

## Tulsa Branch Officers

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## Women in Politics: Where is Oklahoma on the ERA? Virtual General Membership Meeting

**Date:** Saturday, November 13, 2021

**Time:** 1:00 p.m.

**Program:** Hope for the Equal Rights Amendment  
in Oklahoma?

**Guest Speaker:** Melissa Provenzano  
Representative, House District 79, Tulsa

**Where:** Zoom Meeting, Wherever you have a device  
**Meeting ID:** 369-954-7636  
**Passcode:** 504788



Melissa Provenzano

**Want more information?** Contact President Pam McDonald,  
[adamsfamily9857@aol.com](mailto:adamsfamily9857@aol.com), cell: 918-636-5131

**Melissa Provenzano** is a lifelong Tulsa area native, married mom to two sons and stepmom to two daughters.

**Provenzano** comes from a background in education, having served as the Principal at Hale Junior High, Assistant Principal for Bixby Public Schools, Assistant Principal and teacher at Booker T. Washington High School, and biology teacher at Will Rogers High School.

**In the 57th Legislature**, Ms. Provenzano serves on many committees: Administrative Rules, A & B Education, Common Education, County & Municipal Government, Special Conference Committee on Common Education, and State & Federal Redistricting Tulsa County Subcommittee.

**The Equal Rights Amendment's** progress in Oklahoma is our topic of the day, but we are also interested in hearing about legislation on teacher retention, the Oklahoma Student Borrower's Bill of Rights (which went into effect Nov. 1), Medicaid expansion, and HB 1593 (expansion of professional development for teachers.)

**Representative Melissa Provenzano** is now serving her second term in the Oklahoma House of Representatives. She serves District 79, covering a portion of east Tulsa and Broken Arrow, which includes zip codes 74012, 74133, 74135, 74136, and 74145.



## President's Corner

**We are finally into cooler weather** and holiday season is upon us. For the first time in almost a year, we will get together for our Holiday Tea in December! More information will be coming so be aware and

look for emails and our future newsletter.

**This is Native American Heritage month.** I would like to high light **Ida's Law** — OK Senate Bill 172, named for Ida Beard, a tribal Member who went missing in 2015. It goes into effect this month. Her family received little help from law enforcement.

**This new law aims** to give the state's Native American families a more coordinated pursuit of justice. Families can report directly to the state's Office of Liaison for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons.

**This law** is certainly a huge step in helping our native American citizens in the state of Oklahoma.

—*Pam McDonald*, President, AAUW Tulsa  
[adamsfamily9857@aol.com](mailto:adamsfamily9857@aol.com) or 918-636-5131

## Tulsa Branch Briefs

Tulsa Branch has renewed our annual Zoom contract until October 2022. So we are prepared in case we have to pause our in-person meetings, which will start in December, 2021.

I was interested to learn that a student at my alma mater, Northern Colorado University, has been awarded a \$20,000 American Dissertation Fellowship award from AAUW. Karina Sanchez, a Biological Education PhD candidate, is exploring evidence that birds are changing their songs to be heard above the noise in loud urban areas. —*Gwen Hampton*

### TULSA VOICE

Monthly newsletter of American Association of University Women,  
 Tulsa Branch, 5219 S Joplin Ave, Tulsa, OK 74135

**Web Site:** <http://tulsa-ok.aauw.net/>

**President:** Pam McDonald, 918-627-1823

**Editor:** Gwen Hampton, 918-742-6485;  
 e-mail: [gwenscout@aol.com](mailto:gwenscout@aol.com)

## ERA in the NEWS

The bill to remove the deadline for the ratification of the equal rights amendment is still languishing in Congress.

### In the U.S. Senate: SJ RES 1

**Lead Sponsor:** Sen. Ben Cardin (D-MD)

**Lead Co-Sponsor:** Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)

Total Sponsors: 5

### In the U.S. House: HJ RES 17

**Lead Sponsor:** Rep. Jackie Speier (D-CA)

**Lead Co-Sponsor:** Rep. Tom Reed (R-NY)

Passed: 3/17/21 (224-204 votes)

**Here are some interesting headlines related to ERA:**

**Oct. 22** 149 House Republicans vote against protections for breastfeeding at work. *The American Independent*

**Oct. 27** New "Pink Tax" Study Shows Women Pay Upwards of \$7,800 More For Car Ownership, *Forbes*

**Oct. 22 in Illinois** Democrats push for ERA ratification; Republicans call it redundant, *Spot on Illinois*

*Ed Note: Are you scratching your head and saying, "What?"*

## WRITE A LETTER!

*All women are urged to write a letter to Attorney General Merrick Garland and tell him women need and deserve the Equal Rights Amendment now, tell him he has the authority to make it happen by simply rescinding the Bill Barr/office of Legal Counsel's memo directing the U.S. Archivist not to publish the amendment.*

