

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

AAUW is open to graduates who hold the associate, baccalaureate, or higher degree from a qualified college or university.

The Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch of AAUW supports the full range of the AAUW mission through its monthly program meetings, special interest 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 St Louis Interbranch Council (IBC).

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**K-WG:** <http://kwg-mo.aauw.net>

**IBC:** <http://stlouis-ibc.aauw.net>

**State:** [www.aauw-mo.aauw.net](http://www.aauw-mo.aauw.net)

**National:** [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

**Facebook:** AAUWKWG

Click [here](#) to join our FB group



**November 18, 2021**

6:30 PM - Log in early for networking

7:00 PM - Meeting begins

**Redistricting: What Is It and Why Should I Care?**

Presenter: Nancy Price, League of Women Voters

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3041753234>

Nancy Price grew up primarily in the Northeast, although she has lived in 10 different states including Minnesota (Minneapolis) and California before coming to the St. Louis area. She holds a Bachelor of Science and two Masters of Science degrees in plant physiology and biochemistry. Having happily retired, she has been a member of the LWV St. Louis Metro Board and chaired its speakers' bureau for the last five years.

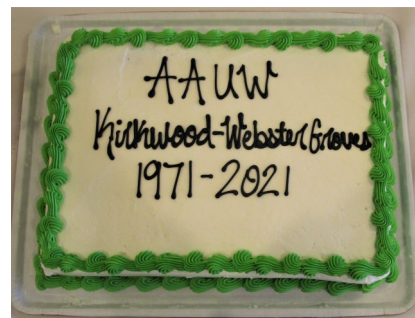
As a lifelong learner, she has found the League deeply rewarding, as there are always important issues being worked on and so much to learn. She is also on the Kirkwood Library Board, is a member of The Sierra Club and several other groups. Don't ever let anyone tell you that once you retire, you'll have time to do all the things you've been wanting to do!

Voter Education, especially through the speakers' bureau, and solving voter access issues are her most favorite issues. Currently she is busiest with LWVMO's Fair Redistricting Committee.

"Thank you for this opportunity to share information about Fair Redistricting. The maps that are being drawn will impact how well our voices are heard for the next 10 years, and beyond."

## Thoughts From Co-President Jeanne Webdell

I was thrilled with our 50th anniversary celebration on Saturday, October 16th, at the Greenbriar Hills Country Club - 64 people registered, and 61 were able to make it. Everyday it seems there is a new reason to worry about the fragility of women's rights and human rights. But October 16th was a time to celebrate. Using a theme of celebration, not only was the Branch history shared, but the 50 years of progress that has been made toward equity for women was reviewed. The committee did a wonderful job—KUDOS to all who helped make it such an enjoyable day.



In addition, the partnerships of AAUW branches and community groups that have worked toward that equality was highlighted. Three groups had representatives there—the League of Women Voters-St. Louis, National Council of Jewish Women-St. Louis, and Missouri Women's Network.



The entry of women into government was shown by the presentation of a proclamation for KWG's 50-year anniversary by Mo. State Representatives **Sarah Hunsicker** (l), **Barbara Phifer** (r), and **Jo Doll**, who could not attend.

The final reason for celebration was the appointment of speaker Judge **Robin Ransom** (at right) to be the first black woman to serve on the Mo. Supreme Court. In keeping with AAUW's history of lifelong learning, Judge Ransom started her talk with a lesson on the Missouri Nonpartisan Court Plan. She then recounted her journey of determination and hard work from North St. Louis to the bench in Jefferson City. She paid tribute to both her parents and her family life.



Here are a few quotes from Judge Ransom's speech:

- ◆ "Whenever you are the first of anything, people are waiting to see how you perform. I always say that it's OK to be the first; you just want to make sure you're not the last."
- ◆ "I don't care what it is, be it your gender or your race, you want to go in and knock it out of the park and do the best that you can, so the doors remain open for others to come behind you."

