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FALLS NOTES



AAUW-River Falls, WI

Branch Newsletter

February 2015

Next AAUW Meeting

Tuesday, February 10, River Falls Public Library

Business meeting 6:30 Program 7:30

The Common Core: Jennifer Petersen, RFSD Director of Academic Services

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Ruth Lee, Branch President

The challenge right now is to focus on "one" thing that is important in the world of AAUW. That happens to be the dilemma of my day. There are many things that rank high on the list from this "Empowering Women" organization. STEM with an A (STEAM) as stated by Arriety Lowell at our January meeting and how she utilizes that in her work. That is a powerful addition as we saw how Arriety includes her love and talent for art into her world of physics and math. What a witness for our young eighth grade award winners of "Women in Science". Speakers like this motivate all of us to continue our commitment to AAUW issues, and then the wonderful discovery that Arriety grew up in River Falls!

DID YOU KNOW?

January 8, 2015 marked the 13th anniversary of the last time the United States Congress and President agreed on the nation's education priorities. ESEA (No Child Left Behind) expired eight (8) years ago but continues to reflect current education priorities without any changes. This expired in 2007 – perhaps some changes and updating is needed. Will Congress and the President be able to find common working ground in 2015?

Review AAUW's Public Policy on several issues and check with your representatives at both State and Federal to see how they are measuring up. Perhaps each of us need to make a goal of at least one or two emails/phone calls per week (certainly per month) to remind them how we as individuals feel.

Citizen United was passed five years ago, how has that impacted our AAUW goals?

April 14, 2015 is **PAY EQUITY DAY** when women's earnings – 78 cents to men's dollar – finally catch up to men's earnings from the previous year.

River Falls Branch of AAUW is celebrating its 80th Anniversary in May, 2015.

AAUW National Convention: June 18 – 21, 2015: San Diego, CA

Once again thank you to the members of AAUW who step up to the plate and volunteer to work on committees so we can share our mission. To all winter-centered members enjoy the variety of weather that we receive. Travelers, be safe on your journeys and come back to River Falls refreshed and with more great ideas to share with the branch.

"I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes. Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world. You're doing things you've never done before, and more importantly, you're "Doing Something".

---- Neil Gaiman, author

HISTORY - Ann Anderson

This is the second in our series commemorating the 80th Anniversary of the River Falls Branch of AAUW. Anne Anderson has prepared this overview of Branch Programming.

Program plans and speakers have been very important for the AAUW. During the 30's there were a wide variety of speakers on diverse topics. Many were AAUW members, speaking on subjects of particular interest like "GERMANY - SOME PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS" and "ART IN THE COMMUNITY." Some were college professors who appreciated member interest in their field of study.

The first program in October, 1935, featured: INTERNATIONAL SCENE TODAY. Throughout the 30's and during WWII most of programs dealt with international events. For some years, members selected a "theme" speakers and discussions. In 1941, the theme was NORTH AMERICA - SOUTH AMERICA: in 1942, EURO-PEAN WOMEN UNDER FASCISM: in 1943 EFFORTS OF NATIONS IN THE PAST TO SECURE PEACE; and in 1945, AMERICA'S PLACE IN THE POST-WAR ECONOMY.

About 1948, the emphasis changed gradually from International affairs to women's rights, education, civil rights and the arts. Examples of programs include A CENTURY OF PROGRESS FOR WISCONSIN WOMEN, TRENDS IN AMERICAN HIGHER EDUCATION, SOME FALLACIES ABOUT PREJUDICE and TRENDS IN THE AMERICAN THEATER.

From 1961 for a number of years the branch co-sponsored the Outstanding Women Lecture Series. It was well-attended and included world renowned speakers:

Eleanor Roosevelt - U.N. delegate: IS AMERICA FACING WORLD LEADERSHIP?

Margaret Bourke-White - photographer: BEHIND THE LENS

Pauline Frederick - News anchor - CBS: THE UN IN A CHANGING WORLD

Anna Chennault - Chinese born American author: FREE CHINA, RED CHINA

Helen Gahagan - Congresswoman: ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS

Rumer Godden - British author: A FUNNY THING CALLED TALENT

Esther Peterson - Assistant Secretary of Labor: WOMEN - A COMMUNITY FORCE

As in the past, AAUW programs will continue to include a wide variety of topics of current concern to members including women's rights, education, and civil rights. Politics will remain important especially as we go into the 2016 election.

