



## AAUW Colorado 2018 Fall Leadership Conference

Friday, August 24 and Saturday, August 25, 2018

Holiday Inn Denver Lakewood 7390 W. Hampden Avenue



Reserve your space now! AAUW  
Conference Rate \$129.00/night  
**Toll Free 855 914-1378**  
**303 980-9200**

24-hour business center, fitness facilities  
Bar/lounge, Restaurant  
Breakfast available (surcharge)  
Refrigerator in room  
Microwave available on request  
Free WiFi or wired Internet  
Free area shuttle  
Free newspapers in lobby  
Free self-parking  
Grocery/convenience store  
In-room accessibility  
Outdoor pool  
Roll-in showers available  
Safe-deposit box at front desk  
Smoke-free property

**Make your decision!** Come and engage with others learning and leading AAUW branches into new modes of communication, collaborating and gaining new members, preparing for fall elections, and focusing on activities that bring us to creating more equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

- Meet AAUW CEO Kimberly Churches and hear and share your questions, interests & concerns
- Gain insights and best practices for your own AAUW leader role from state board counterparts and other leaders
- Gear up and mobilize in a fascinating public policy and election environment
- Other helpful leadership hints for furthering the AAUW mission of advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

Attend productive workshops and interactive state/branch counterpart lunch to increase your resource bank and sharpen your leadership skills! All AAUW Colorado members are welcome – not just branch and state leaders. Details are in this issue of the AAUW Colorado Bulletin.



**IN THIS ISSUE: FALL CONFERENCE 2018, 1-5...PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS, 5...LEGACY OF LEADERSHIP AWARDS, 6...VOTER EDUCATION, 7...BRANCH MEMBERSHIP, 8-9...LEGISLATIVE FINAL WRAP-UP, 9...NCCWSL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS, 10... COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE, 11...BRANCH NEWS, 12-17...CALENDAR OF EVENTS, 17**

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**LOGGING:** To make room reservations, call 855 914-1378 and request the AAUW Conference Rate. Group rates are offered August 24-26 based on availability. Reservations are first come, first served – and should be made as soon as possible due to limited availability. 2 Queen Beds or 1 King for \$129.00 per night.

## CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Your present AAUW office (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

First or Second year in this office? \_\_\_\_\_

Branch(es) \_\_\_\_\_

Is this your first AAUW Colorado Fall Leadership Conference? \_\_\_\_\_

Please note any special accommodations, dietary restrictions or assistance needed.

\_\_\_\_\_

Friday & Saturday Registration Fee (by August 3) \$30 \_\_\_\_

Friday & Saturday Registration Fee (after August 3) \$40 \_\_\_\_

Friday Only (by August 3) \$5 \_\_\_\_

Friday Only (after August 3) \$10 \_\_\_\_

Saturday Only (by August 3) \$25 \_\_\_\_

Saturday Only (after August 3) \$35 \_\_\_\_

**Friday Night Dinner** \$35 \_\_\_\_ (Choose one below.)

\_\_\_\_ PRIME RIB-(MINIMUM OF 18) Enhanced with Au Jus served with Creamy Horseradish Sauce, Baked Potato and Broccoli with Hollandaise sauce

\_\_\_\_ GRILLED SALMON with a light Teriyaki Glaze or Tomato Basil Relish with Glazed Baby Carrots and Wild Rice

**Saturday Lunch** \$21 \_\_\_\_ (Choose one below.)

\_\_\_\_ SPINACH SALAD with fresh sliced Strawberries, Crumbled Goat Cheese, Candied Pecans with a Poppy Seed Dressing

\_\_\_\_ CHEF SALAD Mixed Greens topped with Ham, Turkey Breast, Swiss & Cheddar Cheese, Tomatoes, Olives, Hard Boiled Eggs, Crackers, Rolls & butter

**Total Enclosed \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to AAUW Colorado and mail with this form by August 3 to Bev Dare, 12846 W. Iliff Ave., Lakewood CO 80228 – **OR** register and pay online with PayPal at [aauw-co.aauw.net](http://aauw-co.aauw.net). No refunds after August 10.

