

Badger



Briefs

March 2024



**CONVENTION
COMING UP APRIL 26-27**



Spring is Here! (sort of)

And AAUW branches are celebrating in great style!

As we finish the final quarter of our AAUW year together, we CELEBRATE at our AAUW state convention, Friday April 26 & Saturday April 27; we DECIDE by voting on our membership requirements bylaws change, from April 3-May 15; and we WELCOME new members and new officers to our branch and state membership rosters.

I hope that you are carefully considering the pros and cons of our vote to remove the college degree requirement for membership. There certainly are points both for keeping and for changing the bylaws. The Wausau branch came up with a great solution to one of the “sticking points”:

We should think of AAUW as standing for: American Association of United Women!

Doesn't that solve one objection to the change?!

At the recent meeting of my Fort Atkinson branch, one of our newest members brought her best friend to the meeting. I introduced myself, and asked her if she would consider joining? She answered that she didn't have a college degree, and isn't eligible. Sadly, I replied that I hope we change the requirements, and that I hope she does decide to join us. And guess what her career is? This amazing young woman OWNS and runs a construction company! Wow! She must be one smart cookie! Wouldn't we love to have her join our branch!

AAUW has been and continues to be, the leading voice for advocating for women and children. We are respected and welcomed from the White House, to the United Nations, to our state convention. This year, we are honored to have Meghan Kissell, AAUW Public Policy Senior staff, and Melissa LaDuke, AAUW DEI committee chair, to speak at our state convention. They will give us the “inside scoop” as to what's happening on the AAUW National level.

(cont. on the next page)

Our AAUW mission is clear and focused: we advocate for women's equal access to education, economic security, and for justice for people of all races, ethnicities, religions, and gender identities. That's our focus, and our mission.

But we also care about issues outside of our stated mission. To that end, our AAUW-Wisconsin Executive Committee has crafted a statement of solidarity and caring, inspired by the terrible war in Israel and Gaza. Realizing that there are millions of women, children and men who are suffering the effects of war worldwide, we've broadened our message to include all victims of war -torn countries. Our statement reads:

AAUW Wisconsin Executive Board Statement of Solidarity with women, children, and families:

AAUW-Wisconsin stands with women and children who are innocent victims of war in Gaza, Israel, Ukraine, Sudan, Nigeria, and many other countries worldwide.

We encourage branches to educate their members about the issues of humanitarian crises and the impact on women and children, and discuss what actions, if any, branches would like to take.

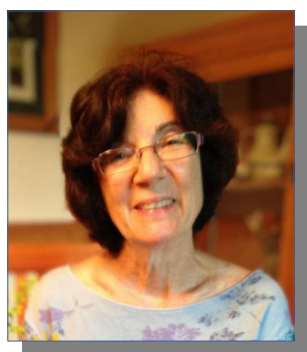
For further study, the United Nations has programs in place to promote world peace and security:

<https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/peace-and-security>

Please consider joining us in your caring thoughts, prayers, educational programs, and actions.

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming state convention!

Until then, stay calm and carry on; and thank you for being part of our extraordinary organization!



Maggie Winz
AAUW Wisconsin State President

CONVENTION 2023 ON THE WAY!

2024 AAUW State Convention Registration is Now Open!

AAUW: Architects of Our Future

Registration at <https://aauw-wi.aauw.net/convention-2024/>

Convention will be held at the *Delta Hotel by Marriot Racine* (on the edge of Mt. Pleasant)

1. Friday only: \$100 (included dinner)
2. Saturday only: \$85 (includes lunch)
3. Friday and Saturday: \$120
4. Note: Late registration charge of \$10 after March 26

Hotel Booking:

Our special group rate: \$89 + 13% tax = \$100.57 per night per room. Ask a friend to share a room with you.

Last day to book with special rate: Tuesday, March 26, 2024

Who should attend:

- 🕒 Any branch member who wants to be inspired by exciting keynote speakers and breakouts
- 🕒 Any branch member looking for a fun social weekend with friends
- 🕒 Current and past branch officers
- 🕒 New members who want to learn more about AAUW

If you will be arriving before 10:00 a.m. on Friday, April 26, there are a couple of fun activities lined up for you!

