

OVERALL BRANCH PROGRAMMING 2011-2012

Note: Completion answers should be only 1 to 3 sentences.

Planning: (50 points)

50 The branch had a **written strategic plan** guiding branch activities (10). (Please **attach** a copy.)

It included: ✓

Goals related to the AAUW mission (10) ✓

Specific action steps (10) ✓

Measurable outcomes (10) ✓

Which outcomes were achieved? What changes might your branch make next year? (10) ✓

Outcomes in all organizational areas were achieved. Particularly successful outcomes were: High Member Retention, Dissemination of public policy issues to the membership, Publicity for our Monthly Membership Programs and annual events like Woman of the Year and Writers' Tea. We were also able to clarify our accounting methods by switching to more appropriate software that better reflects our organization activities and associated revenues and expenses

Program: (50 points)

47 **Calendar of branch events** (Please **attach** a copy, including title (3), presenters (3), date (3), time (3), place (3), co-sponsors (3), and approximate attendance (3).) ✓ ✓ ✓

List of interest groups (Please **attach**, including name (3), one sentence description (3), and time of meetings - day or evening, weekday or weekend (3).) (2) ✓ ✓ ✓

New or ongoing branch projects. Please **attach**, with a short one paragraph description of each. (10) ✓

How many members participated in planning programs? (5) 33 ✓

In planning your program, did you have an overriding theme or other guidelines? Explain. (5) Gender equity for women domestically and globally ✓

Membership Development: (50 points)

- 50
- The branch improved retention of members. (5) ✓
 - The branch invited former members and/or members at large to branch events. (5) ✓
 - The branch added new members. (5) ✓
 - The branch included information on how to become a member in its publicity materials. (5) ✓
 - The branch Membership VP or others actively recruited new members at branch programs. (5) ✓
 - Community groups co-sponsored programs or projects, collaborated with the branch to host activities, or established an ongoing partnership with the branch. List the group(s) (5): ✓

League of Women Voters, Vassar brothers Hospital, DC Health Department, IBM, Raytheon, Lisa Libraries

- Campus groups co-sponsored programs or projects, collaborated with the branch to host activities, or established an ongoing partnership with the branch. List the group(s) (5): ✓

Dutchess Community College for the Girls' Conference and Marist College for the new program on Math and Science for high School Seniors

- Diverse or underrepresented groups co-sponsored programs or projects, collaborated with the branch to host activities, or established an ongoing partnership with the branch. List the group(s) (5): ✓

We have an ongoing relationship with African - American and Latina women through our 3 programs: My Sister's keeper, Diversity and our fledgeling women and healthcare program

- The branch successfully recruited new members from underrepresented populations. (5) ✓
- The branch tried something new to recruit members. Please describe briefly. Did it work? What might you do differently next year? (5) ✓

We are trying to our personal and professional development programming that is meaningful to under-represented groups so that they might see that the AAUW can play a role in the lives of its members and will want to join

Leadership Development: (15 points)

- 15
- The branch maintains and regularly uses a card file or other data base of members' skills and interests. (5) ✓
 - New and ongoing members who haven't held leadership positions were actively sought for new roles. (5) ✓
 - The branch publicized to members opportunities for leadership positions within the branch and at the State and Association level. (5) ✓

Technology and Communications: (10 points)

- 10
- The branch has initiated or expanded new technology in communications (ex. E-mailing, conference calls, electronic transmission of newsletters, branch web site, etc.). Describe what you did. How did it work? ✓

Our new website is up and running. Users have expressed a high level of satisfaction with it. We have been able to post our Board Minutes as well as our Strategic Plan on the website and we continue to change our content on a frequent basis to make it more compelling for returning and new users. We also believe that the new weband more appealing web content has been instrumental in increasing attendance at our Monthly Membership Meetings. We continue to monitor the site for customer satisfaction.

Visibility: (25 points)

- 25
- The branch sent press releases to local newspapers. (5) ✓
 - The branch put up posters in libraries, colleges, and other public places. (5) ✓
 - The branch notified other organizations about programs of mutual interest. (5) ✓
 - The branch explored local radio and/or TV exposure. (5) ✓

The branch tried a way to reach people they had not done before (or in a long time). What did you do? How did it work? (5) ✓

We've come full circle in understanding that while emails need to be sent, personal contact is also very important, particularly for members who are not very active in the organization. We have been trying steadily to reach people through personal telephone calls. Our rudimentary telephone campaign has become more formalized and we have assembled a cadre of members who are responsible for making calls to reach other members to remind and persuade them to attend Monthly Membership Meetings as well as our annual events. We believe that this has helped our attendance figures and has increased goodwill within the organization.