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**Friday, August 24** *All before dinner meetings in Board Room, except Nominating Committee*

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Executive Committee Meeting
1:00 – 2:15	Program Committee Meeting
2:30 – 3:30	Public Policy Committee Meeting
3:45 – 4:45	Communications Committee Meeting
4:00 – 4:45	Nominating Committee Meeting ( <i>Meet in Lobby</i> )
5:00 – 6:00	Interbranch Council Meeting
5:30 – 7:00	Dinner ( <b>Hampden/Wadsworth Room</b> )
7:15 – 8:45	<b>Team Building (Sheridan/Quincy Room)</b>

Networking afterward at the restaurant bar or inside or outside areas

**Saturday, August 25** All activities in Ballroom

**Breakfast on your own at home, in your room or in the hotel restaurant**

8:00 - 9:00 a.m.	State Board Meeting
9:15 - 9:30	Welcome & Introductions, Stormy McDonald
9:30 - 10:45	Kim Churches, CEO, Where We Are Now & Our Future.
10:45 - 11:00	Break
11:00 - 12:30	State/Branch Counterparts Interactive Lunch
12:30 - 12:45	Break
12:45 - 1:15	Communications Consultants Presentation
1:15 – 2:45	Power Tools for Effective Outreach
2:45 - 3:00	Wrap-up, Evaluations, and Treat for the Road

- See state website ([aauw-co.aauw.net](http://aauw-co.aauw.net)) for finalized program in August

## AAUW CEO featured at Fall Leadership Conference



Kimberly Churches is coming to our Fall Leadership Conference! Our chief executive officer started one year ago with AAUW and came following her managing directorship with [the Brookings Institution](#), where she strategically guided the public policy organization, providing vision and problem-solving skills, expansive partnerships and external relations, and fundraising. Before joining Brookings, Kimberly was an associate vice chancellor at the University of Denver, a director of development at the University of North Florida, and a division director at the American Heart Association. She has extensive experience working collaboratively on education (K-12 and higher education) as well as capacity building among grassroots groups and national and international nonprofits.

In addition to her work at AAUW, Kimberly currently serves as the chair of the BUILD Metro D.C. board, which demonstrates the power of experiential learning through entrepreneurship for under-resourced communities, and is a member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals PAC Board. She is also a member of the International Women's Forum of Washington, D.C., an organization that represents women leaders in diverse fields and whose mission is to further dynamic leadership and leverage global access to and maximize opportunities for women in 33 countries on 6 continents.

Kimberly is active in her daughter's elementary school and is a devoted Washington Nationals fan. She earned her BA at Florida State University in English Education and the Certified Fund Raising Executive affiliation in 2002. Source: AAUW website articles

### **AAUW CO Leadership Fund Application**

#### **Fall Leadership Conference, August 24-25, 2018**

The purpose of the Leadership Fund is to encourage 1<sup>st</sup> time branch leaders to attend the AAUW CO Fall Leadership Conference (FLC). The Leadership Fund would cover the cost of registration and meals for the conference for 4 new attendees. These 4 awardees would come from 4 different branches.

The state budget for this award is \$500. The 2017 FLC cost was \$110. If the cost for the 2018 Fall Leadership Conference is approximately the same we could give money to 4 new branch leaders.

- Branches or individuals may apply for the fund.
- Applicants must be 1<sup>st</sup> time branch officers (Elected or Appointed).  
Not held branch office for the last 5 years.  
Not attended FLC for the last 5 years.

- AAUW CO will cover the registration cost of the FLC and meals for 4 new leaders from 4 different branches.
- There will be only one fund given to a branch per year.
- Members are only eligible for one time award.
- The Interbranch Council (IBC) will select the fund recipients and keep applicant records.

***The application is available for download on the state website's home page under Money & Awards at [aauw-co.aauw.net](http://aauw-co.aauw.net).***

## **Presidential Ponderings**



It has been my pleasure to serve as AAUW Colorado president these past two years, and we are all looking forward to the presidency of Stormy McDonald starting July 1, 2018. Stormy is a stalwart champion of AAUW's mission to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. Under her leadership, I am sure that AAUW will climb to new heights in Colorado ... and beyond!