At the end of her speech, Judge Ransom said, "'I'd like to leave you with a few inspirational quotes from a few notable women that were AAUW Trailblazers":

- ◆ *Tremendous amounts of talent are being lost to our society just because that talent wears a skirt.* – Shirley Chisholm, first African-American woman elected to U.S. Congress
- ◆ *Women belong in all places where decisions are being made. It shouldn't be that women are the exception.* - Ruth Bader Ginsburg
- ◆ *I'll be happy if the last thing they say about me after I die is that I made a difference.*—Lily Ledbetter



Lynne Roney went online to Facebook and looked at the pages of many of our STEM scholarship winners. She found that two-thirds of them have continued in a STEM field of study including medical school, systems engineering, biology, athletic training, pharmacy, psychology and brain science, environmental engineering, and aeronautical sciences.

We have a lot to celebrate, but a lot more needs to be done. The anniversary celebration was not an ending but a time to be recharged for the work ahead. Thank you, Kirkwood-Webster Groves AAUW, for all you do for equity for women and girls.

In addition, to the proclamations from the Mo. House of Representative, others were received from the Mayors of Kirkwood, Webster Groves, and Clayton.

# More Anniversary Celebration



St. Charles Branch member **Pam Kulp** (left); her daughter, **Nicole Snyder** (right); and granddaughter, **Reese Snyder** (next to Pam) had a photo op with Judge Ransom.

Creative centerpieces by **Deb McWard**, impressive program design by **Marsha Koch**, imprinted 50th pens, orange cards to answer questions, matchbook emery boards, and updated branch brochures on all the tables. ↓



➤ Created by **Cathy Gilbert**, a great Power-Point program of pictures over the years was on continuous play before brunch was served.



Members and guests mingled during check-in. Masks were worn to help protect guests from Covid-19.



## 1971-2021

Branch scrapbooks and documents were retrieved from the Western Historical Manuscripts Collection at UMSL for display at the brunch. →



Front row: Jayne Kasten\*, MO AAUW President **Sue Shine-man** (Independence Branch), **Jeanne Webdell**, Judge **Robin Ransom**, **Marsha Koch**, **Gloria Campion**, **Diane Ludwig\*** (Columbia Branch). Back row: **Lucy Barrington** (Lubbock, TX, and KWG branches), **Carol Davis McDonald**, **Christine Stricker\***, **Lynne Roney**, **Elinor Gent**, **Phyllis Foster**, **Christine Nobbe**, **Kay Meyer**, **Barbara Johnson**, **Maud Jeanty\***, **Kathy Krizek**, **Charlotte Parsons** (Jefferson City and KWG branches), and **Deb McWard**. Not pictured was **Kathy O'Neill\***. (\*Former KWG member) →



Jeanne (left) and Marsha did an excellent job of MC-ing the program. Marsha had the script written for committee members to follow and did a terrific job of organizing the event.



Special thanks to **Diane Ludwig** who served as the event photographer! Thanks to all who submitted pictures.



## BRANCH MEMBER NEWS

Congratulations to **Jeannie Webdell** who was welcomed to the AAUW Legacy Circle by National Legacy Circle Team Liaison **Susan Barley** (pictured to the right of Jeanne) with the presentation of the special Legacy Circle pin at the anniversary brunch on October 16th at Greenbriar Hills Country Club.



Jeannie is one of 25 Legacy Circle members from Missouri and one of three Kirkwood-Webster Groves members. AAUW honors and thanks Jeanne, along with **Lucy Barrington** (pictured at left) and **Nancy Hutchins**, for their fantastic commitment to support AAUW's mission.



### Debbie McWard

Membership Chair

If you belong to the Missouri Historical Society, you probably received a copy of *Gateway*, its magazine.

When I picked it up to read it the evening it came, beyond coincidentally, there was an article in it that caught my attention, *TAXES AND TROLLOPS, Protesting Female Injustice in St. Louis*, written by none other than our new member, **Nicole "Niki" Burgdorf**, or pen name, Nicole Evelina.

