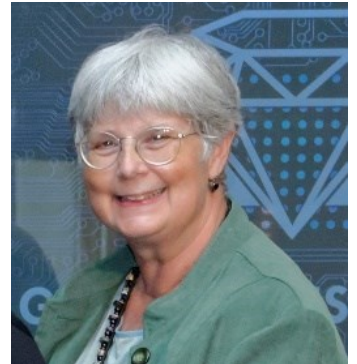


A Word From President Ellen Irons:

IBC's "Zoom to Spring Fling" on March 13th 2021 a Great Success

Despite initial concerns that we couldn't have a successful spring fling without being in person, the IBC planning committee created a fun and interesting event. Over 60 people attended this year's "Zoom To Spring Fling" for a program which honored **Mary Jermak** (Ballwin-Chesterfield) as the Barbara Lackritz Service to AAUW awardee from 2020 and featured a program about teaching music in the pandemic. And we raised over \$1,700!



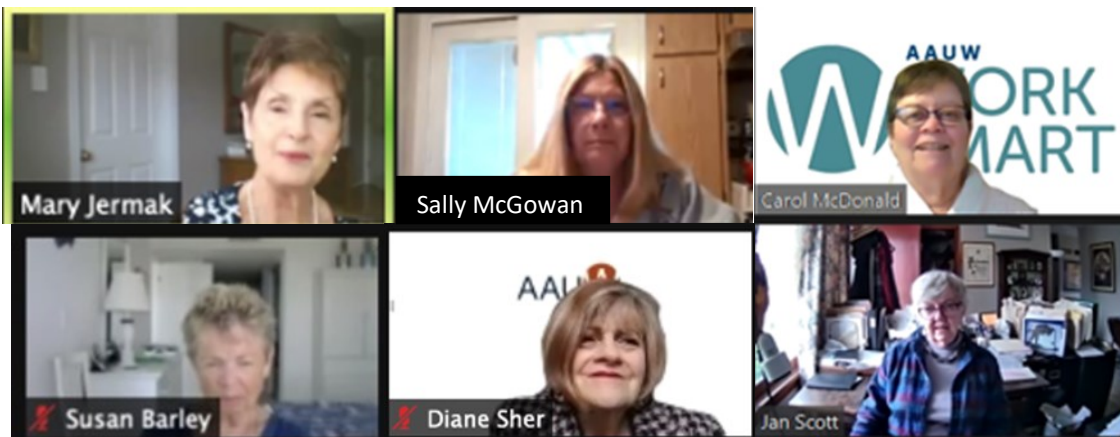
Deb McWard (Kirkwood-Webster Groves) did a fantastic job of hosting the overall event. Mary's award was presented by **Marsha Koch** (Kirkwood-Webster Groves), who did a great job covering many facets of Mary's many achievements. A special feature of the award was the presence of many of Mary's family members from all around the country on the Zoom call.

The music program was presented by **Jeanine York Garesche** and **Daniel Shavers**. Jeanine shared how she worked with her individual clarinet students, and Daniel shared how he taught students as part of the Brittany Wood Elementary school band, including the use of a program called Smart Music. **Pam Meyers** (Fergusson-Florissant) did a wonderful job of hosting this part of the event.

The planning committee was appointed by the IBC and was comprised of **Deb McWard**, (KWG, chair), **Jean Elliott** (B-C, fundraising), **Teri Brecht** (St. Charles, publicity), **Carol Davis McDonald** (STL/KWG/BC, registration), and **Ellen Irons** (St. Louis, arrangements/Zoom). Thanks to everyone who made this a great success!

Here are some of the comments put in the chat at the end:

Thank you! Liked all! Good to gather!! It was insightful and very interesting! Thanks for presenting it! Loved learning about these new music tools! This was a wonderful event! Thank you to all who worked to plan and to our musical guests!! It was very cool to see Mary's wonderful family! Applause for a super great program and Mary's award! Yea!



