

"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 social action, collaborating with local organizations and educational institutions regarding AAUW topics, and 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).

**Branch Officers, 2022-2023**

**Co-President:**

Jeanne Webdell  
573-751-0943  
jeannewebdell@gmail.com

**Co-President:**

Marsha Koch  
314-651-0321  
mkwkoch@outlook.com

**Co-Program Vice President:**

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

**Co-Program Vice President:**

Kay Meyer  
314-962-7487  
kicmeyer51@gmail.com

**Membership Vice President:**

Deb McWard  
314-607-2908  
debmcward@earthlink.net

**Finance Vice President:**

Carol Davis McDonald  
314-623-1847  
davis-mcdonald@outlook.com

**Secretary:**

Cathy Gilbert  
314-922-8367  
cathygrace49@yahoo.com

## 2023 AAUW MO Annual State Meeting

Saturday, May 6, 2023 - via ZOOM - 9:00 a.m. till Noon

### CHANGING LIVES THROUGH EQUITY

8:30—9:00 **Zoom session opens;** members log on

9:00—9:40 **Opening Session**

Karen Francis, AAUW MO President  
KEYNOTE: "AAUW Today" - Malinda Gaul,  
AAUW National Vice Chair



9:40-10:10 **AAUW Issue Alert**

KEYNOTE: "Censure, Cancellations, and Bannings"  
Colleen Norman Intellectual Freedom Com-  
mittee Chair, Missouri Library Association



10:10 to 11:30 **Business Meeting** - Karen Francis & State Board

- Business of the State
- Elections and Installation of Officers for 2023-2025
- STAR Awards • Woman of Distinction Award
- AAUW Fund Awards • Outstanding Member Award
- Incentive Grants • Legacy Circle Recognitions

11:30 to Noon **Recognitions / Announcements / Adjournment**

Join us on ZOOM on Saturday morning, May 6, 2023, 9:00-Noon. There is NO registration fee. Also note our NEW online registration format via ZOOM this year (see instructions on page 2). **Please register by noon on May 3rd** so you will receive the meeting Zoom link and the e-packet of conference materials.

We have several exciting features for our state meeting as we see how we are **Changing Lives Through Equity** at the national and state levels. We begin with a keynote from **Malinda Gaul**, AAUW vice chair, with an **AAUW Update and Q&A Time**, followed by **Colleen Norman** with the Missouri Library Association focusing on **Censure, Cancellations, and Bannings**. Then we celebrate our branches and members with awards, and hold our business meeting and elections. Plan now to join with AAUW members from across the state as **we prove we are stronger together** as we continue the work of **Changing Lives Through Equity!**

Continued on next page



*Jeanne*

The United Nations estimates there are more than a billion people volunteering worldwide.

In the United States a 2021 research project, *Civic Engagement and Volunteering Supplement* conducted by AmeriCorps, showed that even during the COVID 19-pandemic those who formally volunteered gave more than 4.1 billion hours of service with an estimated economic value of \$122.9 billion. The survey found that Missouri ranked 10<sup>th</sup> among states with 30% of people formally volunteering in some way.



*Marsha*

The United Nations recognizes the worth of volunteerism, which builds bridges, promoting values of justice, freedom, and equality on which the UN is founded. Underlying volunteerism is human relationships. It is about people's need to participate in their societies and to feel that they matter to others. The United Nations strongly believes that the social relationships intrinsic to volunteer work are critical to individual and community well-being.

As members of Kirkwood-Webster AAUW we have all done volunteering through our branch at some time or other. Our work is important as AAUW depends on volunteerism to carry out its mission of advancing gender equity for women and girls and working toward the vision of equity for all. The AAUW mission depends on us.

Many of us have titles and formal roles to carry out our mission; but there are places for all of us as we contribute our money, our time, and our talents for a better world through AAUW. Start on your part in helping AAUW meet its goals by renewing your membership. Then offer your support by buying some pecans or making contributions to our STEM scholarships. Or share the news of the mission of AAUW with friends and family. Become engaged in branch meetings and activities and offer encouragement to one another to build strong relationships. Attend the State AAUW meeting this Saturday, May 6, by Zoom. Think about going to the AAUW Central States Regional Conference in St. Louis this October. There is a lot we can do. All of us together can help make the world a better place.

