



AAUW of Virginia
*100 Years of Changing
the Conversation*

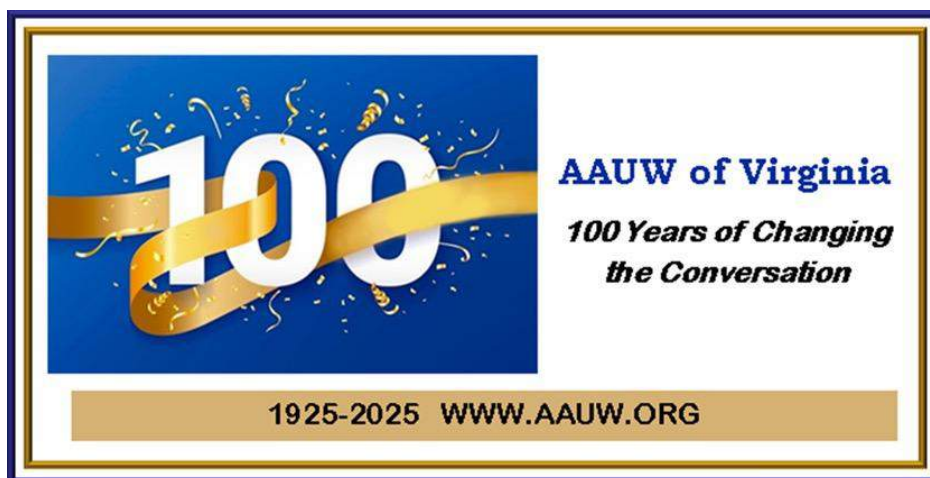
1925-2025 WWW.AAUW.ORG

Annual Business Meeting

April 26, 2025

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**The 100th Annual Business Meeting
American Association of University Women of
Virginia
Saturday, April 26, 2025, 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.**

Call to Order & Welcome	Lane Stone, AAUW of VA President
Meeting Procedures	Lane Stone
Roll Call of Branches	Laura Southall, AAUW of VA Recording Secretary
Appointments	Lane Stone
Minutes Review Committee	Mary Anne Graham, Denise Murden, Suzanne Rothwell
Page	Sylvia Linke
Timekeeper	Arlene Schuchner
Teller	Diane Schrier
Parliamentarian	Suzanne Rothwell
Presentation of the Registration Report	Laura Southall
Adoption of the Rules of the Annual Business Meeting	Laura Southall
Adoption of the Annual Business Meeting Agenda	Susan Burk
AAUW of VA Co-VP for Program	
Minutes of the 99th Annual Business Meeting, 2024	Laura Southall

Report of Officers

President

VP for Program

VP for Membership

VP for Communications

VP for Public Policy

Co-VP for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Lane Stone

Susan Burk & Leslie Tourigny

Laura Greenfield

Tess Evans

Diane Schrier

Meg Tuccillo & Erica Brown Meredith

Standing Committee Reports

Nominating Committee

Introduction of Candidates for State Board

Officer Positions

Proposed Bylaws Amendment

College/University Relations

Marsha Melkonian, Chair

Suzanne Rothwell

Marsha Melkonian

& Barbara Woodlee

Marsha Melkonian

& Barbara Woodlee

Ann Johnson

Kristen Moyer, Legacy Circle National

Team Liaison

Mini-grants

AAUW Funds

Legacy Circle

New Business

Lane Stone

Closing Remarks and Adjournment

Lane Stone

AAUW-VA President's Welcome

*Dear Thelma,
We understand the assignment.
Sincerely,
2025 AAUW-Virginia members*

Hello friends,

Thelma Brown was elected the first president of AAUW-VA in 1925. I did internet sleuthing to get to know her better and was amazed to learn she was 29 years old at the time. In 1959, at 63, she married a 64-year-old retired widower and became Thelma Brown Heffelfinger. (Of course, I wish I could ask her about that.) What a debt we owe her and our other founding mothers.

As the 2024-2025 fiscal year ends, and we assemble for our Annual Business Meeting, I am happy to report that our organization is united in purpose and financially on solid footing. I'm not happy when I consider the challenges ahead of us. There are many. From efforts to dismantle the Department of Education, to bullying organizations to erase DEI commitments. With your input, ideas, and energy we can meet them. A perfect example was your 100 for 100 donations. The help was tangible (books, period products, etc.) but it spoke volumes. You told your community about AAUW's constancy in our work for equality for women and girls. For all of that, Thelma and I thank you.

I will close by once again expressing my gratitude for the opportunity to serve as your state president.

Yours Sincerely,

Lane

**Standing Rules of the 100th Annual Business
Meeting
of the American Association of University Women of
Virginia
April 26, 2025**

1. The Annual Business Meeting is being held virtually utilizing Zoom remote conferencing service to provide an opportunity for all AAUW-VA members to easily attend.
2. Zoom has certain unique features that will enable us to accomplish the goals of our Annual Business Meeting through virtual means. These features, the foremost among them Chat and Raise Hand, will be explained further at the outset of the meeting and are discussed below. In addition, member accessibility to the audio of the meeting can be enhanced by the member's use of the Zoom Closed Captions feature.
3. A committee of three to review the meeting minutes shall be appointed by the president at the beginning of the meeting.
4. A teller shall be appointed by the president at the beginning of the meeting and shall assist in counting votes whenever requested to do so.
5. A timekeeper shall be appointed by the president at the beginning of the meeting.
6. A parliamentarian shall be appointed by the president at the beginning of the meeting.
7. A page shall be appointed to manage Chats, Raise Hand, and other forms of input during the meeting.
8. Any attendee shall use Chat for technical issues and questions on the business of the meeting, making motions, and discussion.
9. Voting: if a voting matter is presented, the Roll Call shall be by using the Raise Hand feature.
10. Attendees' audio shall be muted during the meeting unless the president determines that audio shall be unmuted for voting or discussion. In such situations, audio must be muted again at the end of the vote or discussion.
11. Certain motions to approve procedural matters, including the Business Meeting Agenda and these Standing Rules, do not require a second if they are not controversial. When the president conducts the vote on such matters, she may only ask if there are any objections to the motion. If there are objections, the motion must have a second and a formal vote will be taken.
12. All questions regarding any proposed Public Policy Priorities and any proposed amendment thereto shall be presented to the recording secretary in writing through Chat.
 - a. The member making the request must identify themselves and their branch.
 - b. The recording secretary shall repeat the motion or question and the name and branch of the individual submitting it.
 - c. A motion must be seconded to initiate discussion. If the motion is not seconded, the motion fails.

- d. A member may have one minute for a speech either pro or con, alternating as far as possible, starting with a con speech.
 - e. No member may speak a second time on a question or motion until all others wishing to speak on that question have been heard.
 - f. Discussion on each section or any proposed amendment is limited to five minutes; and
 - g. Total discussion and voting time on the proposed Public Policy Priorities and any proposed amendments shall be limited to 30 minutes.
 - h. A motion to amend the proposed Public Policy Priorities requires a majority vote for approval.
13. Discussion on any proposed Bylaws amendments and any amendment proposed thereto:
- a. A member may have one minute for a speech either pro or con, alternating as far as possible, starting with a con speech.
 - b. Discussion on each section proposed to be amended or on any proposed amendment thereto is limited to five minutes; and
 - c. Total discussion and voting time on the proposed Bylaws amendments and any proposed amendments shall be limited to eight minutes.
14. Any motion to add New Business shall be presented to the recording secretary in writing through Q&A.
- a. The member making the request must identify themselves and their branch.
 - b. The recording secretary shall repeat the motion and the name and branch of the individual submitting it.
 - c. A motion must be seconded to initiate discussion. If the motion is not seconded, the motion fails.
 - d. A member may have one minute for a speech either pro or con on the motion, alternating as far as possible, starting with a con speech.
 - e. No member may speak a second time on the motion until all others wishing to speak on that question have been heard.
 - f. Discussion on the motion is limited to five minutes.
 - g. Total discussion and voting time on a motion to add new business shall be limited to eight minutes.
 - h. A motion to add new business requires a 2/3rds vote for adoption.

Minutes of the 99th Annual Business Meeting Saturday, May 4, 2024

The meeting was held virtually via Zoom.

Call to Order & Welcome

AAUW-VA President Lane Stone convened the 99th Annual Business Meeting at 10:10 am. Stone dedicated her remarks to the memory of Sally Sledge (Norfolk), Judith Burkey (Reston-Herndon), Lona Ross (Hampton), Susannah Godlove (Winchester) and Sandy Wargowski (Alexandria).

