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*Cover design: Collage of Events from the Chapter's formative years since 2010  
Report written & designed by Ahsan*
The year 2014 was an energizing one for the IAWRT-USA chapter. We started with the thumping success of our media event “Hands on: Climate, Women, Change, Women Seeking Solutions” held during the Commission on the Status on Women (CSW 58) at the United Nations. We showed a path-breaking movie on women and climate change, followed by a discussion with five excellent panelists from around the world. We also successfully launched our chapter's first project, GMP USA. Our members took initiatives in further developing and building partnerships for our Women's Film Festival project. Our Vice President, in collaboration with Puntos de Encuentro, launched IAWRT's first Latin-America-Caribbean regional initiative in Nicaragua. We submitted our first multi-year grant proposal. We have new paid-up members from around the US and membership dues submission is at an all time high. We became incorporated and began working toward 501(c)(3) status. All this work would not have been possible without the unwavering commitment and support of all of our members. Thank you all! I am so humbled to see more of our US members actively and fruitfully engaged in our chapter activities—a challenge that every IAWRT chapter head faces, as we are a volunteer based organization.

We have been able to work in tandem with IAWRT International on multi-national projects like the Gender Mainstreaming Project (GMP) and the Latin-America-Caribbean regional initiative. Our larger dues base has put us in a strong financial standing. Our UN Representatives have increased the standing and visibility of IAWRT at the UN—in turn, strengthening the gender and media advocacy agenda, and making sure that the voices of media women are reflected and their impediments highlighted in the implementation of Section J of the Beijing Platform for Action.

As we come to the end of our first four years since our chapter's official approval on November 28th, 2010, our organization has come a long way from being the capstone project in my graduate class at Long Island University's UN Program five years ago, to being an active group reflecting the shared contributions of an impressive list of women. We have built a solid foundation for the exciting work that I believe will be part of its future. Our chapter board and founding members constitute a strong team and are committed to the work of the organization. We have achieved our incorporation, and begun the organizational steps toward achieving the status of a non-profit. We have build strong organizational relationships with groups such as Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts (VLA) who are overseeing our above mentioned incorporation in New York state.

In these formative years, a solid ground work was laid to plan and implement the programs developed from our founding vision and ideas; we hope that they will fully
take shape during this next phase of the organization's development. We made a good head-start in 2014 with one of the chapter program goals—to conduct scientific Gender and Media research—by implementing GMP-USA, the first chapter project. In 2015, we have a women’s film festival in the works under the leadership of Dorothy Saint Jean to be tentatively held jointly with the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP), a women’s rights organization working on women, peace, and security issues globally introduced by our member, Ariel Dougherty.

We have developed the groundwork for an exciting chapter internship project that will bring women from the global South to develop their media skills in New York – in keeping with the larger goals of the organization nationally. I have introduced my former UNDPI Internship office for possible collaborations on this project. The research committee, under the leadership of Dr. Diana Nastasia and board member Dr. Carolyn Byerly, will be continuing its work with hopefully new research ideas in the coming years, and I’m excited to see us develop in the gender and media research field.

Lastly, I have completed my two terms as the Founding President of IAWRT-USA. This is the final annual chapter report of my tenure. As I leave you, I have passed over the baton to the experienced hands of Sheila Dallas-Katzman, who has already shown strong leadership as a member of the international board, and as our Vice President. She is eager to take the chapter’s founding vision and ideas forward, and try to implement and make them a reality while giving new energy and ideas to the chapter.

Volunteerism was always very important to me personally, but after this leadership role which over the years became my full time job, I better understand and value it more; I learned and benefited from this professional experience in ways I never imagined. It was the breadth of these contributions that led us to such amazing results this year. This year, sadly, we also lost one of our founding members, Catherine D White, whom we all miss; we shall honor her memory with our committed chapter work. To the founding team and board members, who have worked with me tirelessly to make this organization a reality, I want to say that I love you all; thank you for believing in me and in our work together, for your motivation and encouragement when I needed it the most. I hope you will provide the same support to the new board. I will continue to support our work and mission to empower women through media.

