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MARCH: Women's History Month

General Membership Meeting

Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024

Time: 12:00 Noon

Place: Fajitas Grill 2
6219 E. 61st St.

Program: Women in World War II
Book Review— Doris Piatak

Guest Speaker: Faye Henson,
AAUW/OK President
Re: Open Membership Bylaws Vote

RSVP: President Pam McDonald,
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WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD to having **Faye Henson**, State President of AAUW, visit our branch at this meeting. Faye is the "point person" appointed to share information about the upcoming AAUW national vote on the bylaws change regarding Open Membership.

IN ADDITION TO MORE INFORMATION, she will bring information, help us to understand the voting process, and answer any questions we have. Online voting begins April 3. Welcome to Tulsa Branch, Faye!

FOLLOWING OUR BUSINESS MEETING and lunch, we will be marking Women's History Month with a book review by member **Doris Piatak**. The book is Good Night, Irene, a novel

by Luis Alberto Urrea which tells the story of Red Cross "donut dollies", whose chief responsibility was to be a touch of home for the troops.

TRAVELING IN CLUBMOBILES outfitted with coffee urns and donut fryers, they served as sisters, mothers, and confidantes to frightened and homesick GIs.

THEY WITNESSED THE HORRORS of war; 52 female Red Cross workers lost their lives during their service. The author's mother had been a donut dolly.

THANK YOU, DORIS!

Following the book review, members can share a little bit about the book we each read on the theme, "women in World War II".





President's Corner

It soon will be Spring and our monthly meetings are winding down. Let's try to come out and support our branch!

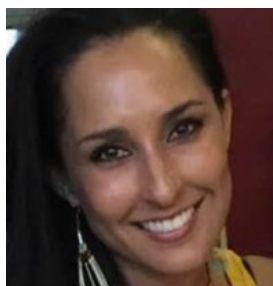
We had a great tour of Phoenix Rising Alternative School under the umbrella of Tulsa Public Schools. All of us felt inspired to help these wonderful kids and school in some way. We will discuss ideas to do just that in future meetings.

And now it's very important to attend our March 16th meeting to meet with our state President, Faye Henson. We will be discussing upcoming potential bylaw changes that affect membership. AND, we will celebrate women and their role in WWII.

Thank you, members, for making a difference in women's and girls' lives.

—*Pam McDonald*
President, AAUW Tulsa
adamsfamily9857@aol.com
or 918-636-5131

AAUW's Native American Alumnae



Jacquie Kocer
American Fellowship
2021-22

We are continuing our spotlight on Native American AAUW Awardees (fellowships and grants).

Jacquie Kocer's research examines how women learned and shared knowledge and technology in the past. She studies the archaeologically defined group called Gallina (A.D. 1100-1300) in North-western New Mexico.

Upon graduation, she plans to teach at a tribal college and run her nonprofit company that will include a collaborative research program and an archaeological field school for Native American students. She has Hispanic and native ancestry from New Mexico, but she is also an enrolled member of the Oglala Lakota.

Jacquie is a PhD Candidate, Anthropology, University of New Mexico.

TULSA VOICE

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

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March 8, 2024

Branch Briefs

Actions following programs in 2024

In carrying out the mission of AAUW, we try to have some kind of action resulting from our programs. After our January program about Reading Partners, we have had one member sign up who is now tutoring, and another who will begin next fall.

From our program in February where we toured the Alternative School, we brought snacks for the students, and the Administrator said they had just run out! We will also be discussing others ways to help at the Phoenix Rising Alternative School. Thank you Maggie and Linda Brooks for setting up that tour!

Program Schedule

March 16	Book Review, Read a book about Women in WW II
April 13	Prevention of Child Abuse
May 11	Celebrate the Year

Interest Groups

AAUW TULSA ZOOM BOOK GROUP



The AAUW Book Group will meet via Zoom on **Friday, March 29, 6:30 p.m.** to discuss The Body in Question by Jill Ciment. Hannah is in her 50s, married to a man in his late 70s. She is called for jury duty, for a horrendous murder trial. The story focuses on the relationship between the jurors, Hannah's relationship with her husband, and the family at the center of the murder trial.

Hope to see you on Zoom!

Please contact Rose at (918) 688-7128 if you would like to participate.

MYSTERY BOOK GROUP

Mystery book club will NOT meet in March.

