

FOR YOUR INFORMATION NEWSLETTER FOR BRANCH PRESIDENTS

November 2021 -- corrected



FYI is published following each AAUW Pennsylvania Board meeting (July, October, January, April) to provide branch leadership with the updates and nuts and bolts details for actions and such. It is delivered to the branch President and posted on the state website.

Please share with your board members.

LOOK INSIDE

- New AAUW CEO
- November 11 virtual program
- President Zoom Meeting
- 2022 Member Awards
- Branch donations to AAUW
- Fundraising
- Public Policy update
- NCCWSL
- Student Impact Mini Grants

The Second Quarter

COVID got us – again. The October AAUW Pennsylvania Board meeting was changed from in-person to Zoom because of rising cases in Cumberland County—the hotel location. Our meetings are always productive. And we are used to Zoom. Yet, I really miss the personal interaction and laughing together. As you make meeting/event decisions, please consult the [AAUW Gathering Guidelines](#).

AAUW Pennsylvania board members are busy sustaining the regular business of the affiliate as well as creating and implementing new projects. Jordan Glover, Diversity & Inclusion Chair assembled a state-level committee and providing content via Zoom for branch DEI Chairs and all members to attend. Eva Kaufmann, Sue Johnston, and Paula Tomko, District Coordinators East, Central, West, are providing a program each month in lieu of the

traditional district in-person meeting in the fall or spring. Review all the virtual programs that already occurred AND learn about the November 11 program on page **3**.

In the sustaining regular business category, I will host a President Zoom meeting on **Tuesday, November 30 at 7:30pm**. See page **5** for registration details. Contact me with agenda suggestions. (aauwpresident@gmail.com).

This is a very exciting year for AAUW as it celebrates the 140th anniversary! Please make sure every member of your branch is aware of the special **celebratory virtual event** on **November 17 at 4 p.m.** [Register](#) now. See page **2** for more information.

The Five-Star branch portal is now officially open for the new fiscal year! Presidents, membership VPs, and finance officers, please sign in and begin cataloging your progress towards five stars! If you haven't already, please familiarize yourself with the tweaks made to the criteria or watch the webinar, both of which can be found on the [Five-Star National Recognition Program webpage](#). If you have any questions, please reach out to fivestar@aauw.org.

This is my final year as AAUW Pennsylvania President. See page **9** for information on the extended nomination deadline. While not sharing specifics, Deb Roney, Nomination Chair, reported in the board meeting that having someone accept the President nomination has been difficult. That makes me sad because working at the state level has been very rewarding. The work is different than at the branch, less daily and detail focused and more strategic and systemic.

I am looking forward to working with you to make this a fabulous AAUW year. Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions or concerns or ideas. (aauwpresident@gmail.com or call/text 401-644-6488).

**Ann Pehle
President**

AAUW National

Gloria Blackwell, CEO

Leadership changes in organizations are often difficult – it takes time to find just the right leader and for the organization to adjust. That isn't the case with Kim Churches' resignation as AAUW CEO.

On October 18, 2021, Gloria Blackwell became AAUW's CEO. The [press release](#) highlights her amazing career and seventeen years in senior positions at AAUW. See the [October 21st Mission & Action newsletter](#) (sent to all AAUW members) for additional information.

AAUW Pennsylvania Board looks forward to working with Gloria.



This year AAUW will be celebrating its 140th anniversary, making us one of the oldest feminist-based institutions in the United States. Watch for the launch of a 140th Anniversary webpage.

As a small token of our thanks, AAUW invites all members to a [celebratory virtual event](#) on **November 17 at 4 p.m.** ET to honor our rich past and look ahead to a bright—and equitable—future. We'll share an interview with our distinguished 2021 Alumnae Recognition Awardee, recognize notable AAUW branch and state birthdays, and hear from our board chair Julia Brown and new CEO Gloria L. Blackwell. [Register now](#) and please share with your entire branch membership.

Also, to mark this momentous anniversary, AAUW will be hosting a webinar series featuring some of our most prestigious AAUW fellowships alumnae. The October 27th conversation with 1984-85 American Fellow, Dr. Patricia Bell-Scott was awesome. Watch for the recording [here](#). Her most recent book, [The Firebrand and the First Lady: Portrait of a Friendship: Pauli Murray, Eleanor Roosevelt, and the Struggle for Social Justice](#), won the Lillian Smith Book Award and was named Booklist Best Adult Nonfiction Book of the Year by the American Library Association.

Update Your Branch Materials

Is the [AAUW mission statement](#) accurately presented in your branch materials? The word philanthropy was removed several years ago.