Next Two Movie Club Dates & Movies:

Mon, April 26th, 7 pm - *The Trial of the Chicago Seven* (Netflix)

Mon, May 24th, 7 pm - *Audrey* (Netflix)



Election and Voting.

NEW OFFICER NOMINATIONS

At the May meeting, the following slate of officers, proposed by the nominating committee, will be up for election. Other candidates who have agreed may be nominated from the floor.

President: Ellen Irons

Nominations may be made from the floor with the consent of the nominee.

About Ellen E. Irons

Ellen is a senior performance consultant and lead curriculum developer for St. Louis Community College's Workforce Solutions Group. In her role with the college over the last 25 years, she has led the implementation of continuous improvement projects for multiple clients which delivered exceptional benefits for companies including: Procter & Gamble, Anheuser Busch, Boeing, Millipore-Sigma, Centene, and Rawlings Corporate. Prior to joining the college, Ellen spent three years at Lindenwood University as assistant dean of adult admissions. She also has worked in the fields of career consulting and community radio (KDHX). Ellen holds a BS in Civil Engineering from Washington University and spends a great deal of her free time gardening and visiting natural areas.

Ellen was first introduced to AAUW in 1986, when she served as the CU for Lindenwood College (now Lindenwood University). More recently, she has been a member of the St. Louis Branch since 2013. She was a St. Louis Branch board director 2015 – 2019 and has just finished her first two-year term as president, 2019-2021. Ellen has also been active on the AAUW Missouri board as a member of the Public Policy Committee since 2019 and has served as the chair of the AAUW MO 19th Amendment Centennial Celebration Task Force from 2019 – current.



St. Louis Branch members will be voting to amend the branch bylaws at our annual meeting on May 16.

Currently, our bylaws do not contain a provision for meetings to be held electronically. This article authorizes the ability to hold **all** meetings electronically. The newly published 2020 12th edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* states that electronic meetings must be authorized in the bylaws.

This amendment will be inserted in the bylaws, and the following article will be renumbered. The proposed amendment has been approved by the AAUW MO governance chair. The AAUW St. Louis Branch bylaws can be found on the branch website.

ARTICLE XIV, ELECTRONIC MEETINGS

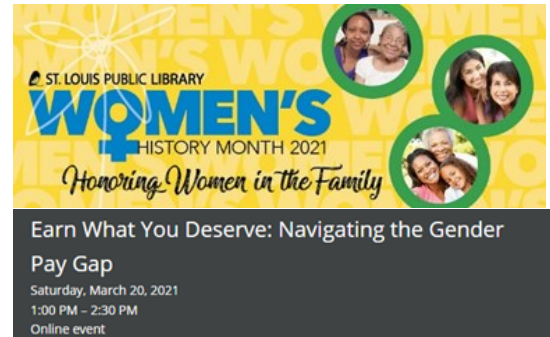
Any meeting of the membership, board, executive committee, committees, task forces or other AAUW St. Louis Branch groups may be conducted in whole or part by electronic means as long as all persons participating, whether in person or electronically, may hear each other and communicate in real time. Participation in an electronic meeting constitutes attendance and any official actions shall be recorded in minutes.

According to Article VII. Section 2: Affiliate Amendments:

Provisions of the Affiliate bylaws, not mandated by AAUW, may be amended by a two-thirds vote of members voting after a quorum is attained. Proposed bylaw amendments shall be sent to the entire membership at least 14 days prior to the applicable meeting.

Report on the March 20th – “Earn What You Deserve: Navigating the Gender Pay Gap Program”

On Saturday, March 20th, **Ellen Irons** delivered a 90-minute program on Navigating the Gender Pay Gap to eight participants via Zoom. Five AAUW members attended, including **Jan Scott** and **Diane Sher** from our St. Louis Branch and **Sue Shineman**, AAUW MO state board president. Other AAUW members attended from Ballwin-Chesterfield and the Ferguson-Florissant branches. The program covered key statistics and causes of the gender pay gap and several ways to help close the gap, including what legislation to support. Several hands-on negotiation exercises were done in break-out sessions. Ellen then introduced the group to the online Work Smart program and played several of the negotiations role-play videos. The Buder Branch Library coordinator, **Jordan Moorhouse**, was very happy with the program, both personally and from the library’s point of view. She felt the value of Work Smart was very high and suggested we might return with a full Work Smart program when in person options are available.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

AAUW’s membership year is July 1 through June 30. Dues for the upcoming year may be paid any time before June, but you are encouraged to put it on your to-do list for sooner rather than later.

