

October 1, 2024

THE MONTHLY MONITOR

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF AAUW ST. CLOUD (MN) AREA BRANCH



Saint Cloud Area (MN) Branch Memo From The Board

BY AAUW BOARD

IN THIS ISSUE

Memo From The Board

2024-25 Programs

Book Club

Free AAUW Webinars

2024 Fundraiser

Scholarship Recipients

And More...

Our Fundraiser activities have moved into high gear! Note that today, Oct. 1, is the ticket-buying deadline, and the online site (EventBrite) is closed, but you could phone your social chairs (Caroline Williams or Joyce Hummel) and ask to be added to the catering count – then send your check to Mary Harlander-Locke. I think you'll be sad to miss it. We have so many wonderful raffle prizes, and our entertainment will be Janelle Kendall and The Wheelhouse Trio, with dinner music by T. J. Stang. The fun starts at 5:30 on Oct. 8, in the 2nd Floor Cascade Ballroom at Atwood Memorial Center, SCSU. Remember, free parking in Lot "C".

Hope to see you there!

Get ready for Tech Savvy! After such a successful event last year, we're so pleased to be able to present it again in the coming project season. February 22, 2025 has been selected as the date and we already have participation from the Boys and Girls Club, School District 742 and the Sauk Rapids School District. Eight SCSU Profs already have volunteered to run workshops on event day. Stay tuned for more exciting announcements about our shining STEM event to come.

October 1, 2024

2024-2025 Programs



Season 2024-2025 Program Schedule

PARKING NOTE: Parking at SCSU is available for free at Lot "C", which is at the corner of 4th Avenue/5th Street. It's about 3 blocks from Atwood Memorial Center. You can use any of the pay lots (4th Avenue Ramp, Miller Pay Lot). To pay to use Lot "L" (directly across from Atwood), you will need to download and use the Flowbird Mobile Parking app.

RESERVATION DEADLINES: Tuesdays, seven (7) days prior to event by 4:00 p.m.

- | | | | |
|----------|-------------------|--------------------|--|
| Tuesday | November 12, 2024 | 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm | Atwood Memorial Center
Elizabeth Bayer and Diane Nelson, Annandale Art and Textile Center
Shop for Christmas and support an excellent cause |
| Tuesday | December 10, 2024 | 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm | Atwood Memorial Center
AAUW Branch Members "What is it like to live abroad?" Panel Discussion
Holiday traditions Cookie Exchange |
| Saturday | January 18, 2025 | 8:30 am – 10:30 am | Atwood Memorial Center
Matt Glaesman, Community Development Director, City of St. Cloud
"Community Planning: Initiatives Achieved and New Objectives" |
| Saturday | February 15, 2025 | 8:30 am – 10:30 am | Atwood Memorial Center
Cassandra Miles, Executive Director of the Great River Children's Museum
"A Dining Table Conversation: How to Launch a Children's Museum" |
| Tuesday | March 11, 2025 | 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm | Gorecki Center, College of St. Benedict
Anita Jones, Family Advocate for the St. Cloud area school district 742
"The Erosion of Voting Rights & Women's Rights-What's the Solution?" |
| Tuesday | April 8, 2025 | 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm | Atwood Memorial Center
Ellen Heneghan, Charlotte Stephens, Natural Parks and Trails Coalition
Our Region's Natural Parks and Trails |
| Tuesday | May 13, 2025 | 11:30 am – 1:30 pm | Atwood Memorial Center
Annual Business Meeting plus AAUW National Speaker (Video or Virtual)
"Current Status of AAUW National Lobbying Efforts" |

October 1, 2024

HOW TO MAKE A RESERVATION FOR A MONTHLY PROGRAM...

Email: aauwsaintcloud@gmail.com

Subject Line: Reservations

Email Body/Message: Please reserve [#] places for [Name] for the program on [Date]. I am a [Member, Student or Guest] and I require a [Special Dietary Needs] meal.
Thanks!