Woman of Achievement 2024

Administrator Sarita Gregory introduced Anne Holton, our selected Woman of Achievement for 2024, and invited her to present remarks to our members.

Meeting Procedures

Sarita Gregory, AAUW-VA Administrator, reminded participants that reports and other information relevant to the meeting could be found in the Program Book ([Enclosure 1](#)), which had been distributed electronically prior to the meeting. Stone thanked Mary Anne Graham, Tess Evans, Dianne Mero, and Patsy Quick for preparing the Program Book. Gregory explained the Zoom procedures for the meeting. The Zoom Manager for the meeting was introduced as Tess Evans.

Roll Call of Branches

Laura Southall, Recording Secretary, called the roll of Virginia branches ([Enclosure 2](#)).

Appointments

Stone announced appointments for the meeting:

- Minutes Review Committee: Mary Anne Graham, Vision copy editor (McLean); Denise Murden, Co-VP Public Policy (Portsmouth); Suzanne Rothwell, Bylaws and Resolutions Chair (Vienna)
- Page: Sylvia Linke, Co-President of Alexandria Branch
- Timekeeper: Arlene Schuchner, Alexandria Branch
- Teller: Diane Schrier, Co-President, Alexandria Branch
- Parliamentarian: Suzanne Rothwell

Registration Report

Southall reported that 62 members were in attendance (based on Zoom participants list), representing 22 AAUW of Virginia branches (per Roll Call).

Adoption of the Rules of the Annual Business Meeting

MOTION 1: Southall moved: "The Standing Rules of the 99th Annual AAUW of Virginia Business Meeting are on page 7 of the Program Book. I move the adoption of the Standing Rules. Gregory called for the vote. The motion carried.

Adoption of the Annual Business Meeting Agenda

MOTION 2: Suzanne Rothwell moved: "I move the adoption of the Annual Business Meeting Agenda as found on page 3 of the Program Book, with the chair reserving the right to make further changes with the approval of the assembly." Gregory called for the vote. The motion carried.

With the establishment of a quorum and the approval of the Standing Rules and the Agenda for the Annual Business meeting, Gregory declared the 99th Annual Business Meeting of the American Association of University Women of Virginia officially organized for conducting business.

Minutes of the 2023 Annual Meeting

Southall announced that the State Board had approved the minutes of the 98th Annual Business Meeting (2023) at its July 2023 board meeting and reminded participants that a summary of the minutes was on page 9 of the Program Book.

Reports of Officers

President and Administrator

The President and Administrator report was found on page 14 of the Program Book. Stone summarized the report.

Vice President for Finance

The Finance report was found on page 15 of the Program Book.

Virginia Kress, VP for Finance, reported total income for the period of July 01, 2023-April 26, 2024, as \$12,509.00 and total expenses as \$13,675.00. The checking account balance was reported as approximately \$36,775.00.

Vice President for Program

The Program report was found on page 17 of the Program Book. Rothwell summarized the report for Nadine James, VP for Program.

Vice President for Membership

The report was found on page 18 of the Program Book.

Laura Greenfield, VP for Membership, reported that eleven branches maintained their 100% membership, and will receive a cash incentive from National. It is time to renew memberships for the fiscal year 2024. Ten branches attained Five Star status.

Vice President for Communications

The Communications report was found on page 20 of the Program Book.

Dianne Mero, VP for Communications, summarized the report.

Vice Presidents for Public Policy

The Public Policy report was found on page 21 of the Program Book.

Denise Murden, Co-VP for Public Policy, summarized the report.

Proposed 2024-2026 AAUW-VA Public Policy Priorities

The Public Policy Priorities were found on page 27 of the Program Book.

Stone and Murden summarized the Priorities.

Standing Committee Reports

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee report was found on page 23 of the Program Book.

Anita Aymer, Southwest District Representative, reported that the members of the Nominating Committee were District Representatives Aymer (Southwest District), Susan Burk (Northern District), Tammie Mullins-Rice, Chair (Southeast District), Leslie Tourigny (Northern District), and Laura Wimmer (Northwest District).

The terms of the elected board members commence July 1, 2024, and terminate June 30, 2026.

Candidates for State Board Officer Positions are:

- Lane Stone - President
- Leslie Tourigny – Co-Vice President for Program
- Susan Burk – Co-Vice President for Program
- Diane Schrier – Vice President for Public Policy
- Tess Evans – Vice President for Communications

Information about each of the candidates was found on page 23 of the Program Book.

Candidates spoke briefly regarding their candidacy.

College and University Partners (C/U)

The College and University Partners report was found on page 28 of the Program Book.

Barbara Woodlee, Co-Chair, of C/U Partners, announced that there is now a toolkit available for branches working with college and university partners.

AAUW Funds

The AAUW Funds report was found on page 29 of the Program Book.

Ann Johnson, Chair, reported that the total of AAUW Funds Contributions for this year is \$86,885.00. This is an increase of about \$8,000.00 from last year. The top branches for contributions were Norfolk, McLean, Alexandria, Mt. Vernon, and Falls Church. For every \$500.00 donated per branch, the branch was able to honor one person. Those names are found on page 30 of the Program Book.

Bylaws and Resolutions

The Bylaws and Resolutions report was found on page 31 of the Program Book.

Rothwell, Chair, reported that each member should have received an encrypted ballot for the Open Membership proposal. Members were urged to email connect@aauw.org and request a ballot if one was not received. Voting ends at noon on May 15, 2024.

AAUW amended its bylaws in 2023 and requires branches to make amendments to the first seven articles of their bylaws. Rothwell asked that all branches submit their bylaws changes for her review.

Legacy Circle

Virginia Legacy Circle members were listed on page 32 of the Program Book.

Kristin Moyer, National Legacy Circle Team Liaison, acknowledged the 45 Legacy Circle members. Moyer announced a goal of attaining 100 Legacy Circle members to celebrate AAUW-VA's 100th Anniversary at the State Conference in March 2025.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:24 a.m. by Stone.

AAUW of Virginia Board of Directors and Committee Chairs

2024-2025

President

Lane Stone

Co-VPs for Program

Susan Burk

Leslie Tourigny

VP for Membership

Laura Greenfield

VP for Finance

Virginia Kress

VP for Public Policy

Diane Schrier

VP for Communications

Tess Evans

Co-VPs for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Erica Brown-Meredith

Meg Tuccillo

Recording Secretary

Laura Southall

AAUW Funds Chair

Ann Johnson

Bylaws and Resolutions Chair

Suzanne Rothwell

College/University Chair

Marsha Melkonian

Historian

Anne Simpson

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES (Nominating Committee)

Northern District

Sandra Lawrence

Sharon Zackula

Northwest District

Mary Anne Graham

Southeast District

Tammie Mullins-Rice

Barbara Woodlee

Southwest District

Susan McSarrow

NON-BOARD POSITIONS

Virginia Vision Copy Editor

Mary Anne Graham

Virginia Vision Layout Editor

Tess Evans

Web Manager

Patsy Quick

Technology and Social Media Manager

Tess Evans

Voting and Elections Chair

Sandy Lawrence

Here's how to contact state board members:

1. On the state website homepage <https://aauw-va.aauw.net> click "Contact Us" on the menu bar. That takes you to the contact page.
2. Instead of going to the website, use this email address: AAUWVAcontactus@gmail.com. Identify the board member you want to contact. You will receive a response quickly.

Reports of Officers

President

I won't say 2024-2025 was busier than any other year, but it was full of head-jerking changes. As we face challenges like the dismantling of the Department of Education, it can be difficult to think about mundane jobs like creating our budget. Yet, the two are inextricably linked. We can't do what we need to do, without fiscal control, well-informed branch leaders, and transparent and frequent communication with our members. I hope you will read between the lines when you go over the following list. First, many members (maybe you) participated in making each event happen. Second, the Branch Leader Chats have become more than the name implies. I've met many of you and learned from you. I appreciate your insights.

July — First AAUW-VA board meeting of the year: passed budget, etc.