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

Access Membership Matters

Here are a few highlights we'd like to draw your attention to and actions we're hoping you'll take this month:

- Learn how we're celebrating AAUW's 140th birthday and [other affiliate anniversaries](#).
- Read [success stories](#) from the leaders of two branches hitting the century mark, [AAUW Harrisburg \(Pennsylvania\)](#) and AAUW Fort Collins (Colorado).
- Access the latest [news and resources](#), including tips and resources for year-end giving.

AAUW Harrisburg is featured in the [October 21st Mission & Action newsletter](#) (sent to all AAUW members) for their 100th Anniversary. 😊

TAKE ACTION

— **Activist Toolkit: Putting Women at the Center of Crisis Recovery**

Many branches want their mission centered work to focus on the impact of Covid on the economic security of women. Start your quest by reviewing this toolkit -- [Rebuilding for a Stronger Tomorrow](#).

MEMBERSHIP

— **Governance & Tools**

This is a [great resource](#) on the AAUW website for information on a great many topics.

- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Toolkit
- Advocacy Toolkit
- Bylaws Toolkit
- AAUW National Election
- Board and Committees
- Students and Campus Professionals
- AAUW's Diversity Statement

AAUW PENNSYLVANIA

(virtual) PROGRAMS FOR ALL MEMBERS

Building on the success of our [2020 Webinar Series](#), public policy topic deep dives (minimum wage and school funding lawsuit), diversity and inclusion meetings, and the Summer Retreat, the AAUW Pennsylvania Board decided to create more virtual program opportunities for members during FY22.

Programs so far this fiscal year include:

- **Increasing and Retaining Membership It's an all-member project**, Thursday, October 14, Sue Johnston, District Coordinator Central
- **Working Across Generational Divides**, Tuesday, October 26, Jordan Glover, Diversity & Inclusion Chair
- **Implementing a DEI&B Chair in Your Branch**, Tuesday, October 5, Jordan Glover, Diversity & Inclusion Chair
- **Racial Wealth Gap**, Tuesday, September 21, Eva Kaufmann, District Coordinator East
- **Gender Pay Equity and Intimate Partner Violence**, Wednesday, September 28, Barbara Price/Jacqui Rogers, Public Policy Chair

Watch for information in FYI, Keystoner, emails to Presidents, and emails from aauwpainfo@gmail.com with specific topic, date, time, and registration information. **Please make sure the information gets to your members – copy and paste into your newsletters and member emails.**

Mark Your Calendar for Our November Webinar!

Thursday, November 11th at 7:00 PM

Melissa Ingram, Chair AAUW Inclusion and Equity Committee, will be our featured speaker.

Melissa earned her PhD in curriculum and instruction from Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas. Prior to that, Dr. Ingram completed her bachelor's degree in chemistry from Hawaii Pacific University, in Honolulu, HI, and master's degree in chemistry from University of Dayton, Dayton, OH. She currently serves as the Department Director, Theories and Principles of Adult Learning, Squadron Officer School at Air University, Maxwell Air Force Base, AL.

Dr. Ingram will provide updates on what the national committee is working on will provide updates on what the national committee is working on, the four goals of the committee, and how they changed from last year to this year. Melissa would also like to have an open forum and feedback session and to learn what you need to help with AAUW's DEI goals. She will also highlight the DEI toolkit and provide some suggestions of books that club book groups can read and discuss.

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYkdOypqzqGtackqxiDq6jczWtdXF1HpBB>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

This program is organized by Paula Tomko, District Coordinator West. Please contact her with questions.
aauwpawest@gmail.com

Next Keystoner – December 2021

Watch for:

- AAUW Pennsylvania election information
- AAUW Pennsylvania Public policy priorities comment period
- AAUW Pennsylvania (in-person) State Convention preview-- June 3-5

AAUW Funds

Deb Roney (Huntingdon), AAUW Funds Chair

Branch Donations to AAUW

AAUW National and AAUW PA are very grateful to the loyal and new donors to AAUW Funds.

As we enter the seasons of Thanksgiving and the various December holidays, each branch is encouraged to make a donation to the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund (#9110) before year's end.

Remember that, if you are working toward the Advancement Star, you need to meet three of the five eligibility criteria, four of which relate to branch donations:

- Raise \$30 per member towards the Greatest Needs Fund
- Increase contributions to the Greatest Needs Fund by 25% from the last fiscal year (if you don't know what your branch target for this is, contact Deb Roney aauwpaauwfunds@gmail.com)
- Increase the Legacy Circle members in your branch by 10%
- Make a contribution in honor of AAUW's 140th anniversary to the Greatest Needs Fund.
- Retain at least 90% of your branch membership.