Niki's bio would fill a couple pages, so I'll direct you to her website, <https://nicoleevelina.com>.

Niki attended our Anniversary Celebration by way of The League of Women Voters. She grew up in North County and attended Incarnate Word Academy and now lives in Maryland Heights. She attended Fontbonne University with a double major in English and International Business and received an MA in Media



Relations from Webster University. She belongs to not only LWV but also The International Association of Business Communications (IABC), the St. Louis Writer's Guild, Saturday Writers, Historical Novel Society, International Arthurian Society and Biographer's International.

She is supportive of AAUW's agenda. That's the routine part of her interview. I am copying the rest of what she submitted to me since it seems impudent to paraphrase an author.

*I asked her about the achievement she's most proud of.* She answered, "Writing the first ever biography of suffragists Virginia and Francis Minor, set to be published in March 2023 by Globe Pequot. I really feel like their story needs to be told in full; and finishing it, then getting a traditional publisher for it, are so much more than I ever dreamed I was capable of."

*What our members should know about her:* "Even though I didn't study it in school, women's history is my favorite subject.

"I'm a USA Today bestselling author and biographer under the name of Nicole Evelina. I write historical fiction, non-fiction, and women's fiction. My six books have won more than 40 awards, including four Books-of-the-Year designations. I was named Missouri's Top Independent Author by *Library Journal* as the winner of the Missouri Indie Author Project in 2018 and was awarded the North Street Book Prize and Sarton Women's Book Award. One of my novels, *Madame Presidentness*, which is about Victoria Woodhull, the first woman to run for president in 1872, was previously optioned for film.

"In addition to my self-published works, I am also writing a history of the League of Women Voters of St. Louis from 1960-2020 and have three books under traditional contracts: the first-ever biography of suffragists Virginia and Francis Minor, set to be published in March 2023 by Globe Pequot, and two non-fiction books due to be published in 2022 and 2023/24 by Rowan & Littlefield: *Sex and the City: A Cultural History* and *Fierce Females of Television: A Cultural History*.

"My fiction tells the story of strong women from history and today, with a focus on biographical fiction, while my non-fiction focuses on women's history. Both share the stories of unknown or little-known figures. I am represented by Amy Collins of Talcott Notch Literary."

# Pecans



If you would like to place an order for pecans this fall, please e-mail or call Carol with your order. The prices are the same as last year. Pecans will arrive from Georgia some time in November.

Mammoth Halves, Shelled	\$13.00
Cinnamon Glazed	\$11.00
Chocolate-Caramel ("Turtles")	\$11.00
Dark Chocolate	\$11.00

## Report on the Pecanapalooza Festival in Ste. Genevieve, November 6, 2021

By Kay Meyer

Well, Ladies, we had a very successful day selling pecans at the Ste. Genevieve Pecanapalooza event. We sold out of pecans by 2:30 pm and the event continued until 5:00 pm. We only had 1 case of the cinnamon glaze pecans but could have easily sold another case or two. We had 1 case plus of pecan halves and had people waiting in line to buy more, but we ran out. We collected \$705 today (one lady made a \$5 donation). Thanks to **Barb Johnson, Bruce Meyer** and **Valeria Ott** for helping set up the booth, take it down, and help sell pecans. The \$50 for the booth was refunded (had them shred the check), so the booth was free. Met a lot of interesting people including several people from Kirkwood and Webster Groves. Next year, Pecanapalooza will be Saturday, November 5, 2022. I think we should plan on being there to sell pecans. We were the only vendor at the event selling pecans.

There will be a Christmas Fair at the Ste. Genevieve Community Center Saturday December 11, 2021, where we have been invited to sell pecans. The cost of the booth is \$35 for one eight-foot table. They provide the table and two chairs. The event is inside the Community Center starting at 8:00 am and is finished by 1:00pm. We would be the only vendor selling pecans. I am sure we could sell a lot of milk and dark chocolate pecans as well as pecan clusters. We need to decide quickly if we want to take advantage of this opportunity so we can secure a spot. I have the form if we decide we want to have a booth.

