

"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.

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, 2023-2025

Ellen Irons, President
ironnew@msn.com

Candy Low, Finance Officer
cnlx97@gmail.com

Susan Barley, Director
barley702@gmail.com

Vacant - Director

Carol Davis McDonald
Director, VP Membership,
Newsletter, Website
davis-mcdonald@outlook.com

Carol Davis McDonald
Newsletter, Website

Web Sites:

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

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

State Web Site:
www.aauwmo.org

AAUW St. Louis Branch | Face-
book

National Web Site:
www.aauw.org

Hope you can join us at our St. Louis Branch Annual Meeting and Program...

When: Sunday June 9, 2024, 1 – 3:30 pm. In person!

Where: At Ruth Reese's Gallery off Chippewa Street
3410 Wisconsin Ave, St. Louis MO 63118

What:

- **Socializing**, getting to know our newer members
- A **potluck luncheon** (be thinking of what you will bring)
- **Program:**
Sheila Bassoppo-Moyo and our AAUW branch members will present a readers' theater re-enactment of one of the key scenes from Sheila's play, *The Black Suffragist and the Harlem Hellfighter*, featuring Victoria Clay Haley, Cynthia Isgrig Knefler, and Edna Gellhorn. Sheila will also discuss the process of writing and producing the full play that was held on February 16, 2024. We are celebrating Victoria Clay Haley as one of the two suffragists our branch successfully submitted to be added to the Votes for Women Missouri Trail in December 2023.



MRS. V. C. HALEY.

• **Conduct our annual elections & business; planning for our next Program Year**

- ◇ In 2024 the **finance officer needs to be elected**. Candy Low has served two terms of two years. She is eligible to serve two additional terms.
- ◇ **Appointed Directors** – Currently, Carol Davis McDonald is a director, completing her second two-year term. She is eligible for two additional terms. Susan Barley is also completing her second two-year term, and she is declining to serve any additional terms. The third appointed director position is vacant.
- ◇ **A nominating committee will be appointed soon.**

This should be a great gathering. Please plan to come!! More info to follow on bringing food and directions. Questions: contact Ellen Irons, ironnew@msn.com.

A Word From President Ellen Irons:

The theme today is “Well done ... and more to come!”

As I work on planning our June 9th annual meeting, I am looking back at the last few months and am very proud of what we accomplished. Here’s a brief description of our main events:



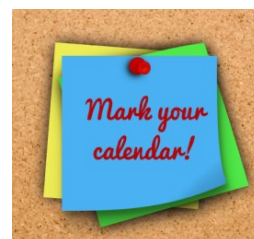
- The **IBC 2024 Spring Luncheon** was on **Saturday, March 23**, and eleven St. Louis Branch members attended. That is fantastic! Our raffle basket, created by Candy Low, was so beautiful, the food was great, and I thoroughly enjoyed the many conversations and energy generated from being together.
- **March 27, 2024**, was the **200th Anniversary of Virginia Minor’s birthday**. Jan Scott was able to work her magic in pulling together a special event at the St. Louis City Hall with a proclamation signing by Mayor Tishaura Jones and a birthday cake!
- Our branch program on Sunday, April 7th, at the IBEW Museum was an incredible experience. Professor Rosemary Feurer presented “**Labor, Suffrage and Social Justice – Cynthelia Knefler’s Contribution to Our St. Louis History**” to an audience of eleven AAUW members and two guests. It was a great collaboration with Pat Shores, MO state coordinator of the VFWT Missouri Trail Project, and quite a few Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch members attended. Vett Goods is a member of IBEW, and she shared some about the museum prior to the program starting. A very good collaborative project.
- *You can read more about all of the above events in full articles in this newsletter.*

And finally, our **Movie Club on the 4th Monday** of each month continues to grow and provide wonderful insights and experiences for those attending. Carol Anthony, a Ballwin-Chesterfield AAUW member, has joined us the last two Movie Club nights. Welcome! We’ve seen two movies since our last newsletter - *Queen Bees* and *Maestro* – very different, yet both generated a lot of sharing. Our upcoming Movie Club is on Monday, May 27, (yes, it’s on Memorial Day evening) and will be *Shirley*, with the discussion led by Vett Goods.