Mail or email the original of your entire application with supporting materials to:

- Peggy Kelland, AAUW-NYS Program Vice President
- 13 Susan Lane, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

smkell45@aol.com

Questions? (845)297-0507

Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc.

Strategic Plan 2012-2014

AAUW Activities	Target Audience	Goals	Strategies to Accomplish Goals	# Served	Resources Required
<u>MEMBERSHIP:</u>					
Membership Recruitment and Retention	University Women and College students	1) Recruit members, increasing current membership (390) by net 5% for 2012-2013 2) Concentrate on retaining members. 3) Develop a campus outreach effort to connect with college faculty and students	1) To recruit, identify businesses with large pools of women employees, and women-run businesses & create awareness about AAUW 2) Work with Diversity Committee to recruit minority members 3) Create a Retention Committee 4) Interface with members on a frequent basis via email and telephone. 5) Collaborate with VPs, coordinators and chairs to help members become engaged in AAUW activities 6) Design a plan for campus outreach and recruitment of C/U partners and faculty and students	Current and prospective members	1) Members to serve Membership recruitment & retention committees 2) Funding to cover expenses of training committee members, materials, booklets, directories, postage, etc.
Public Policy	Members and Community	1) To educate members about issues related to AAUW's mission and to motivate them and the community to participate in the electoral	1) Distribute brochures and flyers at meetings to introduce members to AAUW's Action Network and Two-Minute Activist	Membership Plus community	1) Brochures and flyers from State AAUW (Already have)

AAUW Activities	Target Audience	Goals	Strategies to Accomplish Goals	#s Served	Resources Required
Public Policy (cont'd)		<p>process.</p> <p>2) To motivate members take action when bills affecting women are before our government representatives</p> <p>3) Help members understand present candidates' positions</p>	<p>2) Write monthly article on what actions have been taken on bills affecting women's issues and the AAUW mission.</p> <p>3) Hold candidates' forums</p>		<p>2) Members to serve on Public Policy Committee</p> <p>3) Funds to cover forum expenses</p>
Interest Groups	Members	To provide social & recreational activities for all those wishing to participate	<p>1) Encourage attendance at Interest Groups meetings through monthly newsletter articles</p> <p>2) Develop a resource guide to assist members to develop new interest groups and maintain existing interest groups.</p> <p>3) Help group coordinators with a practical application of guide</p> <p>4) Collaborate with Retention Committee on an as needed basis</p>	>200	
Monthly Membership Meetings	All members and the general public	1) To support and guide development and implementation of a mission-based monthly meeting program. These programs include the Membership Open House in the Fall and the Year-end Annual Meeting	1) Develop and announce program criteria appropriate for programs. Receive program suggestions from membership	Increase members per meeting. 100 attendees at Open House	Funds to cover use of facilities and facility insurance, food, printing, materials

AAUW Activities	Target Audience	Goals	Strategies to Accomplish Goals	# Served	Resources Required
Monthly Membership Meetings (cont'd)		2) To increase membership's attendance at these programs	2) Discuss programs with Membership VP, Community Chair, Interest Group Coordinator, newsletter editor and the President to finalize list 3) Provide Publicity Chair with information about programs, to promote within the community. Provide information to Communications VP to publicize within membership 4) Write newsletter articles about programs 5) Coordinate with Hospitality Chair, engage venue and make required arrangements	Increase attendees at Annual Meeting	
Education	Members and school-aged children	Develop one STEM-related program for middle-school children	Partner with community resources to plan, fund and implement STEM program 1) Write monthly or bimonthly article in <i>The Branch</i> related to cultural issues, programs, etc 2) Create awareness of State AAUW cultural issues/mandates 3) Plan and offer an annual cultural program/afternoon concert, etc. non-profit	30-40 children	Members to serve on Committee and to participate in program as volunteers 1) Feedback from local agencies/groups re. up-coming programs 2) Several months lead time and planning to support for an annual program
Cultural	Members and Community	1) To create awareness of cultural programs/activities in the area 2) To plan an annual cultural activity		Membership and community	