*Jeanne and Marsha*

(continued from page 1, AAUW MO conference)

### **REGISTER TODAY!!**

(This is your official form/request for registration - Deadline Noon on May 3rd)

#### **REGISTRATION - NEW FORMAT!**

All registration is ON-LINE via ZOOM for our May 6th meeting. The Zoom link below (in blue) has the link that takes you straight to the registration form - - verify your info, add your branch name, hit submit, and you are signed up!

#### **THERE IS NO FEE TO REGISTER**

On-line registration is needed by Noon on May 3rd to allow for conference materials and Zoom link to be sent to your email. Click this link to registration form: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)



## MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS 2023-2024

Debbie McWard

The revised membership renewal procedure is now official and up and running.



**If you have already set up your online account**, you may go to [aauw.org](http://aauw.org), log in, and follow the instructions for renewing. Your membership number will be displayed. The membership deadline is **June 30**. Your membership will run from the date of renewal for a year. If you have begun to receive renewal notices from national, they will cease as soon as you renew.

**If you have not set up an account**, you will need your membership number. Rather than display them in the newsletter, I am sending a separate list of them to branch members by means of email. Don't worry, it is not private information, just not very newsletter-worthy. Once you submit that number, you will be prompted to set up your profile. It's simply National's way of keeping track of you for its database. You will be tapping "next" at the bottom of each page, filling in and tapping "next" for awhile. Keep going, and you will eventually reach the actual renewal information. Make sure you have your credit card handy.

If you happen to be a dual member, you will need to make sure that it is taken care of at the same time as the KWG branch membership. That's **important**.

Should you choose to renew by check, you will receive a renewal form with the previously-mentioned membership-number email. If that is your preference, please do not wait until the last minute because it takes longer to process those.

It takes a few minutes to accomplish this, but it's not hard. *One thought that occurred to me is that we always talk about wanting younger members. As we accomplish that, we are also getting tech-savvy women who will expose us to more and more unfamiliar processes. It's up to us to adapt, not them.*

How much?

National	\$72.00 (\$69.00 tax deductible)
State (MO)	\$10.00
Branch	<u>\$15.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$97.00</b>

Please ask for help (314-607-2908) if you hit a snag.

## AAUW NATIONAL

### Voting is underway in the AAUW 2023 Election.

Each member has been emailed their voting pin number and simple voting instructions. Voting closes at 5 pm EDT, on **Monday, May 15, 2023**. If you did receive it, first check your Junk or Spam email folder for it. Then contact AAUW by email ([connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org)) or phone (202.785.7700).

Members are being asked to elect members to the national AAUW Board of Directors and vote on important changes to the bylaws and Public Policy Priorities. Detailed information may be found: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/national-election/>

Please vote to accept the entire bylaws document, rather than voting on each article, because the reorganized provisions are all interrelated. Much of the inconsistency in our current bylaws has resulted from piecemeal amendments of individual provisions. The goal is to avoid that problem by asking for approval of the complete document.



A quorum of 5% of the members is needed to have the election count. In order to amend the bylaws, 2/3 of the votes cast need to be in the affirmative.

Are you interested in serving AAUW at the National level? Applications are being accepted for positions on the National Board and on the Volunteer Committees. Go to <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/committees/#applyWatch> to learn more about each committee and apply online.

### Mark Your Calendar

- May 5 NCCWSL registration closes
- May 6 AAUW MO conference
- May 31-Jun 3 NCCWSL, U of Maryland, pg 5-6
- June KWG year-end celebration, TBA
- Jul 1 Dues renewal delinquent
- Sep Adelante book group, 1:30 pm via Zoom, pg 5
- Oct 19-21 Regional Conference, Drury Plaza Hotel, St. Louis (see attached flyer)

## THE FIELDS OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATH

AAUW strongly supports girls going into STEM careers for several reasons. By giving women equal opportunities to pursue and thrive in STEM careers, the gender pay gap is narrowed, women’s economic security is enhanced, and a diverse and talented STEM workforce can prevent biases in these fields and the products and services they produce.

A [typical STEM worker](#) earns two-thirds more than those employed in other fields, according to Pew Research Center. And some of the highest-earning STEM occupations, such as computer science and engineering, have the lowest percentages of women workers.

