



With Katie Hobbs inauguration as Governor, Arizona is first U.S. state to have had five female governors

When Katie Hobbs was installed as Arizona's 24th governor Monday, her inauguration marked an important milestone for our state and for women. Arizona has now had five female governors, leading the nation with more female governors than any other state in the U.S. Many states have still never elected a female governor.



Governor Hobbs released the following statement following her swearing in: *"Today marks a new chapter for Arizona. As we look forward to a brighter future, I pledge that the needs of Arizonans - not partisan politics - will always come first. I will work with Republicans, Democrats, and Independents to tackle our state's biggest challenges - fully funding our public schools, securing our state's water future, ensuring reproductive freedom, making Arizona more affordable, and so much more."*

"I will never stop fighting for working families in our state. It is the greatest honor of my life to serve the state I love - and I'll never forget the faith that Arizonans have placed in me."

.....Katie Hobbs

.....continuing Page 2 - see Women in Government

AAUW AZ LEGISLATIVE DAY

FEB. 23,
10:00 am -1:00 pm
The Historic Senate Chambers
at the State Capitol



Featuring a panel discussion,
"How to Advocate Effectively for your Policy
Priorities" and a visit with Governor Katie
Hobbs. (see pages 3-4 for more info)



AAUW AZ Spring Forum

April 22, 2023
Arizona Historical Society
1300 N College Ave, Tempe

"Justice for Women's Issues"

.....See page for additional information.

Equity Now

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

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President's Message

Informative and inspiring Fall Forum

Hope your holidays were happy and enjoyable and you are staying healthy and safe.

The Fall Forum was a great success. Thank you to Kimberly Batty-Herbert and her committee for an informative and thought-provoking Fall Forum. We all learned more about our physical and mental health as we continue to cope with the pandemic.

Harriet Young is working on our Legislative Day in person. It is scheduled for Thursday, February 23, 2023. Stay tuned for more information as to the speakers she has lined up.

Save the date for our Spring Event the date is Saturday, April 22, 2023, where we will installing our new state officers as well as an amazing program, stay tuned for updates.

I would like to remind you that our board meetings are open to the members, and I invite you to attend. The next board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 18th at 4:00 pm, we meet on ZOOM, let me know if you would like to attend and I will send you the link.

I look forward to meeting and working with all of you in the coming months.

.....Ana

Women in Government continued.....

After two record-shattering elections for women in Congress, the past election represented an expansion for women governors. Nearly 25 percent of the nation's governors will be women in 2023, including in several states that have never before elected a woman to their top office. Though the Governor's position is one of the most important and prestigious elective offices, Governors' seats have been traditionally more difficult for women to win.

Women make up more than a quarter (28%) of all members of the 118th Congress – counting both those serving in the House of Representatives and the Senate, women account for 153 of the 540 members of Congress -- the highest percentage in U.S. history and a considerable increase from the 96 serving in Congress a decade ago.

The first woman elected to Congress occurred more than a century ago when Montana's [Jeannette Rankin](#), was elected to the House in 1916, two years after Montana gave women the vote. However, women didn't begin serving in larger numbers until just the past few decades. Nearly two-thirds of the women ever elected to the House and nearly three-fourths of the women elected to the Senate were elected in 1992 or later.

AAUW AZ Spring Forum – “Justice for Women's Issues”

In light of the recent political, as well as judicial, environments that have reduced the efficacy of women's voices with regard to social, economic, ethical, as well as personal agency issues, it is imperative that we as members of AAUW work to create the dynamics necessary to shift power so that we have a fair and equal society in which each person and all groups are valued as well as well as empowered. To that end, the theme of the annual AAUW AZ Spring Forum is “Justice for Women's Issues”. Collaboratively, we will explore some of the critical issues facing women today: access to quality education, availability of health care, equal pay, and equal opportunity. We will hear from key law makers and influencers as to what is currently happening in Arizona, and we will discuss how we, as members of AAUW, can work to transform our systems through activism. education. and service.



