



WHAT DOES JUSTICE FOR WOMEN LOOK LIKE?

AAUW AZ Spring Forum
April 22, 2023, 10:00 am-3:00 pm
AZ Historical Society Heritage Center @ Papago Park

Keynote Address by Jennifer Allen Aroz
 Executive Director for the ACLU of Arizona
 plus a panel presentation
 with Coral Evans, Lauren Kubly, & Athena Salaman



Jennifer A. Aroz

Addressing the annual AAUW AZ Spring Forum, “Justice for Women’s Issues”, 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.

The AZ Heritage Center at Papago Park is one of Arizona's leading historical museums. Take a walk through Arizona's past and explore the rise of desert cities, see World War II through the eyes of Arizonans and experience Arizonans and experience the culture and diversity that makes up the Southwest.



The meeting includes admission to the museum, a Friday night social in Old Town Scottsdale and more. See page 2.

We look forward to seeing you!

**President Biden proclaimed
 March 2023 as
 Women’s History Month
 saying.....**

“During Women’s History Month, we celebrate the countless women who have fought tirelessly and courageously for equality, justice, and opportunity in our Nation. We also reaffirm our commitment to advancing rights and opportunities for women and girls in the United States and around the world. We are mindful that we are building on the legacy of both recognized trailblazers and unsung heroines who have guided the course of American history and continue to shape its future.”



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AAUW advances gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

President's Message



Happy St Patrick's Day!

Legislative Day was a great success, thanks to Dr. Harriet Young and Tracy Smiles for organizing an informative and educational event. The event was in person, and we had quite a great turnout despite the weather.

I want to thank Joye Kohl for her time, support, and expertise in getting our newsletter organized these last few years, we are truly grateful.

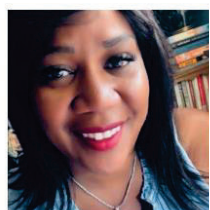
Save the date for our Spring Forum on Saturday, April 22, 2023, there is more information about it in the newsletter.

We have a Zoom board meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 15th at 4:00 PM.

... Ana Nygren

Spring Forum continued.....

Additional Forum speakers will include:



CORAL EVANS

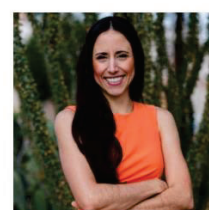
Northern Arizona Director for Sen. Mark Kelly, Former Flagstaff Mayor.



LAUREN KUBY

Former two-term City Council member and Vice Mayor of Tempe, ASU Sustainability Scientist .

Politician and Activist Serving as AZ House Representatives from the 8th District



ATHENA SALMAN

A hot lunch will be catered by Creations by Sergio. New AAUW AZ Executive Committee members will be installed. Attend, meet and socialize with AAUW members from across the state. Guests/Nonmembers welcome.

The form cost is \$40.00 (includes lunch & museum admission) Lodging is available at the Holiday Inn Express & Suites Scottsdale-Old Town, 3131 N Scottsdale Rd. (480-675-7665). Two Queen Bed Suites @ \$169.00 plus tax (14.02%). Free buffet breakfast and parking. **EXTENDED DEADLINE: Must make reservations by 3/17/23**

To register for the spring forum use this link,
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf6TXCYN2RI-o9KWojzdUfrLfHrpvEwoqDq0d75g1egpi0gHA/viewform?usp=sf_link

AAUW Celebrates Women's History Month

AAUW members, fellows, and award winners have been groundbreakers in virtually every field and occupation, ranging from the first woman to win a Nobel Prize in 1903, to a current Supreme Court Justice. Learn more about some of the extraordinary women of AAUW and more about our history which started in 1881. Join us as we continue to make progress in the fight for gender equity!

Public Policy



AAUW ARIZONA ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE DAY



Report by Becky Gunn, AAUW Arizona President-Elect

On Thursday, February 23rd, AAUW held its annual Legislative Day at the State Capitol in Phoenix. With 50 in attendance, the event had representation from almost every branch despite some branches being unable to attend due to inclement winter weather. There was palpable energy in the room in part from meeting in person for the first time in several years.

