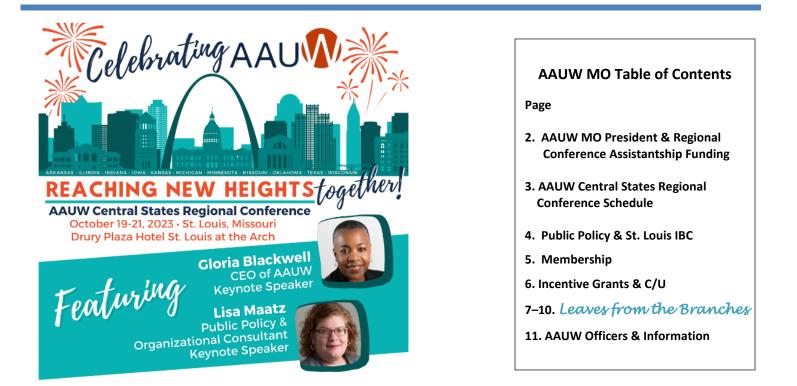


# Missouri in Motion

Our Mission: AAUW advances gender equity for women and girls through research, advocacy, and education. Our Vision: Equality for all.





## 'Celebrating AAUW: Reaching New Heights Together!'

We invite you to "Meet Me in St. Louis" on October 19-21, 2023 (Thursday noon to Saturday noon) for our face-to-face REGIONAL conference! Members from eleven states\* are joining us for a very special time of AAUW sharing, networking, celebrating, learning and visioning!

You'll hear exciting speakers from AAUW national, be enlightened by regional and local presenters, and take away tons of new ideas from the Swap Shop sessions where branches from the eleven states share great ideas that work. We are proud that Missouri is presenting several of the Swap Shops. See the entire schedule on page 3 and register NOW! Early Bird registration is \$200 for all conference fees and Friday conference meals (deadline Sept 16– \$225 after that date). Some financial assistance is available, see page 2 for details.

The Drury Plaza Hotel St. Louis at the Arch (Druryhotels.com) provides a free breakfast each day and the 'kick-back' snacks/drinks each evening. Visit the AAUW MO website (aauw-mo.aauw.net) for all conference forms, costs, and the AAUW code for the hotel's best rates (deadline Sept 16). Don't be left out! Let's reach new heights TOGETHER!

\*Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas, and Wisconsin

## From AAUW MO President Karen Francis

AAUW of Missouri is going to have a great year because of each of you and what you do at your branch and for the state. I hope you have made your reservation to attend the Central States Regional Conference to occur in St. Louis, October 19–21, 2023, hosted by AAUW MO. There is something for everyone: education, networking, fun, and good food. Why am I EXCITED about the regional conference?

- 1. Being with engaged AAUW members from 11 states,
- 2. Having AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell at the conference,
- 3. Hearing from Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer, Illinois Judicial branch, Deanie Brown and,
- 4. Learning from **Sheritta Stokes**, vice-president of the **1619 Freedom School Project**, about the literacy-based after school program.

As an AAUW MO member, you should be proud of the leadership of AAUW members from across the state to make this regional conference a reality. We have not had an in-person regional or national conference since June 2017. Complete information is on our website, <u>aauw-mo.aauw.net</u>.

In my spring article for this publication, I wrote about how critical each of you is to AAUW 's growth. You inspire others to join and to support the AAUW Vision of Equity for All. To accomplish this, we must always include the "ask." Therefore, here are mine:

What is the value of being an AAUW member?

- What are you, as an individual, looking forward to this year? For your branch? From the state? From National? Your branch presidents and state board have already responded to these "asks."
- 2. How are you going to help make this happen?? Think BIG and Outside the Box. This thought resonates with me: "You can't start the next chapter of your life if you keep reading the last one."
- 3. My last ask, for now, is when can I come visit or make a return visit to your branch to share, listen, discuss your responses to these "asks" and how to make it happen?

AAUW MO has much to be proud of—the programs offered to members; increased participation on statewide committees; increased number of branches earning the 10–Star Award; outstanding leadership at the branch and state level; having four members serving on national committees, and of course YOU!