With gratitude,

Arshiya Ahsan
Founder, IAWRT-USA
This year’s IAWRT-USA chapter activities started with the fifty-eighth annual session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 58) meetings at the United Nations in New York, during which our members represented IAWRT. This is our Chapter's major annual public event in collaboration with IAWRT. The theme of this year’s CSW side event was “Hands on: Climate, Women, Change, Women Seeking Solutions”. Leila Doss, the longest-serving member of IAWRT, actively worked to support the CSW planning committee with event logistics in New York.

Catherine White, IAWRT UN Rep and Chapter Board Member, was honored by the United Nations Association (UNA/USA) of New York early this year. Plus, one of the major highlights for IAWRT at this year’s CSW was the IAWRT ‘Lifetime Achievement Award’ presented to Catherine. As the first Vice President of the USA Chapter and second Vice President of the UNDPI/Executive Committee, she organized the UNDPI/NGO communications workshop Story Telling. Over 100 NGOs attended the ECOSOC Chambers for the day-long event. We have had Chapter and board meetings graciously hosted by Catherine at her home in Manhattan, New York.

Member-at-Large Contribution: With an aim of increasing the chapter membership, one of our board members, and a graduate student at New School University, Pragya Ghimire, reached out to her fellow students and shared the main objectives in establishing the IAWRT USA Chapter, her own experience of being associated with the organization, and described its activities. She also distributed flyers for the CSW 58 side event entitled “Hands on: Climate, Women, Change, Women Seeking Solutions” organized by IAWRT USA Chapter to students of the media studies program in the school, and continued efforts to publicize the activities and works of IAWRT USA Chapter in order to increase the number of young members. Pragya is also part of the Chapter’s Women's Film Festival (WFF) organizing team, and has helped out with venue options at the New School Theater.
IAWRT REGIONAL MEETING IN NICARAGUA

We are proud to announce that our Vice President, Sheila Dallas-Katzman, coordinated and led the IAWRT Regional meeting in Latin America and the Caribbean in cooperation with the Nicaraguan feminist organization Puntos de Encuentro, which co-organized the meeting. This was a new regional initiative for the Americas undertaken by IAWRT. The meeting took place from November 17th to 19th in Granada, Nicaragua. Nancy Cohen, a film maker and our new member, represented the Chapter this time. She later submitted a report on the conference to us. For excerpts of Nancy's report, please see page 9.

WOMEN’S FILM FESTIVAL (WFF)

Our board decided to postpone the Women's Film Festival, earlier scheduled to run in October, 2014, until 2015 due to funding and planning constraints. Detailed updates to the board on the WFF progress and discussions were submitted by the WFF focal point, Dorothy St Jean, with help from Ariel and Arshiya. The discussion with GNWP led to the submission of a Media Visions Film Festival proposal, which was submitted as part of our Chapter 4-year funding proposal to Fokus, Norway. To get involved in the Festival of Media Visions, please contact Dorothy St. Jean and Ariel Dougherty.

IAWRT-USA FOKUS FOUR-YEAR FUNDING PROPOSAL

In July, 2014, we prepared a four-year funding strategy (2015 to 2018) with a budget proposal as part of our Chapter submission to the IAWRT-FOKUS grant. We incorporated all potential proposals received from members. We are now awaiting feedback.

CHAPTER RESEARCH COMMITTEE by Arshiya Ahsan

A long-standing initiative, and one of our founding ideas, is to conduct scientific research on issues concerning women and understand the challenges that they face while seeking equity in the media—globally. I have long championed this idea of building an in-house chapter research team: to bring together members who are gender and media experts, and pair them with members who have some research experience and interest, and together leverage these internal capacities to lay the foundations for a strong gender research agenda that is mostly neglected by the mainstream. My idea was well received, and we have taken our first solid research focused step. I contacted our member Dr. Carolyn Byerly, seeking support and advice about IAWRT-GMP project. She recommended media researcher Diana Nastasia, who is now our member and team leader of GMP-USA. A recent comment from Carolyn best summarizes this media and gender research across eight country chapters of IAWRT; “Among other things, it will help to put IAWRT on the map in terms of women and media research.” This, no doubt, is one of the big accomplishments of our Chapter in recent times, and has also boosted the research profile of the parent organization globally. We hope to continue and build on this first stage of work; Diana is highly motivated in building this committee. Please contact her if you are interested in being part of this exciting work.
IAWRT GENDER MAINSTREAMING PROJECT (GMP) – USA

