

# CHIPS

*The monthly newsletter of the Westchester Branch of the American Association of University Women, Westchester County, New York*



Westchester AAUW Has Been  
Empowering Women and  
Girls Since 1933



## GOOD NEWS ABOUT OUR LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP PROJECT - by Marilee Scheuneman

Thanks to the generosity of our branch members, we are able to award financial aid to female students at Westchester Community College who show great promise. It is heartening to me to learn how important these scholarships are, as can be seen in letters of appreciation from our AAUW scholarship winners:

- I am honored and humbled to be awarded the AAUW Scholarship. I am incredibly proud of all I have achieved during my time at Westchester Community College – which would not have been possible without the support provided at WCC. I am graduating this semester with my Associate Degree in Human Services, and will continue my studies in Social Work to the Bachelor's and Master's levels. I hope to also receive a Ph.D. in Neurobiology of Trauma and Healing. In the future I hope to become a Special Agent/Social worker in the Victims Assistance Unit of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Thank you for your support. I am grateful for receiving this chance to continue my education.*
- I am so excited and proud to have received the AAUW scholarship in the amount of \$1000 towards continuing my education. Becoming a nurse has been so rewarding, but here in NY it is important to get your bachelor's degree in nursing to be able to work in most hospital settings. Therefore, I am beyond relieved to have the aid in continuing to reach my goals without delay. Thank you for your support and encouragement to carry on learning!*
- I am proud to have received the Scholarship (AAUW). I'm going to be majoring in Health Science. I believe my interest will help me have a greater chance to explore a variety of subjects. Also, it will polish my academic skills in the most competitive and practical environment. I never regretted my choice for finishing my Associate Degree at WCC. Thank you for your support and the opportunity.*

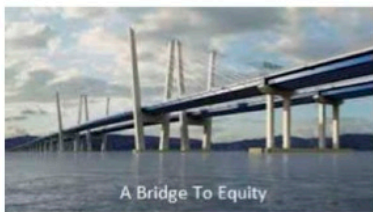
We used to have our scholarship winners speak at the Spring Fling dinner where a raffle raised money for the scholarships, and we used to have a special luncheon at the WCC café as a fund raiser for this project, cancelled because of Covid-19. In lieu of those events, we have a special plan:

The Art Interest Group invites all branch members to join us in a virtual **Feminist Walk Through Harlem** on **Tuesday, March 30th at 11 a.m.** It will be a fundraiser for the AAUW Scholarship Fund, with a suggested donation of \$10 (or more, if you can do it). You will receive an email with more information, but if you'd like to join us, please email Shelli Pines.

Please make your checks payable to WCC Foundation with AAUW Scholarship in the memo line, and mail them to Marilee Scheuneman, 27 Hillside Drive, Yonkers, NY 10705.

Thank you for your support of this important project within our mission to advance equity for women through education.

**MARCH BRANCH**  
**MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY**  
**MARCH 3 10:30**



**MISSION:** To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

**VISION:** Equity for All

**VALUE STATEMENT:** By joining AAUW you belong to a community that breaks educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance. AAUW is nonpartisan, fact-based, and values integrity, inclusion and intersectionality.

**2020-2021 BRANCH OFFICERS**

**Co-Presidents**

Lorin Johnson & Ellen Leuner

**Program Co-Vice Presidents**

Marie McKellar & Sue Perko

**Membership Co-Vice Presidents**

Marjorie Kingsley & Judith Walsh

**Recording Co-Secretaries**

Susan Appel & Elaine Weiss

**Corresponding Secretary**

Rene Parmar

**Treasurer**

Susan Gardner & Cynthia Plater

**CHIPS Editor**

Sue Lambert [slamb47@aol.com](mailto:slamb47@aol.com)

**Circulation**

Jean Havens

**Branch Web Site**

[westchester-ny.aauw.net](http://westchester-ny.aauw.net)

**State Web Site**

[www.aauw-nys.org](http://www.aauw-nys.org)

**National Web Site**

[www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

Facebook at AAUW Westchester NY

**The AAUW**

**Legal Advocacy Fund**

provides funding and a support system for individuals seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

**The AAUW Educational Opportunities Fund**

provides fellowships and grants to aspiring graduate women scholars in the US and around the globe.

