

**Volume 61, Number 1
Fall 2017**



Important dates for upcoming year

September 30 Ko-Fusion
December 10
March 3, 2018 Milo's
April 10
April 27-28 Lisle Hyatt Regency & Benedictine University
May 19

Fellowship recipient
Jane Addams Day
Wine, Women and Song
Equal Pay Day
AAUW-IL State Convention
Branch Annual Meeting – Title IX



AAUW members and guests are invited to attend AAUW Saturday Luncheon on September 30 at noon at Ko-Fusion, 1 E. Main St., Champaign.

AAUW Fellowship recipient, Patricia Sunia, a PhD candidate in the Department of English at UIUC, will present a talk on her work, entitled "The portrayal of marginalized characters in Nineteenth-Century American Literature". Patricia's talk will explore how characters portrayed in slave narratives, travel literature and popular frontier fiction of the pre-Civil War period were often restrained by their environments, which undermined some of the narratives associated with the movement toward the West and freedom.

Please send RSVPs to Gail Tittle at gatittle@gmail.com



FALL CONFERENCE

AAUW-IL holds two fall conferences each year, organized for the districts throughout the state. Our branch is part of the southern conference group and this year's SOUTHERN CONFERENCE will be held on **Saturday, October 14, 11:00 am – 3:00 pm** at the Lincoln Public Library Carnegie Room North, 326 S. 7th St., Springfield. Cost is \$15.

The program will include:

- Remarks by Sallie Miller, AAUW-IL President
- Women Who Lead: Panel of Elected Women Officials
- School Funding Reform: Illinois SB1
- Our Branches: Mission-Based Programs



2017-2018 Champaign-Urbana Branch Board

Front Row: Laura Keller, President; Nancy Dietrich, Secretary.



Back Row: Pam Erickson, Finance; Gail Tittle, Membership; Brenda Wilson, Programs.

Greetings from Laura Keller

As I begin the first year of a two-year term as your branch president, I would like to welcome you to a new AAUW year. Whether you are a long-time member or a new one, I know that you believe in our mission statement advancing "...equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research". Our branch has been promoting that mission since 1901, and we continue today with a like-minded membership and an exceptional group of women in leadership.

2017-2018 promises to be an exciting year. The branch leadership has been planning activities that will help keep us informed about the issues, promote national AAUW initiatives, and give us opportunities to socialize and have fun together. The political climate in our country right now can be disheartening, but now is also a time to step up and be a voice for our values. I hope that C-U AAUW can help you do that. Please join us at one or more of our events this year. Feel free to contact me or any of our leadership with questions or suggestions.

Laura Keller
C-U AAUW President



Membership

The membership year is July 1-June 30 – thanks to everyone who renewed and welcome to the new members! It is not too late to join – for information, contact our membership Chair Gail Tittle at gatittle@gmail.com or Finance director Pam Erickson at pam.k.erickson@gmail.com. Your support is vitally important – thanks again!

Welcome Norma Peters

Norma was a long-time member beginning in the 60's, and had lapsed in her membership due to health issues. We are thrilled to have Norma back in our group. She has a double bachelor's degree in English and Early Education and has participated in the C-U One-to-One Mentoring in the Champaign school district. Norma has an interest in drama, including experience acting as a high school student in Texas. Norma looks forward to attending the Drama Club group meetings again. She can be contacted at normarpeters@gmail.com



Special Interest Groups

Adelante Book Discussion

3rd Wednesday, 6 pm

Contact Sallie Miller millersallie@hotmail.com or Laura Keller kellerla@comcast.net

Drama Group

1st Thursday, 3 pm

Contact Cesaria Lancaster fwclancaster@yahoo.com or 217 384-7798

Drinks & Dialogue

2nd Tuesday, 6 pm

Contact Gail Tittle gatittle@gmail.com

Great Decisions

Contact Margaret Stewart mkestewart@aol.com

Adelante Books for 2017-18



September – *Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race*, by Margot Lee Shetterly

October – *Threading My Prayer Rug: One Woman's Journey from Pakistani Muslim to American Muslim*, by Sabeeha Rehman

December – *Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis*, by J.D. Vance

January – *Option B: Facing Adversity, Building Resilience, and Finding Joy*, by Sheryl Sandberg and Adam Grant

February – *In the Sanctuary of Outcasts*, by Neil White

March – *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City*, by Matthew Desmond

April – *All the Single Ladies: Unmarried Women and the Rise of an Independent Nation*, by Rebecca Traister

May – *Then Comes Marriage: United States V Windsor and the Defeat of DOMA*, by Roberta Kaplan and Lisa Dickey

June – *Euphoria*, by Lily King

July – *The Handmaid's Tale*, by Margaret Atwood

August – *Born a Crime*, by Trevor Noah



Champaign-Urbana Local Scholarship Recipients

Thank you for your continued support of our local scholarship programs. Each year we partner with the Financial Aid office at Parkland College to identify a pool of worthy candidates who are entering college after a break in their educational pursuits. Each scholarship provides the student with \$1,000 for the academic year.