For the first time, a letter from national was sent to all members with email addresses about membership renewal. It is quick and easy. National prefers renewing this way; but if you would rather submit your 2021-2022 dues by mail, make sure you send your form and check to Candy Low at the address listed in the email from the national office. (Any questions, please contact Candy (cnlx97@gmail.com or 314-550-0357) or Carol (davis-mcdonald@outlook.com or 636-227-0511).



The pandemic hasn’t stopped us from making plans for the coming year. It would be nice if we could have our meetings in person later in the year, but we may be able to do some small group things earlier. The one benefit of Zoom is that we can invite an unlimited number of guests to our events. So, seek out your bored friends, dust off your elevator speech for reasons to join the St. Louis Branch, and ask them to come. Forwarding our newsletter is a good way to enlighten them. Or visit the websites found in this newsletter.

Plan Wisely - for Today’s Needs and for Tomorrow

How do you take care of the people and things that matter most to you – now and for the future?

Through careful planning, you can benefit your loved ones and your charitable interests while investing in equity for women and girls. Some reasons to create a plan include:

- Taking care of loved ones
- Memorializing someone you care about
- Advancing equity for women and girls through AAUW
- Increasing current income for you or others
- Passing more on to heirs with reduced taxes
- Reducing income tax
- Avoiding capital gains tax.

As you consider what is important to you and how to reflect that in your legacy, we invite you to reach out to AAUW. Our knowledgeable gift planning staff is available to assist with any questions you may have. You may also request a brochure by calling or emailing AAUW’s National Office.

For assistance, contact Heather Miller at: 202-785-7766 or by email, at millerh@aauw.org or Speak with Susan Barley, AAUW Legacy Circle Team Liaison, barley702@gmail.com.

We're Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri

Kelly Daleen, Chief Marketing and Communications Officer



Our extraordinary journey began more than 100 years ago when the first Girl Scout troop was formed in our region in 1918. Every year since, we've furthered our mission of building girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place. We're the preeminent leadership development organization for girls. With programs across eastern Missouri, Girl Scouts offers every girl a chance to practice a lifetime of leadership, adventure, and success. To join, volunteer, or donate to Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri, call 800.727.GIRL (800.727.4475) or visit www.girlscoutsem.org. Girl Scouts is a proud, United Way member and is supported by the following United Way agencies: United Way of Greater St. Louis, United Way of Northeast Missouri, and Franklin County Area United Way. Follow Girl Scouts on Twitter <http://twitter.com/GirlScoutsEM> and Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/GirlScoutsEasternMO>.

American Association of University Women (AAUW) St. Louis Branch partnered with the Girl Scouts of Eastern

Missouri (GSEM) to promote Women's History month in March 2021. Leveraging AAUW's 250 Notable Saint Louis Women's list, GSEM shared many amazing stories of women's achievements in support of Girl Scout's mission to build girls of courage, confidence, and character. GSEM's focus was to align notable women from the AAUW list with the core pillars that form the foundation of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience - Outdoors, STEM, Life Skills and Entrepreneurship.

Specifically, GSEM highlighted one of these incredible women from the list each week on the GSEM Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages. In addition, GSEM incorporated notable women's stories into their virtual learning program called Live From Girl Scouts, that involves Girl Scouts of all ages.

"Partnering with the AAUW during Women's History month allowed us to share powerful examples of women and their significant contributions with girls across eastern Missouri," said Bonnie Barczykowski, CEO of Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri. "It's important that our girls have relatable role models and mentors like these amazing women. We are grateful to AAUW for their partnership."