Bridge Photo from NY  
State Thruway Authority

## ART INTEREST GROUP IN ACTION!

The Art Interest Group invites all branch members to join us in celebrating Women's History Month by taking a virtual Feminist Walk Through Harlem on Tuesday, March 30th at 11 a.m.

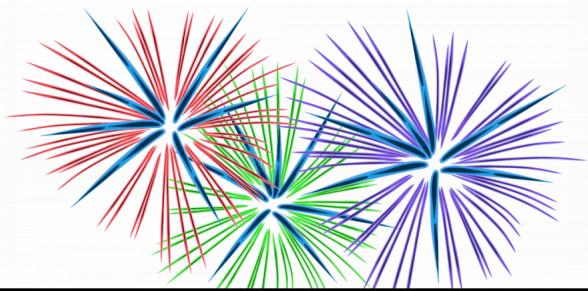
It will be a fundraiser for the AAUW Scholarship Fund, with a donation of \$10 (or certainly more if you wish). You will receive an email soon with more information, but if you'd like to join us, please email Shelli Pines and send your check to Marilee Scheuneman, made out to WCC Foundation, with AAUW Scholarship on the memo line.

On January 14th the Art Interest Group, joined by many other branch members, took a wonderful virtual tour of the Audubon Mural Project. Led by Leigh Hallingby, an excellent New York City tour guide, we saw beautiful murals painted on buildings in Harlem, depicting environmentally endangered birds, as well as large street sculptures of some of the birds. Below are pictures that were viewed on this tour.

### Audubon Mural Project

A collaboration between the National Audubon Society and local artists to create murals of climate-threatened birds throughout John James Audubon's old Harlem neighborhood in New York City. This enormous mural can be found on Amsterdam Avenue between 153<sup>rd</sup> and 155<sup>th</sup> Streets. The project commissions artists to paint all 314 bird species identified in the Audubon Society's Birds and Climate change report: <http://www.audubon.org/amp>. So far, approximately half of the murals have been completed.





## 2021-2022 OFFICER SLATE FOR WESTCHESTER AAUW

**Co-Presidents:** Ellen Leuner & Rene Parmar

**Program Co-VPs:** Marie McKellar & Susan Perko

**Membership Co-VPs:** Marjorie Kingsley & Judy Walsh

**Recording Co-Secretaries:** Marcia Keizs & Elaine Weiss

**Co-Treasurers:** Susan Gardner & Cynthia Plater

**Corresponding Secretary:** Abby Hirsch

## CURRENT ISSUES GROUP

The Current Issues Interest Group will have a Zoom meeting on Friday March 5 at 10 a.m. For further information or to suggest topics, please contact Marie McKellar, Diona Koerner, or Selena Barron.



## TUESDAY MORNING LIT GROUP

The Tuesday Morning Lit Group will meet on March 9 to discuss the Tudor mystery novel, Dissolution, by C. J. Sansom. Carolyn Lyall will lead the conversation. Please contact Wilma Gitchel if you want to join our group.

## EVENING LITERATURE GROUP

The Evening Literature Group will meet via Zoom at 5:30 p.m. on March 10. Barbara Wright will lead the discussion of Sing You Home by Jody Picoult. Contact Colleen Fay if you want to receive a Zoom invitation to this meeting.

