



*"AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research"
AAUW is open to graduates who hold the associate, baccalaureate, or higher degree from a qualified college or university.*

You are cordially invited to our January program . . .

Who we are...

The Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch of AAUW supports the full range of the AAUW mission through its monthly program meetings, special interest study groups, and public outreach events, by engaging in political action, collaborating with local organizations and educational institutions regarding AAUW topics, and by supporting area young women and girls directly. We are one of five branches in the St. Louis, MO area that comprise the AAUW Metro Saint Louis Interbranch Council (IBC).

Branch Officers, 2017-2018

Chris Nobbe, President
314-323-0053
nobbchristine@gmail.com

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Vice President, Program
636-256-3746/314-651-0321
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Lynne Roney
Recording Secretary
314-727-7175
lynneroney@sbcglobal.net

K-WG: <http://kwg-mo.aauw.net>
IBC: <http://stlouis-ibc.aauw.net>
State: www.aauwmo.org
National: www.aauw.org

AAUW Advocacy in 2018!

Thursday, January 25, 2018

6:30 – Member Social

7:00 – Program

Kirkwood Public Library

140 East Jefferson Avenue, Kirkwood, MO 63122

Lower Level Meeting Room

This meeting will focus on ensuring that members have the information and tools needed to support and advocate for issues important to the mission of AAUW. In doing so, our branch will also accomplish some of the requirements of the MO AAUW Star and Galaxy Awards. Topics will include:

- Report on Missouri Women’s Network Legislative Retreat (January 13)
- MO AAUW Public Policy Focus
 - The Protection and Enforcement of Title IX
 - The Gender Pay Gap - The Belief that Pay Equity and Equal Opportunity are a Matter of Simple Fairness
- What We Can Do
 - Postcards, emails, and phone calls
 - MO AAUW Lobby Corps
 - Equity Day

Non-members are invited to attend as well! This meeting will focus on ensuring that members have the information and tools needed to support and advocate for issues important to the mission of AAUW.



Missouri Women’s Network (free) Legislative Retreat

The annual retreat to review the outcome of the previous year’s MO General Assembly and learn about this year’s legislation is Saturday, January 13. See the attached flyer for registration information. Contact Marsha Koch if you are looking for carpooling opportunities.



Support Women via Show To The People

K-WG will continue to collect donations of NEW, alcohol-free hygiene products for women. Items brought to a meeting will be delivered by Nancy Hutchins. You can also drop off donations at Plowsharing in Kirkwood and/or donate online at <http://www.showertothepeople.net/donate/>



**Message from
President, Chris Nobbe**

Happy New Year! I'm delighted for the new year! 2018 has to be better than 2017! Many people are making predictions, so I googled "predictions for 2018" and came across several interesting articles:

- Our Top 13 Predictions for Science in 2018: <http://www.sciencealert.com/top-13-predictions-science-in-2018>
- Top [world] 2018 Predictions: <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/12/ten-predictions-2018-171216083219833.html>
- Looking Into the Crystal Ball: 22 [technology] Predictions for 2018: <https://www.inc.com/christina-desmarais/22-trends-to-look-for-in-2018.html>

Then I googled "predictions for women in 2018" and came up with:

- Meet the People, Trends, and Items That Will Rule Fashion in 2018: <https://www.vogue.com/article/2018-fashion-trend-predictions>

That wasn't what I was looking for so I decided to make my own 2018 predictions:

- The #MeToo campaign will continue to make headway and more people will focus on making the workplace a safer place for female employees.
- Black female voters will make a difference in 2018 elections and we will see more females and people of color taking office in local, state, and federal government.
- Females will make small strides in STEM fields and more women will earn important prizes like the Nobel prizes. (I have been reading stories about women in science and it is evident that in the past females have been overlooked for prizes; sometimes their male teammates won awards when the female scientists actually made the discoveries.)
- Females will not gain pay equity in 2018 but many organizations will work hard to bring attention to the issue. (AAUW predicts, "at the rate of change between 1960 and 2016, women are expected to reach pay equity with men in 2059.")