Deadline to make reservations is ONE WEEK from the date of the program.

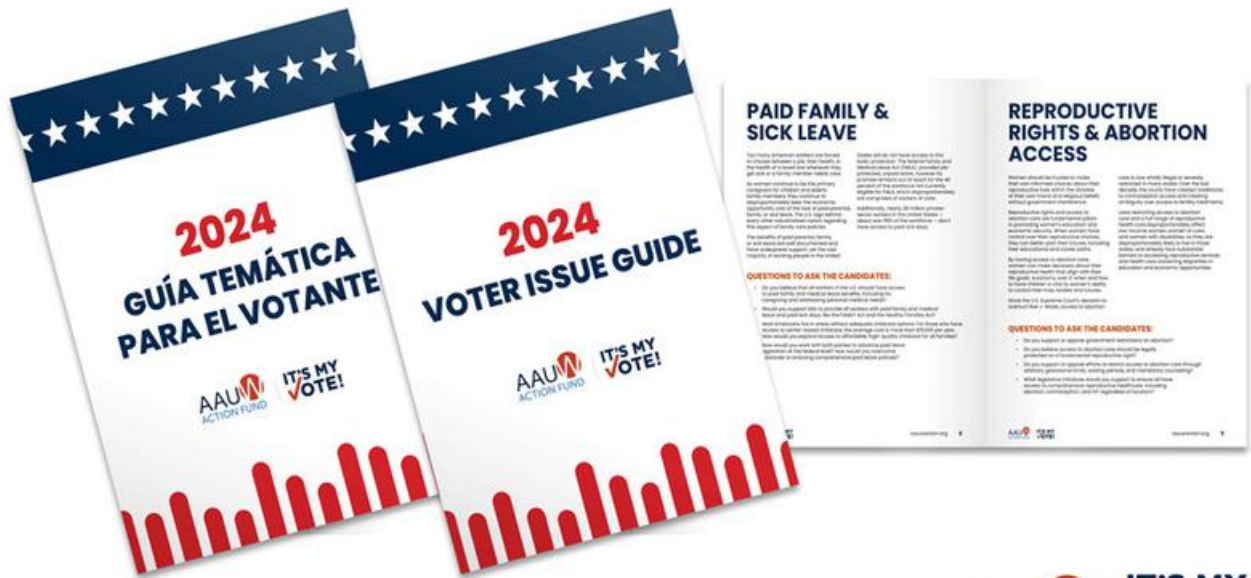
October 1, 2024

It's My Vote!

TAKE ACTION

Election Resources

The 2024 U.S. election will have a major impact on gender equity in education, women's economic security, and reproductive and civil rights. The good news? When women vote, we change the conversation.