-Tour of the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed SC Johnson Administration Building: It starts at 10:00 am and is free. All you have to do to sign up is check the box on the convention registration form, but you have to sign up for the tour by March 26. Read all about it here: <https://www.scjohnson.com/en/interacting-with-sc-johnson/tours-and-architecture/tours-and-films/youre-always-welcome-for-tours>

-Book Shopping: AAUW Racine's Used Book Store, located in the lower level of CVS Pharmacy at 1122 West Blvd., will be open from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm on April 26. There are 1000s of books in multiple genres!

Also, *Pardeep Singh Kaleka*, our Friday keynote speaker at AAUW Convention 2024, will be speaking on "Healing in the Aftermath of Hate." In 2012, following the death of his father in the hate killings at the Oak Creek Sikh Temple, he co-founded Serve2Unite, an organization nationally recognized for bridging school and community groups.

His book *The Gift of Our Wounds: A Sikh and a Former White Supremacist Find Forgiveness After Hate* tells his powerful story. The book will be on sale after his speech for \$25. Both cash and checks will be accepted.



Kleo Baruth Kritz
Program VP

STATE CONVENTION 2024

AAUW
of Wisconsin

Among speakers



PARDEEP SINGH KALEKA

*Author of "The Gift of Our Wounds:
A Sikh and a Former White Supremacist Find
Forgiveness After Hate"*



MEGHAN KISSELL

"ERA –Equality is Overdue"
National AAUW Senior Director
of Policy and Membership



MELISSA LADUKE

*"Influence the Evolution:
The Push for Inclusion"*
National AAUW Chair of Inclusion
and Equity Committee

April 26-27

At Delta Hotel

In Mt. Pleasant

INFO AND REGISTRATION:



[https://aauw-wi.aauw.net/
convention-2024/](https://aauw-wi.aauw.net/convention-2024/)

1:00 pm - 9:00 pm Friday
9:00 am - 3:30 pm Saturday



Delta Hotels

by Marriott Racine

7111 Washington Ave
Hwy 20, Racine



Contact

262-498-2298

Denise Anastasio

denise.anastasio@gmail.com

INSIGHTFUL DISCUSSION

From all of you after previous conventions:

*"Spirit of other women and atmosphere." "Just being together in person!"
"Conversations with individuals who were all friendly and helpful. We had
AAUW in common." "I really enjoyed the in-person contact and meeting
new people."*

And the Sweet Suite with treats Friday night will be available to all...



HOT STUFF, COMING THROUGH! - quick news

Convention – silent auction baskets!

View them [HERE](#) (link) – bid at the convention!
Submit your branch's description of the basket to Cheryl at cheryl.kay.maplethorpe@gmail.com to be viewed at 32auctions.com

4AllPromos

<p>"Be the Hostess with the Mostest" Appleton Branch \$50.00 value: \$150.00 bids: 0</p>	<p>AAUW -PLAY SET "GIRLS CAN DO ANYTHING" Fond du lac branch \$50.00 value: \$70.00 bids: 0</p>	<p>Communication Skills Workshop West Suburban-Milwaukee \$50.00 value: \$200.00 bids: 0</p>	<p>Driftless Region Contentment Collection La Crosse Branch \$50.00 value: \$250.00 bids: 0</p>
<p>LAKE LIFE Geneva Lake \$50.00 value: \$400.00 bids: 0</p>	<p>THE AAUW WOMAN Defined: River Falls Branch \$50.00 value: \$90.00 bids: 0</p>	<p>The Wright Basket AAUW - Racine \$50.00 value: \$200.00 bids: 0</p>	<p>Win! Win!! Win!!! From Monona/Madison Branch \$50.00 value: \$110.00 bids: 0</p>

A glimpse of the goodies you can bid at the spring convention



AAUW Election: Open Up Membership?

A stylized illustration of a woman with long dark hair, wearing a red top and a dark skirt, walking away from the viewer on a light blue path. The path leads towards two red target symbols. The background is white with some light blue clouds.

Is vote@simplyvoting.com
in your contacts list?

vote@simplyvoting.com

Make your voice heard.

You will receive an email or
letter on April 3rd with your
unique vote ID and voting
instructions.

Hello branch liaisons to AAUW member colleges and universities!

Over Fall and Winter 2023- 2024 a task force conducted a survey of branches regarding college and university relations. The survey is now complete and results are in.

We'll be discussing survey outcomes at the convention Counterpart Meeting for Presidents/Presidents-Elect, **2:30-3:30 p.m. on Friday, April 26.**

You are cordially invited to attend. You will hear how branches throughout Wisconsin are connecting with institutions of higher education in their areas.