I would like to hear your ideas about 2018 and would love to work with you throughout the year to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

Happy January Birthdays!

- 1 – Phyllis Foster
- 15 – Jeanne Webdell
- 17 – Becky Clausen

Next Fundraiser for STEM Scholarships

Our next fundraiser requires eating pizza! K-WG will earn 10% of purchases made by anyone who submits the attached flyer at the time of payment for eat in or carry out between 4 and 10 pm. We could earn up to 20% if purchases total \$1500.

When: February 13, 4 – 10- pm

Where: Dewey's Pizza
124 E. Lockwood Avenue, Webster Groves

Contact: [Chris Nobbe](mailto:Chris.Nobbe@k-wg.org), 314-323-0053

The attached form must be submitted at the time of your purchase. Please encourage your family and friends to dine at Dewey's on February 13!

Meet 'n Geek

This informal group expands members' knowledge of technology and develop a social media presence for branch. Bring your own device, and we will help you get social!

When: January 26, 1:30-3:30 pm

Topic: Google Docs Calendar

Where: St. Louis County Library Headquarters
East Room, 1640 S. Lindbergh 63131

Contact: [Chris Nobbe](mailto:Chris.Nobbe@k-wg.org), 314-323-0053

Stay Connected

Websites worthy of your attention:

- [K-WG](#)
- [K-WG Facebook Page](#)
- [K-WG Twitter Page](#)
- [AAUW St. Louis Interbranch Council](#)
- [AAUW of MO](#)
- [AAUW of MO Facebook Page](#)
- [AAUW](#)
- [AAUW Facebook Page](#)
- [St. Louis Ending Violence Against Women \(SLEVAWN\)](#)
- [St. Charles Outreach Coalition Against Human Trafficking \(SCAT\)](#)

"Like" our Facebook pages and post a comment or two!

Public Policy

Thanks to Barbara Butchart & Eve LaJeunesse, Co-directors of Public Policy for Ballwin-Chesterfield AAUW, for the following update.

The U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce introduced H.R. 4508, a bill that proposes vast changes to the Higher Education Act. The proposed alterations would affect a number of AAUW's priority issues, including student debt and campus sexual assault. The plan would include changes to federal student loan borrowing, income-based repayment, and loan forgiveness. The reauthorization bill also alters the Clery Act which provides much-needed transparency in the fight against campus sexual violence. The proposed bill to overhaul the HEA will make college more expensive and further out of reach for many. It also weakens campus safeguards.

H.R. 4508 would:

- a) Eliminate student loan forgiveness for public service employees and alter income-driven repayment options, increasing debt burdens for struggling borrowers.
- b) Weaken schools' abilities to prevent and end campus sexual assault and support survivors.
- c) Fail to strengthen the Pell Grant program, which makes college possible for millions of low-income students, or increase its annual grant amount to reflect inflation.

Please urge your representative to oppose H.R. 4508.

An important date to remember is January 11, which is Human Traffic Awareness Day. On January 4, 2010, former President Obama issued a proclamation naming January as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month.

Learn more about all the issues AAUW supports at:
<https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/aauw-issues/>

Events that Support the AAUW Mission

This section contains information about events sponsored by local organizations that support our AAUW mission. If you know of an event that you would like to see listed here, submit information about it to Marsha Koch, mkwkoch@outlook.com.

National Council of Jewish Women ([NCJW](#))

Advocacy in Action 3rd Thursday

(Bring your own) Lunch & Learn Program

Human Trafficking Awareness Month – January 18

Join us as we learn more about Human Trafficking during this special awareness month. Please RSVP so that we can be sure to have adequate seating.

