

# ART FAIR ON THE GREEN 2022

by Carol Robertson, Chair

64th Annual  
AAUW ART FAIR ON THE GREEN  
JULY 30, 2022



AAUW Art Fair on the Green will soon be here and committee members are busy arranging all the details.

The art fair will again be held for one day at **Myrick Park from 10:00am-5:00pm**. We will have 70+ artists, food trucks, and of course, the raffle will be held. We will not be charging admission again this year.

It takes many people to make this event run smoothly so look at the volunteer opportunities Marla French, Volunteer Coordinator, has outlined elsewhere in the Current. Remember, volunteers are needed to assist with Grounds also. We need people to help set up starting at about 6:30 am on July 30th and to assist with takedown at 5:00 pm.

If you aren't able to volunteer, you can still participate by contributing to the awards and scholarship funds. You will receive a form on how to donate. The art fair is our main source of income to support the scholarships we give each year. We were able to award \$29,000 in grants and scholarships in 2022.

This event is a great place to find that unusual gift as well as to buy artwork for your own enjoyment.

Please check out the list of the scholarship recipients this year. These awards and scholarships are made possible by your dedication and hard work on AAUW Art Fair on the Green.

Come out and support us on July 30!

[www.artfaironthegreen.org](http://www.artfaironthegreen.org)

# AAUW

LA CROSSE (WI)

# The Current

a publication of the La Crosse, WI AAUW Branch

VOLUME 61, ISSUE 10

SUMMER 2022



## PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE:

### Passing the Gavel

by Ann Brice, AAUW-La Crosse Branch President

I started out last year's June message by saying "Wow, what a year it's been" and those words are fitting again this year. AAUW's mission of equity has never been more important. I continue to believe that lifting women up is critical to healing and revitalizing our country and our world, and I feel so lucky to be part of a group that believes the same thing.

While women have made some progress towards equity this year – think the confirmation of Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson on April 7th – women face a crushing setback if Roe v. Wade is overturned. According to NPR, if Roe is overturned, 58% of women who are in the reproductive age will live in states hostile to abortion. More than 20 states have "trigger laws" set to take effect when Roe is overturned. These laws will drastically restrict or even ban abortion. When I hear people supporting anti-abortion measures, I answer, "Therefore, you must be in supportive of equal pay for women, free quality reproductive care, and child support beginning at conception, correct?" If the answer is "no," or simply met with a blank stare, I know the issue is not about abortion but about controlling

women. We must continue to insist on equal pay and equal rights for women.

The Equal Rights Amendment has been 100 years in the making. Our social media coordinator Erica Koonmen just posted a message on Facebook asking AAUW members to call on Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer to schedule a vote on HRes 17/SJ Res 1. If you're not on Facebook or Twitter, you can vote by using this link: [Ask Senator Schumer to put out the vote for the ERA!](#)

One way we can help AAUW La Crosse and our mission is by supporting our Art Fair. Last summer we had a one day in-person art fair and it was a grand success. Many

*Continued on Page 2 »*



## NEXT BOARD MEETING

**Transitional Board Potluck**  
**Monday, June 13, 5:30 p.m**  
1 RiverPlace Apts.

Meetings are open to any member who is interested in attending.

**Contact Ann at:** 780-5026 or  
[bricea@westerntc.edu](mailto:bricea@westerntc.edu)  
to place items on the agenda.

## Passing the Gavel... *(continued from page 1)*

thanks to Barb Fischer for the website we used again this year to showcase and sell artists' work even while we had a live component. Barb put in countless hours getting the site to work just right for us. Also many thanks to Carol Robertson and Erica Koonmen for all they did to organize the event and help our artists show their work. Thank you to all those who volunteered to make the day a success. I'm excited to remind you that this year's Art Fair will be a one-day live event on Saturday, July 30th at Myrick Park.

I know you'll be as excited I am to have Andrea Hanson as our new AAUW La Crosse branch president. Andrea does phenomenal work as a professor at UWL and as the coordinator of the Self-Sufficiency program, and I know she will be a dynamic and insightful leader for our branch. Stay tuned as we learn more about where we'll be meeting this fall. Even if we can meet in person, we'll continue to offer you the option to attend via Zoom. Thank you again for your patience with me these past two years as I had the honor of being your branch president.

<https://www.npr.org/2022/05/03/1096094942/roe-wade-overturned-what-happens-next>

## Membership News

by Marilyn Hempstead, VP Membership

### Email Address Change

Linda Kastantin has a new email: LindaKastantin@gmail.com  
Please make a note in your directory.

