



Bulletin

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From the President's Desk



Liz Rempel
2022-23 AAUW of Kansas President

New Board Member

The Kansas AAUW state board had a great meeting in Lindsborg, Kansas, in August. Linda Ball, a new board member and our College/University Relations Chair, joined for her first board meeting. Linda is an Assistant Lecturer of Business at Bethany College and she is passionate about women in leadership. If you are having questions about college/university partnerships and engagement, please reach out to her. We are really happy to have her on the board.

Membership & Growth

At the August meeting we also talked about the ever-present concern of organizational growth. A key for our state is to have a membership vice president on the state board (currently open). The state membership vice president oversees efforts to recruit and sustain a diverse, active membership in the state. If you are feeling called to do this, I would love to talk with you more about it!

Update from National

Improved Communication

There are hopeful signs of progress in communication from the national organization. For many of us the frustration level has been high since the launch of the new member portal and the unanticipated quagmire of problems that followed, including a lot of trouble with our annual membership renewals.

What are these hopeful signs?

- First, Malinda Gaul who is the national board vice-chair, has organized bimonthly regional meetings for state presidents to get updates from the national board and committees. I joined the September state leader liaison meeting which was focused on giving an overview of the national organization such as the board members, elections, and an update on the member portal project. Karen Francis, president of AAUW Missouri, shared about their *Inclusion Infusion* program, developed by their state diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) committee. This is a 10-minute activity that is included in each branch meeting to build members' critical thinking and knowledge about DEI. Let me know if you would like more information about this!
- I was also happy to see the email about the virtual national member gathering that was held on September 29. I hope at least a few of you were able to join!

Worth Another Look

Five Star Recognition Program

How many of you know about the AAUW national five star recognition program? The Manhattan branch is working on achieving this recognition. Many of you have probably heard about our state five star program, but it is not the same thing. The national program criteria guides the branch in working toward AAUW's mission. The five areas are: public policy and research, advancement, governance and sustainability, programs, and communications/external relations. The five star criteria give a helpful framework to guide and inform your branch's activities. The Newton area branch recently used this criteria in a member survey to help us identify a focus. If you want to learn more, look here: [Five-Star Program](#).

AAUW Fellowships & Grants - Deadlines Approaching!

AAUW is providing \$6 million in funding to more than 320 fellows and grantees in the 2022-23 award year.

Honestly, this is one of my favorite parts of AAUW and something I did not know about until a couple years ago. The deadlines are coming soon, from November 1 to December 1. There are career development grants, community action grants, graduate education grants, and more. I encourage you to familiarize yourself with these and talk them up with women who could qualify. [Click here for AAUW Fellowships & Grants](#) information.

National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)

Finally, I wanted to share about one of my favorite AAUW projects, the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders. (This also happens to have a very challenging acronym to use and remember, pronounced “nick-whistle.”) The conference is held in May but it is never too early to think about college women we would like to encourage to attend. Kansas AAUW offers scholarships. I just spoke with Linda Moyo, a 2022 attendee and scholarship recipient, and she said she is actively using what she learned to make career decisions. I was so happy to hear it! I would love to send more Kansas women to NCCWSL.

Please be in touch. 316-281-5780,

liz.rempel@gmail.com

Liz Rempel, 2022-2023 President, AAUW KS



A new program year has begun!

Our branch program planners are providing excellent programs that inform, inspire, and motivate our members. Several that have occurred already this fall are a tour of the Beth Libman Exhibition at the Wichita Art Museum led by docent and AAUW Newton member, Cathy Edwards; a powerful

presentation by Regina Platt, our state conference speaker, in Manhattan; a program on Medicaid expansion in Wichita; in Manhattan this month Audrey Swartz, Indigenous Representative for the City of Manhattan’s DEI (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion) Committee, and an upcoming program of the Wichita branch on Title IX. These programs keep our members at the leading edge of AAUW’s goals around current issues. Continue to support your branch by attending programs and participating in your communities to work for gender equity for ALL women and girls.

