

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

**Who we are...**

The Saint Louis Branch of AAUW supports the broad goals and actions of AAUW by holding public outreach events, engaging in political action, collaborating with local organizations and educational institutions regarding AAUW topics, and by supporting area young women and girls directly. We promote a "You Can Do It" approach. We are one of five branches in the Saint Louis, MO, area that comprise the AAUW Metro Saint Louis Interbranch Council (IBC).

**Branch Officers, 2017-2018**

**Jan Scott**, Co-President  
314-727-6876  
jan@wypstlouis.com

**Carol Davis McDonald**  
Co-President, Newsletter, Website  
636-227-0511  
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**Susan Barley**, Finance Officer,  
AAUW Fund, Bylaws and Policies  
314-361-2920  
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**Ellen Irons**  
Director

**Sally McGowan**  
Director

**Lisa Taylor**  
Director

**Web Sites:**

**Branch Web Site:**  
<http://stlouis-mo.aauw.net>

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

**State Web Site:**  
[www.aauwmo.org](http://www.aauwmo.org)

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

**Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 6:30 pm**

**Where: Pasta House on Delmar  
@ Old Bonhomme**

**All are welcome!! Please RSVP to Ellen so we know  
what size table to reserve**

Per Ellen's e-mail message last week, this will be a branch discussion—on topic and off topic, depending on how the conversation flows. We are there to accomplish things while having a good time. Topics will include: carpooling to Columbia for the Legislative Retreat on Saturday, new event ideas, the ERA, update on WorkSmart, hosting a Chocolate Affair, and a Press Club panel.



**Branch Meetings**

Members have been getting together on the second Tuesday each month to discuss plans and possible projects for the branch. These meetings have been held at 6:30 p.m. at The Pasta House on Delmar at Bonhomme in University City. Ellen Irons has been issuing e-mail notices to members. Please join us. We welcome ideas for activities and events. If you have a recommendation for a different meeting place, please let us know.

**New Membership Handbook-Directories  
Have Been Printed**

Yours is available for pick up at a meeting. Let Carol know if you will attend, and she will bring it to you. For information, contact Carol at 636-227-0511 or [davis-mcdonald@outlook.com](mailto:davis-mcdonald@outlook.com).



## BRANCH MEMBER NEWS

### Happy January Birthday!

4—Lynn Voss

12—Heather Silverman

### Happy February Birthday!

11—Jan Scott

26—Mary Bruemmer

### Happy March Birthday!

4—Diane Sher

26 Colleen Doyle



## WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

**Adwoa Kwakyewaa Opong** joined us in mid November as a student affiliate. Adwoa earned a BA in history and the study of religions from the University of Ghana. She continued at the University of Ghana to pursue an MPhil in History, focusing on women's organization and the nationalist struggles in Ghana. Adwoa is currently a PhD student in the History Department and also enrolled in the graduate certificate in the Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies program at Washington University. In addition to women and gender history, Adwoa has interests in the area of sexuality, postcolonial history, and transnational feminism. She plans to broaden her studies beyond Ghana in her examination of the professionalization of social work in post-colonial Africa.

Outside of the academy and school, Adwoa loves to travel, getting to know people and to experiment with new recipes from around the world. "The academy creates a safe space for scholars from different parts of the world to share ideas of making the world a better place. Being a McDonnell scholar definitely forced me to step out of my comfort zone. In our own small ways, we try to develop workable solutions to the world's problems."

Adwoa's contact information is 314-546-2251 and [adwoa.k.opong@wustl.edu](mailto:adwoa.k.opong@wustl.edu); or Busch Hall, Room 27, Washington University, Campus Box 1062, One Brookings Drive, 63130, 314-935-4127.

## A Public Policy Message from Branch Directory Lisa Taylor

Happy New Year, everyone! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season with your families and you are ready to have another prosperous year supporting AAUW's mission and goals.

I was appointed to serve as a director in the St. Louis Branch, and part of my role as a director is to share my comments in reference to Title IX in our newsletter. I gladly accepted the appointment, and learning and sharing Title IX information is a passion of mine.

I will start by **defining Title IX** to help us understand the meaning. Title IX can be defined as no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance (Title IX Education Amendments of 1972).

On June 23, 1972, President Richard Nixon signed into law Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; it is a very comprehensive law. A college or university that receives federal funds may be held legally responsible when it knows about and ignores sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender discrimination, and others forms of discrimination.