### CONGRATULATIONS

Phyllis Milleto has recently been one of the honorees for 20 years of service to RSVP.



### New Membership VP

Barb Fischer will be taking over the role of Membership VP so this is my last report. Welcome Barb! Thanks to all who contributed news and to all who have invited new members during my years in this role.

## Art Fair Contributions Needed

We had no live Art Fair in 2020 and we haven't been charging admission since the move to Myrick Park last summer. Therefore, we need financial donations more than ever to help us continue to award our scholarships! As you know, Art Fair on the Green is AAUW La Crosse Branch's biggest fundraiser of the year. Please donate generously to the AAUW La Crosse Scholarship Fund.

The Scholarship Fund Contribution Form is attached to this newsletter email. Please print it out, complete it, and send it, along with your check, to: AAUW Art Fair on the Green PO Box 2112 La Crosse WI 54602. We will note your name, get it in the Art Fair program, and forward your check on to the La Crosse Community Foundation. Contributions are tax exempt. We need to receive your donation by **July 10** to meet the deadline for printing the program.

Thank you very much for your donation!

## LA CROSSE STORYTELLING FESTIVAL FEATURES WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE

The 19th annual La Crosse Storytelling Festival is July 22 and 23 at the Pumphouse Regional Arts Center with stories for all ages.

The afternoon session will feature Pippa White, a nationally recognized storyteller whose work has been described as entertainment wrapped in history and intertwined with inspiration. Her story of 72 Years to Women's Suffrage will describe the struggles, disappointments, sacrifice, and triumphs in the words of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, Alice Paul and so many others: all who endured ridicule, threats, imprisonment and forced feedings, so that women living in a democracy could vote.

The afternoon session is from 2:00 to 5:30 PM with Pippa's segment at 3:15 PM.

Tickets for the afternoon performances will soon be available online through the Pumphouse or at the door.



Pippa White

## Art Fair Volunteers

by Marla French, Chair

Again, the art fair will be held for only ONE day, Saturday, July 30th. And again, it's at Myrick Park. Last year you did a great job of contacting me to volunteer, saving me some calls. I appreciate that!

As in the past, we'll need help with setting up, so if you're an early bird, this may be just for you. You'll need to be at the park between 6 and 7 a.m. At 5:00 p.m. we'll need another crew to help with takedown.

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While we're not charging admission, we'll still have tables at the entrances where greeters (you) will hand out programs and explain to our guests that we're depending on their gracious donations this year to fund our many scholarships. There will be donation containers at each table.

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Some of you have enjoyed Booth Sitting in the past, giving the artists a brief lunch break. We'll need three for that.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Raffle will operate as usual, selling tickets for the many "prizes." Almost all of the 70 artists have indicated they're contributing a piece to the Raffle, so it should be better than ever!

\*\*\*\*\*

With a one day event, there won't be as many 2 hour time slots to fill, so you'll need to contact me quickly to claim your spot.

I'm counting on you to contact me before I start making panicky phone calls: 608-385-7432 (text or call) or mmfrench1959@gmail.com



## Art Fair Publicity

THE 64<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL AAUW  
Art Fair on the Green

JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL, JARED ART FAIR FEATURING  
OVER 80 TALENTED ARTISTS

Saturday,  
July 30

10 A.M. - 5 P.M.

MYRICK PARK

LA CROSSE, WI

Free Admission

Featuring art, coffee,  
local food, music and refreshments.

A perfect way to spend a Saturday!

All proceeds from this event go  
to local scholarships and grants.

Presented by  
AAUW La Crosse



Art fair posters and bookmarks have been posted and distributed in La Crosse, Onalaska, West Salem and La Crescent, MN. They will also be up in Sparta, Stoddard and Genoa.

If you know a business or location that would be willing to display a poster, please contact Cheri (cniedzwiecki@

eagle.uwlax.edu) or Pat (pturner@eagle.uwlax.edu) to arrange pick-up.

Yard signs should be ready to go up around July 4th. Please contact Cindy (cydnick7@gmail.com) to request a sign. If you have a sign from last year, please contact Cindy about getting the new date sticker for it.

## Study Group News

AAUW IN ACTION (AIA)

See this page for meeting info

Contact: Erica Koonmen, moogs56@hotmail.com

CONTEMPORARY AUTHORS

3rd Tuesday of the month at 2pm

Contact: Alice Ross, 608-788-4206

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)

Meeting via Zoom

Contact: June Reinert, reinert.june@eagle.uwlax.edu

HEARTH & HOME

Contact: Sharon DeCicco, 608-452-4571

SANE (SALIENT AND NEWSWORTHY EVENTS)

Contact: Ann Brice, annbrice@bricecohey.com

## Art Fair Concessions

by Betty Kruck, Chair



Two food trucks, Apothik and 5 Star Egg Rolls will be food vendors at the art fair. Jean luc will also be serving his delicious crepes and pastries.