The International Association of Women in Radio and Television (IAWRT) is pursuing in 2014-2015 a media monitoring research project to assess and examine issues related to equality and inequality, especially concerning gender, in programming of public television and radio stations across eight countries in which IAWRT has chapters. When finalized, the project will be useful to both media professionals and scholars because it will outline forms of gender stereotyping and other stereotypes identified in public television and radio programming and it will also give an overview of best practices in challenging such stereotypes.

The IAWRT USA chapter took an active role in both implementing the project in our own country, and developing the research project internationally. Our chapter was in charge of recording and coding NPR programs (6-9 am and 3-5 pm) and PBS programs (6-11 pm) for the week of January 12-18. As team leader, I recorded all programs mentioned above. The team of coders included 3 IAWRT members (Arshiya Ahsan, Pragya Ghimire, Diana Nastasia) as well as Sorin Nastasia, Assistant Professor at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, and 5 SIUE affiliates with advanced research credentials.

During the training period of the project (November-December 2014) there were two additional IAWRT USA members involved (Ivy Abraskin and Dorothy Saint Jean), however after going through the training videos and some of the mock session materials they both decided they would be too busy for doing coding during the actual coding week. As such, the goal of increasing research capacity of chapter members was partially accomplished, with four IAWRT members in addition to the team leader going through the training stage and two IAWRT members in addition to the team leader participating in the actual coding. The U.S. coding budget was modest; it is being disbursed to the five SIUE affiliates who did coding. In addition, Diana Nastasia paid from her international coordinator budget various small expenses such as food for the SIUE affiliates' gatherings needed to understand coding and small gifts for the reserves who went through training but did not participate in the actual coding (so are not getting paid).

At the chapter level the work is pretty much finalized. We have accomplished the goal of gathering data from US public TV and radio channels from the project. The coding sheets are being turned in this week for tabulation and analysis, and the rest of the project takes place at international level not at chapter level.

The results will be presented at upcoming 59th meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), as part of IAWRT’s annual media event in New York. The session is titled, *Media Activism towards Gender Equality in the Media: A 10 country Report Proves the Need for Implementation of Section J of the Beijing Declaration*. The Parallel event will take place on March 13th at 12:00 noon in the Boss Room at the United Nations Church Centre.
The International Association of Women in Radio and Television, (IAWRT) – USA, in collaboration with IAWRT International premiered its documentary, *Hands On: Climate-Women-Change—Women Seeking Solutions*, followed by discussions with climate change experts and journalists. The film shows how women from five points on the globe are leading their communities in finding solutions to climate change. It explores efforts by women to tackle climate change and other urgent environmental issues through policy, protests and education. The screening took place as part of the United Nations 58th session of the CSW, an annual event where delegates from around the world come together to assess progress for women and girls.

The film tells five compelling stories of women working to combat climate change. Silje Lundberg of Norway leads Norway’s only youth environmental organization in a campaign to prevent Arctic oil exploration. In a country where oil has hugely expanded the economy, it is difficult persuading citizens and politicians to stop further drilling. In India, where frequent tsunamis and cyclones endanger local fishermen, Maheshvari delivers satellite information on weather conditions and her daily announcements help keep the fishermen safe. Jose Geri-Lajoie, in Canada, shares plant knowledge with Cree and Inuit communities and works with them to protect the vulnerable land. In Kenya, erratic rainfall has created a desperate need for water.