AAUW Webinars Have a New Home

After closing 2020 with more than 30,000 webinar participants, AAUW is excited to bring you more informative and engaging virtual events through 2021. The webinar recordings have a [new home on the website](https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/webinars/) (<https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/webinars/>). Head over to the webinar archive to catch up on past events, such as our public policy talks, virtual town hall to open membership, and a discussion about the digital divide in education.

Another way to view past AAUW webinars is to go to aauw.org, click on the search button (the magnifying glass), type in "webinars" in the search textbox, and press the Enter key. All saved webinars will be listed with descriptions. Click on the one you want to view.

And another way to find AAUW webinars and videos, is to go to youtube.org, click on the search button, type in "AAUW" in the search textbox, and press the Enter key.

AAUW DISCOUNTS

Did you know? AAUW members are given discounts by the following organizations. Membership cards can be printed out from the national website (<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/why-join/discounts-and-perks/>).

Insurance

- Geico – auto insurance discount
- LTC Global – long term care insurance
- Nationwide Pet Insurance – 5%+ discount

Travel

- Hotel Engine – private hotel-booking platform
- Collette Tours – 160 tours on seven continents
- Cruises Only – America's largest cruise company
- TNT Vacations – 900 Destinations
- Car rentals – Hertz, Dollar Car Rental, Thrifty

Other Discounts and Services

- El University – scholarships
- Office Depot/Office Max – save up to 80%
- Constant Contact -- Marketing advisors
- Free Prescription Savings Card – up to 55% savings

Thanks to Jan Scott for arranging a tour of Rung for Women.

We met at their location (2717 Sydney Street, 63104) on Sunday afternoon, April 11th. Our tour guide was none other than **Lisa Weingarth**, vice president of institutional advancement (formerly with the Women's Foundation of Greater St. Louis).

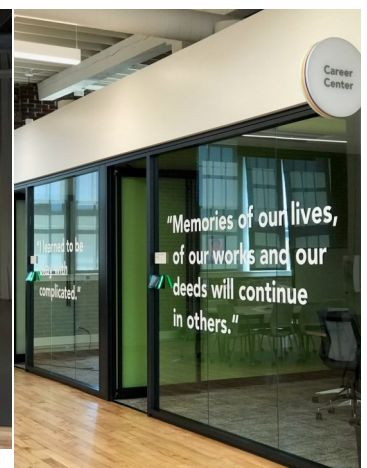


Rung's mission is to empower women to grow and achieve sustained independence through co-located and coordinated educational, professional, and economic resources. They offer the resources, space, and community for women who are ready to work toward the life they deserve. With several organizations operating under one roof, they offer women a "one-stop-shop" for career and personal growth – all at no cost to their members. To be an eligible candidate for Rung, women must have: Annual income under \$50k, history of stable employment, secure housing, and have the ability to get to the Rung facility in South St. Louis City on a weekly basis.

Their story began on April 17, 2010, when, with the workforce reeling from the economic recession of 2008, **Ali Kindle** and **Mallarie Zimmer** opened Rung. Rung began as a retail store to help women and their careers through affordable consignment business clothing. They now have a much larger goal, a beautiful building with impressive designs throughout, and a beautiful website; check it out at <https://rungforwomen.org/>.

Lisa said that they are always looking for volunteers; so if you or someone you know is interested in helping, they have at least three ways to do so. Training is required. Rung mentoring partners will engage in a year-long volunteer commitment as they serve in the "mentor" role. A mentoring partner will work to aid in the advancement of a Rung member's progress toward meeting career goals by providing advice, feedback, and guidance along their career development journey and help to expand a Rung member's professional network by suggesting and facilitating useful introductions and connections related to the targeted career goals. They can be reached [here](#).