AAUW Activities	Target Audience	Goals	Strategies to Accomplish Goals	#s Served	Resources Required
Women's Issues	Membership	To help the organization deliver programs	Advise and troubleshoot Community Outreach programs	Membership / community	
COMMUNITY OUTREACH:					
Community Outreach	Diverse groups with the community	1) To determine community needs and address specific equity issues 2) To further educational opportunities for community members 3) To increase awareness of social issues both among our members and the greater community	1) To develop specific programs which address identified community needs 2) To sponsor workshops or special events to increase community awareness and stimulate community action 3) To provide training to members to volunteer in specific community outreach programs 4) To implement community action programs		
Community outreach programs will vary each year based on community needs and member involvement.					
Current programs include:					
<i>My Sister's Keeper</i>	Members, community and disadvantaged women	1) To create awareness within the membership about the plight of economically-disadvantaged women here and abroad 2) To encourage members to act on behalf of these women	1) Disseminate information about the social and economic factors that suppress women 2) Create forums for the discussion of these factors and how members can play a role in ameliorating some of these circumstances	Membership and community	Funds to cover events, speakers, food, venue

AAUW Activities	Target Audience	Goals	Strategies to Accomplish Goals	#s Served	Resources Required
<i>Careers, Compensation & You</i>	College Juniors & community college students with 45+ hours	To help students develop skills in researching careers, and to provide them with tools for evaluating financial aspects of careers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Provide resources to help students interview successfully for jobs 2) Collaborate with Membership Committee's C/U outreach program 	50	Funds for printing and materials
<i>Diversity</i>	Members & Community	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To expose Diversity Committee members to diverse cultures and practices 2) To engage AAUW members and the community in discussions about issues of diversity 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Encourage members to coordinate presentations about their own cultures or those of others 2) Create programming which provokes dialogue and opportunities to discuss issues of diversity and their impact on our community 	Membership and community	
<i>Leading to Reading</i>	Children from low and moderate income families	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Distribute books to children with limited resources. 2) Support early literacy programs in Dutchess County. 3) Create a multi-generational program. 	<p>Plan and implement:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Book giveaways 2) Special reading celebrations 3) fundraising activities 4) volunteer sessions to assemble book packets 5) Support the residents of a senior housing program to read to children 6) Community Readers Program 	500	Books, materials for packets, grant research and writing, volunteer work sessions, Manor at Woodside staff support.

AAUW Activities	Target Audience	Goals	Strategies to Accomplish Goals	# Served	Resources Required
<i>Let's Read Math</i>	Math teachers and School-aged children	To support Math literacy in early childhood	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Recruit committee and committee chair 2) Train AAUW members to use the "let's Read Math" program 3) Outreach to early childhood programs to train teachers to use the program 4) Provide tools and materials to teachers and members 	Train 10-15 teachers to use program Serve 100 children	Funds to cover materials, facilities, food
<i>Stand Up to Domestic Violence</i>	AAUW Members, Community, Magistrates Association, Policy Makers, State, National & local Domestic Violence Coalitions & Communities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Compile objective data for a written report on court accountability for domestic violence victims 2) Publicize the report in The Branch, local newspapers and in an AAUW/public meeting 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Train volunteers on victimization, the court system, and the court watch project. 2) Schedule coverage for desired courts, 3) Collate data 4) Provide on going support to volunteers 5) Collaborate with domestic violence community and court judges 	Victims, their families, others affected by domestic violence, community	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Volunteer coordinator 2) Funds for materials
Programs which are part of our mission but are not currently active include:					
<i>Partnership for Healthcare Awareness</i>	Members and County residents	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To create awareness of the provisions of the Healthcare Reform Act 2) To document women's barriers to healthcare 3) To support the DC Health Dpt. in acquiring additional funds for women's healthcare 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Partner with the DC Health Dept and the DC Medical Society 2) Conduct a survey of women's health care needs to be used in discussion forums in different parts of the county 	> 600	Members and community agencies to help with coordinating and conducting informational/educational sessions, reviewing surveys, and documenting info