October 1, 2024

Five Star Program

FY25 Five-Star Criteria & Resources

Area	Criteria	Resources
ADVANCEMENT *ONLY 3 REQUIRED FOR A STAR IN THIS AREA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise \$30 per member in FY25 towards the Greatest Needs Fund Increase contributions to the Greatest Needs Fund by 15% from the last fiscal year. Retain at least 80% of branch membership. Make a branch contribution or support a registrant's attendance at NCCWSL. Recruit at least one Legacy Circle member from your branch in FY25. 	Membership: Securing Our Future How to Record and Submit Gifts Leaving a Legacy
PUBLIC POLICY & ADVOCACY *ONLY 3 REQUIRED FOR A STAR IN THIS AREA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appoint a branch public policy chair for FY25. Conduct an in-district meeting with your local member of Congress about a National AAUW policy priority. Participate in a state lobby day. Hold a program on a policy topic related to Education, Economic Security, or Civil Rights (this also counts towards a Programs Star). Conduct a voter registration or voter education event. Encourage sign-ups for Two-Minute Activist at branch events and on social media. 	AAUW Action Network How to hold a meeting with your elected officials Two Minute Activist Take Action in Your State How to Engage with Elected Officials
GOVERNANCE & SUSTAINABILITY *ONLY 3 REQUIRED FOR A STAR IN THIS AREA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Branch board creates or annually reviews a succession plan to ensure future leadership is identified. Branch board develops and implements a plan to participate in the 5 Star National Recognition Program. Appoint a Diversity Officer* to lead diversity and inclusion planning with board support. Hold at least one branch program focused on justice, equity, diversity, or inclusion topics. Participate in an affiliate survey. <p>*Diversity Officer does not need to be a board member and does not require a change in bylaws.</p>	Succession plan template Diversity and Inclusion Plan Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Toolkit Inclusion in Practice: How AAUW's Policies and Practices Promote Inclusion Understanding Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Intersectionality Defined
PROGRAMMING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold at least 4 programs that align with AAUW's mission.* 	Programming in a Pandemic DEI Toolkit
		FY25 CRITERIA
		FY24 CRITERIA Initiative AAUW's Mission
COMMUNICATIONS & EXTERNAL RELATIONS *ONLY 3 REQUIRED FOR A STAR IN THIS AREA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Branch has a designated communications point person and follows AAUW National on platforms where it operates social media accounts. Share 3-5 posts aligned with AAUW's mission per quarter on branch social media accounts (can be shared/reposted from AAUW National accounts). Include information from AAUW National in branch newsletters at least quarterly (pulling from Mission & Action and Washington Update emails, etc.). Include information about Equal Pay Days in branch communications, including social media. Ensure all branch leaders subscribe to AAUW emails and share the email re-subscribe link with members quarterly in member communications. 	DEI Toolkit Working to Build a Diverse and Inclusive AAUW Social Media Advocacy 101 Creating a diversity Structure and Planning for Success Logos and Branding Materials

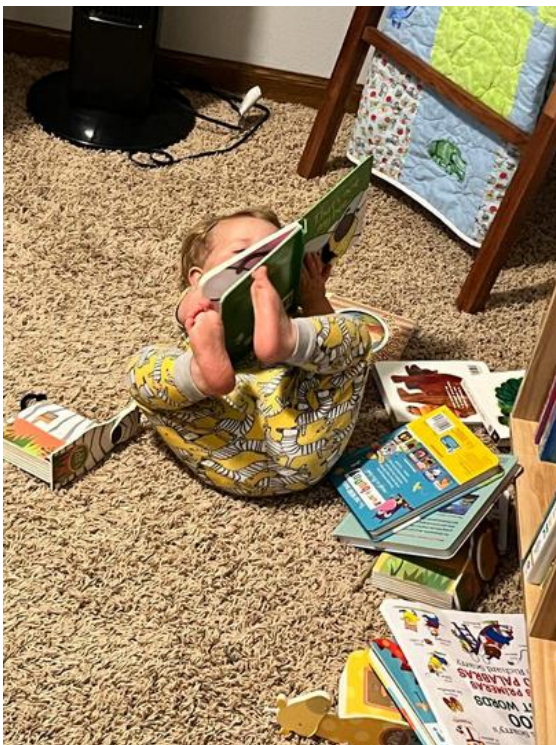
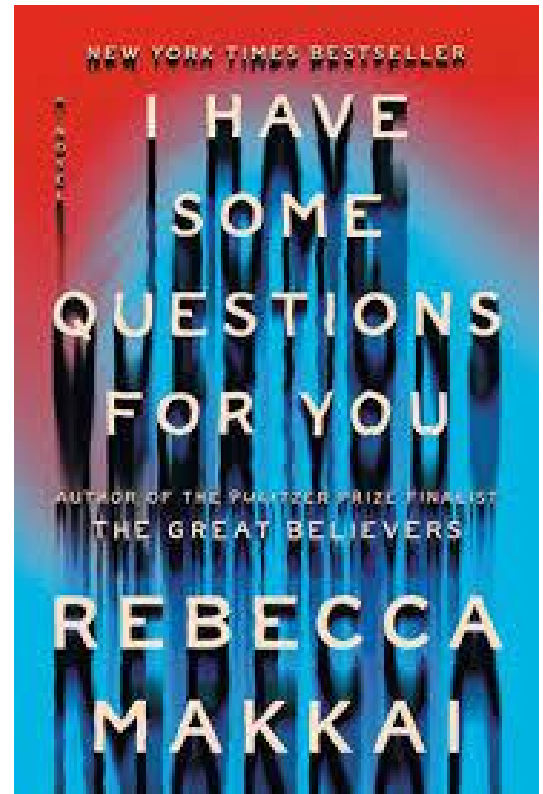