Public Policy



AAUW ARIZONA ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE DAY

**FEB. 23, 10:00-1:00
In Person!!!**



Where: The Historic Senate Chambers at the Arizona Capitol
Featuring a panel discussion, "How to Advocate Effectively for your Public Policy Priorities" plus a visit with Governor Katie Hobbs

Guest panelists include:

- Jodi Liggett- Founder of the Arizona Center for Women's Advancement - ACWA,
- Nicky Indicavitch- Statewide Outreach Director at Save Our Schools AZ, and
- David Lujan- Former Arizona State Senator & President & CEO of Children's Action Alliance

See speaker bios on the following page.

The 2023 Legislative Day Agenda:

- 10:00- Sign in
- 10:05- Greetings from AAUW AZ President-Elect BECKY GUNN
- 10:10- Introduction of the panel: HARRIET YOUNG,
AAUW AZ Public Policy Chair
- 10:15- PANEL DISCUSSION - "How to be an Effective
Advocate for your Public Policy Priorities"
- 11:45- Final remarks and visit with GOVERNOR HOBBS



Come join us for a day to socialize and learn with fellow AAUW members from across the state on how to make your voice heard!

There is ample parking at the capitol building once you get there. Come in the main entrance and the guide will help you find the room. The formal segment of the program ends at noon, but you are encouraged to sight see, go visit your legislator, or go attend a session of the house or the senate. There is a cafeteria on the property for those who want to lunch together. See you soon.

Public Policy Thoughts from Harriet Young, State Public Policy Chairwoman:

"We live in a wobbly democracy and we all need to look inside to figure out what's really important to us. We also need to understand and learn how to use our democratic process to achieve our policy preferences. Elected officials respond to active citizens."

"So, on Legislature Day we learn how to be effective advocates for our goals and at Spring Forum we explore what a world that embraces justice for women would look like. In the next election cycle, we know what we need to do. The election of Katie Hobbs can't be a fluke. It must be a harbinger."



AAUW Arizona Legislative Day Speaker Bios's



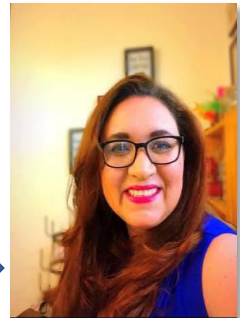
Kathleen Marie Hobbs (born December 28, 1969) is an American politician and social worker serving as the 24th governor of Arizona since 2023. She previously served as the 21st secretary of state of Arizona from 2019 to 2023.

Jodi Liggett is Founder of the Arizona Center for Women's Advancement – ACWA. Prior to this, she served as Governor Jane Dee Hull's policy advisor for Human services, Director and CEO of the AZ Foundation for Women (AFW), Mayor Greg Stanton's senior policy advisor, and Executive Director of Planned Parenthood Advocates. Most recently, Jodi was Phoenix Mayor Kate Gallego's deputy chief of staff before founding the ACWA.



David Lujan is an American politician who served in the Arizona legislature from 2005 until 2013. He was first elected to the Arizona House of Representatives in 2004 representing most of the central Phoenix area. He is currently the President and CEO of Children's Action Alliance.

Nicky Indicavitch is a mother of five public school children. She lives in Prescott Valley and has been organizing parents, teachers and community members to support public education in Arizona for the past 6 years. She currently serves as the Statewide Outreach Director for Save Our Schools Arizona.



From the recent SOS AZ newsletter.

◆ Under universal vouchers, the ESA voucher program has **expanded from 11,000 to 45,000 users — a 400% increase**.

◆ The JLBC **projected** universal eligibility would cost taxpayers \$33 million in the first year, but **that cost is up to \$210 million** (and counting) for the first quarter alone.

◆ Roughly 75% of new applicants have **never attended a public school**. Each of these applicants represents a new cost to the state General Fund, half of which funds public education.

◆ Supt. Horne has appointed Christine Accurso to oversee the ESA voucher program. Accurso **worked** with DeVos's American Federation for Children and the Goldwater Institute to oppose last summer's universal ESA voucher referendum.

◆ Supt. Horne is already **working to strip accountability** relating to ESA vouchers from the ADE



PRESCOTT CAMPUS, 1100 E. SHELDON ST, PRESCOTT AZ 86301
WWW.YC.EDU/AZWOMENSFORUM

YCF Yavapai College
Foundation

Yavapai
COLLEGE

Proceeds from this event will be applied to educational scholarships for deserving Arizona women, with an emphasis on first generation students.