AAUW Activities	Target Audience	Goals	Strategies to Accomplish Goals	#s Served	Resources Required
<i>Thinking Globally, Acting Locally</i>	Members, community, female foreign born population	To help minority women integrate into local American society	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Invite new and existing members to join the initiative. Form Committee 2) Involve the community (health, educational, vocational, business & government) 3) Develop and implement workshops to help minority women identify needed community resources 	Community	
<i>Campus Outreach</i>	College Students	To provide to local college students with information on campus safety, right to personal safety and supporting legislation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Develop relationships with colleges 2) Develop and implement one seminar on campus on personal safety and legislation 	30-50 students and faculty	Funds to cover materials
<u>ANNUAL EVENTS:</u>					
Girls' Conference	Girls entering 7 th grade	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To provide a forum for girls from diverse backgrounds : To inspire and promote sisterhood, healthy decision-making, confidence and an individual vision. 2) Help girls develop practical strategies to deal with difficult situations. Provide girls with resources and role models.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Involve more new members and women in the planning and implementation of this program to ensure its future and create interesting work for our members. 2) Use the Newsletter to invite new members to join planning effort. 3) Develop and implement conference 4) Hold reunions 	90 -100 7 th grade girls, college students, and AAUW members	Facility (campus), Funds, Workshop Leaders, caterer, artists and mentors and workshop facilitators
Woman of the Year	Women in the local community and AAUW members	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To honor women who make a significant contribution to the community 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Ask AAUW members to make honoree recommendations. 2) Select nominee through committee consideration 	Membership, community	Funds to cover venue and materials expenses if not covered by event registration fees

AAUW Activities	Target Audience	Goals	Strategies to Accomplish Goals	#s Served	Resources Required
Woman of the Year (cont'd)		2) To promote AAUW's mission and to attract non-members and community partners to AAUW's mission 3) To increase event attendance	3) Choose AAUW theme for event and develop program around nominee and AAUW theme 4) Publicize event widely and invite members and women from the community, local businesses, educational and other institutions. Collaborate with AAUW VPs to increase event attendance		
FUNDRAISING EVENTS AND ONGOING EFFORTS:					
Writers' Tea	Members and Community	1) To raise funds for AAUW scholarships and community outreach programs	1) Recruit authors with wide – spread appeal and conduct a raffle for additional funds 2) Publicize event. Invite members, encourage members to invite friends and family. Invite businesses and other community entities	160-190 attendees	Funds for venue and food not covered by event registration revenue
Educational Opportunities Fund	Undergraduate and post graduate women and students	1) To increase contributions to the national fund that provides scholarships to women returning to school or changing careers	1) Educate members about the use of the fund 2) Solicit contributions from members 3) Support the Writers' Tea and other fundraising activities that can help bring in funds.	Membership	

AAUW Activities	Target Audience	Goals	Strategies to Accomplish Goals	#s Served	Resources Required
DCC Scholarships	Members, DCC Scholarship Awardees	1) To fund two \$600 scholarships for DCC 2) To reach the \$12,000 DCC scholarships endowment fund	Inform membership through branch articles and thermometer poster at program meetings. Support our Writers' Tea as major fundraiser	Membership	None
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLICITY:					
Publicity	General public	To create awareness about AAUW's mission and programs	1) Generate increased awareness of and participation in Branch activities, and events 2) Develop relationships with area Charitable and Philanthropic orgs., Cultural Groups to help disseminate information. Use State and National AAUW resources 3) Prepare information, flyers, brochures and publicize through media, institutions, organizations, libraries and other local associations 4) Utilize the Branch Newsletter , web site, and email to share information.		Member Volunteers to post flyers, send e-mails and invite friends and associates to our programs
Newsletter and Internal Communications	Membership	1. To keep membership apprised of organizational news, events, developments, and deadlines	1) Maintain intra-organizational communications that the VP can use (including calendar and website monitoring) 2) Continue to compile monthly newsletter. Support newsletter editor in the collection, editing and proofreading of monthly content	Membership	1. As needed support for newsletter editor 2. Mailing newsletter as needed

