

# FOCUS

## 2021- What A YEAR !!!



Another year of AAUW-NYS is coming to an end. This one has been altogether a new experience as we made it despite Covid and all the ways it has changed our lives. Though not over, we have “powered on” and figured out ways to meet, enjoy each other and participate with some great speakers on issues critical to our organization, women and girls. As NYS is beginning to open up, we must still be vigilant as we make plans to gather with family and friends. I would ask that you don’t forget to use precautions. For our branches, this is a time for elec-

tions and new vision of officers for branches.

The planning committee for the Annual Summit is busy preparing a great weekend of events. Registration is open now to attend this virtual event and it’s free. The weekend program will consist of a Guest speaker from the Comedy Club of Jamestown and a special guest to discuss Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

The Bylaws Committee took on a big undertaking of rewriting our bylaws. They put numerous hours and months into this process. I would like to thank them for taking on such a big task. The organization will be guided by our bylaws, Robert’s Rules of Orders and NYS Not for Profit guidance. Plan to attend one of the sessions they have planned to discuss the proposed bylaws changes. Check your email from May 11, 2021 for registration information.

Stay safe, masked and socially distance as you enjoy the Summer months.

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# AAUW-NYS 2021 SLATE OF CANDIDATES



*Karen Martin*

I became V.P. NYS Membership in 2019 with a desire to engage all members, learn about each branch, increase our membership and work with the Executive Board. While it has been a difficult year with the added challenge of Covid 19, I have grown and see bright spots. I have participated in Board2Board communications, directly sharing with branch presidents and membership chairpersons about membership matters. I have written articles for the FOCUS newsletter, and contacted membership chairpersons via email and phone. I am a leader for NYS – AAUW and will continue to work, being an effective V.P. for Membership.



*Nan Scinta*

Nan Scinta has had several positions in AAUW- both in the Buffalo Branch and currently in the Adirondack Branch. In Buffalo during the 1980's I was membership chair when I had small children. After a move to the Glens Falls area in 2000 and a retirement from teaching, I was a C/U chair in the Adirondack Branch and Co-President for 6 years, developer of the 5th Grade writing Contest for 11 years, developer of the Girls Go Stem Day at SUNY Adirondack, currently in its 5th year, the President during this COVID year and will become a Co-Membership chair in the 2021-22 year.

# AAUW-NYS 2021 SLATE OF CANDIDATES



*Barbara Van Itallie*

Barbara is completing her first term as State Treasurer. As Treasurer she keeps accurate records of the State's finances using QuickBooks software, provides quarterly treasurer's reports to the board, chairs the Finance committee and serves as a member of the State Board. Barbara proposed the State dues forgiveness for 2021-22 and conducted the online workshop for branches. Since joining the AAUW Poughkeepsie branch in 2007, she served that branch as president, treasurer, secretary and interest group leader, and currently chairs the Math Buddies community initiative. She recently was awarded that branch's Cornerstone award for service to the branch.



*Lynn Gore*

I am Lynn Gore, and I am running for secretary of AAUW-NYS.

I first became involved with AAUW-Kingston when I helped organize trips for our members of the Kingston Branch. I then served as VP of Membership before becoming President of the AAUW-Kingston. I enjoyed attending the state conferences in Binghamton and Cooperstown and the summer workshop at Cazenovia. There I enjoyed meeting AAUW-NYS members.

I have served as the AAUW-NYS secretary for the past year filling the vacated position and look forward to serving AAUW-NYS for the next two years.

## AAUW-NYS MEMBERSHIP DUES WAIVER

<https://aauw-nys.org>

FOCUS is a quarterly newsletter published by the American Association of University Women-New York State.

FOCUS is a publication of the AAUW-NYS Board

Questions and articles should be delivered to the State President,

Janice Brown, 27708 Rogers Rd, Evans Mills, NY 13637

Email: [president@aauw-nys.org](mailto:president@aauw-nys.org)

Submissions are accepted at the discretion of the editor

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AAUW-NYS is offering waiver of State Dues for this coming fiscal year. The \$13 dues will not be collected by NYS this year. Branches have the authority to collect dues as their board agrees or per their bylaws. Dues are due by June 30, 2021.