In light of the recent political, as well as judicial, environments that have reduced the efficacy of women's voices with regard to social, economic, ethical, as well as personal agency issues, it is imperative that we as members of AAUW work to create the dynamics necessary to shift power so that we have a fair and equal society in which each person and all groups are valued as well as empowered. To that end, the theme of the annual AAUW AZ Spring Forum is "Justice for Women's Issues". Collaboratively, we will explore some of the critical issues facing women today: access to quality education, availability of health care, equal pay, and equal opportunity. We will hear from key law makers and influencers as to what is currently happening in Arizona, and we will discuss how we, as members of AAUW, can work to transform our systems through activism, education, and service.



AAUW Phoenix Branch

Our branch began meeting again in September after a long break due to the COVID situation. We have 41 members and are now meeting at the Mandarin Super Buffet restaurant on the third Saturday of each month at 11 a.m. We have had excellent programs on a variety of current issues including environmental and current issues such as methods of Arizona survey studies and development of community gardens. Our Christmas party was a chance to catch up with members activities after the two year hiatus. Although we couldn't meet we still were able to support our three scholarship recipients in furthering their studies. We look forward to 2023 and selecting candidates for scholarship assistance.

.....Pam Kohnken, President

SE Valley Branch

Banned Books - a discussion from the Librarians Viewpoint



AAUW Southeast valley hosted “**Banned Books - a discussion from the Librarians Viewpoint**” featuring Lindsay Atwood and Sue Van Horne from the Chandler Library System. The librarians discussed how books are officially challenged, which is part of the book banning process, and the difficulties public libraries face in such situations. The 30 ladies in attendance had plenty of questions about the challenge process. Lindsay and Sue provided insight about protecting freedom of book access while protecting younger readers from age-inappropriate books. Case in point was a book called Snotgirl that was moved from the Children’s section of the library to the adult area. An informative evening was had by all!

Holiday Luncheon – December 10, 2022

Members and guests enjoyed a delicious lunch at the Cottonwood Country Club and were treated to a musical program organized and performed by member, Jeanette

Cline, and friends. Beautiful table centerpieces were created by Sharon Gale and were auctioned to support our local AAUW SEV scholarship fund.

Our impressive luncheon speaker, Mariia Vitrukh, was awarded an AAUW National Fellowship. Mariia is a Ph.D candidate from Ukraine attending Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College at ASU. Mariia believes that women with their incredible creative and intellectual talents have the opportunity to create futures beyond common social and political imaginings. The focus of Mariia’s doctorate studies is the impact on professors and students of maintaining continuing education in areas impacted by the destruction of war. Her presentation with accompanying graphics was riveting.

Mary Humecke, Co-President

Green Valley Branch

Happy New Year! Turning the page to 2023, Green Valley members are looking forward to the return of many snowbirds. It is a time to renew friendships and develop new ones. Our numbers will swell at the General Meetings and Interest Groups. These snowbirds also contribute to our traditional areas of service.

For the 13th year Green Valley AAUW members will raise 96 US flags along our main street to celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr.'s (MLK) birthday on January 16th.

Once again we will be advancing our mission, by raising money to award scholarships to women attending Pima Community College and contributing to our National AAUW funds through our Lunafest Festival. Lunafest is a series of films produced and directed by women, about women. It will be held Saturday, March 4th in person and virtually. Those attending virtually (in their own home), anywhere in the country, can help support young women. (This is a good way for other AAUW groups to support our fund raiser. Please contact me for additional information – Bensline3@gmail.com). The in-person showing will be held at Community Performance Art Center (CPAC). There will be donated food from local vendors and a raffle of baskets and items donated by Interest Groups, individuals, and local vendors. Tickets sell out quickly for this event.

With the New Year, Green Valley AAUW looks forward to a busy 2023.

Linda Enterline, Green Valley Branch Co-President

AAUW Tucson (AZ) Branch Update

Our Tucson Branch had a busy and productive close to the year. Most notable was the return of Running & Winning at Empire High School and engaging with the community through several in-person events.

On September 1st, 2022, we successfully conducted the first interactive, non-partisan Running & Winning Workshop since COVID hit with 45 High School students. With volunteers, facilitators and almost a dozen local government representatives and public servants in the room, including Adelita Grijalva, we had a wonderful turnout. This year's program was facilitated in partnership with the *League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson* and the *YWCA of Southern Arizona* along with our *AAUW Tucson (AZ) Branch*.



