



## AAUW No Kings Day — October 18



### **OVERVIEW**

On October 18, AAUW members are joining communities nationwide to show the power of people working together for education, economic opportunity, civil rights, and a healthy democracy. This is not a day of quiet reflection — it's a day of courage and nonpartisan, nonviolent action grounded in AAUW's mission. We'll lift up students and families, stand with educators, and affirm that every person deserves the freedom to learn, to earn, and to live with dignity.

[Find an event near you!](#)

### **WHY THIS MATTERS**

Across the country, coordinated efforts are undermining inclusive public education, weakening civil-rights protections, limiting access to affordable higher education, and narrowing participation in our democracy. These shifts widen racial and gender gaps and put burdens on women, first-generation students, and students of color.

AAUW members are not bystanders — we are change-makers. October 18 is an invitation to show up together and defend the guardrails that help people learn, work, and thrive.

### **AAUW STANDS FOR**

- **Higher education as a pathway to economic security** and upward mobility for women and girls.
- **Equitable access to higher education** that is diverse, inclusive, and free from harassment and discrimination.
- **Women's economic security at work** — pay equity; paid family, medical, sick, and safe leave; quality, affordable dependent care; harassment-free workplaces; and access to a full range of reproductive health care services.
- **The opportunity for women to pursue and thrive in any career** they choose, including leadership roles.
- **Learning environments that safeguard civil rights**, including strong Title IX enforcement and policies that protect students.
- **The dignity and equitable participation of all women** — across backgrounds and identities — in education, the workforce, and policy decisions.

Because this year's rollbacks to Title IX, voucher expansions, campus censorship, and bans on diversity, equity, and inclusion aim to limit who gets to learn and who gets to lead, we're raising our voices to protect access, equity, and opportunity.



## **HOW TO SHOW UP**

Join or host a local rally, branch or campus event, or service project. Partner with civil-rights, education, student-parent, and voting-rights groups. Share why people power matters — in person and online.

**Find an event near you:** <https://www.mobilize.us> (search for No Kings Day or local civic events).

## **Talking Points:**

Use these for emails, speakers, or quick press quotes. Keep it people-power forward, nonpartisan, and focused on education, civil rights, and democracy.

- **Higher Ed Access & Affordability**  
Policy choices are pushing college out of reach — especially for women, first-gen students, and students of color. We need debt-reducing policies and supports for student-parents so talent isn't priced out.
- **Civil Rights Enforcement**  
Students deserve learning environments free from discrimination, backed by a fully functioning U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights and, when needed, the DOJ. Fund and enforce Title IX so rights are real in every classroom and on every campus.
- **Public Ed / No Vouchers**  
Public dollars must strengthen public schools, not subsidize private vouchers that drain resources and fuel censorship. Invest in teachers, students, and inclusive, evidence-based learning.
- **Economic Security & Reproductive Freedom**  
Women's economic security depends on policies that let them learn, work, and care for their families. Protect paid leave, affordable child care, and reproductive freedom so women can stay in school, advance at work, and lead.
- **Voting Rights**  
Our voices matter — and our votes must count. Protect and expand access so every community can shape its future.




### Sample Sign Messages:

Below are examples of education-focused, nonpartisan statements that can be used for signs.

Our Rights. Our Voices. Our Vote.	College Access Is a Civil Right
Title IX: Protect Students, Protect Rights	First-Gen Students, Not Last in Line
Fund Public Schools, Not Vouchers	Civil Rights Enforced, Not Erased
Fair Pay. Paid Leave. Full Dignity.	Equity Lifts Everyone
Democracy Needs All of Us	People Power > Power Politics

### Social Media Examples:

Use #NoKings and #AAUW and add your local details. Include event information, images from your branch, and partner tags when applicable. Add to your social handle: 

- Today we show what people power looks like — standing for strong public schools, affordable higher ed, reproductive freedom, and voting rights for all. Join us and make your voice heard. #NoKings #AAUW  
Find an event: <https://www.mobilize.us>
- Education opens doors — vouchers, censorship, crushing student loan debt slam them shut. We're here for inclusive classrooms, campus safety, and policies that help students learn and thrive. #NoKings #AAUW  
Find an event: <https://www.mobilize.us>
- Women's economic security depends on access: to college, to paid leave, to pay equity, to reproductive health care. That's why we're showing up today. #NoKings #AAUW  
Find an event: <https://www.mobilize.us>
- I'm joining [**Facebook:** @AAUW / **Instagram:** @AAUWNational] and millions of Americans in cities across the country on Oct. 18 as we stand in unity against attacks on education, equity, and civil rights. #NoKings #AAUW



## Graphics:

		
<a href="https://brandfolder.com/indivisibleproject/nokings/#!asset/4rkns3kwvpr84r69jjqqqx">https://brandfolder.com/indivisibleproject/nokings/#!asset/4rkns3kwvpr84r69jjqqqx</a>	<a href="https://brandfolder.com/indivisibleproject/nokings/#!asset/6k7xfk56342h78r5v5gjj6m6">https://brandfolder.com/indivisibleproject/nokings/#!asset/6k7xfk56342h78r5v5gjj6m6</a>	<a href="https://brandfolder.com/indivisibleproject/nokings/#!asset/n4v7pbhbsv66vf8gq7k89k">https://brandfolder.com/indivisibleproject/nokings/#!asset/n4v7pbhbsv66vf8gq7k89k</a>

## WANT MORE SUPPORT?

Join one of these upcoming #NoKings trainings:

- **Oct. 9:** NO KINGS Safety & Security Training  
<https://www.mobilize.us/moveon/event/842897>
- **Oct. 14:** Messaging, Media, & Digital Engagement Training  
<https://www.mobilize.us/nokings/event/843351/>
- **Oct. 15:** Protest Safety, Know Your Rights De-escalation Training  
<https://act.aclu.org/a/no-kings-kyr-eng2>

## SINCE YOU ASKED

**Is this nonpartisan?** Yes. AAUW's participation is mission-driven and nonpartisan. We advocate for strong public education, equitable access to higher education, civil-rights enforcement, economic security for women and families, and voting rights — core values that transcend party labels. October 18 is about communities affirming those values together.

This isn't a mandate – it's an invitation. No matter how you're showing up, speaking out, or spreading the word, there's a role for every member and every branch.

**Safety & Guidance:** AAUW has also developed guidance on participation in public demonstrations, which [can be found here](#). For more safety tips and mobilization information, visit the [No Kings](#) website.

**Additional Questions?** Email us at [advocacy@aauw.org](mailto:advocacy@aauw.org).