Aug — Fredericksburg Area Branch was born, Branch Leader Chat, State presidents Liaison calls,

Sept — Atlantic Regional Conference, State presidents Liaison calls,

Oct — AAUW-VA board meeting, Branch Leader Chat, State presidents Liaison calls,

Nov — Branch Leader Chat,

Jan — State Lobby Day, AAUW-VA board meeting, Branch Leader Chat, State presidents Liaison calls,

Feb — Launched Branch Essentials, listening sessions on bylaw votes and dues increase, Great Decisions went statewide; Anne Simpson became our new state historian; Branch Leader Chat,

Mar — 100 Years of Changing the Conversation Conference, AAUW-VA board meeting,

Onward to our 101st year!
Lane Stone

Vice President for Finance Budget 2024-2025

Current Budget 2024 -2025 - Year to Date

7/1/2024 through 3/27/2025 Using 2024 - 2025

3/27/2025

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Category	7/1/2024 Actual	- Budget	3/27/2025 Difference
INCOME	13,282.51	15,322.03	-2,039.52
Dues Received	10,750.00	12,500.00	-1,750.00
Interest Income	0.00	2.74	-2.74
Other Income Donations	2,518.00	2,792.14	-274.14
Square & PayPal income	14.51	27.15	-12.64
EXPENSES	8,268.67	19,190.00	10,921.33
Board Functions	3,253.27	8,065.00	4,811.73
President	0.00	75.00	75.00
President	0.00	75.00	75.00
VP Communications	67.32	650.00	582.68
Branch Essentials	0.00	150.00	150.00
Vision	67.32	350.00	282.68
VP Communications	0.00	50.00	50.00
Zoom	0.00	100.00	100.00
Other VP Communications	0.00	0.00	0.00
VP Finance	0.00	180.00	180.00
Checks Purchased	0.00	0.00	0.00
Postage	0.00	60.00	60.00
Printing	0.00	60.00	60.00
Quicken Purchased	0.00	60.00	60.00
VP Membership & Branch Developm...	207.79	900.00	692.21
Branch Incentives	0.00	0.00	0.00
Charlottesville Branch Start up	0.00	250.00	250.00
College & University Rep	0.00	100.00	100.00
Fredericksburg Branch Start up	207.79	250.00	42.21
Norfolk Event	0.00	250.00	250.00
Senator Warner Women's Confer...	0.00	0.00	0.00
VP Membership & Branch Develo...	0.00	50.00	50.00
VP Program	2,000.00	890.00	-1,110.00
AAUW Fund Donations	2,000.00	0.00	-2,000.00
AAUW Funds	0.00	0.00	0.00
NCCWSL	0.00	600.00	600.00
Northern District Representative	0.00	60.00	60.00
Northwest District Representative	0.00	60.00	60.00
Southeast District Representative	0.00	60.00	60.00
Southwest District Representative	0.00	60.00	60.00
VP Program	0.00	50.00	50.00
VP Public Policy	978.16	5,100.00	4,121.84
Branch Mini Grants	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
GOTV	551.20	1,000.00	448.80
Lobby Day Eve	0.00	500.00	500.00
Memberships & Coalitions	0.00	500.00	500.00
State Lobby Day	426.96	1,000.00	573.04
VP Public Policy	0.00	100.00	100.00
Women of General Assembly Rec...	0.00	0.00	0.00
X- Other Board	0.00	270.00	270.00
Diversity & Inclusion Chair	0.00	50.00	50.00
Branch Incentive	0.00	0.00	0.00
Chair	0.00	50.00	50.00

Current Budget 2024 -2025 - Year to Date

7/1/2024 through 3/27/2025 Using 2024 - 2025

3/27/2025

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Category	7/1/2024 Actual	- Budget	3/27/2025 Difference
Program Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00
Historian	0.00	50.00	50.00
Recording Secretary	0.00	50.00	50.00
Voting - Election	0.00	120.00	120.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	800.00	800.00
Insurance	0.00	800.00	800.00
State Board	3,830.41	9,250.00	5,419.59
2025	1,697.80	6,500.00	4,802.20
Spring	0.00	3,500.00	3,500.00
Summer	1,697.80	3,000.00	1,302.20
Board badges	81.81	100.00	18.19
Board Meetings Deposits	0.00	0.00	0.00
Board Travel	250.80	500.00	249.20
Outgoing Board Members Recognition	0.00	350.00	350.00
State Conference Board Members R...	1,800.00	1,800.00	0.00
Statewide Meetings	1,184.99	1,075.00	-109.99
100th Birthday Celebration	1,109.99	1,000.00	-109.99
Atlantic Regional Conference	75.00	75.00	0.00
Net Difference:	5,013.84	-3,867.97	8,881.81

Income

As of March 27, 2025, total FY 2025 Dues are \$10,750. Although this is less than the Budget amount of \$12,500, the February, March and April dues deposits from National are still to come.

I have added two Budget Income line items – Other Income Donations and Square & PayPal Income. We have received transfers from the State Conference account and the Regional Conference account in the amount of \$2,000 and \$518, respectively, which are designated for donations to AAUW. I sent a check to National \$2,000 on October 21, 2024 and will be sending a check to National for \$518. I will be tracking sales at the State Conference through Square and donations to the State Branch via PayPal through the Square & PayPal income line.

Expenses

Expenses for FY 2025 were budgeted at \$19,190 and total expenses, as of March 27, 2025, were \$8,268.67. That total Expense number includes the \$2,000 donation we made to National for which we don't budget a dollar amount, so that does slightly skew our Expenses. Adjusting for that, our actual expenses were \$6,268.67. Except for the 100th Birthday Celebration, which is slightly over Budget, all other Expenses are well within the Budget. Overall, our YTD FY 2025 Expenses compare favorably to the Budget amount of \$19,190 by \$10,921.33.

Virginia Kress
Vice President for Finance

Co-Vice Presidents for Program

Our AAUW-VA State Conference/100th Anniversary Celebration was a great success. Like all things worth doing, developing and executing the plans for the conference was a great deal of work--work that could not have been accomplished without two extraordinary women to fill out the conference leadership quartet-- Sharon Zackula and Sandy Lawrence, co-representatives for the Northern District, which hosted the conference this year. Both were multitaskers extraordinaire!

Like anything important and worth doing, the 2025 100th Anniversary Conference succeeded because of talented members from all over the state, including state board members, who performed a host of conference duties. Special mention goes out to Patsy Quick (Mt. Vernon), Tammie Mullins-Rice (Virginia Beach), Suzanne Rothwell (Vienna Area), and Marsha Melkonian (Smith Mountain). Patsy developed the beautiful conference logo, brilliantly laid out the Conference brochure and program book, provided leadership to the group that built the welcome bags, and served as conference timekeeper. Tammie's IT and AV expertise were critical to the conference's success. She spearheaded the development of the online registration form, transferred registration funds promptly into our conference account, and projected the speakers' slides during the conference. Suzanne Rothwell designed and ordered the conference mugs, wine glasses, and 100-year pins, and created all the conference signage, including the 100 for 100 display. Marsha Melkonian was the conference treasurer--not a job for the faint-hearted. It truly does take a village, and AAUW-VA represents one of the best!

The overwhelming response to the conference required us to close registration and maintain a waiting list (a first for a state conference, we understand). There were 107 members registered, plus nine speakers who joined us for lunch. Eighteen branches were represented, and we had a record-breaking 23 first-time attendees. We predictably did have some cancellations and were able to fill those spots quickly with people from the waiting list. Regrettably, we could not include everyone on that list.

Program Swap Shop

On September 5, 2024, we held a virtual meeting for branch program chairs to unveil the **Program Swap Shop** to advertise branch programs more widely and serve as a source of ideas for successful programs that other branches can use instead of reinventing the wheel. Click on this [link](#) on the state website and get some inspiration. If you plan virtual programs, why not advertise them statewide to other branches?

Susan Burk and Leslie Tourigny
Co-Vice Presidents for Program

Vice President for Membership

BRANCH DEVELOPMENT

How exciting to propel AAUW-VA membership forward with new affiliates! I received emails from Patsy Quick indicating two ladies had expressed interest in starting a branch in their prospective locations. From March to August, Zoom meetings, telephone calls, texting, and emails were held with Janet Hedrick, a member of the Mt. Vernon Branch who recently moved to the Fredericksburg area. The other inquiry was from Dr. Nicole Hall, who was new to Virginia and had been hired by the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

I was pleased that branch development opportunities pulled in much-needed guidance from Lane Stone. Patsy Quick, and Suzanne Rothwell. By August, paperwork was signed to revive the Fredericksburg Branch of AAUW-VA. Still having to complete additional paperwork, Janet quickly became familiar with Angela Cooper at National to set up a new branch.

The Fredericksburg Area Branch is off to an amazing start with 10 members and a list of 20 prospective members. Janet wrote a wonderful article in the local free community magazine FRONT PORCH.

Dr. Nicole Hall and I were engaged for several months but after October, life happened and our communication ended. We reconnected in February; however, her interest has been diverted to other areas in Charlottesville and family matters. She is still interested in membership once a branch is launched.

A January Zoom meeting with Sally Pattison-Cisna (formerly from Virginia Beach Branch) was held with Lane. Sally has been busy using the AAUW-VA list of Non-Branch Members to locate members in neighboring communities in the Charlottesville area. Follow-up meetings are planned.