The focus of the day was a panel consisting of Jodi Ligget, Founder of the *Arizona Center for Women's Achievement*; David Lujan prior legislator and current President and CEO of the *Children's Action Alliance*; and Nicky Indicavitch, the Statewide Outreach Director for *Save Our Schools Arizona*.

We were also joined on the panel by Representative Patricia Contreras from Legislative District 12 about halfway through the discussion. Rep. Contreras provided a 'live' perspective about what is going on in the current legislature.

Facilitating the panel, Jodi Ligget's first question was basically how the current legislative environment was different from previous years due to the 'divided' government. Each panelist was clear that it is such a closely divided House and Senate with one party in charge, fewer bills are receiving a thorough analysis/consideration. Some indicated that the Request to Speak information may not be considered seriously; that said, it was clear that one means of having a say/impact is to use the RTS system. All panelists strongly advised that we continue writing our Senators and Representatives. Your voice needs to be heard. It was also acknowledged that the Governor will be vetoing many of the bills that are passed.

Another issue discussed was that of the Budget 'negotiations.' To be honest, at this point in time there is almost no bi-partisan discussion, but there will have to be some level of give-and-take in order for a budget to be passed. There are some individual senators/representatives who are willing to 'cross the line.' All of the panelists were encouraging that a budget will be passed that will address education funding and taxation.

What can we do besides write to our elected Legislators? Work to change the Senate from the current Party's control for the next election. We will then be able LEGISLATE instead of trying to use the initiative process to make changes to or fund public education adequately or to appropriately consider women's rights issues.

About 30 of us met with Governor Hobbs, mostly as a photo op in her reception area on the 8th floor of the Executive Building. The room was electric given this opportunity.

Responses from participants of the day were glowing..."the best ever" was said more than once. And, know that there will (circumstances willing) be an even better event in Feb. of 2024.

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) is the nation's leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls.

Two-Minute Activist - Pass the Paycheck Fairness Act

Status: On April 15, 2021, the House of Representatives voted 217-210 to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act with bipartisan support. However, on June 8, 2021 it failed on a party-line procedural vote in the Senate, 49-50. But the fight is not over: As the 118th Congress begins the new term, we call on all elected officials to listen to voters, who overwhelming support pay equity, and work to pass this important bill.

You've heard the statistics — on average, women working full time in the United States are paid just [84% of what men are paid](#), and the gap is even wider for many women of color. When we expand how this is calculated to include a broader cross-section of women, including those who work part time or seasonally, we represent a more accurate picture of how pay inequality impacts diverse communities: the pay gap widens even further to 77 cents. Despite federal and state equal pay laws, the gender pay gap persists. But Congressional action can help change this. The Paycheck Fairness Act would take meaningful steps to update and strengthen the Equal Pay Act of 1963 to help close the gender pay gap, including:

- closing loopholes that have weakened the law over time to allow employers to justify paying workers unfairly,
- creating more robust remedies for those who have suffered discrimination,
- preventing employers from retaliating against workers who discuss or disclose their wages,
- prohibiting employers from relying on salary history to set wages, and
- providing much needed training and technical assistance, as well as data collection and research.

The gender pay gap is persistent and can only be addressed if women have the tools they need to challenge discrimination and employers have the incentives they need to comply with the law. It's time for Congress to make real change for all families by passing the Paycheck Fairness Act. Act now:

1. Go to www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/paycheck-fairness/ to send a letter via two minute activist.
2. Call your members of Congress through the U.S. Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224-3121. Be sure to include important information in your message:
Hello, I am a constituent from [your city/state] and I am calling to urge the [Senator/Congressperson] to do their job and support and ensure swift passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act. This critical legislation can help women, their families, and our overall economy rebound from the current crisis by guaranteeing equal pay for equal work.
3. Please ask your friends and family to also take action!

Ask your members of Congress to show their support for pay equity by passing the Paycheck Fairness Act!

