



## Explore the Issues with AAUW Arizona

### A series of Public Policy Zoom Presentations

#### Civics Education in Arizona

#### **Superintendent Kathy Hoffman**

Arizona Department of Education

*March 17, 2021 at 10:00 AM by ZOOM*

**Register at <https://forms.gle/58Uaow2d6Uazu9ok6>**

**By March 15<sup>th</sup> at Noon**

Superintendent Kathy Hoffman was elected State Superintendent of Public Instruction in November 2018 and assumed office in January 2019. Superintendent Hoffman has spent her entire career working in public education, first as a pre-school teacher and then as a speech-language pathologist. She began her career in the Vail School District in Southern Arizona before joining the Peoria School District.

Her **experience** as both an educator and advocate for students with disabilities informs her vision for public education. Throughout her career, she has fought tirelessly for equal access to high-quality public education regardless of a student's race, gender, or zip code.

#### **Clean Elections and Dark Money**

**Tom Collins**, Executive Director

Arizona Citizens Clean Election Commission

April 6, 2021 10 am Zoom Presentation

#### **How Congress Works: Inside the Belly of the Beast**

**Rep. Karan English**, Former US Representative – AZ

April 15, 2021 10:00 AM Zoom Presentation

#### **Women and the Law: Protective or Invasive**

**January Contreras**, CEO and Managing Attorney

Arizona Legal Women and Youth Services (ALWAYS)

May 6, 2021 10:00 AM by Zoom



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For more details about the Public Policy Presentations, please see page 3.

**Take action and make a difference. Gain greater understanding of the issues and get involved. Let's work to close the gender pay gap, pass paid family leave, stop sexual harassment, support women and girls in STEM as we advance gender equality for all.**

# President's Message

Legislative Day was a great success, thanks to Dr. Harriet Young and Jodi Liggett for organizing an informative and educational event. The event was held virtually, and we were able to have more people able to attend because we were not limited to space available at the state capitol building.



We have a Zoom board meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM.

We will not have a Spring conference this April, but we have a variety of state events over the next few weeks. Starting with Kathy Hoffman on March 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM; Thomas Collins on April 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM; Rep Karan English on April 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM; January Contreras on May 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM; these are all via Zoom. We are also working on our Fall Forum that we are hoping to have in person this year, the date for the Fall Forum is scheduled for Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, with a board meeting Friday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. More details to follow.

I would like to thank all of you for all your hard work during the past year dealing with the pandemic and the issues that have ensued, you have all risen to the task in your creativity and resourcefulness to accomplish our mission.

We will be sending out our slate for officers for the coming term and voting electronically as we will not be meeting in person in April.

Remember to vote on the AAUW National Election, voting opens April 7<sup>th</sup> and will close May 17<sup>th</sup> .....Ana Nygren

## Mark Your Calendar OR Clip & Post

- **Wednesday, March 17 10 am – Civics Education In Arizona** Public Policy Zoom presentation by State Superintendent Kathy Hoffman.
- **Wednesday, March 17, 4 pm – State Board Meeting** by Zoom
- **Wednesday, March 24 – Equal Pay Day - Wear RED that day to symbolize that women are still "in the RED" regarding fair pay.** For more information, see page 6.
- **Tuesday, April 6 10 am – Clean Elections and Dark Money** Public Policy Zoom presentation by Tom Collins, Exec. Dir., Arizona Citizens Clean Elections Commission.
- **Thursday, April 15 10 am - How Congress Works: Inside the Belly of the Beast** by Rep. Karan English, Former US Representative – AZ
- **April 7 to May 17: AAUW National Election Voting** - Please go to [www.AAUW.org](http://www.AAUW.org), sign in and vote online.
- **Thursday, May 6 10 am – Women and the Law: Protective or Invasive** Public Policy Zoom presentation by January Contreras, CEO and Managing Attorney, Arizona Legal Women and Youth Services (ALWAYS)

## Equity Now

Together, we can achieve a vision of equal opportunity for all

### AAUW Arizona Officers

President	- Ana Nygren
Program VP	- Michelle Higgins
Membership VP	- Sharon Phelps
Recording Secretary	- Cathy Corbin Mannino
Corresponding Sec.	- Sara Schmitt
Treasurer	- Gail Garrison



# Public Policy

## Explore the Issues - Continued from page 1

### AAUW AZ Public Policy Presentations

- Watch for registration information closer to the event
- For questions contact Harriet Young at [young.harriet3@gmail.com](mailto:young.harriet3@gmail.com) or Sara Schmitt at [csaauwaz@gmail.com](mailto:csaauwaz@gmail.com)

**Clean Elections and Dark Money** by Tom Collins,  
Arizona Citizens Clean Election Commission Executive Director  
April 6, 2021 10 am Zoom Presentation

The Arizona Citizens Clean Election Commission is a five-member board that administers and enforces Arizona's clean election act including its education and campaign finance programs. As Executive Director he is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the board including its education and campaign finance programs. Collis was an assistant attorney general for the Arizona Attorney General's office, focused on election law, appeals, and attorney general opinions. He clerked for Justice Scott Bales (2005-06) and the late Justice Michael Ryan (2007-10) of the Arizona Supreme Court.