PROGRAM NOTES - Lorraine Davis and Elaine Baumann, Co-Chairs

Women in Math and Science Essay Contest

At the January AAUW meeting, these 4 River Falls eighth graders were presented with certificates and checks for \$25.00 in recognition of their excellent essays on 4 different women in math and science. They also listened to an interesting talk given by Arriety Lowell, physics and astronomy instructor at UWRF. The winners are as follows: Rayna Dixon, St. Bridget's, Ariana Porcello, Taylor Uetz, and Richard Veness from Meyer Middle School.



INTERNATIONAL ISSUES - Yolanda Dewar, Chair

From the Ambassador's Desk Cathy Russell, U.S. Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues

Happy New Year!

As we reflect on 2014 and look forward to 2015, it's clear that the coming year will be full of opportunity for women, girls, and their champions. We'll be reviewing our progress on several fronts—the United States' National Action Plan, the UN Security Council Resolution 1325, the 20-year anniversary of the Beijing Platform for Action, and more—which means we'll have a clear sense of how far we've come.

We'll also gain a better understanding of where we need to go next. Our vital work on the Post-2015 Development Agenda is an opportunity to map out new goals for the globe. We already know that empowering women and girls is one of the most transformative goals we, the international community, can strive to achieve. We also know that adopting a more data-driven approach can help us reach those goals. At the very least, the data from these reviews will add to the business case for including gender in new plans, policies, and programs.

As the list of complex challenges facing the world grows longer, we look to these reviews for evidence. We need hard and fast facts that show how women and girls can play a critical role in global development, whether we're focused on boosting a country's economy, eliminating gender-based violence, or eradicating Ebola. Armed with this data, we can continue to scale up our progress.

This is the year that we show the world what we already know. When women are at the table, the world is safer, stronger, and more prosperous. What more could we ask for in 2015?

With warm wishes for a productive and successful year,

Cathy Russell

U.S. Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues

Croatia Just Elected Its First Female President, Reuters -Posted: 01/11/2015 5

ZAGREB- Croatia's conservative opposition won a narrow presidential victory on Sunday, capitalizing on popular discontent over economic decline and setting down a marker for parliamentary elections later in the year. Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic, a former diplomat, can expect months of tense cohabitation with the Social Democrat-led government before Croats vote again in the general election due in late 2015. The job is largely ceremonial, but her win may signal a comeback for the opposition HDZ. In Croatia, the president cannot veto laws but has a say in foreign policy and defense. She takes office as Croatia's first woman president on Feb. 19.

WISCI Girl's STEAMc Camp - "No country today can afford to leave aside 50% of its creative genius, 50% of its innovation, 50% of its economic drivers. This is why gender equality in engineering is so important."

-Irina Bokova, Director General of UNESCO

THE VISION:

To bring together over 100 students, a blend of both African and American citizens, for a three-week STEAM (STEM +Art) education camp in Rwanda during summer 2015. The STEAM acronym is derived from the traditional STEM fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, while additionally incorporating the fields of Art and Design for creative and innovative engagement.

The CHALLENGE AND OPPORTUNITY

A strong gender imbalance exists internationally in regards to women's presence in the STEM fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The need to address this imbalance is especially prevalent in Sub-Saharan Africa, which continues to lag behind when it comes to gender equality in education and health. Strides have been made to decrease the gender gap in primary education, but the UN states in its 2013 *Millennium Development Goals Report* that the gap is *increasing* with older children as female enrollment rates drop at the secondary and tertiary levels.

One area where Africa has made substantial progress in closing the gender gap is their political systems. A drastic increase in female government officials coupled with large impact investments by foreign corporations and the rapid expansion of IT to Africa indicate the time is *now* to address discrimination and bring more STEM-educated women into the global workforce.

The International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting is Friday, February 6.