Happy “real” spring, Mother’s Day, and Memorial Day! I look forward to seeing you at our annual meeting on June 9th when we will plan our next year’s activities. A great year achieved, and more to come...

Yours,
Ellen

May 4	AAUW MO annual state conference, Columbia, MO	Jun 9	Branch annual meeting, potluck, and program
May 15	AAUW national voting deadline	Jun 24	Movie club
May 27	Movie group (<i>Shirley</i> on Netflix)	Aug 6	MO primary election
May 28	AAUW Metro St. Louis IBC meeting	Nov 5	General election
May 30	Adelante book group	Oct 1	Expressions craft group starts up again
May 30-Jun 1	NCCWSL, U of Maryland campus		



AAUW Community Hub Tips: The new AAUW Community Hub is every member’s personal portal into AAUW. It allows people to self-manage their membership, donations, contact details, and personal preferences. Using Community Hub, you can now:

- Renew your individual membership through the Community Hub Personal Snapshot. [Login or create your account](#) to get started.
- Access the [training videos](#) for detailed instructions on how to manage your membership and make donations.

IBC 2024 Spring Luncheon March 23, 2024 – St. Louis Makes a Great Showing

The 2024 IBC Luncheon event was held on March 23, at Catering To You, 12775 New Halls Ferry Road, Florissant 63033. The St. Louis Branch had a great turnout – eleven members!! The hot buffet luncheon was very good and of course, the company was great! We enjoyed the Barb Lackritz Awards, and we particularly celebrated our dual member Chris Nobbe, (nominated by Kirkwood Webster Groves), for her achievements. Our raffle basket contribution for fundraising was gorgeous, courtesy of the artistic efforts of member Candy Low (see photo below). We ended up donating a \$50 visa gift card along with a \$60 voucher to the Key Bistro – donated by the restaurant – free to us. Our basket received the most tickets of the five baskets being raffled!



St. Louis Branch Photo - Above. Standing, left to right: Barb Johnson, Linda Lindsey, Janet Banks-Frumson, Sally McGowan, Sheila Bassoppo-Moyo, Diane Albright, Chris Nobbe, Carol Davis McDonald. Seated: Jan Scott, Diane Sher, Ellen Irons.



Barbara Lackritz Honorees 2024. From left to right: Doris Nistler, Ballwin-Chesterfield; two Ferguson-Florissant members for the late Lillian Boly, Joyce Wolf and Joyce Bluett; Christine Nobbe, Kirkwood-Webster Groves; Karen Schneider, St. Charles.



For many of us, the membership renewal deadline is June 30th of each year. Newer members are on an “anniversary” schedule - your renewal is a year from the month you first joined AAUW. Look for a reminder e-mail from AAUW when it’s time to renew. (We encourage self-renewal online.) The email will come from infosf@aauw.org. Renewing now or early does *not* change your current expiration month. It will remain the same. National embedded a [video clip to help members with self-renewal](#). For those who prefer to send a check, please complete the renewal form (attached) and mail it with your check to our finance officer, Candy Low. Her address is on the form.

St. Louis Mayor Signs Proclamation & Hosts Event for Virginia Minor's 200th Birthday!

Jan Scott was determined to celebrate Virginia Minor's 200th birthday. Jan explored luncheon ideas, tried to arrange a meeting at the Arch, and various other options—to no avail. Finally, between friends at the League of Women Voters St. Louis and the Mayor's office of St. Louis City, along with Nicole Evelina (Niki Burgdorf), author of a book on Virginia and Francis Minor, and other supporters, Jan successfully arranged for a birthday cake and proclamation event on March 27, 2024. Linda Lindsey, St. Louis Branch, joined Jan, along with other friends from around the city. Way to go!!



