

AAUW Howard County Branch NEWSLETTER



OUR MISSION: *To advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.*

MARCH 2020

Members,

Having had a smashing successful Book Bash last month, we can feel the March winds now and with them comes Girl Power – the annual STEM Fair March 15th at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab in Laurel. Suzanne Soules and her trusty committee are once again hosting a table with the theme, “*Seeing Stars.*”

Don’t miss our next branch meeting March 10 at 7 p.m. to hear about *Women’s Portraits at the National Portrait Gallery* for Women’s History Month. It is sure to be an interesting presentation and discussion.

You’ll want to mark your calendar for April 25th – our Fashion Show and biggest fund raiser for educational scholarships with the theme “*We’ve Come a Long Way: 1920 – 2020.*” We hope for a great turnout, plentiful ticket sales and a good time to be had by all. More on this and other planned activities can be found in this newsletter.

Meanwhile, let’s not forget to give ourselves a pat on the back for raising \$471 at Pinot’s Palette and \$453 at Tino’s Bistro! All this fun with minimal work and more money for our scholarships. It’s a winning combination and inspiration for additional events like these!

Thanks to all of you who make our branch one of the most active and philanthropic AAUW branches in Maryland. You should feel good about what we’ve accomplished. I am proud to represent this terrific group who can do anything together.

Beth Hayden, President

Points of Interest

- Amy Sherald is the first black woman artist to paint an official First Lady portrait. The portrait of First Lady Michelle Obama was unveiled February 12, 2018 in the National Portrait Gallery.
- Six women were hired by General Motors in the mid-fifties for car interior designs. We have them to thank for glove boxes, center storage consoles, retractable seat belts, lighted sunshade mirrors, and child-proof door locks.
- Thank Annie Easley, an African American that worked at NASA, for the storage batteries in hybrid cars.
- According to experts, the decision-making part of the brain that weighs options is larger in women than in men.“
- I may sometimes be willing to teach for nothing, but if paid at all, I shall never do a man’s work for less than a man’s pay”--Clara Barton, American Red Cross founder.

March Program National Portrait Gallery

Women in the House – Insights into Selected Women’s Portraits

Speaker: Dian Belanger, Docent, National Portrait Gallery and AAUW Member

Date: Tuesday, March 10

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: First Evangelical Lutheran Church, 3604 Chatham Road Corner of Route 144 (Frederick Road) and Chatham Road, Ellicott City

While many of us enjoy a trip to an art museum, we might also wonder if we’re seeing all there is to see in individual pieces or in an exhibit as a whole. This presentation is a great opportunity to learn more about some selected works in the National Portrait Gallery, from the perspective of Dian Belanger, a seasoned museum docent. How often can you view D.C museum pieces with insights and commentary from the comfort of your Ellicott City chair? Come with your questions and curiosity!

Susan Hailman, Program VP

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- ✓ **Tuesday, March 10** 7:00 PM Speaker - "*Women's Portraits at the National Portrait Gallery*" First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Ellicott City
- ✓ **Saturday, March 15** 2:00 – 3:30 PM Girl Power, Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab
- ✓ **Saturday, March 21** AAUW Maryland Annual Convention, Unitarian Universalist Church, 333 Dubois Rd, Annapolis, MD 21401
- ✓ **Tuesday, April 14** 7:00 PM – Diversity Evening "*Celebrating Japan*" – Speaker and Sushi Tasting at First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Ellicott City
- ✓ **Saturday, April 25** 2:00 – 3:30 PM – Fashion Show "*We've Come a Long Way: 1920 – 2020*" at The Residences at Vantage Point, Columbia
- ✓ **Tuesday, May 12** 7:00 PM Salad Supper at First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Ellicott City

Philanthropy Debra Wade, VP

Fashion Show

This year, the Fashion Show theme is "*We've Come a Long Way: 1920-2020.*" It is scheduled for Saturday, April 25, 2:00-3:30 PM, at The Residences at Vantage Point with Lord & Taylor providing the fashions. This is the largest fundraiser for the year. We need your help and support to continue funding our branch's successful scholarship program.

- ✓ We still need a few models and if you are available, please contact Claudia Kralovec at ckralovec@hotmail.com
- ✓ Donate a door prize or a raffle basket item for the show: Suggestions include a gift card, an accessory, even tickets to a show. All donations are greatly appreciated!
- ✓ Buy your tickets to the show: Tickets will be sent to all members in March.
- ✓ Please bring a friend, a prospective member, your daughter or granddaughter.

In addition to door prizes, we are soliciting items for raffle baskets. Donations can include wine, fashion items, and restaurant or beauty gift certificates. The baskets will have a minimum value of \$50. If you have items to donate, please contact Kathy McCarthy at (240) 517-9747 by March 30th.

If you cannot come, please buy your tickets anyway, and give them to friends or as a donation, as ticket sales go directly into the scholarship fund.

