

CHIPS



Westchester AAUW Has Been Empowering Women and Girls Since 1933

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

ANNUAL FUND CAMPAIGN -by Mary Logan, Funds Chair

AAUW's Annual Fund Campaign utilizes this helpful chart to display four key areas to choose from to support the organization's mission.

You'll find the Legal Advocacy Fund under Economic Security while the Eleanor Roosevelt and Public Policy Funds are now under Education and Training. Our national office does an excellent job with many valuable and worthwhile programs that further AAUW's mission to promote equity for women and girls.

Please pick your preferred fund or funds and donate today!

How to Support AAUW's Mission

Thanks you for promoting equity for women and girls by supporting AAUW's critical work!

When supporting the following funds, you give AAUW the ability to carry out its bold, strategic vision for the future.



AAUW Greatest Needs Fund (9110)

Allows AAUW the flexibility to respond rapidly to new and emerging challenges facing women and girls and to utilize your gift where it's needed most. This fund ensures the strength, relevance, and viability of AAUW into the future.



Education and Training Fund (4450)

Addresses the barriers and implicit biases that hinder the advancement of women by championing equal access to education and ensuring that education at every level is free from sex discrimination.

STEM
Title IX
Pathways to Jobs

Examples of programs include:
Fellowships Alumnae Initiatives
Fellowships and Grants
Public Policy
Research



Economic Security Fund (4449)

Ensures livelihoods for women through achieving pay equity for women, providing training in salary negotiation, and deepening women's retirement security and quality of life.

Pay Equity
Title VII
Retirement Security

Examples of programs include:
Start Smart
Work Smart
Work Smart Online
Legal Advocacy Fund



Leadership Fund (4452)

Supports the effort to close the gender gap in leadership opportunities by bolstering the participation of and increasing the number of girls and women in leadership roles, particularly in education and nonprofit organizations.

Career
Workplace
Training

Examples of programs include:
Campus Action Projects
Empower
NCCWSL

**OCTOBER
BRANCH
MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY
OCT. 6
5:30 P.M.
VIA ZOOM**

Yes, I would like to contribute to the AAUW Greatest Needs Funds in the amount of:

\$1000 \$500 \$100 \$50 \$25 Other _____

If you do not designate a specific fund in your check memo line, your contribution will be applied to the AAUW Funds, # 9110.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Please make your check out to AAUW Funds and specify in the memo line AAUW Funds or any particular fund to which you would like your contributions applied, and how much to each fund. Checks should be mailed to Mary Logan, 1204 Hall Ave, White Plains, NY 10604. Thanks for your support!



WESTCESTER AAUW SEPT. BRANCH MEETING!

WHEN: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

WHERE: Wherever you are - via Zoom.

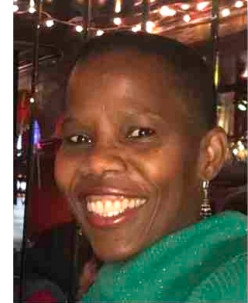
Invitation to join the Zoom meeting will be sent to all members via email. If you are not a member, please email westchesteraauw@gmail.com to receive the Zoom invitation. (You may join at 5:15 for a short social time to say hello to friends you have missed during this time of 'social distancing'.)

PROGRAM

The Language of Climate Change

SPEAKER

Dr. Shondel Nero, Professor of Language Education, NYU



Shondel Nero, Ed.D, is Professor of Language Education at New York University (NYU). Her research has focused on educating speakers of Caribbean Creole Englishes, and other varieties of English, as well as related issues on language and identity, and language education policy. She spent a year as a Fulbright scholar in Jamaica where she researched the implementation of the Jamaican language education policy. Dr. Nero has authored numerous articles and four books, most recently, *The power of narrative: Climate skepticism and the deconstruction of science with Raul Lejano* (Oxford University Press, 2020), which won the 2021 AERA Narrative Research SIG Outstanding Publication of the Year, and NYU Steinhardt's Daniel Griffiths Award for Excellence in Research.