Two-Minute Activist

Send emails and texts to your legislators to fight for equal pay, family leave, stopping sexual harassment, equality in education and more. Sign up to get regular alerts to be able to take timely action.



Prescott Branch hosts Arizona Women's Forum

The Arizona Women's Forum — Today's Pioneers was held at the Yavapai College Performing Arts Center on January 27 and 28, 2023. With 125+ attendees and local sponsorships, AAUW-Prescott was able to add \$10,000 to the Centennial Scholarship Fund (a STEM scholarship for women students at Yavapai College).

The event evaluations indicated that attendees enjoyed the speakers, keynote and panelists; the entertainment by the Yavapai College Brass Ensemble; the foods served by Goods From the Garden; and enjoyment of the company of fellow supporters of quality educational opportunities for women. The consensus of those who filled out the surveys was that the event was educational as well as entertaining.



Anne Barton, Prescott

Green Valley Branch

If you felt a whirl wind coming from the South, that was from AAUW-GV Branch! In February we sponsored the Rally to End Violence Against Women and Girls. The event was attended by over 60 women AND men. A big thank you to Libby Beyer for organizing such a meaningful and important rally.

We kicked off March by making sandwiches and assembling lunches for children at St. Andrew's Clinic in Nogales. Five members pitched in to help so these kids would have healthy lunches.

Our big fundraiser, was held March 4. Lunafest consists of short films by and about women

The event was held at the Community Performance and Art Center with over 170 in attendance. The option of on-line viewing was also made available. Proceeds from Lunafest will provide



continued next page.....

Green Valley Branch continued

scholarships for individuals to attend Pima Community College. A special thank you to Phyllis Debertin for her outstanding leadership in chairing the Lunafest Committee.

Yes, it has been a whirl wind, but there is also more that needs to be done!

Marie Cory, Co-President

East Mesa Branch - AAUW Honors Scholars at February Dress for Success Luncheon

'Dress for Success' was the theme of the 2023 Scholar Luncheon sponsored by the East Mesa Branch of the American Association of University Women in collaboration with Dress for Success Phoenix. The Scholar Luncheon is an annual event to celebrate the accomplishments of our AAUW scholars and to recognize the hard work required for these young women to achieve their college and professional degrees.

Featured speaker was Mary Crawford, Director of Women's Services at Dress for Success Phoenix. As founder and CEO of C & C and Associates, a grassroots organization that was born of her vision to "promote long term sustainability, education, career coaching and empowerment for women, Mary's passion is to help women re-enter the job market and re-establish themselves. She has been involved with Dress for Success for over 24 plus years and is a participant on national panels for the Professional Women's Group. Instrumental in launching two mobile units for the Phoenix affiliate, Mary is also involved in the creation of Hope for Success, a program designed to enable incarcerated women re-enter the workplace.



Mary's keynote presentation focused on "Be Bold, Be Brave, Be Great", attributes necessary to women entering the workforce for the first time as well as women re-entering the workforce. "Be Bold", she told our scholars, in creating and pursuing opportunities for your advancement, "Be Brave" in overcoming obstacles to your success, and "Be Great" to the best of your ability at whatever career path you choose. With anecdotes from her life, Mary gave a positive and powerful presentation that reflected the core values of Dress for Success.

As an added highlight, the scholars arrived at the luncheon wearing new outfits they selected, assisted by their Dress for Success Phoenix personal shopper. During a visit to Leisure World from their mobile unit, these outfits, provided at no charge to the scholars, are designed to provide the professional appearance these young women require for job interviews and work, regardless of their career path.



Dress For Success Phoenix is a non-profit organization dependent on volunteers and donations to continue their mission. To facilitate the continued availability of their mobile units and offer a wide range of services, the East Mesa Branch presented Mary with a \$5,000 check and will continue to partner with them in the future.

