

February 2023

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

GIRLS FOR STEM – EXPLORE YOUR OPPORTUNITIES
WE ARE BACK IN-PERSON!
Submitted by Lorrin Johnson

Girls for STEM
EXPLORE YOUR OPPORTUNITIES!

**A CONFERENCE FOR
7TH & 8TH GRADE GIRLS
MARCH 4, 2023
8:30AM-12PM**

HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS FOR
STUDENTS AND PARENTS

INTRODUCING GIRLS TO STEM BASED CAREERS
(SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATH)

THE COLLEGE OF MOUNT SAINT VINCENT
RIVERDALE, NEW YORK 10471

INFO AND REGISTRATION: AAUW-GIRLSFORSTEM.ORG
QUESTIONS? AAUW.GIRLSFORSTEM@GMAIL.COM

SPONSORED BY AAUW WESTCHESTER BRANCH
AAUW EMPIRE NYC BRANCH
AND THE COLLEGE OF MOUNT SAINT VINCENT

The AAUW logo, featuring the letters 'AAUW' in a blue, sans-serif font, followed by a blue circular emblem containing a white stylized 'W'. Below the logo, the text 'empowering women since 1881' is written in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font.

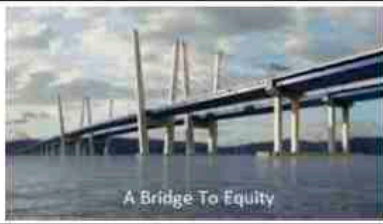
Enthusiasm is high for our annual STEM conference for 7th and 8th graders. For the last two years we have had Girls for STEM *virtually* with the help of the College of Mount Saint Vincent. The students who attended did their workshops at home, with material we sent them and guided by great workshop leaders. For the last 20 years AAUW in Westchester and New York City have successfully had girls attending our STEM program. Our program has given girls the opportunities to see first-hand what opportunities are available to them. As sponsors we have co-hosted our conference with Barnard College, Columbia University, and for the last 13 years with the College of Mount Saint Vincent. The program has grown from STEM workshops for the girls taught by women in the fields of Science Technology, Engineering and Mathematics to include workshops for parents and teachers. This year the adults will be given the opportunity to understand the role they play in getting their girls to be prepared for these fields. We will also have our traditional challenge to meet the Mystery Women. Who are these successful women and how did they get into STEM positions?

We are particularly excited this year because so many of the members of Westchester AAUW and

Empire New York State branches have volunteered to make this the best conference ever. They have found exciting workshop leaders and Mystery Woman to present at the conference. We are taking every precaution to make this in-person conference safe for all. This year some of the workshops include “Make your own website”, “Liquid Candy” and “Brain Games”.

The conference will be held on the campus of the College of Mount Saint Vincent on March 4, 2023 from 8:30 AM to 12:30PM. Each student will attend two workshops. Parents are invited to register for the adult workshop. Information and registration are on our website www.aauw-girlsforstem.org. The cost for the conference is \$15 per person.

If anyone is interested in volunteering for this event please contact Susan Appel, (914) 715-8114 or appelsusan2@gmail.com. Lorrin Johnson and Maria Ellis are Co-Directors and can be contact at our email address AAUW.girlsforstem@gmail.com



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

VISION: Equity for All

OUR VALUES: Intersectional. Inclusive. Intergenerational. Empowering. Though we are nonpartisan, we are not values-neutral: We fight to remove the barriers and biases that stand in the way of gender equity. We train women to negotiate for pay and benefits and to pursue leadership roles. And we advocate for federal, state and local laws and policies to ensure equity and end discrimination.

2022-2023 BRANCH OFFICERS

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westchester-ny.aauw.net

State Web Site

www.aauw-nys.org

National Web Site

www.aauw.org

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AAUW Westchester NY

Bridge Photo from NY State Thruway Authority

Westchester AAUW February Branch Meeting!

- ★ **PROGRAM:** The Sharrocks in Black and White
- ★ **SPEAKER:** Joyce Sarrock Cole
- ★ **WHEN:** Saturday February 11, at 10:30 a.m.
- ★ **WHERE:** Greenburgh Public Library, 300 Tarrytown Rd, Elmsford and via Zoom.