Thank you for your support of the AAUW mission!

Logo Merchandise Available

AAUW-PA has collaborated with Lands' End to offer a storefront linked to the AAUW-PA website. You can shop many of Lands' End regular products for men, women, home, office, and more and get the logo added for a small fee. Then they will ship it to you.



AAUW-PA will not make any money from your purchases, nor will any money go to AAUW Funds. This is purely a service to our

members. In addition, Lands' End is giving each of us a discount on our first order—adding the logo for free and providing free shipping. To get this special deal, use this code: MTFLEF52. Here's the link:

<https://business.landsend.com/store/aauw/>

Enjoy, and please share this information with your branch members.

Branch Fundraising

Recently, a member raised an important question about branch fundraising and its allowed purposes.

The key document to reference for any such questions is "AAUW Fundraising Policy 501 with Guidelines." You can find it [here](#).

After diving into that document and having spoken with Tremayne Parquet, our very helpful contact at National, I thought it would be helpful for all branches to be reminded of the following information related to fundraising (the Guideline numbers referenced in parentheses are from the "AAUW Fundraising Policy 501 with Guidelines" linked above):

1. Branches must follow IRS guidelines (Guideline G3, G37, G38).
2. Fundraising events are regulated by the IRS and by many states, including PA. Be sure to follow federal and state law (Guideline Section H and Guideline G47).
3. Fundraising may NOT be done for other organizations (Guideline G6).
4. Fundraising can be done for any AAUW purpose (Guideline G8): AAUW Greatest Needs Fund (most desirable), other AAUW funds, local scholarships, local programs, and branch operations.
5. Branches **must be clear in advance** about what any money they are raising will be used for so that participants can choose whether to support that purpose (Guidelines G7, G8, G9, G12).
6. Branches must be clear about whether donations or percentages of purchases (total amount less the value of the item) are tax deductible (Guideline G7). Most branches are 501(c)(4) organizations, so donations made to branch operating funds, local programs, and branch scholarships are NOT deductible.
7. All donations made to a branch must be used in accordance with the donor's wishes. If a donor wants to support branch operations, the money must be used for that; likewise, if the donor wants to support a local scholarship or any of the national funds, the money must be used for that purpose.
8. Further information can be found here, especially in the linked 501 Fundraising Policy Guidelines (attached here) and the 501 Fundraising Policy FAQ documents: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/state-branch/fundraising-policies-what-members-need-to-know/>

Let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you, your branches, and your branch members for your generosity!

Public Policy UPDATE

Barbara Price (Lower Bucks) and Jacqui Rogers (Doylestown)
Public Policy Chairs

Advocating for Equal Pay in Pennsylvania

The Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence received a grant from the CDC to look at risk factors for Intimate Partner Violence (IPV). They have just published a [report](#) that found pay inequity impacts these risk factors which increases the likelihood that violence can and will occur among individuals or within relationships, communities, and society. They relied heavily on AAUW's Simple Truth pay equity research. Addressing these shared risk factors becomes essential in reducing the gender wage gap and the risks of IPV.

We are forming a coalition with the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence to advocate for equal pay legislation in Pennsylvania. We know there are many legislators in Harrisburg who are allies of PCADV and we would like to discuss equal pay with them. We are now exploring ways to work together to advocate for equal pay.

Do you have expertise in the field of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)? In your relationship with your Pennsylvania Senator and/or Representative, are you aware of their position on domestic violence? For example, did their October monthly newsletter to constituents include an acknowledgment that October was Domestic Violence Awareness month? Please contact Barbara Price (aauwpapp1@gmail.com) or Jacqui Rogers (aauwpapp2@gmail.com) to share your knowledge and expertise.

K-12 School Funding



This is an historic day in Pennsylvania! The lawsuit filed in 2014 to challenge the constitutionality of Pennsylvania's state budget funding process is finally being heard in Commonwealth Court in Harrisburg on November 12th.

AAUW Pennsylvania and many Pennsylvania branches have consistently supported and advocated for fair funding of Pennsylvania public schools. Watch the live stream and/or stay current with the proceedings at this website: <https://www.fundourschoolspa.org/trial>. [Fund Our Schools PA](#) is the primary trial site. Get [information on the lawsuit](#) and watch a [video](#).



