



## **Proposed NY Equal Rights Amendment (ERA NY) Tompkins County Community Essay Contest**

The Ithaca Branch of AAUW (American Association of University Women) is pleased to announce a Tompkins County Community Essay Contest on the Proposed NY Equal Rights Amendment which is on the November 2024 Election Ballot.

### **Proposed NY Equal Rights Amendment on the November 2024 Election Ballot Description**

*“ERA (S.108-A Kreuger/A.1283 Seawright) would prohibit discrimination by the government based on a person’s ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, and sex, including their sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, and pregnancy outcomes. It would also protect against any government actions that would curtail a person’s reproductive autonomy or their access to reproductive health care. The ERA (NY) would, for the first time, explicitly include language to clarify that discrimination based on a person’s pregnancy or pregnancy outcome is sex discrimination – an essential clarification given the national trend of criminalizing people for various pregnancy outcomes, as well as the Supreme Court’s overturning of Roe v. Wade.”*

### **Tompkins County Community Essay Contest on Proposed NY Equal Rights Amendment Details**

The essay contest is open to all Tompkins County Residents and college students attending colleges/universities in Tompkins County. Participants in the essay contest will be evaluated based on three distinct age groups: Middle/Junior High School Students, High School Students, and Adults.

Essay submissions should focus on the importance of the NY Equal Rights Amendment for all New York State Residents. The essays should be no more than 500 words and will become the property of the Ithaca Branch of AAUW.

The essays will be judged by a committee using a standardized scoring system and include the verification of the statements expressed in the essays are accurate, proper use of grammar and punctuations, and the ability to express a written opinion on the proposed NY Equal Rights Amendment.

The deadline to electronically submitted the essays and essay participant submission information is Friday, October 4, 2024. The essay winners will be recognized at an Awards Ceremony being held on Saturday, October 19, 2024 at 2:00pm. at the Tompkins County Public Library BorgWarner Community Room, 101 East Green Street, Ithaca. The essay winners will each receive a \$200.00 Monetary Award and other-related awards. The Awards Ceremony is open to the public.

The essay contest is an *in-memoriam* tribute to Dr. Antonia Glasse, a former Cornell University Russian Literature Professor and Ithaca Branch of AAUW Member. Dr. Glasse was one of the lead plaintiffs in the *Cornell Eleven Lawsuit* which brought attention to gender inequities at Cornell University and led to the founding of the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund.

**Tompkins County Community Essay Contest  
on the Proposed NY Equal Rights Amendment on the November 2024 Election Ballot**

Essay Submission Deadline: **Friday, October 4, 2024**

Essay Participants must include the following information listed below. Incomplete submissions and late submissions will not be evaluated for the contest:

Your Full Legal Name	
Your School Grade (Middle/Junior School, High School) or Adult	
Your Local Mailing Address	
Your Phone Number(s)	
Your Email Address(es)	
Essay Title	

E-mail your Essay Participant Submission Information and your 500 words or less essay to:  
[IthacaBranchAAUW@gmail.com](mailto:IthacaBranchAAUW@gmail.com).

For more information or questions, please email: [IthacaBranchAAUW@gmail.com](mailto:IthacaBranchAAUW@gmail.com).

**AAUW Vision and Mission**

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) advances gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization based on age, ability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious belief, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status.

Ithaca Branch of AAUW Website: <https://ithaca-ny.aauw.net/>

Ithaca Branch of AAUW Facebook and Instagram: [AAUW Ithaca Branch](#) and follow [@aauw.ithaca](#)

NYS-AAUW Website: <https://aauw-nys.org/>

AAUW Website: <https://aauw.org>

New Yorkers for Equal Rights: [nyequalrights.org/#about-the-era](https://nyequalrights.org/#about-the-era)