



**The Southwest District Invites You to  
Join Us in Lynchburg on  
**Saturday, April 13**  
at the Hilton Garden Inn.**

**Our Keynote Speaker will be  
Dr. Alison Morrison-Shetlar, the first woman  
president of the University of Lynchburg.**

*Plan to enjoy a little shopping because vendor tables will  
be available.*

*Pre-Conference activities include sightseeing tours to be  
scheduled on Friday, April 12th, starting at 2:00 P.M. to  
give you a chance to enjoy Lynchburg.*

# Pre-conference Friday Afternoon Tours

Three tours are being offered for our conference 2024 attendees who come early on Friday, April 12. They are described below. You may register for the tours when you register for the Conference.

**All tours will meet in the hotel lobby Friday at 2:00 P.M.to set up carpools.**

## 1. Anne Spencer House and Garden Museum <https://www.annespencermuseum.org>

The spokesperson for the Executive Director said that the tour is "not mobility friendly" although the website says the tour is accessible for the mobility impaired. The tour is not navigable with a wheelchair. Those using a cane or walker can tour the first floor of the house and some of the garden. Ticket: \$10

**Located in historic Lynchburg, Virginia**, the Anne Spencer House & Garden Museum is the former home of renowned Harlem Renaissance poet Anne Spencer and is named a Virginia Landmark on the National Register of Historic Places. With up to 95% of the original house and cottage furnishings still in place today, it is considered one of the most intact house museums in the United States.

Anne Spencer's garden is also the only known restored garden of an African American in the United States. Anne Spencer was a poet, civil rights leader, advocate, and librarian. Her home and garden served as a gathering place for leading African Americans such as W.E.B. Du Bois, Zora Neale Hurston, Langston Hughes, and Martin Luther King, Jr.



## 2. Point of Honor House and Grounds <https://www.pointofhonor.org/>

Accessibility per the website: The main house is not ADA accessible due to steps. The gardens have irregular terrain and comfortable walking shoes are recommended. Ticket: \$10



When Point of Honor was given its distinctive name in the early 1800's, it was a 740-acre plantation that extended along the James River from Blackwater Creek to present-day Randolph College.

Over the years, the plantation was divided and sold many times. In the late 20th century, a total of 4.5 acres were acquired one lot at a time. Today they are owned for public benefit by Point of Honor, Inc., and the City of Lynchburg. Please join us for a historical experience, and enjoy a guided walking tour of the Point of Honor house, hearth kitchen, and grounds.

## Pre-Conference Friday Afternoon Tours (Continued)

### 3. The Maier Museum of Art at Randolph College

<https://maiermuseum.org>

Free admission

Accessibility per the website: The museum is on one floor and is wheelchair accessible.

#### Upcoming Exhibition

Kat Owens: Entangled and Ingested

Location: Randolph College Hampson Commons Student Center in Main Hall  
On view January 11 – May 20, 2024

2024 Senior Studio Art Majors Exhibition  
On view April 11 – May 4, 2024

Dr. Kat Owens is a plastic pollution researcher, artist, and activist. She is a National Geographic Explorer, a Fulbright Nehru fellow, and a Professor at the University of Hartford in Connecticut.

Her work is interdisciplinary, often merging science, policy and the arts.

For the Entangled and Ingested project she creates life-sized portraits of animals harmed by plastic pollution by hand sewing film plastic onto canvas.



## Hotel Information



### Hilton Garden Inn

4025 Wards Road  
Lynchburg, VA 24502

The rate for rooms booked under the AAUW-VA block is \$139.00 per night, plus tax.

The room rate includes breakfast.

Room rates are subject to the following taxes:

\$1.00 Occupancy Tax, 6.5% City Sales Tax, 5.3% State Sales Tax.

**Reservations can be made by calling the hotel directly at 434-239-3006 or by [Clicking Here](#).**

Please use the group code **AAW** to ensure you receive the block rate. When booking online, enter the code in the Group Code tab under Special Rate Codes.

**The cut-off date to book rooms at the discounted rate is 03/13/24.**

# Conference Schedule



## Morning Sessions

9:30 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.

## Lunch

11:30 A.M. to 12:15 P.M.

## Afternoon Sessions

12:15 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.

**Registration/Check-In:** Friday, 5:00 - 6:00 P.M. Saturday, 8:30 - 9:15 A.M.

**Vendor tables are open:** 8:30 – 9:30 A.M.; 11:30 A.M. – 12:15 P.M.; 2:00 – 2:45 P.M.

# AAUW Speaker



**Meghan Kissell** is the Senior Director of Policy and Membership Advocacy at AAUW. She leads AAUW's non-partisan and mission-driven public policy at the federal level and supports the grassroots advocacy work of AAUW's membership network.

Meghan has more than 20 years of nonprofit policy and issue developing and implementing targeted social impact strategies designed to engage key stakeholders and policy makers to advocate for positive policy outcomes.

