



## **Maria Ellis, MBA**

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**Maria Ellis, MBA, is the District Council Director on the board at AAUW NYS and most recently she participated in the AAUW Breaking Through Barriers Major Gifts Campaign and helped raise AAUW's goal of \$1 million to further our AAUW mission.** For the past ten years she has held many positions including being past President and Treasurer at the AAUW NYC Branch. Recently she joined the North Shore Branch, as well as a dual member with the Westchester Branch. Maria has received the "Woman of the Future" award sponsored by The American Association of University Women (AAUW) and the New York Women's Agenda.

Maria is a graduate of the Owner President Management Program at The Harvard Business School. She obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and an MBA from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. Currently employed as a Real Estate Broker in the Relocation Department at Citi-Habitats, Inc. Maria has previously worked in insurance, real estate and banking including Bank of America, Lloyds Bank, Mitsui Bank and Citibank.

Maria has been married for over 30 years and she is a mother of two sons, Michael, a graduate from Yale University and Tommy, a graduate of UPenn. The Ellis family shares passions for travel, skiing and scuba diving. Maria is an Elder at The Presbyterian Church of Chatham Township and enjoys singing in the Chancellor Choir.

She volunteers in a few selected non-profit organizations including The NYC Opera and The Harvard Club of New York City. Most recently Maria became a member of the Development Committee at The Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund to promote small grant funding to empower women and girls in developing countries. Maria is also a mentor and a member of the Board of Trustees at the College of Mount Saint Vincent which offers excellent academic and professional programs to more than 1,800 undergraduate and graduate students.

**Maria emphasized the importance of recruiting, maintaining and growing our membership to help maximize AAUW's primary goals:**

1. For **The Educational Opportunities Fund** to continue providing funds to advance education, research and self development for women and to foster equity.
2. For **The Legal Advocacy Fund** to continue providing the funding and the system support for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination in higher education.
3. For **The Public Policy Fund** to continue advocating for policies and laws that are fair to women.
4. For **The Leadership Programs Fund** to continue leading and teaching others to lead in their schools, work-places, communities and country.
5. For **The Eleanor Roosevelt Fund** to continue researching issues which are important to women and girls.