To build interest in young women in STEM, AAUW has created a free online program to help high school girls explore whether a career in the STEM Field would be of interest to them. The program reaches out to the girls and to their mentors and supporters.

STEMEd for Girls is a series of lively, informative, and engaging virtual workshops that will pave the way for success as the participants move through high school, into college, and eventually on to their career. Designed for those who want to stand out among their peers, the program:

- Illustrates what **leadership** in STEM looks and feels like, emphasizes the rewards of **innovation**, describes different types of **mentorship** relationships, discusses what it means to have and expect a **sense**

of **belonging** in STEM, presents **coping** strategies, and shares many more skills you can use for **advancement and promotion** in high school.

- Demystifies the world of STEM and shows how accessible—and exciting—these fields can be.
- Explores the different subject areas that girls can choose as a college major, including **biology, chemistry, engineering, mathematics, physics, and technology/computer science**.
- Shows the many types of lucrative jobs and careers a STEM education can prepare students for.
- Connects participants with AAUW STEM Ambassadors who will inspire and guide you in your education and beyond.
- Works with the girl’s parents, guardians, and other caregivers to make sure they have all the support and encouragement needed on their pathway to STEM.

AAUW invites girls to gain confidence, have fun, get inspired—and join a national community of girls and women excited about the endless opportunities in STEM.

Caregivers, including anyone supporting high school girls on their journey toward STEM, such as parents, legal guardians, teachers, counselors, community members, etc., can participate as well.

To find out more about the program or to sign up, check out the AAUW.org website.

### ATTENTION! IMPORTANT!

The KWG nominating committee presents these members to be elected to serve as executive committee officers beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025. Additional nominations will be taken from the floor at our June meeting, and voting to elect the candidates will be at our June meeting.

<b>Co-President</b>	<b>Lynne Roney</b> Lynne has served in many officer positions for KWG, AAUW MO, and the Springfield, IL, branch. She has a wealth of AAUW knowledge and experience. Lynne retired from a long career as manager of medical textbook editing for a local publishing company.
<b>Co-Program VP</b>	<b>Kay Meyer</b> Kay has served in many officer positions for KWG and AAUW MO. She also has a wealth of AAUW knowledge and experience. Kay is a retired medical technologist.
<b>Co-Program VP</b>	[OPEN]
<b>Secretary</b>	[OPEN]

### Join the Movie Group



If you would like to join in, let **Carol, Nancy Hutchins, or Becky Clausen** know so a Zoom link can be emailed to you. Each of us watches a selected movie on [Netflix](#). The movie is then discussed by the group.

#### Upcoming movies:

May 22 - *Summerland* (leader needed)

June 26 - *Descendent* (led by Diane Sher)

## AAUW METRO ST LOUIS INTERBRANCH COUNCIL (IBC)

KWG is **one of the five branches** that form the AAUW Metro St. Louis Interbranch Council, more commonly known as IBC. They meet 4 times a year, some virtually and some in person. Each branch is allowed 3 voting delegates, and historically the officers of each branch have served as those delegates.

The purpose of IBC is to foster cooperation among member branches and to financially support programs and projects and to open channels of communication among branches for the sharing of ideas and interests. Minimal fundraising is done to support special projects, NCCWSL scholarships, printing for visibility, and the Lackritz Award.

**The next IBC meeting is at 7 p.m. on May 23, 2023, via ZOOM.** The website is <https://stlouis-ibc.aauw.net/>.



### IBC ¡ADELANTE! BOOK GROUP

This group meets in September, October, and January through May to discuss books written from diverse perspectives.

Where: Currently via Zoom

When: 1:30 pm the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the

month in September, October, January, February, March, April, May

Contact: Deb McWard (314-607-2908).

Send suggestions for book selection titles/authors to Teri Brecht [tebrecht@yahoo.com](mailto:tebrecht@yahoo.com).

May 25 No meeting.

Sep 28 *This Tender Land: A Novel*, by William Kent Krueger; Asian-Pacific American heritage; Lynne Roney, facilitator

## International Relations Lecture Series

AAUW is a sponsor of the lecture series, which has been a joint venture with the Tuesday Women's Group (TWA) of the Ethical Society for over 95 years. Each meeting will begin promptly at 10:45 am on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, January through April. 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. Lectures take place at the Ethical Society of St. Louis, 9001 Clayton Road, St. Louis, MO 63117.

