



empowering women since 1881

# Ithaca Insights

May 2022 Issue

## BOARD MEMBERS

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**Diversity Equity and Inclusion Chair:**  
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**22-23 Newsletter Editor:** Jeanette Knapp

**Book Group Co Chairs:**  
Jeanette Knapp  
Lin Tollefson

**Nominations Committee:** Vacant

**Financial Review Committee:** Vacant

## 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.*

## **Branch Annual Meeting Saturday, June 4th at 11:00AM. Cornell Botanic Garden Nevin Building**

Happy Spring to Everyone from Barbara Stewart, Program Co-Vice President.

The AAUW Ithaca Branch will hold its Annual Meeting and picnic at the Cornell Botanic Garden Nevin Building. There is a metered parking area and two handicap parking places close to the building. Our meeting will take place in the classroom. There is an elevator, There will be a short program with additional details TBA. The picnic will take place in the summer house, just a short walk behind the building. If time and interest permits, I'd like to show those interested in a walk around the gardens in front of the building.

Please feel free to invite your friends, family, and anyone interested in learning more about AAUW and the gardens to this special end-of-the-membership year program.

A box lunch from *Adam's Corners Café* will be provided. There is a sandwich choice, bread, protein (vegetarian options), and all the add ons! A fruit cup and water will be provided and if you would like a juice or soft drink, please let Barbara know. As a special treat, Via Carpenter, a new branch member will provide us with *Via's Cookies*.

The Branch will be covering the charge of the lunch as a thank you for your continuing support and membership, especially over the last two plus years of the COVID-19 Pandemic and its impact on all of our lives.

Please contact Barbara Stewart at bbs2@cornell.edu or #(607) 532-4917 with your lunch selections and if you have any questions *prior to Tuesday, May 17th*.

## **Dates to Remember**

**May 21st:** Book Group & Other Members Volunteer at Tompkins County Public Library Book Sale from 12:30pm. To 3:00pm.

**May 23rd:** Branch Members Honored with Named Gifts Deadline to Norma Goldberg and Carolyn McPherson.

**June 4th at 11:00am:** Annual Branch Meeting, Lecture, and Picnic Lunch at Cornell Nevin Welcome Center and Summer House.

**June 7 thru 26th:** "Hurricane Diane" - Kitchen Theatre.

**June 23rd:** Title IX Turns 50 Anniversary

**June 30th:** AAUW Membership Renewal for 2022-2023.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we approach the end of the 1st half of 2022, the year so far has been marked with lots of challenges to many key AAUW Public Policy Initiatives, removing barriers to and quality of education for all, economic security for seniors, and achieving equity for women. 50 years after Title IX was enacted into law, the statistics for women's access to educational and athletic opportunities are not where many of us thought we would be.

AAUW in its 140th year continues to address these challenges, along with continuing to both financially support and advocate for women's education and advocacy. AAUW recognized the historic milestone of Ketanji Brown Jackson's Confirmation to the Supreme Court. For the 2022-2023 Academic Year, AAUW is awarding over \$6 million in funding to more than 320 fellows and grantees. Your ongoing membership and support of AAUW Funds is critical for the organization to continue to address these challenges. Thank you for your membership.

Earlier this Spring, the Branch Board decided that we should continue the tradition of recognizing special contributions made by branch members after a two-year break due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Previously, the honored members were recognized by AAUW NYS at their Annual Convention and the branch would list honorees in our annual membership directory. The branch will now continue this tradition at the branch level. At our Annual Meeting on June 4th, we would like to recognize both the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 Membership Years. Norma Goldberg and Carolyn McPherson have graciously agreed to review the nominations for these branch recognition honors. Please send your nominations to them by Monday, May 23, 2022, along with a brief statement outlining the reasons why the member(s) should be recognized. Thank you for your contributions to our efforts to honor great members in our branch.

