



Newsletter of the

Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch

Founded April 1971 ~ **Celebrating 54 Years!**

2025-2026, No. 4 December 2025

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

AAUW Vision: Equity for all. **AAUW Values:** Nonpartisan, fact-based, integrity, inclusion, and intersectionality.

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, 2025-2026

Co-President:

Nancy Hutchins
bodaciouspsychobabe@gmail.com

Co-President:

Charlotte Parsons
caep@aol.com

Program Vice President:

Kay Meyer
kicmeyer51@gmail.com

Membership Vice President:

Deb McWard
debmcward@earthlink.net

Finance Vice President:

Carol Davis McDonald
Davis-mcdonald@outlook.com

Secretary:

Marsha Koch
mkwkoch@outlook.com

Web links:

<https://kwg-mo.aauw.net/>
<https://facebook.com/AAUWKWG>
<https://stlouis-ibc.aauw.net>
<https://aauw-mo.aauw.net>

Kirkwood-Webster Groves and St. Louis Combined Holiday Outing

A Christmas Madrigal Evening with the Greenleaf Singers

Friday, December 12, 2025 - 7:30 pm

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

8646 New Sappington Rd at Watson Rd, Crestwood, Missouri 63126

Founded in 1976, the Greenleaf Singers is an exciting vocal ensemble specializing in *a cappella* music of the Renaissance. Their repertoire includes folk songs from village festivals, love melodies from royal palaces, and drinking numbers from raucous taverns. Their wonderfully blended voices (which includes Kay Meyer's nephew) bring to life [the works of the most gifted composers](#) of the 15th through 16th centuries, as well as some cherished carols of Christmas.



Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Tickets are available at the door [or at this link](#).



Nancy

From Your Co-Presidents ...



Charlotte

Greetings to you on this holiday season: Yule, Winter Solstice, Saturnalia, New Year's, Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, Diwali, Christmas and any other holiday occurring near the Winter Solstice.

We are delighted with the successful collaboration with the St. Louis Branch of AAUW on our joint meetings. Thank you, St. Louis Branch.

Kay Meyer and several members of our branch will be attending the Madrigal Singers in December. Anyone who would like to be included in this group is welcome to join them. Please contact Kay Meyer for further details, and ticket information (kicmeyer51@gmail.com).

Our January 15th meeting will be on Zoom. We will begin with a social gathering at 6:30 pm and speaker at 7 pm.

Nancy and the Branch say "congratulations" to Charlotte Parsons, our nominee for the Barbara Lackritz AAUW Service Award. Charlotte is very excited and wishes to thank all of those helping to make this possible. The nominees receive their recognition at the annual IBC Spring Luncheon on Saturday, March 28, 2026, at Racquet Club Ladue. A registration form will be sent out later.

Our next Branch board meeting is December 1st over Zoom at 7 pm.

The Adelante! Book Group meets at 1:30 pm, the 4th Thursday of the month by Zoom. Their next meeting is January 22, 2026. Kay Meyer will lead the discussion of *All the Colors of Dark*, by Chris Whitaker. For a clickable link to the meeting, please email: pattymurrayaauw@gmail.com.

January 13, 2026, is the first lecture of the 2026 International Relations Lecture Series at the Ethical Society of St. Louis, 9001 Clayton Road. It begins at 10:45 am in the upper auditorium and is free. Steven Lawrence, MD, with Washington University School of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases, will be speaking on "Vaccines to Prevent the Next Pandemic: Is there a Will to Find the Way?" AAUW helps to sponsor this event.

On December 22nd the Movie Club meets at 7 pm on Zoom. Their movie this month is *Nonnas* with moderator Becky Clausen. Meeting ID: 815 8265 7369. Passcode: 168308.

We hope all of you have a joyous holiday season.