Another reliable source for information, data, tools, is [PA Schools Work](#). Their resources are outstanding. Here are some resources that will be helpful in your ongoing advocacy for public schools:

- [School District Fact Sheets](#)
- [Comprehensive Advocacy Toolkit](#)
- [Special Education Funding Factsheet](#)
- [Career and Technical Education Funding Factsheet](#)
- ["Fast Facts" PDF](#)
- [PA Schools Work One Pager](#)

Understanding AAUW Pennsylvania public policy advocacy

Ann Pehle, AAUW Pennsylvania President spoke at the Fox Chapel Area October branch meeting. She was asked to discuss AAUW Pennsylvania public policy advocacy. We thought the presentation is worth sharing with a broader audience.

[Presentation](#)
[Supplement](#)

College/University

Peggy Schmiedecke (North Hills Pittsburgh)
College/University Liaison

National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)

AAUW Pennsylvania is proud to offer opportunities for leadership development for university and college women in Pennsylvania through grants to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders ([NCCWSL](#)). This is a wonderful opportunity for hundreds of college women to gather for three days of leadership training, inspiration and networking. Participants enter the conference as a passionate leader and leave it with the skills and confidence to pursue their goals.

While AAUW is still planning the event and dates for the 2022 conference, AAUW Pennsylvania committed to awarding four NCCWSL grants for 2022. To add more grants, AAUW Pennsylvania is offering the option for branches to support NCCWSL grant recipients through donations to the state affiliate. You can send your funds to AAUW Pennsylvania in increments of \$500 and the state will use these funds to support a Pennsylvania student through our application process. If you choose this option, your branch will not get credit as a branch from national for a donation to NCCWSL, as the funds will go from the state to the student directly and not through national AAUW. Funds need to be received by the state no later than February 23, 2022.

Branches may also individually provide a Branch NCCWSL grant. If you need tips on how to create a rubric for reviewing applications, please contact Peggy Schmiedecke. If your branch does this, please report it to state C/U Liaison Peggy Schmiedecke aauwpacu@gmail.com for record keeping purposes.

Student Impact Mini-Grant

This inaugural year (2021-2022) of the Student Impact Mini-Grant program was very successful. We awarded the following grants to undergraduate students to start or continue an advocacy project locally.

- Grant Recipient: Molly Harris, (she/her/hers), Juniata College '21, AAUW Treasurer
Project: Juniata College AAUW Student Organization partnered with the Office for the Prevention of Interpersonal Violence to show Iron Jawed Angels film in honor of women's suffrage during Women's History Month. Following the film, they had a discussion to debrief and had an open conversation about the problems that they still see today. There were 22 audience members, and they all expressed that the film made them reflect and appreciate the history of the women's suffrage movement. Funds covered public screening rights - \$350
- Grant Recipient: Efstratia Pauley "Tia", University Pitt '24- main campus, Year: Freshman, Major: Biology pre-med track. Mentor for Summer Research Institute (SRI) Organization at Albright College. Some of Tia's responsibilities include mentoring students in grades 5-12.
Project: University of Pitt student who will be volunteering at the summer Science Research Institute (SRI) STEM program at Albright College requested funds to translate summer 2021 program and marketing materials into Spanish for English Second Language (ESL) learners. - \$500

Building in this success, AAUW Pennsylvania is happy to be able to continue the Student Mini-Grant Program for this fiscal year. As you work with students in your community, please share information about these grants.

The Student Impact Mini-Grant application deadline is February 1, 2022, and grants will be awarded on a first come, first serve bases. Applications will be reviewed on an ongoing basis. The grant application selected will be eligible to receive a grant up to \$300. Go [here](#) for information, ideas, resources, and the application.

If you have any questions, please let me hear you Peggy Schmiedecke, AAUW-PA College/University Liaison (aauwpacu@gailw.com).

Membership Bits and Pieces

Randi L. Blauth (Easton), Membership VP

Do you have a favorite way to entice a potential member to join AAUW? What do you say that is both catchy and meaningful? AAUW PA will soon launch a contest for great member recruitment slogans to be used by branches across the state. Information on the contest coming soon!

I hear through the grapevine that our new MSD is almost ready. However, that's all I know right now, so let's keep watch. I'll be in touch when I have more information.

Please remember that your branch rosters will lose all members who haven't renewed by November 30.

And, on behalf of the entire AAUW PA BOD I'm sad to say goodbye to two branches: Clearfield and California. Both branches were formed in 1972 and have had a wonderful history of sharing the AAUW mission.



With many retail stores vanishing, you may think this AAUW perk isn't valuable to you. On the contrary, you can shop online and receive the discounts. Have those print jobs sent directly to your house. Go to <https://officediscounts.org/aauw/> and click on Shop Online to get started.