**IRLS is seeking volunteers from AAUW to work with the TWA in planning programs for January-April 2024. If you are willing to help, please contact Kay Meyer ([kicmeyer51@gmail.com](mailto:kicmeyer51@gmail.com)).**

## Metro St. Louis Branch Programs

**Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch**—May 11—Annual luncheon to be held at Doubletree by Hilton, Canopy Ballroom, Chesterfield. This special event includes recognition of retiring officers and installation of new officers, announcement of member achievements, and acknowledgement of member contributions.

**Ferguson-Florissant Branch**—May 20—Spring luncheon at Catering to You.

**Saint Charles Branch**—May 4, 6:30 pm—Annual flea market and book exchange, award scholarships to two high school recipients, and speaker: Pam Kulp, branch member, on Middle School STEM and STEAM awards.

**St. Louis Branch**—May 21, 2:00 pm—Annual meeting at Linda Lindsey's with potluck luncheon, games, annual election, honorary life membership celebration, and brief program.

May 31 – June 3, 2023

University of Maryland  
College Park



The National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) brings together more than 800 young women from around the country for two and a half days of leadership training, networking, and inspiration.

The keynote speaker for NCCWSL 2023 is bestselling author and leading advocate for equity in the workplace, **Minda Harts**. Minda's bestselling books include *The Memo: What Women of Color Need to Know to Secure a Seat at the Table*, and *Right Within: How to Heal from Racial Trauma in the Workplace*. She is assistant professor of public service at New York University's Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service and the founder of The Memo LLC, a career development company. A rising star, Minda was named the #1 Top Voice for Equity in the Workplace by *LinkedIn* in 2020 and one of the top 100 People Transforming Business by *Business Insider* in 2022.

(more on next page)

## IBC NCCWSL Scholarship Recipient for 2023:

**Eve Cohen, Webster University**

Eve is pursuing a degree in sociology and a minor in psychology. She has been a member of the Student Government Association, SGA, in her first year, as a senator of the School of Fine Arts, Webster Art Coalition, and the Multi-cultural Association, contributing staff writer and photographer for the *Webster Journal*.

“Through attending the AAUW conference, I would like to gain more in the way of leadership skills that I can begin to utilize at the University. Ideally, I want to empower other students who may feel underrepresented in order to help create an atmosphere in which students from different backgrounds can unite based on a common experience. Furthermore, I want to inspire others to feel a greater sense of support and community. By utilizing my connections with SGA leadership, I think that I can collaborate to discuss and implement these opportunities. Additionally, this is also something that I would like to carry over into my career - to empower others to participate in the process of creating sustainable change that leads to greater equity and inclusion.”

### This year's NCCWSL event will include

sessions on career development, mentorship, financial literacy, racial justice activism, and more.

Participants will have an opportunity to explore post-graduate programs, careers in a variety of disciplines (especially STEM), and other opportunities for their future. One in four is majoring in the STEM fields; other popular majors include business and the social sciences. Most are rising juniors or seniors and represent the rich diversity of their generation. Programming will focus on the following learning objectives:

- Leadership development: Develop and strengthen a leadership narrative through voice, skill set, and mind-set.
- Professional development: Build a professional toolkit for postgraduate life.
- Activism: Know how, why, and when to act and be a change-maker.
- Women's issues: Gain a better understanding of issues and policies affecting women locally, nationally, and globally.
- Identity and diversity: Own one's personal identity and role in increasing and supporting diverse voices.

## LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

**Hungering for Justice: Solving Food Insecurity**  
Thursday, May 11, 7 p.m.



In-person program at The Center of Clayton  
50 Gay Ave., St. Louis, MO 63105

Doors open at 6:30 p.m., program begins 7 p.m.  
Program will also be available on Zoom.

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

Racially discriminatory political structures of the past and present impact food access and control and contribute to food apartheid in our region. The current state of food insecurity limits access to sufficient, quality food for many of our neighbors to meet their basic needs. Our speakers will discuss the work of [Operation Food Search](#), which focuses on efforts to provide both short- and long-term solutions in collaboration with multiple partners and stakeholders.