I am proud to be your state president and hope I'm meeting your expectations. I look forward to seeing many members when you "MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS" in October. As always, please feel free to contact me if you have questions or concerns. I'm here to serve you, AAUW MO members.

## Assistantships for Regional Conference

AAUW MO is proud to host the 2023 Central States Regional Conference and wants Missouri branches to be there in strong numbers to greet our guests. To assist, each branch in Missouri is being offered funds to share with their members to help with registration costs.

Branches with 34 or fewer members receive \$400, branches 35–59 receive \$600, and branches of 60+ members receive \$800. The branches will determine if attendees receive a full \$200 or a partial \$100 in assistance.

Please see your branch president if you wish to attend the conference and would like to apply for this assistance program. The application form is on the AAUW MO website, <u>aauw-mo.aauw.net</u>. The deadline for applying is September 10, 2023. See you in St. Louis!





## AAUW Central States Regional Conference October 19-21, 2023 St. Louis, MO

**Tentative Conference Program Schedule** 

#### Thursday, October 19, 2023

- 1:00 Conference Begins; Welcome; Overview
- 1:30 KEYNOTE: Challenges Facing Member-Driven Organizations, Lisa Maatz, Gender Equity Expert, Indep. Consultant
- 2:30 Women's Health and Reproductive Rights, Yamelsie Rodriguez, CEO Planned Parenthood, St. Louis Region
- 3:15 EITHER: A) Public Policy Strengthening Advocacy: Working Across Generational Lines Lisa Maatz, Gender Equity Expert, Independent Consultant
  - B) Unconscious Assumptions and Implicit Bias: We All Have Them Now What Do We Do with Them? Deanie Brown, attorney, Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer, Illinois Judicial Branch (via Zoom)
- 4:15 **SWAP SHOPS** (Branch Sharing)
- 5:30 Informal Dinner via Drury Kick Back buffet Performance: HERstory - Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Sojourner Truth Taste of St. Louis Treats

#### FRIDAY, October 20, 2023

- 8:30 KEYNOTE: This is Your AAUW, Gloria Blackwell, AAUW CEO (in person)
- 9:25 SWAP SHOPS (Branch Sharing)
- 10:30 Town Hall with Gloria Blackwell (Q&A session with attendees)
- 11:10 It's Complicated: The Causes and Consequences of the Gender Pay Gap, Karen Kedrowski, Director of Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics; Iowa State University
- 12:00 Lunch and Panel of National AAUW Board Members
- Membership and the Degree Requirement Vote in 2024; and Leadership and Succession Planning–Board Members
  TRENDING TOPICS Attend one of the four.
- Intersectionality: LGBTQ+ Issues/Gender Isn't Binary, TransParent-Susah Hallah, Pres.; AAUW Megan Kissell,
  - Senior Public Policy Director

Censure, Cancellations & Book Bannings – Colleen Norman, Intellectual Freedom Committee, MO Library Association On Tribal Lands– Donna Becker, Program VP, AAUW KS; Native American Advocate Gen Z Voting Issues and Public Safety–Rachel Gonzales, Social Justice Activist

- 2:35 TRENDING TOPICS Attend one of the four
  - Ending Period Poverty; the Pink Tax Janai Harris, Director, More Chances, Period (AR)
    Title IX in a Changing Landscape Megan Kissell, AAUW Senior Public Policy Director
    Improving Maternal and Infant Outcomes in America—Zenobia Jones, Exec. Director, Arkansas Birthing Project
    Gen Z to Millennials: Issues & Advocacy–Lincoln University Students (MO) and Rachel Gonzales, Social Justice Activist
- 3:40 **SWAP SHOPS** (Branch Sharing)
- 4:40 AAUW Fund What's in It For ME? Fundraising Basics! Sue Barley and Diane B. Ludwig, AAUW Fund Enthusiasts!
- 6:45 Legacy Circle Recognitions
- 7:00 Conference Dinner; **AAUW of the Future** Panel of National AAUW Committee Members

#### SATURDAY, October 21, 2023

- 8:45 **1619 Freedom School Project,** Sheritta Stokes, VP of Freedom School Project and Co-Director of Curriculum, "Liberation through Literacy," Waterloo, Iowa
- 10:00 SWAP SHOPS (Branch Sharing)
- 10:30 Voting Rights and Challenges, Denise Lieberman, Director and Legal Counsel of MO Voter Protection Coalition
- 11:15 Lessons Learned and Great Ideas to Take Home
- Noon Conference Ends

Mixed in will be FUN breaks, Inclusion-Infusions, displays, and LOTS of networking opportunities!