A note relating to our state AAUW theme of **Being Native, Being Kansan** – The Kansas Advisory Council on Indigenous Education is recommending that the state Board of Education and the Board of Regents

make it a priority to convince local boards of education to abandon culturally inappropriate imagery in branding and mascots. ([Kansas Reflector, October 12, 2022, online newsletter](#)). If schools in your area have mascots that present people of Native origin in offensive ways (e.g., Braves, Red Raiders, Warriors, Redskins), consider making your voice heard to your local board of education.

Donna Becker, Program Co-Vice president

BEING NATIVE, BEING KANSAN

Branch Program Ideas

- Highlight Native women, living or dead
- Identify the native peoples who lived where your branch meets
- Utilize [Humanities Kansas](#) webinar resources
- Begin to understand “land acknowledgments” – authenticity, shortcomings
- Study the history of “residential schools” in KS

Potential Tours

- Mid-America All-Indian Museum, Wichita
- Haskell Cultural Center & Museum
- Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site, Republic
- Kickapoo Tribal Museum, Horton
- Lost city of Etzana, Arkansas City

Opportunities to Support Our Mission through Giving to AAUW

As a new program year gets underway, many branches select a meeting or a period of time to solicit contributions for AAUW Funds. In addition, there are a multitude of avenues for you to support our mission in a more personal manner.

9110 — The AAUW Greatest Needs Fund gives AAUW the mobility to rapidly respond to new and emerging challenges or opportunities facing women and girls.

Every gift to AAUW makes a difference — but your dollars go furthest when you donate to the AAUW **Greatest Needs Fund** for our strategic focus areas. As the name implies, this is a general fund for unrestricted gifts, which are used when and where they are most needed. This prevents overfunded and underfunded areas that keep us from reaching our full mission potential.

The **Greatest Needs Fund** allows AAUW to respond rapidly, in our communications and advocacy, to critical issues affecting women as they emerge — whether it's a new threat to Title IX, an opportunity to partner with employers, or the dawn of a social justice movement like #MeToo. When donations are not restricted to fellowships or specific projects, we have the dollars we need to pivot as the national dialogue shifts — and get our work covered by major media outlets such as the New York Times, CNN, and Fortune.

Greatest Needs is also what fuels our groundbreaking research and effective advocacy work to pass fair-pay laws and other key equity legislation.

We don't know what challenges women will face in the future, but we do know that AAUW has always been there to meet them. By making an unrestricted gift, you are supporting all of AAUW for the future.



4450 — Education and Training Fund

addresses the barriers and implicit biases that hinder advancement of women by championing equal access to education and ensuring that education at every level is free from sex discrimination.

4459 — Economic Security Fund promotes women's livelihoods through advocacy for fair-pay, legislation, researching the pay gap,



training women to negotiate for the salaries they deserve, and advising employers on fostering fair cultures.

4452 — Leadership Fund supports the effort to close the gender gap in leadership opportunities by bolstering the participation of and increasing the number of girls and women in leadership roles, particularly in education and nonprofit organizations.



4451 — Governance and Sustainability Fund ensures the strength, relevance, and viability of AAUW into the future by implementing best practices in organizational functioning and inclusion and by diversifying revenue.



AAUW Legacy Circle

By making a planned gift to AAUW National, you become a member of the AAUW Legacy Circle and affirm your commitment to equity. Planned giving gifts can be done in many ways — life insurance, retirement plans, real estate, charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, and charitable lead trusts.



When you make a planned gift, you'll receive a beautiful pin designed by Swarovski and former AAUW Educational Foundation President Alice Ann Leidel to honor your generosity and commitment to the future of women and girls. This lovely pin is a gold wreath adorned with pavé crystals and trimmed with a gold ribbon that proudly proclaims, "A Legacy of Equity." At the base of the wreath is an open book with a suspended pearl. We hope that you will proudly wear it and share your story with your AAUW sisters and friends.