ADVOCATE BY JOINING THE MISSOURI RIGHT TO READ COALITION

Recently, AAUW MO advocated for our public libraries by joining forces with other organizations to oppose legislation that places restrictions on libraries.

Missouri ranks third nationally for books banned at school libraries. Under a new law, school librarians are subject to fines and/or imprisonment. A policy effective in 2023 could result in the state's withholding funds from Missouri's public libraries.

The statewide [Missouri Right to Read Coalition](#) supports the premise that Missouri's libraries must remain

an open, accessible resource for books and other materials available free-of-charge to the public.

The organization opposes attempts to restrict access to public and school libraries, instead placing confidence in trained, experienced librarians and educators to evaluate and select materials available to the public. Membership in the Right to Read Coalition is open to organizations and individuals who support the coalition's purpose.

There is no financial commitment to join the coalition. For information on how to join, email righttoreadcoalition@gmail.com. Lise Bernstein is the steering committee chair. Or use this link: [BECOME A COALITION MEMBER!](#)

898 individuals and 81 organizations have joined, including our branch, AAUW MO, Joplin AAUW, Women's Voices Raised for Social Justice, League of Women Voters of Missouri, and NCJW-STL.

Report on our April 7, 2024, “Cynthelia Knefler” Event

On April 7th, a bright Sunday afternoon, eleven AAUW members and two guests visited the IBEW (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers) Museum in downtown St. Louis to hear Professor Rosemary Feurer present the program: **“Labor, Suffrage and Social Justice – Cynthelia Knefler’s Contribution to Our St. Louis History.”**



Both Ballwin-Chesterfield and St. Louis branches had a good turn out, and it was fun that the two guests were actually Rosemary’s son and his woman friend!

AAUW St. Louis sponsored this event to celebrate Ms. Knefler’s addition to the Votes for Women Trail in December 2023. Ellen Irons did the research on Ms. Knefler and worked with Pat Shores, AAUW MO state coordinator of the VFWT Missouri Trail project, to get the name submitted and approved.

Our presenter, Rosemary Feurer, shared her extensive background on labor history in St. Louis and created a detailed view of the context of Cynthelia Knefler’s work. We learned about the “Dangerous Women” – Mother Jones (Mary Harris) and Fannie Sellin – who proceeded and informed Cynthelia’s work. For example, many of us didn’t know there were sweat shops in St. Louis and that the union fights here in the early 1900’s were very significant in labor history. We learned a lot about Cynthelia’s life and her unique ability to be a bridge between the more educated, middle- and upper-class activist women of the time and the working women who were taking the lead in building trade unions. Thanks to Rosemary for a great talk.

Many thanks as well to Pat Shores who provided us with light refreshments (great cookies) and to the Electrical Workers Historical Society who provided the event space to us at no cost. After the event, we were pleased to have Rosemary join many of us at the Schlafley Taproom. Over a meal, we had a chance to visit more informally with Rosemary and each other. Overall, this was a very informative and interesting afternoon all around!



From left to right: Ruth Reese, friend of son, Rosemary’s son, Marian Bauer, Sheila Bassoppo-Moyo, Jan Scott, Ellen Irons, Angela Janik, Nancy Price, Rosemary Feurer, Chris Nobbe, Carol Davis McDonald, Vett Goods, Karen Francis.

Because man and woman are the complement of one another, we need woman's thought in national affairs to make a safe and stable government.

— Elizabeth Cady Stanton

Cautious, careful people, always casting about to preserve their reputations... can never effect a reform.

— Susan B. Anthony

Why is a woman to be treated differently? Woman suffrage will succeed, despite this miserable guerilla opposition.

— Victoria Woodhull

Extending over more than a century and including most nations of the globe, the cause of woman suffrage has been one of the great democratic forces in human history.