#### The Missouri Website has Information and Forms: aauw-mo.aauw.net

Questions? Contact: Karen Francis, MO State President: karenbitzafrancis@yahoo.com or 314-223-4235

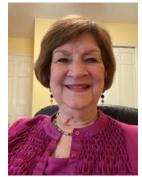




## Congratulations to AAUW MO members on National Committees



Susan Barley Advancement Committee and Legacy Circle



Sue Shineman Governance Committee



Alice Kitchens Public Policy Committee



Luna Mukherjee Equity and Inclusion Committee Photo not available

## **AAUW Public Policy Summer Report**

#### AAUW MO Public Policy Chair Alice Kitchens

Public Policy Committee advocacy efforts worked to prevent Missouri's **Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft's** proposed regulatory rule. This proposal would eliminate state funding to libraries that failed to comply with the bill's recommended restrictions. Committee members sent letters to the Secretary's office, and **Ann Schultis** kept us informed throughout the process. Working with advocates across the state, we made a difference because of the volume of our letters.

The committee continued work at the local level on our Education and Advocacy Initiatives: salary history ban, paid leave, pay equity, gender study, Title IX, and voter outreach. We followed the Missouri Legislature's egregious actions to endanger the lives of families with transgender youth and believe under Title IX such actions will violate the law and spirit of the federal legislation.

Reproductive rights have been a part of our advocacy. **Rabbi Dou Alpert**, plaintiff in the lawsuit filed by Americans United for Separation of Church and State, along with the Women's Law Center, spoke at our July meeting and shared the status of both this lawsuit and the proposed Citizen Ballot Initiative on the Abortion Ban Elimination. Also in July, **Senator Tracy McCreery**, 24<sup>th</sup> District, St. Louis, shared her perspectives on the actions of the 2023 Legislative Session. **McCreery** warned that many of the challenging issues faced this year will return next year with a vengeance.

## **AAUW Fellowships**

## and Grants

Apply August 1 through November 15.



## Membership VP AAUW Missouri

Membership Vice-President Susie Watson Membership Events that Work



AAUW was founded in 1881 to open doors for career advancement, and 142 years later we continue that advocacy for women. There is much to accomplish with pay equity, ERA, women's health care, Title IX, and STEM. AAUW MO branches provide inspiring programs to empower women and build a brighter future.

The National AAUW **Shape the Future Campaign** awards three free National memberships from the previous year's membership drive. Those first new members would be able to take advantage of joining your branch and pay only state and branch dues.

We need your action and aid to increase our membership. Invite your friends to AAUW meetings and events. Become involved in an action activity that will embrace community teachers, women-owned businesses, and church friends.

- 'Woman' a table at a local library and share AAUW bookmarks listing your branch's meeting dates, programs, Interest Group activities, and book group lists for the year.
- Plan a date and time for a New Year Party in August. Invite NEW friends to join during this membership party. Also, collect dues for members attending that evening. Members bring an appetizer or drink.
- Have a fun activity such as Trivia, eg., name the Woman Who Did This! (Such as the first female aviator to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean.) Pick 20 others and work in teams of three to four.
- Show a PowerPoint about AAUW national committees: Public Policy; Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, STEM; College/University Partners; Work Smart; AAUW Fund Fellowships and Grants.
- Picture yourself as an AAUW Member with a variety of studious poses (hats, glasses, and clipboard). Post in your next newsletter.
- Plan a New Member Meet & Greet at a restaurant happy hour, so working women can attend.
- Provide nametags.
- Email invitations to STEM teachers and local college faculty. Include summer events. Many community teachers have time off then.
- Hold a casual Coffee Shop event in the fall where branch members talk about their AAUW experiences.

