

Dear AAUW Member Leaders,

As we close out the fiscal year, thank you for your continued commitment to AAUW's mission and the meaningful work you do every day in your communities.

This month's issue of *Membership Matters* includes important updates on the launch of AAUW's 2025 Strategic Plan, the FY26 Five-Star criteria, and key resources to help your branch stay on track. Most importantly, a reminder that the **FY25 Annual Branch Survey closes on June 30**, and we're still aiming for 100% branch participation — your voice matters and we hope some of this issue's content will help you through that process.

With gratitude,



Katrina Sun Breese Senior Director of Institutional Advancement AAUW National

AAUW Unveils 2025 Strategic Plan: Empowering Equity Through Education

AAUW recently announced the launch of its <u>2025 Strategic Plan</u>, a bold blueprint reaffirming our commitment to advancing equity for women and girls through higher education and inclusive policy advocacy.

Key Priorities Include:

- Expanding Access to Higher Education: Providing direct funding for women in underserved communities and underrepresented fields, such as STEM, to promote economic security and upward mobility.
- Advocating for Inclusive Policies: Championing legislation that supports women's success in higher education and the workplace, including pay equity, paid family and medical leave, and robust workplace harassment protections.

• **Strengthening AAUW's Reach:** Supporting local, state and branch efforts and maximizing AAUW's financial and operational strength to build a movement of champions for gender equity.

We encourage all branch and state leaders to familiarize themselves with the strategic plan and consider how your local initiatives can align with these national priorities. Resources, including a downloadable one-pager and implementation toolkit, are available on our new <u>2025 AAUW Strategic Plan page</u> to assist in integrating these goals into your branch activities.

FY26 Membership Dues Collection Process Year is Open

AAUW National Dues: \$74 (National), \$18.81 (Students), \$1,480 (Lifetime). Fully tax-deductible.

Dues Disbursements: Funds from members who pay online are deposited at the end of the following month via ACH to state/branch bank accounts. Check your email for the disbursement report at the end of the month. Send bank updates to <u>connect@aauw.org</u>.

Renewal Notice Reminders: Branches that have not opted out of having National handle renewal reminders will have emails sent to their members the week of the 20th of each month in conjunction with the schedule below which is subject to change during holidays, etc. Finance officers receive confirmations as members pay online.

Month of	<u>1st Reminder</u> Month Before Expiration Emailed Week of	2nd Reminder Month of Expiration Emailed Week of	<u>3rd Reminder</u> Month After Expiration Emailed Week of	<u>4th Reminder</u> Month Before Grace Period Ends Emailed Week of
January	December 20	January 20	February 20	March 20
February	January 20	February 20	March 20	April 20
March	February 20	March 20	April 20	May 20
April	March 20	April 20	May 20	June 20
Мау	April 20	May 20	June 20	July 20
June	May 20	June 20	July 20	August 20
July	June 20	July 20	August 20	September 20
August	July 20	August 20	September 20	October 20
September	August 20	September 20	October 20	November 20
October	September 20	October 20	November 20	December 20
November	October 20	November 20	December 20	January 20

NEW FORMAT! AAUW Renewal Reminders Schedule

Month of	<u>1st Reminder</u>	2nd Reminder	<u>3rd Reminder</u>	<u>4th Reminder</u>
	Month Before	Month of	Month After	Month Before
	Expiration	Expiration	Expiration	Grace Period
	Emailed	Emailed	Emailed	Ends Emailed
	Week of	Week of	Week of	Week of
December	November 20	December 20	January 20	February 20

Five-Star Program Updates: FY26 Criteria and New Giving Options

We are pleased to announce that the **FY26 Five-Star Program criteria** are now available on our <u>Five-Star Program page</u>.

In response to interest from our leaders — and in support of AAUW's work to advance public policy and defend academic freedom — we have also expanded a FY25 Advancement criterion to include branch contributions to the **Public Policy Fund** and the **Defend Higher Education Fund**. These new options allow branches additional flexibility to support AAUW's mission in meaningful ways.

AAUW Member Art Notecards Now Available!

Add a splash of inspiration to your next note with AAUW's new **Member Art Notecards**, now available on our <u>shopfront</u>! Featuring original artwork by AAUW members, these vibrant 5" x 7" cards are perfect for thank-yous, greetings, or just brightening someone's day. Each set includes 10 blank cards and envelopes elegant, meaningful, and uniquely AAUW. <u>Grab yours today and share the power</u> <u>of creativity and connection!</u>

Discounts and Waivers - Coupon Codes

New members — either completely new to AAUW or rejoining after two or more years through the <u>Shape the Future Campaign</u> — can still get 50% off national dues using the coupon code **STFFY26**. The free membership report is now available, and the deadline to claim free membership has been extended to **October 31st**. For students at AAUW College/University member institutions, use CUStudentFY26 for undergraduate Student Associates and CUGradStudentFY26 for Graduate Students.

