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Register now for the Summer Leadership Conference - July 20 - 22

SUMMER 2018

FOCUS



American Association of University Women • New York State

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SUMMER LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

BY JANICE BROWN, PRESIDENT-ELECT



The time is now to come to Summer Leadership Conference in Cazenovia. Cazenovia is the perfect place to get “Real Tools for Action in your Hometown.” We have a great weekend of activities and workshops in store. We will start the weekend out by building stronger women, one woman at a time. We will have a leadership development session focused on “The 4 C’s of Women Leadership.” Saturday will be a day of gathering your tools: social media workshops; lobbying 101, grant writing, building coalitions/task forces in your community, fundraising, networking, convention planning, and more. Remember, the time is now for equality for women and we must start by coming to Cazenovia. Registration is now open online. The fees are \$115 per person and Emerging Leaders received a \$25 certificate to attend. Looking forward to helping you get the tools you need to take back to your community because the time is now!

A TIME OF CHANGE

BY ROLI WENDORF, PRESIDENT

As I write this article, I’m in the process of relocating to San Francisco, after over 30 years in Westchester County. My term as NYS President will come to an end on June 30. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to serve this amazing organization, where together we are changing the climate for women and girls in our state and local communities. It is now time for my husband and me to move close to our nine-month old granddaughter Lia and her parents. We look forward to greater family time and watching the little one grow. The stewardship of NYS will be in the capable hands of Janice Brown and I will continue on the NYS Board for a year as Immediate Past President. I also plan to continue contributing to AAUW from California.



This is a time of great change at AAUW as well. As we heard from Kim Churches in her inspiring talk at our State Convention in April, AAUW is heading in a new strategic direction. The goal is exceptional achievement in a few key areas to distinguish us from the 400 other non-profits who also work on various aspects of women’s equity. A couple of goals have

already been announced: to achieve pay equity by 2030, and to train ten million women in salary negotiation skills with Start Smart and Work Smart by 2022. These are ambitious goals, and will not be easy to achieve. John F. Kennedy focused an entire nation with the goal, set in 1961, of getting a man safely to the moon and back before the end of the decade. Similarly, AAUW goals are exciting and challenging and help our state and branches align with the new strategic direction.

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2018-2019 AAUW-NYS Board. National Bylaws Amendment Voting Results.

Save the Date!

AAUW-NYS Summer Conference

July 20-22, 2018

Cazenovia College Campus

"Real Tools for Action in Your Hometown"



*"Communications with
Social Media"*

*"Building Effective
Coalitions"*

"Lobbying Made Easy"

*"Tools to Gather
Your
Community"*



AAUW-NYS WAS THERE!

Comptroller DiNapoli Celebrates Women's History Month

The Comptroller hosted a Roundtable on Women's Issues, bringing together leaders from organizations across the state to discuss priorities and significant challenges that women face today. Many women's groups were represented, including Planned Parenthood, National Organization for Women, New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence, and the Queens Women's Business Center, in addition to AAUW.



Reprinted from <http://www.osc.state.ny.us/press/index.htm>, March 25, 2018.

Betty Harrel

TOGETHER WE CAN OBLITERATE EVERY ITEM ON THIS LIST

BY NANCY MION, DEVELOPMENT VICE PRESIDENT

- One in three women, ages 18-34, has reported being sexually harassed in the workplace.
- 76% of public school teachers are women but a mere 20% of superintendents are women.
- 52% of female students, grades 7-12, admit to having been sexually harassed in person, compared to 35% of male students.
- 76% of women in the military were sexually assaulted in 2014.
- 19% of young men start college intending to major in engineering compared to just 6% of women.
- The U.S. is the only industrialized nation not to have paid leave for mothers of newborns.
- Women held 19.6% of the seats in U.S. Congress in 2017. (105 out of 535.)
- Just one year out of college, women graduates make only 82% as much as their male counterparts.
- Approximately 800,000 people are victims of human trafficking every year. 80% are women.
- One in five women are targets of sexual assault while they are in college.
- One in three women, ages 18-34, has reported being sexually harassed in the workplace.
- 44% of victims of sexual assault in the military were encouraged to drop the issue.
- Domestic Violence is the most common form of injury for women between the ages of 18 and 44.
- Just 12% of engineers are women and the number of women in computing has fallen from 36% in 1990 to just 26% in 2013.
- Women college athletes receive \$176 million less in scholarships annually than their male counterparts receive.
- Among people 65 and older, more than twice as many women (almost 3 million) as men (1.3 million) lived in poverty in 2013.
- The gender pay gap is actually an understatement. When part-time workers are included, the gap widens.
- At Facebook, Google, Twitter, and Apple, men accounted for 70% of the rank and file workforce in 2014.
- 40% of young men starting in college intend to major in STEM fields compared to 25% of young women.
- Outright sexism is less common today than in the past, but research shows that unspoken bias still results in unfair treatment, especially for women leaders.
- The wage gap involves more than just wages. Employers are less likely to offer health insurance, retirement saving plans, and access to paid leave to women workers.