## December Branch Get Together

December 4, Saturday, 10 a.m.

A docent-led tour of the exhibit looking at music legends: St. Louis Sound

Followed by lunch in the Museum Café St. Louis by Pure

More information to follow. Please let Chris Nobbe know if you want to attend.

## It is Time to think about Year-End Giving

By Sue Barley, AAUW MO Fund chair and a member of the national Legacy Circle team

AAUW needs individual member support in order to meet budget needs and support our vital equity programs. We have just a few more months to meet our 2021 giving goals. It is hoped that all our members will join in participation in 2021. Donations may be made online using a credit or debit card, or checks may be sent to AAUW Fund, P.O. Box 98045, Washington, D.C. 20090. Your gift is tax deductible and will be soft-credited to your branch. AAUW MO will recognize donors who give \$100-\$249 as Century Club members, and donors who give \$250 or more as Century Club-Plus members.

## CALENDAR

### 2021

- Nov 17 AAUW celebration of 140th anniversary via Zoom
- Nov 18 KWG branch meeting, 6:30 pm
- Nov 23 IBC quarterly meeting via Zoom, 7 pm
- Nov 28 "AAUW" celebrates 140 Years
- Dec 4 Branch get together at MO History Museum, docent-led tour followed by lunch in the cafe
- Dec 6 Board meeting on strategic plan, 7 pm
- Dec 11 Christmas Fair, Ste. Genevieve Community Center
- Jan 11 IRLS lecture on Feeding the Dragon
- Jan 20 Branch meeting on chair exercises
- Jan 27 IBC Adelante book group, 1:30 via Zoom

## AAUW METRO ST LOUIS INTERBRANCH COUNCIL (IBC)

The AAUW St. Louis Metro Interbranch Council (IBC) consists of representatives from each of the St. Louis AAUW branches. The following officers from each branch are voting members of IBC: president, program vice president, membership vice president, and a member at large. All members are invited to attend meetings (quarterly, fourth Tuesday of August, November, February, and May) and participate in IBC activities, which include:

- Planning the Spring Fling luncheon fundraiser
- Sponsoring a student to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)
- Co-sponsoring the International Lecture Series held at the Ethical Society building
- Sponsoring the ¡Adelante! book group
- Awarding the Barbara Lackritz Service Award

The next IBC meeting will be November 23, 2021, at 7 PM via Zoom. All members are welcome to attend. A link will be sent to you upon request.

### IBC ¡ADELANTE! BOOK GROUP



This group, started in 1996 as a component of AAUW's diversity outreach program, meets in September, October, and January through May to discuss books written from diverse perspectives. Anyone can join in the lively book discussion during any

month we meet.

Where: Currently via Zoom

When: 1:30 pm the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month in October, January, February, March, April, May

Contact: Contact Deb McWard for sign-up  
Send book selection titles/authors to Teri Brecht [tebrecht@yahoo.com](mailto:tebrecht@yahoo.com)

- Jan 27 1) *Clark and Division* by Naomi Hirahara (Japanese American family relocated to 1944 Chicago after WWII incarceration in internment camp) - and 2) *It's Your World* by Chelsea Clinton (environment)

SAVE THE DATE!

IBC "Swing into Spring" Luncheon  
honoring Barb Lackritz Awardees  
Saturday, March 26, 2022, 11:30 am

Entertainment by Queens of Swing.  
Registration flyer to follow!

### IBC BRANCHES - Events:

In case you would like to visit another branch, here are some of their events. For information, check their website or contact a KWG officer who will have contact info.