STAR BRANCHES IN WISCONSIN – RESULTS ARE IN!

Congratulations to ALL our branches receiving stars. (And please note that ALL 22 Wisconsin branches are STARS in my book!)

I always love sharing good news.
- Maggie

District One:

Beaver Dam: 2 stars
Fort Atkinson: 4 stars
Janesville: 4 stars
Monona/Madison: 3 stars



District Two:

Milwaukee: 3 stars
West Suburban Milwaukee: 4 stars

District Three:

Geneva Lakes: 1 star
Racine: 4 stars

District Four:

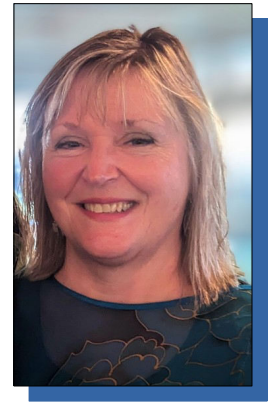
Tomah: 2 stars
River Falls: 5 stars

District Five:

Appleton: 5 stars
Fond du Lac: 2 stars
Green Bay: 2 stars
Northwoods: 2 stars
Sheboygan: 2 stars

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/initiatives/5-star-program/>

THE AAUW  PROGRAM



President-elect Deb Thiel

Tomah branch

Joining in the spirit and mission of AAUW for the past 15 years has been meaningful to me. I've had the opportunity to serve in Branch leadership roles and have learned from my roles as District Coordinator, nomination's committee member, and VP leadership.

I plan to draw upon past experiences and skills. On the way to retirement I developed and implemented an interdisciplinary service for Primary/Medical care at the Tomah VA Medical center (including women's health), worked full time on a nationwide initiative developing a culture of patient centered care, served as a mentor for leadership development, and as a change and transition facilitator. For many years I led stress management workshops which helped me in the teaching.

It's humbling to be elected to lead this incredibly bright and accomplished group of competent individuals. I look around and ask why me? But then why not. I know our success will come through the power within each of us joining together in collaboration and teamwork.

Having this network of AAUW minded folks to share ideas and to advocate for equity, education and women's rights is empowering for me.

We are greater than the sum of our parts. Forward Wisconsin!

DE&I

As the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Officer, I am delighted to present this Calendar, courtesy of Chris Ebert, Northwoods branch, that reflects upon the significance of Black History Month, which we celebrated throughout February. During the past month, we embarked on a journey to honor and recognize the invaluable contributions of Black individuals, particularly Black women, who have left an indelible mark on history. This collection presents a daily spotlight on remarkable Black female figures whose resilience, courage, and accomplishments have shaped our world.

View entries in their full length [HERE](#) – You may want to save it as a resource to use next year or to educate yourself or your branch about Black Women who were left out of our history books. They could be used by a study circle on Black History, an Inclusion Infusion at your branch meetings or as an addition to your book club or movie group.



Warm regards,

Leslie Brunsell - DE&I coordinator

February 1st: Sojourner Truth, born Isabella Baumfree, overcame illiteracy and enslavement to become a prominent advocate for social justice and racial equality.

February 2nd: Harriett Tubman, born into slavery, courageously led enslaved people to freedom on the Underground Railroad and served as a spy for the Union army during the Civil War.

February 3rd: Marian Anderson, a renowned opera singer, defied racial discrimination through her extraordinary talent and resilience, performing at iconic venues like the Lincoln Memorial.

February 4th: Minnijean Brown and Carlotta Walls LaNier, members of the Little Rock Nine, demonstrated resilience in the face of violent opposition while desegregating Central High School in 1957.

February 5th: Zora Neale Hurston, a central figure in the Harlem Renaissance, produced influential literature that celebrated African American culture and folklore.

February 6th: Sarah Loguen Frasier, one of the few African American female doctors in the late 19th century, dedicated her career to educating and empowering black midwives.

February 7th: Mary McLeod Bethune, an educator and civil rights activist, founded organizations like the National Council of Negro Women and led initiatives for women's suffrage and civil rights.

February 8th: Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughn, and Mary Jackson, African American women mathematicians at NASA, made significant contributions to the space program despite facing racial and gender discrimination.

February 9th: Polly, an enslaved teenager sold as a commodity for sexual exploitation, symbolizes the harrowing reality of the "fancy girl" trade during the antebellum period.

