

# **WORKING WOMEN'S HISTORY PROJECT**

## **Never Too Late**

A program and panel discussion on the life and legacy of  
**Ethel Parcy Andrus**



**Helen Ramirez-Odell**  
**Moderator**  
**Panelists**

**Lily Liu**

**Arlene Crandall**  
**Ann Marie Cunningham**

WORKING WOMEN'S HISTORY PROJECT PRESENTS

# Never Too Late

A Glimpse Into the Life and Legacy of Ethel Percy Andrus



**Saturday, October 22, 2016 from 2:00-4:30 pm**

Irish American Heritage Center

4626 North Knox Avenue, Chicago, IL 60630

## **Supporting Organizations**

American Association of University Women, Chicago Branch; Chicago Chapter, Coalition of Labor Union Women; SAG/AFTRA

Sponsored by





## **Program**

2:00 – 2:30 pm

Registration, refreshments, meet and greet

2:30pm

### *Welcome*

Jackie Kirley, Working Women's History Project

Roseanna Marquez, Illinois President of AARP Volunteers

## **Play**

*Never Too Late: A glimpse into the life and legacy of Ethel Percy Andrus* by M.T. Cozzola

## **Panel**

### **Speakers**

**Lily Liu**, Historian and Archivist Emerita of AARP

**Arlene Crandall**, executive director, Retired Teachers Association of Chicago

**Ann Marie Cunningham**, volunteer leader, Jane Addams Senior Caucus

### **Moderator**

**Helen Ramirez-Odell**, vice president for programming, WWHP



**M.T. Cozzola** (playwright) is a Resident Playwright at Chicago Dramatists. Her plays have been produced at The Side Project, 20% Theatre, Step Up, Victory Gardens, and elsewhere. She's delighted to be collaborating with WWHP for the second time. More at [www.mtcozzola.com](http://www.mtcozzola.com).

**Guy Barile\*** (Director) has acted in or directed some 250 shows. He was the original director of the hit musical GREASE and co-founded the Joseph Jefferson awards. He recently did a national commercial for Steak and Shake restaurants.

**Brigid Duffy\*** (Hannah) is on WWHP board, CTU Women's Rights Committee, SAG/AFTRA Seniors Committee, a member of CLUW and NOW. Brigid appears in Chicago theatres including Goodman and Steppenwolf. A retiree of CPS, she won the Golden Apple Award. Brigid has an M.A. in theatre.

**Connie Foster\*** (Ethel) started tap dancing at age five and where/if she stops, nobody knows! Happy to be in the SAG/AFTRA Sr Radio and UNSHACKLED families, she is currently creating a production with four mega-talented partners. Stay tuned!

**Paul Odell** (Grocer) is a retired member of Chicago Teachers Union and CLUW. He has acted in many Working Women's History Project productions and is relieved not to be the villain, for once!

**Alma Washington\*** (Tania) is a member of SAG/AFTRA. An advocate for Women's Rights, she's a member of CLUW, Illinois Labor History Society and Working Women's History Project. She enjoys portraying Historical Women, especially her one-woman show on the life of Lucy Parsons.

## Panelists

**Lily Liu** served as AARP's historian and archivist, as a speechwriter for the Executive Director and the Board of Directors, as the award-winning editor of Inside AARP, and as the Volunteer Resource Education Specialist in the AARP Volunteer Center. Lily co-founded AARP's Asian-American Resource Group, AARP's oldest staff affinity group. Currently she is a family caregiver for her mother.

**Arlene R. Crandall** is the Executive Director of the Retired Teachers Association of Chicago. She is a strong supporter of teacher pensions and health care for retirees. A former teacher, principal, and coordinator of foreign student services, she successfully developed educational funding proposals for various initiatives during her Chicago Public Schools career.

**Ann Marie Cunningham** is a volunteer leader in Jane Addams Senior Caucus and a member of the Healthcare/Economic Justice and Publicity committees. Ann Marie joined the Jane Addams Senior Caucus in 2010 after 35 years in Catholic Education and 20 years as a licensed clinical social worker in behavioral health.

\*Member of Actors' Equity

### **About Ethel Percy Andrus (1884 – 1967)**

Born in San Francisco, Andrus spent her early years in Chicago where her father moved the family in order to study at Northwestern Law School. She earned an undergraduate degree in philosophy at the University of Chicago and began teaching at what is now IIT and volunteering at Jane Addams' Hull House and Chicago Commons. She returned to California in 1910 where she had a distinguished career in public education and became the first female high school principal in California.

After retiring from her position as a Los Angeles high school principal in 1944, she began a second career that ultimately had a far bigger impact on society. She became an activist and organizer on behalf of other retirees and older Americans, fighting to improve their financial security, their health care and other services that they need. In 1947 she founded the National Retired Teachers Association (now part of AARP) and in 1958 she founded AARP. By the time she died in 1967, AARP had a membership of 1 million.

### **About Working Women's History Project**

The Working Women's History Project (WWHP) preserves and promotes the stories of historical and living Chicago women who have made contributions toward achieving justice and equality in the areas of labor, women's, human and civil rights. Its Committee on Child Care has collected the stories of practitioners and parents in order to influence policy makers, change agents, and those who want to improve child care in Chicago.

Learn more at [wwhpchicago.org](http://wwhpchicago.org).

### **About AARP**

AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, social welfare organization with a membership of nearly 38 million that helps people turn their goals and dreams into real possibilities, strengthens communities and fights for the issues that matter most to families — such as health care, employment and income security, and protection from financial abuse.

Learn more at [www.aarp.org](http://www.aarp.org).



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**Connecting today with yesterday • Making women's history come alive**