Prior to joining AAUW, Meghan worked on state and local health policy with the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids and led efforts to expand LGBTQ equality in the Deep South with the Human Rights Campaign. She also worked for the Conservation Lands Foundation to help lead local and national campaigns in the Western United States resulting in the successful protection of more than 5 million acres of public land. She was also previously AAUW's Field Director, supporting local advocacy engagement and volunteer get out the vote efforts.

Meghan has a Master's degree in Social Work with a focus on community organizing from Howard University and a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Allegheny College in Pennsylvania.

SOURCE: <https://www.aauw.org/about/leadership/meghan-kissell/>

*"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."*

— Helen Keller



# Keynote Speaker



On August 1, 2020, **Alison Morrison-Shetlar** became the 11th president at the University of Lynchburg in Lynchburg, Virginia. In the last three years, under President Alison's leadership, the University has developed a strategic plan with three areas of distinction — Leadership Development, Innovation and Collaboration, and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion — and a comprehensive campaign focused on endowed scholarships, programmatic support, and facilities projects. The University has been undergoing strategic reorganization to enhance the student experience. It has also increased marketing of the University outside of Virginia to grow enrollment and engagement with the community to provide students the experiential learning opportunities they deserve. President Alison's often-used phrase is, "At the University of Lynchburg, we provide the educational environment where everyone — students, faculty, and staff — can meet their maximum potential and achieve their goals and dreams."

Alison Morrison-Shetlar has experience working at private and public institutions in the U.S. Upon coming to the U.S. in 1993, she served Wesleyan University in Connecticut (adjunct faculty), Georgia Southern University (associate professor of biology and director of professional development), the University of Central Florida (director of faculty development, professor of biology, vice provost and dean of undergraduate studies), Elon University (dean of arts and sciences), and most recently Western Carolina University, where she served as provost for 3.5 years, vice president for development and alumni engagement (9 months) and interim chancellor (18 months).

Alison Morrison-Shetlar brings a wealth of international experience to the presidential post. A native of Scotland, she earned a bachelor's degree in biology and chemistry and a doctorate in biomedical science from Dundee College of Technology (now Abertay University). She was the founding chair of the molecular biology unit at the Max Planck Institute in Dortmund, Germany, and teacher-scholar at Bochum University in Bochum, Germany, and the Kenney Institute of Rheumatology in London.

## The University of Lynchburg



### Leadership Development

The most powerful kind of leadership comes when we serve others.



### Innovation and Collaboration

Innovation happens when we all come together.



### Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Together, we are reimagining our future.

## Board Meet and Greet



Have you ever wondered about the members of the State Board? Do you have questions or concerns you would like to voice with state board members? Do you have ideas you want to share? Have you wanted to join the board yourself, or wanted to know what the positions involve? During *Table Visits with Board Members* you can ask your questions or voice your concerns.

Board Members will be visiting all the tables at the conference.

## Ten-Minute Toolkits

You've heard of [Ted Talks](#)? *Tess Talks*? *Teddy Talks*? Like those, our Ten-Minute Toolkits will be brief, brilliant, and guaranteed to blow you away. Topics are being added – here are just three examples.



*Cybersecurity for Branches*



*Racial Microaggression*

# Branch



# Essentials

# AAUW-VA Conference – April 12 – 13, 2024

## Registration Form

### Hilton Garden Inn

4025 Wards Road, Lynchburg, VA 24502

[ONLINE AAUW-VA 2024 Conference Registration](#)



Name \_\_\_\_\_

First

Last

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Branch: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred name for badge: \_\_\_\_\_

### Check All That Apply:

First-time Attendee: \_\_\_\_\_ Presenter: \_\_\_\_\_ Past State President: \_\_\_\_\_

Current State Board Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Current Branch President: \_\_\_\_\_ Guest: \_\_\_\_\_

### Conference Registration: includes buffet lunch/break

Member postmarked by March 13, 2024 \$75 \_\_\_\_\_

Non-member postmarked by March 13, 2024 \$90 \_\_\_\_\_

All Registrations postmarked after March 13 \$100 \_\_\_\_\_

Optional tours: All tours meet in the hotel lobby Friday at 2:00 P.M. to set up carpools.

1. Maier Museum of Art <https://maiermuseum.org> FREE

2. Anne Spencer House and Garden Museum \$10 \_\_\_\_\_

<https://www.annespencermuseum.org>

3. Point of Honor House and Grounds \$10 \_\_\_\_\_

<https://www.pointofhonor.org/>

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### No refunds after April 1, 2024

Paypal ONLINE or send check payable to AAUW-VA to:

**Marsha Melkonian, 150 Clearcreek Court, Moneta, VA 24121**

**Attn: AAUW 2024 Conference**

Questions: Contact Anita Aymer 276-620-4547 or [alaymer2010@gmail.com](mailto:alaymer2010@gmail.com)