Will these inequalities ever cease? Yes, AAUW is there fighting for equity. Thanks to your contributions to the AAUW Fund, we will succeed.

We will achieve gender equity and AAUW is leading the way.

A TIME OF CHANGE

(continued from page 1)

At NYS, we are starting a new event aimed at college students, especially juniors, seniors, and fresh graduates, which we hope will become an annual activity. The program, *Professional Jumpstart for Young Women*, was conceived and designed by NYS Board Secretary/Bylaws Chair Kimberly Blanchet and Student Board Advisor Elizabeth Brady. It will be a full day event to be held this year on Saturday, October 20, 2018, in New York City. The goal is to provide attendees the confidence and skills to apply for jobs and manage the transition from being students to effective employees. The event will be made possible by the cooperation of the current and incoming State Boards as well as the strong support of nearby branches, especially Westchester, Rockland, Poughkeepsie, and Empire State.

There is much new and exciting to which we can look forward. However, a time of change can be scary as well. As we create a new path, there are many unknowns along with it. Our branches might wonder how they fit in with AAUW's new strategic direction. In time, new paths will be created for branches as well. We should also try to align existing activities with AAUW goals which have already been stated.

Two years ago, taking on the presidency of AAUW New York State was a new path for me. Thanks to the hard work, talent, and camaraderie of our board members and off-board liaisons, we became a strong team that accomplished a great deal and also enjoyed the journey. Wasn't that a wonderful State Convention at Corning? It was all about teamwork and talent. My sincere and deep gratitude to all who have contributed to NYS for the past two years and made my term worthwhile.

2018 CONVENTION EVALUATION RESULTS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

BY KIM EDGAR, CONVENTION CO-DIRECTOR

The Corning Convention is now part of our history and we set some new milestones as our attendees got to experience some of Corning's highlights and interact with other AAUW members. Mary Lou Davis and I would like to extend our appreciation to all of the attendees. We met our hotel room reservation target and experimented with having the hotel handle the meal portion of the convention reservations. The convention had approximately 30 first-time attendees, along with a loyal group of members who attend every convention they can.

Linda Fellows did an excellent job compiling the convention evaluation results from approximately 47 forms submitted. Overall, the results were extremely positive for almost every activity of the convention, especially the keynote presentations and the opportunity to interact with other AAUW Members. For the activities which did not score well, such as the Saturday Evening Reception, special emphasis will be placed on revising these activities and looking into ways to improve the flow of the schedule to avoid key activities happening at the end of the day.

Many of the evaluations offered some wonderful topic suggestions for the 2019 Cooperstown Convention, including women's health issues, how to deal with men in STEM/STEAM professions, guns and public safety, technical skills training, and how to support other women in their community. Attendees also would like more emphasis placed on finding ways to attract more attendees to the convention, including offering financial support for younger women to attend.

If you would like to become part of the 2019 Cooperstown Convention Team, please feel free to contact either Mary Lou Davis or Kim Edgar, Convention Co-Directors.



From left: Roli Wendorf, Stephanie Lemnios, Betty Harrel, Mary Lou Davis and Kim Edgar

AAUW-NYS ELECTED OFFICERS 2017 - 2018

President

Roli Wendorf (wendorfr@aol.com)

Program Vice President

Stephanie Lemnios (sblemnios@gmail.com)

Membership Vice President

Barbara Sarver (barbara.sarver@gmail.com)

Development Vice President

Nancy Mion (myown220@aol.com)

Public Policy Vice President

Cynthia Herriott Sullivan (cherri4849@aol.com)

Secretary / Bylaws Chair

Kimberly Blanchet (kablanchet@yahoo.com)

Treasurer

Diane Jablonski (dianejablonski@gmail.com)

DIRECTORS

Administrative Director

Betty Harrel (bharrel28@gmail.com)

College/University Director

Jane Pendergast, (jpendergast2@msn.com)

Communications/Visibility Director

Jean Havens (jhavens@verizon.net)

Convention Co-Directors

Mary Lou Davis (marylourdavis125@gmail.com)

Kimberly Edgar (kimberlyedgar@aol.com)

Cultural/International Director

Gabriela Hoover (gabihover@gmail.com)

District Director

Janet Forbes (jforbes@hotmail.com)

Diversity Director

Suzanne Young-Mercer (smym5225@aol.com)

FOCUS Director

Laurie Eikemeyer (laurie.eikemeyer@gmail.com)

Student Advisor

Elizabeth Brady (edemingbrady@gmail.com)



THIS LEGISLATIVE SESSION – WHERE ARE WE?