February 10th: Captain Della Hayden Raney, the first African American woman commissioned in the Army Nurse Corps, overcame racial barriers to serve her country during World War II.

DE&I

February 11th: Maya Angelou, a renowned author and activist, triumphed over adversity, finding her voice through literature and becoming a symbol of resilience and empowerment.

February 12th: Mamie Till-Mobley, by holding an open-casket funeral for her murdered son Emmett Till, ignited a national outcry against racism and injustice, becoming a pivotal figure in the Civil Rights Movement.

February 13th: Ida B. Wells, a fearless journalist and activist, exposed the horrors of lynching and fought for both civil rights and women's suffrage, challenging societal norms with unwavering determination.

February 14th: Mary Church Terrell, a key figure in the national black women's club movement, advocated for racial justice and equality as one of the founders of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs (NACWC).

February 15th: Phyllis Wheatley, a kidnapped and enslaved woman who mastered classical languages, subtly addressed freedom in her poetry while navigating her position in society.

February 16th: Rosa Parks, a pivotal figure in the Civil Rights Movement, sparked nationwide change through her refusal to give up her bus seat, igniting the Montgomery Bus Boycott.

February 17th: Alice Walker, blinded in one eye as a child, reclaimed her narrative through writing, notably penning "The Color Purple," and became a prominent voice for women's challenges and traumas worldwide.

February 18th: Shirley Chisholm, the first African American woman in Congress and a presidential candidate, tirelessly advocated for women and minorities, leaving a legacy of courage and change.

February 19th: Kamala Harris, the first woman, Black person, and Asian-American to hold the office of Vice President, embodies a commitment to justice and equality instilled by her immigrant parents.

February 20th: Josephine Baker, renowned as an entertainer, secretly aided the Free French movement during WWII and later became a spokesperson for the Civil Rights Movement, refusing to perform in segregated venues.

February 21st: Founders of Black Lives Matter bravely confronted systemic violence against blacks in 2015, igniting a global movement.

February 22nd: Bessie Coleman, the first African American woman to earn a pilot's license, challenged racial and gender barriers in aviation.

February 23rd: Michelle Obama, a prominent advocate for women's rights and public service, served as the First Lady of the United States.

February 24th: Wilma Rudolph, overcoming childhood illnesses and racial barriers, became an Olympic champion and activist athlete.

February 25th-27th: Alberta King, Louise Little, and Berdis Baldwin, mothers of influential figures, shaped their sons' paths and fought for equality.

February 28th: Billie Holiday, known for her iconic singing and controversial song "Strange Fruit," used her platform to speak against racism.

February 29th: Florence Price, a groundbreaking composer and musician, broke racial barriers in classical music during the Black Renaissance.

AAUW-WI Public Policy Statement 2024-26

1. To preserve a strong system of public education promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion.

AAUW-WI advocates for

- Vigorous enforcement of Title IX and other civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination at all levels of education from early childhood development through elementary, secondary, and post-secondary institutions
- Promotion of programs, activities, and curricula that teach critical thinking, tolerance, conflict resolution, and the value of diversity
- Equitable and adequate funding to promote excellence and quality public education
- Rigorous state standards for entry into the teaching profession and recognition of a teaching license as the primary requirement for employment in public schools
- Education program to address equity issues
- Opposition to diversions of public funds to non-public elementary and secondary schools, e.g. tuition tax credits, vouchers, etc.
- Comprehensive and medically accurate health and human sexuality programs, research-based science, the arts, humanities, multicultural studies, and world languages in elementary and secondary schools
- Increased level of participation for girls and young women in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) in elementary and secondary schools
- Support for and access, including financial, to post-secondary education for women and underrepresented or underserved populations
- Sustaining diverse mentorship and retention

2. To achieve economic self-sufficiency for all women,

AAUW-WI advocates for

- Pay equity and fairness in compensation
- Affirmative action programs to improve racial, ethnic, and gender diversity
- Programs that empower women by providing them with education, training, and support for success in the workforce, including non-traditional occupations
- Public assistance programs for women in poverty that improve access to education, career development, and earning potential
- Strengthening Wisconsin laws regarding victims' rights, sexual assault, domestic abuse, spousal impoverishment prevention, and sexual harassment through increased legislative efforts and improved enforcement
- Access to quality, affordable dependent care and family and medical leave
- Improved economic security for all women across their lifespan
-