#### Keep the membership ball in the AIR! Membership is a vital part of our AAUW future.

## AAUW Missouri Board Meets 2022–23 Fund Raising Goal

For the third straight year, AAUW Missouri board members met their 100 percent participation goal in giving to the AAUW Fund in 2022–23.

All 22 elected officers, appointed officers, and committee chairs made a gift to support AAUW National in their term of office. Total giving was \$9,391.

## AAUW of Missouri Incentive Grants Chair Pam Kulp

Incentive Grants are funds awarded to any Missouri branch for projects that support the mission of AAUW and /or provide opportunities for women and girls to achieve their full potential. Ideas may be endless; examples are:

STEM projects or awards for middle and high school girls, C/U Projects reaching college women, a special speaker for a branch meeting, bookmarks to highlight your branch or AAUW MO.

Grant requests are considered year-round. The state board encourages projects to reach as many females as possible. Grants can be applied for under two areas:

- A. Peg Witt Grant (total funds of \$450 awarded annually; typical grant requests are \$50–\$150).
- B. AAUW MO Reserve (total funds of \$750 awarded annually; typical grant requests are \$100–\$250).

### College/University Relations Committee C/U Relations Chair Debra McArthur

The C/U committee has had a busy summer getting ready for a new year of campus events. To prepare, the committee held two workshops to create AAUW displays on college campuses. We now have ten displays in different areas of the state, ready to help us tell college students about AAUW.



AAUW members make signs for upcoming campus visits state-wide.

Our first campus event of the year took place on August 1 at Kansas City Kansas Community College, a school served by the KC Interbranch Council. Sixteen students enrolled, and two staff members asked for information about joining AAUW. In the next few weeks, we have 10 more events scheduled at schools across the state.

Our committee's emphasis this year is to follow up with students and campus personnel to facilitate the formation of AAUW student groups. Our on-campus activity helps partner schools see the value in renewing their membership and helps us demonstrate the appeal of AAUW to potential member schools.



Campus Event at Kansas City Kansas Community College

# Leaves from the Branches

**The St. Charles Branch** has awarded local scholarships since 1938. This spring 38 applications from St. Charles County high school senior women were evaluated by the committee. In May, **Alyssa Corbett** from Francis Howell High School and **Arthi Kondapaneni** from Liberty High School in Wentzville received certificates from Chairperson **Rose Ann Weeks**. Alyssa's UCLA sweatshirt from her grandma had arrived that afternoon. Arthi will attend UC-Berkley in the fall. Alyssa was also a recipient of the Science Award presented in March.





Committee: Joyce Rothermich, Teri Brecht, Alyssa Corbett, Arthi Kondapaneni, Rose Ann Weeks, Barb Olive, Linda Dencker. Not pictured, Jo Ann Viewig.

Honorees Alyssa Corbett and Arthi Kondapaneni

Change is in the air for the **Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch**! We are rethinking and retooling to reflect on the changes brought to our branch after the pandemic. The first item of business was to move board meetings to the West County EMS & Fire Protection District Station 1, which is free to residents of Manchester. Since several of our members are residents, we qualify.

The B-C annual summer picnic was held on July 13 at our current venue, the Ballwin Golf Course Event Center. Everyone enjoyed the potluck luncheon and the opportunity to socialize and sign up for committees and interest groups.

Many B-C members are assisting with the setup of the Regional Conference to take place in our backyard. The committee doing the background work has done a fabulous job of organization, and we look forward to meeting at the Drury in October. If you're planning to attend, look for the women wearing sashes that say AAUW for assistance. It's going to be a wonderful event.

We resume our outstanding mission-based speaker series with the October branch meeting:

- October 12 with No Sister Left Behind: Changing Lives and Sewing Hope into the Hearts and Minds of Formerly Incarcerated Women, Kacie Starr Long, Founder of Sew Hope.
- November 9 features Women in the Economy: An Undeveloped Powerhouse, Ana Kent, Federal Reserve Bank.