When: January 18, 11:45 am

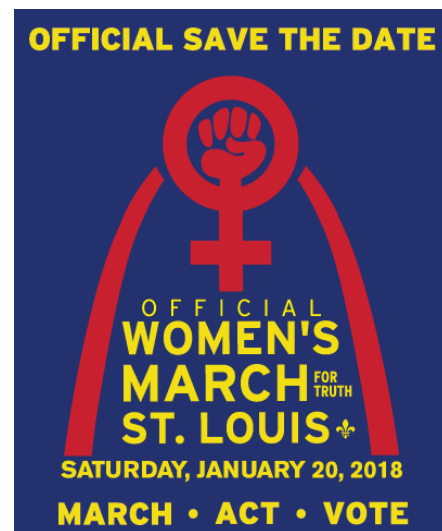
Where: NCJW St. Louis
295 N. Lindbergh, 63141

RSVP: Lisa at 314-993-5181/lgjerswald@ncjwstl.org

STL Women's March

A diverse group of women leaders has assembled to spearhead this year's women's march in St. Louis on January 20. The theme of the St. Louis march is Women's Truth. Details are expected to be published on January 11 on their Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=stl%20women%E2%80%99s%20march>



Game Day Fun--A Fundraiser for St. Charles

Outreach Coalition Against Human Trafficking

Organize a table of four to play a game of your choice at Whitmoor Country Club in St. Charles over lunch. (See the attached flyer.)

When: February 9, 10 am – 2 pm

Where: Whitmoor Country Club
1100 Whitmoor Drive, 63304

RSVP: Barbara Butchart, bbutchart4272@gmail.com

Volunteers Needed for Court Watch Project

The St. Louis Ending Violence Against Women Network (SLEVAWN) Court Watch Project is again recruiting volunteer monitors to observe courtrooms where civil domestic violence cases are being heard and monitoring the proceedings in an effort to research any problem patterns and issues with in the court system. The monitoring is being done in both St. Louis City and St. Louis County. This project is funded by the Department of Justice. The duties of a court watcher are:

- Attend a 4-hour volunteer orientation
- Sign up to monitor 1 docket a month for 6 months (the more monitors we have could reduce this)
- Go to the courtroom on scheduled date and monitor the proceeding
- Dress appropriately for courtroom
- Follow Court Watch guideline while in courthouse
- Submit completed forms to Court Watch coordinator

The next training is **Friday, January 26, 8:30-12**. Ending violence against women is a major priority for AAUW. Lynne Roney, Cathy Gilbert, and Marsha Koch have participated in this project and would be happy to share their experiences. See the attached flyer.

St. Louis Metro AAUW Interbranch Council (IBC)

It's a Wrap!

The AAUW fundraiser to raise funds to support IBC activities was very successful. Over \$650 was earned by about 20 AAUW wrappers over a five-day period. Great job!

2018 International Relations Lecture Series

The St. Louis AAUW branches have partnered for almost 80 years with the Tuesday Women's Association (TWA) from The Ethical Society to present four free lectures to the community on aspects of international relations. Gather at 10 a.m. for coffee and social time in the lower level meeting room. Attendees are invited to bring a lunch and stay afterwards to further discuss the topic. (See the attached flyer.)

When: 2nd Tuesdays, January through April
Time: 10 am Social; 10:45 am Lecture
Where: The Ethical Society
9001 Clayton Road, 63117

February 13: The History of the Korean Crisis

March 13: Human Trafficking

April 10: The Fate of Democracy in a Changing World

In case of inclement weather, please call 314-991-0995 x 224. Please note that the driveway is heated!

IBC Eat and Meet Lunch

(formerly IBC Downtown Lunch)

(3rd Tuesday each month)

Please arrive at the restaurant between 11:30 -11:45 am. If you would like to carpool, let Kay know.

When: January 16, 11:45 am
Where: Bevo Mill (German & American)
4749 Gravois, 63116
314-832-2251
RSVP: [Kay Meyer](#), 314-962-7487

IBC ¡Adelante! Book Group

(4th Thursday of the month)

When: January 25, 1:30 pm
Where: Barnes & Noble
1600 Clarkson Road (Chesterfield)
Book: [Behold the Dreamers: A Novel](#)
Author: Imbolo Mbue
Reviewer: Julie Triplett

IBC Meeting

All members are invited. Focus of the meeting will be finalizing plans for the April Spring Fling program and fundraisers.