3. To guarantee equity, individual rights, and social justice for a diverse society,

AAUW-WI advocates for

- Promotion of gender-fair opportunities, representation, and compensation at all levels of employment
- Increased voter education, voter registration, and candidate development
- Vigorous enforcement of voting rights

Public Policy Committee Report

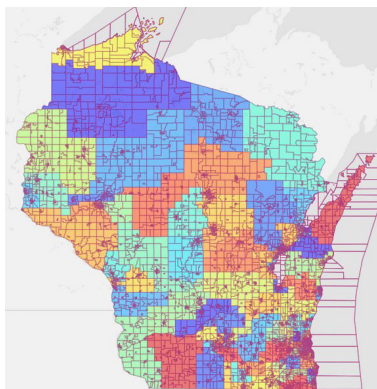
Good things happen to those of us who wait, work and hope for change. Today we are so pleased to report that the State of Wisconsin will now have new legislative district maps in the 2024 elections. So many of us attended meetings, learned how to advocate for fair maps and then communicated with our legislators. After the census in 2010 and 2020, legislators drew maps that allowed them to pick their constituents rather than having voters pick their legislators. Both parties have gerrymandered district maps to their benefit when they were the majority in the legislature but those maps were named the worst gerrymandered maps in the U.S. An attorney recently stated, "Once the maps are fixed and a new, representative Legislature is seated, we will have an opportunity for our state to return to the functional, representative democracy that it once was..."

It took the busy work of many groups to continually pressure politicians to act responsibly on this issue. Now our work has broken through barriers. Thank you for any activism you offered in this effort. Hurray for YOU!!! Hurray for the work of AAUW members across our State! It took a Village and now we can celebrate and continue to speak to our legislators for our AAUW and personal issues.

Here are versions of the new maps approved by Governor Evers:

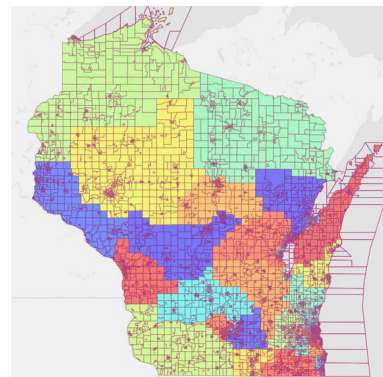
The Assembly map:

<https://tinyurl.com/assemblyWI>



The Senate map which combined several Assembly districts:

<https://tinyurl.com/senateWI>



These maps can be enlarged online for viewing. There are keys on both sides of the maps that breakdown various population segments that represent districts. Because of boundary changes, you may have candidate changes in your district. You will need to reacquaint yourself with your candidate choices. Ask questions and be informed before voting. After the 2024 election you may be speaking with a legislator you do not know well.

Your best source for information about elections is MyVote.WI.gov. You can register to vote, request an absentee ballot, track your ballot to be sure your vote counts, and you can see what your ballot has on it in advance of the election. There are several referendums on the April 2 ballot. The League of Women Voters is recommending a “No” vote on the constitutional amendments.

Election dates in WI:

April 2nd – Presidential Preference Election, school board and local governing units (except for the Presidential Preference, this is usually a non-partisan election)

August 13th – Partisan Primary – for your redistricted state legislators

November 5th – General Election Day

- Here are some of the issues that you can continue to advocate for:
- School funding for quality education
- School board candidates who represent progressive achievement standards
- An end to voucher school increases and equity in per pupil state reimbursement – voucher schools currently get approx \$2000 more per pupil
- An end to calls for book banning and curriculum censorship
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) in all aspects of our values and lives
- Fair and accurate teaching standards that include historical truth and values
- Environmental consciousness and sustainable lifestyles
- The struggle for reproductive rights and good healthcare for everyone.
- Fair pay and better standards for childcare and sick leave
- A return to reasonable standards for candidate funding so elections are not purchased.
- Awareness of constitutional challenges including an effort by some to hold a new Constitutional Convention where our rights will be in jeopardy
- The struggle for reproductive rights and good healthcare for everyone
- Fair pay and better standards for childcare and sick leave

The state public policy committee will continue to help branches and individuals organize for active participation in these efforts. Your participation is welcome and cherished. Our monthly meeting schedule is sent to branch presidents and members are welcome to join us on Zoom. We also look forward to speaking with you at the April 25/26th convention. Join us there to hear the latest efforts .