A million thanks go to the state and branch leaders with whom I have had the honor to serve. Whether you are outgoing, incoming, or returning, please know how much of a positive impact you have made in furthering equity for women and girls in our state. Please also know that as a busy marketing executive, road warrior, and public official, I could not have propagated my presidency without your constant support and dedicated work. The words thank you seem anemic compared to my vast gratitude.

The fluorescence of AAUW-mission-based branch programming and community outreach during my presidency is testament to your dedication to our cause. I sought to empower you, and you have certainly heeded the call. Just one example of many: You have picked up the standard of AAUW Start Smart and Work Smart salary negotiation workshops and have taught hundreds of women how to benchmark and negotiate fair-market value for pay and benefits. As this crucial skill set spreads to other women, it will help slay the pay inequity dragon. Kudos and keep up the great work, branches!

As I look forward, I still have many mountains to climb (literal and figurative). May we all keep the wind we need to soar beneath our wings, and may we bring others into our fold who are as dedicated to equity for women and girls as we.

Onward!

Amy Blackwell

2016-2018 AAUW Colorado President

## Legacy of Leadership Award

### **TWO AAUW Colorado Leaders Honored with Legacy of Leadership Award**

Since 2006 biennially we honor a member whose contributions to AAUW's mission and leadership at state level have left us with a great step forward. This year we honor two members who have contributed a great deal to our individual growth and to the work we aim to do.



**Elaine Gardner** has become known to many of us because of our annual Public Policy Day when we hear about the issues AAUW CO members are following because of our mission. Elaine for more than 25 years was our volunteer lobbyist and informed legislators and us about issues. Betsy Loague wrote a memorable tribute to her in our Winter Bulletin 2017 after her death and nominated her for this award. We honor her memory now, after her passing, and let her family know of our appreciation of all she did.

**Amy Blackwell** is alive and well. She learned about AAUW from a branch website here and joined over 11 years ago. In that short period we have come to depend on her for website coverage, Facebook daily entries, pioneering Start Smart for Colorado, working with our Public Policy Committee, State Board, National Board, being our UN representative, and performing on a communications task force committee. She is an exemplar for us in dedicated involvement in all four areas of our mission: advocacy, education, philanthropy and research at the branch, state and national levels.



We need to take these two passionate members' example of involvement to heart and ask ourselves, what can I do to fulfill our common mission. You can read more about their contributions and what others said in appreciation and congratulations on the News page of [aauw-co.aauw.net](http://aauw-co.aauw.net).

## Voter Education

# IT'S MY VOTE



A A U W   A C T I O N   F U N D

### **VOTER EDUCATION SUGGESTIONS AND GUIDELINES**

Elections are coming up and we all know that elections have consequences. But as AAUW members and branches, what can we do? What may we do? As it turns out, a lot, as long as we follow AAUW policies. So here are some suggestions for pre-election activities this fall.

If you know someone who is interested in registering to vote or wants to check or update their information, please encourage Colorado residents to register online at <http://govotecolorado.com>.

AAUW provides U. S. Congressional Voting Record and Voter Guides on candidate information. Information is available at [www.aauwaction.org](http://www.aauwaction.org)

Members may also access AAUW's GOTV Toolkit at <http://aauwaction.org>. The toolkit includes tips to help your branch run a successful voter registration, GOTV, and voter education campaign in your state or locality in 2016. AAUW and the AAUW Action Fund provide materials and tools to engage and motivate voters, including It's My Vote buttons, issue-based stickers, social media efforts, and regular mailings and e-mails with pertinent election information. Need assistance with your GOTV event? E-mail [votered@aauw.org](mailto:votered@aauw.org) and request materials using the [Upcoming AAUW Advocacy Activity and Events form](#).

Branches interested in running voter registrations must be trained and certified by the Colorado Secretary of State. Any election activities carried out in AAUW's name must be conducted with the guidelines set out in AAUW policies.

AAUW branches and state organizations may conduct election-related activities as long as:

1. The activities do not expressly advocate the election or defeat of any clearly identified partisan candidate or political party, and
2. The preparation of and conduct of the elections related activities are not coordinated with any candidate or political party. For a complete list of guidelines, please refer to at <http://aauwaction.org>.