DISBANDMENT CONCERNS

1. Several Southeast District members have been working with the Norfolk Branch to find ways to increase its membership. Branch members are aging out and there is an urgent desire to keep the branch active. The branch's history is so essential to the area that we do not want them to disband. Barbara Woodlee and Tammie Rice-Mullins are working to see if Old Dominion University and Norfolk State University might have faculty members and students interested in attending an event for possible AAUW-VA membership in the Norfolk Branch.
2. Fairfax City Branch has submitted paperwork to start the disbandment process. Branch President Dianne Blais and the current membership of 19 will have a final vote by March 13th for a majority (10 members) to proceed. Angela Cooper is assisting in the disbursement of the checking account to AAUW Greater Needs Fund. Current and lapsed members are encouraged to join a neighboring branch to stay active. We are disheartened to lose another branch. The advantage of this will be local branches will gain members from the Fairfax City Branch.
3. Laura Zarrugh, President of the Harrisonburg Branch, has indicated the possibility of disbandment if it cannot get new leadership by June 2025.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

AAUW-VA had 12 branches earn stars in the Five Star Program: Alexandria-5 Stars; Arlington-1 Star; Falls Church Area- 2 Stars; Hampton- 3 Stars; Portsmouth-2 Stars; Greater Richmond-1 Star; Springfield-Annandale-5 Stars; Virginia Beach -5 Stars; Winchester-3 Stars; Reston-Herndon Area- 4 Stars; Wytheville-1 Star, and Vienna Area. 1-Star. Branches were advised to contact Tremayne Parquett aauw.org for any discussion on concerns about stars not being awarded.

The February 1 count will not be released until mid-March. Katrina Sun Breeze issued a video for Membership/Administrator on roster prep tips. Memberships processed through January 31st will be included in the February 1 Count. The 100% membership retention report will be emailed once the report is released.

SHAPE THE FUTURE was presented on 2 Zoom chats in August; I will present others in April at 3:00 p.m. on the 15th and 7:00 p.m. on the 21st. This program allows new members who attended an event sponsored by the branch to join paying 50% of the National dues. Branches are encouraged to use this discount offered by National.

Laura Browning Greenfield
Vice President for Membership



FY24 Five Star Branches

- Fremont Inc. (CA)
- Lompoc-Vandenberg (CA)
- Marin Inc. (CA)
- Orinda-Moraga-Lafayette Inc. (CA)
- Morgan Hill (CA)
- California Online Branch (CA)
- Elmhurst Area Branch NFP (IL)
- Batavia-Geneva-St. Charles (IL)
- Salem (OR)
- Beaver Valley (PA)
- Northeast Tarrant County (TX)
- Alexandria (VA)
- Springfield-Annandale (VA)
- Virginia Beach (VA)
- Racine (WI)

Vice President for Communications

Communications Committee

Website Manager: Patsy Quick (Mt. Vernon)

Vision Copy Editor: Mary Anne Graham (McLean Area/Winchester)

Vision Layout Editor: Tess Evans (Greater Richmond)

Technology & Social Media Manager: Tess Evans (Greater Richmond)

Committee Chair, VP for Communications: Tess Evans (Greater Richmond)

Administrator: Lane Stone, President (Alexandria)

AAUW-VA Website: <https://aauw-va.aauw.net/>

Serving in her eighth year as the website manager, Patsy Quick is responsible for providing information to AAUW-VA members and visitors to the state website. Patsy keeps everyone current regarding the activities of the state leaders, as well as state and branch events and accomplishments. Patsy works directly with all the AAUW-VA officers and state board members to maintain a useful and current website. In addition to the branches that have managed websites supported through AAUW Site Resources, other branches have pages connected directly to the state website. At a minimum, the web manager communicates with branches annually to offer state support. Branches often ask the communications team to collaborate on improving their sites. Patsy has also volunteered to be the layout editor for AAUW-VA conferences and annual business meetings.

Technology and Social Media

In addition to the state website, AAUW-VA maintains a Facebook and Instagram page overseen by Technology and Social Media Manager Tess Evans. Tess posts branch events, accomplishments, and announcements to these pages. Tess often assists other state board members with ongoing technology challenges, including Zoom management, and is the layout editor for the *Vision*.

Email and Communication

Email continues to be the most useful means of communication within the state board and between branches. Web Manager Patsy Quick monitors the state website and forwards received emails to the appropriate board member(s). Tess Evans uses MailerLite as the mass emailing software for messages regarding various meetings, events, announcements, and opportunities for members.

AAUW-VA *Vision*

The AAUW-VA state newsletter, the *Vision*, is published three times yearly and serves as a major means of communication with over 1,300 AAUW-VA members and friends who receive a copy. Mary Anne Graham serves as copy editor and is responsible for receiving and editing articles submitted by the state board members, branch leaders, and members. The articles are then sent to Tess Evans, who arranges the information for both the online and print formats. (Printed copies are sent to 11 members without email addresses.) The *Vision* is also posted on the state website and stored in the state's online archives.

Tess Evans
Vice President for Communications

Vice President for Public Policy

AAUW Virginia's priorities are struggling this year, and some have faced direct attacks. We must stand together for our issues and remember that the pendulum of time always swings back and forth. We must continue to march on.

AAUW Virginia Public Policy in 2024/2025 started with an organized process to get out the vote, sending over 5,000 postcards, led by Denise Murden, and contacting people and legislators about the importance of voting in the 2024 presidential election. Janine Greenwood organized voter guides for national candidates.

At the AAUW Atlantic Regional Conference, Public Policy played an important role with speakers from all over the East Coast discussing many of our issues, including immigration, Title IX, education, ERA, the future of AAUW, etc.

Work continued in the fall with rallies and letters on the ERA, which concluded with President Biden saying that the ERA was the law, as the deadline was only in the preamble and the archivist had only once ratified an amendment. This conclusion is under dispute. Several members were at the National Archives Rally.

In October, the Committee met with Jaclyn Marmol, an Outreach Representative, of Sen. Warner's staff. After the election, we continued to meet with our legislators individually, in virtual and physical Town halls, and by lobbying. Our Lobby Day began on the evening of January 15th with a delicious Panera's dinner organized by Laura Wimmer and a talk about education in Virginia by Alex Blocker of Fund Our Schools. The members met with legislators on January 16th and discussed our priorities and what we wanted to see in this short session. We were also introduced in the House, by Delegate Elizabeth Bennett-Parker and in the Senate by Senator Jennifer Boysko. Many also met with our legislators in conjunction with other groups, at individual meetings, rallies, and town halls during the General Assembly, and continued to do so. We also distributed information, made calls, and sent emails about critical issues. Many lobbied in DC on Lobby Days and have had other contacts with our legislators. We have an upcoming April meeting of the Committee.

Diane Schrier
Vice President for Public Policy

Co-Vice Presidents for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

These are interesting times in which we live. This year has been one of transitions, beginnings, and endings. As committed members of AAUW, we continue to work for opportunities for women and all those struggling for equity. Our state branches continue to focus on ways to be supportive, help make a positive impact, and be advocates for equal pay, equity in higher education, protections against sexual harassment, the rights of all, including immigrants, and more.

In the fall, we began the year with a state-wide Zoom session with branch DEIB representatives in September getting to know each other and sharing DEIB plans and ideas for programs and activities that might be of interest to other branches. Information from last year's conference presentation on microaggressions was also provided. A follow-up to that presentation was provided to the fall Northern District meeting attendees.

Another statewide Zoom meeting of DEIB reps was held in November, soon after the elections, with discussion centered around the future of DEI. In January, our statewide DEIB reps' Zoom meeting had members discussing ways to support local college and university DEI programs. At the March statewide Zoom gathering, DEIB representatives shared activities that branches have undertaken to support the underserved in their communities, such as collaborating with other agencies and associations to reach out to immigrant and LGBTQ+ communities. We look forward to our last meeting of the year in May to share successes and plans for next year to continue the work of supporting DEIB efforts both locally and nationally.

A friend recently posted a message on Facebook that sends the simple, straightforward DEIB message we all can and should follow: "Be the reason someone feels welcomed, seen, heard, valued, respected, loved, and supported."

Erica Brown-Meredith/Meg Tucillo
Co-Vice Presidents for DEI

Standing Committee Reports

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee has a complete slate of officers for 2025-2027. They are as follows:

Recording Secretary - Paula Lichiello;

Vice President for Finance - Virginia Kress;

Vice President for Membership and Branch Development - Laura Browning Greenfield;

Co-Vice Presidents for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion - Erica Brown-Meredith and Meg Tucillo.