Charlotte and Nancy

CALENDAR

- | | | | |
|--------|--|---------|--|
| Dec 1 | KWG board meeting, 7 pm, Zoom | Mar 10 | International Relations lecture, 10:45 am |
| Dec 12 | A Christmas Madrigal Evening with the Greenleaf Singers, 7:30 pm (pg 1) | Mar 26 | Adelante book group, 1:30 pm, Zoom, <i>Sula</i> |
| Dec 22 | Movie Club, 7 pm, Zoom | Mar 28 | Spring Fling!, Raquet Club Ladue |
| Jan 13 | International Relations lecture, 10:45 am, "Pandemic and Vaccines" | Apr 14 | International Relations lecture, 10:45 am, "Crop Yields and Future Food Security." |
| Jan 22 | Adelante book group, 1:30 pm, Zoom, <i>All the Colors of Dark</i> | Apr 23 | Adelante book group, 1:30 pm, Zoom, <i>My Friends</i> |
| Feb 10 | International Relations lecture, 10:45 am, "Supply Chains" | May 2 | Annual state conference, in person, Columbia, MO |
| Feb 24 | Quarterly IBC meeting, 7 pm, Zoom | May 28 | Adelante book group, 1:30 pm, Zoom, <i>Anna: The Biography</i> |
| Feb 26 | Adelante book group, 1:30 pm, Zoom, <i>Heartland: A Memoir of Working Hard and Being Broke in the Richest Country on Earth</i> | June 25 | Adelante book group, 1:30 pm, Zoom, <i>By Any Other Name</i> |
| | | Sep 24 | Adelante book group, 1:30 pm, Zoom, <i>Accidentally, On Purpose</i> |



Our new banner for displaying at events.

This event was the Affton High School craft fair in November. Kay Meyer, assisted by Dee Loris, Jeanne Webdell, and Christine Nobbe, sold pecans for our STEM scholarship. We used our Venmo account again this year with three people taking advantage of it.

If you don't want to commit to a board position at this time, helping out on a one-time basis would be appreciated—e.g., donating refreshments for an in-person meeting, taking a shift at a tabling event (handing out literature and talking to passers by), suggesting a program topic/speaker, or helping sort and deliver pecan orders.

If you would like to be more involved with the branch, please let the nominating committee know you are interested. Most elected and appointed positions don't require much time, and it's a good way to meet other members on a more personal level.



From Jan Scott, Committee Chair

The Missouri Equity and Inclusion (E&I) Committee

held our monthly meeting, continuing to share our unique experiences of E&I. Our early

professional experiences varied by who we were, who we interacted with, and where we were.

Our experiences of equity and inclusion learned in college were developed further in the workplace, church, and large meetings and gatherings.

Experiences of segregation and discrimination were varied. We discussed the value of maintaining civil interactions wherever we are.

Our shares revealed that despite our varied experienc-

es of equity and inclusion, we are passionate about cultivating skills to recognize opportunities to focus on E&I and to seek connections.

The article from the *Missouri Independent*, "It is time for women and Blacks to mobilize their collective political power" fits beautifully.

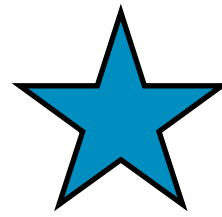
The AAUW I&E Mission Statement is **AAUW seeks to promote inclusion and awareness for all members, to create an equitable, sustainable, and inclusive membership reflective of today's world.**

We are really quite excited. If you want to take on that challenge of getting excited in a one-hour Zoom meeting, email me at jan@stlwomenonthemove.com for the secret time and Zoom address. (It is December 17th.)

GET
OUT
THE
VOTE

VOTER MOBILIZATION

You are a part!



Recently our Kirkwood-Webster Groves AAUW Branch formed a public policy group to help with a [AAUW.MO](https://www.aauw.mo) project to involve branches and members in **VOTER MOBILIZATION**. Marsha Koch, Chris Nobbe, Carol Davis McDonald, and Jeanne Webdell met by zoom and came up with the following action items that can be done from your home. (See the checklist below.) We welcome additional suggestions and any stories of success you have in implementing any items.

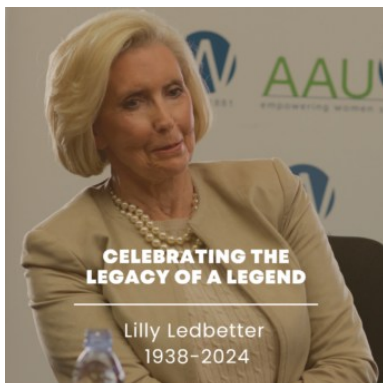
Mobilize from Your Home

1. Write letters to the editor to local newspapers.
2. Support independent media.
3. Fact check items before sharing on social media.
4. Contact your elected officials by text, phone, or email.
5. Educate yourself. Learn about the forms of government. We are defending democracy, but we need to know what the other forms of the government are.
6. Search for a favorite current pro-democracy quote and a pro-democracy quote from famous founding mothers and fathers and share them on Facebook, letters, or emails.
7. Make a monetary donation to a community service organization fighting for democracy.
8. Put out a yard sign to encourage voting. And replant your suffragist yard sign.
9. Write and mail LWV postcards reminding people to vote.
10. Follow [AAUW.org](https://www.aauw.org) public policy page.
11. Check out the Mo. Voter Protection Coalition online meetings.

