



Newsletter of the

Saint Louis Branch

Founded April 1893 ~ Celebrating 132 Years!

2025-2026, No. 1, July-August 2025

"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

Diane Sher

President, Public Policy
dsher63105@gmail.com

Carol Davis McDonald

Finance Officer, Newsletter,
Website, Facebook page
davis-mcdonald@outlook.com

Christine Nobbe

VP Programs, STEM, AAUW
Funds

Janet Scott

VP Membership, Diversity

Margaret Weck

College-University Relations

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 | Facebook](#)

National Web Site:

www.aauw.org

This is the summer edition of our newsletter.

The AAUW year ended on June 30, 2025, and the new AAUW year started on July 1. We are in planning mode, getting ready for the new year. The list below lets you know about dates to put on your calendar. If you would like to help us out with a one-time project or article, please do not hesitate to contact one of the branch officers. Your participation would be greatly appreciated, and it's a good way to learn about AAUW and your fellow members.

AAUW St. Louis Branch Calendar - 2025-2026

PROGRAMS AND THINGS TO DO

July 2025

- Tue, July 1 - Branch board meeting, 7 pm, Zoom
- Mon, July 28 - Movie Club, 7 pm, Zoom (see pg 6)

August 2025

- Tue, Aug 5—branch board meeting, 7 pm, Zoom
- Mon, Aug 25—Movie Club, 7 pm, Zoom (see pg 6)
- Tue, Aug 26—quarterly IBC meeting, Grand Glaize County Library, 12 noon -2:30pm

September 2025

- Tue, Sep 2—branch board meeting, 7 pm, Zoom
- Sun, Sep 14—in conjunction with AAUW Kirkwood-Webster Groves, Coffee and Convos, 2 pm, Brentwood Community Center
- Mon, Sep 22—Movie Club, 7 pm, Zoom (see pg 6)

October 2025

- Tue, Oct 7—branch board meeting,

7 pm, Zoom

- Sun, Oct 12—in conjunction with AAUW K-WG, 1 pm, Mid-County Library, Dr. Nancy Morrow-Howell on ageism
- Mon, Oct 27—Movie Club, 7 pm, Zoom (see pg 6)

November 2025

- Tue, Nov 4—branch board meeting, 7 pm, Zoom
- Thur, Nov 20—program in conjunction with AAUW K-WG, 6:30 pm
- Mon, Nov 24—Movie Club, 7 pm, Zoom (see pg 6)

December 2025

- Tue, Dec 2—branch board meeting, 7 pm, Zoom

January 2026

- Tue, Jan 6—branch board meeting, 7 pm, Zoom

February 2026

- Tue, Feb 3—branch board meeting, 7 pm, Zoom

Minutes of the AAUW St. Louis Branch 2024-2025 Annual Meeting on June 1, 2025

The annual business meeting was held at Rich and Charlie's Italian Restaurant in Crestwood, Missouri, starting at 1:00 p.m. Arrangements were made by Linda Lindsey. Present were Christine Nobbe, Vett Goods, Carol Davis McDonald, Margaret Weck, Sally McGowan, Carla Morrison, Sheila Bassoppo-Moyo, Diane Sher, Janet Banks-Frumson, Munira Akhmedova, Linda Lindsey, and Jan Scott.

President Diane Sher called the meeting to order after the buffet was served. She announced branch accomplishments over the past year and the awards that were given to the branch by AAUW of Missouri at the annual state meeting held virtually via Zoom on May 3, 2025.

Branch Accomplishments and Awards:

- * 10 Star Survey - 10 out of 10
- * Missouri Women of Distinction - awarded to Ellen Irons
- * The Interbranch Council Barbara Lackritz Awardee - Sally McGowan
- * Girl Scouts of Eastern MO Biannual Patch Program. We developed a patch for the Girl Scouts, recognizing 250 Notable Women as researched by the branch several years ago.
- * Sponsored the opening reception of Women in the Arts exhibit at the St. Louis Montessori Adolescent Program

The following information was announced:

- ♦ AAUW national news; Strategic Priorities for 2025 and Beyond; focuses on funding for higher education, removing barriers to success in education and the workplace, and strengthening AAUW's reach.
- ♦ Branch 2025 plans
 - Develop an online portal that will list programs. We will be working with the K-WG branch on this.
 - Future programs : 9/21/25, StL & K-WG "Coffee and Conversations"; 10/22/25, Dr. Morrow-Howell presentation on "Ageism"; Jan 26, "Lunar New Year Celebration"
 - Dues for 2026 will be \$96.00 (includes national, state and local)
- ♦ Public policy activities: Sign up for 2-Minute Activist; *The Independent* is another useful online resource.
- ♦ Membership: We are hoping to increase our membership this next year through individual soliciting and an open house.
- ♦ Movie Club - We are pleased with the success of this program. Discussions are held on the last Monday of the month via Zoom. Titles have been chosen for the next 6 months.