### **How Congress Works: Inside the Belly of the Beast**


**Rep. Karan English**, Former US Representative – Arizona  
April 15, 2021 10:00 AM Zoom Presentation

English represented [Arizona's 6th Congressional District](#), which in the 1990s included much of [Mesa](#), [Scottsdale](#) and northeast Arizona. Prior to her election to the U.S. House of Representatives, English served as an [Arizona State Senator](#) (1991–1993), [State Representative](#) (1987–1991), and [Coconino County](#) supervisor (1981–1987). She is now involved with the Center for Sustainable Environments at NAU and is a member of the ReFormers Caucus of Issue One.

### **Women and the Law: Protective or Invasive**

**January Contreras**, CEO and Managing Attorney  
Arizona Legal Women and Youth Services (ALWAYS)  
May 6, 2021 10:00 AM by Zoom

A former county and state prosecutor, January Contreras is the founding CEO of Arizona Legal Women and Youth Services (ALWAYS), and an attorney committed to fighting for the safety and rights of women, children, seniors, and families in Arizona.



**Legislative Update FYI:** As predicted, “crossover” has resulted in some casualties-bills that don’t make it. Of course they can always pop up again as strikers, but the field of worrisome bills is beginning to narrow a bit. Talks have begun on the budget between House and Senate Leadership and the Governor’s office. This will inevitably have an effect on legislation as well, as lawmakers trade their votes for favors.

Voting rights, reproductive rights, education, economic issues and LGBTQ issues are all on the line at this time. If you would like more details, please contact your public policy chair to receive a copy of AAUW’s Weekly Legislative report.

## **Support of Public Education – a Major Concern for AAUW**

**The following paragraphs are sections drawn from a letter sent to the State Legislature.**

**March 10, 2021**

**“Dear Speaker Bowers and Members of the Arizona House of Representatives,**

It is undeniable that strong public schools make a strong state. A uniformly well-educated population is central to our democracy: it serves as a gateway to opportunity, prepares citizens to be fully participating members of society, and strengthens our economy and way of life. Despite recent investments, Arizona’s public schools remain severely underfunded, creating major impediments to our state’s economic and societal growth. We owe it to our state’s future to ensure that all children in Arizona have a well-resourced, thriving public neighborhood school.

“This year, the Arizona Legislature is advancing a record-breaking number of bills that represent a coordinated attack on our state’s public schools and the families who choose them. Together, these bills seek to undermine public education as we know it. They divide communities and weaken our nation’s greatest gateway to opportunity. They defund public education, devalue and diminish locally controlled public schools.”

“We, the undersigned, represent Arizona parents, business leaders, community organizations, nonpartisan advocacy groups, statewide educators, voters from the three major political parties, and concerned citizens from diverse walks of life. We vehemently oppose these attempts to defund and diminish the public schools that Arizona families overwhelmingly choose and rely upon. Voters have clearly spoken in favor of increasing funding for public education and stopping irresponsible private school vouchers; it is your duty as their representatives to heed their voices.

“The bills ....stand in direct defiance of that duty. We call upon our elected representatives in the Arizona Legislature and Governor Doug Ducey to immediately abandon these multi-pronged attacks and instead do what they were sent to the Capitol to do: respect their constituents’ values, promote their constituents’ interests, and move Arizona forward.”

**Save Our Schools Arizona, Arizona PTA, Arizona School Boards Association,  
Arizona Alliance of Black School Educators, Arizona Educators United #RedforEd,  
Children’s Action Alliance, The Arizona Center for Economic Progress,  
Arizona Indian Education Association, Arizona Education Association**



**How to Make Your Voice Heard at the AZ Legislature.....**

As supporters of public education and other important issues, become informed and take action. To track the status of bills, go to [www.AZLeg.gov](http://www.AZLeg.gov). You may register to use the Request to Speak system. It is one of the best ways to quickly and easily express your position on specific bills before the State Legislature. RTS comments are transmitted to each legislator and become part of the record for each bill.

**WHAT IS RCV?**

Maybe you've never heard of ranked-choice voting, but it's gaining momentum across America. Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) would be a small change to the way we vote that would produce big improvements to the election process. It works by allowing voters to rank multiple candidates in the order of their preference (1st, 2nd, 3<sup>rd</sup>, etc.).