Beverly Byrd, President

**Be Bold,
Be Brave,
Be Great!**

SE Valley Branch

Happy Hour Fashion Show: To kick off the new year, our January Friday the 13th HAPPY HOUR FASHION SHOW was a huge success! We had over 100 ladies attend this event. The food was great, the models were beautiful wearing fashions provided by Judy Wear Boutique in Chandler, and the \$4 wine special seem to go over very well! Thank you to Judy Wear Boutique for putting on this fashion show. We raised about \$1700 to go toward our scholarship fund and Girls In Stem program through the Arizona Science Center. And many women from the community who are not yet AAUW members attended which was our primary objective with this event. Mark your calendars for January 23, 2024. The Happy Hour Fashion Show will be back!

Arizona Science Center Comes to AAUW (By JoAnn Greenzweig): Our January AAUW General Meeting featured Kimberly Duvall who has taught informal science education for over 15 years. She taught mostly in zoos and aquariums before working at the Arizona Science Center in 2021. Her current role at ASC is Girls in STEM Coordinator where she plans and facilitates STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) programs. Kim discussed the ASC's programs focusing on STEM programs for girls 4th through 8th grade. There are a variety of programs and events – for details check out their website at: azscience.org. Our group enjoyed playing a little financial awareness bingo; Kim explained besides bingo girls participate in robot programming and group problem solving exercises. In March the ASC will be hosting a STEM careers program featuring Dr. Jessie Rach, a local biologist, with volunteers from our SEV Branch participating. The evening was informative and fun!

Women Rising: The February 20th Branch meeting was well attended and included twenty-eight members, all but one in person, and two guests. Both guests became members as a result of the meeting and we welcome them. Our featured speaker, Donna Lopez Martinez, Director of Student Services at Maricopa Community Colleges, was joined by Justina Burks, Senior Student Services Analyst serving Chandler-Gilbert Community College. The topic was Women Rising, a Maricopa Community Colleges wide organization designed to improve the retention and degree completion rates of minority female students. Both Donna and Justina shared the difficulties they are working through to bring student engagement and participation in Women Rising and other support programs back to pre-COVID levels. Both are optimistic that with time and effort things will eventually move back to more student group focused engagement.

Prizes! Cash! AAUW Fundraising Raffle supports local scholarships: The American Association of University Women Southeast Valley Branch (AAUW)'s 3rd Annual Spring Raffle Fundraiser in March. 100% of the proceeds to fund scholarships for high school senior and older women attending Chandler Gilbert Community College. Nine women received scholarships from the 2022 raffle! Raffle tickets will be sold Friday, March 10th and Saturday, March 11th, 4–7 pm, outside Stone and Barrel, Ironwood Grill on the Green, and Cottonwood outside the Saguaro Room. Look for the table, signage, enthusiastic volunteers, and a complete list of our amazing prizes! Bring your cash and buy tickets for \$5.00 each. A \$20 bill gets you six chance to win \$500 in cash or one of many amazing prizes!! The drawing for the baskets will be held at Judy Wear Boutique – 950 E. Riggs Rd, Chandler – on Saturday, March 25. Winners do not need to be present to win, but you can continue buying tickets that day until 3 pm at the Boutique. Ten percent of any Judy Wear purchases that day will also support the fundraiser. Just mention it at checkout.



Mary Humecke, Co-President

Tucson Branch

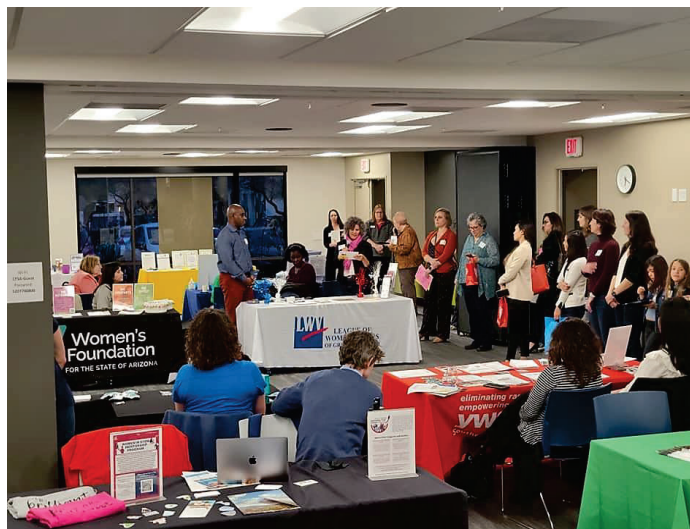
Busy Start to the Year in Tucson: We returned to programming with a bang this year holding our Women Who Write Panel with four notable Tucson Authors which was intentionally set right before the Tucson Festival of Books where thousands of people celebrated literacy.