Diane Sher announced the proceedings would move into its business meeting. A quorum was present.

Approval of the minutes from the 2024 meeting was proposed by Jan Scott and seconded Vett Goods.

Jan Scott nominated Diane Sher to be president for the biennium, 2025-2027. The motion was seconded by Sally McGowan. The nomination was approved.

Diane presented her slate of appointed officers. Jan moved to accept, and her motion was seconded by Sheila Bassoppo-Moyo.

A bylaw change was proposed:

Section 1. Annual Meeting.

The Affiliate shall hold an annual meeting to conduct the business of the Affiliate, including, but not limited to, electing officers, establishing dues, amending bylaws, and receiving reports. This meeting shall be held in ~~April or in May~~ the spring, which runs from March 21 – June 21.

Jan Scott moved to accept, and the motion was seconded by Vett Goods. The motion passed.

The budget was reviewed and accepted. Jan Scott moved to accept, and Vett Goods seconded the motion and passed by the membership. We are considering a \$100.00 honorarium for speakers. A discussion was held regarding the use of an online payment app.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Margaret Weck and was seconded by Carol Davis McDonald.

Carla Morrison, Secretary *pro tem*

From Christine Nobbe: 2025-2026 AAUW St Louis Programs

Collaborating with AAUW Kirkwood-Webster Groves

September, October, and November planning is well under way, with the rest of the year mapped out. Here is a link to this document on Google Docs:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1m-on4jo5t2g3PcBxyv28JHl1zDIzb5rcMGDuVDdxj8E/edit?usp=sharing>

Projects:

- Spring Fling
- Women's Art Exhibit at Montessori Adolescent Project
- Scholarship for Girls
- Membership Growth
- Movie Club - Fourth Monday
- Participate in State Committees and Annual Leadership Meeting

★ for Branch Programs (stars refer to Missouri Ten-Star Program)

September 14, 2025 (Sunday)

St. Louis (STL) and Kirkwood-Webster Groves (KWG)

★ for Membership

Coffee and Convos - Sunday, September 14, 2:00 - 4:00, Brentwood Community Center

1:30 - Arrive for set-up

Invite members-at-large, university faculty, and more

October 12, 2025 (Sunday)

STL and KWG, hosted by STL

★ for Education and Membership Enrichment

In-Person Presenter

Dr. Nancy Morrow-Howell, a focus on Ageism Sunday, October 12, 2025, 1:00 - 3:00

1:00 - Arrive

2:00 - Presentation

Mid-County Library in Clayton

November

STL and KWG, hosted by KWG

★ for Branch Programs

★ for CU Partners and Equity

In-Person Presenter

Thursday, November 20, 2025, 7:00 PM

Speaker to Be Determined

KWG - find location

December

No general meeting. KWG may plan something and invite everyone.

January

Lunar New Year at a restaurant

- Lunar New Year in 2026 is Tuesday, Feb. 17 but we could meet the final Sunday in January (January 25) for a New Year get together
- Consider starting later this year - noon or 12:30
- STL will organize and invite KWG

★ for Membership

★ for Communication - share a photo and caption for *Missouri in Motion*

★ for DEI

KWG and STL, hosted by KWG

★ for Branch Programs, additional stars depending on speaker

Virtual Presenter on Zoom

KWG finds speaker. January 15, 2026, third Thursday. Invite all Metro St. Louis members through IBC.

February

★ for Branch Programs, additional stars depending on speaker

KWG and STL, hosted by STL

Virtual presenter on Zoom. STL finds speaker February 19, 2026, third Thursday

Invite all Metro St. Louis members through IBC

March

Spring Fling - IBC chooses date

Women's Art Exhibit - grow our collaboration with Ruth Reese and Montessori Adolescent Program

April

★ for Communication - share a photo and caption for *Missouri in Motion*

★ for DEI and STEM

★ for Education and Membership Enrichment

STEM event with KWG and STL - KWG organizes this each year. In-person event to honor KWG STEM Scholarship awardees and STL scholarship award-ees. Proposed date is April 16, 2026.

Woman in STEM Presenter - career focus - in-person

(continued on page 5)

RECENT EVENT PHOTOS



At the post-renovation re-opening of the Old Courthouse downtown on May 3, 2025, Jan set up information in the League-of-Women-Voters tent about Virginia Minor, along with the proclamations she obtained from the mayor's office. Unfortunately, the rain came and put a damper on the event.