Ranked Choice Voting is an alternative to our current "Pick one" system that leaves many voters dissatisfied and unrepresented. It is plagued by candidates "winning" without majority support, few choices beyond the status quo, and negative campaigns.

With RCV, if your first choice candidate does not receive the majority, your vote counts towards your second choice and so on, until a candidate has the support of a majority. Put simply, RCV ensures that your vote counts every time. And, according to polling by The Future of Arizona, three out of five Arizonans are in favor of RCV.

Voter Choice Arizona is a non-partisan, non-profit organization dedicated to bringing Ranked Choice Voting to Arizona. You can learn more about Ranked Choice Voting at [voterchoicearizona.org](http://voterchoicearizona.org). There you can watch instructive videos, volunteer to help spread the word, or request a presentation.

Kathy Knecht , AAUW member and Voter Choices Volunteer

**New AAUW Research****Harassment, Bias Drive Women Away from Lucrative Manufacturing Jobs**

AAUW has released new research, [Factory Flaw: The Attrition and Retention of Women in Manufacturing](https://www.aauw.org/resources/research/factory-flaw), made possible by the support of the Arconic Foundation. The study explores the challenges women face in male-dominated industries and the barriers that hinder their success. The report also outlines how employers can build a more competitive workforce by addressing these longstanding issues and creating more pathways for women in the manufacturing fields — especially as we begin to rebuild our economy after the pandemic.

To read the full report, go to <https://www.aauw.org/resources/research/factory-flaw/>

**Equal Pay Day** denotes how far into the new year women must work to be paid what men were paid the previous year. Started by the National Committee on Pay Equity (NCPE) in 1996, the goal was to raise awareness about the gender wage gap. Since then, other Equal Pay Days have been added to the calendar to denote that mothers and most women of color face a wider-than-average gap and need to work even longer to catch up to men's earnings. Wear red March 24<sup>th</sup> to show women are "in the red" on pay.



## 2021 Equal Pay Days

- **Asian American and Pacific Islander Women's Equal Day** is March 9. Asian American and Pacific Islander women are paid 85 cents for every dollar paid to white men.
- **All Women's Equal Pay Day** is March 24. Women working full time and year round are paid 82 cents for every dollar paid to a man who works full time and year round.
- **Mother's Equal Pay Day** is June 4. Mothers are paid 70 cents for every dollar paid to fathers.
- **Black Women's Equal Pay Day** is August 3. Black women are paid 63 cents for every dollar paid to white men.
- **Native American Women's Equal Pay Day** is September 8. Native women are paid 60 cents for every dollar paid to white men.
- **Latina's Equal Pay Day** is October 21. Latinas are paid 55 cents for every dollar paid to white men.

For more gender pay info, go to [https://www.aauw.org/app/uploads/2020/12/SimpleTruth\\_2.1.pdf](https://www.aauw.org/app/uploads/2020/12/SimpleTruth_2.1.pdf)

## The Paycheck Fairness Act --

AAUW and our supporters have worked for 24 years to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act, and this is the year we will succeed. As this critical bill heads for the House and the Senate, we need to mobilize quickly to ensure we get it across the finish line.

As the COVID-19 pandemic rages on causing record unemployment and housing crises, women and the families who depend on their income are disproportionately bearing the brunt. And the compounding injustices of sexism and racism are exacerbating these issues by widening the already yawning gender pay gap. This is unacceptable, and it is past time for Congress to act to stop it.

– As we observe the above equal pay days, please use the paycheck fairness Act tool kit at <https://www.aauw.org/resources/policy/pfa-toolkit/> until the bill becomes law.

## AAUW National Election

AAUW members are being asked to vote on the amended Public Policy Priorities and a bylaws amendment to eliminate degree requirements for members. The bylaws amendment proposes a change to eliminate degree requirements for members. AAUW's Open Membership Toolkit (<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/national-election/open-membership-toolkit/>) discusses the proposed changes and the rationale.

Voting opens on April 7<sup>th</sup> and will close on May 17<sup>th</sup>. We will each vote individually. The AAUW bylaws require that submitted ballots equal in number to at least five percent of the votes entitled to be cast by members is the quorum required for a vote to be counted. The AAUW bylaws require that the affirmative (yes) vote of two-thirds of the votes cast are required to amend the bylaws. The Public Policy Priorities can be amended with an affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast.