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.

2021-2022 BRANCH OFFICERS

Co-Presidents

Ellen Leuner & Rene Pamar

Program Co-Vice Presidents

Marie McKellar & Sue Perko

Membership Co-Vice Presidents

Marjorie Kingsley & Judith Walsh

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westchester-ny.aauw.net

State Web Site

www.aauw-nys.org

National Web Site

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

CURRENT ISSUES GROUP

The Current Issues Interest Group will have a Zoom meeting on Friday, October 1 at 10 a.m. As usual, there will be 3 topics. One topic will be: The Texas Abortion Bill and Its Implications. Other topics will be decided before the meeting. For further information, please contact Selena Barron, Diona Koerner, or Marie McKellar.

ART INTEREST GROUP

On Thursday, September 9, the Art Interest Group will visit the Neuberger Museum of Art to see the exhibits "Color and Motion, Ideas and Dreams: Modern and Contemporary Caribbean and South American Art from the Collection" and "Lesley Dill: Rush." If you would like to join us, please email Shelli Pines.

There are times when a one of our members is dealing with an illness, a loss, or another personal crisis. If you know of a member who should receive our well wishes or support, please send the information to our corresponding secretary, Abby Hirsch, at ahirsch03@gmail.com.

ADVOCACY SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER 1

Jane Pendergast

This eventful summer for New York State is over and our NYS advocacy partner, POWHERNY, is looking forward to the new legislative year. Governor Hochul has shown interest in POWHER's issues in the past and will want to show positive gains for women in her future gubernatorial campaign. Last year, POWHERNY Partners developed a legislative agenda through a rigorous and inclusive process. Many of the budget issues and bills prioritized moved forward and others made progress. Of the full list of twenty bills, eleven were passed and nine are ongoing.



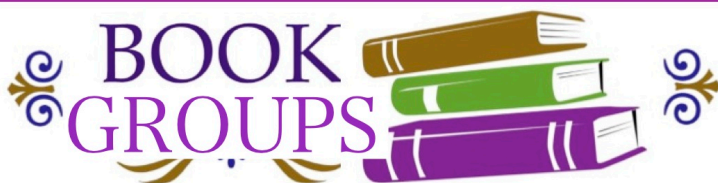
Those that passed included: Child Care Funding, Incurable Bill (Girls & Education), DV advocate Confidentiality, Walking While Trans (Legal Justice), Excluded Workers Fund (Employment), Fund Kids, Not Billionaires (Girls & Education), Marijuana Legalization (Legal Justice), Child Marriage, Voting Reform Package (Voting, Democracy, Representation), START Act (Gender Based Violence and Safety). Those still ongoing include Salary Range Transparency (progress was made), Inclusive ERA, Comprehensive Sex Ed, Insurance Coverage for abortion, Medicaid Expense Post Pregnancy, Home Care Legislation, Restoration of TAP (Criminal Justice), Immigrant Healthcare Coverage (Essential Rights), and One Fair Wage (Employment).

Looking forward to 2022, POWHER will continue to work on the eleven remaining issues and has asked us all for even bolder ideas for the Hochul administration to advance for NY women in 2022. Please send your ideas to INFO@POWHERNY.ORG and identify yourself as an AAUW Westchester member, or send your ideas directly to me at jpendergast2@msn.com.

Have
You Seen
Our Web Site?

westchester-ny.aauw.net

Board minutes are posted on the Web Page.



TUESDAY MORNING LIT GROUP

The Tuesday Morning Lit Group will meet on October 12, 10 a.m., via Zoom, to discuss the novel, The Folded Earth by Anuradha Roy. Shelli Pines will lead. Please contact Wilma Gitchel if you're interested in joining us.

EVENING LITERATURE GROUP

The Evening Literature Group will meet either on zoom or at Lexington Square Cafe in Mt. Kisco, at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, October 13. Ellen Eschmann will lead the discussion of The Lions of Fifth Avenue by Fiona Davis. Please call Ellen Eschmann if you plan to attend.

