**[STATE & BRANCH TOOLS](https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/state-branch/)**

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

**February 2022**

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

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

We’re so grateful for the generosity of state and branch affiliates that support our mission of equity amid considerable challenges. The following branches recently made direct contributions of $2,000 or more to AAUW’s Greatest Needs Fund and strategic focus areas: (Missouri) Ballwin-Chesterfield; (Pennsylvania) Lansdale; (Texas) Northeast Tarrant County; (Virginia) McLean Area, Roanoke Valley.

We also want recognize AAUW Illinois, which recently made an unrestricted contribution of $20,000. We know there are likely additional affiliates to recognize, and we appreciate your patience as we catch up on year-end contributions.

**Success Stories**

Get inspiration and advice from other branch leaders.

**AAUW LITTLE ROCK (ARKANSAS)**

**On the Right Side of History**

In 1917, a small group of women formed the “Little Rock College Club,” which in 1922 became the AAUW Little Rock Branch.

Our branch played an active role in school desegregation in the 1950s, when President Eisenhower had to send federal troops to enforce integration. The branch promoted their study demonstrating the negative economic impact of the closed high school, held luncheons to publicize the plight of teachers fired for supporting integration, and lobbied local and state politicians.

AAUW Little Rock members took on a segregationist legislator who was frustrated by “uppity AAUW women” and said women should be milking cows instead of lobbying the state capitol. A local newspaper pictured a branch member hugging a cow to highlight his egregious comments.

Today, the branch continues its legacy of activism. We are a founding member of the Arkansas Reproductive Justice Coalition and Volunteers in Little Rock Public Schools. We work with the League of Women Voters, Arkansas Women’s History Institute, Arkansas Advocates for Children & Families, and many others. We are a diverse group, and our hope lies in our collective strength and ability to adapt.

*—Dr. Zenobia Harris and Maria Jones, co-presidents*

AAUW Salem (OR) branch members

**AAUW SALEM (OREGON)**

**A Century of Activism**

For the past 100 years, the AAUW Salem (OR) Branch has been active in the community and supported AAUW’s mission of advancing equity.

Over the years, we hosted workshops and community fundraisers that attracted hundreds of participants, including plays to celebrate the Suffrage Centennial and historic women in STEM.

In 1953, we created Happytime Pre-school, which lasted 40 years. From 1962 to 1981, we lobbied legislators to establish public kindergartens. We awarded local college scholarships, advocated for civics education in public schools, and sponsored Speech Trek for high school girls.

For more than 20 years, we sponsored programs for middle school girls, promoted STEM careers, Equal Pay Days on campuses, and more. In 2017, we successfully advocated for Oregon’s Equal Pay Act.

We’ve also provided broader community support through English classes for Mexican nationals in 1945, ensuring people in state prisons have access to libraries, and supporting a local Women’s Crisis Center. We’ve co-sponsored “Salem Speaks Up” on Human Rights Day, since 1993.

*—Joyce Zook, president*

**News & Resources**

NCCWSL 2022: Act Now to Get Early Bird Rates

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. Act now to secure early-bird rates! 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.

NCCWSL Call for Presenters

AAUW is looking for outstanding presenters who want to inspire young women to reach their full potential at NCCWSL 2022! We encourage speakers from all industries to apply to lead one-hour, skill-building workshops that will challenge and motivate aspiring young leaders. [Submit your proposal](https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/nccwsl/agenda/workshops-panels/presenters/) by March 15, 2022, at 11:59 p.m. ET.

Help Fund Students’ Scholarships

AAUW is pleased to award over 100 full and partial [NCCWSL scholarships](https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/nccwsl/attend/scholarships/) so that students from all backgrounds can benefit from the conference. As an individual, you can [make a gift to the AAUW NCCWSL Scholarship Fund](https://my.aauw.org/NC__Login?startURL=%2Fdonatenow%3Fpid%3Da1B6g000004CZFoEAO) through your AAUW account to help make these scholarships possible. If you’re interested in supporting NCCWSL scholarships as an affiliate, please reach out to Tremayne Parquet at parquett@aauw.org. Scholarships for this year’s NCCWSL are $165 per attendee. If giving by check, please use fund code #2504 on your Contribution Report Forms or accompanying documentation with your check.