## Women's History Month

*If They Don't Give You A Seat At The Table Of Inclusivity, Bring A Folding Chair*

In 1908, at the first International Women's Day, 15,000 women marched through New York City demanding better pay, fairer working conditions and the right to vote. However, it wasn't until 1975 that the United Nations declared March 8<sup>th</sup> the official International Women's Day, establishing a global celebration dedicated to honoring the achievements of women throughout the world. In numerous countries March 8<sup>th</sup> is a national holiday. On this day women representing a variety of backgrounds, lived experiences and cultures unite for gender equity, women's rights and a more inclusive world.

The United Nations 2021 International Women's Day Theme, "Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 World" marks this day in 2021 a challenge like no other. As we in countries and communities work to recover from the devastating pandemic, coming together offers us an opportunity to finally end the exclusion and marginalization of women and girls. We have a major role in helping make decisions that will affect the well being of the world and generations in the future. Immediate action is needed for women to have a major role in breaking down the historic barriers that prevent women from having a place in the decision-making process to assure available resources and power are equally distributed. Across the world, women generally still remain at the lowest paying jobs. In 2020, women in the US earned 81 cents for every dollar earned by men. More women lost their positions during the pandemic and with unequal pay, both factors will lead to an increase in the poverty rate for women.

Currently there is a video portraying women leaders around the world. It begins with the statement, "While the world has been distracted by the noise of all those resistant to change, change has been happening anyway." The video shows women elected to leadership positions beginning with Angela Merkel, Chancellor of Germany; Erna Solberg, Prime Minister of Norway; Zuzana Caputova, President of Slovakia; Sheikh Hasubam, Prime Minister, Bangladesh and continues highlighting women leading in over 40 other countries. It ends with Kamala Harris, Vice President, USA.

Members of the Green Valley American Association of University Women who host the celebration of International Women's Day, were overwhelmed when watching this video. During the celebration, we recalled our heritage that featured Shirley Chisholm. In 1972, Congresswoman Chisholm was the first African American to run for President of the United States and in her bid for the presidency stated, "I am not the candidate of Black Americans, although I am Black and proud of it, I am not the candidate of the women's movement, although I am a woman and equally proud of that, I am the candidate for the people, and my presence before you now symbolizes a new era in American political history. She then reminded the audience, "If they don't give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair!" Today, she too would be overwhelmed viewing a video featuring women currently in world leadership positions.

Women's History Month in March also challenges us to reclaim the heritage of women's leadership, both current and past that has changed the world for the better. Aligned with

.....Continued page 8

Women's History Column – continued from page 7

International Women's Day, both celebrations remind women not to allow ourselves to be underrepresented at any level of leadership in the future. Certainly gender equity is possible if we take seriously the challenges International Women's Day and Women's History Month provide all of us. I believe collectively we can create an inclusive world, overcome this worldwide epidemic while enhancing the well being of all humankind. Please join the inclusive table.

Sharon Rezac Andersen Green Valley Branch

## A Proud Heritage

For nearly 140 years, AAUW has been helping women pursue higher education, tracing back to a time when few women had that opportunity. Past AAUW members include some of the most influential voices of the past two centuries. The "Faces of AAUW" come from all walks of life, many endured inequities of the gender pay gap, demonstrated excellence in work and left a mark.

### The Real Betty Crocker - Marjorie Child Husted

Marjorie Husted, a graduate of the University of Minnesota and an AAUW member, was a home economist, businesswomen - and the brain and voice behind Betty Crocker.

After her university graduation, Marjorie first worked as a secretary for the Red Cross during WWI. At the conclusion of the war, she became the supervisor of advertising and merchandising for the Creamette Company. In 1924 she joined General Mills, where she successfully taught Gold Medal cooking schools around the country. Back in Minneapolis, Marjorie organized the Home Service Department with a staff of five home economists. They answered homemaking questions from the public and all signed "Betty Crocker," whom General Mills had invented in 1921.

Her staff grew to forty members with Husted as the director. Marjorie used the next few decades to make Betty Crocker an empire as a radio and television star, newspaper columnist and book author. Ultimately the Betty Crocker cookbooks sold about 45 million copies. In 1948, President Truman presented the Woman of the Year award of the National Press Club to six women including Husted.

Marjorie retired from General Mills in 1951. That same year, in a speech to the American Association of University Women, Husted shared, "*Management is dominated by men and there is no indication of interest on the part of the employers for change.*" When she retired, she earned about one-fourth the salary of their top salesman, even though General Mills executives told Husted she had done more for the company's sales than any other person.

Sources: [www.aauw.org/resources/faces](http://www.aauw.org/resources/faces) of aauw/betty-crocker/  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marjorie\\_Husted](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marjorie_Husted)

Story compiled by Ann Mitchell

## Did you know?

**At the current rate of progress, the gender pay gap will not close until 2093. We can't – and won't – wait that long!**





## College Connections: Supporting the Education of Women and Girls

### **NCCWSL Registration is NOW OPEN ---- AZ Students Attend for FREE**

Registration for NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders) is **NOW OPEN**. The conference will be a virtual 2-day experience, May 25 & 26, 2021.