When: February 27, 7 - 9 pm
Where: Daniel Boone Branch Library, Room 2
300 Clarkson Road, 63011
Contact: [Chris Nobbe](#), 314-323-0053

Feminist Resolutions for 2018 December 29, 2017- [AAUW](#)

1. Know your rights at work
2. Vote
3. Negotiate your salary
4. Support the next generation of innovators.
5. Help young women find their voices
6. Be an ally
7. Get involved

Read the entire article included at the end of this newsletter.

AAUW MO

Hold the date May 5, 2018, to attend the AAUW MO Leadership Conference in Columbia, MO. You can choose to arrive on Friday and attend the board meeting activities or arrive early Saturday morning.

An AAUW national leader will be our guest speaker and multiple sessions on social media, diversity, and position leadership will be offered. Marsha Koch, 314-651-0321, state program vice president and K-WG member, is coordinating the day's activities. Contact her if you would like to help!

Missouri in Motion, [AAUW MO's](#) newsletter, is available on the state's website along with other state news and past newsletters at <http://aauw-mo.aauw.net/>.

AAUW National

Join the AAUW Two-Minute Activist Team

It is never too late to register to receive urgent e-mail notices from AAUW when your advocacy is needed most. Last year, Two-Minute Activists sent over 200,000 messages to members of Congress, ensuring our "mission of gender equity was heard in the halls of power."

Register by clicking [here](#); scroll about half way down the page to register for emails. Visit <http://www.aauw.org/resource/two-minute-activist-mobile/> to register for the mobile option or simply text the word "AAUW" to phone number 21333.

Thanks to Joyce Katz and Linda Roberson for this timely tax information . . .

- \$46 of your annual dues is tax-deductible.
- Contributions to the AAUW Fund, LAF, EOF, or other AAUW-sponsored funds are tax-deductible.
- To view your 2017 contributions, go to www.aauw.org, then to the Member Services Database.
- Materials you have purchased for branch use that were not reimbursed are tax deductible.

Calendar

January 2018

- 9 International Relations Lecture Series #1
- 10 Deadline, Selected Professions Fellowship Applications
- 11 Human Traffic Awareness Day
- 13 MO Women's Network Legislative Retreat
Columbia, MO
- 15 Deadline, Community Action Grant Applications
- 16 Eat and Meet, Bevo Mill
- 25 K-WG Meeting, 6:30, Kirkwood Public Library
- 26 K-WG Meet 'n Geek
- 26 Court Watch Project Training
- 31 NCCWSL Early Registration Ends

February 2018 – Black History Month

- 1 NCCWSL Regular Registration Opens
- 13 International Relations Lecture Series #2
- 20 Eat and Meet, Circa STL
- 22 K-WG Meeting, 6:30, Webster Library
- 27 IBC Meeting, 7:00

March 2018 – Women's History Month

- 8 International Women's Day
- 13 International Relations Lecture Series #3
- 20 Eat and Meet, Mango
- 22 K-WG Meeting, 6:30, Webster Library

April 2018

- 10 International Relations Lecture Series #4
- 10 MO Women's Network Equity Action Day
Jefferson City, MO
- 17 Eat and Meet, The Clover and the Bee
- 21 IBC Spring Fling, Glen Echo Country Club
- 30 NCCWSL Regular Registration Ends

May 2018

- 5 AAUW of MO Annual Meeting and
Leadership Training, Columbia, MO
- 15 Eat and Meet, Cathy's Kitchen
- 22 K-WG Meeting, 6:30, Webster Library
- 30 – NCCWSL
- June 2

June 2018

- 16 K-WG End-of-Year Celebration Luncheon, TBA
- 19 Eat and Meet, Square One Brewery & Distillery

August 2018

- 25 MO Women's Network 30th Annual Women's Equality
Day Brunch

Send items for the newsletter to:
Marsha Koch
mkwkoch@outlook.com 636-256-3746

Missouri Women's Network Legislative Retreat

HOW WILL THE NATIONAL ELECTION RESULTS AFFECT
THE LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS IN MISSOURI?