Watch the PBS SERIES "Half the Sky" to become aware of the dire situation of women in many countries of the world. (i.e., Prostitution, trafficking, maternal death, and genital mutilation) http://www.yidio.com/show/half-the-sky?utm source=Bing&utm medium=Search&t source=64&utm campaign=464

World Day of Social Justice is Friday, February 20.

Social justice is an underlying principle for peaceful and prosperous coexistence within and among nations. We uphold the principles of social justice when we promote gender equality or the rights of indigenous peoples and migrants. We advance social justice when we remove barriers that people face because of gender, age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture or disability.

For the United Nations, the pursuit of social justice for all is at the core of our global mission to promote development and human dignity. The adoption by the <u>International Labour Organization</u> of the <u>Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization</u> is just one recent example of the UN system's commitment to social justice. The Declaration focuses on guaranteeing fair outcomes for all through employment, social protection, social dialogue, and fundamental principles and rights at work.

The General Assembly <u>proclaimed 20 February as World Day of Social Justice</u> in 2007, inviting Member States to devote the day to promoting national activities in accordance with the objectives and goals of the <u>World Summit for Social Development</u> and the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly. Observance of World Day of Social Justice should support efforts of the international community in poverty eradication, the promotion of full employment and decent work, gender equity and access to social well-being and justice for all.

DEADLY DENIAL - Nigeria Lets Boko Haram Keep on Killing

Remember #bringbackourgirls? The girls are still gone and as the body count rises in Nigeria, the country's leaders are almost as silent as the global community. From *The Daily Beast*.

Launch of IFUW manifestos for girls' and women's education

The International Federation of University Women announced the launch of its manifestos for girls' and women's education, which took place in Geneva, Switzerland, on 20 January 2015. The event was an opportunity for all those interested in education, equality and women's rights to meet and discuss the importance of lifelong learning for girls and women. Further information here: http://www.ifuw.org/.../launch-of-ifuw-manifestos-for-girls-.../

Recognizing Ancient Women's Accomplishments

The University of Qwarawlyyin in Morocco was founded in the year 859 by a woman, Fatima al Fihri. Hypatia was the last great Alexandrian mathematician, astronomer and philosopher in the 5th Cent B.C. Murasaki Shikibu, a Japanese Noblewoman wrote "The Tale of Genji" in the year 1010, considered a major literary work by a woman.

PUBLIC POLICY - Barbara Peterson, Chair

AAUW Sponsors February 23rd Candidate Forum

AAUW is becoming known as the "go to" organization for candidate forums. Last week we got a phone call from City Hall asking if AAUW would sponsor and staff the aldermanic candidate forum at 7:00 PM on February 23rd. We will need 4 or 5 interested members to welcome attendees, gather questions and sort them by topic before handing them to the moderator, Ruth Kozak. At our February 10th meeting we will have a sign-up sheet for volunteers. The forum will be televised locally multiple times and offers AAUW a good bit of public recognition. Come to the forum with your questions and encourage your friends and neighbors to come along.

Effects of Roe v Wade

On January 22nd our nation will remember the 42nd anniversary of Roe v Wade. The Supreme Court's decision was based on a constitutional right of privacy. This issue has continued to be very controversial. States have placed restrictions on the ability of women to exercise reproductive choice and some have placed barriers for women to get contraception medications of any kind. Restrictions as of 2012 include:

- Between 2007 and 2010, seven states enacted legislation related to sex education, and all but one expanded access to comprehensive sex education or added requirements that the sex education provided be medically accurate. Over the past two years, however, five states enacted legislation, and all but one supported abstinence-only education; 26 states now stress abstinence in sex education. This includes the State of Wisconsin.
 School districts in Wisconsin are no longer required to teach medically accurate sex education.
- The State of Wisconsin has **cut off all funding to Planned Parenthood clinics** despite the fact that state funding does not fund abortions but does fund reproductive health screenings and birth control for low income women.
- Eight states now require an ultrasound prior to performance of an abortion
- Several states **require the doctor to have hospital admitting privileges** close to the clinic where the abortion is being performed even though other similar procedures do not have this restriction.
- Seven states ban abortion at 20 weeks post-fertilization
- 20 states now restrict abortion coverage available through state health insurance exchanges

