

AAUW Howard County Branch NEWSLETTER



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

NOVEMBER 2023

Hello Friends and Members,

It's the most wonderful time of the year--so many things going on and so many ways to get together with each other to celebrate the good things in life! A good many of us enjoyed a funny performance of *Sister Act* at Toby's Dinner Theater last Sunday and with added donations, we have started the ball rolling this year for contributions to our Howard Community College Scholarship Fund.

Looking forward, some of our planned activities that are covered in greater detail in this newsletter are: **December 5th**- Holiday Dinner at Bare Bones; **December 9th** -Horse Spirit Arts Gallery Fundraiser (just in time for holiday gifts) and **January 29th**- Paint It Forward at Pinot's Palette at Turf Valley.

In the Public Policy arena, our partner, MLAW (MD Legislative Agenda for Women) will hold its Fall Conference this Saturday, **November 4th** at UMBC where proposed legislation will be introduced, some of which MLAW will support at the Maryland General Assembly in January. Training for **Lobby Corps** will be held on **November 2** in Washington, D.C. For 40 years, members of this corps have been meeting with selected congressional office members to educate policy makers on issues of importance to women. For example, AAUW Maryland is working currently with Maryland NOW to get the Equal Rights Amendment certified by Congress. In addition, the Women's Legislative Briefing, sponsored by the Montgomery County Commission on Women, will be held on Sunday, **January 28**, from noon to 4 pm at the Universities at Shady Grove in Rockville. AAUW Maryland will have a table there to promote our cause promoting certification of the ERA.

Check out the section on Dian Belanger becoming the 11th AAUW Woman of Distinction and consider a tax-exempt donation in honor of this amazing woman.

There are many "Interest Group" meetings that will continue throughout the year as listed later as well as our calendar, so keep up with all that's happening by reading this newsletter.

Stay well and I look for you at our next gathering.

Beth Hayden bhayden@aol.com

Holiday Events

No Branch Meeting in November. In December we will be celebrating the holidays. Put these dates on your calendar and come for fun!

- December 5 Holiday Party at Bare Bones restaurant
- December 9 Art Fundraiser at Horse Spirit Arts Gallery



Holiday Dinner

Mark your calendar for Tuesday,
December 5, at 5:00 PM

Holiday Dinner and Branch Meeting at Bare Bones restaurant.

We are planning to meet at Bare Bones restaurant located at 9150 Baltimore National Pike (Route 40) in Ellicott City on Tuesday, December 5th at 5 pm. We will be in the room behind the bar; when you go in, let them know you are with the AAUW group. You will be able to order off the menu, so choices are not limited.

We will also have a short business meeting to share some of the upcoming events that are happening with our branch.

Make your reservation now with Bobbie Brooks (443) 545-5642

bobbyieg@comcast.net

Help our student neighbors! The **Fueling Dragons** Food Pantry provides access to food for students at Howard Community College. Please bring a non-perishable food item to the December Holiday party at Bare Bones restaurant.

Holiday Art Gallery Fundraiser

On Saturday, December 9, we will gather at Horse Spirit Arts Gallery in Savage Mill for an Art Fundraiser. Drop in any time between 1 to 4 pm. The address is 8600 Foundry Street, the Cotton Shed Building. Complimentary wine, cheese and desserts.

Minimum donation is \$20 per person. If you are in the holiday spirit and wish to give more, please do so! All contributions go to our HCC Scholarship Fund.

Watch a Studio Demonstration with artist Wendy Ng who creates Decorated Eggs.



- Talk to the artist Wendy Ng
- Special tour of the gallery
- Complimentary wine, cheese and desserts
- Gift Card drawings
- Early holiday gift shopping

Browse the gallery, enjoy refreshments, support the branch scholarship fund!

If you cannot attend, please consider making a donation by mail. Make your check payable to "AAUW Howard County" and mail to Treasurer Bea Dane, 4050 Hobbs Hill Road, Glenelg, MD 21737.

Report on October Meeting

At the October branch meeting, Kim Waters of A-OK Mentoring gave an engaging presentation about the work of A-OK and opportunities to volunteer through their partnership with the Howard County Schools. They recruit, train and advise volunteers who meet with their own student each week and assist in any way that is needed such as completing homework assignments, strengthening reading skills, or explaining math concepts. There was strong interest among the members in becoming a volunteer. A-OK has an excellent record of student success.

Pinot's Palette

Our first fundraiser of the new year!



Paint at Pinot's Palette

Sunday, January 28, 2024 from 3 to 5pm (doors open at 2:30).

