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AAUW MISSION:

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy.

VISION:
Equity for all.

The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

The AAUW Educational Opportunities Fund provides funds to advance education, research and self-development for women and to foster equity and positive societal change.

The AAUW Fund allows AAUW to put resources where they are most needed.

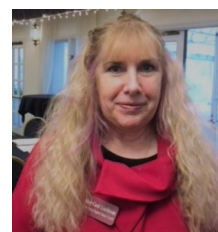
PROGRAM NEWS

Welcome back to a new and exciting 2021-2021 year of Ithaca Branch AAUW programming. Energized by a welcomed crispness in the air, our program V.P.s have been busy planning this years programming events. Much is in the works and will be announced as details are in place.

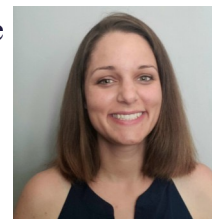


FALL PROGRAMS

On **Wednesday, September 29, 2021 at 4 p.m.** AAUW member Mary-Carol Lindbloom, Executive Director of South Central Regional Library Council (SCRLC) and Claire Lovell, SCRLC's Digital Services Librarian, will take you on a virtual tour featuring the **New York Heritage Digital Collections and New York State Historic Newspapers**. SCRLC, one of nine library resources councils across the state, built these resources in collaboration with the other councils. Browse through Recognizing Women's Right to Vote in New York State online exhibit, curated by Dr. Sally Roesch Wagner (Matilda Joslyn Gage House), Dr. Susan Goodier (SUNY Oneonta), and Julia Corrie (Cornell). Be one of the first to see the new-to-be released Immigration in New York State 1650-1950, curated by Karen Pastorello (TC3) and Dr. David Hochfelder (SUNY Albany) with project management and additional contributions from Claire Lovell and others.



Mary-Carol Lindbloom



Claire Lovell

October's program will be presented by Professor Bill Miller, School of Integrative Plant Science Horticulture Section at Cornell University. He has been working with the Ithaca Garden Club, using a bulb planting machine to plant bulbs in Stewart Park, along Rt89 by the Children's Garden, Newman Golf Course area and Rt366 headed to Varna. He will talk about the Daffodil Project for the City of Ithaca. October date, time and ZOOM information to come.



Prof. Bill Miller

See Program News page 3

Dates to Remember

Sunday, September 12: Last day to send in your book nominations

Saturday, September 18: Book group will discuss *Bones of Paris* 12:00 pm at the home of Jan Scarlette.

Wednesday, September 29: Virtual tour featuring the New York Heritage Digital Collections and New York State Historic Newspapers at 4:00 pm. Zoom link will be sent.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we continue to navigate through the pandemic, I hope that you were able to experience some normal social activities over this summer with many family and friends.

The 2021-2022 membership year will continue to adapt to the changing prevalence of COVID-19 variants in our area. At a time when the AAUW Board continues to address what equity and inclusion means for the organization going forward, we are extremely appreciative that our long-time members have renewed their membership with the branch. I encourage you to express your opinions on these important issues to AAUW Leaders.



We are thrilled to welcome four new members to the Branch. Jan Scarlett, Joan Reese, Dani Wassink, and Gwen Freeman. Please join me with welcoming them to the branch. We are also appreciative that one of our former branch presidents, Elva Holman Vollbrecht, has returned to the Ithaca area and has been serving as our Governance Chair.

Mary-Carol Lindbloom and Barbara Stewart are working on a diverse and thought provoking array of programs for members. I hope that you will be able to join us over Zoom for our fall programs.

Madeleine Hemmings has been working hard on public policy issues for the branch and has provided you with template support letters on the federal legislation for Voting Rights and the Family Infrastructure Act to send to Senators Gillibrand and Schumer and to Congressman Reed. The branch may also partner with the League of Women Voters on voter registration events later this month, so your help with covering the event will be welcomed.

In July, I was able to attend the AAUW NYS Summer Board Meeting in-person and gain first hand exposure to the current leadership's work and the direction that the state is going in. I encourage all of you to feel free to attend any of our branch board meetings and consider becoming more active with AAUW Leadership.

Wishing you health and happiness,

Kim Edgar
Ithaca Branch President

PUBLIC POLICY NEWS

THE 2-MINUTE ACTIVIST

AAUW provides all the tools you need to send emails and texts to your state legislators and members of Congress. You can contact them about pressing issues to fight for equal pay, family leave, stopping sexual harassment, equality in education and more. When the New York State Legislature and the Congress are in regular session in the fall, AAUW National will send emails on issues of public interest. A letter is already formulated for you. All you have to do is click on the legislator's name and send that letter. It is a simple process and an easy and effective way to be a part of getting legislation for women passed.

All you need to do is sign up, however, AAUW's website can be confusing to its members. I have broken down the steps to help members register for this valuable tool.

Steps to Register for 2-Minute Activist

1. Go to AAUW.org on a computer or phone with internet capability
2. Click on the magnifying glass
3. Type in 2-Minute Activist
4. Go to the bottom of the page and click on sign-up
5. Put in member's contact information
6. Tap submit



You provide the
voice.
We'll provide the
megaphone.

