

AAUW NEW YORK STATE NEWSLETTER January 20, 2024

This is a busy time for all AAUW members as we prepare for Spring when AAUW Members will vote on the long-standing college/university education requirement for joining AAUW. Voting will open on April 3rd and will end on May 15th at 12:00pm ET. All members should visit the [National website now](#) to view the text of the bylaws changes and to provide comments through January 26th at 5:00 pm. Results will be reported online.

Your AAUW NYS President Carol A. Griffith and NYS Membership Director Tracy Gyoerkoe have sent zoom invites to NYS Branch Presidents and Branch Membership Chairpersons for January 23, 2024, at 3:00pm and January 31, 2024, at 7:00pm. Your branch representatives may elect to attend either date as they help prepare for the Spring Vote. It is especially important that all members can participate in the Vote and our goal is to have active participation by NYS. AAUW National lists NYS Membership at 1,363, with twenty-four branches, ranking ninth.

President-elect Update: NYS Bylaws proposals will be provided for review in the February Newsletter. More to follow on the scheduling of a Special Meeting for voting on the bylaws proposals.

Public Policy Update: Your NYS Vice President Public Policy Sandy Camillo has been keeping you informed of public policy issues through email. Please save the date **February 29, 2024, at 6:00 pm** for a joint Zoom event with AAUW NYS and NYS League of Women Voters. Education regarding **"VOTE ERA NY NOW"** will be presented by Erika Smitka, NYS Deputy Director, League of Women Voters. **Do you know it is on the ballot for November 2024?** Be informed! Join us for the discussion. For any questions feel free to reach out to Sandy at publicpolicy@aauw-nys.org.

College & University Update: Maria Ellis, Director, announced that there is an increase in C/U membership dues from \$175.00 to \$250.00. Students at C/U campuses will continue to be able to become AAUW members through the C/U membership. "Money Smart" is now being offered on campuses. Maria is leading and organizing the second annual Celebration of College & University Women Presidents in NYS. The celebration will be held by Zoom on **April 11, 2024 from 9:15 am to noon**. Presidents Heidi Macpherson (SUNY Brockport), La Jerne Terry Cornish (Ithaca College), Marie McInnis (Stony Brook University), and Elizabeth H. Bradley (Vassar College) have confirmed their participation. **Meeting ID: 7457199346, Passcode: KWPB**. The zoom link is on the NYS website Event Calendar. Feel free to contact Maria at cu@aauw-nys.org.

Advancement Committee Update: Carol A. Griffith - Members were informed that Coca-Cola Foundation awarded AAUW \$250,000. Tremayne Parquet and Angie Cooper announced that the "Giving Tuesday" had been a successful fundraising campaign. The Matching Gift campaign culminated on December 31, 2023.

Information was provided regarding The National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) for 2024. It will remain in Washington, but with a shorter

timeframe. There are changes to Start Smart/Work Smart, with Work Smart phasing out the online version.

Please consider having your branch support a young woman's attendance at NCCWSL or joining with another branch to hold a fundraiser together to support this especially important opportunity that coincides with our mission of encouraging women/girls to take leadership roles. The event will be held at the University of Maryland, College Park from May 30 - June 1, 2024. Registration is now open on AAUW National website.

Advancement Committee Members are using breakout rooms/whiteboards during their meetings to discuss ways to increase AAUW memberships through the creation of an online seminar on how to accomplish this goal in all our branches across the country. More to follow.

Respectfully,

Carol A. Griffith, AAUW NYS President