Saturday, January 13, 2018 9:00 am to 2:30 pm

Free Event!

Hy Vee
405 East Nifong Blvd.
Columbia, MO 65201

Keynote Speaker:
To Be Announced

Tentative Schedule

8:30 - 9:00	Continental Breakfast (Provided)
9:00 - 9:45	Welcome, Introductions Review of the 2017 Legislative Session
9:45 - 10:00	Break
10:00 - 12:00	Speaker/Presentations Update on National/State Elections and Pre-filed 2018 Bills
12:00 - 12:30	Lunch on your own at the Hy Vee
12:30 - 2:30	Review 2018 Bills Set 2018 Legislative Priorities

Invite a Progressive Friend to Attend!

ORGANIZATION _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Mail your registration by **January 2, 2018** to Pat Shores,
938 Stone Spring Drive Eureka, MO 63025
For info email apatriciashores@att.net

*FOR YOUR CALENDAR: Equity Action Day,
Jefferson City, April 10, 2018*



*Friends! Food!
Politics!*

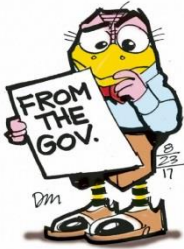


The Tuesday Women's Association of Ethical Society and the American Association of University Women present the:

2018 International Relations Lecture Series

Ethical Society of St Louis
9001 Clayton Road
St Louis, MO 63117

Each lecture will begin promptly at 10:45 the 2nd Tuesday of the month, January to April, in the upper auditorium. The public is cordially invited. There is no fee, but all contributions are greatly appreciated. Free parking is available in the rear of the building. The 45 - 50 minute lecture will be followed by a question and answer period. Attendees are invited to bring lunch and to stay and discuss the day's topic. In case of inclement weather, you may call 314-991-0955, ext. 224



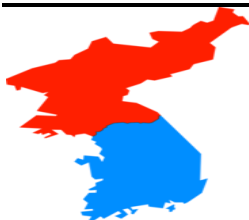
January 9, 2018

The Art of Political Cartooning

Dan Martin has been an illustrator, cartoonist and designer for the St. Louis Post Dispatch for over 37 years. He has drawn the paper's front page mascot since 1986, in addition to his Saturday political cartoon, Postcard from Mound City. Mr. Martin will explore the art of political cartooning, from its international origins to the present American art form. He will also explain St. Louis' contribution to the art as well as our city's historical connections to cartooning in general. In addition he will demonstrate how to draw his daily creation: The St. Louis Post-Dispatch Weather bird.

Coordinator: Joyce Best

Assistant Coordinator: Marsha Koch



February 13, 2018

Mistakes of the Past: Making Sense of the North Korean Crisis

Daniel Pieper, Ph.D., East Asian Studies Department, Washington University in St. Louis

Dr. Pieper is a lecturer at Washington University whose research focuses on the cultural history of modern Korea. He spent seven years living in South Korea, most recently as a Fulbright Junior Researcher in Seoul from 2016-2017 where he witnessed the massive peaceful protest that removed the right-wing Korean president Park Geunhye from power. Dr. Pieper will present a brief history of how thoughtless geopolitical division by superpowers resulted in war, ideological dictatorships, and now the surreal juxtaposition of a hyper-modern model democracy and the last Stalinist state on earth. Dr. Pieper will also discuss issues of North and South Korean identity and the disparate perceptions of the North Korean crisis in the United States and in South Korea.

Coordinator: Kayla Vaughan

Assistant Coordinator: Carolyn Herkstroeter

2018 International Relations Lecture Series



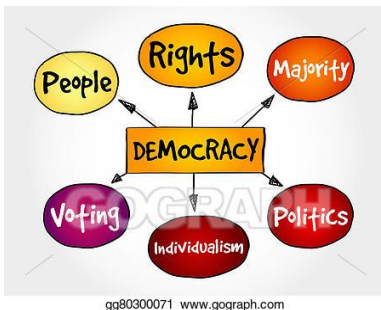
March 13, 2018

Human Trafficking an International Problem

Whitney Howland has worked as the Human Trafficking Victim Services Social Worker at the International Institute of St. Louis since 2016. In this role, she provides intensive case management to clients and screens potential victims of trafficking, provides technical assistance and training to service providers. Currently she acts as the agency's liaison to the Federal District of Eastern Missouri's Human Trafficking Task Force, and she organizes the St. Louis Rescue and Restore Coalition.