For their April 18th meeting they will gather at 11:30 A.M., at Barnes and Noble, 5231 E. 41st St. No theme for April, free choice.

We will head out to lunch afterwards.



Questions?

Call Linda Brooks, 918-260-3263, or lsb Brooks@yahoo.com

GOURMET GROUP



If you are interested in joining our dinners, please call **Kay Witt, at 918-633-5217.**

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

"Women Who Advocate for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion" is the theme of Women's History Month 2024. Diversity is an important mission based value for AAUW members.

Join AAUW in conversation as we honor the profound contributions of Black Americans through our exclusive webinar series. Dive into our past webinars and keep an eye out for future events that celebrate, educate, and inspire during Women's History Month, Black History Month, and beyond.

Tune into our special webinar featuring Alumna Dr. Keisha N. Blain, an award-winning historian and author. In this engaging session Dr. Blain discusses her acclaimed book, Until I Am Free, spotlighting the influential civil rights leader, Fannie Lou Hamer.

Find these webinars on the AAUW You Tube Channel under AAUW: Webinar Series. Timely webinars are another important educational resource of AAUW that can be shared with others.

WELCOME

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Kasey earned a B.A. in Sociology from Northeastern State University in 2014, and a M.A.I.S. in 2018 from OU in International and Area Studies.

— Rose Unterschuetz
Vice-President of Membership
tulsarose@sbcglobal.net

TULSA PUBLIC SCHOOLS Board of Education Meetings

March 25, 6:30 pm
April 1, 6:30 pm
April 15, 6:30 pm

All these regular meetings will be in the Cheryl Selmon Room,
Charles C. Mason Education Service Ctr.,
3027 S. New Haven Ave.

Our Branch Family

Get Well Wishes to Linda Brooks as she will undergo surgery this month.



NOTE TO TULSA BRANCH: As I was finishing the newsletter, this note from National, passed on through our State President, just came in. I am copying it in its entirety. —Gwen Hampton, editor



Act — TAKE ACTION *on the most pressing policies*

Equal Pay Day—March 12—is used to raise awareness around the gender pay gap and take action to combat pay inequities. It is appalling that women working full time still only make **84 cents per dollar paid to men**—a pay gap that is significantly worse for many women of color and for women working part-time or seasonally. The Paycheck Fairness Act (H.R. 17/S. 728) would address several components of pay equity including ending use of salary history to determine wages, pay data collection, and retaliation protections for discussing wages.

Help us urge Congress to support the Paycheck Fairness Act:

- ◆ [Contact your members of Congress](#)
- ◆ [Write a Letter to the Editor](#)
- ◆ [Engage online](#) (Join the social media storm on March 12 at 2 p.m. ET)

The gender pay gap impacts all women in nearly every profession, at all education levels, and worsens as we get older. This cannot be allowed to continue!

Learn — DIG DEEPER *into the issues that matter*

While the Equal Pay Act of 1963 made it illegal for employers to pay unequal wages to men and women who perform substantially equal work, there is still more to be done to address this and the uneven impact of the pay gap on women of color. On average, a Black woman working full-time, year-round **earns only 69 cents for every dollar** paid to a non-Hispanic white man. For Latinas, that number drops to **57 cents**.

While the reasons for the pay gap are complex –

including gender and racial discrimination, workplace harassment, occupational segregation, and a lack of workplace policies that support family caregiving – there are steps that can be taken to eliminate it.

Pay transparency can help address gender and racial pay gaps by preventing both unconscious bias and outright discrimination that skews compensation. AAUW's analysis has shown that the gender wage gap tends to be narrower in job sectors where wages are transparent.

As of December 2023, ten states, the District of Columbia and several cities have enacted salary transparency laws. The [Salary Transparency Act \(H.R. 1599\)](#) would require employers across the country to provide salary ranges for jobs to applicants and employees regardless of where they live.

The federal government recently implemented a new measure to reduce racial and gender pay inequities for federal employees by banning the use of current or past pay when determining the salaries of new federal employees. AAUW applauds the proposed rule to extend this practice to [federal contractors](#) along with a provision to post salary ranges in job listings.

The importance of having data to help identify and eliminate gender and racial pay discrimination cannot be understated. AAUW continues to urge the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) to move quickly to reinstate the EEO-1 pay data collection as a way to help identify and eliminate pay discrimination and close the wage gap nationwide.