Activities must also be allowable under regulations established by the U.S Internal Revenue Services and Federal Elections Commissions.

If your branch is interested in conducting election activities, please contact Joan Peterson/Colorado Voter Education Director at [j1421peterson@netscape.com](mailto:j1421peterson@netscape.com) .

## Branch Membership



Branch	2016-2017 Membership	2017-2018 Membership	2018-2019 Membership	Lifetime Members
Aurora	95	89	90	6
Boulder	85	94	113	12
CO eNetwork	20	15	17	1
Colorado Springs	193	202	209	12
Douglas County	67	69	63	5
Durango	87	88	97	2
Fort Collins	66	60	66	9
Grand Junction	33	31	31	6
Gunnison	23	14	14	6
Lakewood	115	106	115	9
Littleton South-Metro	115	108	108	8
Longmont	69	64	64	4
Loveland	40	35	34	3
<b>Branch Totals</b>	<b>1008</b>	<b>975</b>	<b>1005</b>	<b>83</b>

Note: 2017-2018 membership numbers are as of March 6, 2018 from AAUW National.

2018-2019 information is from AAUW National Branch Membership includes paid members as of 5/23/18. Membership numbers include Lifetime Members.

From **Eileen Young** - I recently read an article by Tim Ebner, "Ask Three Questions to avoid the 'Dark Side' of Membership" recently sent to me by Kathy Scott, AAUW Idaho President. This article is quite timely since AAUW National is going through changes in its by-laws and all of us are asked to vote (did you vote?) because the changes will impact all of us. And besides, who wants to be in a dues paying organization and not have a voice? Not me!

The article is about three critical questions we should ask ourselves in order to avoid membership's "dark side." I'll be using some quotes from the article and will provide you the website to read the entire article.



1. Are you listening to the right voices?

Your members have a lot of influence, especially long-standing members with 20 years or more. They have a right to be heard and they will voice their opinions. But how often do you think about your members who are new and have zero years? Are you providing an open forum in your meetings for everyone to speak and voice their opinion?

2. Is there a seat for Rank and File members?

If your board does not know what rank-and-file members are struggling with, how can they begin to serve those needs? Does your board take time outside of board meetings to meet with new-member groups? By reading the AAUW mission aloud at the start of every meeting it provides a focus and members will understand their purpose.

3. How do you keep the big tent from collapsing?

Conflicts among members are bound to happen. Some members may want to collapse your branch or splinter off from it. Remember to stick to a core set of values to help you navigate through your meetings. Have the courage to only do the things that you see value in and that meet your mission. You can be more fluid in your structure by letting members form and reform task forces, committees or subgroups.

You can read more about this article by clicking on the link - <http://bit.ly/MembershipDarkSide>

## Legislation Session Final Wrap-up

Our State Lobbyist, Betty Boyd recently posted the final wrap-up/outcome of the bills that AAUW – CO monitored, supported or opposed this past legislative session. You can find this information on the state's website on the Take Action! page or by **clicking on this link**.

<https://aauw-co.aauw.net/advocacy/>



## NCCWSL Scholarship Recipients

### **Congratulations to our 2018 AAUW Colorado NCCWSL Scholarship Recipients!**



VICTORIA NAVA-WATSON

We are thrilled to send Victoria Nava-Watson (University of Denver) and Merkin Karr (Fort Lewis College) to this year's AAUW National Conference for College Women Student Leaders. You will hear more about their backgrounds and 2018 NCCWSL experiences in the next issue of this state bulletin. NCCWSL took place May 30-June 2 at the University of Maryland, College Park. NOTE: Several branches are sending students as well, so Colorado is well represented!

NCCWSL was born in 1983, when representatives from national gender equity organizations saw the need for a leadership space dedicated to empowering collegiate women. Since then [AAUW](#) has taken the helm of the conference and NCCWSL has transformed into an essential experience for any woman serious about creating meaningful impact on her campus, mobilizing her community, and preparing for personal and professional success after graduation.