Coordinator: Pam Ross

Assistant Coordinator: Julia Triplett



April 10, 2018

The Assault on Global Democracy

Ryan D. Kulik has spent over 20 years working as a lobbyist and public relations consultant with an emphasis in Government communications. He specializes in taking controversial issues and creating new partnerships with the goal of implementing positive social change. Through SeedSing.com, Mr. Kulik has created a community of independent journalists who, without influence or bias, spotlight the politics and popular culture of the day.

Recent years have seen the global communities get more connected with the rise of inexpensive technology. Many people, like Mr. Kulik, thought this new global connectivity would advance the humanist philosophy and bring freedom to a larger group of people. The rise of nationalist figures like Donald Trump, Narendra Modi, and Rodrigo Duerte has shown a retreat of traditional humanist values. Is the dream of Global Democracy gone? What does the future of freedom look like?

Coordinator: Usha Sathe

Assistant Coordinator: Nancy Hutchins



Eat Pizza to Raise Some Dough!



All friends & families of the American Association of University
Women are invited to dinner on

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 13TH 2018

Join us at the Dewey's Pizza at 124 E. Lockwood in Webster Groves

Present this paper certificate or via mobile device & up to 20% of all food &
beverage purchases from 4pm - 10pm (dine-in or carry-out) will be donated to

[American Association of University Women](#)



ONLY VALID AT DEWEY'S PIZZA IN WEBSTER GROVES

124 E. Lockwood Ave. Webster Groves, MO. 63119

(314)961-1000

DEWMORE



Volunteers Needed

The St. Louis Ending Violence Against Women Network (SLEVAWN) Court Watch Project is currently recruiting volunteer monitors to observe courtrooms where civil domestic violence cases are being heard and monitor the proceedings in an effort to research any problem patterns and issues within the court system. This project is funded by the Department of Justice.

The Court Watch Project is a community-based initiative within the court system to help improve court processes regarding Order of Protection hearings. The mission of the Court Watch Project is to make the justice system more effective and responsive in handling cases of domestic violence perpetrated against women and children and to create a more informed and involved public.

Courtroom monitors are needed for both the St. Louis City and St. Louis County courts. The court rooms needing monitors are:

City Adult Abuse Docket -Thursdays from 9:00am to approximately 12 noon

County Adult Abuse Docket – Thursdays from 9:00am to approximately 12 noon

Monitors must be at least 18 years of age, attend a 4-hour training and commit to observing one docket a month for at least 6 months. For more information visit www.slevawn.org site.

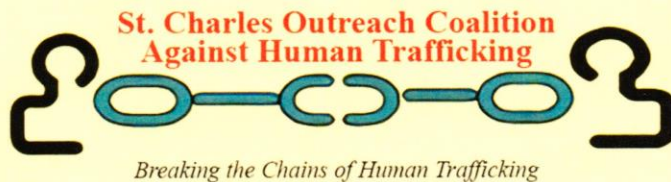
NEXT TRAINING IS FRIDAY, January 26th, 2018 8:30a.m. – 12:00p.m.

The training will be held at Safe Connections, 2165 Hampton, St. Louis, MO 63139.

Space is limited and requires registration.

Contact Carla Maley, Court Watch Project Coordinator, at courtwatchstl@gmail.com for more information.

This project was supported by Grant #2015-FJ-AX-0009 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this publication/program/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.