Location: 11105 Resort Road, Suite 105, Turf Valley Towne Square (across from Smyth Jewelers).

Cost: \$42 per guest (20% will be donated to us if we have at least 20 people).

There will be a bar available (cash or credit) and 10% of all bar sales will be donated to us. Non-alcoholic drinks and snacks will be available for free.

Please invite your friends to join us – there is room for 30 participants, and anyone can sign up online.

Those of us who have been to Pinot's in the past may have said that we have no artistic talent, but we had a terrifically good time. Bea Dane has offered to take unwanted pictures; her husband will clean the canvas and use it for his own artwork.

Register online at [Coming Soon - Sun, Jan 28 3PM at Ellicott City](#)

Subject to be painted to be determined. Any questions call or text Connie Palmieri 410-802-1556.



AAUW Maryland Woman of Distinction

Congratulations to Dian Belanger, who has been selected to be AAUW Maryland's 2024 Woman of Distinction! Dian will be honored in Spring 2024 at AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). AAUW Maryland's goal is to honor Dian and inspire student leaders by donating \$20,000 as a platinum sponsor of the Women of Distinction capstone event at NCCWSL.

Dian is an independent historian and author of three books. In more than 50 years with AAUW, Dian's service has included election to national Director and Vice President positions, participation in Lobby Corps, and assistance at the AAUW Archives. Remaining active as an honorary life member, Dian is Co-President of the Kensington-Rockville Branch. She's also a docent at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery.

Your donation to the AAUW Maryland Woman of Distinction fund will help us honor Dian. She will be the 11th honoree since Maryland began this annual effort to enhance AAUW's leadership training program for college women. Hundreds of young women from across the country attend NCCWSL for three days of leadership training, inspiration, and networking—helping them gain the skills and confidence needed to pursue their goals. All the students gather for the Women of Distinction event to hear from and personally meet incredible role models at this national leadership training opportunity.

We need your help to meet the \$20,000 target and to show broad support for this State fundraiser. Individual donations of any amount are welcome, and we also make a branch donation.

AAUW Maryland will receive at least 20 free tickets for the inspirational Women of Distinction event. It's held in late May/early June at the University of Maryland, College Park. We hope many of you will plan on attending to feel for yourself the students' renewed energy!

To donate online:

Go to aauw.org

- Click on the big red Donate button on the upper right corner
- Scroll down past the NCCWSL option until you see:
- **4355-Maryland Women of Distinction (NCCWSL) Fund**
- Click on **Count Me In**
- You will then be asked to login or create a new account if you don't have one
- This will bring you to the donation page
- Choose the amount you wish to donate
- Complete the other required information and **Checkout**

To donate by check:

Make your check out to AAUW

- On the check put the fund name and number: **4355-Maryland Women of Distinction (NCCWSL) Fund**
- **Mail to: AAUW**
- **1310 L Street, NW**
- **Suite 1000**
- **Washington, D.C. 20005**

All donations to this fund are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Donations may be arranged through your retirement fund or donor advised fund.

If you have any questions, please contact Bea Dane at bea_dane@comcast.net



Education
Cynthia Graham, VP

What is Nick Whistle ?



NCCWSL (pronounced “nick-whistle”) is AAUW’s National Conference for College Women Student Leaders which was founded more than three decades ago. Last year, it returned to the University of Maryland Campus after being offered remotely during the COVID pandemic. Our branch supports NCCWSL by providing scholarships to Howard Community College student leaders.

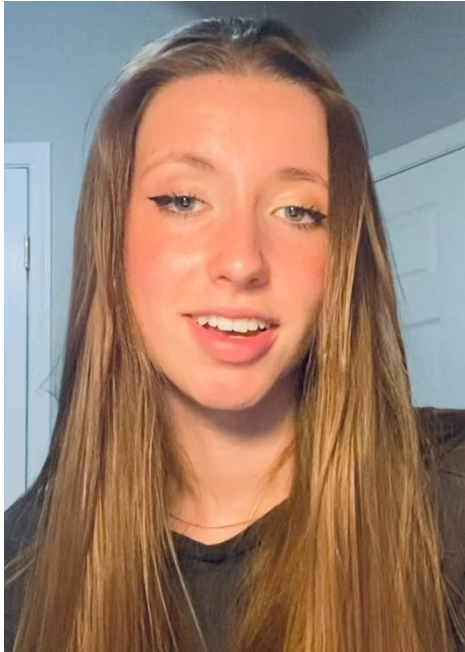
The three-and-a-half-day conference attracts students from across the country representing hundreds of universities and colleges. Attendees are primarily rising sophomores, rising juniors and rising seniors majoring in a variety of subjects including Science, Engineering, Technology and Math, preprofessional business and communications, humanities, psychology and sociology, and political science government, and Economics.