Arizona college and university students may attend the conference for **FREE**. The first step for students is to register for NCCWSL at: "Attend NCCWSL - AAUW.org" and pay the \$125 registration fee by credit card.

The second step is to complete the attached "AAUW Arizona NCCWSL Award Application" and send it to Ann Mitchell at: [awmitchell@hotmail.com](mailto:awmitchell@hotmail.com) by **May 1, 2021**. The application is on page 16 of the newsletter.

After the student attends NCCWSL, they will receive a reimbursement check for AAUW-AZ for \$125. Thus, the student will have gotten the opportunity to attend a national leadership conference for **FREE**.

Reach out to college and university administrators, faculty, staff and students you know. Inform them about this wonderful opportunity.

Ann Mitchell, Chair - College Relations.



## Spotlight on College Member



## PimaCommunityCollege

Which community college started in an airplane hangar?

Pima Community College opened in 1969 with classes first offered in a hangar at the Tucson airport. The home of the Aztecs has now evolved into a comprehensive two-year institution serving students striving to achieve a better life for themselves, their families and their communities.

Pima Community College serves the Tucson metropolitan area with six campuses, four education centers, and several adult education centers. It provides traditional and online instruction for over 144 programs for 75,000 students. It is one of the largest multi-campus community colleges in the United States.

The college district has expanded to meet the growing educational needs of the Tucson area. The oldest Pima Community College campus, West campus, includes facilities to offer Archaeological Field Training, a Center for the Arts and offices of the *Aztec Press* newspaper. Many medical programs are available at Pima, such as nursing and veterinary technology. They are proud of their Aviation Technology Program offered though Davis-Monthan Air Force Base and approved by the Federal Aviation Administration.

We were fortunate to have Dr. Dolores Duran-Cerda, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor, Pima Community College, as a member of our Higher Education Panel at the 2019 AAUW-AZ Fall Forum.

Sources: Pima Community College website and Wikipedia. Ann Mitchell, Chair - College Relations

## Women Rising

Equal Pay will be the focus of an upcoming program April 21st at Estrella Mountain Community College. The members of the Women Rising Chapter along with advisors, Regina Hernandez-Garcia and Melissa Suarez, look forward to including the AAUW College Connection Team with this effort. The plan is to reach out to other student organizations on campus.

Seven students from the Women Rising Chapter at Glendale Community College plan to attend NCCWSL. Connie Greenwell, Advisor, stated that as the conference is virtual and the registration fee has dropped, many students can attend!



## The AAUW-NWV Partnership with the YWCA

Acknowledgment works both ways. The College Connection Team is grateful to the YWCA Metro Phoenix for thanking the AAUW Northwest Valley Branch for our cooperation with them in developing programs to assist college students with information about financial management. The notice at the right appeared on their website.



## Give NCCWSL for her Birthday

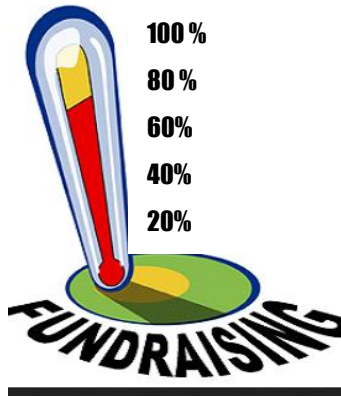
Do you have a granddaughter, niece or friend who is a college or university student? Do they have a birthday soon? What about paying for her registration fee for NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders). The AAUW leadership conference will be virtual this year and is scheduled for May 25 & 26, 2021. Registration is **NOW OPEN** and cost \$125. You know attendance at NCCWSL will look good on her future job and scholarship applications. Go to: "Attend NCCWSL-AAUW.org" to register.

If you know a student attending a college or university in Arizona, **BETTER YET**. AAUW-AZ has established funding for 48 AZ students to attend the conference for **FREE**. The students need to register for NCCWSL and then complete the application found at the end of the newsletter.

....Ann Mitchell, College Relations Chair



A 35-45 minute power point presentation is available for AAUW branch use to present the picture of the gender pay gap, the impact of the pandemic on women and the student debt load problem for women. It draws visuals and the research from AAUW report updates. This presentation has been made available via the AAUW NWV branch College Connections team in an effort to encourage greater public understanding of the economic issues for women of all ages. Notes are available for presenters. For more information, please contact Joye Kohl, AAUW Arizona Newsletter Editor.