October 1, 2024

AAUW Book Club

The Thursday AAUW Book Club meets next on Thursday, October 24, @ 6:30 p.m., to discuss “I Have Some Questions For You” by Rebecca Makkai – lead by Trish.

AAUW members can contact Mary Harlander-Locke if they are interested in joining.



Youngest member of the AAUW Afternoon Literature Group reading the October selection.

We welcome all ages to our group. The October 2 meeting will be held at 1:00 at Judith Nixon Hooks home, The book : Language Arts by Stephanie Kallos. If you are a possible new member, please call Cleone Ashley 320-255-1397 or Molly Ewing, 320-252-2166

October 1, 2024

AAUW 2024 Webinar Schedule

These webinars are designed to provide you with the tools and knowledge needed to negotiate better salaries, enhance your career, and achieve financial independence. Whether you're a student stepping into the professional world or a seasoned professional aiming to advance, our webinars offer valuable insights for every stage of your career. Check out our schedule and secure your spot to start transforming your future today. All the below webinars are FREE for students from member institutions.



Webinar	Date	Time
AAUW Work Smart: Know Your Value and Get Paid	Thursday, September 12, 2024	12:00 - 1:00 p.m. ET
AAUW Start Smart	Thursday, September 19, 2024	12:00 - 1:00 p.m. ET
AAUW Money Smart: Smart Foundations	Tuesday, September 24, 2024	12:00 - 12:45 p.m. ET
AAUW Work Smart: Refresher	Wednesday, October 9, 2024	3:00 - 4:00 p.m. ET
AAUW Work/Start Smart Deep Dive: Developing Your Value Statement	Wednesday, October 16, 2024	12:00 - 1:00 p.m. ET
AAUW Money Smart: Smart Finances	Wednesday, October 23, 2024	3:00 - 4:00 p.m. ET
AAUW Work Smart: Know Your Value and Get Paid	Tuesday, November 5, 2024	2:00 - 3:00 p.m. ET
AAUW Start Smart	Wednesday, November 13, 2024	2:00 - 3:00 p.m. ET
AAUW Money Smart: Smart Future	Thursday, November 21, 2024	3:00 - 4:00 p.m. ET
AAUW Work Smart: Refresher	Tuesday, December 3, 2024	3:00 - 4:00 p.m. ET
AAUW Work/Start Smart Deep Dive: Developing Your Value Statement	Tuesday, December 10, 2024	3:00 - 3:45 p.m. ET
AAUW Money Smart Deep Dive: Finances-Budget and Credit Management	Tuesday, December 17, 2024	3:00 - 4:00 p.m. ET



October 1, 2024

Annual Fundraiser Event Update

Join us for a

A Toast to Fall

We told you the time and place, now it's time to tell you more about this fabulously exciting gala!

During our cocktail hour and dinner, we'll be serenaded with dinner music by T. J. Stang, a wonderfully-accomplished pianist. Our entertainment will be Janelle Kendall and her Wheelhouse Trio. She's played many venues in our area, including Summertime by George!