— Ellen DuBois



Grace Butler Tribute Project

AAUW MO Special Donation to AAUW Greatest Needs Fund In Memory of Grace Butler, AAUW Leader and Mentor About Missouri's Amazing Grace

William Shakespeare's quote: "*And though she be but little, she is fierce*" perfectly described Grace. So much so that her family incorporated it into her memorial service. Grace was small in stature, just under five feet, but fierce in determination. To know Grace was to respect her. She worked tirelessly to make a difference in the lives of women and girls. Her AAUW career started in Pennsylvania and then moved to Columbia, Missouri, as Grace returned home after her husband passed away in 1975. Grace raised her four boys, worked as an academic advisor at the University of Missouri, and continued her AAUW career dedicated to helping women succeed.



In her more than six decades of service, Grace held many AAUW positions. She was president of AAUW Missouri from 1991-1993 and went on to become Southwest Central Regional Director for two terms, covering Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas. In that role, she served on the national level as well. Most every state president in Missouri that worked with Grace has high praise for this little lady. She was filled with enthusiasm, wonder, excitement, and passion. She could enthrall a crowd with one of her stories of life on her farm and then give another life-lesson about the issues facing women and girls. She was involved, she was committed, she was caring - and she got results! Thus, she was frequently called "Amazing Grace." To those who knew and worked with her, she certainly was! Grace passed on October 11, 2023, just one month shy of her 97th birthday. **It is an honor for AAUW MO to present this tribute project for Grace. We hope you will join us.**

Wall Quilt Drawing

Quote lovers will enjoy the many inciteful women's quotes, one of which is the Shakespeare quote above. This 37"x 37" cotton, quilted, wall hanging, in cheery colors of teal and coral, will brighten any room while the quotes will provide daily inspiration (see quilt and quotes on next page).

Drawing for the wall hanging will be at the AAUW MO State Conference on May 4, 2024, in Columbia, MO. You DO NOT have to be present to win or be an AAUW member. Purchase your tickets and get them in to Susan Barley, state AAUW Fund chair, at the conference.

Tickets are \$2 each, 3 for \$5, 6 for \$10, or 12 for \$20.

Make this a branch project! If you wish to honor Grace but do not want to be in the drawing, please send your donation check, with 'Grace Butler Memorial' in the memo line, to:

Susan Barley, AAUW Fund, 4 N. Kingshighway Blvd, 5-D, St. Louis, MO 63108

THANK YOU!

(Tickets provided separately. Make copies as needed. Questions? Contact Susan Barley at barley702@gmail.com)



Quotes Featured on the Wall Quilt

This colorful 37" x 37" wall quilt print was created with fabric by Bernina, the sewing machine folks. **Valeria Ott**, the sister of K-WG Branch member **Kay Meyer**, pieced it together and made it into this lovely wall hanging. Here are the quotes contained in the squares:

- *The especial genius of women I believe to be electrical in movement, intuitive in function, spiritual in tendency.* — Margaret Fuller
- *Though she be little, she is fierce.* — Shakespeare
- *Little girls with dreams become women with vision.*
- *A successful woman is one who can build a firm foundation with the bricks others have thrown at her.* — David Brinkley
- *Perhaps this is the moment for which you have been created.* — Esther 4:14
- *She believed she could, so she did.* — R.S. Grey
- *She is clothed in strength and dignity.* — Proverbs 31:25
- *Here's to strong women. May we know them. May we be them. May we raise them.*

Quotes added by Bernina include:

Women are Smart.
Women are Successful.

Women are Empowering.
Women are Powerful.

Women are Compassionate.
Women are Nurturing.

Women are Strong.
Women are Spiritual

Grace Butler Tribute Project – Tickets for Drawing

(Additional copies of this page may be made on any color paper. Drawing is at State Conference on May 4, 2024)

INSTRUCTIONS: All tickets and money must be at the AAUW MO State Conference by 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 4, 2024. Or they may be mailed to AAUW MO Fund Chair Susan Barley, 4 N. Kingshighway Blvd, Apt 5D, St. Louis, MO 63108 to arrive by April 27. Make any checks payable to AAUW FUND.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING TO HONOR GRACE!