Madeleine Hemmings - Public Policy Chair

AAUW BOOK GROUP NEWS



Book Group Luncheon Sept. 18

All members and guests are invited to our first Book Group event of the year—a brown bag luncheon at the home of Jan Scarlett on Saturday, September 18 at noon. Bring your own sandwich. Drinks and dessert will be provided. We will be outdoors.

In addition to finally being able to meet each other in person, we will (1) consider books to read for the coming year and (2) discuss *The Bones of Paris* by Laurie King.

Choose Books for 2021-22

What should we read this year?

We need your nominations by Sunday, September 12. In general, we usually read books by or about women, but are open to others. Fiction or non-fiction, plays, poetry, short stories, graphic, children's, young adult, new or old, short or long, mystery, humor, memoir, science fiction— Introduce us to good reads worth discussing.

Email your nominations to Lin (ltollefsen11@gmail.com). Send title & author, type of book, and a sentence or two about why you think we would like to read it. We will assemble the list of nominees for our September gathering. You can vote in person on the 18th or by email the next week.

The Bones of Paris by Laurie King

is a novel of suspense set during the vibrant and dark days of jazz-age Paris in 1929. We thought this might be a good beach read for these late summer days. We hope to see you on September 18 and find out if you agree. Jan Scarlett lives east of Ellis Hollow, off Hurd Road at 88 Hollister Road. You can reach her at 539-6398, 342-2700 or jms15@cornell.edu.

Let us know if you would like to be added to the Book Group email list.

Lin Tollefsen 227-1651 or ltollefsen11@gmail.com
Jeanette Knapp 272-3367 or jdk454@gmail.com

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Branch members will receive Zoom notifications before the event. If you are not a member and would like to participate in our programs contact Kim Edgar, KimberlySEdgar@gmail.com to be added to the list.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Our membership is growing! We have 46 members. Four of these are new and one is returning after being away from Ithaca for many years.

Welcome to Gwen Freeman, Joan Reese, Jan Scarlett, and Daneen (Dani) Wassink. Welcome back to Elva Volbrecht who has returned to Ithaca after being away for many years. We look forward to getting to know our new members through Zoom and hopefully in person.



The AAUW branch in Cortland has disbanded. We have reached out to their members to join us. New members are always welcome. Soon there will be a new brochure for prospective members to learn about us.

Norma Goldberg
Membership Chair



HIGHLY SOUGHT AFTER POSITION NOW AVAILABLE

We are looking for someone to fill the position of AAUW Ithaca branch newsletter editor.

The newsletter editor is responsible for preparation, mailing and emailing a pdf version of the branch newsletter to members. Duties include editing contributions, doing layout, and keeping a digital backup of all original newsletters published. A sense of humor is helpful but not mandatory.

If you are interested in this chance of a lifetime position, please contact Kim Edgar, KimberlySEdgar@gmail.com.

AAUW STATEMENT ON SUPREME COURT RULING ON TEXAS LAW RESTRICTING REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

The following is a statement from Kate Nielson, AAUW's Senior Director of Public Policy, Legal Advocacy, & Research:



"AAUW strongly condemns the U.S. Supreme Court's refusal to suspend implementation of a dangerous Texas law that would virtually strip individuals of their well-established, Constitutional right to control their bodies and erode their economic security. The nation's highest court is enabling a

vicious system of vigilante lawsuits that aims to turn citizens against one another in furtherance of the most extreme anti-choice agenda. This ruling, which bypasses Constitutional review, effectively abolishes a pregnant person's ability to make personal choices. Curtailing reproductive rights is a seismic affront to all Americans and AAUW vows to ferociously fight to ensure quality, affordable, and accessible health care for all."



CHECK US OUT

Find us on
facebook



Keep up to date on our Facebook page:
AAUW Ithaca Branch. Find us and like us! Our page was created and is maintained by Margaret Nichols.

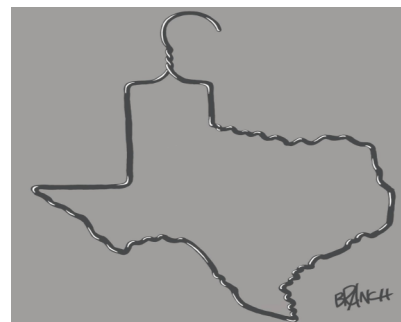
For local, state and national AAUW updates and links, check out our Ithaca Branch website created and maintained by Alene Wyatt.



I DISSENT



"In effect, the Texas Legislature has deputized the State's citizens as bounty hunters, offering them cash prizes for civilly prosecuting their neighbors' medical procedures. Because the Court's failure to act rewards tactics designed to avoid judicial review and inflicts significant harm on the applicants and on women seeking abortions in Texas, I dissent." Sonia Sotomayor



Want to help fight the Texas law and others like it? A few organizations to consider supporting with your time and/or money (but do your own due diligence) include:

The [ACLU](#)

[The Center for Reproductive Rights](#)

[NARAL Pro-choice America](#)

[The Planned Parenthood Action Fund](#)



"He who hath not
a uterus should
shut the hell up."

- Fallopian 13:13