To volunteer, or ask any questions, please contact: Suzanne Soules (suzanne.soules@gmail.com) or Debra Wade (deb_wade@yahoo.com) Co-Chairs Fashion Show

Paint and Sip at Pinot's Palette

Thanks to everyone that came out or spread the word about our fundraiser at Pinot's Palette in January! We raised \$471.00 for filling 44 seats, sale of drinks at the cash bar, and a raffle basket. We definitely had some artists in the group. Take a look at our group picture.

Deb Wade, Philanthropy VP



Public Policy Bev Fallik and Lucie Geinzer, Co-VPs

The committee continues to investigate topics and legislation of interest to AAUW. Joan Clinch and Penny Zervos have gathered a significant amount of current information on Title IX and are pursuing a meeting and/or presentation with the Howard County Title IX spokesperson. We are interested in finding out how the county is doing in comparison with the state and the nation. Bev has established connections with the education committee of Indivisible and has agreed to continue to dialogue about best approaches for the coming year to make higher education in Maryland more affordable/accessible. Marcia Posner continues to investigate how states that have extended child support to age 21 accomplished that challenging task. We have also shared with the branch key MLAW priority bills that would benefit from our contacting the relevant Maryland assembly committees. We are looking forward to Lucie Geinzer's future presentation on the Electoral College. Information is also being gathered on how we can best support efforts to stop human trafficking.

Bev Fallik, Co-VP Public Policy

Education and Scholarships Suzanne Soules, VP

NCCWSL

The National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) will be held May 27 through May 30, 2020. This year we had a robust response when we put out a notice on the HCC campus to apply for a full scholarship to attend. After reading the 20 applications, the committee of judges narrowed it down to the top 7 students. Then we took a vote and narrowed it down to the final two. The students were so impressive; the judges asked if we couldn't send 4 students. The board voted to approve the extra funds. The following women have committed to attending and are now registered.

1. Aria Ma has the ultimate goal of becoming a neurosurgeon researching Alzheimer's disease.
2. Ally Alejandro is pursuing a dual Bachelor-Masters Degree in Psychology and becoming an advocate for the Latin-X community.
3. Yasmin Hussien is studying chemistry to enter the field of Pharmacy. She is "passionate about doing what is right and making minority voices heard."
4. Arfa Sheik is pursuing cyber security and computer science degree. She has already seen the gender discrimination of women in this field and wants to become an advocate for women in the computer sciences.

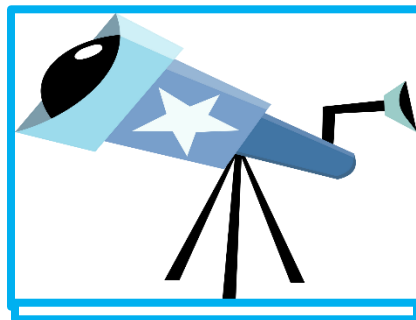
Girl Power STEM Festival

Girl Power is being held at Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab on March 15, 2020. The education committee will have a table, and our theme again is "Seeing Stars."

Our branch member Sethanne Howard is a PhD. Astronomer and she generously talks to the young girls, answering all their questions. The committee members will hand out a word search and crossword puzzle on the stars/space theme, along with self-inflating balloons from the American Chemical Society. The balloons are always a big hit.

If you like working with girls who are elementary and middle school age, we can use another volunteer or two to help with the event. Last year 600-700 girls attended with their families.

Suzanne Soules, Scholarship and Education VP



Interest Groups

GREAT DECISIONS

Great Decisions is a foreign policy discussion program.

Two separate groups meet monthly in a member's home:

Evening Group on the third Monday of the month from 7:00 – 9:00 PM;

Daytime Group on the first Thursday of the month from 1:00 – 3:00 PM.

EVENING GROUP

Our next meeting will be Monday, March 16, at 7:00 PM at the home of Lee Ann Hartman. Topic #2: *India and Pakistan*. Contact: Diane Roca dbroca@comcast.net or 410-964-3523

DAYTIME GROUP

The Daytime Great Decisions Group will meet on Thursday, March 5 at 1:00 PM to discuss Chapter 3, *Red Sea Region*. We will meet at the home of Mary Louise McCally. If you plan to attend, please contact Mary Louise at 410-730-1269 or at mlmccally@me.com.
Contact: Lorraine Tropf lmerdon@verizon.net

LUNCH BUNCH

The Lunch Bunch will meet on Thursday, March 26th, at 11:30 am, Nordstrom's Cafe at Columbia Mall. Contact: Gail Rust ggrust@comcast.net or 443-864-4189.

ADVENTURES IN DINING

Meet March 3rd at Kelsey's on Route 40 in Ellicott City to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. An email has been sent out with details. April 7th will be at a Mexican restaurant (TBD) and May 5th will be Sushi King off Dobbin Road since our April program is about Japan.

Contact: Carol Phelps, carolmcauliffe@verizon.net

AAUW READERS

Thursday March 19: Discussion of BORN A CRIME: STORIES FROM A SOUTH AFRICAN CHILDHOOD by Trevor Noah

Thursday May 21: Planning session. Meetings are held at the East Columbia Senior Center at 11 AM.