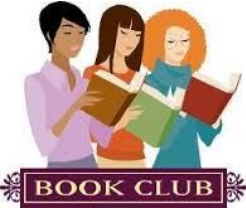
<p align="center">Grace Butler Wall Quilt Drawing</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Branch _____</p> <p>Phone _____</p> <p>Email _____</p> <p align="center">\$2 each 3 for \$5 6 for \$10 12 for \$20</p>	<p align="center">Grace Butler Wall Quilt Drawing</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Branch _____</p> <p>Phone _____</p> <p>Email _____</p> <p align="center">\$2 each 3 for \$5 6 for \$10 12 for \$20</p>
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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 last quarterly IBC meeting was at 7 p.m. on February 27, 2024, via ZOOM. The next one will be on May 28, 2024. The website is <https://stlouis-ibc.aauw.net/>. All AAUW members are welcome to attend.



IBC ¡ADELANTE! BOOK GROUP

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

Where: Join Zoom Meeting:
<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

Contact: PattyMurrayAAUW@gmail.com

Upcoming selections:

May 23 *Lessons in Chemistry*, by Bonnie Garmus (400 pgs). Pat Shores or Nancy Hutchins,

Metro St. Louis Branch Programs

Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch—May 9, 11 am, Marriott St. Louis West - Spring luncheon, Encircling All Women, \$45, deadline May 1.

AAUW was honored by the National Council of Jewish Women St Louis with the Community Partnership Award at their Celebrating Women Award on April 3, 2024. Three Ballwin-Chesterfield members attended the awards ceremony to accept: Pat Shores, Carol Anthony, and Karen Francis.

Ferguson-Florissant Branch—Contact [Patty Murray](mailto:PattyMurrayAAUW@gmail.com) for meeting information, 314-838-7887.

Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch—In April the annual STEM meeting was held, with scholarships presented to three high school seniors who have plans to continue STEM studies in college. The speaker was Atzimba Martinez, an AAUW Fellow getting her doctoral degree in low dimensional topology and foliations from the Washington University Department of Mathematics.

Saint Charles Branch—Meets the first Thursday at 1 p.m. at First St. Charles UMC, 801 First Capitol Drive, St. Charles 63301. The May 2 meeting will focus on human trafficking. High school scholarships will be presented after the program.

EXPRESSIONS! Craft Group



The last Expressions meeting was Tuesday April 2, 2024. The group will meet again Tuesday October 1, 2024. We usually meet the first Tuesday of the month from 1 to 3 pm at the Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Creve Coeur. This is the first year Expressions has been open to all AAUW Metro IBC Branches. We are looking for crafters who would like to share their skill and ideas with the group. If you have an idea for an interesting craft or simple project for the coming year contact Kay Meyer or Nancy Hutchins.

Join the Movie Group

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. Contact Ellen for the link.



Upcoming movies:

May 27 - *Shirley*

If there's specific resistance to women making movies, I just choose to ignore that as an obstacle for two reasons: I can't change my gender, and I refuse to stop making movies.

— Kathryn Bigelow

Now more than ever we need to talk to each other, to listen to each other and understand how we see the world, and cinema is the best medium for doing this.