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 2021-22 are \$88, of which \$85 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: _____

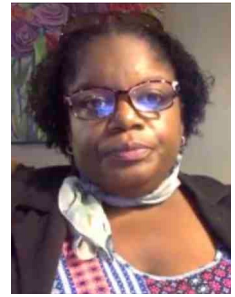
Email: _____

College/University, Degree, Graduation Year: _____

Send check and/or branch record form request to: Judith Walsh at 2 Fountain Ln. Apt. 1V, Scarsdale, NY 10583 or 734-748-9318 or email: westchesteraauw@gmail.com

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP IN HIGHER EDUCATION

By, Darryl Taylor, SUNY Purchase AAUW Intern



Leadership is perceived as gendered and it manifests in higher education. Women represent just 30% of presidents at U.S. colleges but make up the majority of students. September's speaker, Kareen Odate, spoke about her PhD dissertation, which addressed the challenges women face in their roles as senior leaders in higher education. Odate has worked at CUNY-Medgar Evers College since 2002. Her current position is STEM Manager in the Academic Advising Center. In "A Cross-Ethnicity Study of Senior Executive Women in Higher Education: Commonalities and Differences in Lived Experiences," Odate gives illuminating perspective on how leadership is gendered.

Odate selected four women in senior leadership to analyze their careers. Their pseudonyms are Alice, Barbara, Cindy, and Debby. Barbara particularly had a tough time getting colleagues to acknowledge her as a manager or a senior leader. She suspected that her status as a Black woman was a main factor. "When she's in a room, no one ever believes she's the one leading the office," Odate said. People constantly came into the office assuming the white woman who was reporting to Barbara was the authority figure. Her dean is a white man and people still act as if he is the person heading the office even though she's the vice president.

Debby had a disturbing encounter when entering a meeting. An older man was in attendance and he had previously applied for the dean's position that she currently occupied. He greeted her with "Would you like to have a seat, pretty Debby?" She replied by preferring to be called by her first name. His response was "What, you don't like to be pretty?" Debby would've viewed this incident as harassment if she wasn't an administrator. Odate gives these clear-cut examples to highlight how women are perceived in the workplace even as authoritative figures.

All four participants felt supported by their spouses. Three out of the four women had received support from parents and in-laws with the exception of Cindy who attributed her status as a Latina as a factor. Ironically, her mother was a principal of a high school but believed her daughter should be the one supporting her husband. Her father and grandfather agreed with this sentiment. Cindy has a doctorate and her husband does not have one. Support from her husband alone would have to be sufficient.

Odate's research showed that a persistent and tough mindset are imperative qualities for women to succeed in leadership positions. However, institutions often neglect to emphasize a systematic approach to supporting them. One way to help support leaders is to implement an active program for mentorship. But there's a distinction between mentorship and sponsorship. Mentors give guidance for particular career paths and decisions. But mentorship alone is not enough to help in career advancement. Sponsors should be actively involved with leaders and vouch on behalf of their skillset. Women refer to the "good ol' boys club" where men are conversing at the workplace and getting sponsored. Women are missing out because they're often not involved in these conversations.

Odate is advocating for higher education institutions to promote hospitable environments through policies for college communities. This suggestion is crucial to combat some of the maltreatment women senior leaders and aspiring leaders encounter in the workplace. Suggested policies also include programs allowing aspiring leaders to shadow seasoned senior executives and engage them in earnest discourse about the processes for success. Odate relayed that in an effort to help others with what she has learned from her research, she is setting up a blog to provide access to resources for women in leadership.

Westchester AAUW welcomes our NEW SUNY Purchase Journalism Intern, Darryl Rojas-Taylor. He attended the September Branch meeting and will do so for the next four months. Darryl will be writing articles for the Westchester AAUW CHIPS monthly newsletter.

He is our first male intern. He is also the very first male that has ever applied for this position. Hopefully this will benefit both our Branch and this future journalist who supports our mission "To advance gender equity for women & girls through research, education, and advocacy".