BY JANE PENDERGAST, COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY DIRECTOR

It's a mixed picture. After the early announcement of the Governor's Women's Opportunity Agenda, realism has returned. Yet there are some successes and some good potential opportunities.

The Governor's Women's Agenda, as it was announced in January, with some of its approximately 25 points includes:

- Targeting maternal mortality and specifically the racial disparities in the situation
- Codifying Roe v. Wade into the State Constitution
- Removing firearms from domestic abusers
- Ending sextortion
- Extending the storage timeline for rape kits
- Prohibiting sexual contact between police officers and individuals in their custody

It includes a long list of requirements to combat sexual harassment in the workplace including:

- Establishing a model sexual harassment policy for all employers to use
- Closing the gender wage gap
- Empowering women-owned businesses by closing the financing gap
- Establishing New York State as a model employer for working parents through flexible work schedules and other measures
- Giving the youngest learners access to computer science and engineering
- Ensuring access to menstrual products in public schools

For families, the Agenda includes:

- Expanding Pre-K and After-School Programs toward the promise of universal pre-kindergarten
- Increasing state funding to provide families with affordable child care
- Continuing the enhanced child care tax credit for middle class families
- Establishing the Child Care Availability Task Force



For more information, visit: <https://www.ny.gov/programs/2018-womens-opportunity-agenda-new-york>

After the budget negotiations in April, we learned that at least 13 provisions that would have made a difference in the health, safety, and economic security of women and girls did not make it into the budget, including the decriminalization of abortion, affordable access to abortion, establishment of a Maternal Mortality Review Board, and the creation of a model sex education program.

The state passed a bill expanding a list of domestic violence-related convictions that would prevent someone from owning or obtaining a gun. In addition, the budget doubled the enhanced child care

tax credit for middle class families. Some other proposals still offer an opportunity for advocacy, but without specific inclusion in this year's budget, they will likely be longer-range possibilities.

Still in play is the Ban the Salary History Question legislation, which Governor Cuomo supports. I believe this is a law the Senate can pass. California, Massachusetts, Puerto Rico, Oregon, Connecticut, New York City, Albany, San Francisco, and

Westchester County (16-0) have passed the law. It has passed in the Assembly. My conservative Senator supports it strongly. Due to the recent changes in the Senate, it may gain a different Senate sponsor, so please check online for that information. Now is the time to visit and write your State Senator and emphasize the fairness of this important legislation which can disproportionately affect women who work for small businesses – often women of color or women returning to work who may earn low wages. And this law affects men as well as women.

The New York Health Act (Medicare for All) is another law that AAUW NYS supports that you can also advocate for now. This bill has passed very strongly in the Assembly three years in a row, has a formidable organization behind it, and, like in California, has the potential to pass.

We lobbied in Albany on June 5th. For information about lobbying and about the law, please visit:

<https://www.nyhcampaign.org/>.

A Note From The Editor

BY LAURIE EIKEMEYER,
FOCUS DIRECTOR

As my term as FOCUS Director ends, I would like to thank everyone who shared their stories and photos over the past 2 years.



My special thanks goes to our president, Roli Wendorf, for giving me the opportunity to serve on the state board and guidance when I faced new challenges, and to Jean Havens, Betty Preble, and Barbara Carier for their editing support.

Serving on the state board is an interesting and enriching experience. It gave me deeper insight into our organization and helped develop my leadership skills. If you have never had the opportunity to serve on the state board, please consider saying yes when you are contacted by the nominating committee.

During my term, I was also able to provide support for branches who needed help with their newsletters. If your branch is struggling with its newsletter, website, or other communication tools, please contact Jean Havens (jhavens@verizon.net) for assistance. Help is available! You should also consider attending the Summer Leadership Conference where we will have the opportunity for training with social media along with other tools to help build and strengthen our branches.

Gabriela Hoover is taking up the reins of the FOCUS. Gabi is very talented and will provide beautiful and informative newsletters for AAUW-NYS.

Wishing you a wonderful summer!

CONVENTION 2018 PHOTOS

More photos are posted at
<http://aauw-nys.org>.

Registration



Corning Museum



Congratulations to our newly-elected officers: President Janice Brown, Program Vice President Jane Pendergast, and Development Vice President Carol Griffith.

Below: Keynote speaker, AAUW CEO Kimberly Churches.



A warm welcome from Corning Mayor William Boland.



Emerging Leaders

Congratulations to our 2018 Emerging Leaders!