Despite on-and-off rain, thousands of St. Louisans gathered at various locations around the city and county for the No Kings protest. In these pictures, Sally and Jan (and Sally's sister, Susan) were in south county at Lindbergh and Baptist Church Road.



For many of us, the membership renewal deadline is June 30th of each year. Newer members (since 7-1-2022) 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 (on the branch website) and mail it with your check to our finance officer, Carol Davis McDonald. Her address is on the form. Dues for 2025-2026 are \$96 (which includes \$74 to national AAUW, \$12 for St. Louis Branch, and \$10 for Missouri AAUW).

The Silver Haired Legislature

By Sheila Bassoppo-Moyo

Besides being a member of AAUW, I hold the position of coordinator of the St. Louis branch of The Silver Haired Legislature (SHL), a formally elected body of Missourians aged 60 and older who advocate for the legislative needs of older adults in the state. It's a volunteer-based organization that was the first of its kind in the United States, created in 1973. The SHL works in coordination with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services and the 10 Area Agencies on Aging located in the state.

As my day job, I am the health coordinator for the St. Louis Area Agency on Aging. I joined the City in 2018 as a healthcare coordinator. About two years later, I became a SHL delegate and learned the importance of advocacy and writing proposals on issues important to older adults. A year later, I was asked to be the coordinator for our group. In my regular job, I teach health education classes like Healthy Living With Chronic Conditions, A Matter of Balance, and Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention. I attend health

fairs and town hall meetings, so I am blessed to have a fun job.

A big benefit of being involved with the SHL is learning about the different issues that affect seniors like housing, transportation, and Medicare and Medicaid benefits. One of the biggest challenges we face is having the ability to age in place as well as finding affordable housing. I help volunteers to fine-tune proposals, facilitate meetings and trips to Jefferson City to advocate and speak with their legislators.

Being involved with SHL has given me practical ways to be a good citizen and a greater sensitivity to my responsibilities living in a democracy. I get the opportunity to be a part of the process of how laws are initiated, shaped, and signed into law. I have met very committed people in the SHL who feel strongly about how our government should work for the people, and they inspire me to be a part of this wonderful organization. If anyone wants to know more about the SHL, please contact me at bassoppo-moyos@stlouis-mo.gov.

2025 Missouri Legislative Session Recap

(Borrowed from Ballwin-Chesterfield's Newsletter)

The Missouri 2025 legislative session opened in January with 2,676 bills filed; 234 bills passed through committees and made it to at least one of the floors for a vote. At the close of the session, fifty-nine bills and a budget were sent to the governor's office for signature or veto. The Public Policy Committee was busy keeping members abreast of the bills that aligned either positively or negatively with the mission of AAUW. Here is a brief summary of the session's outcomes to date:

- HB567 changed Proposition A, and these changes go into effect August 28, 2025.
- SJR 73 seeks to remove Amendment 3 from the MO

constitution replacing it with restrictions around reproductive health care provisions. SJR 73 will be put to a vote of the citizens of MO on a future ballot determined by the governor.

- SB 22 changes the process for Initiative Petitions in MO. The bill will require a vote by the citizens of MO as it changes the current process set in the MO constitution.
- The governor has called a special session of legislation to address three key issues of the budget. These include tornado relief funds, stadium subsidies and capital improvements and construction projects in HB19.

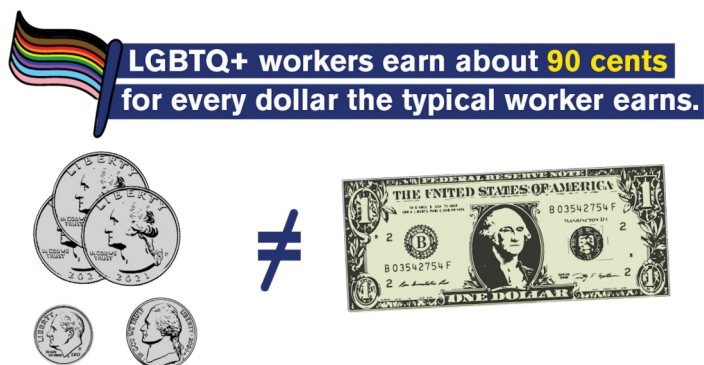
You may access the Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch website at <https://ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/public-policy/> for details.