#### **BALLWIN-CHESTERFIELD BRANCH:**

**Bryan Jack**, assistant professor at Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville, will discuss "Crossing the Red Sea: St. Louis and the Exodus of 1879" on November 11, 2021, at 10 a.m., at Trinity Church, 14088 Clayton Road, Town and Country, MO 63017. In 1879, thousands of African Americans fled the post-Reconstruction South in search of political, economic, and social opportunity, many heading to Kansas. Called "Exodusters" after the Biblical story of escape from oppression, they often arrived destitute in St. Louis, and city officials refused to help. To the stranded Exodusters, St. Louis became a barrier as formidable as the Red Sea. However, Dr. Jack will show how African Americans in St. Louis came together to sustain these people's needs and help them on their way.

This year is the branch's 40th anniversary. They plan to celebrate on December 9th at their winter fundraiser—Lights of Leadership. They are asking for \$40 contributions from all members who are able, with recognition as a Light of Leadership with their name on a big candle. They will have entertainment, a box lunch, birthday cake, a raffle, and, of course, fun for all. Their website is <https://ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/>.

#### **FERGUSON-FLORISSANT BRANCH:**

They are planning for their December holiday event to be held on December 12th at Ferguson Presbyterian Church.

#### **ST. CHARLES BRANCH:**

The branch met on November 4th for the annual Greatest Needs Fund Un-Auction and Fun Day—BYOLunch, suffragists song fest, silent auction, raffle, AAUW-Fund Bingo, plus donations to the AAUW Fund.

#### **ST. LOUIS BRANCH:**

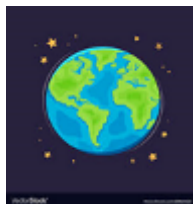
The branch had an in-person event in October at the Missouri History Museum to see "Beyond the Ballot," followed by a lunch in the dining room. Their partnership continues with the Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri, helping with badges related to our AAUW mission. In preparation, they will be having a volunteer training session soon. A holiday get together is being planned for the branch by Sue Barley.

"The greatest danger to our future is apathy."

— Jane Goodall

## 2022 International Relations Lecture Series

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



Each meeting will begin promptly at 10:45 the 2nd Tuesday of the month, January through 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 11, 2022

### Feeding the Dragon: U.S. Choices and Habits that Contribute to the Growth of Chinese Power



Speaker: Professor Julie Blasé

Julie Blasé, PhD, is a professor of political science at Principia College, where she is responsible for international relations courses and focuses on US foreign policy, globalization, and contemporary security. Please join us to hear some provocative ideas about the future of US-China relations from Professor Julie Blasé. The growth of Chinese power and influence has been assisted by the unintended outcomes of US choices. Do Americans want to limit Chinese power enough to change our own approach to economics, leadership, and security?

Coordinator: Susie Teicher

Assistant Coordinator: Kay Meyer

February 8, 2022

### Climate Change

Speaker:  
Carl Bender, PhD

Carl M. Bender is the Konneker Distinguished Professor



Emeritus of Physics at Washington University in St. Louis. Find out the science behind the climate change from Professor Bender. By far, the most serious problem that the earth's population faces is that of climate change. Scientists have been well aware of this problem for more than a century; but in recent years, there have been major advances in measurement and prediction. The latest comprehensive studies are contained in the *Sixth*

*Assessment Report of the U. N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)* that was published recently in August 2021. This talk will summarize some of the recent findings and predictions.

Coordinator: Joan Walker

Assistant Coordinator: Pamela Meyer

March 8, 2022

### Welcoming Refugees to St. Louis and a Glimpse at the World Refugee Situation



Speaker: Ariel Burgess, MSW; V.P. of client services at the International Institute of St. Louis

Ms. Burgess brings over 20 years of experience and practical knowledge to the field of refugee resettlement, having first started in the field when Bosnians were coming to the U.S. and St. Louis. To date, Ms. Burgess and the Institute have been instrumental in bringing Afghans who were evacuated in 2021 to St. Louis. She will give us a glimpse of the worldwide refugee situation and then focus on refugees already in St. Louis, expected refugee arrivals, and how the community can support refugee resettlement.