Here are some of her other performance dates this summer:

Perfect Storm:

Summertime by George (headliner) Wednesday July 17

St. Mary's Cathedral Block Party (headliner) Saturday Sept. 7

Milk and Honey Concert Series Saturday Sept. 21

Walter's Wheelhouse/Wheelhouse Trio:

Ultimate Sports in Waite Park Friday June 28 (full band)

Paynesville Koronis Concert Series Thursday July 11 (trio)

Summertime by George (opener with special guests) Wednesday August 14
(full band)

Ultimate Sports in Waite Park Thursday August 15 (trio)

Art in Motion (Holdingford) Saturday October 5 (trio)

We are using EventBrite again this year, so you can simply go to the [link](#) and purchase your admission and raffle tickets.

Note: We're doing an "early bird" special again this year. Purchase your admission ticket before August 31 and it will only be \$70!! NOTE: This means if you attend our summer gathering at the Martini Lounge on August 28th and buy your tickets, you'll get the special pricing!

Your Fundraiser committee has also decided to continue the special student pricing this year; students will only need to pay \$10 for both admission and the meal.



October 1, 2024

Annual Fundraiser Event Update

Raffle Prizes

Iranian Dinner for 4 – donated, prepared, and presented at Donna Nordang's home

Ethiopian Dinner for 4 – donated and presented at Donna Nordang's home

Transportation by Barb Wismer to Minneapolis Institute of Art for Spring "Art in Bloom" exhibition

Basket of BestSellers – donated by the AAUW Evening Book Club; includes several recent books as well as a Barnes and Noble gift card

Specially Made Garden Whirligig – donated by Kathryn Gainey, a one-of-a-kind individually crafted beautiful addition for your garden, along with some additional garden art

Special Dining Experience – donated by Ann Fleming

Art Print – donated by Barb Wismer

Pottery Tea Set – donated by Jan Bensen

.....with more raffle prizes to come!

And we will have, once again, our cabin weekend to be auctioned off, courtesy of Jan Bensen.

Don't forget to buy your raffle tickets...

\$10 /each or 12/\$100

October 1, 2024

HELP NEEDED

A little help from friends, please ...

I'm seeking a review team for the Branch's website.

I'm looking for 4-6 volunteers to assess the site. This is a short-lived volunteer task. One and done.

Even if you don't use the site, you can be helpful.

When you volunteer, I will send you a short list of items to consider about the site. You'll be asked to visit the site and consider it from a couple of perspectives and submit a few notes. Not hard work.

Contact Rene Kaluza at renevk1@gmail.com if you're willing to help. Thanks!

October 1, 2024

Stearns History Museum Event



James Neppl

"Dead Talk"

Wednesday October 9, 9am

Join Community Outreach Coordinator, Chaplain, and Celebrant for Williams Dingmann Funeral Homes, James Neppl, as he briefly explores the history of the funeral business and the important meaning of ritual at the end of life.



Free for Museum Members, \$7 for non-members

www.stearnshistorymuseum.org

320-253-8424

October 1, 2024

Stearns History Museum Event



Sundown Cemetery Tour



Saturday, October 12, 5pm

Acacia Cemetery

2298 County Rd. 143
Clearwater, MN 55320

\$10/person
Members
Free!

Come early
for some
hot cocoa!



235 33rd Ave S., St. Cloud, MN 56301- 320-253-8424- www.stearnshistorymuseum.org

October 1, 2024

Stearns History Museum Event



STEARNS
HISTORY
MUSEUM

HERITAGE CIRCLE TOUR COLDSPRING

"Over 125 years of natural stone quarrying and fabrication"



Led by
JOSH REITMEIER
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS



COLDSPRING®

17482 Granite West Road; Cold Spring, MN

OCTOBER | **24th** | **10AM**

Questions? Contact Ann Marie at development@stearns-museum.org or call 320/253-8424

Register at stearnsmuseum.org/events

October 1, 2024

Whats happening with the LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS OF ST. CLOUD AREA???

