

[View this email in your browser](#)



President's Message

This is such an interesting time of year – even before the Halloween decorations disappeared, we were seeing Christmas decorations with Thanksgiving squeezed between the two holidays. It can feel like we are on an out-of-control merry-go-round. Hopefully, you have exciting plans to visit family and friends and celebrate in a positive and peaceful way, whether you are celebrating Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Christmas, or the New Year. May you experience many blessings.

As you finalize your end of the year plans, please remember that contributions to AAUW are being doubled. Realizing many of you have struggled to get information about this year's contributions from branches and individuals, please know that national has told us that they are close to a more user-friendly reporting system. If your branch is invited to be a test site, I hope you will step up to assist us all with making this system work to our benefit.

The New Year is typically the time we identify resolutions to improve our behaviors in a variety of ways. At the branch level, I hope that your resolutions will include a focus on enhancing DEIB (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging) activities. There is much work to be done to make sure that all women are accorded gender and pay equity and leadership opportunities. Sometimes, we seem to be taking two steps forward and one step backward as a society. Our mission is more critical than ever.

Thank you to all the branch officers who have volunteered so many hours and so much energy to continuing our very important mission. Thank you to all our members whether in a branch or as a member at large, who remain dedicated to advocating equity for women and girls. I am so grateful to be sharing this important work with you.

Wishing you a lovely holiday and every blessing in the New Year!

Donna Jean Simon, auwilpres@gmail.com

A number of branches have asked for an update regarding AAUW's scheduled end of the year reporting for Individual and Branch contributions. A new feature of the Community Hub is that Fund Contributions will be reported to Branch Presidents and to State Funds Directors. The report will include all donations along with fund designation made directly to AAUW and through individual Branches. In addition, Individual Member and Branch donations will be reported separately.

AAUW made an attempt to send this report out in October. There were issues that they are working to correct. I don't expect to see this report until January, 2023. If you have questions, contact me at lkdesmarais@gmail.com.

Laura Desmarais, Funds Director



NCCWSL 2023: Save the Date

We're thrilled to announce that the 2023 [National Conference for College Women Student Leaders](#) (NCCWSL) will take place May 31-June 3, and the conference will return to an in-person gathering at the University of Maryland, College Park. Registration will open in December. Keep watch for our early-bird rates and spread the word!

We're on the web! Because some of you have asked, the current and past issues of *Connection* are now on the website. There's also a link to subscribe to *Connection*--in case you have branch members who aren't receiving it every month.

[AAUW IL Website](#)

[Branch News & Notes](#)

(US and Canada).

Roundtable of Favorite Book Reviews or The Book I Wish to Read Again for the First Time

Hear AAUW **Jane Addams branch** members review their favorite books. They will give you information about the book and its author, an overview of the book and perhaps an interesting quoted passage. You will have time to share your favorite books too.

Required advance registration for this meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/join/91512990623?pwd=ZkZkdWwkdWR6UGx-kfJhjh_mhO

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Kate Skegg at aauwjaneaddams@gmail.com



If your branch has a program or recognition or an idea you'd like to share, please [email Jennifer Urish](#) by the 14th of each month.

Our Mission: Gender Equity & Economic Security

Our Values: Intersectionality Inclusive Intergenerational Empowering

Our Focus: Economic Security Education Advocacy



Our mailing address is:

AAUWILConnection@gmail.com

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

This email was sent to <<Email Address>>

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

AAUW-IL, Inc. · 13054 Narbonne Dr · Creve Coeur, MO 63141-6126 · USA

Grow your business with  **mailchimp**