*Public Policy co-chair
Stephanie Malaney*



*Public Policy co-chair
Barbara Peterson*

Membership

As Membership VP, numbers are the name of my game: totals and percentages, losses and gains. Last year, as we were pulling out of the pandemic, one-third of Wisconsin's branches were on an upward trend while another third was continuing to deflate. The remaining third was holding their own. This year, with persistence and resilience, an amazing 80% of our 22 branches are maintaining or growing their membership, re-gaining some of the losses of the last three years. That deserves a huge congratulations to the branch leaders and all the members who have been inviting people to join in on the great things we are doing in our communities and across the country. I personally couldn't be prouder of this effort.

That said, there are some other numbers I've been looking at that are now of utmost importance to all of us: the number of Wisconsin members who vote in the current bylaws change election. As I'm confident you know, the national board is recommending a change to the bylaw requirement that members must have a degree when joining. Voting began on April 3rd and concludes on May 15th.

The choice on whether to open our membership has been put to the vote several times in the past, most recently in 2021. At that time, only 24 percent of Wisconsin's branch and national members voted! Seventy-four per cent (74%) of those voters agreed with the recommended bylaws change and voted 'yes'. That is far beyond the two-thirds affirmative vote needed to change the bylaws membership requirement. With more voters participating, Wisconsin could have helped to make the change a reality in 2021. With more members voting 'yes' this year, we can help achieve the two-thirds required to pass the bylaw change. With that in mind, we need to get more of our members to vote.

We have two weeks until the May 15th deadline. Please return to your branches and encourage participation in this very important vote. The health of our organization depends on it.



*Carol Surges,
Membership VP*



Kathy Walsh
Resolutions chair

Resolutions

Two Resolutions have been proposed and sent to the Resolution chair. They will be offered at the Annual meeting at the 2024 Convention and are printed in this booklet.

AAUW - Wisconsin Resolution on Anti-Racism.

Offered by the state Public Policy committee.

Resolution Proposal: Call for the US government to immediately halt the transfer of weapons, parts, and ammunition to Israel.

Offered by Fanny Behrens, member.

When considering a Resolution the chair will follow Roberts Rules of Order. This will include having the Resolution read into the minutes.

Discussion will be 10 minutes in length with the author going first with any comments. This will be followed by discussion from the floor, alternating between pros and cons. Each person will be limited to 2 minutes. At the end of the 10 minutes, the President will call for the vote.

Resolutions from the floor at the convention will need to be presented in written form to be considered.

Proposed resolutions

AAUW- Wisconsin Resolution on Anti-Racism

Whereas, AAUW National Public Policy Priorities advocate for ending white supremacy and addressing structural and systemic racism, and

Whereas, AAUW National and AAUW-WI both believe that AAUW must advocate for equity, individual rights, and social justice for a diverse and inclusive society, and

Whereas, psychologists and other social scientists, educational professionals, public health care providers, legal experts, and religious leaders acknowledge that racism and racial discrimination are pervasive and persisting challenges for our country, and

Whereas, racism and racial discrimination threaten human development because of the obstacles which they pose to the fulfillment to basic human rights of survival, security, development, and social participation, and

Whereas, AAUW -WI members recognize the need to engage in constructive acts to make a meaningful difference towards societal change, and

Whereas, AAUW-WI members recognize that we have an obligation to fight ignorance and intolerance, model inclusivity, and embrace our differences and the value which diversity represents,

Therefore, be it resolved that AAUW-WI will pledge to actively support racial justice initiatives encouraging diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging in our communities. In addition, AAUW-WI will advance educational opportunities to reinforce that all people understand and experience an environment free of prejudice and hate.

Call for the US government to immediately halt the transfer of weapons, parts, and ammunition to Israel

Preamble:

The United States is facilitating Israel's genocide in Gaza, the death toll of which at the time of writing the proposal was [35 035 \(3/4/2023\)](#). 25 000 of them are women and children - that reads over [71% of the victims](#). The UN considers the situation in Gaza “[fundamentally a protection crisis for women](#)”.

Whereas Clauses:

AAUW Wisconsin has been an advocate for women and children everywhere, such as their 2023 resolution to support Iranian and Afghan women.

AAUW Wisconsin will follow the example of [hundreds of unions and organizations](#) having done so in the US.

The AAUW Wisconsin will use its organizational and political influence to call attention to the US -backed massacre targeting women and children who have been disproportionately affected amidst a genocide

Be it resolved:

The AAUW Wisconsin will pass a resolution to call for the US government to immediately halt the transfer of weapons, parts, and ammunition to Israel, in order to end the suffering immediately.