— Martin Scorsese

National News

From Susan Barley
National Advancement Committee and
AAUW MO Fund Chair
April 17, 2024
314-361-2920
barley702@gmail.com



1. NCCWSL Update (as of 4/10)

- o Registrations = 413 (this time last year the number was 275) – 140 registered by branches
- o Agenda = <https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/nccwsl/agenda/workshops-panels/>
- o WODs = <https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/nccwsl/agenda/speaker-announcements/>
- o Sponsors
 - AAUW Maryland
 - Coca-Cola Foundation
 - Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC)
 - Origence
 - The American Society for Emergency Contraception (ASEC)
 - Authority Speakers Agency
 - Vital Voices Global Partnership
 - Feminist Majority Foundation
 - Lyft
 - Stevenson University Online
 - George Mason University, Schar School of Policy and Government
 - Amtrak

2. AAUW National Election - as of 4/12, we have 7,861 votes in. Open membership is currently passing at **66.7%**. Some additional details:

- o The current number of votes in represents 19.1% of membership. 7,753 electors voted in last year's campaign in total, and we have already surpassed that number, in large part due to your efforts.
- o 6.3% of national members have voted while 23.3% of branch members have voted. Another reminder email went out 4/15.

3. Link to our Webinars page: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/webinars/>

4. April 15 marked the **AAUW Fellowships and Grants Team's Notification Day** – awardees, alternates and unsuccessful applicants were notified of their status.

5. During the **68th UN Commission on the Status Women** and NGOCSW, AAUW hosted a virtual and in-person

event, participated in a coalition event, attended a multitude of key meetings throughout the week, and also engaged with AAUW members and partners.

6. **It's My Vote Campaign** – Voter Education Resources (supported in part by the Mooneen Lecce Giving Circle), <https://www.aauw.org/resources/policy/get-involved-in-elections/#trainings>, also listed on the Action Fund website: <https://www.aauwaction.org/my-vote/>

7. We will be launching our **College-University Toolkit** this month and linking to it on our website.

8. Spring **2024 AAUW State Conventions** have been occurring each week, and both Gloria Blackwell and Meghan Kissell have been featured/keynote speakers – virtually and in person.

9. In addition to NYC and the UNCSW, our ongoing efforts to elevate **AAUW's outreach and visibility** continue. You can check out Gloria's [LinkedIn profile](#) for some highlights, including providing insight for [The Washington Post's "Work Advice" column](#), attending the [White House Women's History Month Celebration](#)—present to witness the President sign an Executive Order to Advance Women's Health Research, and the F&G NYC event. Gloria also attended an intimate White House meeting with five select national organization heads to discuss the new Title IX regulations. She has also been invited to a number of events and received increased interaction based on being recognized as one of [Diverse Issues in Higher Education's 40 Outstanding Women](#).

10. AAUW's 2023 Year in Review: <https://www.aauw.org/about/2023-year-in-review/?emci=87ac2f3b-89e7-ee11-aaf0-002248223794&emdi=c41a2cbf-aae7-ee11-aaf0-002248223794&ceid=30823121>.

VOTING WHETHER TO CHANGE THE BYLAWS TO "OPEN UP" AAUW IS HAPPENING NOW!

Voting ends May 15, 2024

If you need more information about what's involved, go to this site: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/national-election/>

You should have received an email from national with the link/ and information for your vote.

Search your email inbox for a subject line of: Reminder: AAUW Election 2024.

2023

AAUW

Year in Review



1

47K+ MESSAGES SENT

AAUW's Two-Minute Activist network sent more than 47,000 messages to elected officials.



2

40K+ DONORS

More than 40,000 members and thousands of donors supported AAUW – including nearly 450 college and university members and over 700 branches across the country.



3

4-STAR RATING

AAUW earned 4-stars, Charity Navigator's highest rating, recognizing our commitment to best practices and industry standards in accountability, finance, culture, and community.



4

4.2K PEOPLE TRAINED

AAUW's salary negotiation and financial literacy trainings continued to be AAUW's most sought-after programs, reaching 4,227 people in 2023, and 197,679 people to date.



5

NCCWSL RETURNED

AAUW successfully brought back in-person the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, featuring 500 students from 170 campuses, 50 sessions, and notable speakers.



6

4.7 MILLION VIEWS

AAUW's message of activism and advocacy for equity for all received nearly 4.7 million views across Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and X (formerly Twitter).