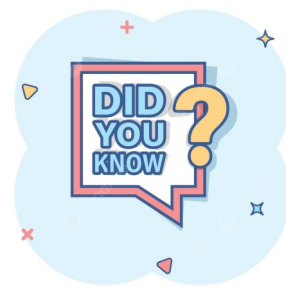
"If we mean to have Heroes, Statesmen and Philosophers, we should have learned women. The world perhaps would laugh at me, and accuse me of vanity, but you I know have a mind too enlarged and liberal to disregard the Sentiment. If much depends as is allowed upon the early Education of youth and the first principals which are instill'd take the deepest root, great benefit must arise from literary accomplishments in women."

— Abigail Adams, [The Letters of John and Abigail Adams](#)





The movie *Lilly*, about Lilly Ledbetter's fight for equal pay, is now on Netflix. The movie follows the true story of Lilly Ledbetter, who led the charge in the historic *Ledbetter v. Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.* case. The *Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009* is a landmark federal statute in the United States that was the first bill signed into law by U.S. President Barack Obama on January 29, 2009.



Ms. Ledbetter's story resonated with so many women fighting for fair pay. After almost 20 years of working at Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co., Ms. Ledbetter received a note revealing that she, the only female supervisor, was being paid 40 percent less than her male peers. Ms. Ledbetter filed a gender discrimination lawsuit in 1998 that made its way to the U.S. Supreme Court, only to have the court say in 2007 that she had been paid unfairly long enough to make it legal.

Ms. Ledbetter and AAUW had a long-lasting, strong, and productive relationship, and we held her in high esteem as an unwavering icon and trailblazer in the fight for equal pay. Together, Ms. Ledbetter, AAUW, and countless other organizations advocating for equal pay participated in marches, wrote letters, and sent emails which motivated Congress to pass the *Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act in 2009*. Today, we continue her legacy by championing equal pay legislation such as the *Paycheck Fairness Act*, which would give workers new tools for ensuring that employers pay women and men equally for equal work.

As Lilly said in a [Q&A session](#) with AAUW, "The gender pay gap is everybody's issue." Lilly Ledbetter never stopped fighting for gender pay equity. The laws at the time failed her, and yet she never stopped advocating for better laws and better pay for women. In her memory and in her honor, AAUW vows to continue the fight.

Recommended by Kay Meyer:

- [It is time for women and Blacks to mobilize their collective political power.](#) Commentary in *Missouri Independent* by Janice Ellis, October 6, 2025. Women and Blacks together could make up the largest voting bloc.
- USPS is warning Americans about mystery packages coming to their doorstep. If a mystery package comes to your doorstep, there's a possibility that your personal information has been exposed. The U.S. Postal Service is warning Americans about a scam known as "brushing." It involves unsolicited deliveries from third-party online sellers looking to boost their product ratings and visibility. It's about more than just a package. Treat your personal information like cash. If you receive a strange package, report it to [USPIS.gov](#). Audit your accounts for unusual charges. Update your passwords. Use a password manager. Don't engage (returning an item may validate your address).

National Council of Jewish Women St Louis

(NCJWSTL) is thrilled to receive a Fall 2025 Jewish Fund for Abortion Access grant from the National Council of Jewish Women.

"While reproductive health care is under attack across the country, this investment strengthens our ability to protect the progress we have made and ensures our community can access the information and care they need. Together, we are building a future where everyone can control their own bodies, lives, and futures."

All the publicity about Jeffrey Epstein and Donald Trump has brought awareness to our country about the very serious and profitable crime of human trafficking.

Faces of Human Trafficking



Education is the best investment to prevent and put a stop to it. Do you want to learn more? At a regional conference in Tulsa, OK, several years ago, we had speakers on the subject. It was quite eye opening.

- [31 Ways to Help Prevent Human Trafficking](#)
- [Trafficking in Texas \(Rotary Club\)](#), who's vulnerable

AAUW METRO ST LOUIS IBC

St. Louis 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.

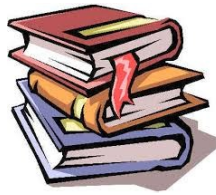
The purpose of IBC is to foster cooperation among member branches and to financially support programs and projects and to open channels of communication among branches for the sharing of ideas and interests.

