouth on Sunday, February 1 – but, since the home rink is now repaired, that schedule may change. We'll let you know.

Looking Ahead , , ,

February 19: Branch Meeting
March 19: Branch Meeting

April 11: Spring Luncheon. Noon at Rocky's
May 21: Annual Branch Meeting. Election of officers