Visit www.greenburghlibrary.libcal.com to register for virtual and in-person, and to receive the Zoom link.

Joyce Sharrock Cole will tell us about her journey to discover the history of the formerly enslaved Sharrock family through the records of the enslavers. Her deep genealogical research uncovered amazing information and gave profound understanding of her family's past and how it has shaped her own life. Joyce Sharrock Cole, Ossining Village Historian, is an award winning historian and genealogist.



2022 Annual Fund Campaign Submitted by Mary Logan

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this year's Annual Fund. Your generous donations totaled \$5,655 and are used to support AAUW's mission to promote equity for women and girls. Funds go to support advocacy work including but not limited to promoting fair-pay laws and other economic security goals like closing the STEM gap, eliminating the motherhood penalty as well as eliminating leadership barriers. Thanks again for supporting AAUW's important initiatives.

Thank You for your Support!!

AAUW GIFT DRIVE Submitted by Laurie Austin

Thanks to the generosity of so many AAUW Westchester Chapter members, Hour Children has received toys, gifts and over \$1,000 in donations this holiday season. These donations have certainly brightened the lives of hundreds of children whose mothers are in the Bedford Hills and Taconic Correctional Facilities. Hour Children provides a wide array of services to incarcerated women and their children and helps with the transition process upon release. A special thanks to Deb Rigano who worked so closely with AAUW on this important project.

There are times when 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.

Have You Seen Our Web Site?

westchester-ny.aauw.net

Board minutes are posted on the Web Page.



WELCOME

Our New Member!

Mary Smith

CURRENT ISSUES GROUP

The current issues group will meet on Friday, February 3 at 10 a.m. To sign up for these Zoom Current Issues meetings, contact Ellen Leuner or Adelaide DiGiorgi and the Zoom link and topics will be sent to you. Join us for some very informative and lively discussions.

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. Dues for a new member are \$93 for the first year of membership, a \$10 reduction from regular membership dues, which are \$103/year. When you join the Westchester Branch of AAUW, you also become a member of the AAUW New York State and National organizations.

Name: _____

Address: _____

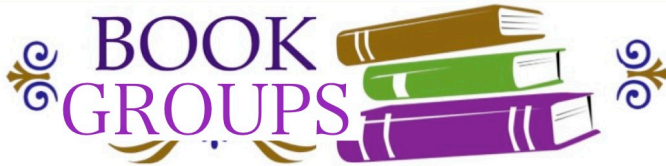
City:State:Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

College/University, Degree, Graduation Year: _____

To join send a check to: Westchester AAUW, 455 Tarrytown Rd. #1354, White Plains, NY 10607 or to get more information go the Westchester AAUW Website (westchester-ny.aauw.net).



TUESDAY MORNING LIT GROUP

The Tuesday Morning Lit Group will meet on February 14 at 10 a.m. via Zoom to discuss James McBride's memoir Deacon King Kong. Please let Wilma Gitchel know if you'd like to join us.

EVENING LITERATURE GROUP

The Evening Literature Group will meet at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 15 at Stone Fire Restaurant in Mt. Kisco. Barbara Wright will lead the discussion of Sex Wars: A Novel of the Turbulent Post-Civil War Period by Marge Piercy. Contact Marsha Savino by phone, email or text to let her know if you plan to attend.

If you have questions about this group phone Ellen Eschmann, the group leader. New members are welcome.

AAUW FUNDS FOR GRADUATE STUDY FOR WOMEN

-by Selena Barron



Since 1888 AAUW has been one of the largest funding resources for women seeking to further their education at the graduate level. From astronauts to zoologists the recipients of AAUW's fellowships, grants and awards represent nearly every field of endeavor. In the 2022-2023 award year AAUW is providing \$6 million in funding to more than 320 applicants.

For more than 130 years, AAUW has funded the education of countless women so they could follow their dreams. The funds have awarded more than \$135 million to over 13,000 women and nonprofit organizations around the world. The recipients include some of the most influential voices of the past two centuries. They are women who have helped shape history and have supported nonprofit organizations that are at the forefront of bringing about social change.

