

for state and branch leaders

Dear {{FirstName or 'AAUW Member Leaders'}},

I hope this letter finds you well and filled with pride for the efforts you've made thus far in 2024. As many of you take time to gather this spring in state and regional gatherings, we hope you also take time to celebrate your accomplishments and strategize on the work we have to do in the months ahead.

In this issue of Membership Matters, we celebrate the impactful strides we've taken in advancing gender equity, highlighting our achievements in 2023 and the advocacy efforts of our members. We also announce the winners of our annual art contest, provide updates on NCCWSL scholarship fundraising, member renewals, officer updates, and more.

I encourage you to share these resources within your states and branches so we're all informed in the crucial year ahead. Thank you all for your continued support and dedication. Let's continue to work hand in hand towards a future of equality and empowerment for all.

Warm regards,

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Katrina Sun Breese

Senior Director of Institutional Advancement

Open Membership Q&A Session

Learn about the upcoming member vote on candidates for the national AAUW Board of Directors and on a bylaws amendment to <u>open membership</u> to all who believe in AAUW's mission of equity for all.

Please join us on Tuesday, April 2 at 7 p.m. ET for a Q&A session on all things open membership. Register now.

AAUW Priorities in the 2024 U.S. Election

As part of our <u>It's My Vote! 2024 voter engagement campaign</u>, let's dive into the policy issues at stake in this year's national elections, including pay equity,

equity in education, reproductive rights, and the Equal Rights Amendment. Learn how AAUW members can engage in local voter education efforts Wednesday, April 17 at 7 p.m. ET. <u>Join the call here.</u>

AAUW's Impact in 2023: Read the Report

In the face of persistent challenges hindering women's progress, AAUW stood unwavering, advocating for gender equity in 2023. Despite enduring discrimination and disproportionate burdens, particularly affecting women and girls of color, AAUW members actively engaged in advocacy, sent messages to legislators, and championed legislative change on Capitol Hill.

Learn more about some of the organizational achievements that you can share with your members and supporters by reading <u>AAUW's 2023 Year in Review</u> now on our website.

AAUW Annual Art Contest Winners

We're thrilled to announce the winners of our annual art contest, showcasing the immense talent within the AAUW community.

If you haven't already, we invite you to <u>explore the winning entries</u> displayed in our <u>Art Contest gallery</u>.

Stay tuned, as this month members will receive these captivating artworks featured on our spring note cards. Join us in celebrating creativity and the incredible achievements of our talented artists!

Find Speakers for Your Next AAUW Event

Spring convention is upon us, so let AAUW help you find the perfect speaker and take advantage of the breadth of knowledge and experience national staff can bring to these events.

Whether you are looking for guidance on membership and fundraising, programmatic updates surrounding STEM or salary negotiation, or if you want to provide your members with policy and advocacy updates going in this pivotal election year, AAUW national staff have you covered.

Be sure and fill out our <u>Speaker Request Form</u> online if you're interested in having someone from national participate in your upcoming events.

NCCWSL Scholarship Fundraising Update

In our ongoing effort to support the next generation of female leaders, we extend our deepest gratitude to the members and branches who have generously contributed to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) scholarship fund.

We especially want to recognize the following states and branches for their support during our recent fundraising drive and throughout the fiscal year: Douglas County (CO), Saint Augustine (FL), Downers Grove (IL), Baltimore (MD), Lake Washington (WA), AAUW Maryland, AAUW Missouri, and AAUW Nevada. Their contributions are invaluable in providing opportunities for aspiring leaders to attend this event.

However, there's still time to make a difference and support NCCWSL scholarships for 2024! Whether you're an individual member or representing your branch or state, you can contribute online or contact our team at connect@aauw.org to set up an express payment link for a branch or state donation.

ACTION: Important Dates and Deadlines

The FY25 National Dues Year Kicks Off April 1

April 1 kicks off the 2025 Fiscal Year (FY25) membership dues collection process for AAUW branches.

FY25 National dues remain the same: Annual National (\$72), Students (\$18.81), and Lifetime (\$1,440). As of January 2024, all National dues are **fully** tax deductible. Look for improved resource materials on the <u>Community Hub</u> Resource page in FY25!

Membership Discount Coupon Codes in the Hub

Effective April 1, please use these new codes when processing new members recruited under the Shape the Future Campaign for 50% off (-\$36) national dues: **STFFY25.** Must be entirely new or lapsed for two or more years to qualify.

For College/University member school students only, national dues (\$0 free) for both new and renewing students: **CUStudentFY25**.

Get Ready! National Election Opens April 3

Check your email when National Election voting opens on Wednesday, April 3! AAUW will again this year use a third-party vendor to administer voting. You'll receive an electronic ballot with your unique voting credential from vote@simplyvoting.com. Please add this address to your safe sender list now to ensure your ballot reaches you. Members without an email address on file will receive a paper ballot.

Voting closes Monday, May 15, at 12 p.m. ET.

Officer Updates Begin April 1

If your affiliate title is president/administrator, membership vice president or finance officer, you have the access rights to update officers for FY25 by June 30. Even if an officer is returning, make sure to update your records if their next term starts July 1, 2024. Login to Community Hub, then go to MY AFFILIATIONS and click the button next to your affiliate name. Choose BRANCH COMMITTEE to update officers by following the step-by-step screen instructions.

Review Your 2024 Count Report

The February 1 Count Report 2024 was sent via email mid-March to president/administrators, membership vice presidents and finance officers. Please review your state and branch counts and report any discrepancies to connect@aauw.org. Any revised reports will be available in early May. We appreciate your efforts!

Finance Officers Must Respond — Don't Lose Your Tax-Exempt Status with the IRS

All AAUW-affiliated entities must file a tax return each year. The simplest option for non-profits is to use a Form 990-N, which AAUW can prepare on your behalf if your annual gross receipts are \$50,000 or less.

To have AAUW file your 990-N, complete the group exemption form in the Community Hub when the form opens on April 16 through October 15. To complete the form for the tax period ending June 30, 2024, login to Community Hub then go to MY AFFILIATIONS and click the button next to your affiliate name. Choose TAX INFORMATION, then ADD NEW TAX DETAILS. The form will ask for the principal officer, which is generally the finance officer. Please verify that your Employer Identification Number (EIN) is correct, so your filing isn't rejected. If you do not qualify to file Form 990-N, AAUW cannot file your return. Please explore other options and applicable forms (e.g., Form 990, Form 990EZ, or Form 990PF).

Stay Connected: Re-Subscribe to AAUW Emails

Do you think a member may be missing out on vital updates and important announcements from AAUW? Don't let valuable information slip through the cracks! Ensure they stay connected with us by re-subscribing to AAUW emails. Simply forward this link, <u>aauw.us/emailoptions</u>, to the member to re-subscribe and guarantee that they receive all the latest news, webinars, and opportunities from AAUW.











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