Our Program Vice-Presidents Barbara Stewart and Mary-Carol Lindbloom have provided wonderful, diverse, and thought provoking programs throughout year. Our June 4th Annual Meeting should be a fun social event for all to visit and learn more about the Cornell Nevin Botanic Gardens, along with having a catered box lunch. Personally, I have never been to the gardens, so I have been looking forward to the event since the program idea was first raised last summer. Hope that you will be able to join us.

Over this summer, we will have a First-Time Financial Review of our Treasurer Records. If you would like to serve on this one-day committee (Financial Review Committee), please contact me. Thank you.

Hope you, your family, and friends have a wonderful and healthy summer.

Kim



**Kitchen Theatre—Branch Interest Group**  
**HURRICANE DIANE written by MADELEINE GEORGE**  
**Directed by Rebecca Bradshaw**  
**JUN 7 - JUN 26, 2022**

In the suburbs of the Garden State, the Greek God Dionysus returns from the heavens in the guise of a butch gardener named Diane, who's hell bent on reversing climate change and restoring earthly order by seducing a band of mortal followers. Where better to begin than with four housewives sipping on giant glasses of Zinfandel? The latest gossip and home improvement plans are brought to their knees by the whirls of ancient myth, ecological revenge and an ecstatic awakening for the ages in this perfect storm of timely tragicomedy.

For More Information about the Kitchen Theatre—Branch Interest Group, please contact Margaret Nichols, Alene Wyatt, or Jeanette Knapp.

# The Book Group

## *Our Changing Menu*

Join the Book Group in person on Monday evening, June 13 at 6:00 p.m. A light supper—inspired by our surprising book—will be served. Our guest will be Carrie Koplinka-Loehr, one of the authors of *Our Changing Menu: Climate Change and the Foods We Love and Need*. Her co-authors are Michael P. Hoffmann and Danielle L. Eiseman.

Much of the concern about global warming has been about heat, violent storms, drought, high winds, the warming oceans, fiercer hurricanes and widespread flooding. But long-term changes in the weather will also have profound effects on our food and what we can and should grow and eat. This book is a fascinating look at the realities of our current food situation and what is likely to change.

All members are welcome to join us, but do let us know you are coming. Call or email Jeanette at 272-3367 or [jdk454@gmail.com](mailto:jdk454@gmail.com) by Friday, June 10. We will be meeting at Jeanette's house, 1143 Ellis Hollow Road, Ithaca. We are planning a COVID-safe evening, mainly outdoors if possible, so dress for the weather. Our discussion will begin after supper at about 7:00 p.m.

**Books for 2022-23:** It is time to select books to read for the coming year, September 2022 through June 2023. Last call for nominations is Wednesday, June 1. Send the title, author and a brief description to Lin. She will circulate the list of nominated books before we gather via Zoom to discuss and vote on them on Tuesday, June 7 at 7:00 p.m. If you cannot attend, vote by email by June 7. Good reads of all types are welcome: fiction, non-fiction, new, old, light or classic, humor or tragedy, plays, poetry, children's, young-adult, science fiction, mystery, romance, graphic. We often choose books by and about women or girls in all times and cultures, but are open to any good book.

**AAUW at the Book Sale:** We will be working at the Friends of the Library Book Sale on Saturday, May 21 from 12:30 to 3:00 p.m. If you can help, let Jeanette know. For more information about the sale, see [booksale.org](http://booksale.org).



## What Would The NYS Equality Amendment Do? AAUW-NYS Coalition Information from PowHER NY

New York needs a constitution that reflects true and lasting equality for all communities. The New York State Equality Amendment (S.8797, Krueger) will amend the state's constitution to comprehensively prohibit discrimination based on a person's race, ethnicity, national origin, disability, and sex—including pregnancy and pregnancy outcomes, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression. Importantly, the Equality Amendment would prohibit both intentional discrimination and policies that, even if neutral in theory, have a uniquely negative impact on particular communities.