#### 2023 AAUW MO Upcoming Events aauw-mo.aauw.net

#### August

1 Application Opens for AAUW Fellowships/Grants 26 Women's Equality Day

#### October

11 Eleanor Roosevelt Birthday 19–21 Central States Regional Conference in St. Louis

#### November

- 4 AAUW MO Board Meeting via Zoom 7 Election Day
- 15 Deadline for AAUW Fellowships/Grants
- 17 AAUW 142 Anniversary
- 18 Deadline for *Missouri in Motion* articles

KWG continues selling pecans in support of its projects, which include awarding three \$500 STEM scholarships to high school girls and creating yard signs for awareness of voting issues. Pecans will be sold at Pecanapalooza in Ste.

Genevieve November 4 and the Affton Craft Fair

# Leaves from the Branches

**The Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch** celebrated the year's achievements at a luncheon on June 2, catered by The Blue Duck Restaurant. Officers were elected and plans for 2023–24 discussed.

November 11.

more information.

The latest yard sign, "Your Vote

Is Your Voice," is still available for sale. Contact the Branch for



KWG Branch's VOTE yard sign at Kirkwood City Hall as part of a demonstration for women's right to choose.

# St. Louis IBC CU Partners Taskforce & NCCWSL Scholarships

**Ellen Irons and Pat Shores** 

The Metro St. Louis Interbranch Council is excited that the five St. Louis area branches are working to strengthen relationships with area colleges. Since the taskforce was launched in January 2023, we assisted in the successful renewal of five area colleges. Goals for 2023–24 are to work with individual schools to hold tabling events, to create relationships with faculty and staff, and to find multiple ways to work together. Once students join AAUW, we hope to assist colleges to form their own student organizations. The taskforce also supports St. Louis IBC in finding and selecting candidates for the annual NCCWSL scholarships.



In 2023, IBC gave a NCCWSL scholarship to **Eve Cohen** from Webster University, who stated that she had a wonderful experience. In addition, the Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch provides support to send two women to NCCWSL. The B-C recipients were (at left) **Shayla Pham** and **Feleesia Cunningham**. "Impactful" and "exceeded my expectations" were two phrases from their written comments. At the **Canton Branch**, we end the school year by awarding certificates and a check to the best freshman and sophomore high school students who write essays on significant women in history. This year all three winners, best 9th, best 10th, and best overall essays were written by women. The essays, without names on them, are judged by college professors.

YOUR VOT

Election

The VOTE yard sign

Information

IS YOUR

VOICE

**BE HEARD.** 

Vote411.org

Women's History month was very busy with cooperative activities co-sponsored on campus by the Women of Promise student club. We sponsored documentaries, panel discussions, and guest speakers on a range of topics including Title IX, Gender Pay Equality, and building networks and finding mentors. All were well attended.

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# Leaves from the Branches

**The KC Northland and Parkville Branches** had a wonderful evening at our Happy Hour event at Trezo Mare restaurant on June 8. We celebrated our branches' 10–Star Achievements from last year and recognized our incoming officers. Best of all, each branch awarded our free national memberships earned through the Shape the Future Program last year. We welcomed six new members--three to each of our branches!



On July 31, our branches celebrated our new program year with snacks, tiaras, games, and New Year's decorations. We gave new member orientation and members signed up for committees. We had a great turnout, and two new members took advantage of the Shape the Future program at that event and joined the KC Northland Branch!



On July 19, 2023, the women of the **Independence Branch** gathered to celebrate the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Seneca Falls convention. On that date in 1848, the women of Seneca Falls, New York, including Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott, challenged America to social revolution with a list of demands that touched every aspect of life—property rights, employment, education, divorce and custody laws, and social freedoms.

AAUW members invited prospective new members, and a delicious brunch was served. Members of the Independence Branch took this opportunity to share the mission and vision of AAUW. Planned programs and events for the coming year were also highlighted. Our guests were very interested and asked many questions about AAUW. This was a successful event to help celebrate past achievements of the women's rights movement and to help promote the continued efforts of AAUW to advance gender equity for women and girls through advocacy and education.



Independence Branch President Karol Palmer at Seneca Falls, NY





Independence president Karol Palmer (center), members, and guests enjoy brunch at prospective new member event in July.