The next quarterly meeting will be on Tuesday, Feb 24, 2025, at 7 p.m. via Zoom.

The website is <https://stlouis-ibc.aauw.net/>. All AAUW members are welcome to attend.

IBC ¡ADELANTE! BOOK GROUP

This group meets virtually to discuss books written from diverse perspectives.



Where: Join Zoom meeting:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85338959790?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85338959790?pwd=NFNKS01FMXh6bXpiaXh0ci80VC9rUT09)
[pwd=NFNKS01FMXh6bXpiaXh0ci80VC9rUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85338959790?pwd=NFNKS01FMXh6bXpiaXh0ci80VC9rUT09)

When: 1:30 pm the 4th Thursday of the month in September, October, January, February, March, April, May, and June.

Contact: PattyMurrayAAUW@gmail.com

Zoom access: <https://us02web.zoom.us/>

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87393625222?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87393625222?pwd=Z8LmoZpCgqVwS6wAZmPoNEcUa0b2Pq.1)
[pwd=Z8LmoZpCgqVwS6wAZmPoNEcUa0b2Pq.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87393625222?pwd=Z8LmoZpCgqVwS6wAZmPoNEcUa0b2Pq.1)

Meeting ID: 873 9362 5222

Passcode: 922338

Dial your location: 1-312-626-6799 (US Chicago)

Upcoming selections:

Jan 22 ***All the Colors of Dark***, by Chris Whitaker, 608 pages, June 2024, Kay Meyer, facilitator. 1975 is a time of change in America. The Vietnam War is ending. Muhammad Ali is fighting Joe Frazier. And in the small town of Monta Clare, Missouri, girls are disappearing. When the daughter of a wealthy family is targeted, the most unlikely hero emerges—Patch, a local boy, who saves the girl, and, in doing so, leaves heartache in his wake. Patch and those who love him soon discover that the line between triumph and tragedy has never been finer. And that their search for answers will lead them to truths that could mean losing one another.

Feb 26 ***Heartland: A Memoir of Working Hard and Being Broke in the Richest Country on Earth***, by Sarah Smarsh, 304 pages, 9-18-2018. Lynne Roney, facilitator. Sarah Smarsh was born a fifth generation Kansas wheat farmer on her paternal side, and the product of generations of teen mothers on her maternal side. Through her experiences growing up on a farm thirty miles west of Wichita, we are given a unique and essential look into the lives of poor and working-class Americans living in the heartland. During Sarah's turbulent childhood in Kansas in the 1980s and 1990s, she enjoyed the freedom of a country childhood but observed the painful challenges of the poverty around her; untreated medical conditions for lack of insurance or consistent care, unsafe job conditions, abusive relationships, and limited resources and information that would provide for the upward mobility that is the American Dream. By telling the story of her life and the lives of the people she loves with clarity and precision but without judgement, Smarsh challenges us to look more closely at the class divide in our country. Beautifully written, in a distinctive voice, *Heartland* combines personal narrative with powerful analysis and cultural commentary, challenging the myths about people thought to be less because they earn less.

Mar 26 ***Sula***, by Toni Morrison, 192 pages, 1973. Carol Davis McDonald, facilitator. Sula and Nel are two young black girls: clever and poor. They grow up together sharing their secrets, dreams and happiness. Then Sula breaks free from their small-town community in the uplands of Ohio to roam the cities of America. When she returns ten years later much has changed. Including Nel, who now has a husband and three children. The friendship between the two women becomes strained and the whole town grows wary as Sula continues in her wayward, vagabond and uncompromising ways.



March 28,
2026
Spring Fling
at Racquet Club
Ladue

Metro St. Louis Branch Programs

Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch— On December 11, 10 a.m. (second Thursdays) have its annual Winter Party, with lunches from Art of Entertaining. The Valley Park High School Show Choir will provide entertainment. There will be raffles, fun, and a silent auction for Elegant Edibles.

On Dec 5 members will visit White Haven, the Ulysses S Grant Historic Site for the branch's Dollars-for-Scholars fund. Lunch afterward (of course).

Ferguson-Florissant Branch—Contact [Joyce Bluett](#) for meeting information, 314-800-8979.

Saint Charles Branch—Meets the first Thursday at 1 p.m. at First St. Charles UMC, 801 First Capitol Drive, St. Charles 63301. The December 4th program will feature Pianist Sheila Fletcher, who has accompanied music students in college and taught piano. She currently performs with Friends of Music and with Morning Etude. Their November Un-Auction brought in over \$2,000 for AAUW Funds Greatest Needs. A project in October entailed members' writing cards of thanks and appreciation for women at the veterans' hospital that were delivered on Veterans Day.