On March 1st, AAUW Tucson held our 2nd Annual Big Collab with 21 women's organizations coming together at the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona with over 100 community member attending. The purpose is to bring in the community to learn about our women's organizations and get involved as board members, volunteers or members. It was a smashing success this year!

As part of our Community Partnership initiative, we have sponsored and taken part in quite a few events that will roll through Women's History Month in March:

- ❖ **YWCA's 34th Women's Leadership Conference** where AAUW Tucson President will present Start Smart Salary Negotiation as part of the programming
- ❖ **SHETech** –full-day conference exploring Tech through a Pima County program increasing representation and opportunities in multiple STEM fields for **over 250 high school girls**
- ❖ **Eggs Over Easy** with the League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson in which we have restarted Running & Winning with the launch in the Fall.

Join us on **Tuesday, April 18th @ 5:30** in Tucson for a **Women Who Lead** Panel where we are hosting our NEW female Chamber leaders from the Oro Valley Chamber of Commerce, Marana Chamber of Commerce, LGBT+ Chamber of Commerce and the Women's Council of Realtors. We will be holding our Women of Distinction Celebration on Saturday, May 20th at the Viscount Suite to celebrate our members and the incredible history of our Tucson Branch.



The Big Collab of 21 Women's Organizations.



AAUW Tucson Women Who Write Panel: Adiba Nelson, Kathryn Bertine, Cynthia Magallanes, Gayle Petrillo and President, Diana Charbonneau (L-R)

Scottsdale Branch - Celebrates Women's History Month with Annual Author's Luncheon

AAUW Scottsdale held the Author's Luncheon at the SCC Artichoke Grill on March 8. The event is our annual fundraiser for scholarships and will feature local author Karen Odden. It is a terrific event with great food prepared by the Culinary Arts Students at SCC. We look to secure a woman author to speak to us, and this year is no exception. Karen Odden is an accomplished author of historical mysteries. She has written five books, and her most recent "Under a Veiled Moon" was nominated for a Lefty Award (for a crime novel) and an Agatha Award,

.....Scottsdale Branch continued on next page



Scottsdale Branch continued.....

Our Branch meetings are open to any interested person and on April 15th the speaker will be Denise Kay representing Connections in Homecare. Denise will talk about aging gracefully, including the many aspects of caregiving decisions and actions. This meeting will be held at Scottsdale Community College Indigenous Cultural Center. It begins at 10am with fellowship, a brief business meeting and the speaker at 11am. The Scottsdale Branch is grateful to Scottsdale Community College for giving us space for our meetings at no cost. Dr Eric Leshinskie and his staff are great partners and besides supporting students with scholarships, we collect donations for the SCC Student Pantry. The items collected are available to any student who needs help with non-perishable food and toiletries. Scottsdale Branch members bring the items to our meetings and they have been most generous.

We are once again collecting books for our Adopt-a-Book program under the leadership of Linda Nance. This year the Scottsdale branch of AAUW has partnered with Yavapai Elementary School. We will collect 350-400 books for children in kindergarten through 5th grade. Members browse local bookstores, libraries, and thrift sales for gently used books appropriate for K-5 grades. We also accept cash donations to AAUW Adopt-a-Book. Our branch has donated thousands of books to Title 1 schools in Scottsdale and we are proud to help children in need learn the joy of having their own book to read and keep.