Important Dates for 2024 Election Year:

General Election: November 5, 2024

- Early registration deadline: Oct. 15, 2024
- Early/mail-in voting: Sept. 20 - Nov. 4, 2024

LWVSA Special Dates

Unit Meeting

September 11, Topic: **How League is Building Trust in Elections**, Convener, Linda Kotschevar
Speaker: Sam Streucken, LWVMN

October 9, Topic: **Defending Democracy**, Convener, Jerilyn Petersen
Members: Diane Bublitz, Ralph Carr, Angie Revier

November 13, Topic: **Separation of Church and State in Education**, Convener, Carie Essig
Members: Kate Meyer

January 8, Topic: **Chevron USA Inc. v. Natural Resources Defense Council**, Convener, Lee Morgan
Members: Marlene Haider, Kate Meyer

February 12, Topic: **LWVSCA Program Update on Book Bans**, Convener, Shirley Adams
Members: Marge Bates, Sheila Ferguson, Judy Foster, Judy Heeter, Julie Joplin

March 12, Topic: **Water Rights—Protecting the Fair Use of Water**, Convener, Julie Joplin
Members: _____

April 9, Topic: **Religious Nationalism in the US**, Convener, Linda Kotschevar
Members: Diane Bublitz, Ralph Carr, Linda Saupe

May 14, Topic: **Rural Healthcare in Minnesota**, Convener, Jan Stavros
Members: Kate Meyer, Linda Saupe

October 1, 2024

Meet Your Board Members

Executive Board Members



Barb Wismer
Branch President



Jan Benson
Co-VP Finance



Mary Harlander-Locke
Co-VP Finance



Molly Ewing
Recording Secretary



Kathryn Gainey
Recording Secretary
Alternate



Pat Obstarczyk
Co-VP membership

Executive Board Members



Leah Stanek
Co-VP membership



Jan Benson
VP Public Policy



OPEN
VP Programs



OPEN
VP of
Communications

Voting - Standing Board Committee Chair Members



OPEN
Monthly Program
Chair



Caroline Williams
Co-Social
Chairwoman



Joyce Hummel
Co-Social
Chairwoman



Rene Kaluza
Website



Jamie Swenson
Monthly Newsletter



Cecilia McNair
Social Media

Voting - Standing Board Committee Chair Members



OPEN
Meet-a-Member



Kathryn Gainey
Directories



Kathryn Gainey
Ads & Flyers



Joanna Pucel
Archives



Chris Lepkowski
SCSU Representative



Whitney Court
CSB Representative

Non-Voting Advisory Board



Jan Benson
Tech Savvy Event
Chair



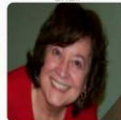
Keshia Anderson-King
JEDI (Justice, Equity,
Diversity & Inclusion
Chair



OPEN
NCCWSL Event Chair



Whitney Court
Scholarships for
Young Leaders



Barb Wismer
Flash Funds Chair



Keshia Anderson-King
8th Grade Graduation



OPEN
Start Smart Event -
SCSU



Christi Siver
Start Smart Event - CSB



OPEN
Student Membership
Liaisons - SCSU



OPEN
Student Membership
Liaisons - CSB



Fay Bolin
Fundraising
Committee



Peggy Lodewyk
Fundraising
Committee

Non-Voting Advisory Board



Joyce Hummel
Fundraising
Committee



Kathy Kampa
Fundraising
Committee



Kathryn Gainey
Fundraising
Committee



Cindy Leigh
Fundraising
Committee



OPEN
Fundraising
Committee



OPEN
Fundraising
Committee

October 1, 2024



Do you have a special announcement or event you would like to share with all the AAUW St. Cloud Area (MN) Branch members?

Want it included in our next Monthly Newsletter???

**SEND YOUR ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENT DETAILS WITH PHOTOS TO JAMIE SWENSON
JAMIE_2992@YAHOO.COM
BY THE 15TH OF THE MONTH TO BE INCLUDED IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER.**

Disclaimer: There is no guarantee that your information will be shared but we will do our best to get it shared in the following newsletter.