I just wanted to introduce you to the definition and some of the examples where Title IX can come into play on higher education campuses. I will share more in future newsletters; a topic about which I am very interested in learning more is how the current administration and the Secretary of Education, Betsy DeVos, will make changes to our current Title IX progression. Please share any questions and topics of interest, and I will gladly respond. Stay tuned.

## INTERBRANCH COUNCIL UPDATES

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 members of IBC: president, program vice president, membership vice president, and a member at large. All AAUW members are invited to attend meetings and participate in IBC activities.

The next IBC meeting will be Tuesday, February 27th, 7 p.m., at the Daniel Boone County Library. All AAUW members are welcome to attend. We will share information and continue planning for the next Spring Fling.

## GIFT WRAPPING FUNDRAISER

AAUW members from all metro branches wrapped gifts for tips. It was a fun way to raise money for NCCWSL\* scholarships for students from our college-university partner members, as well as talk to the public about AAUW. Volunteers worked December 17th (Sunday) through the 20th at the Ladue Crossing Barnes and Noble. We raised almost \$700 from those kind enough to donate to our cause. Join us next year! It's pretty painless.

\*National Conference for College Women Student Leaders



## IBC MEET 'N EAT LUNCH (formerly Downtown Lunch)

You are invited to meet and lunch with area AAUW members on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 11:45 am. Good conversation and interesting restaurants! For reservations and car pooling, contact Kay Meyer at 314-962-7487 or kicmeyer@yahoo.com.

Jan 15 **Bevo Mill**, 4749 Gravois St, 63116 (German/American



## 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. AAUW members from all St. Louis area branches are welcome.

Where: Barnes & Noble, Chesterfield Oaks Shopping Center, 1600 Clarkson Road

When: 1:30 pm the 4th Thursday of the month

Contact: Teri Brecht, [tebrecht@yahoo.com](mailto:tebrecht@yahoo.com)

- Jan 25 *Behold the Dreamers: A Novel*, by Imbolo Mbue. Reviewer: Julia Triplett
- Feb 22 *Then Comes Marriage: United States V. Windsor and the Defeat of DOMA*, by Roberta Kaplan. Reviewer: Deb McWard
- Mar 22 *Little Fires Everywhere*, by Celeste Ng. Reviewer: Lorna Anderson
- Apr 26 *Stolen Beauty: A Novel*, by Laurie Lico Albanese. Reviewer: Grace Poertner
- May 24 *The Gilded Years: A Novel*, by Karin Tanabe. Reviewer: Lynne Roney
- Sep 27 *Threading My Prayer Rug: One Woman's Journey from Pakistani Muslim to American Muslim*, by Sabeeha Rehman. Reviewer: Betty Takahashi

## We Are Invited to the January Program of the Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch

### AAUW Advocacy in 2018!

Thursday, January 25, 2018

6:30 – Member Social

7:00 – Program

Kirkwood Public Library

140 East Jefferson Avenue, Kirkwood 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.

Did you know . . .

- Women hold 20% of the 100 seats in the US Senate
- Women hold 19.5% of the 435 seats in the US House of Representatives

For more statistics, go to the Sue Shear Institute's website:

<http://www.umsl.edu/sueshear/files/pdfs/WomeninElectedandAppointedPublicOffice2016.pdf>

## 2018 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS LECTURE SERIES The Ethical Society Auditorium, 9001 Clayton Rd, 63117

AAUW Metro St. Louis Interbranch Council joins with the Tuesday Women's Association (TWA) to present four free lectures to the community on aspects of international relations. Gather at 10 a.m. for coffee and social time. Attendees are invited to bring a bag lunch and stay afterwards to further discuss the topic.

### Jan 9: **The Power of Political Cartoons and Media Standards**

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

### Feb 13: **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

### Mar 13: **Human Trafficking: An International Problem**

### Apr 10: **The Assault on Global Democracy**

In case of inclement weather, please call 314-991-0995, x224. Please note that the driveway is heated!

## AAUW MO

Hold the date May 5, 2018, to attend the AAUW of Missouri 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.

Call Marsha Koch, 314-651-0321, state program vice president, for additional information.

*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/>.

### Who Is Eligible for AAUW Membership?

- Graduates holding an associate (or equivalent) degree or higher from a regionally accredited institution and are entirely new to AAUW (new members)
- Undergraduate students (may also join as student affiliates through this campaign)
- Someone who rejoins after two or more years of non-membership (a lapsed member)
- Someone who is not currently a national member of AAUW (if they join your branch, they are transferring)

MEMBERSHIP  
INFO!



Contact Carol to add something to a future newsletter.