The funds were initiated after the Civil War when a growing middle class made it possible for women to attend college. AAUW founder Marion Talbot and member Christine Ladd Franklin gave a shout out to AAUW members to support a fund for women's graduate education. Their goal was to "enable gifted women to use their intellectual power for the good of humanity." They asked each AAUW member to contribute one dollar per year. In 1888 the first fellowship went to Ida Street, a pioneer in the field of early American Indian history. The amount was \$350. The International Fellowship Program has funded women from more than 150 nations. Its goal is to support women to become professors, administrators, deans or college presidents.

In 1920 AAUW supported Madame Marie Curie by raising \$100,000 for her purchase of a gram of radium for her research. The fundraising was so successful they ended with \$56,000 over the required amount. During World War II, AAUW helped Jewish scholar Lise Meitner escape from Europe. In the U.S. Ms. Meitner became a visiting physics professor at Catholic University. In the 1950s AAUW funded author Susan Sontag and psychologist Dr. Joyce Brothers. In 1963 AAUW expanded its fellowship and grant program. In collaboration with the U.S. Department of State, it developed the African Educator's Program, which brought African teachers from newly independent African nations to America to study in U.S. Colleges.

In the 1970's AAUW published a report, "Where do Women Stand". Women were demanding their rights and equality. AAUW created research and project grants that allowed women to re-enter the workforce and to give them the skills they needed to be competitive. The Program was called "Selected Professions Fellowships".

During the Civil Rights movement AAUW members raised \$150,000 to create a fund in honor of Coretta Scott King that would support African American women who would study African-American culture, civil rights and peace. Ms. King wrote a letter to AAUW members stating in part "I am deeply grateful to the American Association of University Women for establishing this scholarship fund. There is entirely too little research, writing and understanding of non-violence, peace and Afro-American history." There were 46 outstanding recipients of the fund. Nell Irvin Painter stands out! She is a leading U.S. historian and the Edwards Professor Emerita of American History at Princeton University. She received her AAUW award in 1970 while completing her doctorate in American studies at Harvard University. She has honorary doctorates from Wesleyan College, Dartmouth University, Yale University, and the State University of New York, in New Paltz. She has received fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the American Council of Learned Studies, and the American Antiquarian Society.

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engineer, biomedical engineer, software engineer, and a pilot, became the second female astronaut. When she died in the 1986 Challenger tragedy AAUW members raised \$235,000 to fund the Judith Resnik American Fellowship Endowment.

In the 21st century recipients include news commentator Melissa Harris Percy, an AAUW 2001-2002 American Fellow, Tererai Trent a 2001-2002 International Fellow and 2017 Alumnae Recognition Awardee, and Rachael Rollins, the 1996-1997 AAUW Selected Professions Fellow who became the first woman elected district attorney in Boston, Mass. Claudine Gay will become the next president of Harvard University in July 2023. She is the first black person to hold that position. She is a 2003-2004 AAUW American Fellow. Currently she is the first woman and first African American dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science at Harvard University. Gay also is the founding chair of Harvard's Inequality in America Initiative.

As described above, the AAUW grants, fellowships and awards have benefited a very wide spectrum of social issues for women's rights, civil rights and racial equality. In her 1969 AAUW National Convention Address, King advised members to remember "the enormous influence that an organization like the American Association of University Women, through its educated women ... can exert." We hold on to these words as we continue our fight for women's empowerment in the coming year and beyond. To learn more information about the funds, recipients and how to make a contribution, please visit AAUW Funds for Graduate Studies.

As a member of the Westchester Branch of the AAUW, you can be proud of our record and success in promoting women's rights.

WE INVITE MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHIPS

The deadline for each month's submissions is the 10th of the previous month.

Send articles by email to the editor, Sue Lambert at slamb47@gmail.com.

The submitted articles may be reviewed by the AAUW-Westchester Board if necessary.



FEBRUARY 2023

2/3	Current Issues Discussion Group	Zoom	10 a.m.
2/10	Deadline for submitting for CHIPS		
2/11	Branch Meeting (Saturday)	Greenburgh Public Library or Virtual	10:30 a.m.
2/11	Board Meeting		12 p.m.
2/14	Tuesday Morning Literature Group	Zoom	10 a.m.
2/15	Evening Literature Group	Stone Fire Restaurant, Mt. Kisco	5:30 p.m.
2/21	Poetry Interest Group	Zoom	1:30 p.m.

Bridge - every Monday at 11 a.m. in person and/or 1 p.m. online