Karen Ramos, President



NW Valley Branch

Northwest Valley has had a very active winter and spring calendar for 2023. January found us fascinated with Denise Rosales and Heather Tracy from Native Art Market in Old Town Scottsdale. They were just named Business of the Year in Scottsdale. Denise and Heather told their story: how they went from a stand beside the highway leading into the Grand Canyon, to the only Indigenous-owned brick-and-mortar shop in Old Town Scottsdale. At both their indoor venue and their outdoor market (November-March) they demonstrate Native dance, teach about tribal customs, and showcase amazing craftsmanship from hundreds of Native Artists.

In February, Gina Ore, Chief Philanthropy Officer, Sun Health Foundation pepped us up and had wonderful tips for reaching out to the community, raising money, and getting more involved.

Our Branch held an Egg-cellent gathering/donation to the West Valley Food Bank. AAUW-NWV President Karen Bunting and Vice President Marge Whitman led our generous members in donating over 65 dozen cartons of eggs for our community West Valley Food Bank. Food insecurity has been growing due to inflation. Seniors with fixed incomes have especially been affected. More community donations are being planned.



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NW Valley Report continued....

**Celebrating
50 Years
of
Title IX**

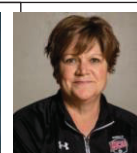


In March, during Women's History Month, we're throwing a public party to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Title IX. Our Women's History SIG and program committee have planned an exciting program focused on the background to and history of Title IX, the impact of the law for women and girls at all levels of education and the challenges remaining in its implementation. The panel of speakers include Christina Haines, retired President of the Scottsdale Community College; Lisa Stuck, Glendale

Community College Volley Ball Coach and a former All-American; and Jodi Liggett, public policy activist and president/founder of the AZ Center for Women's Advancement. Though Title IX is often thought of as a sports law, the original intent was, and is to increase academic opportunities for women and girls -- a message so dear to our hearts in AAUW. Attendees will be afforded the opportunity to share their own experiences in table discussions. Come on over! The celebration party is Thursday, March 16th, 9 a.m. at the RH Johnson Foundation in Sun City West.

Title IX - 37 words greatly impacting women & girls for one-half century!!

Speakers L-R:
Christina Haines
Lisa Stuck
Jodi Liggett



Karen Bunting, President

Mark Your Calendar OR Clip & Post

Month of March - Women's History Month

Thursday, Mar. 15th - AAUW Arizona Board Meeting – by Zoom 4 pm (A link will be sent to anyone who would like to participate. Contact President Ana Nygren if you need the link.

Sunday, April 9th - Happy Easter

Saturday, April 22nd – AAUW Arizona Spring Forum, 10 am – 3 pm. See page 1 and 2 for details, how to register, housing and other options.

Editor Needed



Are you a creative person who likes to do design work? Are you looking for a way to get involved in AAUW, but want to work on your own time schedule? Are you an advocate of the Mission of AAUW? If so, how about volunteering to be newsletter editor?

We need a new editor for the AAUW Arizona Sun Newsletter. It is an opportunity for creativity, involvement and getting an expanded view of what is happening in AAUW throughout the state. The editor has the option to design and utilize whatever format one is most comfortable using. There are generally four issues each year. Think about stepping forward. Let your officers know of your interest.

It has been my privilege to be your newsletter editor. Thank you for the contributions – both articles and photos – to tell the story of AAUW in Arizona. As some of you know, I will be moving back to Montana – exact timeline not defined. I have appreciated being able to count on so many of you to send articles and photos to make the newsletter interesting and representative of what is happening throughout the state.

Jaye

Please print and share the application below with your college connections and encourage students to apply for this excellent leadership training opportunity,



AAUW Arizona NCCWSL Application

Name _____

College/University _____

Campus Email _____

Personal Email _____

Year in college/university _____ Major _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone _____

I registered for NCCWSL at a cost of \$ _____.

May 31 STEM _____ \$ 65 Early Bird Apr3 _____ \$ 75 Regular Registration

June 1-3 Residential _____ \$585 Early Bird Apr3 _____ \$685 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 2023-2024 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 after your attendance at the NCCWSL conference.

PLEASE EMAIL YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION AND RECOMMENDATION to Suzanne S. James at suzannesjames@gmail.com. Your application must be received by March 24, 2023, to be considered for this AAUW-AZ award.