# Leaves from the Branches

The St. Louis Branch reports that our annual meeting was held Sunday, May 21, at the home of Linda

**Lindsay**. We enjoyed a delicious potluck lunch and socializing. A special celebration, with a program and gifts, was held for **Carol Davis McDonald's 50th anniversary** of joining AAUW. Eleven members and one guest attended.

Our monthly Movie Club has also continued with discussion on Summerland, Descendant, and The Woman King.



**Carol Davis McDonald** 

Ellen Irons was reelected president for the two-year term of July 1, 2023–June 30, 2025.

Kathleen Farrell, Candy Low, Sally McGowan

**The Boonville Branch** will kick off the new year on September 7 with the traditional salad supper. Meeting topics for the year will include banned books, global warming, and equal pay.

The branch awarded certificates of achievement in STEM to three junior high school girls at Boonville Public Schools. The school's STEM faculty determined the awardees who were recognized at the 2022–23 year-end assembly. The awardees were sixth grader **Amelia Morrison**, seventh grader **Emmah Franklin**, and eighth grader **Kameryn Sosa**. The branch hopes to expand and explore other opportunities to support girls in STEM activities in the upcoming year.

The Boonville Branch expresses appreciation to the **St. Charles Branch** and **Pam Kulp** for the mentoring on the project.



**Amelia Morrison** 



Emmah Franklin



Kameryn Sosa

## AAUW MO State Board 2023–24 To contact a state officer, go to <u>https://aauw-mo.aauw.net/contact-us/</u>

President	Program-Co VP	Program-Co VP	Public Policy Chair
Karen Francis	Directory, Star Award	Su Bacon	Alice Kitchens
Ballwin-Chesterfield	Diane Ludwig	Parkville	Kansas City
	Columbia		
President Elect/		Secretary	Governance/Bylaws
Past President	Communications/	Patty Murray	Parliamentarian
Advisor	Newsletter Editor	Ferguson-Florissant	Linda Berube
5-Star National	Mary Jermak		Kansas City
<b>Recognition Program</b>	Ballwin-Chesterfield		
Sue Shineman		MO Action Plan	Administrative
Independence	Historian	Facilitator,	Assistant
	Jane Biers, Columbia	Pay Equity Advocate	Pat Shores
Finance Officer		Chair	Ballwin-Chesterfield
Lois Domsch	College/University	Pat Shores	
Independence	<b>Relations Chair</b>	Ballwin-Chesterfield	Nominating
	Debra McArthur		Committee Chair
Membership VP	Parkville	Missouri History Day	Lynne Roney
Susie Watson		Betty Takahashi	Kirkwood-Webster
KC Northland	STEM Chair	St. Charles	Groves
	Sandra Murdock		
AAUW Fund and	Ballwin-Chesterfield	Diversity, Equity,	Kansas City IBC
National Liaison		Inclusion (DEI)	Co-chairs
Sue Barley	Googles Doc Manager	Luna Mukherjee	Sue Shineman
Ballwin-Chesterfield	Marsha Koch	Kansas City	Independence
	Kirkwood-Webster		and
Web	Groves	St. Louis IBC Co-chairs	Wanda Perkins
Manager/Facebook		Betty Takahashi and	Kansas City
Administrator	Branch Incentive	Teri Brecht, St.	
Joyce Katz	Grant Chair Pam Kulp	Charles	
Ballwin-Chesterfield	St. Charles		

### *Missouri in Motion*, Community Hub, and AAUW MO Website To contact a state officer, go to <u>https://aauw-mo.aauw.net/contact-us/.</u>

- Newsletter items are requested for branch news, announcements, and photographs. Please send items to Editor Mary Jermak.
- Missouri in Motion and branch newsletters are available for download at <u>aauw-mo.aauw.net</u>.
- Send a copy of your branch newsletter to AAUW MO Historian Jane Biers, Web Manager Joyce Katz, AAUW MO President Karen Francis, and Missouri Action Plan Facilitator Pat Shores.
- For website additions or corrections, contact Joyce Katz via the website contact form.
- Update your contact information at <u>aauw.org/</u>. The Community Hub now serves as the former member services database.