St. Louis Branch—Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch and St. Louis branches will combine their meetings for the 2025-2026 AAUW year (see page 1).

International Relations Lecture Series

If you are interested in international relations and learning about worldwide issues, you will enjoy these lectures held at **10:45 a.m.** on the **second Tuesday of January, February, March, and April** each year at the **Ethical Society building** on Clayton Rd in Ladue. AAUW and the Tuesday Women's Association have sponsored these lectures for over 90 years, and they are always interesting.

The Tuesday Women's Association (TWA) from the Ethical Society will lead the group again since no AAUW people were available to take the leadership. The Ethical Society supplies the facilities and equipment at no cost for the lectures. Speakers are paid \$250 from the funds raised by our donations and by passing the basket at the lectures.

ZOOM for WINTRY WEATHER ONLY

Meeting ID: 819 6279 7894 Passcode: 412511
For direct link, email pattmurayAAUW@gmail.com.

The speaker for **January 13, 2026**, will be **Steven Lawrence, MD**, MSc Epidemiology, Washington University School of Medicine: **Vaccines to Prevent the Next Pandemic: Is There a Will to Find the Way?**

Dr. Lawrence earned his MD degree from Washington University School of Medicine in 1997 prior to completing internal medicine residency at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in 2000 and infectious diseases (ID) fellowship training at WashU Med in 2004. He subsequently earned his MSc degree in Epidemiology from the London School of Tropical Medicine and joined the full-time faculty of the ID division in 2005, where he is a professor of medicine. He has been actively engaged with preparedness, education and response to ID threats including the 2001 anthrax letter attacks, 2009 H1N1 influenza pandemic, 2014 Ebola outbreak and COVID-19, for which he has served on numerous WashU and public health agency task forces.



Dr. Lawrence is assistant dean for curriculum within the Office of Medical Student Education where he oversees several components of the new medical student Gateway Curriculum. He conducted published research studies on influenza and other respiratory viral illnesses, vaccines against viral illnesses, and infections in transplant patients. He sees patients and supervises trainees in the WashU ID outpatient clinic and on the transplant ID consult service in Barnes-Jewish Hospital.



Each of us watches a selected movie on **Netflix**. The movie is then discussed by the group on the 4th Monday of the month at 7 p.m. via Zoom. Request to join the email list? Submit to dsher63105@gmail.com. Prospective-member guests are welcome!

Mon. Dec. 22: *Nonnas*
Becky Clausen, moderator

Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81582657369?pwd=aqAkICdAvoiebBFwc1t97u8UNDYjua.1>

Meeting ID: 815 8265 7369 Passcode: 168308

National News

From Susan Barley
National Advancement Committee
November 22, 2025
314-361-2920
barley702@gmail.com



Greetings from the AAUW Advancement Committee!

Last month's updates included the new membership equivalency policy. The full text and explanation of the policy are here. That decision was made at a national board meeting; see the minutes here: <https://www.aauw.org/app/uploads/2025/07/5.14.25-Board-Minutes-FINAL.pdf>

IMPORTANT POLICY CLARIFICATION ABOUT AAUW MEMBERSHIP BYLAW ARTICLE III. SECTION 2: DEGREE EQUIVALENCY POLICY

Note: In all policies, the term AAUW refers to the American Association of University Women, Inc., the national organization.

Individual members of AAUW and its affiliates must meet the membership criteria specified in Article III Section 2 of AAUW's bylaws. Membership in AAUW is required for membership in any AAUW affiliate.

The full text of Article III Section 2 is included below. In summary, the criteria for individual membership in AAUW is based on an individual having received an associate or higher degree from an accredited higher education institution. The provision also allows membership for individuals who have received the equivalent of an associate degree and specifies that the Board of Directors of AAUW may establish a process to assess credentials for membership submitted based on degree equivalence.

This policy specifies the process for assessing credentials for membership submitted based on degree equivalence.

1. Requests for membership in AAUW from any individual not holding an associate or higher-level degree from an accredited higher education institution shall be made to the CEO or designee and shall be submitted to executive@aauw.org or connect@aauw.org. The request may be made by the individual directly or by an AAUW affiliate member on behalf of the individual.