As we recognize Equal Pay Day on March 12, we must also recognize the need to form a comprehen-

(Continued on page 5)

sive policy approach at both the state and federal level in order to fully advance pay equity for all women.

Engage — *SHARE* *the important work we're doing*

From the moment women graduate from college, most face a gender pay gap — which widens as they age. This makes it even harder to pay off their larger share of student debt. AAUW advocates for policy solutions to help current and future borrowers pay off their debt and make attaining a college degree more affordable for all students.

◆ **In response to a call** from [AAUW and coalition partners](#), the U.S. Department of Education (ED) held a fourth negotiated rulemaking session on student debt relief on February 22 and 23. Before the session, ED released [proposed regulations](#) to provide critical relief for borrowers experiencing financial hardship. Final rules are expected in May 2024.

◆ **The AAUW-endorsed Codifying SAVE Plan Act** ([H.R. 6593](#)) would protect the Saving on a Valuable Education (SAVE) student loan repayment plan under federal law to prevent any future rollbacks of the program. The SAVE plan provides a more affordable income-driven repayment option, including a path to debt cancellation for eligible borrowers. On February 21, the Biden administration [announced](#) \$1.2 billion of student debt cancellation for over 150,000 borrowers enrolled in the SAVE repayment plan.

◆ **AAUW and many education-focused organizations** have opposed the Bipartisan Workforce Pell Act ([H.R. 6585](#)). While the bill would allow federal Pell Grants to be used for short-term education and job training programs, it lacks protections from potential abuse by for-profit program providers and risks supporting low-quality programs. AAUW and coalition partners sent a [letter to Congress](#) opposing the bill.

◆ **AAUW joined fellow members** of the Gender Equity Coalition in a letter to President Biden calling for commitments to gender justice issues—including women's economic security, access to education, voting rights, reproductive freedom, and more—in the 2024 State of the Union address on March 7.

◆ **Congress negotiated a third extension** of funding for federal programs through March 8 and 22. AAUW joined coalition partners in a let-

ter urging Congress to reject all policy riders in Fiscal Year 24 appropriations bills that would prohibit federal agencies from funding diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility programs.

◆ **Join AAUW on March 20** at 2:30 p.m. ET for “[Busting Myths & Enhancing Support: Advancing Workplace Success for Women](#),” a virtual panel discussion of the critical importance of work-life policies and strategies to advance women's economic security. This AAUW-led event is part of the 68th NGO Committee on the Status of Women Forum.

“Dare To Be...”



**National Conference for
College Women
Student Leaders 2024**

May 30—June 1
University of Maryland, College Park
(DC Metro Area)

Hundreds of motivated college women from around the country will join AAUW for leadership training, inspiration, and networking.

Workshops, panels and guest speakers will be based on the following learning objectives:

- **Leadership Development**
- **Professional Development**
- **Activism**
- **Women's Issues**
- **Identity and Diversity**

You can help — suggest a college woman register, or donate toward a scholarship. Go to [aauw.org](#) to learn how.





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—aauw-ok.aauw.net National AAUW—www.aauw.org
State Facebook—www.facebook.com/AAUWOklahoma



AAUW members toured Phoenix Rising Alternative School on February 22. The mural highlights the entrance to the gym; other murals were throughout the halls of the school.

Pictured, l. to rt.: Derek Dyson (member of Phoenix Rising Foundation), Doris Piatak, Beth Webb, Pam McDonald, Gwen Hampton, School Administrator Scott Ferris, Vicky Escoe, Linda Brooks and Gisele McDaniel. Not pictured: Nicholas McMillan, member of Phoenix Rising Foundation; he took the photo.

March, 2024 Calendar



March 8 International Women's Day

March 12 Equal Pay Day

March 16 General Membership Meeting See Page 1.

March 20 Deadline for April TULSA VOICE.

March 20 Webinar: Advancing Workplace Success for Women

March 26 Membership Webinar: Securing Our Future

March 29 Tulsa Branch Book Group See Page 3.

Looking Ahead...

April 3 Online voting begins on Bylaws Change on Open Membership

April 18 Mystery Book Group See Page 3.

May 15 Online voting ends at 12:00 p.m. ET

May 30-June 1 AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)

June 13 LGBTQIA+ Equal Pay Day

June 16-22 STEAM Camp for Girls in Weatherford