Kansas Sunflower Garden



The Sunflower Garden was established by Kansas AAUW as a way to honor a branch member or anyone who you feel deserves special recognition. This could be a special teacher who influenced your life, an outstanding branch member, a mentor, or a friend. Many branches make sunflower contributions in memory of members who passed away during the year. A minimum \$25 contribution payable to AAUW Funds "plants" a sunflower in the person's name. Honorees and contributors are

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recognized at the next KS AAUW Annual Meeting. Contributions should be sent to the State AAUW Funds Chair (that's me). I'll forward them to AAUW National and designate them to the Greatest Needs Fund.

If you have questions on fundraising for AAUW or need more information on any of these ways of giving, please reach out to me at tilandis00@gmail.com.

Every Gift Makes an Impact. Every Gift Changes Someone's Life.
Your Generosity Makes That Possible. Thank you!!!
Tresa Landis, AAUW Funds Chair



RECRUITING? Let's say INVITING!

Growing each of our branches is essential. The current branch members must agree and engage for it to grow.

First, as a member, you must know what projects and programs you admire and like about your AAUW.

Learn to smile and say it in a sentence or two. For example, "My local AAUW sends middle school girls to Grow Camp at K-State where they live in a dorm and participate in activities on campus to enhance and inspire their interest in their schoolwork and in continuing their education. Our meetings have interesting speakers and discussions, AND we are proud to be a part of the support of Madam Curie, AND we have a good time!!" Practice out loud. Second, collaborate to create a prospect list. Who do you know? Who do you WANT to know? Find graduates in your community.

Family, friends, Sunday School, neighbors, co-workers, City and County officials, businesses, yellow pages—doctors, lawyers, teachers, college instructors. Write down their names and contact information. Share names, discuss and collaborate! Who knows who?

How about a letter to local companies offering the opportunity to select participants to become a part of your worthwhile organization? Which companies?

Third plan an event for gathering your members and your prospects.

Decide who will call upon whom to invite to the event to share more regarding AAUW or just to sign up and start having a good time with your branch.

Fourth, the next branch meeting must be interesting and well organized. Go and grow!!

How-to is simple if you know how and follow through!!!! You CAN!!

Carolyn Dwire, Treasurer & Recruitment Guru



NEED A GIFT FOR A FRIEND?



How about an AAUW membership?
Go to...

<https://www.aauw.org/membership/>



SATURDAY, April 22, 2023
AAUW KS ANNUAL MEETING
Manhattan, Kansas



Supporters of SB479 gather around Gov. Kelly as she signs it into law. Among the observers are Louise Ehmke, behind the governor, wearing the "Votes for Women" sash.

Governor Kelly signs Bill Commemorating and Celebrating Kansas Suffragists

(Press Release from the office of Senator Elaine Bower)

In June, Governor Laura Kelly signed Senate Bill 479, authorizing the Capitol Preservation Committee to approve plans to place a permanent memorial recognizing the Kansas suffragist movement in the statehouse.

"Kansas has always been on the forefront of progress, and our history played a major role in the suffragist movement," Governor Laura Kelly said. "Kansas was the first state to hold a referendum on women's suffrage, and we're home to the first female mayor elected in the nation. I'm proud to sign this bill into law so that the next generation remembers our history, celebrates the trailblazers that paved the way, and recognizes the importance of participating in our democracy."

"It was an honor to bring forward this legislation on behalf of the women who...fought so hard for many years for the right for women to vote," Senator Elaine Bowers said. "It is easy today to take this voting right for granted but how very important it is to remember how much of a challenge and a struggle it was for women all over the United States, including Kansas, over 100 years ago. In keeping with the mission of the Capitol Preservation Committee - *to ensure that the historical beauty of the capitol complex of the areas are preserved* - this monument to Women's Suffrage is appropriate and long overdue and certainly deserving to be installed for the benefit of future generations.

Funding for the memorial will be provided through the creation of Kansas Suffragist Memorial Fund which will be administered by the Kansas Treasurer's Office. More information on SB479 can be found at www.kslegislature.org.

