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From the President:

National on-line voting for 2025 opens on April 14 and closes on May 13. Members will receive a link to vote.

AAUW has worked hard to clarify their Public Policy Priorities over the last couple of years. Take time to review them. This year we vote on biannual Public Policies set by National. Earlier there was an opportunity for Membership feedback. I encourage you to review these policies. These are important documents for Branches to understand. This is what AAUW's mission in action is all about.

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/leader-resources-tools/national-election/public-policy-priorities-changes/>

Vote for four Board of Director positions. They have been vetted by the AAUW Board. They are being presented for your vote. Read about them. I am always inspired by the quality of AAUW's Board of Directors.

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/leader-resources-tools/national-election/candidates/>

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the State Convention in Springfield, April 25 and 26!!

Laura Desmarais

Notice of Election

AAUW-IL Board

It is now time to vote! Please use the link below to vote. If you need a paper ballot, please [email](#) and one will be sent to you.

Remember, you are voting on a slate of officers. Voting will end on April 25, 2025, and the results will be announced at the state convention.

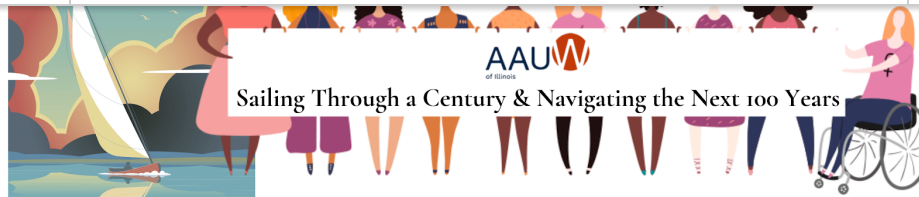
Thank you for being an informed voter!

Slate of Nominees

Andi Danis, Nominating Committee Chair

- Finance Director: **Jennifer Urish**
- Membership Co-VPs: **Lori Switzer and Danielle Byron**
- Secretary: **Carol Heisler**

Vote!



AAUW-IL, Inc. 100th State Convention

Sailing Through a Century & Navigating the Next 100 Years

Friday – Saturday, April 25 & 26, 2025

Northfield Inn and Suites, Springfield, Illinois

Rooms are chosen, speakers are secured, centerpieces are being made, hospitality bags are filled and our 100th convention is just a few days away. Here's the top 100 things you need to prepare.

Just kidding, here's the top 5 things to get you ready to have an amazing time in Springfield.

1. We're having a period product drive. Please bring period/menstrual items to be donated to a local LGBTQI+ organization. Speakers Dre Duvendack & Emerson Krasnican will help us refresh or expand our knowledge and communication about LGBTQI+. You can read more about where [AAUW's stands on LGBTQ+ rights here](#).
2. [Removing bias in education](#) remains one of AAUW's top 3 priorities. Convention speakers Charlotte J. Warren, PhD, President, Lincoln Land Community College and Al Llorens, MA, President, Illinois Education Association will talk with us about the impact of current events on higher education and public education.
3. By changing policy we can improve gender equity. Jenni Purdue, Ken Olson & Karen Kortsch will update us on what is happening and how we can continue to impact policy changes.
4. Mission and membership are equally important! There will be opportunities to socialize with members from across the state and choose a fun topic you want to learn more about together.
5. Walk-ins are welcome!! If FOMO (fear of missing out) grabs you, you can still come and pay \$75 cash or check on Saturday. Friday is a plated dinner and we can not add same day meals.

BONUS: If you're coming early or staying for the weekend, <https://share.threshold360.com/map/vty9kp> has an interactive map of some fun things to do in Springfield. The [Illinois Times events calendar](#) also has 136 events occurring April 24th-26th.

See you in Springfield,

Kathy Battee-Freeman (Springfield)

Jo-An Takamoto-Sabonjian (Waukegan)

Co-Vice Presidents - Programs

Branch News

Checkerboard Baskets is the **2025 spring raffle quilt**. It is 68 x 80.

Tickets \$5 each or 3 for \$10.00.

To order online: [email Nann Hilyard](#)

Drawing Saturday, April 26, at the AAUW-IL convention.

Proceeds go to AAUW Greatest Needs Fund.



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



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AAUWILConnection@gmail.com

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