GAME DAY
SAVE THE DATE
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2018 (10 am - 2 pm)
Whitmoor Country Club
1100 Whitmoor Dr., St. Charles, MO 63304

Cost: \$25.00
Includes Lunch
Chicken Salad on Croissant, Fresh Fruit,
Brownie & Lemon Bars
Coffee & Tea Service

Organize a Table of Four Friends
And Play a Game of your Choice
Bridge, Canasta, Mah Jong, Dominoes, Rummikub,
Cribbage, Backgammon, Scrabble & more

For more information contact
Barbara Butchart, bbutchart4272@gmail.com
314-560-6490

RSVP by Friday, February 2, 2018
\$10.00 tax-deductible, 501(c)3 organization
Make checks payable to "SCCAT"
Mail to 107 Shaelah Ct., Weldon Spring, MO 63304

AAUW – KIRKWOOD-WEBSTER GROVES BRANCH
New Member Form – 2017-2018

Welcome to Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch! Please provide the following membership information:

Full Name: _____ Preferred First Name for Nametag: _____

Address: _____ Birthday: _____
 (Street) (City) (Zip) (mm/dd)

Preferred phone: ___ Home # _____ Cell # _____ Email: _____

Preferred method for receiving branch and state newsletters: ___ Email___ USPS

Degree	Area of Study	College/University	Year

The AAUW year is July 1 - June 30. Membership paid after March 15 extends through June 30 of the following year; i.e., 2019.	Association (National)	Missouri (State)	Kirkwood-Webster Groves	Total	Choose One
New Member	\$49*	\$10	\$15	\$74	
New Dual Member Primary Branch: _____	n/a	\$10 or n/a	\$15	\$15	
Special 2018 Membership Campaigns					
Shape-the-Future (join Mar 16-Dec 31)	\$24.50*	\$10	\$15	\$49.50	
Current Graduate Student	\$18.81*	\$10	\$15	\$43.81	
Give a Grad-a-Gift (min. 2-year Associate)	\$0	\$0	\$15	\$15	
Undergraduate Student Affiliates					
Student's school is an AAUW C/U partner member	Free online	\$3	\$6	\$9	
Student's school is not an AAUW C/U partner member	\$17*	\$3	\$6	\$26	
Representative at an AAUW C/U Partner Member joining branch/state	Incl in C/U Membershi p	\$10	\$15	\$25	
Current AAUW Member-at-Large joining branch/state	Incl in MAL dues	\$10	\$15	\$25	

*IRS regulations allow that \$46 (or \$23 if half price) of AAUW membership dues is a charitable contribution.
 Suggestion: Make a note for your 2017 tax folder.

(continued on next page)

Want help with this form? Call K-WG Finance VP Carol Davis McDonald, 636-227-0511

Mail this completed form with your check payable to AAUW to:

**Carol Davis McDonald
 827 Bergquist Drive
 Manchester, MO 63011-4215**

Optional: Please provide additional personal information for the Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch membership directory to help us learn more about you and your accomplishments.

Employment Status: ___ Retired from Job Title/Company: _____

Employed ___ F/T ___ P/T ___ Self at Company Name/Number: _____

Volunteer work:

What would you like us to know about you? (e.g., family, AAUW interests, publications, awards, achievements, hobbies, interests, special skills, etc.)

December 29, 2017

If 2017 has taught us anything, it's that our activism is needed now more than ever. It's crucial that as we look ahead to new challenges and accomplishments to be achieved in the New Year, we prepare to protect the progress we've already made. In order to be ready for anything 2018 throws at us, we need to become better, more efficient, and more stalwart activists — and to accomplish that we need to know what resources are available to us and be ready to use them. Though figuring out how to ramp up your activism can be daunting, you're not alone; AAUW's got you covered in 2018

1. Know your rights at work.

By the end of 2017, it became clear that more and more people are finding the strength and confidence to speak up about sexual harassment and assault in the workplace. Choosing to disclose an instance of harassment is often a matter of safety and comfort, but not knowing [what constitutes sexual harassment](#) or [what to do once you experience](#) or [witness](#) it can deter people from disclosing. Knowing your employer's responsibility to [create a workplace culture that discourages sexual harassment](#) and what resources and protections your employer is legally obligated to provide can help you determine how to help create a better and safer workplace culture, too. In 2018, resolve to know your rights around sexual harassment in the workplace so that you can empower yourself and others to recognize and report sexual harassment and assault.