With limited electrical resources at the park, Jean Luc's production may be more limited than his usual operation. Roncalli Newman will return to offer root beer floats and their generous and delicious hot fudge sundaes.



We will have a new vendor, Ice Cold Refreshments, who will provide fresh squeezed lemonade, Hawaiian Shaved Ice, Boba Tea, and Thai Ice Cream Rolls.

Please welcome our food vendors, and come to the fair hungry.



AAUW will sell water and a limited amount of soda pop. Donations of bottled water or soda from AAUW members will be appreciated, and will help our profits for scholarships.

Contact Betty Kruck, krux@mwt.net, if you have donations to offer.



## AAUW Members' Cause-to-Celebrate!

by Robert Richardson, SGC Chair

During our May branch meeting ZOOMception, we enjoyed 90 minutes of refreshment. Almost all of our scholarship recipients attended (live or via pre-recorded video). They expressed appreciation in ways we cannot recapture in these written words. In one way or another, all 21 recipients described their personal and academic barrier-breakings. These students represent the best and the brightest. We can count on them to make the world a better place.

During our April branch meeting, we announced our Grant recipients. Our committee members researched the recipients to document mission alignment with AAUW. Our grant recipients do the front-line work of empowerment; they make significant differences in our community.



The Scholarships & Grants Committee (SGC) thanks the Art Fair Committee and all the AAUW members who make the Art Fair a success and, thereby, provide the proceeds we use to (1) award our grants and scholarships and (2) facilitate barrier breaking for decades to come!

SGC Co-Chairs: *Sharon DiCicco & Robert Richardson*

SGC members: *Francie Ball, Ann Brice, Jan Eriksen, Marilyn Hempstead, Betty Kruck, Mary O'Sullivan, Silvana Richardson, Carol Robertson, Sandy Sechrest, and Michele Strange.*

### Scholarships

- Tribune Extra Effort: Sabrina Vang (Luther HS) and Brianna Zenke (Luther HS)
- Graduating High School Seniors: Vicky Chen & Tatyana Roberts (Logan HS); Isabelle Morken (La Crescent HS); Kassie Mueller, Mai Song Xiong, & PaNhia Yang (Holmen HS)
- Janet Isler Memorial: Brenna McDonough (Viterbo: El. Ed./Spanish Education)
- AAUW Bridge: Michelle Brockway (Viterbo: El. Ed./Spanish Education)
- Holistic Nursing: Nyah Brooks (Viterbo: Nursing)
- UW-L: Kelsey Berna (Physical Therapy), Delanie Johnson (Public Health), Olivia Sarasio Meyer (Spanish Ed./TESOL), Kyler Rohde (Spanish Ed.), Erin Sime (Clinical Laboratory Science), Alexis Tate (Outdoor Recreation).
- Viterbo: Jamey Crotteau (Accounting/Finance), Jerica Mueller (Biology), Alexis Oestreich (Psychology/Criminal Justice), McLain Thornquist (Nursing)

### Grants

- Brighter Tomorrows of Sparta
- New Horizons
- Self-Sufficiency Program
- WTC Pathways/Student Assistance/Transitions
- YWCA Justice Circles
- Task Force to End Modern Slavery

## Federal STEM Opportunities for Students



In an ever-changing, increasingly complex world, it's more important than ever that our nation's youth are prepared to bring knowledge and skills to solve problems, make sense of information, and know how to gather and evaluate evidence to make decisions. These are the kinds of skills that students develop in science, technology, engineering, and math, including computer science—disciplines collectively known as STEM/CS.

If we want a nation where our future leaders, neighbors, and workers can understand and solve some of the complex challenges of today and tomorrow, and to meet the demands of the dynamic and evolving workforce, building students' skills, content knowledge, and literacy in STEM fields is essential.



The United State government and agencies offer a myriad of resources and opportunities for all ages. This link takes you to the US Department of Education website with links to newsletters, educational opportunities, funding resources, strategies, etc... <https://www.ed.gov/stem>

This link will take you to Science.gov, a primary source for searching Federally-sponsored opportunities and programs for students in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) areas. These opportunities range from scholarships, research internships, and graduate fellowships that undergraduate and graduate students can apply to directly to funding opportunities for academic institutions to establish innovative undergraduate and graduate training programs. [https://www.science.gov/STEM\\_Opportunities.html](https://www.science.gov/STEM_Opportunities.html)

An amazing array of Federal agencies offer internships, fellowships, scholarships and research collaborations. It's often overwhelming to try and find out what's available so having these resources together on these pages is a real benefit!