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2020-2021

President	Secretary/Bylaws	Communications/Visibility Director
Janice Brown, Jefferson County <a href="mailto:President@aauw-nys.org">President@aauw-nys.org</a>	Lynn Gore, Kingston <a href="mailto:secretary@aauw-nys.org">secretary@aauw-nys.org</a>	Dr. Cheryl McKeiver, Empire State NYC <a href="mailto:Cheryl.McKeiver@gmail.com">Cheryl.McKeiver@gmail.com</a>
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<b>Membership Vice-President</b> Karen Martin, Rockland County <a href="mailto:membershipvp@aauw-nys.org">membershipvp@aauw-nys.org</a>	<b>College/University Director</b> Maria Ellis, Empire State NYC <a href="mailto:mellis@kwnyc.com">mellis@kwnyc.com</a>	<b>Historian (Off-Board)</b> Helen Engel, Oswego <a href="mailto:hengelosw@gmail.com">hengelosw@gmail.com</a>
<b>Treasurer</b> Barbara Van Itallie, Poughkeepsie <a href="mailto:treasurer@aauw-nys.org">treasurer@aauw-nys.org</a>	<b>Diversity/Nominating Chair</b> Suzanne Young-Mercer, Rockland <a href="mailto:smymaauw@gmail.com">smymaauw@gmail.com</a>	<b>Public Policy Liaison (Off-Board)</b> Edwina F. Martin, Esq <a href="mailto:edwinamartin@hotmail.com">edwinamartin@hotmail.com</a>



## **Announcement:**

# **AAUW NYS 2021 Summit**

Friday Evening Speaker: Journey Gunderson

Executive Director of the National Comedy Center



Friday evening, after a welcome by President Janice Brown, Ms. Gunderson will engage us with a talk and tour of the National Comedy Center, named by USA Today "Best New Museum" in the country. Join the fun by serving yourself a beverage and a snack, then clicking on the link.

**Friday, June 11: 7-8:30pm: Social time, Comedy Talk & Virtual Tour**

**Saturday, June 12: 9-11am: Annual Meeting, Elections, Bylaws Changes Vote**

The event is free to all and will be conducted online through ZOOM.

Registration Link: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlkde6sqDosHdJImpEVU63kTggpfA6loqYD>



**Mission**  
**To advance gender equity  
for women and girls  
through research, educa-  
tion, and advocacy.**

**Vision**  
**Equity for All**

**Values**  
**Nonpartisan. Fact-based.**  
**Integrity. Inclusion and**  
**Intersectionality.**

# AAUW-NYS BYLAWS REVISION

The Bylaws Committee has submitted a revision of the bylaws. The AAUW-NYS Board of Director has accepted the revision of the bylaws and the addendum. According to our current bylaws, membership is notified 30 days prior to vote on the proposed changes. This is your notification. The bylaws committee will be hosting three Zoom meetings to discuss the proposed changes. See below for Zoom dates, times, and registrations. **You only need to attend one session.** The proposed bylaws revision is here:

[bylaws revision-2021 \(aauw-nys.org\)](https://www.aauw-nys.org/bylaws-revision-2021)

The proposed bylaws addendum is here:

[bylaws-addendum-2021.pdf \(aauw-nys.org\)](https://www.aauw-nys.org/bylaws-addendum-2021.pdf)

**Zoom Meeting Registration:**

[https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwtfuigrD0sGdBK7xz3Ug1hMLZkav7ZaWZT](https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJwtfuigrD0sGdBK7xz3Ug1hMLZkav7ZaWZT)

**Tuesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30-7:30pm**

**Tuesday, May 25<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30-7:30pm**

**Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00am**

Bylaws Committee: Carol Griffith, Edwina F. Martin, Esq and Jane Pendergast

American Association of University Women-New York State

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks an inclusive membership, workforce, leadership team and board of directors. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation or socioeconomic status.

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