7

150+ HILL OFFICES VISITED

AAUW's tireless Lobby Corps resumed visits to Capitol Hill, visiting more than 150 congressional offices to advocate for legislation that uplifts and advances women's equity and access to opportunity.



8

135 YEARS OF FELLOWSHIPS

We celebrated the 135th anniversary of AAUW's pioneering American Fellowships Program — our largest fellowship program and the oldest non-institutional source of graduate funding for women in the U.S.



9

\$6.1 MILLION AWARDED

AAUW awarded \$6.1 million in fellowships and grants to 277 awardees, maintaining our leadership as the nation's largest non-institutional funder of women's graduate-level education.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Welcoming the Stranger: The Immigrant and Refugee Experience in St. Louis



Thursday, May 9, 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 at 7 p.m.

[Please let us know you're coming here.](#)

Have you ever been to a foreign country and needed help? How did you find it? Did you feel welcome?

Sal Valadez (diversity, outreach and marketing representative for the Laborers International Union of North America-Midwest Region) and **Moji Sidiqi** (director for multicultural affairs and Afghan outreach for the International Institute of St. Louis) will share their personal stories of being immigrants to the US, finding their way to St. Louis, and their dedication to serving the immigrant populations in our area. Currently the St. Louis area has around 135,000 immigrants, which accounts for about 4.8% of the population.

April Was Child Abuse Prevention Month



By Dana Klar, JD, LCSW, associate teaching professor at UMSL, Gateway Alliance against Human Trafficking Board Member

There is no single definition of child abuse and neglect, as these terms are defined by federal and state laws. At the federal level, *The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act* (CAPTA) defines child abuse and neglect as “any recent act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caregiver that results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse, or exploitation, or an act or failure to act that presents an imminent risk of serious harm.” In Missouri, physical abuse is defined as any injury inflicted on a child by other than accidental means by those responsible for the child’s care, custody and control. Neglect occurs when those responsible for care, custody and control fail to provide proper or necessary support; education as required by law; nutrition; or medical, surgical or any other care necessary for the child’s well-being. Missouri includes sexual abuse/exploitation as a form of neglect and specifically includes victims of sex trafficking or other severe forms of trafficking

Mirowitz Center was the first organization in Missouri to be licensed to teach **Senior Planet from AARP** curriculum – and is the only one licensed to operate in St. Louis County!



"Maybe It's Your Meds"

Wednesday, May 1 - 1:00 - 2:30 pm (in person)
8 Millstone Campus Dr, St. Louis 63146

Managing your meds can be challenging! No one understands that better than Hedva Barenholtz Levy, PharmD, a geriatric pharmacy specialist and author of *Maybe It's Your Medications*. Dr. Levy will discuss important safety aspects of prescription and nonprescription medications and explain the best ways to prevent medication-related problems. Even if you only take a few pills daily, mark your calendar!

To register, [click here](#), call [\(314\) 733-9813](tel:3147339813), or email program@mirowitzcenter.org.

SENIOR PLANET

FROM AARP

"Intro to Smartphone Photography"

Thursday, May 9 - 1:00 - 2:00 pm (in person)
8 Millstone Campus Dr, 63146

Learn about smartphone features like recording videos, adding filters to pictures, and using your camera's timer! Trainer Jim Salih will review basic camera tips for taking good selfies, selecting backgrounds, and using optimal lighting. This presentation will cover both Android devices and iPhones.

Advocacy in Action Lunch & Learn



When: Thursday, May 16 | 12:00 - 1:00 PM

Where: Zoom [RSVP Here](#)

Women's Economic Equity: We are all familiar with the gender pay gap. Women overall make 84 cents to a man's dollar. It's a big problem. But actually ... it's only part of the problem. The lesser-known gender gap is the gender wealth gap. Not how much women make compared to men, but how much they own and keep. What can we do about both?

Questions? Email Jen Bernstein

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