**Membership Matters: A News Hub for Leaders**

**March 2022**

*Resources, tips and tricks for AAUW state and branch leaders*

**News & Resources**

AAUW Community Hub Tips

The new AAUW [Community Hub](https://my.aauw.org/NC__Login) is every member’s personal portal into AAUW. It allows people to self-manage their membership, donations, contact details and personal preferences. President/administrators, membership VPs and finance officers all have the same rights in Community Hub, giving volunteers the flexibility to share in dues and donation processing, updating contact information for members, updating officers, and requesting AAUW to file with the IRS.

Access these features through your personal snapshot, under MY AFFILIATIONS > click the blue button next to the affiliate name > then select MANAGE ROSTER.

Because the Community Hub operates in real time, we ask that you please await directions on when and how to perform tasks. Community Hub Updates will be sent regularly. We also encourage you to review webinar trainings and videos .

AAUW Community Hub Training

We have updated our [Community Hub](https://my.aauw.org/NC__Login) training videos to reflect the training held on March 3. These videos are a good representation of some of the experiences you may encounter in Community Hub.

The [next training](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_OuKLQJC2SBGCWZ4gIYsMyA), scheduled for March 31, will cover roster management, including the ability to bulk renew or contribute on behalf of your members. If you encounter any issues or have concerns while interacting with the Community Hub, please reach out to us at [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org) or consider joining us for one of our Office Hours sessions held on Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. ET.

Congrats Art Contest Winners!

The votes have been counted, and the [2022 Art Contest](https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/initiatives/art-contest/) Winners have been revealed! Congratulations to Patricia Cairns, Margaret Ringia Hart, Charlotte Severin, Heddie Sumner, Denise Westcott and Tricia Whitlock. Visit the Art Contest page to view their winning entries and peruse the gallery of all the submissions. Keep an eye on your mailbox for a collection of notecards featuring the winning works!

Don’t Miss AAUW Emails

Help us help other volunteers who report not receiving AAUW emails by directing them to visit <https://aauw.us/emailoptions> to update their preferences and get back on the AAUW email list.

Please Review: February 1 Count Reports

The February 1 Count Report announcement was sent March 23 from [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org). Please review your state and branch counts this year, and report any discrepancies by April 8. While there will always be some loss, we salute our states and branches for their efforts to continue advancing the mission virtually throughout the pandemic and beyond!

Recent Webinars to Watch

Check out these recordings from the exciting recent [AAUW webinars](https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/webinars/) with AAUW Chief Executive Officer Gloria L. Blackwell and outstanding Fellowships and Grants alumnae.

In celebration of International Women’s Day on March 8, 2022, AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell joined 2007-08 AAUW International Fellow Esther Ngumbi, Ph.D., for an inspiring conversation on her work as a champion for change around the issues of hunger, gender, education, youth activism and more. On March 16, AAUW held a parallel event of the 66th NGO Committee on the Status of Women Forum/UN Commission on the Status of Women. It featured an interactive, expert panel, hosted by AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell, on strategies to address gender and work.

AAUW National Election: Get Ready

Voting opens Wednesday, April 6, and will close on Monday, May 16, at 5 p.m. ET. Please check your email on opening day and vote because every voice matters in the [AAUW National Election](https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/national-election/)! For this vote, members are asked to elect members to the national AAUW Board of Directors and vote on changes to the bylaws that would streamline the nominations process and ballot administration.

State Diversity Officers Needed!

AAUW is looking for volunteers to serve in state diversity officer positions. State Diversity Officers aid in furthering strategic initiatives surrounding diversity, equity and inclusion. They also work as liaisons for Branch Diversity Officers and the National Inclusion and Equity Committee to foster synergistic efforts across states and branches. If interested, please contact your applicable state leadership and/or the Inclusion and Equity Committee at [diversity@aauw.org](mailto:diversity@aauw.org).

NCCWSL 2022: Register Today

Registration is now open for the 2022 [National Conference for College Women Student Leaders](https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/nccwsl/attend/) (NCCWSL) on May 24-26. NCCWSL is the premier experience for elevating leadership, advocacy and equity for college women, with access to dynamic speakers, workshops and panels. This year’s event will be entirely virtual.

**Bragging on Branches (and States!)**

We’re so glad to see states and branches participating in the new cycle of the [Five-Star Recognition Program](https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/initiatives/5-star-program/)! Kudos to the following branches that are already seeing success: (California) Mid-Peninsula, (Illinois) Chicago, Elmhurst Area, (Oregon) Salem, (Pennsylvania) Huntingdon, (Texas) Northeast Tarrant County, (Virginia) Virginia Beach, (Washington) Seattle, (Wisconsin) Racine.

Thank you for all your participation and hard work! Will your state or branch be the first to achieve Five Stars? There is still plenty of time to participate in this year’s program. If you have any questions on need assistance, please reach out to [fivestar@aauw.org](mailto:fivestar@aauw.org).

**Success Stories**

Get inspiration and advice from other branch leaders.

**LA CROSSE (WISCONSIN)**

**Artfully Celebrating a Century**

In a Mississippi river town, in January 1922, the AAUW National president—a woman from Wisconsin herself—spoke to a group of college-educated women. And a new branch was born in La Crosse with 48 dedicated members. The branch has spent 100 years promoting AAUW’s mission with scholarships, community activism and education and opportunities for women and girls.

Our story is similar to that of other branches that offer monthly programs to inform and bond members, including study groups, board meetings and special projects such as those for Women’s History Month featuring an International Women’s Day program.

Finding creative ways to raise funds for scholarships has been a goal from the beginning. Our most enduring fundraising event is the Art Fair on the Green. Taken over from a local arts group in 1967 and held on the campus of the University, it has included as many as 100 artists and attracts a few thousand visitors who pay an admission fee. The fair has enabled us to give generously to the high school, state university, private university and technical college students in our city of over 51,000. Grants are also given to organizations serving women.

Although the pandemic has interrupted many of our activities, the members of the La Crosse Branch remain dedicated to AAUW’s mission.

*—Marilyn Hempstead, branch historian*