The Missouri Independent is a nonpartisan, nonprofit news organization covering state government, politics and policy. It is staffed by veteran Missouri reporters and is dedicated to its mission of relentless investigative journalism that sheds light on how decisions in Jefferson City are made and their impact on individuals across the Show-Me State. Want to receive their email newsletters? <https://missouriindependent.com/subscribe/>

This year, June 17 was Equal Pay Day AND LGBTQIA+ Day.

It highlights the significant wage gap experienced by LGBTQIA+ workers compared to their cisgender and heterosexual counterparts. This day underscores the intersectional nature of inequality, as LGBTQIA+ individuals, particularly women and people of color, face even greater disparities in pay. LGBTQIA+ Equal Pay Awareness Day serves as a reminder to advocate for policies and practices that promote pay equity, address discrimination, and ensure economic justice for all LGBTQIA+ individuals.



Movie Club

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. July 28 - Two short films. Jan Scott, Moderator

- Period. End of Sentence* (26 min.) (India) (Oscar-Nominee)
- The Only Girl in the Orchestra* (35 min.) (Oscar-Winner)

Mon. Aug 25: Moderator, Jo Taylor	<i>The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry</i>
Mon. Sept 22: Moderator, Diane Sher	<i>Procession</i>
Mon. Oct. 27: Moderator, Roz Marx	<i>Between the Temples</i>
Mon. Nov. 24: Moderator, TBD	<i>Maria</i>

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

Meeting ID: 815 8265 7369

Passcode: 168308

(continued from page 3)

May

★ for Leadership

Attend AAUW MO State Meeting virtually or in-person. If virtual, co-host a watch party.

KWG: Annual Meeting

★ for Branch Management

June

STL: Annual Meeting at a local restaurant. Propose
June 7, 2026 - First Sunday of June

★ for Branch Management

June or July

★ for Branch Management

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, August 25, 2025, 12 noon—2:30 pm, Grand Glaize County Library, mtg rm 1, 1010 Meramec Station Rd, Manchester.

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

Metro St. Louis Branch Programs

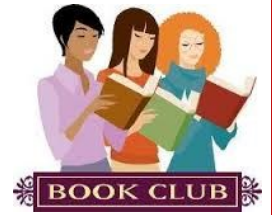
Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch— Let's get ready for the Red, White & Blue Happy Re-New Year Party! Thursday, July 10, 2025 Ballwin Golf Course & Event Center, 333 Holloway Road, Ballwin 63011 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Shared bite-size appetizers and desserts brought by attendees.

Ferguson-Florissant Branch—Contact [Pam Meyers](#) for meeting information, 314-303-6661.

Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch—Nothing planned until September.

Saint Charles Branch—Tea-Time Trivia, Aug. 2, 1-3:30 pm, Faith United Methodist Church, 2950 Drosste Rd, St. Charles (see page 8).

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?pwd=NFNKS01FMXh6bXpiaXh0ci80VC9rUT09>

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

Contact: PattyMurrayAAUW@gmail.com

Zoom access: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87393625222?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87393625222?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:

Sep 25 *The Sentence*, by Louise Erdrich, 400 pages, 1-9-2021. Lynne Roney, facilitator. Asks what we owe to the living, the dead, to the reader and to the book. Mystery haunting of a small, independent book store.

Oct 23 *Oath and Honor: A Memoir and a Warning*, by Liz Cheney, 384 pages, published 12-5-2023. Kay Meyer, facilitator. A gripping, first-hand account of the January 6th, 2021, insurrection from inside the halls of Congress.



If you are interested in international relations and learning about worldwide issues—and would like to be a part of planning the lecture topics for the 2026 International Relations Lecture Series, please contact Kay Meyer (kicmeyer51@gmail.com). AAUW and the Tuesday Women's Association have sponsored these lectures for over 90 years, and they are always interesting. They are held on the second Tuesday of January, February, March, and April of each year at the Ethical Society building on Clayton Road in Ladue.

AAUW Member Art Notecards Now Available!

Add a splash of inspiration to your next note with AAUW's new **Member Art Notecards**, now available on our [shopfront](#)! Featuring original artwork by AAUW members, these vibrant 5" x 7" cards are perfect for thank-yous, greetings, or just brightening someone's day. Each set includes 10 blank cards and envelopes—elegant, meaningful, and uniquely AAUW. Grab yours today and share the power of creativity and connection!

The Saint Charles Branch is reinstituting its “famous” Tea-Time Trivia afternoon this summer. It was another victim of Covid. We have missed the fun and are happy that they decided to try again. Let me know if you have questions about it. No sports questions—It’s a ladies’ afternoon! The church is easy to find. In the past, people have brought snacks to share, in addition to the refreshments the St. Charles Branch members donate. Hope you will be able to come. We have a great time!