## AAUW-NWValley 4 Public Education

*We are 2/3 of the way toward our goal of \$7,195!*

The AAUW NWV Branch was awarded \$500.00 from AAUW Arizona. With the offer of this grant money the Dysart Unified School District presented our branch with a request that would satisfy the new Arizona state Department of Education requirement mandated in the fall of 2020. This new mandate is for students to receive "Instruction on the Holocaust and other genocides at least once in either grade seven or grade eight."

One way that the school district proposed to meet this requirement was to provide resources for the students to close the reading gap by providing a biography about the Holocaust for students in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies and ELA courses. This would provide a cross-curricular option for teachers to support the reading standards as well as the social studies standards.

The book that they are purchasing is called *Living among the Dead: My Grandmother's Holocaust Survival Story of Love and Strength* by Adena Bernstein Astrowsky. It chronicles her grandmother's survival story as she told it to her family through her many years of life. It includes actual poetry and first-hand history. The Dysart Unified School District is going to provide one copy of this book to all 7<sup>th</sup> grade teams at all schools and will partner with one Title I school with a class set for students to interact with. The curriculum department will support the cross-curricular teaching of the book at the Title I school. The NWV Branch has offered to provide speakers to enhance the curriculum that will be taught and deepen the learning by sharing stories of the Holocaust from their own backgrounds.

AAUW NWV has had an excellent relationship with the Dysart Unified School District with supporting STEM programs in different schools over many years. We are presently involved in raising money to fund the new science standards which were adopted in 2019, providing for students to do science as it is done in the field. We are 2/3 of the way to our goal and are continuing to seek new avenues to finish funding this project.

Thank you AAUW Arizona for giving us this opportunity to demonstrate our support of our local public school, Dysart Unified School District. It will be greatly appreciated by the teachers who will be teaching this new curricula and by the students involved in the learning process.

Gail Peterson, AAUW-NWV 4 Public Education Co-Chair

*"AAUW we truly appreciate your support. They were so excited to use the pressure sensors and watch the data! This is going to be a great opportunity to conceptually understand what graphs are showing, and truly do some higher level thinking. AAUW-Your dedication to science and education is appreciated!"*

Best Regards,

**Tiffany Byrne**, Curriculum Specialist  
Education Services, Dysart Unified School District

A Dysart student using the new pressure sensors.





## AAUW Northwest Tucson Branch 4 Public Education Initiative

In November 2020, AAUW Northwest Tucson branch contacted Chris Trimble, Walker Elementary School Principal, through a recommendation from the Pima County Chief Deputy Superintendent. We posed the question to Chris as to how we could provide financial support for a project that would link to AAUW AZ's initiative of "Public Education 4 AZ".

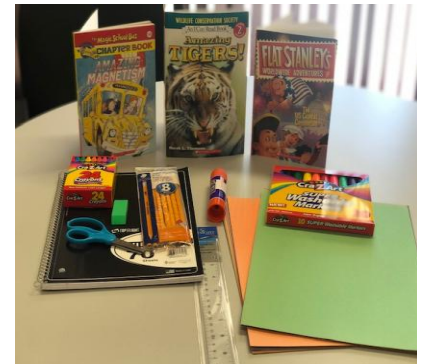
Walker Elementary School is a K-5 school in the Tucson area that has an enrollment of 425 students each year. The school also houses a developmental preschool for ages 3 to 5, who are not eligible to attend kindergarten. The student body at Walker Elementary is roughly 55.8% Hispanic, 32.6% White, 4.6% Asian, 2.9% African American, 0.8% Native American, and 3.3% Multi-racial. 5.8% of students receive English as a Second Language services and 24.2% of the students receive special education services. 62% of the students at Walker Elementary School receive free or reduced lunch and breakfast.

Chris told us that the COVID epidemic had created many challenges for their students and staff. One challenge was the need for individual materials for each student, especially materials that could be used to enhance remote learning. The school was working to construct at "student home learning kits" that would include the materials they needed to engage in daily learning activities and creative learning including STEM challenges.

Finally, the school was hoping to send home books to support student home libraries. A common feedback that teachers get from parents and students is the lack of options for reading material at home. The books would be grade specific as well as linked to student's reading level and one level above.

Since there are different types of Learning Kits, Chris created the following "kit" pricing that might attract individual donors who want to donate an amount that equals a number of specific "kits":

1. General Academic Supplies (Pencils, Sharpener, Markers, Crayons, Scissors, Glue sticks, Ruler, spiral notebook, loose paper, construction paper, water colors & brush) \$12.75
2. General Academic Supplies with STEM Materials: \$15.00
3. General Academic Supplies with additional ART Materials: \$16.00
4. General Academic Supplies with books for Home Library (books (will vary depending on grade): \$20.00



To date the school has distributed art kits to over 125 students home learning materials, and every student on campus has received two to four books for their home libraries (almost 900 books distributed in total).