By prohibiting this kind of impact-based discrimination, S8797 would provide a legal path to dismantling structural discrimination, which is particularly important for shifting longstanding institutional racism. Prohibiting impact-based discrimination is not new; in fact, this standard exists in federal statutes and in New York City's Human Rights Law. And it is more important than ever to include a disparate impact analysis in an Equality Amendment so that our state's constitution contains a lasting, fundamental promise of equality for all—a pathway to real accountability and healing.

Read more from the campaign leaders at [equalitynowny.org](http://equalitynowny.org).

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS FROM NORMA GOLBERG

The membership renewals for 2022-2023 are off to a good start. Many people have renewed already. Some have rounded up their dues. This helps offset any help others may need.

Our programming has been outstanding this year. We look forward to more of the same. Again the hope is to meet in person at least some of the time. Please renew your membership by June 30th, so you are able to participate in these activities. This may be done either online at [aauw.org](http://aauw.org) or mailing the form that is in this newsletter. The form give you directions on how to either renew online or the traditional way,

We look forward to another good year for our Ithaca Branch of AAUW.

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### **Title IX is 50 Years Old! From Nan Scinta NYS Public Policy Chair**

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is the federal law that prohibits sex discrimination in education. We think of this law in regards to girls having equal opportunities in the sports fields. However, the law affects all areas of education, including

- \* recruitment, admissions, and housing
- \* career and technical education
- \* pregnant, parenting and/or married students
- \* science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM)
- \* sexual harassment and assault
- \* comparable facilities and access to course offerings
- \* financial assistance
- \* student health services and insurance benefits
- \* harassment based on gender identity
- \* athletics

Each school district has a Title IX Coordinator whose responsibilities include authority, resources, and compliance to all areas of this law. This is especially important now in light of current discussions of civil rights in all race and gender areas where possible discrimination may be an issue to some people. But thank goodness for the framework 50 years ago of those legislators who championed the rights of girls and women to receive equal opportunities in education.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN BRANCH PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

A. Antonia Glasse, a long-time AAUW Member and strong supporter for pay equity gave the branch money in her will. We would like to do a special memorial project honoring her legacy. If you would like to serve on the committee, please contact Kim Edgar.

B. Several years ago, the branch co-partnered with the Cortland Branch on a Tech Savvy Conference held at TC3. The two branches split the profits for the conference. We would like to form a committee explore the possibility of sending a local college student to the 2023 NCCWSL (AAUW National Conference for College Women Leaders) with the funds. If you would like to serve on the committee, please contact Kim Edgar.

C. We are looking for a member who would like to Co-Chair the AAUW Action Funds with Carolyn McPherson. This opportunity allows a member to explore and pursue different aspects of AAUW Funds and our local scholarship for a non-traditional returning female college student attending TC3.

D. This year, Elva Holman Vollbrecht is chairing the Governance Committee. If you would like to participate in the revision of the Branch Bylaws, Strategic Plan, Succession Plan, and possibly a Policies and Procedures Manual for the branch, please contact Elva Vollbrecht.

F. Public Policy Chair: We are looking for a new Public Policy Chair. The position can also be shared among several members. If you are interested in becoming more active with AAUW's Public Policy Initiatives, please contact Kim Edgar.

G. Nominations Committee: For the 2022-2023 Membership Year, our Membership Vice-President and Financial Officer (Treasurer) new Two-Year Terms start.

H. Financial Review Committee Members Needed. This is a brand new committee that will review our financial records and procedures.

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### **AAUW Community Hub**

AAUW launched a new Community Hub. Your personal portal into AAUW. Please Create your account login on the AAUW Website. [Connect@aauw.org](mailto:Connect@aauw.org) is and the Systems Update Page for support.

### **STAY INFORMED**

For local, state and national AAUW updates and links check out our Ithaca Branch website

Go to: [ithaca-ny.aauw.net](http://ithaca-ny.aauw.net)

Also, visit our Ithaca Branch of AAUW Facebook Site.