### Presenters:

**Beverly L. Isom**, director of policy and advocacy, Operation Food Search (OFS)

**Jocelyn Fundoukos**, director of communications, Operation Food Search (OFS)

*St. Louis' branches are sending three students to NCCWSL this year.*

*Two are from the University of Health Sciences and Pharmacy via Ballwin-Chesterfield scholarships, and one is from Webster University via the InterBranch Council (IBC) scholarship, Eve Cohen.*

# The National Votes for Women's Trail

Pat Shores, Votes for Women, Missouri Trail Coordinator

## Alma Nash Historical Roadside Marker Installation

Alma Nash was honored at the installation of the final Pomeroy Roadside Historical Marker in Missouri on Friday, March 24, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. The marker was installed at a small pocket park on the corner of Main Street and Third Street in Maryville, Missouri. Alma was the lead Maryville woman in the Missouri Ladies Military Band in the National Women's Suffrage Parade in D.C. and the Suffrage Tour of Central Missouri in 1913.

The National Votes for Women's Trail, a project of the National Collaborative for Women's History Sites, has collaborated with the William G. Pomeroy Foundation to install historical roadside markers in every state to commemorate events and leaders of the women's suffrage movement. Altogether, Missouri received four roadside markers. The three previous installations that AAUW and the League supported were arranged by the National Votes for Women Missouri Representative, Cynthia Holmes.

This installation has been arranged by Dr. Elyssa Ford, associate professor of History and Honors Program director, and coordinator of Public History & Museum Studies Program at Northwest Missouri State University. You can contact her at [www.elyssaford.com](http://www.elyssaford.com).

About Alma Nash's band leading the Washington, DC, parade, in her own words:

*"We did not have time to stop and think about the really important thing we did when our band led the parade down Pennsylvania Avenue. We were not right in the lead*



Alma Nash and her band pose for a photo preserved at the Nodaway County Historical Society Museum. The band was made up of Nash's music students. [Maryville] Forum File Photo

*when the parade started: a number of women escorts, a number of walking officers of the National Equal Suffrage Association, with our band following, was the order when we first started. We had gone but a short distance when the crowd started closing up toward the line of the parade, and men blockaded a place in the street a short distance ahead. **One of the suffrage officers***

*came rushing back to us and told us to march on ahead and lead; that it would be necessary for the band to open the way proved true. We were not molested in the least and although the march was slow on account of the crowds, no one offered to stand in our way down the avenue."*

— Alma Nash, leader of the Maryville Ladies Marching Band, who led the 1913 Women's Suffrage parade in Washington D.C. <https://missouriwomen.org/2021/03/21/missouri-women-talk-suffrage/>

MARYVILLE, Mo. — Alma Nash was one of those people who never stopped working, and she didn't let the fact that she was born a woman in 1883 limit what she could do.

Nash is most well-known in the state of Missouri for her direction of the Missouri Ladies Military Band, which participated in the women's suffrage parade

Alma Nash, pictured later in life in a display at the Nodaway County Historical Society Museum. As a music teacher for nearly 50 years, she taught thousands of students.

[Maryville] Forum File Photo



in Washington, D.C., in 1913, but her involvement in music went much further than that.

After leaving school, she traveled the country as a performer and returned to Maryville in her twenties to open her own music school where she taught lessons in instruments like the banjo, mandolin and guitar. She also performed with several different string orchestras and concert bands — some with male and female musicians, and some, like the Missouri Ladies Military Band, with just women.

Nash's groups performed regularly in Maryville and the surrounding communities, and after their success in the national suffrage parade, the Missouri Ladies Military Band performed across the state of Missouri to continue to push for women's right to vote.

Following her father's death, Nash and her mother moved to Kansas City in 1918. There, she continued to give private lessons and taught thousands of students over the next 47 years. She also worked with several Kansas City orchestras, played the piano for silent films, and performed on the radio. Nash worked up until the day she died in 1965.

More information about her extraordinary life by visiting the Nodaway County Historical Society in Maryville.

Elyssa Ford is an associate professor of history at Northwest Missouri State University and president of the Nodaway County Historical Society. Find out more about her extraordinary life at by visiting the Nodaway County Historical Society in Maryville.