## AAUW Westchester Branch Ballot

**In favor of the slate for 2021-22**

**Yes**

**No**

**In favor of the budget for 2021-22**

**Yes**

**No**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail your ballot to Sue Lambert at 19 Pinehurst Dr. Purchase, NY 10577 or email your vote to [slamb47@aol.com](mailto:slamb47@aol.com)

## JOIN AAUW WESTCHESTER BRANCH

Membership is open to anyone with an associate or equivalent, baccalaureate, or higher degree from an accredited college or university. To join, please complete this form and send a check payable to AAUW Westchester Branch to the address below. New Member Dues for 2020-21 are \$85, of which \$82 are tax deductible. When you join the Westchester Branch of AAUW, you also become a member of the AAUW New York State and National organizations. The Membership team can also provide you with more information about AAUW-Westchester's activities on our branch record form.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City:State:Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

College/University, Degree, Graduation Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Send check and/or branch record form request to: Judith Walsh at 2 Fountain Lane, Scarsdale, NY 10583 or 734-748-9318 or email: [westchesteraauw@gmail.com](mailto:westchesteraauw@gmail.com)

**AAUW MARCH BRANCH MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3 AT 10:30 A.M.**

Invitation to join Zoom meeting will be sent to all members via email. If you are not a member, please email [westchesteraauw@gmail.com](mailto:westchesteraauw@gmail.com) to receive the Zoom invitation.

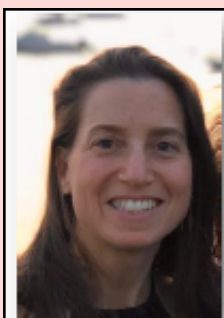
**PROGRAM:**

**Going Zero Waste in Municipalities, Schools and Houses of Worship**

Over the last 10 years Michelle has been instrumental in launching sustainability initiatives throughout Scarsdale and Westchester County. She has helped all seven Scarsdale Schools, a number of Scarsdale Houses of Worship and Scarsdale Village launch food scrap recycling and zero waste programs. She has also worked on a number of other successful sustainability initiatives in Scarsdale including the LED Streetlight conversion project, furniture donation, take it or leave it shed, textile recycling, recycling education and expansion, tree code, and residential solar code. She will discuss how these initiatives can be instituted elsewhere, giving attendees the tools to do likewise.

**SPEAKER:**

**Michelle Sterling, JD, Scarsdale Zero Waste and Sustainability Leader**



Michelle holds a BA in Political Science from Columbia College and a JD from Cornell Law School. Michelle started her legal career practicing securities law at Thacher, Proffitt & Wood and later was a Managing Director Principal at Bear, Stearns & Co. in their Fixed Income Securities Division. Michelle currently lives in Scarsdale with her husband David and two daughters.

**Dear Members,**

**Thank you for your wonderful donations of books and reference materials to support students enrolled in the Marymount College Associates Degree program at the Bedford-Hills Correctional Facility!**

**We will be reaching out in March for members to assist students with getting materials (printed materials from internet searches) for specific research projects. We hope some of the book clubs will be particularly interested in taking this up.**

**Thanks from Rene Palmer**

**SUNSHINE OUTREACH**

**Dear Members,**

**If you know of anyone in our membership who is ill or has suffered a loss in their family, we would like to send them a card from our group. Please contact our Corresponding Secretary, Rene Parmar.**

**AAUW COVID ANGEL**

Are you a Senior who is having a hard time getting a COVID-19 vaccine appointment? Well, AAUW has their very own COVID Angel, Sally Suen. Contact Sally for help! Her contact information is in our AAUW Yearbook on page 38.



## **AAUW POLICY AND ADVOCACY**

### **-by Selena Barron**

Recently AAUW Westchester branch members were invited to watch a webinar celebrating Betty Friedan's 100th Birthday Moving the Legacy Forward. Betty was the "mother" of the modern women's movement and a founder and first president of NOW. Muriel Fox, a NOW co-founder and member of our AAUW branch, introduced the fascinating and thought provoking webinar which is still available on Facebook and Utube. The webinar highlighted the legacy of gains that were achieved and that all women now enjoy. However, AAUW members know that gender equality has not yet been achieved. Looking forward AAUW National on their website lists our policy and advocacy issues which are presented below. As an AAUW member your support does make a difference for girls and women.



### **Where We Stand**

AAUW's policy work connects and rallies advocates at the local, state, national and global levels to empower women and girls. We use lobbying and grassroots efforts to push forward policies that break through educational and economic barriers for women.

