

## Montclair Womens Club 82 Union Street Montclair NJ 07042 973-744-9552 www.montclairwomensclub.org

## Welcome to the Montclair Women's Club!

We invite you to join (or rejoin) our membership to make 2025-26 the best year yet! Club members embody both continuity and the club's future, following in the footsteps of the women who voted to create the club in 1915 and 14 years later erected the beautiful building where women still gather today for friendship, support, and service. In the upcoming year, let's continue nurturing the club's underlying ethos of *Among Friends*, sharing the sense of community, connection, and fun.

Our membership year runs from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026. Annual dues are \$75, payable by check with the attached form, or by following the QR Code to fill out the electronic form and pay by credit card or by visiting our website at <a href="https://www.montclairwomensclub.org">www.montclairwomensclub.org</a>.

However you pay, please complete the enclosed form with payment by August 20, 2025.

We are thrilled to introduce a new co-president for the upcoming year: Liz Lynch. As Club Archivist since 2016, she has uncovered many long lost stories, some of which have resulted in fascinating programs. More recently, she has served as our recording secretary—and on a related note, please reach out to us if any of you are interested in the recording secretary position. We are also welcoming Susan Helman to the position of Civic and Community Engagement Chair. She has been Correspondence Chair for the last few years, and now she hopes to bring a new energy to our Engagement Committee that creates opportunities to bring us together to make a difference in the lives of people in our community.

The club continues to draw members together to enjoy wide-ranging programs. In the 2024-25 season, these included:

- A popular Antiques Appraisal Day where 60 participants discovered the often-surprising stories behind their treasures;
- Vibrant musical performances, including a phenomenal talent from Montclair State
  University, pianist Youn-Hee Kim, and a holiday concert by the WomenSong chorus;
- A series of panels of mystery writers from Mystery Writers of America whose authors intrigued us with true crime stories and atmospheric cozy mysteries;
- Fascinating personal stories, such as a mother's rise from sharecropping roots to becoming one of the first African Americans in management at a Fortune 500 company, and a woman's journey travelling to Kazakhstan to find her adopted child's birth parents;
- A thoughtful overview by the Publisher of the Montclair Local of the challenges covering our communities in an era of closing newspapers; and
- Walking tours exploring Greenwich Village history as well as the Bonsal Preserve, a local hidden gem.
  - Our community partnerships are going strong. We continue to march with local advocacy group S.O.F.I.A against domestic violence and host a crocheting fundraiser. We host the

Montclair Swap, a long-running community exchange event in Montclair, and our partnership with Montclair Gateway to Aging in Place includes multiple well-attended Tech Questions Days. We also have co-sponsored exciting events at the club with Montclair Women Over 50 and with the women's networking group i. Will.

Step into a tradition that spans over a century and looks with enthusiasm to the future. Please join us and consider getting involved in any of the areas of interest listed in the membership form, or feel free to suggest any interest of your own! Time commitments can be as small or as large as you want. We are as strong as our membership so we welcome back our amazing current members and look forward to new voices. Join us and invite friends to join too! All are welcome!

Save the date to walk with the club in the 15th Annual S.O.F.I.A Walk Against Domestic Violence on Saturday September 20 at Canterbury Park, Montclair starting at 9 am. And watch the email blasts for a September wine and cheese social at the club to gather and learn more about the club!

Melissa Feinberg

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\*The Montclair Women's Club is part of the Liberty District, which is one of many NJ regional divisions under the umbrella of the NJ State Federation of Women's Clubs. There is also a national affiliation.