- ⇒ General volunteer—From serving as a greeter at events, helping organize materials on-site, to virtual recruitment efforts, general Rung volunteers will be able to lend a helping hand to many tasks with the manager of Social Capital and Volunteer Programs.
- ⇒ Co-designer volunteer—Volunteers will be able to harvest or build in the garden, read or play in the child watch facility, work as a tutor for school-aged children, serve or clean-up in the café, or assist in checking members into various fitness or wellness classes.
- ⇒ Social capital volunteer—Volunteers will help build networks of relationships among people who live and work in our community. Within Rung's Social Capital Program, there are five components to assist you in the creation of your connections and networks.



Lorie Jackson, Sally McGowan, Jan Scott, Carol Davis McDonald, and Linda Lindsey stand in front of one of the many murals hanging throughout the building. This one was made with thousands of colored cotton balls.

Other Programs of Interest

WHAT THE OTHER (IBC) BRANCHES ARE DOING

Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch:

The May meeting will be held at a park shelter for A Thursday in the Park to celebrated spring and join other members in person (with masks and social distancing). Box lunches will be served.

Ferguson-Florissant Branch:

The branch will hold their May luncheon on 5-15 at Catering to You. The speaker this year will be **Dr. Gena Gunn McClendon**, who is the director of the Voter Access and Engagement, and the Financial Capability and Asset Building initiatives. Her policy work focuses on issues related to voter suppression and civic participation of low-and moderate-income households and marginalized populations. She is from The Brown School Center for Social Development at Washington University in St. Louis.

The branch is now on Facebook. Type "AAUW Ferguson-Florissant Branch" into the Facebook search bar on your screen. Then "like" their page.

Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch:

At their May meeting, Marsha Koch's niece, Lindsay McCloud Hunt, will share her path to becoming a biomedical engineer. KWG is also making plans to celebrate its 50th anniversary (1971-2021) this fall.

St. Charles Branch:

No information

*"People who are truly strong lift others up.
People who are truly powerful bring others
together."
Michelle Obama*

Women in the Workplace: Employment Scorecard Initiative

By recognizing employers who demonstrate a strong commitment to women in the workplace, the Women in the Workplace: Employment Scorecard incentivizes organizations to improve their policies and practices for female employees while also researching and promoting best practices to recruit, retain, and advance women.

Honorees are selected based on data submitted by the organization about structural efforts and outcomes to advance women through compensation, leadership, flexible work policies, and recruitment and retention initiatives. To learn more about the selection process and read recommendations for employers, policy-makers, and employees, read our [2020 Scorecard Community Report](#). To see a list of those that qualified, click [here](#).



WOMEN'S FOUNDATION
of Greater Saint Louis

Four-Part Series via Zoom on Race in Our Region

The last session is May 12th. Register at www.jcrcstl.org/news/greatdivide.html.

THE GREAT DIVIDE: RACE IN OUR REGION

Join the interfaith community for monthly conversations on ways systemic racism permeates our city and region. We will learn background from topic experts, hear stories of people directly impacted and learn ways we can take action.

Each Zoom session begins at noon and will last an hour. All are welcome to stay for 30 minutes after for Q&A and discussion.

Registration is required:
www.jcrcstl.org/news/greatdivide.html

FEBRUARY 10TH	ECONOMIC EQUITY
MARCH 10TH	HEALTHCARE
APRIL 14TH	ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
MAY 12TH	COURT SYSTEM



CALENDAR

2021

- Apr 24 AAUW MO board meeting
- Apr 26 Movie Club (*The Chicago Seven*)
- May 1 AAUW MO annual state meeting
- May 16 Socially distanced, outdoor get together
- May 24 Movie Club (*Audrey*)
- May 25 IBC Zoom meeting

AAUW National Voting Ends on **OTE** May 17

Time is running out. Every spring AAUW members vote to elect national directors. In 2021 we also need to approve the Public Policy Priorities and to vote to amend the bylaws. The AAUW Board of Directors, along with the AAUW MO Board, are urging members to vote to eliminate the degree requirement for membership. In order to continue to provide support for those who are excluded or marginalized, AAUW needs to stop excluding and marginalizing. We need to LIVE our mission.