MERKIN KARR

Since the conference's beginnings one highlight has been our [Women of Distinction Awards](#) ceremony and reception. This event is a night to honor women who have made indelible marks in their fields and in their communities. We have awarded a legacy of trailblazing women in our three-decade history, including Emmy-winning journalist Connie Chung; NASA astronaut Mae Jemison, Ph.D.; 43rd Treasurer of the United States Rosie Rios; Olympic medalist and member of the 1996 Magnificent Seven Olympic gymnastics team Dominique Dawes; and the late civil rights activist Dorothy Height.

NCCWSL is the place to educate yourself about today's most pressing issues, develop new leadership skills while expanding on the skills in your current arsenal, and make lifelong connections with peers across the country. [www.nccwsl.org](http://www.nccwsl.org)

## Communications Committee

### **COMMUNICATIONS, COALITIONS, AND CHANGE**

Effective organizations understand and capitalize on the power and efficiencies of coalitions and teams. For AAUW, this is best seen in communicating our advocacy objectives, which attract many supporters and like-minded groups. Some organizations are also achieving benefits from formal collaboration by setting up task forces or groups to help plan for and implement revised outreach efforts. For AAUW of Colorado, there are a number of advantages we can reap through establishing a unified voice, including more consistent and stronger messaging across Colorado to clearly demonstrate the impact that AAUW has on issues impacting women.

To that end, we are embarking on a journey of shifting our communications perspectives--to learn how to approach organizations to break down barriers, and to share AAUW's programs and research more widely. To help us along, CRS Impact and Evolution Communications Agency have been hired and initiated their work as marketing advisors to AAUW of Colorado. This first-ever effort will align our plans with best practices from non-profit communications, create streamlined key messages that align with the new strategic plan, and enable branches to bring the great resources of AAUW to a wider audience.

Over the next three months, this team of communications experts will be evaluating our state communications tools and revising our statewide communications plan. Branch communications contacts have already started to receive a monthly email on these efforts and evolutions. Our Communications Committee is preparing to launch the new plan in August (and we could use a few more eager learners and do-ers who want to help roll out the plan over the next year!). In addition to receiving updates through their service on the state committee, an advisory group will be providing feedback to the consultants; many thanks to Carolyn Cooley (Littleton), Barb Slattenow (Fort Collins), Stormy McDonald (Lakewood) and Victoria Watson (eNetwork) for serving as our 'zap team' this summer.

Our committee, too, looks forward to cooperating with members and branches to deliver unified messages about our great work and to discover new ways to have deep collaboration with other women's and advocacy organizations in all areas of Colorado. If you'd like to be engaged with the new Communications Team in these efforts, please contact incoming President Stormy McDonald, 303-526-8833 or [stormy.mcdonald@yahoo.com](mailto:stormy.mcdonald@yahoo.com).  
**Heidi Baker**

### **Branches & Facebook**

Are you curious about how AAUW can increase our audience through a successful Facebook presence?

AAUW of Colorado regularly shares articles and news of interest to women advocates at <https://www.facebook.com/aauwcolorado/>. Commenters can engage with the AAUW mission through dialogue and action—such as contacting their elected officials, and branches can share local events, too. With an audience of 1,291, AAUW of Colorado's Facebook page reaches a wider audience than all of our Colorado branch pages combined. (You can find a list and follow them at <https://aauw-co.aauw.net/branches/>)

Maybe you'd like to lend a hand, and learn more about the management side of this social media tool. There are opportunities for the confident as well as the curious to contribute. Many local libraries offer free Facebook classes or one-on-one technology help. Some even have specific assistance on Facebook for Businesses or Non-Profits, or can help you access these tools on your phone or tablet. You may find that your local librarians are well-versed in social media and ready to help you advance to the next level as a user. If

you're ready to learn by doing, reach out to your branch Facebook page or contact our state page manager at [ae\\_blackwell@yahoo.com](mailto:ae_blackwell@yahoo.com) to volunteer. You can help in ways small and large--by writing a comment twice a week, searching news sites for stories to share, and crafting posts about AAUW policy, issue advocacy, or special events, or serving as a Page Administrator.