Chris said: "We are so appreciative of American Association of University Women's Southern Arizona Chapter and all your members' incredible generosity. Our families are very grateful for the additional resources in this very trying time."

Our branch has contributed just under \$3000 to this effort which includes the \$500 AAUW AZ \$500 grant. The school is already working on summer materials for students



Chris said: "We are so appreciative of American Association of University Women's Southern Arizona Chapter and all your members' incredible generosity. Our families are very grateful for the additional resources in this very trying time."

Our branch has contributed just under \$3000 to this effort which includes the \$500 AAUW AZ \$500 grant.

,,,,,,Gail Parsons, Northwest Tucson Branch





### **SE Valley Branch adds members, sets goals and collaborates.....**

Our Southeast Valley Branch was pleased to add 7 new members who contacted SEV Branch based on AAUW's reputation and our publicity. Next year our plan is to do some heavy recruiting in the communities outside of Sun Lakes, expanding into all of the SE quadrant of Phoenix metro.

We formed a committee in January to take on the task of developing SEV goals for the first time. The committee of 7 worked on aligning our new goals with AAUW's 2018 goals as well as their recently updated 2.0 Version. Having goals provides our branch with the pathway needed to continue being a successful branch of AAUW.

SEV also collaborated with the Girl Scouts to expand our reach to middle school and high school girls pursuing Democracy badges, and to make their troop leaders and mothers aware of AAUW for potential membership interest.

For several years, members of the S. E. Valley have volunteered as reading tutors at San Marcos and Galveston Elementary Schools, Title One schools in Chandler. They have participated in a reading fluency program providing individual attention to students struggling with reading proficiency. Due to coronavirus, volunteer programs in the schools were canceled for the 2020-2021 school year. Wishing to retain its relationship with the schools and to continue to support student readers, the S.E. Valley AAUW chapter initiated a project to provide books to the school libraries. Funding was provided by a grant from the state AAUW chapter and the local chapter.

AAUW members Judi Edmonds and Ellie Watland selected books that highlighted women from around the world who overcame cultural, political, economic and physical obstacles to successfully achieve their goals. The books given to the schools were designed to promote self-esteem, encourage goal setting and instill a "think big" and "can do" confidence in young girls when facing challenges. The books included stories about Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Malala Yousafzai, Frida Kahlo, Greta Thunberg, Sojourner Truth, Jane Goodall, Anne Frank, Maya Angelou and several others. Over 20 books were given to each school.

Candace Cox and Mary Humecke, SEV Co-Presidents  
(AAUW.SEV.AZ@gmail.com)

100% of the proceeds are for the AAUW Southeast Valley Branch Scholarship Fund. Your generous donation lets us award local high school and Chandler Gilbert Community College young women up to four scholarships to pursue a college certificate or degree to advance their careers.

**ON SALE NOW!**

**RED TICKETS\*:** \$5 each OR 3 tickets for \$10 (6 for \$20!)

(\*For those in the Phoenix Metro Area ONLY)

**You can win one of the following fabulous prizes listed on the next page:**

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- **It's Wine O'Clock Somewhere:** Wine & goodies
- **Pamper Me Party:** Luxury skin products
- **Kitchenware Affair:** For the baker in mind
- **Pandemic Blaster:** Pro house cleaning products
- **Golf Buddy:** High quality golf pull cart
- **Pretty Woman Package:** Judy Wear Boutique gift certificate, handcrafted body scrub, soap & butter, and bath bombs
- **Pure Vanity Spa:** gift certificate
- **Organic Beauty & Med Spa:** Hair cut & style; gift certificate package for skin consult plus skin conditioning
- **Fun for Fur Babies:** Pet related products
- **Gilbert Oasis Water Park Pass**
- **Coffee Gift Basket**
- **Chandler Getaway Package for 2:** One night stay at San Marcos Hotel & dinner at San Tan Brewery
- **Jewelry:** Red jasper & carnelian necklace & earrings

### Get Your Tickets Many Ways!

- Email [aauw.sev.az@gmail.com](mailto:aauw.sev.az@gmail.com)
- ZELLE: use our email [AAUW.SEV.AZ@gmail.com](mailto:AAUW.SEV.AZ@gmail.com) In the MEMO, include your full name, email & phone number should you win
- Send a check to by April 20 AAUW SEV AZ, 719 W Hemlock Way Chandler, AZ 85248



## GREEN VALLEY Holds Annual LunaFest

As much as we all moan about how hard it is to do so many things virtually, our Green Valley Branch managed to pull off our virtual LunaFest. LunaFest consists of a series of short films by and about women. One film this year covered an all female expedition to the North Pole. Another, called "The Scientists Versus Dartmouth", was about the women studying for advanced science degrees at Dartmouth College who were sexually exploited by their mentors and professors and it followed their lawsuit to its successful conclusion. Then there was the one about a female professional softball player who won a Gold Glove Award, the first time it has ever been awarded to a non -Major League Baseball (MLB – all men) player.

