

SAINT CLOUD AREA (MN) BRANCH

# The American Association of University Women WE EMPOWER WOMEN – Join us!

### **Our Mission**

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. Founded in 1881, the national organization began with a meeting of 17 like-minded women who defied traditional society by earning college degrees. Today, there are more than 170,000 members and supporters, 1,000 branches, and nearly 800 college and university partners. There are 2,000 members in Minnesota and 30 branches. AAUW is a powerful voice for women and girls.

#### Research

The organization conducts research that draws national attention to gender equity issues in education and the workplace. *Why So Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics* (2010) stressed the importance of informing school-aged girls about STEM fields. In fact, the St. Cloud Branch in partnership with St. Cloud State University and the College of Saint Benedict offers an annual day-long event developed by National called, *Tech Savvy*.

#### Membership

"We are a community of women from all walks of life - college students, recent graduates, working women, moms, retirees, and men of good conscience – who still believe in the power of education and equality" (A Member's Guide to AAUW, p.1, 2014).

**The St. Cloud Area Branch** began on February 14, 1922. Some of the founding members' names are recognizable even today; Mitchell, Whitney, Atwood, Hill, and Barden. The history of the St. Cloud Area Branch demonstrates a strong commitment to improving the lives of women and girls through both local and national efforts. During Granite City Days, June 20, 2012, the City of

St. Cloud awarded the Mayor's *Rock-On Award* to the Branch for outstanding civic participation, leadership and achievements.

## St. Cloud Area Branch - Membership

We would like to strengthen our membership to ensure that future generations of girls and women will continue to be enriched by our support and advocacy. Women that have an associate degree or above from an accredited college or university are welcome to join us! Please come to an AAUW event or program to interact with our members and learn more about the organization.

## Monthly programs are offered from September through May.

Come when it's convenient or fits into your busy schedule. Programs are held at the Courtyard by Marriott, downtown St. Cloud. The cost for evening programs is \$16.95 and includes socializing, dinner, and presentation. Morning programs are held Dec., Jan., and Feb., 9:00 a.m. The cost is \$13.95. Past speakers include business leaders, college presidents, physicians, scholars, and members of the fine arts community. Members and guests are encouraged to attend because of the quality speakers and the lively discussions. Your time commitment and financial contribution is minimal (branch, state, and national dues total only about \$7.00 per month) however your inspiration and advocacy for women and girls are priceless!

## NCCWSL

An annual fundraising event provides scholarships for local college women so they can attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders at the University of Maryland, College Park, near Washington D.C. Nearly 1000 students from across the U.S. attend. There are 50 leadership-building sessions to choose from and about 100 graduate schools and employers participate in the conference career fair portion.

**The members of AAUW – St. Cloud Area Branch** are brilliant and hospitable women who have dedicated a portion of their time to give back to the community by supporting women's issues. We are reaching out to the St. Cloud area's dynamic and educated women with an invitation to join us! Please contact Linda MacLeod with any questions at 320-281-3155 or Imariemac@yahoo.com. We would be honored to know you and promise not to disappoint!