Dues and Donation Checks to AAUW

AAUW branches should submit membership dues through the Community Hub. Any branch unable to process dues online, should contact <u>connect@aauw.org</u> for help.

Branch Donations: Email <u>connect@aauw.org</u> to request an *Express Payment Link*. Please include the amount and fund name when making requests. **Contribution Report Form**: Please make a copy of the completed form and checks before sending. AAUW member IDs must be included in the form. Donations to *Greatest Needs* can be made online by leaders using the Renewals and Donations application.

Mail-in Contributions: Mail to P.O. Box 98045, Washington DC 20090-8045. Tracking numbers are needed to search for uncashed checks.

AAUW National Election 2025 Results

Thanks to our valued members who <u>voted</u> in the AAUW National Election and shared a voice in AAUW's future.

IMPORTANT LEADER DEADLINES – RESPOND BY JUNE 30

FY25 Annual Branch Survey Due June 30

We extend our sincere thanks to the over **90 branches** that have already completed the FY25 Annual Branch Survey. For those who have yet to complete the survey, please remember the deadline is **June 30**. To assist you in this process, we have provided some helpful resources that include a downloadable PDF of the survey questions, allowing you to review and prepare your responses in advance as well as a comprehensive checklist designed to guide you through each step of the survey.

These materials are available on the **<u>Five-Star Program page</u>**.

State and Branch Officers Needed by June 30 – Don't Lose Your Hub Access Rights

Affiliate president/administrator, membership VP, and finance officers can update officers in the hub. Even if an officer is returning, please update their term end dates. The deadline is **June 30**.

How to update:

- 1. Log in to Community Hub
- 2. Go to MY AFFILIATIONS
- 3. Click the button next to your affiliate name
- 4. Choose Manage Roster
- 5. Select STATE or BRANCH COMMITTEE
- 6. Follow the on-screen instructions

Heads-up: If an officer's term ends early, email connect@aauw.org

Strategic Plan Resources

Learn how members, branches, and states can align with our future vision.

- <u>Strategic Plan Leader Toolkit</u> with new content added all the time
- <u>5 Calls to Action page</u>
- Strategic Plan: Leadership Briefing | Tuesday, May 6 <u>Recording</u> Strategic Plan Launch | Tuesday, May 13 <u>Recording</u>
- Find other past webinars on the <u>AAUW YouTube page</u>

Community Hub Spotlight

When updating officers, access to the roster is available based on the **Start Date**.

NCCWSL/NASPA Updates

On May 28-30, 2025, over 200 students will attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) at the University of Maryland, College Park. In addition to the branches who directly awarded registration scholarships to students to attend, thank you to those states, branches and individual members that donated toward AAUW National's NCCWSL Scholarship Fund. This year we awarded 11 scholarships to AAUW student members, making it possible for them to attend this incredibly memorable event!

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

All AAUW-affiliated entities must file an annual IRS return. If your gross receipts are \$50K or less, AAUW can file the 990-N for the tax year ending 6/30/2025. Submit the group exemption from April 16 – October 15.

How: Watch our five-minute step-by-step <u>990N Request Video</u>.

Important Note: If you do not qualify to file the 990-N, explore other options (e.g., 990, 990EZ, or 990PF) at <u>irs.gov</u>.

Plan for Upcoming Events with AAUW's Speaker Request Form

Planning a state convention, branch meeting, or special program? Elevate it with a guest speaker from AAUW National.

What you get:

- AAUW experts, staff, or volunteer leaders
- Insights on national initiatives, policy priorities & more
- Content tailored to your audience

Don't wait — <u>Request a speaker</u> today using the **Speaker Request Form**!

Live Customer Support at Your Service!

Call 800.326.2289, 8:30-5pm, ET, weekdays or join us for *Office Hours* on <u>Tuesdays (3pm ET)</u> and/or <u>Thursdays (3:30 ET)</u> with your inquiries and support needs. And you can always reach us at <u>connect@aauw.org!</u> **Note**: Please do not use Memberinfo@aauw.org or Infosf@aauw.org; they are unmonitored.

Members Not Receiving Messages from AAUW

Share this resubscribe link with members who are not receiving AAUW emails: <u>https://secure.everyaction.com/p/8fvkDOF_gkmwgUN5RDy1tw2</u>.