AAUW Activities	Target Audience	Goals	Strategies to Accomplish Goals	#s Served	Resources Required
Website	Membership and visitors	Maintain a website that will engage members and visitors alike in the mission and activities of the AAUW	Train website "team" to update, maintain and troubleshoot site.	Membership and community	1) Funds for the purchase of domain name 2. Funds for hosting fee for website
<u>ADMINISTRATIVE:</u>					
Historian	Membership	1) Collect organize maintain records 2) Research material for missing Women of the Year bios	1) Keep documents, etc in accurately marked folders in archival boxes 2) Use newspaper files, obits, AAUW records as research basis	Current members, future members	Purchase of archival folders and/or boxes as needed. Minimal expense
Financial Recordkeeping	Board and membership	To clarify and simplify record keeping and reporting	1) Utilize new software to continue to improve current bookkeeping spreadsheets and reports 2) Collect and track the membership dues and bank deposits	Membership	Assistance from people knowledgeable in these software programs
Nominating	Membership	To identify and nominate members for leadership positions on the Board	1) To create a succession plan for the positions of President, 1 st and 2 nd VPs 2) To work with the other VPs to develop a list of members with leadership potential	Membership	

Calendar of Branch Events (September 2011 through March 2012)

September 14, 2011: Branch Open House

- Venue: Santo Stephano Winery
- Time : 7:00PM
- Attendance: 210
- Presenters: Branch President, Membership VP, Chairs of Community Initiatives and Interest Groups

October 19, 2011: Northern Dutchess Symphony Orchestra

- Venue: St. John's Lutheran Church
- Time: 7:00 pm
- Attendance : 65
- Presenters: Pianist Peter Muir and Soprano Kimberly Kahan Kathleen Beckmann

November 5, 2011: AAUW Woman of the Year

- Venue: Villa Borghese
- Time: noon
- Attendance: 104
- Presenters: Mary Lou Davis (Chair), Geeta Desai (President) Ann K. Armater (Award Recipient)

December 14, 2011: Storytelling: A very special holiday program

- Venue: Poughkeepsie Day School
- Time: 7:00 pm
- Attendance: 65
- Presenter: Muriel Horowitz (Storyteller and Co- Founder of the Dutchess Interfaith Council)

January 11, 2012: Money as a Mirror: *How our attitudes about money affect our choices in life.*

- Venue: St. John's Lutheran Church
- Time: 7:00 pm
- Attendance : 50
- Presenters: Panel of AAUW members

February 8, 2012: Making Sense of the Communication Revolution

Understanding our Role in the Digital World

- Venue: Poughkeepsie Day School
- 7:00 pm
- Attendance : 50
- Presenter : Bridget Hollenback, Director of Social Media and Outreach at the Hannah Arendt Center for Politics and Humanities at Bard College

Wednesday, March 14, 2012: "International Women Heroines"

- Venue: Oakwood Friends School
- Time: 7:00 pm
- Attendance: 60
- Presenters: Geeta Desai, Candance, Joan Monk

The Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW
Branch Projects and Annual Events

College Initiative

Our Equity Workshops are customized to local needs and are designed to help graduating college women close the wage gap.

Diversity Initiative

The Diversity Initiative continues to engage women of diverse backgrounds and perspectives. Believing that we must build trust across differences.

Dutchess Community College Endowed Scholarship

In October, 2009, Poughkeepsie AAUW, Inc. made a commitment to establish an AAUW endowed scholarship at Dutchess Community College. This endowment effort has raised \$12,000 to date. Annually, The Poughkeepsie Branch awards two \$600 scholarships to students graduating from DCC. .

Live Your Dream Girls' Conference

A one-day event for 7th grade girls has been held each fall at Dutchess Community College, with several reunions held each spring.

Leading to Reading

The Leading to Reading community project continues to support early literacy programs throughout Dutchess County by providing books, classroom materials, reading kits, craft materials, and tips for parents to several agencies dealing with low- and middle-income families.

Let's Read Math

Designed for elementary students and teachers, this program incorporates story books and related math activities to make math fun and understandable at an early age.

Annual Meeting

May is the month of our Annual Meeting. We gather as an organization to reflect on our year, celebrate our successes, elect and install officers, honor special members of our organizations and enjoy a delicious meal

Open House

Open House, held in September, is the kick off for our AAUW year! Prospective members are invited to learn about our organization, hear plans for the year, and meet many of our members

Programming Planning

The Program Planning Meeting is held in June and affords ALL members an opportunity to suggest ideas for one or more monthly programs they wish to sponsor and plan.