KS Suffrage Memorial Committee members met with the Capitol Preservation Committee to discuss potential locations for the memorial.

Louise Ehmke, Public Policy, Kansas Suffrage Memorial Committee



Board 2022-2023

aauwks@gmail.com

President

Elizabeth Rempel

liz.rempel@gmail.com

Co-Program Vice Presidents

Marjean Harris

marjean@mtelco.net

Donna Becker

beckerdonna2@gmail.com

Secretary and Branch Services

Paula Shields

paula.shields051@gmail.com

Treasurer

Carolyn Dwire

aporchlady@aol.com

AAUW Funds Chair

Tresa Landis

tilandis00@gmail.com

College/University Partnership

Linda Ball

lball@bethanylb.edu

Public Policy

Louise Ehmke

vlehmke@st-tel.net

Communications/IT

Lynnette Redington

lredington12@gmail.com

Vacant

- Membership Vice President

Find AAUW news for Kansas at our website -

<https://aauw-ks.aauw.net/>



Looking for some \$\$?

Does your Branch have an idea that is innovative that will advance education and for women and girls? AAUW has a funding opportunity for you or your branch called Community Action Grants.

Or you may have heard of the grants and fellowships for women to advance their education research and studies.

Check out [AAUW for grant details](#) in this and many other funding options. Share the link with your local universities and college students and career development offices.

BE SURE TO CHECK THE CLOSING DATES!

VOLUME
100

We've hit 100 bulletin or newsletter seasons here at the AAUW of Kansas! Each editor of the past and present took pride in the news we brought to you about AAUW – national, state, and local.

Currently email allows us to send the bulletin to each member (National = formerly "Member-at-large" and branch), many state legislators, and federal congress persons. Hardcopies are sent to those with no email addresses.

Anyone can view the bulletin at the AAUW of KS website. <https://aauw-ks.aauw.net/>

If you hear that someone is NOT receiving the bulletin by email, please send a note to lredington12@gmail.com with the correct email address.



KNOW THE FACTS!

The Kansas Legislature has put two constitutional amendments on the November 8 ballot. The Legislative Veto or Suspension of

Executive Agency Regulations Amendment would shift the current balance of power by allowing the Kansas Legislature to revoke or suspend any rule or regulation adopted by executive branch agencies.

The Kansas County Sheriff Election and Recall Amendment would require county sheriffs be elected and give authority to the Attorney General to begin the process to remove or recall sheriffs from office, instead of the District Attorney.

VOTING RESOURCES:

- [KSVotes.org](https://www.ksvotes.org): Register to vote, update your registration, apply for a mail-in ballot
- [Vote411.org](https://www.vote411.org): Find your candidates, ballot, and polling place.

Dates to Remember:

Nov 1 Deadline for voters to apply for advance voting mail-in ballot

Nov 8 GENERAL ELECTION-Be sure to VOTE and not neglect the POWER of ONE vote!

Find more non-partisan details about the issues on the November 8 ballot at [lwvk.org](https://www.lwvk.org).

Louise Ehmke, Public Policy



AAUW Action Fund Mission

The AAUW Action Fund advances equity for women and girls through member activism and voter mobilization.

Since 1881, AAUW has been the nation's leading voice promoting education and equity for women and girls.

The AAUW Action Fund was established July 1, 2009, following a strategic restructuring of AAUW, the AAUW Educational Foundation, and the AAUW Leadership and Training Institute. The AAUW Action Fund supports AAUW's continuing goal of breaking through barriers for women and girls, and it does so through member activism and voter mobilization. Both organizations have a nationwide network of nearly 100,000 members, 1,000 branches, and 600 college/university institution partners.

AAUW Action Fund
1310 L St. NW, Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20005
800/326-AAUW (2289)
connect@aauw.org

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.



October 2022 Bulletin

AAUW - Advancing gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy.

Stay on top of AAUW Public Policy issues by subscribing to the AAUW Action Network.

<http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/>

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