Are you in charge of your branch Facebook page? Reach out to recruit a cadre of willing volunteers. There is strength in numbers, and a few guidelines can create an effective team—yes, team!--of administrators for your page. See <https://www.aauw.org/resource/how-to-use-social-media-for-advocacy/> for more ideas about sharing the workload. When best practices recommend posting several times per week, more hands make light work for all involved!

Maybe your branch isn't ready to dive in to actively managing a local Facebook page at this time. That's okay—we have a solution! Simply promote the AAUW of Colorado page to your members and community, <https://www.facebook.com/aauwcolorado/>. With the potential to reach thousands of women, we hope you'll join us in our next goal to reach 1,500 'likes.' Plus, each one of us can do our part by making sure we 'follow' @AAUWColorado on Facebook, share this page, and even writing a comment on a post. Try it—you might learn something new! **Heidi Baker**

## Branch News

### **Boulder Branch**

“It’s easier to act your way into new ways of feeling than to feel yourself into new ways of acting.” –Susan Glaser

- Boulder AAUW took Susan Glaser’s quote to heart this year. We simply started acting! We began by celebrating our 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, recognizing those who had gone before us, and the work they had accomplished. Then we started to host Meet Ups at the St. Julien Hotel, providing a forum for sharing the meaning of being an AAUW member.
- After collaborating with AAUW National and the Women’s Resource Center at the University of Colorado for several months, we finally paid for a 3-year contract to work with CU on presenting the AAUW Start Smart Program. During the year we increased our membership by 31—currently 113 members. Once we began to grow we decided to host an auction as our Holiday Party. We raised \$3,500.00 designated for 3 AAUW Work Smart Programs. In the meantime six of our members became trained facilitators for the AAUW Start and Work Smart programs.
- As all of this was happening we decided that we needed to be able to raise funds to support our AAUW mission driven program initiatives, so we applied for and obtained a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit status.
- To be positioned for the future work of the Branch, we decided to do some serious planning. We spent a day brainstorming and created our strategic and operational plans, including a newly defined organizational infrastructure and corresponding positions on the Board of Directors. We are now positioned for success in 2018-2019 as we begin to “feel ourselves into new ways of acting.” **Marilyn Thomas Leist**, President

## Colorado eNetwork

- The Colorado eNetwork branch is dissolving, leaving a legacy behind. The board and membership have approved disbandment as a branch of AAUW as of the end of May. This may come as a surprise. However, over the past few years, the Coordinating Council board tried many tactics to broaden our membership and leadership as well as attendance at our programs, and concluded that our membership, outreach efforts, and webinar offerings are not enough to sustain our work in the form of a branch of AAUW.
- Reflecting on the writings of the AAUW Virtual Branch Task Force, which indicated in its study that the Online/Virtual branch model is a supplement to, not a replacement for, a traditional land branch, we feel that our efforts in promoting digital communications is better suited to compliment state communications efforts rather than as a branch entity. For example, last year the Littleton branch hosted AAUW National board member Melissa Johnsen speaking on Reproductive Rights. This in-person program was broadcast to twenty additional online attendees.
- With the ability to view the presentation virtually and to ask questions via the internet and conference call, virtual attendees had the opportunity to engage in discussion as well as to interact with a local branch. This is an example of what the eNetwork's model can do—provide tools that enable ALL state branches to share their programs with each other AND the community, in person and on line.
- Technology today has enabled us to allow for a branch meeting to occur in person while those at home log into a webinar; it presents endless opportunities to engage people across the state in branch programs, board meetings, and committee volunteerism.
- During six years as a branch of AAUW, the Colorado eNetwork has been a leader in many aspects. Some notable accomplishments include:
  - Forming one of the initial virtual branches across the country—of which there are more than a dozen
  - Bringing the concept of program-by-webinar to Colorado and leading by example in using technology--document sharing, electronic newsletter, and social media
  - Adding 'virtual' abilities to branch programs and AAUW-CO
  - Engaging a wide audience including outreach to Colorado Members-at-Large and students, and by sharing newsletter with non-member subscribers
  - Delivering more than 20 mission-focused programs engaging Colorado women's organizations, and hosting a virtual book club for five years
  - Collaborating across state lines with other state and virtual branches to deliver high-caliber programs on policy issues
  - Modeling inclusion by removing branch dues for students
  - Contributing significant financial support for AAUW by our members
  - Experiencing a bounty of leadership as evidenced by our board members serving in numerous state and other branch leadership positions