*St. Charles American Association of University Women
10th Annual Local Scholarship/Education Fundraiser*

“Ladies Tea Time Trivia”

Saturday, August 2, 2025 1:00- 3:30 pm Doors open at 12:30 pm

*Fellowship Hall- Faith United Methodist Church 2950 Droste Road St. Charles 63301
Directions: I-70 to First Capitol, at light left to West Clay, at light right on Droste.
Right at stop sign on Norwich. Immediately enter church parking lot left off Norwich.*

*Ladies aged 18-108 will experience a unique trivia featuring ten categories of
women’s interests and general topics! NO sports questions!!!
Light Refreshments Provided No alcohol allowed
Feel free to bring additional snacks for your table.*

*\$200 donation table of 8 \$150 donation table of 6 \$25 donation single ticket
Baskets Mulligan Bonus Round More!!!*

*St. Charles AAUW Scholarships have been awarded since 1938 to St. Charles County High School Senior
Women meeting qualifications of the Branch Scholarship Committee.*

Please print or use an address label

*Contact’s Name _____ Branch if
AAUW _____*

Phone/text number _____ E-mail _____

*___ Table of 8- \$200 Table of ___ x \$25 ___ Single- \$25
Easiest: Send one check per table (list names on back of this page) or send all
checks together. (Note: Singles may be assigned to a table of fewer than 8)*

*Make check payable to: **St. Charles AAUW** Check number _____ Total _____*

*Form and checks to: **AAUW 2928 Hummingbird Drive St. Charles, MO 63301**
Questions: Phone contact- Rose Ann at 314-368-9971*

_____ Enclosed is a donation to the local St. Charles Branch AAUW Scholarship Fund

AAUW Updates

July 2, 2025

Susan Barley, AAUW Advancement Committee

314-229-4240 | barley702@gmail.com

AAUW NATIONAL

NCCWSL

This was NASPA's first year taking over the planning. There were over 200 attendees, many of whom were supported by AAUW branches and AAUW National scholarships. Gloria Blackwell was a keynote speaker. Start Smart and Money Smart workshops were presented by AAUW staff.

All attendees were offered a free year of AAUW student affiliate membership. Regular dues for AAUW Student Affiliate membership is \$18.81, unless the student's institution is a C/U Member of AAUW, in which case those students can join for free.

End of Fiscal Year

The Advancement Team has been busy supporting branches and members with dues renewals and year-end fundraising. AAUW is pleased to share that we have been making good progress and are tracking toward meeting our annual revenue goals. We have exceeded the goal for planned giving. AAUW is so appreciative of our Legacy Circle members and the Legacy Circle Liaisons for their work to support this incredibly impactful way to support AAUW.

Annual Report

AAUW has already begun work on the FY25 Annual Report and aims to launch it earlier in the fiscal year (November). The link to the FY24 Annual Report is: <https://www.aauw.org/about/years-in-review-and-financial-information/>. This page is also where you can find links to three years worth of Annual Budgets, 990Ns, and audited financials – AAUW continues to be a Platinum-rated Candid nonprofit and once again has attained 4 Stars (highest level) for Charity Navigator.

Year-End Closing

Although the fiscal year ended, AAUW is still recording gifts received and counted toward FY25 throughout this month. Once the July year-end closing procedures have been completed, AAUW will be able to calculate Advancement Star criteria for branches.

State and Branch Bylaws Updates

States and branches need to update their bylaws by June 2026. Additional information will be available at the end of summer/early fall. In the meantime, the Bylaws Toolkit can be found online: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/leader-resources-tools/bylaws-toolkit/>

Affiliate Agreements

If your state or branch has misplaced your copy of the AAUW Affiliate Agreement that your state/branch signed, you can email connect@aauw.org to request a copy. A link to additional information: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/leader-resources-tools/bylaws-toolkit/aauw-affiliate-agreements/>

Art Contest

This spring, notecards were sent to members. Not all members receive notecards. They are sent to members and donors who have been recently responsive to appeals. Members who have made very recent gifts do not receive a solicitation. This is a convenient way to make a donation to AAUW. To see more information about the art contest: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/art-contest/>. You can purchase notecards (and other items) from Shop AAUW: <https://aauw.source4.com/b2c/Category.asp?Category=8542>

Shape the Future

For more information about the Shape the Future campaign: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/leader-resources-tools/state-branch/shape-the-future-campaign/>.

Membership Matters

Membership Matters is sent to all state and branch leaders. Appropriate information should be shared with branch members. The latest issue can be found on the Leader Resources and Tools page: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/>