Marsha Melkonian
Nominating Committee Chair

MEET YOUR CANDIDATES

Candidate for Recording Secretary



Paula C. Lichiello has agreed to be nominated for Recording Secretary. She has 25+ years of experience in education and has taught preschool, middle school math, pre-algebra, and graduate leadership courses on-campus, online, and abroad in St. Lucia. During her 16 years at the University of Lynchburg, she served in a variety of roles, including associate dean of graduate studies, admissions coordinator of graduate and special programs for CELC (College of Education, Leadership Studies, and Counseling), associate professor, Noyce Grant Pathway coordinator, and the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation Coordinator. She was also a project director/coordinator for 17 grants, including an AAUW grant, Girls Go Green 4 S.T.E.M.

Dr. Lichiello is enthusiastic about community engagement and has served on non-profit boards and held the office of board president for the Friends of the Forest Library, Crisis Line of Central Virginia, and Women Education Leaders in Virginia. In addition, she has served on the executive committee and chaired the membership committee for the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools. She earned a BS in journalism from West Virginia University plus a MEd in educational leadership and an EdD in leadership studies from the University of Lynchburg (formerly Lynchburg College). Her research interest is graduate student retention. Recently retired, Dr. Lichiello serves as vice-president of programs for the Lynchburg Branch, volunteers at Valor Farm, and is a member of The Piecemakers quilting group. She has been a member of AAUW since 2008 and continues to mentor several graduate students as they pursue their personal and professional goals.

Candidate for Vice President for Finance



Virginia Kress is running for re-election as AAUW-VA Board treasurer. She has a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Massachusetts where she specialized in Latin American Studies. After graduating, she worked in a New York City law firm in its commercial real estate group for about two years. She left to earn an MLS from Simmons College in Boston. Her career has primarily been in the commercial real estate finance field. Virginia earned a master's in real estate from Johns Hopkins University. Before retiring in 2018, she was vice president and manager of loan administration at US Bank in its commercial real estate division.

Virginia joined AAUW in 2013 as an Alexandria Branch member. She served as branch treasurer for two terms, co-vice president for programs for two terms, and as the public policy coordinator for a year. She has been the treasurer of AAUW -VA for the last two years.

Virginia volunteered as a docent at the Anderson House, the national headquarters for the Society of the Cincinnati in Washington DC. For the last two years, she volunteered through Grace Episcopal Church to help at their Food Bank and the Meade Memorial Brown Bag Lunch program. Virginia has also worked part-time at the Kennedy Center as a concert hall usher.

Virginia is an associate member of At Home Alexandria associate member and participates in its various social activities. She is currently on her condominium board. She also takes classes through Encore Learning in Arlington.

Candidate for Vice President for Membership and Branch Development



After joining the Hampton Branch, **Laura Greenfield** attended her first AAUW-VA state conference in 2022 in Harrisonburg, VA. Her attendance and open-eyed view of the depth of information made her eager to start engaging in her branch's activities. Laura is retired from the Newport News Public Schools, starting her second career as a special education teacher. She has worked for over 20 years with the Newport News Department of Human Services as a supervisor of the benefits programs. Laura is a graduate of Morgan State University (HBCU in Baltimore, MD) with a BS in business administration. Laura wanted to have time with future grandchildren, so she enrolled at Old Dominion University to obtain her teacher's license. Now that her three grandchildren are teenagers, she is home more and can spend time with her hobbies.

Her first term serving as the membership and branch development VP has expanded her connection to branch members by resolving inquiries about correcting emails, and other issues during office hours. Laura is proud of her success collaborating with phenomenal women to re-establish the Fredericksburg Branch in 2024. Laura is excited to run for a second term in this position and hopes to realize more goals working with branches in our state.

Candidates for Co-Vice Presidents for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion



Erica Brown-Meredith is an assistant professor at the Ethelyn R. Strong School of Social Work, Norfolk State University. Her scholarly and teaching interests include the impact of intersectional gender bias on women of color leadership in higher education; multi-dimensions of racism of mental health on Black well-being; academic advising and equity in higher education for first-generation, limited income, minoritized racial and ethnic, and transfer students; diversity, equity, and inclusive instructional and curricular pedagogical practices; and proactive advising practices in social work education programs. Brown-Meredith holds bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees in social work and has served as a certified school social worker. The Global Community for Academic Advisors (NACADA), named her an emerging leader honoree. Brown-Meredith has

made profound influences on the practice of academic advising professionally, mental health in communities of color, and high-impact practices in higher education in the form of conference planning, local and national presentations, global webinars, and institutional consultation services. She has earned several professional awards of distinction: Faculty Citizen Leadership Award and Advocate of the Year, Professional Excellence and Devoted Service to Students Award, and NACADA Outstanding Advising Program Award.



Meg Tuccillo is currently the co-vice president for diversity, equity, and inclusion. and is seeking a second term. She has been a member of the Arlington Branch since 2010. During this time, she has served three terms as branch co-president, three terms as vice president for program, and chair of the scholarship committee since 2014.

She retired in 2012 as assistant superintendent for Arlington Public Schools, where she had previously served as an elementary school principal. As assistant superintendent, she also served as the school system's Title IX coordinator and provided diversity training for school administrators. Meg received her BA in Education from Molloy College in New York and her master's in special education from George Mason University.

In addition to her professional career, Meg is also a founder of the Arlington Partnership for Children, Youth, and Families, and continues as a board member of its Second Chance Program for youth involved in drugs or alcohol. She has also served for 25 years on the board of A-SPAN (now known as PathForward), a non-profit focused on the needs of those experiencing homelessness, and currently serves as chair of its Emeritus Council–Meg also serves as chair of the Arlington Community Foundation Workforce Development Committee, providing STEM summer fellowships to Arlington teachers, and as a member of the Chamber of Commerce Workforce Development Council. Meg is excited about the prospect of working with Erica Brown-Meredith on the valued issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion as part of AAUW's mission.

BYLAWS AMENDMENT VOTER GUIDE 2025

Shall the AAUW of Virginia Bylaws be Amended to Exempt College/University Representatives from State Dues?

The AAUW of Virginia Board ("Board") periodically reviews the state bylaws to reflect best practices and compliance with AAUW, state, and federal standards. The Board recommends approval of an amendment to the state bylaws to exempt any current College/University representative from the payment of state Affiliate dues if such representative should join the state and a branch affiliate.

Rationale for Proposed Amendment

Each College/University (C/U) Member organization pays annual dues to AAUW of \$250 and is permitted to be represented by two appointed C/U representatives. Such C/U representatives are not included in any AAUW member category, *i.e.*, National, state, branch, or student. The AAUW-VA Board's C/U Chairs have sought to encourage the C/U representatives who are not already Individual Members to become a branch and state member in Virginia so that they are more involved in AAUW activities.

A Virginia branch is proposing adding the C/U representatives of a C/U Member institution to the branch and, therefore, to state membership. The branch will not charge branch membership dues in light of the annual \$250 payment by the C/U member. Where a current C/U representative agrees to join a Virginia Branch, it appears appropriate that AAUW-VA also not charge state membership dues. AAUW-California has adopted this approach.

The AAUW-VA Board of Directors approved a recommendation by email vote in March 2025 that members approve this amendment. This change to the AAUW-VA Bylaws will require membership approval by a 2/3rds vote.

CURRENT TEXT

ARTICLE XVI

* * *

Section 5. Affiliate Dues.

a. Amount.

- (1) The annual state Affiliate dues for branch Affiliate and state Affiliate members shall be amended by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the votes cast by the individual members upon recommendation of the state Affiliate's Board of Directors, provided a quorum is attained. Members shall be provided with written or electronic notice of the intent to consider a change in the dues, the proposed amount, and the rationale for the change at least 30 days before the vote.
- (2) Student associates and honorary life members shall pay no state Affiliate dues.
- (3) Paid life members shall continue to pay state Affiliate dues.
- (4) State Affiliate dues shall include a subscription to the state newsletter.
- (5) A new branch Affiliate recognized by AAUW between January 1 and March 15 shall pay state Affiliate dues for each branch Affiliate Member at half the annual amount.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT (Deleted text has a line through it, and added text is bolded and underlined.)

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Online Voting for AAUW of Virginia's One Member/One Vote 2025

Voter Guide

**THE VOTING PROCESS FOR THE ELECTION OF STATE OFFICERS AND THE BYLAWS AMENDMENT
WILL BEGIN MAY 1.**

It is very important that you cast your online vote by the deadline of May 20, 2025, because we need a quorum of seven (7) percent of the membership for the election. If we don't have a quorum, the new state officers cannot take office on July 1, 2025.