Ribfest Volunteers

Sponsored by the Highland Rotary, the Ribfest is held at the Ulster Fairgrounds each year in August. The Rotary uses volunteers from non-profits to work at the event as a fundraising opportunity. The proceeds are divided among the volunteer organizations based on the hours members of the organization worked.

Woman of the Year Honored

Each year Poughkeepsie AAUW, Inc. designates a resident of Dutchess County as "Woman of the Year."

Writers' Tea

Its purpose is to raise funds for scholarships and community projects.

Monthly programs

The monthly programs are meetings of general interest for members and guests and are usually held on the second Wednesday of the month.

INTEREST GROUPS

Art on the Go

An informal art group that meets once a month in order to create artwork in the spirit of friendship and mutual support.

All those books...

A reading group which focuses on classics.

Aventures en Soleil Members receive information about our monthly outings by email and in our newsletter, *The Branch*. A coordinator sends out the information, but each month's trip is planned by its sponsor.

Bridge I

Bridge I has all levels of ability.

Bridge II

We meet at Uno Restaurant for lunch, a lesson, and a game. (\$15.00)

Bridge for Beginners

Contemporary Literature

We read books that are recommended by our members that will generate interesting and stimulating discussions

Cuisine

Members take turns planning and cooking meals.

Daytime Literature

Each month, members gather at a member's home for light refreshments and a stimulating discussion of that month's book selection

Gourmet: Out & About

Once a month the Gourmet group has a "girls' night out," savoring the cuisine and wine in a Hudson Valley restaurant.

Mah Jongg Our goal is to help each other improve.

Manderley Literary Society -

The Manderley Literary Society is a dynamic and welcoming book group devoted to the exploration of literature, both classic and modern. .

Pins and Needles

Pins and Needles is a group dedicated to handwork. Our projects vary according to the interests of members and have included knitting, crocheting, tatting, embroidery, counted cross stitch, crazy quilts, beading and sewing.

Professional Women's Network

Professional Women's Network offers women support and empowerment in dealing with workplace issues, personal and professional development and work/family balance efforts lives.

Tee Off

We usually meet at Vassar Golf Course. We may also play at different courses, per group suggestions.

Trekkers

We are an adventurous and energetic group of women who share a love of the outdoors.

Word Games

The object of Word Games is to enjoy the mental challenge of playing various word games.

Movie Night

For those who enjoy all genre of movies

Travellers' Club

For travelers and would-be travelers –information, conversations and photos of trips around the globe.

Dutchess Community College Endowment Press Release

AAUW's Mission is to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

The Poughkeepsie Branch of AAUW presented a check for \$10,000 to Dr. D. David Conklin, President, **Dutchess Community College**, on August 23, 2011 to fully endow a scholarship for non-traditional women to continue their education beyond DCC. We believe that tuition assistance constitutes a direct investment in the future and long-term growth of our community. It is an essential component of educational equity.*

The Poughkeepsie Branch is proud to partner with Dutchess Community College in creating a community dedicated to breaking through educational and economic barriers. We look forward to working toward our joint goal of providing access to higher education to all while closing the persistent "achievement gap" that disproportionately affects women, low-income children and students from minority communities.

The Poughkeepsie Branch has awarded two \$500 scholarships annually to non-traditional women students graduating from DCC and continuing their education at a four year institution. The Branch has sponsored fundraisers to support these scholarships. The campaign to complete the endowment for one scholarship was enthusiastically supported by the membership, with many of the donations given in honor of member Ellenora Oberhofer's 100th birthday.

Founded in 1925, the Poughkeepsie Branch, AAUW, Inc. has been active in the areas of education, international understanding, community needs, the arts, and the status of women. The Branch has supported education on the national, state and local level. Our organization was involved in the initial efforts to create a community college in our county, resulting in the establishment of Dutchess Community College.

AAUW

The American Association of University Women was founded in 1881 and is the nation's leading voice promoting education and equity for women and girls. AAUW believes that quality public education is the foundation of a democratic society. AAUW has more than 100,000 members, 1,300 branches, and 550 college/university institution partners. For 130 years, our members have been examining and taking positions on fundamental issues of the day - educational, social, economic, and political.