FYI (We have not had an journal intern since 2017 or 2018.)



AAUW STAND ON REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS
-by Selena Barron



The new anti abortion law in Texas effectively bans abortions by taking government out of the role of enforcing the law. The law creates what has been called a “bounty system”. Any citizen can bring a lawsuit against anyone aiding an abortion including doctors, nurses, insurance companies, drivers, and a person accompanying the patient. If the person is successful, the law provides for them to receive \$10,000 and their legal fees. If they lose the case, they do not have to pay the defendant’s legal fees. There are no exceptions for cases of rape or incest. According to an article in the New York Times “The statue permits anyone--even people who live outside Texas --to file a complaint in any court of the state if they believe an abortion has been performed.” The Supreme Court failed to stop the law from going into effect. No bounty seekers have brought a lawsuit because clinics have decided to meet the legislative requirements which stop abortions at about the sixth week of pregnancy. The legislation was written by a former clerk of the late Supreme Court Justice,

Antonin Scalia, Jonathon F. Miller, who hoped that by the removal of the state’s enforcement responsibility, municipalities would avoid the expenses of defending lawsuits and at the same time attract bounty hunters, effectively shutting down clinics that perform abortions.

In response to this vigilante Texas legislation, Kate Nielson, AAUW’s Senior Director of Public Policy, Legal Advocacy and Research, released the following powerful statement on September 2nd.

“AAUW strongly condemns the U.S. Supreme Court’s refusal to suspend implementation of a dangerous Texas law that would virtually strip individuals of their well-established, Constitutional right to control their bodies and erode their economic security. The nation’s highest court is enabling a vicious system of vigilante lawsuits that aims to turn citizens against one another in furtherance of the most extreme anti-choice agenda. This ruling, which bypasses Constitutional review, effectively abolishes a pregnant person’s ability to make personal choices. Curtailing reproductive rights is a seismic affront to all Americans and AAUW vows to ferociously fight to ensure quality, affordable, and accessible health care for all.”

The AAUW website has detailed information on its stand on reproductive rights. Since 1977 “AAUW has fought for every woman to have the ability to make her own informed choices regarding her reproductive life within the dictates of her own moral and religious beliefs.” AAUW also criticizes the lack of support for sex education and contraceptive care. For example, they point out 45% of all pregnancies in the United States are unintended and the U.S continues to have one of the highest rates of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) in the industrialized world. In the last four years states have enacted a total of 288 abortion restrictions. Two recent Supreme Court rulings have limited women’s ability to access contraception. AAUW also opposes attacks on Planned Parenthood’s federal funding sources because Planned Parenthood provides preventive healthcare to 2.7 million women and men. Their health centers screen for cancer, and provide contraceptive services and HIV and STI testing.

To sum up their policy: “AAUW will continue to ensure that government policies respect and respond to the needs and priorities of a diverse range of individuals, families and communities, especially those who face barriers to access. We will also work to ensure that appointees, nominees, and elected officials uphold our nation’s laws, affirm protections for individuals, and work to improve overall health and well-being in the United States and around the world. AAUW’s advocacy of a woman’s right to safe, accessible, and comprehensive reproductive health care will stand at the forefront of our efforts to gain equity and justice for all women.

As a member and supporter of AAUW, you are a woman making a difference!





OCTOBER 2021

10/1	Current Issues Discussion Group	Zoom	10 a.m.
10/6	Board Meeting	Zoom	4 p.m.
10/6	Branch Meeting	Zoom	5:30 p.m.
10/10	Deadline for submitting for CHIPS		
10/12	Tuesday Morning Literature Group	Zoom	10 a.m.
10/13	Evening Literature Group	Zoom or Lexington Sq. Cafe, Mt. Kisco	6 p.m.
10/14	Art Interest Group	Neuberger Museum of Art	
10/19	Poetry Interest Group	Zoom	1:30 p.m.

On line bridge is scheduled every Monday at 1 p.m.