Coordinator: Sue Williams

Assistant Coordinator: Nancy Hutchins

April 12, 2022

### The Waxing and Waning of Democracy Around the World

The "ominous" decline of democracy around the world



Speaker: Olga Bezhanova, PhD

Olga Bezhanova is an associate professor of Spanish Literature and chair of the Dept. of Foreign Languages and Literature at Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville. Her book, *Growing Up in an Inhospitable World: Female Bildungsroman in Spain*, was awarded the Victoria Urbano Prize for the Best Critical Monograph.

After the fall of the USSR in 1991 and the subsequent efforts of countries in Eastern Europe and the Global South to establish democratic regimes, there was a widespread feeling that humanity had achieved what Francis Fukuyama termed "the end of history" and accepted the primacy of representative democracy over other types of political systems. Since then, however,

(continued on next page)

we have seen the initial enthusiasm for democracy weaken in Latin America and countries of Central and Eastern Europe. At the same time, well-established democracies of the West have experienced a series of crises that cast doubt over their capacity to preserve fully democratic systems of government. What is the future of democracy? Will it renew itself in the coming years or are we to prepare for continued weakening of democratic institutions everywhere?

Coordinator: Sharon Poe

## Programs of Interest

### Webster Speaks

As part of ongoing efforts to underscore Webster University's commitment to social justice issues, Vincent C. Flewellen, chief diversity officer at Webster University, hosts a virtual speaker series, "Webster Speaks: Dialogues on RACE, EQUITY and INCLUSION." The series features live discussions with thought leaders within the University and in the wider community, confronting systemic racism issues.

Listeners can get involved via Twitter by submitting any questions (in advance or during the event) using #WebsterSpeaks. Following the live stream, each episode is listed in the archive below, and added to the Webster Speaks playlist on YouTube.

The opinions expressed by any speaker, panelist, or participant in Webster Speaks represent the individual views of the person expressing such opinions and do not represent statements made by or on behalf of Webster University. The University presents this program for educational purposes and to encourage academic discourse.

Next Episode: November 17, 2021, 7 pm, for live broadcast.

#### **Broken Promises: Immigrant Experiences in America**

Special Guests: Betsy Cohen, Executive Director of the St. Louis Mosaic Project; Arrey Obenson, President and CEO of the International Institute of St. Louis; and Sal Valdez, Hispanic Leaders Group of St. Louis. [Click on this link for registration and archive information](#), as well as past program information.

*Do you have a question about AAUW or our branch, something you have been wondering? Just ask. We'll get an answer. (davis-mcdonald@outlook.com)*

## Women's Foundation of Greater St. Louis

### Legislative Champions for Women Awards Recognizing Policy Advocates Who Advance Women's Economic Success

November 9, 2021— 5:30 - 7:00 pm  
Webster University, Browning Hall Auditorium

The Women's Foundation of Greater St. Louis will honor elected officials for their efforts to eliminate the barriers to economic independence for women in the St. Louis region. For safety reasons, face masks are required.

#### Event Agenda:

5:30 pm: Reception with light appetizers and wine  
6:00 pm: Panel Discussion facilitated by Jill Nowak  
6:30 - 7:00 pm: Meet the Honorees

#### Officials being honored have addressed one of these five crucial areas of concern for women in St. Louis:

1. Addressing the gender wage gap.
2. Increasing Missouri minimum wage.
3. Promoting paid family leave.
4. Developing equal hiring practices (ban salary history.)
5. Creating access to affordable, quality childcare.