One benefit of LunaFest being presented virtually was that we were able to buy tickets for family members and friends who live in different parts of the country (and snowbird members who aren't here), and we could watch them as many times as we wanted over a 48 hour period. We have asked Luna that, if we can do it in person next year, can we also do it online as well.

Could we top that? Yes we could!!! We held a virtual raffle for donated items from our members, such as gift cards, jewelry, craft items and even cash awards. Names were drawn as we all watched on and cheered if we won.

But the big question is...was it a financial success? That's an important question as this is our primary fund raiser for scholarships. We didn't do as well as years past, but we will be able to award at least three scholarships and donations continue to come in!

.....continued page 15

Green Valley Branch report continued ....

All of our programs this year have been virtual using Zoom. Because our members said they missed chatting with their friends, we now start our meetings with breakout rooms where groups of 5 or 6 people can chat for 15 minutes before our program starts. That must be hard to do, you say. Well, not with our three “Tech Hosts” that set it all up. We think they can do anything! And they keep proving us right. And our members agree that our programs are just as high quality this year as in previous years.

Because of ongoing Covid concerns, we made the difficult decision to keep our meetings virtual using Zoon through December, but look forward to seeing everyone in person in 2022.

Keep well, Keep safe, Keep healthy, Keep learning. And keep happy!

....Phyllis Debertin



## AAUW Customer Satisfaction -- Job One

AAUW Branch Survey results (completed last spring/summer and published in our September branch Newsletter) showed that socializing with other women rated “highest” satisfaction -- like working to advance gender equity for women and girls. What happens to satisfaction when our social participation gets cancelled? **WELL ...**

Our Program V.P.s and President-Elect taught us to Zoom. We Zoomed the Board of Directors' meetings and the third Thursday General Meetings. When the Del Webb Room reopened, Membership VPs and Hospitality Officers provided hand sanitizer, masks, and gloves for the members who social distanced “live and in person” while programs Zoomed.

We supported our scholars. Thanks to over half of our membership who donated items, time, talent, money, and bids in “Holidaze” Auction and now making Raffle Baskets, seven scholarships are funded in 2020-21. Talk about putting the **YOU** into **AAUW**!

*Special Interest Groups (SIGs) and Committees* upped their game. *Book Clubs, Hiking, and Girlfriends and More* Zoomed and/or socially-distanced outside. *College Connections* forged a partnership with the YWCA. We have a new “4 Public Education” project. Our *Newsletter* never missed a deadline. Nine new members joined our private *Facebook Page*; many of us attended at least one *AAUW webinar*. *Public Policy Committee* Chairs up-date members with National, State and Arizona Legislature information. **BECAUSE ...** Customer Satisfaction was in **DOING** job one -- or doing more than **ONE** job -- for **AAUW**!

Even when our social participation was put on hold, **DOING** one job (or more than one job) in support of **AA U W** made for a satisfied customer and put **U** into **AA U W**.

.....Sharon-Lee Astle

**The next newsletter deadline will be May 24<sup>th</sup>.** Please submit digital text and photo for inclusion in the newsletter, however do not submit your copy in pdf format or other formats which are difficult to edit please. Thank you.



### AAUW Arizona NCCWSL Award Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
College/University \_\_\_\_\_  
Campus Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Personal Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Year in School \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I registered for NCCWSL at a cost of.....

\_\_\_\_\_ \$95 Early Bird \_\_\_\_\_ \$125 Regular Registration

On a separate page, please respond to the following questions.

1. What do you hope to gain from the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)? How would you potentially use your experience on your campus and in your community?

2. Please list any community/civic/campus involvement or extra-curricular activities in which you have participated during the last two (2) years.

3. You will be expected to be available during the 2021-2022 academic school year to share your experience with college student groups and members of AAUW in Arizona. How will you complete this task?

4. You will receive reimbursement for your registration fee, up to \$125/person, after your attendance at the NCCWSL conference.

Please Email your application to Ann Mitchell at:  
[awmitchell@hotmail.com](mailto:awmitchell@hotmail.com). Your application must be received by May 1, 2021 to be considered for this AAUW-AZ award.