Please share this information with anyone you think would be interested in knowing about it.



## FROM THE TREASURER

Michele Strange

Financial Report as of  
May 9, 2022

Checking Account.....\$7,285.22

Scholarship Bridge.....\$321.00

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## DUES NEWS

There are 2 ways to pay your dues for 2022-2023:

1. Log into the National AAUW website at <https://www.aauw.org/membership/>, select "Login" in the upper right-hand corner, and pay with a credit card directly through the national website. You will pay national, state and local dues at the same time.

2. Mail or give a check for \$88.00 payable to AAUW La Crosse to Michele Strange  
2442 Redwing Rd  
La Crosse WI 54601

For your information, the national dues for the 2022-2023 year are \$67, the state remains at \$13 plus \$ 8 dollars for our branch. The total dues are \$88.

Any questions?  
Please contact Michele at :  
mstrange@eagle.uwlax.edu  
or 608-781-6962.

## Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

by June Reinert, DE&amp;I La Crosse Branch Coordinator

Here are some ways that you can continue to educate yourself about DE&I over the summer:

- Step out of your comfort zone and attend a Juneteenth Celebration, Gay Pride event or Native American Pow Wow.



- Go to a Farmers Market and purchase from vendors who don't look like you. Find a market near you at <https://www.wifarmersmarkets.org/find-a-farmers-market.aspx>

- Attend the "Ain't I A Woman" art show with original pieces by 23 Black female Wisconsin artists at the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art. Several of the pieces have videos of the artist's explanations of their works.



<https://www.mmoca.org/art/aint-i-a-woman>

- Eat at an ethnic restaurant that you have never been to and taste a different culture.



- Google some sites that can broaden your knowledge about some of today's most profound and challenging issues like <https://www.facinghistory.org/>



Look up the *Facing History and Ourselves* homepage on Facebook. Encourage your friends to do the same and take time to discuss what you have learned.

Hope you have an enjoyable and interesting summer!  
The DEI Committee

## Paddling for Hope



On May 27th, Bobbi Rathert put her kayak in at the water source of the Mississippi River Headwaters, Lake Itasca, Minnesota and plans to solo paddle the 2400-mile length to the Gulf of Mexico within 3 months or so. Paddling for Hope is an initiative that is an adventure for Bobbi as well as a fundraiser for Hope Restores. Hope Restores, a non-profit 501(C)(3) organization in La Crosse, Wisconsin, makes it their mission to uplift, empower, and invigorate the African American community through education, preservation and advocacy. To follow Bobbi's trip, and make a donation or pledge, visit her website: <https://www.paddlingforhope.com/>

It is inclusion and equity at their very best!

# AAUW La Crosse Board Meeting Minutes

by JoAnne Revels, Secretary

AUW LaCrosse Branch  
May 9, 2022 Board Meeting  
6-7 p.m. Via Zoom

Ann called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. The minutes were approved with corrections.

## Committee Reports:

Treasury: Michele reported that we currently have \$7285.22 in checking and \$321.00 in Scholarship Bridge. She proposed that the Name Grant given to Joan Koonmen be in the amount of \$500.00. The Board approved.

Membership: No new members

Art Fair: Carol stated that we currently have 62 artists juried in and her committee is working on food trucks.

Public Policy: Ann stated that there was nothing new except that we need a new person to head the committee.

Program: They are looking for ideas/suggestions for next year. A question was raised as to will we be meeting in person or virtual. Also, where will we meet if in person. These will be worked out over the summer.

Name Grant: Jan stated that nothing is new and the committee is done for the year.

Website: Barb stated that everything is currently loaded.

AIA: Erica stated that due to Covid-19, they have not been as active. They may do a May pot luck.

Scholarship: No report from Robert.

Diversity: June suggested including some small vignettes to show our diversity. We should broaden our reach to include more people.

Newsletter: Erica reminded us that the summer newsletter will be primarily about the Art Fair.

**Old Business:** None

## **New Business:**

1. The June Transition meeting will be held at 1 RiverPlace Apartments on June 13th. Hand out materials will give job descriptions especially for new officers.
2. The Sister Thea Bowman Scholarship from Viterbo has asked for AAUW involvement.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:34p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by JoAnne Revels