#### Panelists/Honorees include:

- Rasheen Aldridge: State Representative - 78th District
- Lauren Arthur: State Senator - 17th District
- Doug Beck: State Senator - 1st District
- Paula Brown: State Representative - 70th District
- Shameem Clark Hubbard: Alderwoman - 26th Ward City of St. Louis
- Mary Elizabeth Coleman: State Representative - 97th District
- Bruce DeGroot: State Representative - 101st District
- Jo Doll: State Representative - 83rd District
- Barbara Phifer: State Representative - 90th District
- Raychel Proudie: State Representative - 73rd District
- Shameem Clark Hubbard: Alderwoman - 26th Ward City of St. Louis

[Register Now](#)



## Women's Voices Raise for Social Justice

### Voter Sabotage: Will YOU be able to Vote?

Thursday, November 11, 7 p.m.

Virtual Program

[Registration is required; please register here!](#)

Speakers: **Denise Lieberman**, JD, MO Voter Protection Coalition, and **Mo Del Villar**, ACLU

The right to vote is taken for granted. For too many, however, that right is being suppressed. Voter suppression is a strategy used to influence outcomes of elections by discouraging or preventing specific groups of people from voting. How do we see it today? In laws that restrict voter access. As of March 2021, according to the Brennan Center for Justice, 361 bills that would restrict voting access have been introduced in 47 states, including Missouri. In the words of John Lewis: "Voting is the most powerful nonviolent tool we have." Learn from our experts on what's happening in Missouri and what you can do to protect everyone's right to vote and have their voice be heard at the ballot box.

## Nat'l Council of Jewish Women-St. Louis

### November Lunch & Learn: Reproductive Rights

**When:** Thursday, November 18 | 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

**Where:** Zoom - [RSVP Here](#)

**Reproductive rights - having the ability to decide whether and when to have children - are important to women's socioeconomic well-being and overall health.**

Research suggests that being able to make decisions about one's own reproductive life and the timing of one's entry into parenthood is associated with greater relationship stability and satisfaction, more work experience among women, and increased wages and average career earnings.

We are excited to welcome MO Family Health Council's **Michelle Trupiano**, executive director, and **Mandy Hagseth**, director of policy & advocacy. They will be discussing what's at stake for reproductive justice in Missouri, focusing on what issues will arise during the 2022 Missouri legislative session, and how we can work together to not only fight efforts to limit access to abortion, but also the good bills that we can support.

If you have any questions, please contact **Jen Bernstein** at [jbernstein@ncjwstl.org](mailto:jbernstein@ncjwstl.org).



We are thrilled to invite you to attend our 140th Anniversary celebration on November 17, 2021, at 7 p.m. CT. Join us as we mark a milestone year and unveil our distinguished 2021 AAUW Alumnae Recognition Awardee. This year's recipient is a trailblazer and globally recognized leader, and we are excited to reveal their identity soon. We'll also give special recognition to AAUW affiliates celebrating big birthdays of their own, including states and branches with 50th, 75th and 100th anniversaries this year. And you'll hear from AAUW National Board Chair Julia Brown and (newly appointed) Chief Executive Officer Gloria L. Blackwell. They'll share their reflections on our rich past and look ahead to a bright—and equitable—future for women and girls.

Finally, you'll be the first to learn about the historic gift matching opportunity made possible by this year's board of directors, committee leaders and staff, allowing your donations to be doubled through the end of 2021. I hope this event serves as a small token of our gratitude for everything you do for AAUW. I look forward to seeing you there!

**[REGISTER NOW](#)**

### Introducing Money Smart

With the generous support of The Coca-Cola Foundation, AAUW is pleased to launch our new [Money Smart program](#), a series of free virtual workshops designed to support women in navigating their personal finances. We particularly encourage women of color to join us for information and resources to help address the disproportionate and systemic fiscal challenges faced by black and brown women. These include a vast racial wealth gap and wider-than-average gender wage gap. Please share with your networks!

### STEMed for Girls: That's a Wrap!

More than 600 girls and 300 parents and caregivers participated in AAUW's inaugural STEMed for Girls program—a virtual workshop series designed exclusively for high-school girls. The girls took part in six 1.5-hour virtual sessions over two months that showcased how accessible and exciting STEM fields can be. Stay tuned for more information about future STEM events.