2. Vote.

The presidential election has long since passed, but local elections are coming up on the horizon all over the country — and they're coming fast. Keep up with the [schedule of your state and local elections](#) and make sure you're ready to make your voice heard on women's issues such as [reproductive rights](#), [paid family leave](#), and [equal pay](#), to name just a few. In 2018, resolve to make your voice heard every chance you get by [registering to vote](#) and showing up at the polls. Remember: Your voice makes a difference.

3. Negotiate your salary.

Women working full time in the United States typically are [paid just 80 percent](#) of what men are paid on average, but negotiating for your salary and benefits can help chip away at that gap. Whether you're [entering the job market for the first time](#) or [already a working professional](#), AAUW has resources to help you get paid fairly for your work. Resolve to make 2018 the year you ask for the raise or promotion you know you've earned — and the year you help empower others by [bringing AAUW's salary negotiation workshops to your community](#). AAUW Start Smart teaches women entering the workforce for the first time how to negotiate their starting salaries at a critical time in their career, when benchmarks are set for future salaries.

4. Support the next generation of innovators.

The earlier girls are empowered, the brighter their futures can become. That's especially true for girls interested in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM), fields that [are largely unwelcoming](#) to women and girls. Commit to helping girls realize their potential this year with AAUW's new STEM curricula, known as STEMpacks. Our [cyber security STEMpack](#), created in partnership with cyber security industry leader Symantec, covers topics such as binary coding, programming languages, and deconstructing computers; and the [aerospace engineering STEMpack](#) we created with the Arconic Foundation introduces students to physics and engineering through a combination of scientific principles and exhilarating experiments. These programs keep girls excited and enthusiastic about entering STEM fields at an age when [AAUW research shows they're most likely to lose interest](#) and give them the confidence they need to succeed in STEM fields and beyond.

5. Help young women find their voices

This year, commit to making progress toward getting more women into leadership, whether that woman is you or someone else you know. Women are [still left out of top leadership positions](#) — especially women of color, who face both gender- and race-based stereotypes and barriers in their pursuit of leadership roles. [Speaking out against workplace sexism](#) and [learning best practices to improve gender equity in the office](#) can help dismantle some of the prejudices and stereotypes that work against women's advancement, but it's important to prepare women for

leadership as early as possible, too. [The National Conference for College Women Student Leaders](#) is devoted to [teaching leadership skills](#), [providing role models](#) and a network of outstanding peers, and giving college women the confidence they need to go after the leadership roles they deserve in college and in the world beyond. Encourage a college student you know to help close the leadership gap by [attending NCCWSL 2018](#).

6. Be an ally.

Activist, artist, academic, and Aboriginal elder Lilla Watson said, “If you have come here to help me, you are wasting your time. But if you have come because your liberation is bound up with mine, then let us work together.” [Social justice is not only for members of marginalized communities](#) — it’s for everyone, because everyone benefits from it. When we understand that overcoming and dismantling biases and systems of oppression advances equity for everyone, we can begin to make real change. Make 2018 the year you [recognize](#) and [learn about](#) your privilege, find out what you can do to leverage that privilege to help others, and prioritize the voices of people of marginalized communities above your own.

7. Get involved.

Your voice matters all the time, not just during elections. AAUW has a number of ways you can [get involved in promoting equity for women and girls](#). You can become a [Two-Minute Activist](#) and receive alerts of opportunities to weigh in on important issues when you’re needed the most; [join or start an AAUW student organization](#) to empower students on your campus; read up on women’s issues such as the [student debt crisis](#) so you can be ready to educate others; and share AAUW’s work on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and anywhere else you can use your platform to make a difference. Be sure to keep up with local politics, issues, and events so that you can get involved locally, too. In 2018, resolve to remember that it’s never the wrong time or too late to make yourself heard and to do what you can to fight for the issues that matter to you.