Environmentalist Annabell Waititu is training women to farm sustainably and to demand their rights from government leaders. In First Nation Canada, Jasmine Thomas has witnessed the devastation from oil spills and leads an effort to prevent pipelines from being laid across her country. These stories are both alarming and equally inspiring. Through examples like these five powerful movements, we see women standing up to protect mother earth. “Hands-On” leaves you with the feeling that there is a world family, led by women, working together to raise awareness and prevent the continuation of non–life affirming practices. Panelists included Dr. Hala Yousry, Head of the Desert Research Institute in Cairo Egypt; Melinda Tuhus, radio and print journalist, Connecticut; Khedija Lemkelcher, filmmaker from Tunisia; and Professor Elizabeth Miller, executive producer of the feature film. The event was moderated by Rebecca Myles of WBAI Radio in New York, and was very well-received by the participants.
First, I want to thank everyone for permitting me to be a part of this wonderful conference. It was my first and hopefully not my last. There was a plethora of wonderful things to come out of it and I’m only just now assembling them in my head.

As you recall, this was the first time that IAWRT was in Latin America. Sheila Katzman had been supporting the idea of bringing in the South American contingent for a while and running around looking for proposals from various countries – then collaborating with Puntos de Encuentro (Meeting Points), the Managua-based feminist non-profit organization that works throughout Central America, came to be and this was a good idea. I hope that a transcript of many of the talks and individual groups will be made available as there was so much information and personal story telling, that the best way would be to get a chance to listen on one’s own.

Amy Banks gave a strong introduction to the conference, explaining what her group does and the importance of having a presence in Central America. Sheila led a break the ice play which was a good idea, however, the acoustics were challenged with so many women, both jet-lagged and excited, getting to know each other. When I tried to explain to my group of three Spanish women that I had made a film on magical powers of women and paganism, it got translated into brujas (witch), which (sorry) has a special connotation for the Hispanic world.

Breaking into smaller groups was a great idea. I went into the TV/audio-visual group led by Adriana Hurtado, President of the Journalist’s Union, Colombia. It was startling to hear how challenged many of the women have been because of reporting on the violence against women in their countries and violence against media women for writing about it. They are not supported by their governments and this conference provided a wonderful opportunity for all of us to be heard, especially for this body of media women.

Women in an IAWRT march in Granada, Nicaragua, wear traditional clothing from their respective countries. Sarah Blaskey/The Tico Times.
Martha Prentell of Sweden and Mexico gave a workshop on Safety and Security techniques. She began by teaching us about the international initiatives on human rights and protection – preparing for the unexpected and taking care of one’s self after an event like tear gas and cleaning the eyes, etc. It seemed very thorough, but she told me she unfortunately felt a bit undermined by the women who had learned from the Red Cross in Central America and challenged her more cautious techniques. At the end of the workshop, small safety kits were distributed to the group. I would be remiss not to mention that one of the highlights of the event was the parade. Not that it drew a huge crowd, not that it got loads of publicity, but that it really helped bond us all and solidify our mutual understanding of violence against our sex. From making the signs the night before, with dancing and music, to parading through the tiny town, in the rain… these are the moments that bring the point home. Also, it was exciting to watch the a lot of young students stare out of their classroom windows, watching mothers and sisters take to the streets for an important cause.

Sheila’s workshop on CEDAW went quite far in explaining the nature of this UN push and how to get involved. I gave a workshop on trends in documentaries and was delighted at the discussion that came from it; talking about fact or fiction in delivering an important issue and what defines a documentary these days.

A very valuable part of the conference was the trip to Managua to meet the people gathered by Puntos. First we heard from our own board members, talking about issues from their own countries from FGM to fallout from the Arab Spring. I am sorry that I didn’t get the chance to speak about what happens to women on college campuses right here in the US. People usually take for granted that the US is okay. We don’t have these problems. Following that we had a chance to hear from Puntos members about their own situations. It was equally upsetting as well as encouraging because of the brave stands these women are taking to report violence against women and to stop it. The event was topped off by a Nicaraguan feast that was challenging to vegans, I’m sure. But the dance music brought everyone to the floor in a girl on girl extravaganza. The take away is that we must stay vigilant on all aspects of violence against women.
If you knew Catherine White, her sister told those present at her memorial, you thought she was going to live forever. That is how many of us in the US Chapter of IAWRT felt. She had so much energy, was always elegantly put together, and at 89 continued to represent IAWRT at the United Nations, along with many other leadership roles. Sadly, Catherine died on June 8, 2014 and we will miss her.