*Tell him to live up to his word and truly support equal justice for all. Tell him his legacy and integrity are on the line. Do the right thing on behalf of the 170 million American women who still await the promise of equal protection of our constitution.*

*His address:*

Attorney General Merrick Garland  
 U.S. Department of Justice  
 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
 Washington, D.C. 20530

Note: This letter is reprinted courtesy of Dorothy McKenna, Sahuarita, AZ, a member of ERAmerica.

## Interest Groups

### AAUW TULSA BOOK GROUP



We are continuing with Zoom meetings. Our next discussion is **Friday, November 26**, at 6:30 pm. We will discuss *The Nickel Boys*, by Colson Whitehead. Good reading!

I will send the details to join the Zoom meeting closer to the time.

**Rose Unterschuetz,**  
phone/text **918-688-7128**

### MYSTERY BOOK GROUP

Mystery book club will meet **in person on Wednesday, November 17**, at **11:30 A.M.**, (Note the new time) at Barnes and Noble, 5231 E. 41st St. This time our mission is to read an author that you have never read before. Browse the library or book store shelves.



Questions?

Call Linda Brooks, 918-260-3263, or  
[lshbrooks@yahoo.com](mailto:lshbrooks@yahoo.com)

*"The trouble with having an open mind, of course, is that people will insist on coming along and trying to put things in it."*

—Terry Pratchett

### PROSPECTIVE MEMBER

Prospect's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # (w) \_\_\_\_\_ (H) \_\_\_\_\_

AAUW Contact \_\_\_\_\_  
(Return to: Rose Unterschuetz, 5820 S. Evanston Ct., Tulsa, OK 74105)

## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

**Here is some urgent news for those members who haven't yet renewed your membership in AAUW:**

In order to renew online through the AAUW website, the renewal must take place no later than November 30, 2021. After that date, you will need to send your dues in the form of a check to our branch treasurer.

National Dues are \$62, State Dues are \$10, and Tulsa Branch Dues are \$14 for a total of \$86. You can join or renew online **until Nov. 30** at [aauw.org](http://aauw.org), or by mailing a check for \$86 made payable to AAUW Tulsa. Please address it to:

Gabrille Jones, Treasurer  
1115 E. 36th St.  
Tulsa, OK 74105

Members, now is the time to invite new prospects and lapsed members to our meetings—they **will qualify for 50% off National dues!** That means they can join for a total of \$55 instead of \$86.

— Rose Unterschuetz  
Vice-President of Membership  
[tulsarose@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tulsarose@sbcglobal.net)

### Our Branch Family

**OUR SYMPATHY** to Gisele McDaniel on the death of her brother October 2, 2021.

**CONTINUING GET WELL WISHES** to **Ron Unterschuetz**, husband of our Membership Vice-President **Rose Unterschuetz**, as he undergoes cancer treatment.

**AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA  
NATIVE WOMEN IN THE U.S.  
ARE TYPICALLY PAID  
58 CENTS  
FOR EVERY DOLLAR  
PAID TO WHITE MEN.**

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

AAUW





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

AAUW, founded in 1881, is open to all graduates who hold the associate's, baccalaureate or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university.

*In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership.  
There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization  
on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.*

**Our Value Promise:**

*"As a member of AAUW,  
you belong to a community  
that breaks through  
educational and  
economic barriers  
so that all women  
have a fair chance."*

**Websites:** Tulsa Branch—<http://Tulsa-ok.aauw.net/>  
Oklahoma AAUW—[www.aauwoklahoma.org](http://www.aauwoklahoma.org) National AAUW—[www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

**Save the Date!**

# **HOLIDAY TEA**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11**

**2 P.M.**

**TRINITY WOODS**

*(formerly known as Oklahoma Methodist Manor)*

**More details in our December newsletter**

## **November, 2021 Calendar**



**November 13** General Membership Meeting See Page 1.

**November 17** Mystery Book Group See Page 3.

**November 20** Deadline for December TULSA VOICE.

**November 26** Tulsa Branch Book Group See Page 3. and Beyond See above.

**November 30** Last day to renew AAUW membership online. See Page 3.

**December 11** Annual Holiday Tea See above.