Please take the time to vote as a responsible AAUW of Virginia member.

VOTING WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE ONLINE TO ALL AAUW OF VIRGINIA MEMBERS WITH EMAIL ADDRESSES.

New members who have joined **by April 15** will be eligible to vote in the 2025 election.

WATCH FOR YOUR VOTING INSTRUCTIONS IN EMAILS BETWEEN MARCH AND APRIL 2025.

Do not ignore emails from AAUW of Virginia during March and April! These will contain instructions and reminders about voting. This year again, we will be using software from an outside vendor, ElectionBuddy, to conduct our election and to tally the results. Therefore, individual votes cannot be seen by AAUW of Virginia members. We will let you know when the link to the electronic ballot is emailed to members so that, in case you do not receive the email, you can check your email junk or spam files.

Questions concerning the election can be directed to Sandy Lawrence (sandyaauw+juno.com).

HERE IS THE SCHEDULE OF 2025 VOTING.

February 10–April 20: Verify that your email address is correct in your AAUW online account (Community Hub Database)

May 1: Email ballots to members for voting until May 20

May 20: Voting ends at 11:45 pm

**Sandy Lawrence
Voting & Elections Committee Chair**

College/University Partners

At present, Virginia has 12 College and University Partners. They are as follows:

James Madison University
Mary Baldwin University
Marymount University
Northern Virginia Community College
Randolph College
Roanoke College
Shenandoah University
Sweet Briar College
University of Lynchburg
University of Mary Washington
University of Virginia at Wise
Washington and Lee University

As co-chairs, we have focused this year on promoting the use of the new AAUW College and University Partners Toolkit. To that end, we held an informational Zoom meeting on January 28, 2025, for college/university representatives and other interested branch members.

We held three Zoom meetings with branch presidents pursuing partnerships with higher education institutions. Two of these branches are now actively engaged with universities. We have encouraged the development of student organizations in each of these cases.

We disseminated the survey results administered last spring to provide branches with a more complete picture of activities between higher education institutions and AAUW branches across the state. The feedback we received suggests the examples were helpful to branches as they considered C/U activities.

**Marsha Melkonian/Barbara Woodlee
Co-Chairs, College/University Partners**

AAUW Funds: Contributions Calendar Year 2024

BRANCH	BRANCH & MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS	GREATEST NEED FUNDS
Alexandria	\$6,538	100% of contributions
Arlington	\$1,475	100% of contributions
Falls Church Area	\$4,996	99% of contributions
Fairfax City	\$1,371	100% of contributions
Greater Manassas	\$500	100% of contributions
Greater Richmond	\$1,383	90% of contributions
Hampton	\$1,192	82% of contributions
Harrisonburg	\$220	100% of contributions
Lynchburg	\$65	33% of contributions
McLean Area	\$12,401	70% of contributions
Mount Vernon	\$7,855	100% of contributions
Newport News	\$1,111	100% of contributions
Norfolk	\$15	100% of contributions
Portsmouth	\$1,505	100% of contributions
Reston-Herndon Area	\$5,297	95% of contributions
Roanoke Valley	\$1,735	100% of contributions
Smith Mountain	\$1,358	100% of contributions
Springfield-Annandale	\$7,043	100% of contributions
Vienna Area	\$3,662	80% of contributions
Virginia Beach	\$1,934	100% of contributions
Winchester	\$577	100% of contributions
Woodbridge	\$806	10% of contributions

Wytheville	\$200	100% of contributions
AAUW-VA	\$2,000	100% of contributions
Total	\$64,943	

Branch Names Honored 2024

Alexandria	Lane Stone, Gail Kalin, Whitney Colella, Deborah Todd, Susan Cash, Anne Simpson, Eugenia Burkes, Lynn O’Connell, Susan Werner, Bonnie Hershberg, Solveig Eggerz, Danielle Beach-Oswald, and Zohroh Khoshnamak
Arlington:	Barbara Smith and Susan Senn
Fairfax City:	Branch members involved in the 29 th Annual Book and Author Fundraiser and members involved in the 20 th Annual Technology Future’s Unlimited which now is Stemtastics
Falls Church Area:	Sharon Zackula, Aida Loomis, Mollie Jewell, Clare O’Sheel, Sarah John, Becky Gaul, Marilyn Falksen, Dianne Bodeen, and Branch’s Program Planning Committee
Greater Richmond:	Jane Newell and Laurie Coulter
Hampton:	Tonya Brown and Dr. Carmina Sanchez for their continued commitment to STEM for middle and high school girls
Manassas:	In Memoriam: Joyce Eagles, founding member
McLean Area:	Barbara Zamora-Appel, Angela Ehemann, Ruth Nowjack-Raymer, In Memoriam: Elaine Weed, founding member, In Memoriam: Alice Hennigan, In Memoriam: Nicholas Lailas, and In Memoriam: Peter Reddaway
Mount Vernon:	Gretchyn Meinken, Esq., Liz White, Chris Derosa, and Janice Morris of the League of Women Voters, Annie Ray of Annandale High School, Jennifer Swann of Bloomberg Industry Group, Patty Hagan(retired) U.S. Geological Survey, Meg Tuccillo, Joanna Crane, Anne Simpson, and the Mount Vernon Branch Team that donated gift bags for the conference

Newport News:	Candice Byrd and the 100 th Anniversary of the Newport News Branch (December 2025)
Portsmouth:	In Memoriam: Kay Gravatt, In Memoriam: Barbara Desler, and In Memoriam: Dot Hill
Reston Herndon Area:	Lobby Corps participants -Stephanie Abbott, Jacqueline Brown, Maureen Dwyer, Janine Greenwood, Fran Lovaas, Judith Polizzotti, Edna Weitzman, and Mary Zane
Roanoke Valley:	Catherine Wright, Kathy Ward, Suzie Newton, and spouse Judy Nelson
Smith Mountain:	Shannon Hannigan and Teri Sprague
Springfield-Annandale:	The Springfield-Annandale Board Members
Vienna Area:	Susan Pauly, Suzanne Rothwell, Candace Strawn, Jean Thompson, Julia Williams, Sandra Wilson, and Deb Smith-Cohen, Assistant Manager at Patrick Henry Library
Virginia Beach:	Maria Kronenburg, Linda Love, and Sandra Brandt
Winchester:	Pat Kadel
Woodbridge:	Pamela Epler

**Ann Johnson
AAUW Funds Chair**

Bylaws and Resolutions

Proposal to Amend the AAUW of Virginia Bylaws

Each AAUW College/University (C/U) member organization pays annual dues to AAUW of \$250 and is permitted to be represented by two appointed C/U representatives. Such C/U representatives are not included in any AAUW member category, i.e., national, state, branch, or student. The AAUW-VA Board's C/U chairs have sought to encourage the C/U representatives who are not already Individual members to become branch and state members in Virginia so that they are more involved in AAUW activities.

A Virginia branch is proposing to add the C/U representatives of a C/U member institution to the branch and, therefore, also to state membership. The branch will not charge branch membership dues in light of the annual \$250 payment by the C/U member. Where a current C/U representative agrees to join a Virginia branch, it appears appropriate that the Virginia state organization does not charge state membership dues. AAUW-California has adopted this approach.

The AAUW-VA Board of Directors approved a recommendation by email vote on March 14, 2025, that Virginia members vote in favor of this amendment. This change to the AAUW-VA Bylaws will require membership approval by a 2/3rds vote.

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Amendment Adopted to the State Bylaws to Clarify a "Full Term"

At its July 2024 Board Meeting, the AAUW-VA Board of Directors approved a clarifying and noncontroversial amendment to the Bylaws that, did not require AAUW-VA member approval. The new provision in Article X, Section 3.a.(2) clarifies that any person appointed to fill an elected director vacancy and who served for at least one year will be treated as having served a full term. Therefore, an appointed director who fills a vacancy for at least one year will only be eligible to be elected to one subsequent term, a director who fills a vacancy for less than one year will be eligible to stand for election for the same position for two subsequent terms.

State and Branch Guidance Issued

Guidance was provided to the AAUW-VA Board of Directors on various governance and bylaws issues. In addition, Virginia branches received guidance regarding branch-proposed changes to their bylaws, as well as other governance and bylaws questions and issues of compliance with the IRS Form 990-N filing requirements. In this connection, I was pleased to assist in the formation of the new Fredericksburg Branch.

In addition, instructions were distributed to branches via email and articles in the *Vision* regarding the procedures to:

- submit IRS Form 990-N information to AAUW,
- update the branch officers in Community Hub before the end of the fiscal year, and
- update branch bylaws to conform to the 2023 AAUW Affiliate Model Bylaws.