### **Removing Bias from Education**

Startling inequalities persist in American education. Gender, economics, race and ethnicity should not limit our opportunities,

### **Fighting for Fair Pay & Economic Equity**

It's time to close the pay gap and for the work world to embrace diversity, equity and inclusion so we can all thrive.

### **Advancing Women in Leadership**

Women make up more than half of college graduates and half of the labor force. But we're still not represented at the upper levels. We need equal representation.

### **AAUW Original Reports**

AAUW conducts groundbreaking research on issues related to gender equity in education and the workplace. Our work influences the national discussion on topics like the gender pay gap, sexual harassment and the underrepresentation of women in STEM fields.

### **Empowering Women**

AAUW has been empowering women and girls by providing tools and resources since our founding. . Today we support their economic security by providing salary negotiation training and we foster their leadership from the start at our annual student leadership conference.

Please spread the word about AAUW endeavors and achievements to other women and ask them to become AAUW members.

**Have  
You Seen  
Our Web Site?**

**[westchester-ny.aauw.net](http://westchester-ny.aauw.net)**

Board minutes are posted on the Web Page.

## ADVOCACY ALERTS FEBRUARY 12. 2021

- by Jane Pendergast

PowHerNY, on February 11, announced 2021 priorities, including: Childcare, Economic Equity, Inclusive ERA. Comprehensive Sexuality Education, Elimination of Racist Barriers for Girls. Bev Neufeld, President of PowHerNY said, "Advocates across New York call on lawmakers to take affirmative steps to pass laws to create an equitable recovery and future for women, especially women of color. That means addressing racism head on and honoring the inordinate sacrifices of essential workers, the challenges of caregivers, and crushing loss of the unemployed. PowHer New York's 2021 priorities and Roadmap do just that."



Please go to <http://bit.ly/PHPriorities> for more information on these priorities for advocacy and the related Roadmap to Create Inclusive Justice in New York, Building an Equitable Recovery in the Wake of COVID-19. PowHerNY is implementing a New York State advocacy campaign based on these priorities. Contact Jane Pendergast at [jpendergast2@msn.com](mailto:jpendergast2@msn.com) if you would like to get involved. You can do it from your home!

Westchester Women's Agenda met on February 5 for a review of Westchester County's budget process and funding for service organizations serving women and families in the county. Other specific topics covered included access to vaccines and healthcare, right to counsel in housing matter, establishing a fund to aid workers excluded from COVID-19 relief, tools and/or legislation the NY State Legislature will use to move NY toward racial equality in 2021 and how can WWA be a partner in this progress? The meeting ended with a fast, but comprehensive review of the legislative work to expect by Majority Leader Andrea Stewart Cousins. Please contact Jane Pendergast for more information and how to get involved at [jpendergast2@msn.com](mailto:jpendergast2@msn.com).

**Thank you from the AAUW NYS Executive Committee for  
Westchester's continued support of the AAUW National mission!**

**AAUW Westchester Branch & NYS donations  
to AAUW National in 2020**

**The Westchester Branch donated \$11,664.51**

**AAUW NYS donated \$72,895.97**

Missed seeing our Speaker at the last AAUW Westchester Zoom Branch Meeting? Well now you can treat yourself and view it online via our website: <https://westchester-ny.aauw.net>

Go to "Home", located on the left side on the page. Click down to "Zooming" and you will see "Speaker Presentations". Clicking on that will take you to their talks.

**AAUW WESTCHESTER COUNTY, INC. BRANCH**  
**455 TARRYTOWN ROAD #1354**  
**WHITE PLAINS, NY 10607**



### **MARCH 2021**

3/3	Branch Meeting	Zoom	10:30 a.m.
3/3	Board Meeting	Zoom	12 p.m.
3/5	Current Issues Discussion Group	Zoom	10 a.m.
3/9	Tuesday Morning Literature Group	Zoom	10 a.m.
3/10	Deadline for submitting for CHIPS		
3/10	Evening Literature Group	Zoom	5:30 p.m.
3/16	Poetry Interest Group	Zoom	1:30 p.m.
3/30	Art Interest Group	Walk Through Harlem	11 a.m.