She was born Catherine DeCarlo on April 26, 1925 in Union City, New Jersey. She had a major advertising career at Compton, Benton and Bowles and was Vice President of Talent at SSC&B. Many at the memorial mentioned that Catherine’s work at the UN was an extension of her eye for talent in casting. Jeff Laurenti, the head of the UN Association of the US (UNA-USA) said her gift led her to put together panels that held the audience’s attention and that she brought her own special energy to her work with UNIFEM, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, that has now been subsumed under UN Women. More recently, one of her special projects was to help civil society learn to communicate better both with each other and with the outside world, and many of the UN panels she moderated brought in experts to help NGOs to improve their communication skills, including through the use of social media.

Catherine’s husband, Larry White, had a career that took them to Hollywood. She was a devoted wife and took great care of him in the years leading to his death in 2007, despite her own illnesses. Catherine leaves behind two daughters, three grandsons and a sister.

As one of the founding members of the US Chapter of IAWRT, we benefited from Catherine’s ability to bring people together. She hosted many of our meetings in her comfortable home. She was a close friend to Leila Doss, a long-time member of IAWRT and also a co-founder of the US chapter. Leila and Catherine were close friends with fellow IAWRT member, Mal Johnson, whose dream it was to create a US chapter. Mal, a White House correspondent who broke new ground both as a woman and an African-American, covered five US presidents, and covered all four UN conferences on women. Through Mal, Catherine and Leila became great friends. We will miss Catherine’s wisdom, generosity, hospitality and inspiration.
CHAPTER BOARD ELECTIONS
We successfully conducted our chapter's 3rd election (1st election-2010, 2nd election-2013) via email from December 16th to December 22nd, 2014. As per our Chapter statutes and following the guidelines set by IAWRT International, we conduct our elections every two years. Our election officer this year, Ivy Abraskin, announced the board election results on December 24th, 2014. The board is elected for the period of January, 2015 to December, 2016. Sixteen paid-up members participated in the board elections.

HANOVER OF CHAPTER DUTIES
Arshiya Ahsan, Founding President, handed over the chapter duties to the new President, Sheila Dallas-Katzman. She completed two terms in her position. As part of the handover process, all the materials of the chapter (since 2010) were uploaded into the cloud, and all the necessary official information was submitted to the new board. Arshiya also submitted a board report with a list of recommendations and suggestions to support the work of the new President and board. A complete financial statement from 2010 to 2014 has been submitted to the IAWRT Secretariat. Arshiya started the discussion of a complete chapter financial audit with the treasurer, and it is currently being planned which will support our work toward 501(c)(3) status and other financial planning.

NEW CHAPTER BOARD
President – Sheila Dallas-Katzman (first term), Vice President – Rebecca Myles (first term), Secretary – Nancy Cohen (first term), Treasurer – Diane Bailey (third term), Member at Large – Leila Doss (second term), Member at Large – Pragya Ghimire (second term), Member at Large – Dr. Carolyn Byerly (first term).

PROFILES OF NEW MEMBERS ON THE CHAPTER BOARD

REBECCA MYLES (VICE PRESIDENT)
Rebecca Myles is a reporter with multimedia experience in print, on-air broadcasting, photography, video, production and anchoring/hosting. She handles general assignment with specialist interests business, politics, and energy. She holds BA from Nottingham Trent University, and has previously worked for Radio France International, Newsweek on Air, RT.Com, LatinPost.com, SaharaReport.com, and WBAI Pacifica Radio. She has two decades of fund raising experience in executive and support positions for domestic and international art and education organizations.
CAROLYN BYERLY (AT LARGE BOARD MEMBER)

Carolyn Byerly holds an M.A. and Ph.D. in communications from the University of Washington, Seattle, and a B.S. in education from the University of Colorado, Boulder. She joined the faculty of Howard University in 2004 after previous posts at the University of Maryland, Ithaca College and Radford University. She is the author of The International Handbook of Women and Journalism (2013), Global Report on the Status of Women in News Media (2011), the co-author of Women and Media: A Critical Introduction (2006), and the co-editor of Women and Media: International Perspectives (2004). Her articles have appeared in numerous journals, including Critical Studies in Mass Communication, Howard Journal of Communication, Feminist Media Studies and edited volumes. She has received awards for her activist scholarship and teaching.