Other Board Activities

AAUW-VA Donation Button: I participated in the establishment of an AAUW-VA donation site on the AAUW-VA website. As of January 1st, 2025, the "DONOR" button on the top right-hand corner of the AAUW of Virginia main webpage was modified so that members and other supporters can make donations to the AAUW of Virginia organization.

Regional Conference: I participated in the multi-state planning group for the September 2024 Atlantic Regional Conference near Richmond, Virginia.

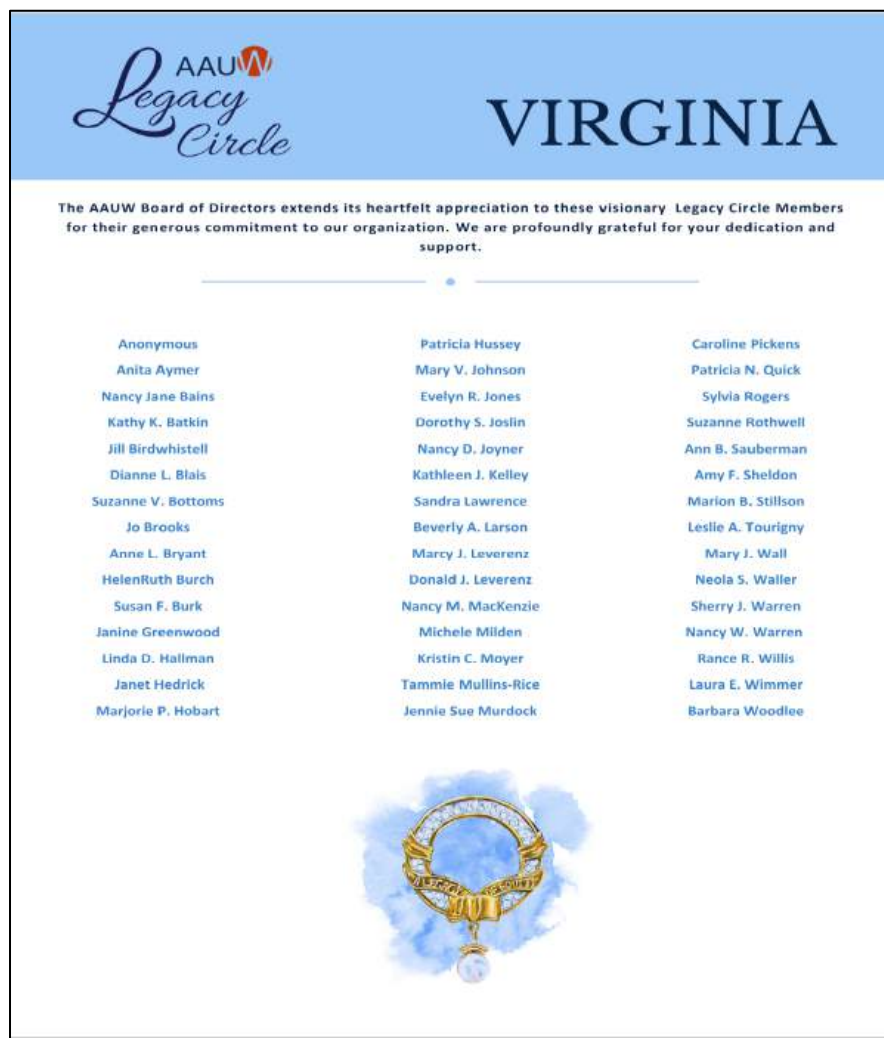
**Suzanne Rothwell
Bylaws/Resolutions Chair**

The AAUW Legacy Circle of Virginia

The AAUW Legacy Circle with members residing in Virginia or with strong connections to Virginia now numbers 46 members. Our newest addition as of March 2025 is Jane Newell of the Greater Richmond Branch. Many Legacy Circle members in Virginia continue their strong leadership roles in their branches, on the state board, and in their communities. Planned gifts to AAUW, especially the Greatest Needs Fund, make a critical difference in the work of AAUW for women and girls. From 2020-2025, AAUW National received planned gifts totaling \$37,491 from Legacy Circle members in Virginia and other Virginia AAUW members and residents.

I encourage you and your family and friends to enroll in the Legacy Circle to support the work of AAUW far into the future. It is easy to do; contact me for questions and help.

Kristin C. Moyer
AAUW Legacy Circle Liaison for Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia, North
Carolina, and South Carolina
kcmoyer65atgmail.com



Lessons from the Moon

On the celebration of AAUW of Virginia's centennial year, March 2025

From Alexandria to Wytheville
we are 24 branches of the AAUW tree
planted in Virginia a century ago.
The state chapter came alive in 1925
under a waxing crescent moon,
the lunar phase that tells of intentionality and growth,
clarity and change.

For 100 years we have struggled and aspired,
untiring, to amplify the W in our logo—
the oversized letter that stands for
Women and their rights.
Women's Well-being.
Women's Work and Worth.
Women's Words of Wisdom
for our imperfect World.
We, the Women.

We are changing the conversation,
redirecting the thinking,
illuminating the territory,
advancing what's fair.

We believe in the melding of science
and hard work and intuition, research and caring,
the art of knowing and the skill of doing.
Like the moon's nurturing light,
Women embrace the world to change it,
to birth goodness, new beauty, new life
with the power of a strong and persistent
Women-led movement.

We, the Women of Virginia's AAUW
continue to fight for teachers' rights
and for funding free public schools.

We advocate for the civil liberties of Women and girls of color.
We champion access to STEM programs.
We promote women's reproductive rights.
We ensure equity and inclusivity in the workplace.
We uphold the noble principles of Title IX:
no sex-based discrimination in education.
We affirm that the ERA must become
the 28th Amendment of the US Constitution.

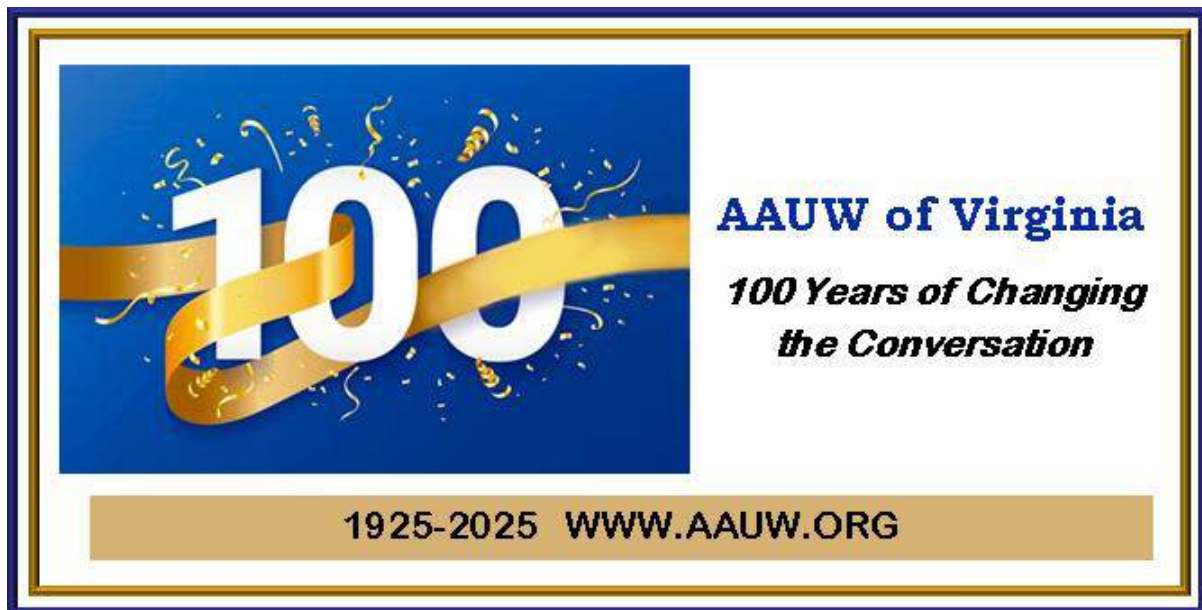
We are changing the conversation,
redirecting the thinking,
illuminating the territory,
advancing what's fair.

We applaud all—
the conversation trail-blazers and cutting-edgers,
the conversation sowers and spreaders,
the conversation modelers and engagers,
the conversation leaders and motivators,
the conversation changers.
We recognize all—in AAUW and in the community—
proudly, lift up their work.