The Colorado eNetwork represents an evolution in AAUW operations, a compliment to branch work, and an expansion to communication methods, and we all should be proud of these accomplishments. Many AAUW leaders took part in the branch formation and leadership, and many thanks are owed to Stormy McDonald, Amy Blackwell, Mary Hassler, Eileen Young, Amanda White, Melissa Johnsen as well as the persistent member-supporters, the majority of whom are dual members, and many others for their years in service to this entity of AAUW. The spirit of the eNetwork will continue as the AAUW of Colorado Communications Committee expands statewide marketing possibilities, and as many branches themselves embrace new technologies.

**Heidi Baker**

### **Colorado Springs Branch**

- The AAUW Colorado Springs Branch celebrated the awarding of six scholarships, \$1200 each, to UCCS and PPCC students on Saturday, May 19, 2018 at a luncheon at the Patty Jewett Country Club. These students were chosen from 26 applicants based on their scholarship, essay, community involvement, and need. Their ages ranged from 18 to 40, and their majors were varied from Early Childhood to Pre-Med.
- Each Fall, the Branch holds an Authors Day with mostly local, women authors sharing their story of writing that help raise the money for these scholarships. Last year we raised over \$7000 at the event. Both of these events, Authors Day and the Scholarship Luncheon bookend the importance of our year by working towards the AAUW mission by “advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research”. **Paula Munger**

### **Douglas County Branch**

- STEM awards were given to four Douglas County senior High School girls for their accomplishments in science, technology, engineering and math subjects. The girls were recommended by their teachers through the graduate counsellor at each school. At our April meeting, they gave interesting presentations about their accomplishments and about their future plans. They were encouraged to join a campus AAUW affiliate.
- Our Annual Meeting was held in the training rooms at the newly constructed Charles Schwab Campus on the northern edge of Douglas County at I-25 and C470. We began with a talk and short tour of the campus. We learned that the campus employs 4,400.
- At Charles Schwab Campus we asked about working conditions for women and were told that each position has a specific salary attached to it and it doesn't matter the gender. We also learned about a generous family leave policy for both men and women. The work stations have partitions that are shoulder height with standing desks that allow each employee to look outdoors in the carefully sited buildings with beautiful gardens including a roof top garden. Women employees have a very active networking group that brings in speakers about women's issues. **Beryl Jacobson**

### **Fort Collins Branch**

- Programs are an important part of our branch meetings and are well attended by our members. Two programs by recipients of AAUW Fellowships and Grants at CSU brought to us the true meaning of AAUW reaching out to “Empower Women.”
- E-Student Affiliates who have become members of our branch and AAUW Colorado have shared enthusiasm/challenges of being students and appreciate the support of branch members.
- Start Smart Facilitators renewed with a Salary Negotiation Deep Dive and Refresher Training Course in June. As a branch it is hoped to have workshops at Front Range Community College, Larimer Campus.
- Four (4) scholarships were awarded for 2018-19 for 2018 High School Graduates and Junior/Senior Colorado State University. Taste of Fort Collins was a fundraiser along with donations. **Barb Slattenow**

### **Gunnison Branch**

- We are busy finalizing the details for the 43rd Art in the Park. It is on July 22 starting at 9 and going until 4. Last year's proceeds allowed us to give two named gifts to the AAUW Fund, budget \$2400 for scholarships at WSCU.
- We are helping two Gunnison High School students Breanne Barrett and Clara Schulte, who won the State National History Day competition for the second time in a row, go to Nationals with their presentation on Title IX. **Sharon Schlegel**, President