The workshops, panels, speakers and activities provide endless opportunities for these student leaders to learn from experts, while peer networking allows them to learn from one another and make lifelong connections.

The workshops and panels include:

- **Leadership development:** Develop and strengthen a leadership narrative through voice, skill set and mind-set.
- **Professional development:** Build a professional tool kit for postgraduate life.
- **Activism:** Know the how, why and when to take action and be a change maker.
- **Women’s issues:** Gain a better understanding of issues and policies affecting women locally, nationally and globally.

- **Identity and diversity:** Own one's personal identity and role in increasing and supporting diverse voices.
- *Cindy Graham, Education VP (214) 912-5656.*



“It was an incredible experience. I highly recommend it.... It really opens doors, and you never know what kind of opportunities you can get.”

*Maite Inchaussandague, 2023
Howard County Branch NCCWSL Scholarship Winner*

Member Notes

Please welcome Pamela Buzzard, a member who has decided to become more active in our group. She and her husband moved to Ellicott City a little over one year ago to be closer to one of their three sons and his family. Pam is a retired systems analyst for a government contractor. She has been a member of the Ann Arundel branch where she worked with their library project. While chatting at our lunch bunch group, she expressed interest in public policy and perhaps lobby corps, and the book group. In her spare time, she practices Yoga. Please be sure to say hello at our next meetings.

Photo Gallery



The Adventures in Dining group enjoying themselves at The Rathskeller.



1



Right and above right, views of members at Toby's Dinner Theater attending a performance of "Sister Act."



Interest Groups

LUNCH BUNCH

LUNCH BUNCH will meet at 11:30 am on Thursday, November 30, at Nordstrom Cafe, Columbia Mall. Join us for an informal lunch. No RSVP needed.

Caroline Tunison 301-346-1750

ADVENTURES IN DINING

We will be meeting at Rudy's Mediterranean Grill at 5 pm on Tuesday, November 7. Rudy's is located at 7185 Columbia Gateway Drive, Columbia. Please RSVP to carolmcauliffe@verizon.com if you plan to join us so that I may make appropriate reservations. Hope to see you there!! - Carol

Contact: Carol Phelps
carolmcauliffe@verizon.net
443-878-2848

GREAT DECISIONS

The 2024 Great Decisions Discussion Books have been preordered and are expected to arrive in December. The first meeting of 2024 will be Monday, January 19.

Contact: Diane Roca
dbroca@comcast.net
443-255-1628

AAUW READERS

All meetings will take place at the East Columbia Library in the 50+ Center. Starting time is 10:30 a.m. followed by an optional lunch at a nearby restaurant. All Branch members are welcome. If anyone not currently on the Readers distribution list would like to be included, please send their request to Debbie Munley.

Contacts: Jean Salkeld (410) 992-4198
jesalkeld@gmail.com and
Debbie Munley
debbiemunley@verizon.net
(301) 776-7388

November 16, 2023 **West With Giraffes**
by Lynda Rutledge **Historical Fiction**

January 18, 2024 **Demon Copperhead** by
Barbara Kingsolver **Historical Fiction**

March 21, 2024 **Garden of the Beasts:**
Love, Terror, and an American Family in
Hitler's Berlin by Eric Larson **Non-Fiction**

May 16, 2024 **The Mayfair Bookshop**
by Eliza Knight **Historical Fiction**

July 18, 2024 **Lady Tan's Circle of Women**
by Lisa See **Historical Fiction**

2023-2024 AAUW Howard County Branch Officers

President: Beth Hayden (410)-707-2018

First Vice President: Position open

Financial Officer: Bea Dane (410) 299-8403

Vice President, Programs: Susan Hailman
(443) 994-5453, shailman@comcast.net

Vice President, Philanthropy: Position open

Co-Vice Presidents, Meetings/Social: Carol Phelps
(443) 878-2848; and Bobbie Brooks (443) 545-5642

Secretary: Jean Parr (410) 381-6351;

Alt: Bobbi Brooks (443) 545-5642

Vice President, Education: Cindy Graham (214) 912-5656

Vice President, Public Policy: Barb Carter (443) 864-5663

Vice President, Membership and Diversity:

Suzanne Soules (410) 872-8603

Vice President, Communications:

Diane Roca (410) 964-3523

Website Manager: Position open

Adventures in Dining: Carol Phelps (410) 381-7076

AAUW Readers: Jean Salkeld (410) 992-4198 and

Debbie Munley (301) 776-7388

Great Decisions: Diane Roca (410) 964-3523

Lunch Bunch: Caroline Tunison (301) 346-1750

2023-2024 Branch Calendar

Planned events are tentative and will be confirmed closer to the date

2023

NOVEMBER

- 3 -- Help at HoCo Food Bank; 10 am to 12 pm; Columbia
- 4 -- MLAW Conference; 9:00 am – 1:00 pm; UMBC Catonsville
- 7 – Adventures in Dining; 5:00 pm; Rudy’s Mediterranean Grill
- 14 -- Board Meeting; 4:00 pm; location TBD
- 16 – AAUW Readers; 10:30 am; 50+ Center East Columbia Library
- 30 -- Lunch Bunch; 11:30 am; Nordstrom Café

No Branch Meeting

DECEMBER

- 2 -- Help at HoCo Food Bank; 10 am to 12 pm; Columbia
- 5 -- Holiday Dinner, Branch Meeting ; Bare Bones restaurant; 5:00 pm
- 9 – Horse Spirit Arts Gallery Fundraiser, Savage Mill, Laurel; 1 – 4 pm
- 28 -- Lunch Bunch; 11:30 am; Nordstrom Café

JANUARY 2024

- 2 – Adventures in Dining; Details TBD.
- 5 -- Help at HoCo Food Bank; 10 am to 12 pm; Columbia
- 9 – Board Meeting; 2 pm; location TBD
- 15 -- Great Decisions; 2 pm location TBD
- 18 -- AAUW Readers; 10:30 am; 50+ Center East Columbia Library
- 25 -- Lunch Bunch; 11:30 am; Nordstrom Café

28 – Women’s Legislative Briefing, sponsored by the Montgomery County Commission on Women; noon to 4 pm; Universities at Shady Grove, Rockville

?? -- League of Women Voters Legislative Briefing

29-- Pinot’s Palette Fundraiser, Turf Valley

No Branch Meeting

FEBRUARY

2 -- Help at HoCo Food Bank; 10 am to 12 pm; Columbia

6 -- Adventures in Dining; Details TBD

10 -- Book Bash and Branch Meeting; Union Jack’s restaurant, Columbia

19 -- Great Decisions; 2 pm; location TBD

29 – Lunch Bunch; 11:30 am; Nordstrom Cafe

MARCH – Women’s History Month

1 - Help at HoCo Food Bank; 10 am to 12 pm; Columbia

4 (?) – Board Meeting; 2 pm; location TBD

5 -- Adventures in Dining; Details TBD

16 (?) – Honorary Tea at Howard Community College

18 -- Great Decisions; 2 pm location TBD

21 – AAUW Readers; 10:30 am; 50+ Center East Columbia Library

28 -- Lunch Bunch; 11:30 am; Nordstrom Cafe

?? -- Girl Power; Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab; Laurel

APRIL

4(?) -- Board Meeting; 2 pm; location TBD

5 -- Help at HoCo Food Bank; 10 am to 12 pm; Columbia

11 -- Branch Meeting – Diversity: Latin community; location La Palapa Too; Maple Lawn (?)

15 -- Great Decisions; 2 pm location TBD

20 -- AAUW Maryland Annual Meeting; Ingleside at Kings Farm; hosted by Kensington-Rockville Branch

25 -- Lunch Bunch; 11:30 am; Nordstrom Cafe

MAY

3 -- Help at HoCo Food Bank; 10 am to 12 pm; Columbia

7 -- Adventures in Dining; Details TBD

9 (?) -- Board Meeting, if needed; 2 pm; location TBD

14 -- Branch Meeting, Potluck, New Officers; Kittleman Room at HCC

20 - Great Decisions; 2 pm location TBD

16 -- AAUW Readers; 10:30 am; 50+ Center East Columbia Library

30 -- Lunch Bunch; 11:30 am; Nordstrom Café

?? -- NCCWSL, U of MD, College Park, MD

JUNE

4 -- Adventures in Dining; Details TBD

7 -- Help at HoCo Food Bank; 10 am to 12 pm; Columbia

17 -- Great Decisions; 2 pm location TBD

27 -- Lunch Bunch; 11:30 am; Nordstrom Café

JULY

2 -- Adventures in Dining; Details TBD

5 -- Help at HoCo Food Bank; 10 am to 12 pm; Columbia

15 - Great Decisions; 2 pm location TBD

18 - AAUW Readers; 10:30 am; 50+ Center East Columbia Library

25 -- Lunch Bunch; 11:30 am; Nordstrom Café