- **18 states** now **require** that women seeking an abortion be given **misleading information**, such as asserting a link between abortion and an increased risk of breast cancer or negative mental health consequences.
- 10 states now have laws that necessitate a women to make two trips to the clinic
- 38 states require parental involvement in a minor's decision to have an abortion
- The Supreme Court recently ruled that family-owned businesses are not required to provide birth control coverage to their employees if it conflicts with the business owners' religious beliefs, a case that extended religious protections to for-profit corporations for the first time. Hobby Lobby was the corporation that brought the case to court. According to a July 1, 2014 Boston Globe article by Tracy Jan, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg also pointed to cases where companies, citing their religious beliefs, have discriminated against black or homosexual patrons, female employees working without their father's or husband's consent, and couples living together without being married and asked "how does the court divine which religious beliefs are worthy of accommodation, and which are not?"

http://www.bostonglobe.com/news/nation/2014/06/30/supreme-court-gives-businesses-religious-exemption-from-birth-control-coverage/IQPwIwZRyuZ3r6csO02SJI/story.html

You may not object to all of these restrictions but be assured that the increase in these restrictions are placing a burden on women's reproductive choices, family planning, career development, income growth and care for the other children in the family.

Vouchers

I am writing today to ask that you respond to a survey at the website below. Our legislators are under the impression that Wisconsin should have further expansion of vouchers to charter schools. We call it "voucher creep". They will likely be voting on vouchers and tax credits for private and/or charter education in the early part of this session.

The AAUW-WI Public Policy statement reads:

To preserve a strong system of public education promoting equity and diversity, AAUW-WI advocates . . . (multiple bullets follow in PP document)

Opposition to diversions of public funds to non-public elementary and secondary schools, e.g. tuition tax credits, vouchers, etc.

The Wisconsin Democracy Campaign has data that shows that many legislators have received campaign contributions from corporations and individuals that have a monetary interest in non-public schools. Read about who contributes here: http://www.wisdc.org/pr011215.php

School Funding Reform for Wisconsin has posted a short Survey Monkey that will give them statistics to show legislators that a majority of Wisconsin residents do not want voucher creep. Please take the survey immediately. It only takes a few minutes. https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/OurSchools

Secondly, I ask that you contact your district legislators this week to express your feelings about voucher school expansion taking away money from public education.

Sheila Harsdorf - Phone: (608) 266-7745 E-mail: Sen.Harsdorf@legis.wi.gov

Dean Knudson - <u>608-266-1526</u> or <u>888-529-0030</u> Email: <u>Rep.Knudson@legis.wisconsin.gov</u>

John Murtha - <u>(608)266-7683</u> or <u>(888)529-0029</u> Email: <u>Rep.Murtha@legis.wisconsin.gov</u>

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

Ann Gustafson and Jennifer Willis-Rivera, Co-Chairs

WHY JOIN AAUW?

Have you ever stopped to think about why you joined AAUW or why other women and men that you know should join? AAUW is not just another club. AAUW brings people together for the common goal of breaking through educational and economic barriers for women and girls. We believe in our mission of advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

As a member, have you experienced AAUW up close and personal?

- Have you written to your Congressional or State Representative about pay equity because you have, or know someone who has, experienced inequity in pay? AAUW gives you a voice and helps you take a stand.
- Have you talked to students at UW-RF on Equal Pay Day, shown them the report of the research Graduating to a Pay Gap or The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap and discussed the impact on their lives? AAUW provides you with an opportunity to introduce students to AAUW and involve them in pertinent issues.
- Have you read the research reports or Executive Summaries of the AAUW research on sexual harassment, on gender pay gap, on why there are so few women in STEM fields? AAUW empowers you with knowledge of issues impacting women and girls.
- Have you participated in the branch's activities such as City Sampler at UWRF, Equal Pay Day, the book sale, co-hosting at one of the branch meetings, bringing potential members to branch meeting programs, the Holiday auction? AAUW provides you with opportunities to work with and know individuals who want to share the goal of breaking through barriers for women and girls.
- Have you encouraged college women to attend the National Conference of College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL), or to join as an e-student affiliate at no cost or given a recent grad a free one-year AAUW membership through Give a Grad a Gift? Broadening AAUW's scope ensures the future of AAUW. AAUW gives you an opportunity to introduce AAUW to the next generation of members.