### **Lakewood Branch**

- Our Lakewood Branch has achieved one of our main goals for the year. We now have a relationship with Red Rocks Community College. Several of our members met with College President, Dr. Michele Haney, who is very supportive of our mission. Through her influence Red Rocks became an AAUW College/University Partner.
- Red Rocks helped us to promote our NCCWSL scholarship to women students so that we had a number of very qualified candidates. We were able to send six women to NCCWSL this year. Our branch is paying for three attendees, Red Rocks will pay for two and Colorado Chemistry Teachers Association will fund one candidate.
- Red Rocks also collaborated with our branch to offer a Start Smart Workshop. We had 21 attendees at our event facilitated by Amy Blackwell on April 13, 2018. We hope to be able to offer more workshops next year.
- Our last meeting of the year was held on the Red Rocks campus with President Dr. Michele Haney speaking about all of the innovations and exciting programs the college is offering. We had a number of guests from the college community attend.

- We are so pleased that we are able to collaborate with Red Rocks Community College and look forward to more shared endeavors next year. **Donna Connolly** and **Margene Stroup**, Co-Presidents

### **Littleton-South Metro Branch**

- Thank you to all who attended the April 27-28 state convention hosted by our branch. Those who attended the Friday afternoon activities at the Littleton Museum and the Art Depot were treated to wonderful history, networking opportunities and perfect weather. The convention at the Highlands Ranch Hilton Garden Inn was a day of inspiration and information, hearing from our national board Chair, Julia Brown and several community women making a difference for women and girls. A highlight of the convention was honoring two very deserving women, Elaine Gardner and Amy Blackwell, with Legacy of Leadership Awards. Nearly 100 women attended this 91<sup>st</sup> AAUW-CO convention.
- On May 5, our branch held a very successful fundraiser at a local private museum and raised nearly \$4,000 for our local community projects. Our scholarship recipient from Littleton High School was able to attend this event and met several of our members. Carolyn Cooley and Jill Smith presented her scholarship award at the STEM Certificate Graduates reception held at Littleton High School on May 23.
- We are continuing our newly established partnership with Arapahoe Community College and our branch is looking forward to working with the state and other branches as we launch new communications strategies and tools. **Jill Smith**, President

### **Longmont Branch**

- This has been a transformational year for AAUW Longmont. Last summer, the branch developed a strategic plan. To implement the plan, committees were formed and have been meeting regularly throughout the year.
- The Communications Committee completely reformatted the newsletter and extensively updated our Facebook page and website.
- The Program Committee is developing programs that address the needs of women and girls in our community, such as Pay Equity and Title IX and sexual harassment.
- The Membership Committee is reaching out to old and new members to increase involvement and knowledge of our branch and the AAUW mission.
- Our newly-formed Current Issues and Advocacy interest group supports Public Policy goals and plans advocacy related programs, such as Conscious Conversations.
- The Leadership Team, in an effort to attract and develop diverse leaders, hosted two evening events to acquaint members with programs, committees and opportunities for involvement and service.



- The branch received the non-profit 501(c)(3) designation and a grant from AAUW Colorado. At the annual spring meeting, we awarded \$3,250 in Community Action Grants and \$3,930 in scholarships.
- Two Start Smart workshops were presented at Front Range Community College and more are planned for the coming year. And, our branch will be hosting the 2019 Colorado State Convention. **Nan Andersson**

**Loveland Branch**

- Spring has been a busy time for the Loveland Branch. In April our regular location was not available and we met at the Lincoln Art Gallery which was a very inviting location. We were fortunate to have Amy Blackwell presenting the story of her AAUW journey with us.
- Our May meeting was held at Biaggi’s Restaurant where we recognized the four graduate student scholarship winners who had been selected with \$1,000 each.
- We also held our spring fundraiser – a geranium and begonia sale in May. This was held at the home of one of our members who serves a lovely breakfast and lunch to the volunteers. The same afternoon there was a memorial service for one of our members who had died unexpectedly in October – Averill Hauben. **Martha DiCicco**

**Calendar of Upcoming Events**

AAUW Regional Conference, Salt Lake City, UT	June 22-24, 2018
AAUW Colorado Fall Leadership Conference, Holiday Inn Denver Lakewood	August 24-25, 2018
AAUW Colorado Public Policy Day, Holiday Inn Denver Lakewood	February 2, 2019



NCCWSL Conference – Empowering Women