NANCY COHEN (SECRETARY)

Nancy Cohen is a multi-media artist, working in film, theatre, journalism and art. She is a contributing writer to the Huffington Post, under the moniker of Cohen-koan and has her own blog, www.notjustaboutsex.com. Currently, she is in post-production on a film about John Lennon’s power to inspire entitled Something About John, www.somethingaboutjohn.com. Her first film, My Dinner With Abbie, produced by Howard Katzman, is about political activist Abbie Hoffman and premiered at several US and international film festivals winning top prize at the Vermont Earth Peace Film Festival.

While living in the UK, she co-directed a film about women and magical powers called Which Witch? and a second film on London’s first mayoral elections, Malcolm McLaren – Not For Sale. These were both commissioned by Channel Four. She goes back and forth between film and theatre, writing two short musicals, Lady Gaga, A Shelf Life and The Curse of the Chicken Man. Some of her artwork has been shown at Longview Gallery and MOMA in New York and she has won prizes for her essays and short stories. She takes special pride in having been the first videographer of The Veteran Feminist Dinner, honoring Bella Abzug and plans on using some of that material in a film about consciousness.
IAWRT's Chief UN Representative, Sheila Dallas-Katzman, has been recruited to the CSW59 Planning committee for the second time. She has been the Chair of Cities for CEDAW, leading a task force of over 25 NGO Representatives. Her role is to champion local ordinances for a Women's Bill of Rights Law in New York and neighboring cities based on the CEDAW Convention. Part of her strategy is to create a drafting body and an oversight committee all with a gender analysis component by the end of the year. Already she has been meeting with key women in New York City on the matter, including the First Lady of New York, the Mayor, and the Chair of the Committee on Women's Issues. She has developed a strategy for public outreach. She has been actively promoting IAWRT in the process.

**IAWRT UN ECOSOC REPRESENTATIVES (present)**

Sheila Dallas-Katzman (Main), Leila Doss

**CSW59 BEIJING+20 2015**

The fifty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) will take place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from March 9th to 20th, 2015. Representatives of Member States, UN entities, and ECOSOC – accredited non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from all regions of the world – are expected to attend the session. Over 10,000 women are anticipated. NGOs with ECOSOC and DPI status will be able to register up to 30 participants. Sheila Dallas-Katzman, IAWRT’s Main UN Representative, noted that the Beijing+20 Call for Action campaign is asking all NGOs to focus on one action over the next 12 months. Government contributions grow but not fast enough; The Girl Child; Gender and progress towards the MDGs; Women in Power and Decision-making. A massive campaign has begun in the USA to have 100 mayors adopt local ordinances.
IAWRT-USA Revenue, Expenses, and Net Assets

Year 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014

Operating Revenue by Source
- Seed Money (IAWRT/FOKUS) 0.00 2,857.00 0.00 0.00 0.00
- Dues Payments (Members) 0.00 0.00 525.00 600.00 845.00
- Interest 0.00 0.00 7.78 5.19 0.80
- Co-Sponsorship (events) 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 800.00

Operating Expenses by Destination
- Incorporation (VLA) 90.00 0.00 792.00 0.00 85.00
- Events 0.00 0.00 37.62 0.00 780.00
- Website 22.16 24.16 26.16 20.00 28.16
- Administrative 0.00 11.22 3.80 0.00 36.50
- DPI-NGO Dues 0.00 0.00 202.00 0.00 0.00
- IAWRT International Dues 0.00 0.00 75.00 75.00 0.00