The AAUW Wisconsin will send out press release of the resolution and circulate the resolution in branches, calling for members to put pressure on their representatives.

The AAUW Wisconsin will specifically call to end the [US government](#) actions facilitating the massacre and makes a distinction between that and a general plea for ceasefire and other political goals in the area.

Submission Information:

Fanny Behrens, member

3/9/2024

Supporting information:

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/news-stories/press-release/2024/01/press-release-two-mothers-are-killed-in-gaza-every-hour-as-fighting-exceeds-100-days>

<https://www.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/2024-01/Gender%20Alert%20The%20Gendered%20Impact%20of%20the%20Crisis%20in%20Gaza.pdf>

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2024/01/16-leading-humanitarian-and-human-rights-organizations-call-to-stop-arms-transfers-to-israel-palestinian-armed-groups/>

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2024/03/06/us-weapons-israel-gaza/>

Nominations

The committee has been working hard to fill the positions of Finance VP, Funds Development VP and Program VP.

The nominating committee has representatives from each district. We would like to thank the nominating committee members:

Nancy Arnold, Janesville branch

Cathy Schultz, West-Suburban Milwaukee branch

Julie Anastasio, Racine branch

Carol Robertson, La Crosse branch

Theresa Gulyas, Green Bay branch

Nominees will be elected during the state convention.



Judy Hangartner
Nominations chair

We are proud to introduce these candidates for elected positions. Terms will begin July 1, 2024.



Christine Ebert
Finance VP



Kleo Baruth Kritz
Program VP



Christine Taylor,
Funds Development VP

Introducing the Nominees

Chris Ebert, Finance VP

Chris became a member of the Northwoods Branch in 2012 after moving from Delaware, where she and her husband were both mathematics professors at the University of Delaware. She has served as branch President and currently serves as Program VP.

She has served on the State Board as District Coordinator, Membership VP, and currently as co-Communications Coordinator with Mary Messerlie. In addition to her work with AAUW, she also serves on the Nicolet College Foundation Board, which is responsible for awarding scholarships and student assistance.

Christine Taylor, Funds Development VP

Christine Taylor joined AAUW in 2006 upon moving to Appleton after retiring from teaching and chairing the Special Ed department at West Bloomfield High School. Unfortunately her time became unexpectedly filled with parent care and a part-time ESL position with Wrightstown Public Schools. So it wasn't until 2013 that she could re-join the Branch and enjoy all its benefits. It wasn't long before she became Asst. Program VP, then Program VP, and joined the Book Sale Committee. In 2021 she became President-Elect, and is now completing her 2 year role as President.

Kleo Baruth Kritz, Program VP

“Reflect on the Past; Prepare for the Future”—that was the fitting theme of State Convention 2021, and as District 1 Coordinator, I was very involved in organizing the first ever virtual convention with an outstanding planning team from throughout the state. I love challenges and forging new pathways! As State Program VP, I was privileged to work with District 2 “Building a Brighter Future: Together” to create Convention 2023, the first live convention since 2019. And this year with District 3 we continue to build a strong foundation as “Architects of Our Future”

As a young high school English teacher in Kewaunee, Wisconsin, I joined AAUW from 1974-80. Moving to Madison, attending graduate school, and finding a new English position at Albany High School that included building a forensics team of 30-35 students (about 25% of the high school population), I didn't join the Madison branch until 1995 where I found my AAUW book club—I am passionate about books—and have never left. Monona/Madison merged in 2014 and my enthusiasm resulted in getting me asked to be the program co-chair and later the co-president for two terms Now I serve as the membership VP and the co-chair of the book sale committee as well as arranging all the zoom meetings. I am currently involved with four book clubs, volunteer at the Fitchburg Library, attend numerous plays at American Players Theater and Forward Theater in Madison, and reside in Fitchburg with six furry female felines and my husband Tom.

And yes, I am very excited about District 3's Convention 2024, and as the State Program VP, I look forward to assisting the branches in the next two years who will create Conventions 2025 and Convention 2026. Onward to the future!!!

The AAUW Board of Directors extends its heartfelt appreciation to these visionary Legacy Circle Members for their generous commitment to our organization. We are profoundly grateful for your dedication and support.

KLEO BARUTH KRITZ

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Contact info at <https://aauw-wi.aauw.net/>
under “board members”.