Get Trained: AAUW Community Hub

By now you’ve likely seen our updates about the newly launched [Community Hub](https://my.aauw.org/), your personal portal into AAUW. If you haven’t already, please create your account login. Visit our [Systems Update](https://www.aauw.org/new-systems-update/) page for helpful instructions and tutorials on how you can start navigating and accessing your personal and affiliate information. And please join us for a [training webinar](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_KvndjWIBQ42h6i_kVhYlXA?emci=6c4746d9-1590-ec11-a507-281878b83d8a&emdi=b0a05c95-3b90-ec11-a507-281878b83d8a&ceid=908990) on Thursday, March 3, 2022, at 3:30 p.m. ET that will highlight functionalities vital to your leadership role. If you have additional questions or feedback, please reach out to connect@aauw.org or join our weekly [Office Hours](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwpdemgrj8tHtZyk1T31iYU70Xv9aqxvCJv) on Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. ET.

Women and Work: Increasing Leadership and Economic Equity

The pandemic has spurred radical shifts in the workplace—which present an opportunity because women can’t wait any longer for trickle-down change. Join AAUW Chief Executive Officer Gloria L. Blackwell on Wednesday, March 16, at 2 p.m. ET as she leads a panel discussion about the transformation we need to achieve equity at work. It will address the double burden and expectations of women’s paid and unpaid work and solutions for bolstering women’s economic participation in the workplace. This [special webinar](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ZCldlmMCSMqHr5BMofY33A) is part of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women and UN Commission on the Status of Women.

Webinars Galore—Member Gathering and More

In a January webinar, CEO Gloria L. Blackwell and national board leaders provided important updates about the year to come and reflections on AAUW’s 2021 accomplishments. They also listened to members’ feedback and answered their questions. Visit our [online archive](https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/webinars/) to watch a recording of the event and any other previous AAUW webinars of interest.

Earn Your Stars!

The [Five-Star Recognition Program](https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/initiatives/5-star-program/) is in full swing for both state and branch affiliates, and there’s still plenty of time to submit before the June 30, 2022, deadline. Be sure to check the Five Star page of our website, and send any questions to fivestar@aauw.org. Or join us on our next “[Office Hours](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwpdemgrj8tHtZyk1T31iYU70Xv9aqxvCJv)” session held every Thursday at 3:30 p.m. ET.

AAUW Welcomes New Legacy Circle Members

We gratefully acknowledge these visionary AAUW members and supporters who have recently joined the Legacy Circle: Donna C. Holmes (California), Paula Jernigan (Texas), Elizabeth A. Jordan (California) and Margaret A. Winz (Wisconsin). By making a [planned gift](https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/support-aauw/leave-a-legacy/) to AAUW National, each has embraced equity for future generations of women and girls as part of their personal legacy.

If you would like to learn more about the AAUW Legacy Circle, please contact AAUW Director of Advancement Heather Miller at 202.785.7766. We would be delighted to celebrate you, too, as a new member of the AAUW Legacy Circle!

FY23 National State and Local Dues Rates

Beginning July 1, the AAUW national dues will be $67, of which $64 will be tax-deductible. Please update your materials and websites. Finance officers should report any changes to state or branch dues to connect@aauw.org by March 10th in preparation for the FY23 collection year.

Consider Lifetime Membership!

This is a great time for current members to upgrade to lifetime membership for $1,240, a $100 savings compared to the cost after June 30. Lifetime membership is fully tax-deductible and allows you to put your values into action for many years to come! Log in to your [AAUW account](https://my.aauw.org/) and upgrade your membership today!

Looking For a Speaker?

Looking for a speaker for your upcoming branch event or state convention? AAUW has a [Speaker Request form](https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/state-branch/request-a-speaker/) to best provide you with the most appropriate representative to speak to the topics or programs unique to your event. Be sure and submit a request today as you think about spring and summer programs!