AAUW Pennsylvania Nominating Committee

Deb Roney (Huntingdon), Chair
Kathy Quinn (Makefield Area), East District
Cathy Wieland (Lebanon Valley), Central District
Linda Tozier (North Hills Pittsburgh), West District

Alternates:

Pat Markowski (Carlisle), Central District
Loretta Seigley (Erie), West District

Call for Nominations Extended Deadline

Deb Roney (Huntingdon), Chair

AAUW PA is seeking a person or persons committed to the mission and vision of AAUW to stand for election as our next state president or co-presidents. The president is responsible for directing, coordinating, and overseeing the work of the state, including running four state board meetings each year. Serving as state president is rewarding.

The state board meets four times annually: in July, October, January, and April (at the State Convention or Annual Meeting). The January meeting is typically held on Zoom or by conference call. Other meetings will be in person or virtual, as conditions warrant. Board expenses related to the position and for attendance at meetings are reimbursed by AAUW-PA.

We know that women tend to be more reluctant to run for office than men, even when they are just as or even more qualified. If you think you might be qualified, you probably are!

- *Are YOU that person?* If so, nominate yourself. You do not need to be invited. Consider this your encouragement to run. At least contact Deb Roney, the Nominations and Elections Committee Chair, to discuss the possibility.
- *Would you consider running as a co-president?* If so, contact Deb Roney. If you know someone you would prefer to partner with, that's great. If not, we will find you someone. I served as a co-president from 2008-10; it was a rewarding experience and one I could manage while working because my co-president, Kate Sweeney, and I drew on our different personal strengths and divided the work accordingly.
- *Do you know someone who would be good?* If so, please personally urge them to submit the Candidate Nomination form.

The Candidate Nomination form and additional information can be found at <https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/about/nominations/>.

aauwpanominations@gmail.com with questions or information about the candidate.

Submission deadline: **November 20, 2021**

Have a question?

Branch Handbook has the answer.

<https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/aauw-pa-branch-handbook/>

Governance Resources

There are four documents that AAUW Pennsylvania and its branches are bound and guided by. Make sure you are familiar with them. (<https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/governance/>)

AAUW Board of Directors Policy Book
AAUW Pennsylvania Bylaws
AAUW-PA Board Handbook
AAUW-PA Policy Manual

SIGNIFICANT BRANCH ANNIVERSARIES

July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

Congratulations!

AAUW Pennsylvania Board members are available to attend your celebration event.

Murrysville Area	July 15, 1971	50 years
Huntingdon	October 12, 1926	95 years
Lebanon Valley	January 18, 1937	85 years
York	April 1, 1972	50 years

AAUW Pennsylvania Board

President	Ann Pehle (Carlisle) aauwpa.president@gmail.com
Program VP	Lee Wolfe (Lansdale) aauwpapvp@gmail.com
Membership VP	Randi Blauth (Easton) aauwpamembership@gmail.com
Secretary	Ajla Glavasevic Laussegger aauwpasecretary@gmail.com
Finance Officer	Ann Echols (State College) aauwpafinance@gmail.com
AAUW Funds Chair	Deb Roney (Huntington) aauwpaaauwfunds@gmail.com
Administrative Director	Pat Byerly (Pittsburgh) aauwpaad@gmail.com
Bylaws Chair	OPEN
College/University Liaison	Peggy Schmiedecke (North Hills Pittsburgh) aauwpacu@gmail.com
District Coordinator (East)	Eva Kaufmann (West Chester/Chester County) aauwpaeast@gmail.com
District Coordinator (Central)	Sue Johnston (State College) aauwpacentral@gmail.com
District Coordinator (West)	Paula Tomko (Johnstown) aauwpawest@gmail.com
Diversity and Inclusion Chair	Jordan Glover (State College) aauwpadiversity@gmail.com
KEYSTONER Editor	Peggy Jennings (Carlisle) aauwpakeystoner@gmail.com
Public Policy Chair	Barbara Price (Lower Bucks) aauwpapp1@gmail.com
Public Policy Chair	Jacqui Rogers (Doylestown) aauwpapp2@gmail.com
Convention Coordinator	Barb Zaborowski (Johnstown) aauwpaconfcoord@gmail.com
Convention Registrar	To be filled in 2021
Archives Chair (off Board)	Linda Robbins (Allentown) aauwpaarchives@gmail.com

AAUW Pennsylvania Board Meetings

July 18 & August 2, 2021	Zoom
October 16, 2021	Harrisburg
January TBD, 2022	Zoom
April TBD, 2022	TBD
July TBD, 2022	TBD



FYI is written (unless otherwise noted) and edited by Ann Pehle, President. Published after every AAUW Pennsylvania Board meeting.
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