*Every year, our Branch renews its commitment to helping women access quality education by contributing to the national AAUW Educational Opportunities Fund (EOF) as well. The EOF is one of the world's largest sources of funding for graduate women, and provides more than \$3 million for more than 200 fellowships and grants to outstanding women every year. Since 1888, the EOF has been instrumental in the academic and career successes of over 10,000 women across the globe.



Poughkeepsie Branch of the American Association of University Women, Inc.
www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org

Children's Book Week

Children's Book week is a national celebration of books and reading for youth. Since 1919 it has been celebrated country wide with author & illustrator appearances, parties, storytelling and other book-related events in schools, libraries, bookstores, clubs, and anywhere books and youth connect.

"Leading to Reading," an AAUW Poughkeepsie Branch community outreach project will again be celebrating Children's Book Week on **Thursday, May 5** at the Community Family Development Center, 269 Mill Street, Poughkeepsie. The festivities include visits to the children's classrooms with members reading a story and helping each child create a page for a class book entitled Celebrating Books. Colorful card stock pages with holes punched, stickers, and a folder to assemble the book will be provided for each classroom. After completing the classroom project, each child will have the opportunity to choose a book to take home.

Leading to Reading members have worked on numerous community projects to encourage literacy by putting books into the hands of children and providing their family with ways to share reading time with their child.

Other community partners include:

Catharine St. Community Center

Astor Head Start Centers – Wappingers Falls, Millerton, Pine Plains, Wingdale, and Poughkeepsie

The Children's Home of Poughkeepsie

The Children's Home Group Foster Emergency Care

Hudson River Lodging

United Way of Dutchess County Born Learning

Family Treatment Court

Tubman Terrace Afterschool Program

Rural and Migrant Ministry



Press Release:

The Poughkeepsie Branch of the American Association of University Woman is pleased to announce that Ann K Armater is being honored as the 2011 Woman of the Year at a luncheon being held at the Villa Borghese on Saturday, November 5, 2011. Additional information can be found at www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org

Ann K. Armater



Ann Armater is the founding Executive Director of the Foundation for Vassar Brothers Medical Center (Poughkeepsie, NY), and the Vice President for Development for Health Quest, the largest and most comprehensive healthcare system in the region.

A development officer with thirty years of experience, Ann’s career as a professional fundraiser started with United Way of Tri-State. Initially interested in working with the allocation side of United Way, Ann turned to the larger fundraising arm of the organization when a more experienced professional in the foundation world offered this sage advice: “You’ll be better at giving it away if you can appreciate what

went into raising it.”

Armed with the fundraising fundamentals provided by the United Way, Ann spent two years in the development office at New York University and two years with the Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center Fund before joining the Foundation for Vassar Brothers Medical Center as its first Executive Director in 1986.

Twenty-five years later, a comprehensive development program is in place at Vassar Brothers Medical Center, supported by a talented development team and strong administrative and Trustee leadership. Perhaps the best testament to the Foundation’s fundraising success is seen in the fact that nearly \$70 million in gifts and pledges have been secured in the last 25 years – including \$12.6 million raised this year toward a capital campaign goal of \$15 million.

With the creation and expansion of Health Quest in 1999, Ann’s responsibilities expanded to include oversight of the very effective development programs at both Northern Dutchess Hospital Foundation and Putnam Hospital Center Foundation.



AAUW

Poughkeepsie Branch of the American Association of University Women, Inc.

www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org

**You are cordially invited to an Evening of Stories
Storyteller, Muriel Horowitz.**



**Learn the Ancient Craft of Tapping into Your Own Story.
Experience the Power of Sharing Your Story with Others**

Wednesday, December 14, 2011 at 7:00 pm
Poughkeepsie Day School, Elizabeth C Gilksen Center
260 Boardman Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

Our December holiday meeting will feature AAUW member and storyteller, Muriel Horowitz, sharing stories, telling about her craft, and inviting story sharing among the audience.

Muriel tells traditional stories from world folklore and her own Jewish heritage, as well as personal stories. She engages listeners wonderfully well by inviting them to interact with her tales. This evening, she will spark your memories and encourage story sharing, a custom that began with the earliest humans on earth. As an educator and storyteller, Muriel knows the power of story to ignite the imagination and enrich the connection between teller and listener.