Contacts: Doris Raytkwich dwhitespring@verizon.net or 301-776-1392

Barbara Parker bparker@virginia.edu or 410-796-9019



2019-2020 AAUW Howard County Branch Officers

President: Beth Hayden 410-707-2018 bhayden52@aol.com

First Vice President: Position open

Financial Officer: Bea Dane 410-299-8403

Vice President, Programs: Susan Hailman shailman@comcast.net

Vice President, Philanthropy: Chizoba Ebinama 240-264-7824

Co-Vice Presidents, Social: Carol Phelps 410-381-7076;
and Connie Palmieri 410-489-5654

Co-Vice President, Secretary: Jean Parr 410-381-6351

Vice President, Education and Scholarships: Suzanne Soules
410-872-8603

Co-Vice Presidents, Public Policy:

Bev Fallik 301-596-6208 and Lucie Geinzer 410-978-8310

Vice President, Membership and Diversity:

Debra Wade 410-531-2072

Vice President, Communications:

Diane Roca 410-964-3523

Fashion Show Co-Chairs: Suzanne Soules 410-872-8603
and Debra Wade 410-531-2072

Website Manager: Position open

Adventures in Dining: Carol Phelps 410-381-7076

AAUW Readers: Doris Raytkwich 301-776-1392
and Barbara Parker 410-796-9019

Great Decisions: Daytime - Lorraine Tropf 301-617-2785

Evening - Diane Roca 410-964-3523

Lunch Bunch: Gail Rust 443-864-4189

Hand Crafters and Movies: Anne Tarantino 410-740-1285



2020 Branch Calendar

March - June

MARCH –

Women's History Month

- 3 -- **Adventures in Dining** @ 6:00 pm Kelsey's Pub, Ellicott City
- 5 -- **Great Decisions** @ 1 pm
- 10 -- **Branch Meeting** @ 7 pm; 1st Evangelical Lutheran Church; **Presentation on Women's Portraits in the National Portrait Gallery**
- 15 -- **Girl Power** @ 2 – 3:30 PM Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab, Laurel
- 16 -- **Great Decisions** @ 7 pm
- 19 -- **Board Meeting** @ 7 pm; East Columbia Library, Marvin Thomas Room **Note Date Change.**
- 19 -- **AAUW Readers** @ 11 am; E. Columbia Sr. Ctr,
- 20 -- **Public Policy Meeting** @ 1:30 pm; Bagel Bin, River Hill
- 21 -- **Diversity Event** – Cherry Blossom Festival Opening Festivities
- 21 -- **AAUW Maryland Annual Convention** , Hosted by Anne Arundel County Branch at Unitarian Universalist Church, 333 Dubois Rd, Annapolis, MD 21401
- 26 -- **Lunch Bunch** @ 11:30 am; Nordstrom's Café

APRIL

- 2 -- **Great Decisions** @ 1 pm
- 7 -- **Adventures in Dining** – @ 6:00 pm Place: Mexican Restaurant TBD
- 14 -- **AAUW National Webinar** @ 3:00 pm
- 14 -- **Branch Meeting** @ 7 pm; 1st Evangelical Lutheran Church; **Sushi Tasting and Speaker on Japan**
- 17 -- **Public Policy Meeting** @ 1:30 pm; Bagel Bin, River Hill
- 20 -- **Great Decisions** @ 7 pm
- 21 -- **Board Meeting** @ 7 pm; Place TBD
- 25 -- **Fashion Show** @ 2:00 – 3:30 pm; **Theme: "We've Come a Long Way: 1920-2020;" Residences at Vantage Point in Columbia**
- 30 -- **Lunch Bunch** @ 11:30 am; Nordstrom's Café
- TBD -- **HCC STEM Festival**

MAY

- 5 -- **Adventures in Dining** – @ 6:00 pm Sushi King, 6490 Dobbin Rd, Columbia
- 7 -- **Great Decisions** @ 1:00 pm
- 12 -- **Branch Salad Supper**, @ 6:30 pm; 1st Evangelical Lutheran Church; **Install officers; meet scholarship winners**
- 15 -- **Public Policy Meeting** @ 1:30 pm; Bagel Bin, River Hill
- 18 -- **Great Decisions** @ 7 pm
- 19 -- **Board Meeting** @ 7 pm; Place TBD
- 21 -- **AAUW Readers** @ 11 am; E. Columbia Sr. Ctr, planning meeting for 2020-21
- 28 -- **Lunch Bunch** @ 11:30 am; Nordstrom's Café

JUNE

- 2 -- **Adventures in Dining** – @ 6:00 pm Place TBD
- 4 -- **Great Decisions** @ 1:00 pm
- 15 -- **Great Decisions** @ 7:00 pm
- 16 -- **Board Meeting** @ 7:00 pm; Place TBD
- 19 -- **Public Policy Meeting** @ 1:30 pm; Bagel Bin, River Hill
- 25 -- **Lunch Bunch** @ 11:30 am; Nordstrom's Café