Left: Running and Winning Workshop.

Above: Pima Community College Candidate Forum

Also in September, AAUW Tucson sponsored a Women in the Workforce Panel with the *Arizona Tech Council* at the YWCA and moderated by AAUW President, Diana Charbonneau. In a mission to engage with local young professionals, in October, we hosted the Pima Community College Candidate Forum with *Tucson Young Professionals* which was educational and well attended bringing in some new YP members.

Continued on next page

Tucson Branch continued

Finishing up the year, our Tucson President went OVER THE EDGE supporting the *Girl Scouts of Southern Arizona* rappelling down a 17-story building on Broadway with a middle school Girl Scout. Our final member meeting had guests from Women in STEM & Engineering (WISE) at the University of Arizona -who we have partnered with yearlong. In addition, our closing Start Smart Tucson series in November served almost 50 PhD and Graduate students putting us at over 300 women who went through our Start Smart sessions in 2022. We hope everyone had Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year – here's to 2023!

Photo Right: AAUW Tucson President goes OVER THE EDGE with the Girl Scouts of So. AZ

Diana Charbonneau, *Tucson President*



NWV Branch

Our Branch members stepped up to the Dollars for Scholars Challenge Grant and made it happen! We were offered a \$5,000 matching grant challenge in September, 2022. The Board accepted the challenge; we reached out to our members and friends, and as of December 26, the challenge was met; even exceeded by a few dollars!



This is so important for us as our scholarship committee reviews their commitments and is in the process of deciding how to make some needed changes. We know costs are rising, challenges for our recipients are escalating, and we want to be better prepared to meet these new demands. Our commitment is still strong; our past recipients have been great, and we want as bright a future as we can help happen.

Photo: Branch Fashion Show Fundraiser Committee

Karen, Bunting, President, Northwest Valley

AAUW - Prescott: Gearing Up for the AAUW AZ Women's Forum

Greetings from Prescott! It was a busy fall here and looks to be another busy month coming up. AAUW-Prescott has continued our theme of engagement, starting with a new member recruitment in September, as well as dynamic speakers at our general meetings in October and November. Our October meeting took us inside the ballot counting process, including safeguards and security processes. In November, one of our own members addressed the needs of those who care give, a very relevant discussion for many of us who are caretaking children, spouses, and/or elderly parents. Our annual Holiday Brunch rounded out December with an engaging speaker on volunteerism. Each year we also give three branch awards for members who have devoted much time and energy to the AAUW mission.

Continued on next page.

Prescott Branch continued

The membership also engaged in the giving of time, talent, and money this fall. Our Reality Store was held at the local high school multiple times in October. In this experiential learning exercise, students project what career and family size they would like then “purchase” all of life’s necessities based on their income and family size. Many volunteers are needed to run Reality Store and the membership came through, providing their time and expertise, as well as learning how students prioritize their spending. Our Red Envelope donation at the Holiday Brunch this year was earmarked for the middle school libraries in Yavapai County. The school libraries in the county have no money for buying and replacing books. AAUW-Prescott raised \$3,000 to help these schools purchase new books.

Now the holidays have passed and AAUW-Prescott looks to have you engage with us. The **AAUW AZ Women’s Forum: Today’s Pioneers** is being held in Prescott on January 27-28. This two day conference is a chance to engage on topics that interest us all -- volunteerism, self-care for caregivers, health, books, and finances. The keynote speakers for the event are Alice Ferris founder of GoalBusters and Dr. Lisa Rhine, Yavapai College President. Food, social time, live music, and an art show and auction round out the events. All proceeds from the event go to Yavapai College Scholarship for women, especially first generation students. To learn more and register, click [Women's Forum](#). We’d love to see you there!



Members enjoying the Holiday Brunch.



Penny Briner Ewell, President presenting Red Envelope money to Suzie Roth, School Librarian, Yavapai County Free Library District.

.....Penny Briner Ewell, Prescott Branch President

Dates to mark on your calendar ----

Jan. 18 – 4pm State Board Meeting by Zoom
Jan. 27-28 AZ Women’s Forum – Prescott
Feb. 23, 10 am-1 pm ...AAUW AZ Legislative Day
Feb. 23,Deadline for March Newsletter Copy
April 22 Spring Forum