Voting by paper ballot has ended. Find your personalized voting link in an email from **Shannon Wolfe** at AAUW.org (check your spam/junk folder) and vote today. Find out more on the AAUW website: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/national-election/>.

Congratulations 2021 Art Contest Winners

Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2021 art contest! You all submitted and voted on over 400 entries this year, and we're proud to recognize the following members for their winning entries. Congratulations! We look forward to having their art featured on this year's spring notecards. Meanwhile, [check out their winning work online](#).



- ◆ Ann Echols, treasurer of AAUW State College (Pennsylvania)—*Indian Paint Brush*
- ◆ Arlene Goch, president of AAUW Atlantic County (New Jersey)—*Hidden Women*
- ◆ Andrea Laudate, president of AAUW San Francisco (California)—*Mushrooms in the Mist*
- ◆ Mary Ellen Segraves, member and past president of Batavia-Geneva-St. Charles (Illinois)—*Bridge to Peace*
- ◆ Janice Arrow Smith, member and past newsletter editor of AAUW Lansdale (Pennsylvania)—*Ebullience*
- ◆ Nancy Willis, communications officer, Wytheville (Virginia)—*Blue Bottles*

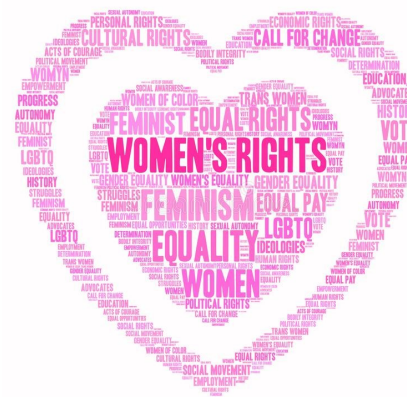
NCCWSL 2021: A Virtual Experience for Young Leaders

This year, hundreds of college women from around the country will gather for two days of virtual leadership training, inspiration and networking at our annual [National Conference for College Women Student Leaders](#) (NCCWSL). Learn more about this exciting online event on May 25-26, 2021. **AAUW Metro St. Louis Interbranch Council sponsored one student this year, Leatrice McNeal (Webster University). The Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch sponsored one student as well, Nicole Caldwell (UMSL).**



Take Action on the Most Pressing Policies

The House of Representatives voted last month, with bipartisan support, to remove the arbitrary deadline for ratifying the Equal Rights Amendment. It's a huge leap forward toward guaranteeing constitutional equality between men and women. Now that the *Paycheck Fairness Act* has passed the House, it joins several AAUW public policy priorities waiting for action in the Senate. These bipartisan bills need your vocal support now more than ever:



***Paycheck Fairness Act* (PFA):** AAUW has worked for decades to pass this landmark legislation to advance pay equity, and this is the year it will finally triumph. [Demand equal pay for equal work!](#)

***Equal Rights Amendment* (ERA):** The historic amendment, which would once and for all ensure constitutional gender equality, was first proposed nearly 100 years ago. Tell your Senators to [ratify the ERA now!](#)

Equality Act: America's civil rights laws should provide explicit protections against discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. Ensure your Senators know [equality means including all people!](#)



What Stands Before Us

2021 Annual State Meeting

May 1, 2021

Via Zoom (link will be sent later)

State Board Meeting

April 24 — 10 a.m. AAUW MO Board meeting; all members are welcome to attend.

Annual State Meeting

May 1 — 9:30 a.m. Welcome by Sue Shineman, AAUW MO President

9:45 a.m. Guest speaker Jeanie Latz, AAUW Board Member, *AAUW Issues Before Us*

10:15 a.m. Election and installation of officers, awards

11:15 a.m. Announcements and adjournment

Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____
Street City Zip

Phone: _____ Email: _____

AAUW Affiliation(s): branch state National College/University student

Name of branch(es) or university: _____

List branch/state/National positions you currently hold or will hold in 2021–22:

Do you plan to attend April 24 board meeting? Yes No

Mail to:
Lynne Roney, 412 Oakley Dr., St. Louis, MO 63105
or email lynneroney@sbcglobal.net.