VOTING RESULTS

On June 11, 2018, Kimberly Churches, CEO, announced the results of the national bylaws amendment vote.

- Proposal #1 to create staggered board terms passed. Staggered terms will affect elected and appointed AAUW Board members starting terms in 2019. More information will be available during the application and election periods in the coming year, and the AAUW Governance Committee will work closely with the AAUW Nominating Committee and staff to ensure a smooth transition.
- Proposal #2 to allow non-AAUW member eligibility for the Board did not meet the percentage required to pass.
- Proposal #3 to remove the educational requirement for AAUW membership did not meet the percentage required to pass.

For more information, visit the AAUW website at <https://www.aauw.org/resource/national-election/>.

If you have any questions about the vote, please don't hesitate to reach out at executive@aauw.org. You can also always reach the AAUW Connect team at: connect@aauw.org.

**Women Making
a Difference**

2018-2019 AAUW-NYS BOARD

ELECTED OFFICERS

President

Janice Brown, 4jmac2@gmail.com

Program Vice President

Jane Pendergast,
jpendergast2@msn.com

Public Policy Vice President

Cynthia Herriott, cherri4849@aol.com

Development Vice President

Carol Griffith,
cag2002@roadrunner.com or
carol.griffith@va.gov

Membership Vice President

Barbara Sarver,
barmik256@optonline.net

Treasurer

Diane Jablonski,
dianejablonski@gmail.com

Secretary/Bylaws Chair

Kimberly Blanchet,
kablanchet@yahoo.com

DIRECTORS

Administrative Assistant

Sonja Williams, wsonja@yahoo.com

College/University Director

Maria Ellis, mellis@kwnyc.com

Diversity/Cultural/International Director

Suzanne Young-Mercer,
smymaauw@gmail.com

Communications/Visibility Director

Jean Havens, jhavens@verizon.net

Immediate Past President/Nominating Committee Member

Roli Wendorf, WendorfR@aol.com

District Director

Gaynelle Wethers,
gwether9@gmail.com

Convention Committee Co-Chair/ Alternate Nominating Committee

Kim Edgar, KimberlySEdgar@gmail.com

Convention Committee Co-Chair

Mary Lou Davis,
MarylouDavis125@gmail.com

Student Advisory Chair

Elizabeth Brady,
edemingbrady@gmail.com

OFF BOARD

Historian/Archives, Helen Engel,
rengel@oswego.edu

Communications/Webmaster Liaison,
Cyd Averill, averillc@optonline.net

Finance Liaison, Phoebe Forbes,
pforbes@stny.rr.com

Webmaster, Betty Preble,
betty.preble@gmail.com

Governance/Bylaws Liaison, Laurie Ginnitti, loreen@fairport.net

FOCUS Director, Gabi Hoover,
gabihoover@gmail.com

Nominating Chair, Elizabeth Harrel,
bharrel28@gmail.com

Public Policy Liaison, Edwina Martin,
edwinamartin@hotmail.com

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Questions and articles should be addressed to:

FOCUS Director Laurie Eikemeyer,
230 Wilmington Ave.

Tonawanda, NY 14150

Phone: 716.440.7596.

Email: focus@aauw-nys.org.

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MISSION STATEMENT

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

AAUW VALUE PROMISE

By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women and girls have a fair chance.

VISION STATEMENT

AAUW empowers all women and girls to reach their highest potential.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT

In principle and 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.

Attention postmaster: Dated material. Please do not delay.
 POSTMASTER: Send all address changes to AAUW Record Office,
 1310 L Street NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20005

HELP AAUW GROW!

BY BARBARA SARVER, MEMBERSHIP VICE PRESIDENT

I'm sure you agree that being a member of an AAUW branch has been a rewarding experience for you, especially when you see the impact your programs have made for young women in your community. If you feel this way, it is important that you share and talk about the work of AAUW and encourage friends and family to become members of their local branch.

If every member tried to recruit a new member, we could greatly further the AAUW mission and make an impact for women and girls.

Not all new members are the same. They have different interests, are in different places in their career, and care about different issues. If you know someone who may be interested, there are many different categories of membership:

1. She can become a national member (Member at Large) and connect through the national website. (aauw.org) plus enjoy special members-only online publications.
2. By joining a local or virtual branch she can make a direct impact in her community. If there is no local branch, she can start one in her community.
3. If she is an undergraduate seeking a degree and is enrolled in a full time or part time program, she can join at a substantially lower fee throughout her college career.
4. She can join the Younger Women's Task Force at a substantially lower fee and collaborate with other women on the issues that affect the lives of young women the most.
5. If you have connections with a local college or university, the institution can join AAUW and share membership benefits with the entire student body and faculty.