Change in Net Assets (112.16) 2,821.62 (603.80) 510.19 716.14
Beginning-of-Year Net Assets 0.00 (112.16) 2,709.46 2,105.66 2,615.85
End-of-Year Net Assets (112.16) 2,709.46 2,105.66 2,615.85 3,331.99

Note: (i) above chapter financial statements (2010 to 2014) are preliminary and have not been audited by an outside accounting professional. (ii) above financial statements do not include in-kind contributions of professional services.
IAWRT-USA CHAPTER FINANCIALS (Cont'd)

Revenue (by Source)

Seed Money (IAWRT/FOKUS) - 50.6%
Dues Payments - 34.9%
Interest - 0.2%
Co-Sponsorship - 14.2%

Expenditures (by Activity)

Incorporation - 41.9%
Events - 35.4%
Website - 6.5%
Admin - 8.7%
DPI-NGO - 2.2%
Organizational Dues - 5.2%

Note: (i) above chapter financial statements (2010 to 2014) are preliminary and have not been audited by an outside accounting professional. (ii) above financial statements do not include in-kind contributions of professional services.
IAWRT-USA FOUNDING MEMBERS
Arshiya Ahsan, Catherine D. White, Diane Bailey, Dorothy St Jean, Ivy Abraskin, Julia Kawamura, Kelly Matheson, Leila Doss.

IAWRT-USA MEMBERSHIP
As of December, 2014, IAWRT-USA has twenty-eight members. We have 16 paid-up chapter members in 2014, which is above the 50% mark for the first time. After serving her two terms as the Secretary, Ivy Abraskin decided not to run for a third term, and handed over the duties to newly elected Secretary Nancy Cohen.
For membership application form and any other chapter related information, please write to Nancy Cohen at iawrtusa.secretary@gmail.com

IAWRT-USA ANNUAL DUES
Members $75, Associate Members $50, Students $25
Chapter Finances, See pages 15-16
Total Membership Dues (2014) $845: Paid-up Members (based on their chapter board election participation in December, 2014): Arshiya, Diane, Carolyn, Sheila, Nancy, Diana, Julia, Dorothy, Pragya, Leila, Bethann, Michele, Angela, Virginia, Rebecca and Judy.
Chapter Balance as of 01.15.2015: $3400.99
For more information, please write to Diane Bailey at iawrtusa.treasurer@gmail.com

IAWRT-USA INCORPORATION
Our non-profit application is currently being managed (pro bono) by James VanStrander of the Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts (www.vlany.org), New York. After incorporation early this year, we submitted our narrative description to our lawyer’s firm, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom. We were also informed of the new streamlined IRS form 1023 that would help fast track the 501(c)(3) application process for smaller non-profits. We are now in the process of submitting the form. One of the main impediments to chapter fund raising over the years has been our lack of tax-exempt legal status, and hence, this is one of our top priorities going forward. For more information, please write to our focal point for incorporation, Diane Bailey, at iawrtusa.treasurer@gmail.com
IAWRT-USA CHAPTER BOARD MEMBERS (2013 to 2014)

*President: Arshiya Ahsan (ahsanarshiya@yahoo.com)
*Vice President: Sheila Dallas-Katzman (pdallas241@gmail.com)
*Treasurer: Diane Bailey (iawrtusa.treasurer@gmail.com)
*Secretary: Ivy Abraskin (iawrtusa.secretary@gmail.com)
*Members-at-Large: Catherine Dwhite (in fond memory, 1925-2014)
*Members-at-Large: Leila Doss (leila.doss@yahoo.com)
*Member-at-Large: Pragya Ghimire (pragya_ghimire@yahoo.com)
IAWRT-USA is the US Chapter of the International Association of Women in Radio and Television (IAWRT), a volunteer-based non-profit organization working to educate and advocate for the rights of media women in the United States and globally. We are incorporated in the State of New York.

IAWRT-USA Chapter
1485 Fifth Avenue
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USA

For membership and more information, please contact Nancy Cohen, at iawrtusa.secretary@gmail.com.

www.iawrtusa.org