AAUW is an organization of dynamic people that make it like none other. It can help you grow personally while achieving the goals and mission of the organization. Make it personal for you—the more you put into your membership, the more you will get out of it.

MEET AAUW'S NEWEST MEMBER

AAUW-River Falls is pleased to introduce Jean Ritzinger, who joined the branch at the January meeting. Jean has recently retired after 24 years of teaching seventh grade reading and language arts at Meyer Middle School in River Falls. She also developed and coached the middle school forensics team, thanks to the encouragement she received from AAUW member, Suzanne Hagen.

Jean said, "We celebrated my retirement with a fantastic trip to Alaska--not a cruise." Since retirement she has enjoyed more time to garden and be outdoors. She has also enjoyed "subbing," which, according to Jean, "is like being a grandparent; lots of fun but not as much work."



Both Jean's Bachelor and Masters degrees were earned at UW-River Falls, while being a full time wife and mother. Her husband, Mark, continues to practice Optometry one day a week. The Ritzingers have two children, Justin, who teaches Chinese Buddhism at the University of Miami, and Bridget, who is a make-up artist specializing in film, in

Brooklyn, New York. Jean says that it is unfortunate that their only grandchild, Anne, age 7, also lives in Miami, "which frustrates my attempts to be a doting grandma."

Welcome to AAUW-River Falls, Jean. We are delighted to have you as a member of the branch.

FINANCE REPORT

Suzanne Hagen, Finance Chair

AAUW-River Falls Finance Report - Jan. 20, 2015

Checking balance 12/20/2014	\$ 2820.08
Receipts:	
Membership Dues (J. Ritzinger)	18.50
Contribution (Halseth)	20.00
Total receipts (12/20-1/20)	38.50
Disbursements:	
National dues	12.25
State Dues	3.25
AAUW Funds (K Teska fund-Halseth)	20.00
STEM Essay awards	100.00
Bank service charge	.75
Total disbursements (12/20-1/20)	136.25

Balances 1/20/2015

Checking: 2,722.33 Savings: 1,655.60

\$4,377.93

Restricted Accounts:

UWRF Scholarship =	\$00.00
High School Scholarship =	\$300.00
NCWSL =	\$1,000.00
AAUW Funds (formerly EF) =	\$1,231.03*
Legal Action Fund =	\$12.00
Travel	
State	\$1,012.00
National	\$61.91**
	\$275.00

^{* 12/20/14} balance of \$3031.03 (from booksale, carry over, Moose brunch) minus \$1800 to AAUW funds = \$1231.03.

\$1,348.91

Suzanne Hagen, Treasurer

^{**}Any funds left in State travel after the State convention are added to the National travel fund.

Smile While Giving -Philanthropy and Funds Committee - Information is from AAUW.org

You could look at it either way, "you're a month late with this article," or "you're getting a jump on everyone else." I prefer the second look. Start the new year with a new commitment (financial that is) to what we stand for, believe in, and advocate for.

Start with a new (renewed) understanding of what our AAUW philanthropy accomplishes and make a resolve to achieve those ends.

Did you know that AAUW is ranked "top" by four charitable, non-profit rating agencies nationally? (These rating agencies look at information given to the IRS, for example.) That means that over 80% of its budget goes to its programs and services it delivers. Did you know that over 70% of AAUW funding comes from contributions, gifts, and grants? Yes, AAUW gets grants from other organizations that support our mission such as the Pantene Corp. and the Minnesota Community Foundation (St. Paul). It also receives donations from individuals, branches, states, honorary funds and giving circles. Only 27.3% comes from membership dues.

Where else does your contribution do better than to empower women and girls? As women and girls succeed, so does society. They give it forward! AAUW is a leader in advancing educational, professional, and economic opportunities for women nationally and globally. Our book sale proceeds go to the AAUW Funds and they become part of one of the world's premier sources of funding for women pursing advanced degrees, programs fostering girls' achievement and gender equity, and women entering nontraditional fields. Along with other fund-raising we've done this year (helping with the Moose breakfast) they have contributed to research that matters in the lives of women and girls.