2. All prospective members should demonstrate a commitment to working to advance equity for women and girls.

3. The determination of an individual's eligibility based on degree equivalency shall be based on one or more of the following:

- a. Holding of certificates, licenses, or professional certifications issued by a higher education institution accredited by a regional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education; or
- b. At least two (2) years of full-time, or 48 credit hours, equivalent education at an accredited institution, as defined above.

4. A decision to decline membership for an individual may be appealed by the originating requestor to the Board of Directors of AAUW. Decisions of the Board of Directors are final.

Article III Section 2 provides as follows:

- (i) Eligibility. An individual holding an associate (or equivalent, e.g., RN), bachelor's, or higher degree from a higher education institution accredited by a regional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education (an "Accredited Higher Education Institution") or other qualified institution located outside of the United States, as determined by the Board of Directors, shall be eligible to receive admission to AAUW membership; such membership shall be granted upon payment of AAUW dues. The provisions set forth in this section are the sole requirement for eligibility and admissibility to AAUW membership except that the Board of Directors may establish a process to assess credentials that are submitted based on degree equivalence.

AAUW November Updates

1. **Bylaws Toolkit:** The AAUW Bylaws contain the rules and regulations enacted by AAUW to provide a framework for its operation and management.

ACTION REQUIRED: States and branches are required to change and submit their revised bylaws to AAUW National by June 30, 2026 to reflect changes approved by the AAUW membership in 2023. Please review our bylaws toolkit <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/leader-resources-tools/bylaws-toolkit/>, currently being updated, have your state bylaws chair review your updates if required by your state, and submit revised bylaws to connect@aauw.org. Direct any questions to connect@aauw.org or aauwgovernance@aauw.org.

2. **Right Sizing Toolkit:** Many affiliates have not changed structures to meet changing affiliate and

(continued on next page)

community needs or member capacity. The Branch Right Sizing toolkit will guide you through evaluating your leadership needs, AAUW branch board requirements, and meeting frequency. AAUW Right-Sizing Toolkit 10.1.2025 is attached.

3. Previous Webinars/Recordings: Visit our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQRTzIArWu3kzHIL7jfRwcQ>

- Branches in Action: A Century of Advocacy, Fundraising and Impact: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2pCLysNAbgl>
- Working in Coalition: Building Power through Partnerships: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=im6VsWTi7X8>

4. Five Star Program

- Website with all the information you need: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/5-star-program/>
- There were about 180 branches that did not respond to the required Branch Survey. We have asked all state presidents to assist us with out-

reach to those branches to determine their barriers to completion. Thus far only 10% of those branches have responded to a request for more information. We are asking that all branches respond by February to ensure that we understand barriers to completion and can ensure those barriers are addressed before all branches are required to submit the FY26 Branch Survey by June 30, 2026.

- For those branches who have questions about stars awarded/not awarded to their branch in FY25, please contact Tremayne Parquet at parquett@aauw.org.
- A mid-year progress report on Branch donations will be sent to branches after our December 2025 donations are processed. This report is expected to be available by end of January 2026.

5. Community Hub Tutorials: We have tutorials on a variety of topics, such as How to Export a Branch Roster, How to Request AAUW to file your 990N, How to Join New/Lapsed/Transfer Members (for Leaders), and more! <https://www.aauw.org/membership/new-systems-update/>

See photos, videos and more from aauwnational on Instagram
[With this link](#)

Dear Members,

We have seen unprecedented attacks on higher education this year: civil rights dismissed, funding threatened, and lawsuits used to force policy changes. Targets to diversity, equity, and inclusion, even campus leadership and curricula have created a chilling effect for academic freedom, narrowing access and opportunity, especially for women and students of color. It's a devastating betrayal of our students and their futures.

That's why we're launching our Giving Tuesday campaign early this year — because the need has never been greater.

According to the Women's Philanthropy Institute, **only 2% of charitable giving** goes to women's and girls' organizations in the United States. Now it is more important than ever to double down and give! AAUW is the only national organization combining funding, advo-

cacy, and grassroots member mobilization to advance women's equity through higher education and beyond.

I know you're a passionate supporter of women's education and equity. Together, we can track every move at the Department of Education, respond swiftly with evidence-based advocacy, and mobilize thousands of members through briefings, action alerts, and tools to protect equity in every community.

Give now to defend higher education, demand inclusion, and empower women nationwide.

Our goal: raise \$25,000 by Giving Tuesday, December 2

[Early access: Giving Tuesday!](#)

In solidarity,

Gloria L. Blackwell
Chief Executive Officer