Ifeanyi Onyekwe

Southwood van Es Scholarship

Graduated in 2002, from Nigeria, lives in Champaign. Plans to get degree in Nursing, wants to teach. Volunteered in Africa in Public Health. Especially interested in women and children's issues.

Phyllis Walters

Amy Kummerow Scholarship

Graduated in 2005, from Paxton. Plans to get degree in Electrical Engineering. Especially interested in electronic control systems and harnessing natural resources to usable energy. Works at Parkland in Support Services as an administrative assistant.



Jennifer Kibbons

Phyllis Cline Scholarship

GED in 1991, from Thawville, Iroquois County. Plans to get degree in Business Management. Was Director Administrator of Iroquois Industrial Group.





NEWS FROM AAUW-IL



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
FOR STATE OFFICERS

Time to think about our talented AAUW members who can help lead our branches and state by serving on the AAUW-IL, Inc. State Board!

Nominations are now being accepted for the offices of:

*Director of Finance-Elect (one year as Finance-Elect followed by two years as Director) *Program Vice-President(s) (two-year term) *Director of AAUW Funds (two-year term) Director of Bylaws and Policy (two-year term) **Nominating Committee Chair (two-year term) All elected positions will officially take office on July 1, 2018. Members of the Nominating Committee: District 4 Andrea (Andi) Danis (Chair) H: 630-892-6366 C: 630-606-6366 danishouse@sbcglobal.net District 1 Sharon Jenkins H: 618-806-9259 sjenkins1918@yahoo.com District 2 Alice Huebner H: 217-876-1446 ahuebner@prodigy.net District 3 Eileen Fesco H: 815-433-7323 fescoa@aol.com District 5 Marla Kim Benziger H: 847-945-9081 marlakim2@aol.com

Please contact any member of the Nominating Committee if you know someone who might be interested in serving at the state level, INCLUDING YOURSELF! If you think someone may be a good candidate, a member of the Nominating Committee will be happy to make the contact!

Nominations are due to the committee by November 30, 2017!

Public Policy

Information contributed by Jo-An Takamoto Sabonjian & Marcia Wherry, Public Policy Co-Directors, AAUW-IL state board.

AAUW continues to work with organizations, including the League of Women Voters, for a stronger coalition effort to address our concerns with the status of women's issues in 2017. Members are using lobbying efforts in person and by phone, social media, or writing, to make our voices heard at numerous events across the state, at district offices of officials, and at the Capitols. We recommend members contact state and federal officials to encourage passage of legislation pertaining to women's issues, and then for signatory approval, or a veto, or an override of a veto. Recent approval of a state budget demonstrated the role played by advocates increasing the pressure on legislators.

If you do not receive alerts from the AAUW Action Network, please go to www.aauw.org and sign up to become a Two Minute Activist; you can easily contact a member of Congress to express your opinion on pending issues of healthcare, equal pay, student loan debt, and Title IX.



News from AAUW (<http://www.aauw.org/>)

FUNDING

One of the world's largest sources of funding for graduate women, AAUW is providing more than \$3.7 million in funding for fellowships and grants to 250 outstanding women and nonprofit organizations in the 2017–18 academic year. Due to the longstanding, generous contributions of AAUW members, a broader community of women continues to gain access to educational and economic opportunities — breaking through barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

- American Fellowships
- Career Development Grants
- International Fellowships
- International Project Grants
- Selected Professions Fellowships

Applications FOR 2018-2019 are open now. Share this news with women you know!

<http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/educational-funding-and-awards/>

SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

Contribute to the advancement of women by serving on an AAUW Selection Panel. **The AAUW Board of Directors seeks panelists for the following fellowship, grants, and awards panels:**

- American Fellowships
- Career Development Grants
- Community Action Grants
- International Fellowships
- Selected Professions Fellowships

Panelists engage in an online process to review applications to select awardees for recommendation to the AAUW Board of Directors for approval. Terms are two years and begin January 1 of each year; approximately half of the panelists are appointed each year. **Prospective panelists must complete an application form by October 31.**

RESEARCH

AAUW conducts groundbreaking research on issues related to gender equity in education and the workplace. This work influences the national discussion on topics like the pay gap between women and men, sexual harassment in schools and on college campuses, and the underrepresentation of women in science and engineering and serves as a catalyst for action.

Recent research publications –

Deeper in Debt: Women and Student Loans

<http://www.aauw.org/research/deeper-in-debt/>

The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap (Spring 2017)

<http://www.aauw.org/research/the-simple-truth-about-the-gender-pay-gap/>



**Champaign-Urbana Branch
Illinois 4012**

Please send news items, comments
or corrections to:

Deborah Richie, editor