Research that matters in the Lives of Women and Girls. What other organization conducts research on issues related to gender equity in education and the workplace? We influence discussion on topics like the pay gap, sexual harassment in schools and college campuses and the underrepresentation of women in science and engineering. The research serves as a catalyst for action. In early 2015 AAUW will release the upcoming research report, Solving the Equation: Women in Engineering and Computing. I'm looking forward to reading that one!

Starting 2015 with a new commitment (financial that is) to what we stand for, believe in, and advocate for. Small amounts are welcome. Small amounts (or big amounts) given on a regular basis become part of our routine. We won't be asking you to pledge or to do automatic withdrawals, but let's think about a regular contribution to AAUW Funds, maybe given at our monthly meeting? Let's smile because we can give it forward!

BRANCH MEETING MINUTES - Submitted by Karen Brohaugh

AAUW River Falls Branch Meeting, January 10, 2015, Junior's Restaurant

President Ruth Lee called the meeting to order.

Secretary's report approved as printed in January newsletter with one correction; Holiday auction proceeds changed from \$2000 to \$1026.

Financial report approved as printed in newsletter and filed for audit. Checking balance at the end of December was \$2820. Since then, four \$25 checks were written to student essay winners.

Committee Reports

Program Development

- Common Core will be the subject of the February meeting. Jennifer Peterson will present the program.
- Check your newsletter for 80th anniversary events.

Membership

- Ann Gustafson introduced Jean Ritzinger, our newest member.
- Today is a Shape the Future meeting with dues half the cost of the half cost. Join on March 16 and dues for the coming year are included.
- Current membership is 47.

Public Policy

- Barb Peterson reported that the legislature is in session.
- Right to Work will be taken up which means any job can be taken without being required to join a union.
- Change in vouchers and reproductive rights will also be considered.
- Legislators raised their per diem by 56%.
- Ann Gustafson noted that State of the Union Bingo can be found on the AAUW website.

NCCWSL

- Bob Gustafson reported that we have had no applicants.
- Deadline is end of January.

STEM

• Sue Danielson announced that four 8th grade essay winners will be introduced during the program today. Three are students at Meyer Middle School and one is at St. Bridget.

Newsletter

• Cheryl Maplethorpe would like all newsletter information by January 20.

FUNDS

- Sue Halseth explained that this is an umbrella for all AAUW programs.
- Articles about the funds will be included in upcoming newsletters.
- 2015 focus, Solving the Equations: Women in Engineering & Computing
- Sue asked us to give donations to FUNDS. Give directly to our branch and we will receive credit. 75% of AAUW
 donations directed to programming.

Old Business

None

New Business

- Pay Equity Day is April 14, 2015, volunteers needed to provide information to students on the UWRF campus.
- Nominating committee needs to be appointed soon.

Announcements:

- **WI-State Convention**, April 24-25, open to all, travel funds available.
- AAUW-Association Convention, June 28-31, San Diego, CA
- Board meeting, late March or early April.

The meeting adjourned at 12:55pm

Sue Danielson announced the four 8th grade essay winners. They told who they chose to write about and why they chose her.

Our guest speaker, Arriety Lowell, UWRF Physics Department gave a stimulating talk about her educational, professional and recreational experiences.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 10 - Business meeting 6:30 Program 7:30

The Common Core: Jennifer Petersen, RFSD Director of Academic Services

March 10 - Business Meeting 6:30 Program 7:00

Wisconsin Nazi Resistance: The Mildred Fish Harnack Story – film of the Wisconsin woman Hitler executed for involvement in the Berlin resistance.

April 14 - Annual meeting and election of officers. Business Meeting 6:30 Program 7:30 Speakers on Campus Safety for Women

April 24-25 - WISCONSIN STATE AAUW CONVENTION at Osthoff Resort in Elkhart Lake.

May 12 - 80th Anniversary Celebration and Installation of officers. Location to be determined.

June 18-21 - AAUW NATIONAL CONVENTION in San Diego, CA



AAUW'S MISSION STATEMENT

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

AAUW's VALUE PROMISE

By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance. AAUW empowers all women and girls to reach their highest potential.

VISION STATEMENT

AAUW empowers all women and girls to reach their highest potential.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT

AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.