How lovely and meaningful
that tonight we have a new moon
modeling new beginnings,
reminding that our work for a new century is before us.
We cannot see the shadowed moon
but we feel its promise.
As the coming crescent thickens each night
we grow with it and welcome its glow and gleam.
The moon will become more and more luminous
like our shared hopes,
our bright, essential mission.

© Zeina Azzam, March 2025
City of Alexandria Poet Laureate

AAUW OF VIRGINIA
Annual Business Meeting
April 26, 2025



ADVERTISEMENTS

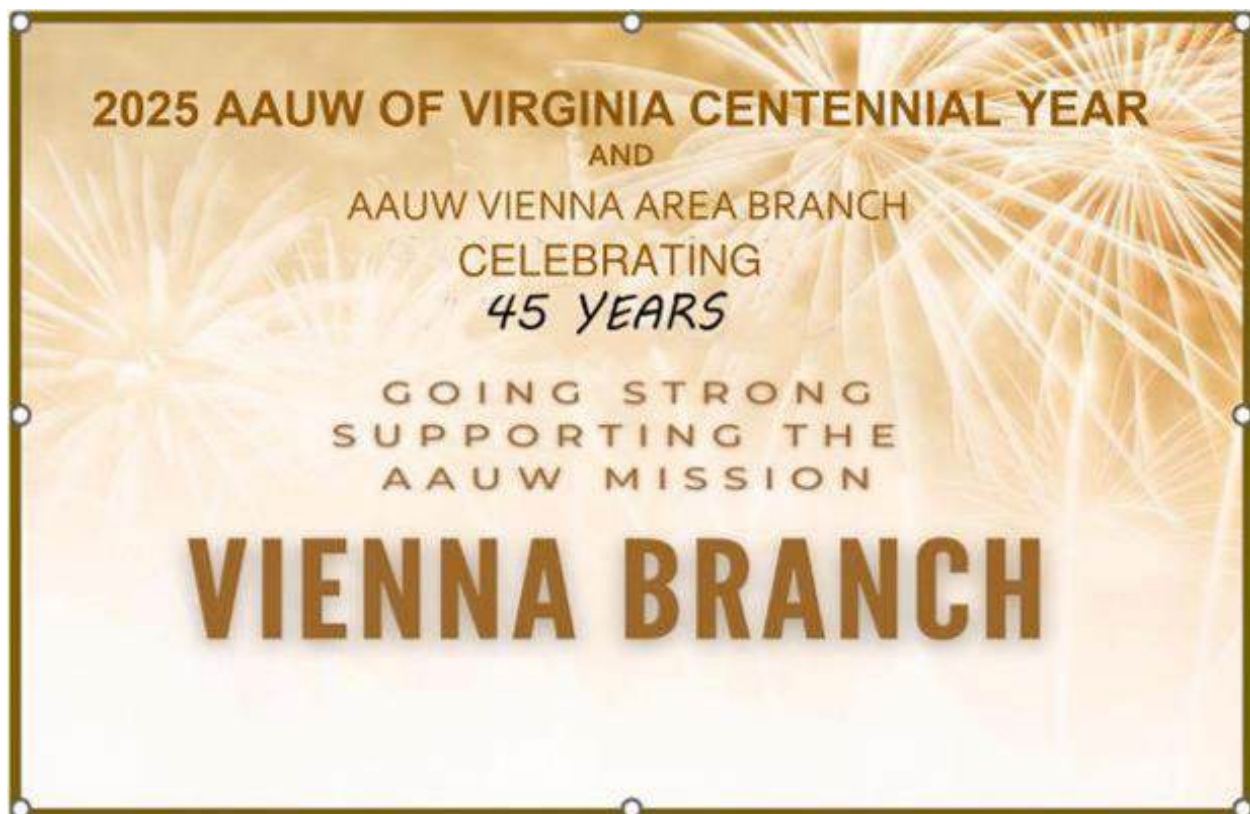
1925-2025
100 Years of Changing the Conversation

March 1925						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

THE AAUW OF VIRGINIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
commends members, past and present,
for changing the conversation.

One century in the history books...
Another century just beginning.

Let the celebration begin...



The Smith Mountain Branch congratulates AAUW Virginia on its 100th Anniversary, as we celebrate our 25 years as a branch affiliate in the Southwest District.



May all Virginia branches continue to make a difference for women and girls, and "change the conversation," in 2025 and into the future!

Lynchburg AAUW

In memory of Norma Jean Rist
January 8, 1946 – February 24, 2024



Norma Jean was a 50-year life member of our affiliate and served as Book Sale Chair and Vice-President of Programs. Since education was important to her, an annual scholarship has been established in her honor and will be awarded in 2025.



AAUW of Virginia
Conference
Alexandria
March 29, 2025

1925-2025: 100 Years of Changing the Conversation

*Mt. Vernon Branch
celebrates 100 years of
AAUW of Virginia.*



Happy
Anniversary

AAUW-VA members are just
getting started.

xoxox

Lane





1925 - 2025

Springfield-Annandale Branch

**100 Years of Changing the Conversation
Through Outstanding Guest Speakers***



"Speaking Out to Save Free Speech"
Shari Henri, Director of Democracy and
Community Impact, Urban Library Council



"The ERA"
Georgia Fuller,
Women's Activist



"Where Do We Go From Here"
Delegate Kathy Tran, Virginia House of
Delegates representing the 42nd District



Spring Fling Guest Speaker,
Annie Ray, Annandale High
School Orchestra Teacher,
Fairfax County Public Schools
2023 Outstanding Secondary
Teacher of the Year award,
and winner of the GRAMMY
Music Educator Award



"What Every Woman Should
Know About Finance"
Michelle Massey of Merrill
Lynch and Sylvia Auton,
Author of *Grandma Sylvia's
Guide to the Stock Market*.



Our Student Inclusion Award
recipient, Kaylee Boateng,
founded, "Girls Need Love," at
John R. Lewis High School in
Springfield



"Global Health Equity"
Mary Stutts, CEO,
Healthcare
Businesswomen's
Association



*Thank you, Irene McGhee, and
Amy Crollius, Co-Vice Presidents, Programs

Join us for **Spring Fling**, Friday, **May 9**, Springfield Golf and Country Club,
8301 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield

JLT 2025



Celebrating
75 Years of
Partnership
with our
Community

Education

Raised
\$200,000 for
more than 200
scholarships



Advocacy

Lobby Corps

28,038 Reclaim
Our Vote
postcards

Partnerships

Graham Road
Elementary
School

Homestretch

VPIS

**THE PAST STATE PRESIDENTS
OF AAUW OF VIRGINIA**

**SALUTE THE 100 YEARS
AND THANK ALL OUR BRANCHES
FOR THEIR COMMITMENT TO
AAUW OF VIRGINIA**

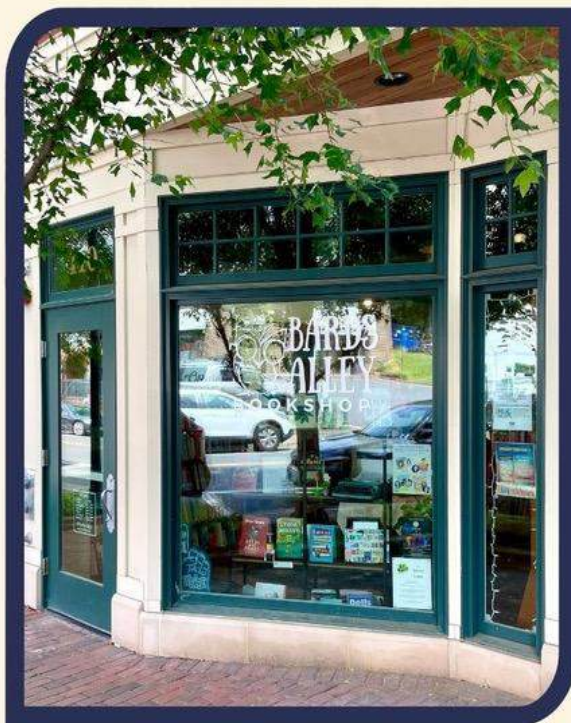
Dianne Blais Kay Gravatt Susan Hoover
Nancy D. Joyner Elaine Lailas
Sandra Lawrence Theresa Merkel Kristin Moyer
Caroline Pickens Rosemary Plum Patzy Quick
Nancy Richardson Suzanne Rothwell
Carol Stephens Marion Stillson Peggy Stotz
Leslie Tourigny Neola Waller Laura Wimmer



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Vienna, VA, 22180

**Portsmouth Branch Celebrates
100 years of AAUW of VA and the
leaders that make us great!**

We Remember Barbara S. Desler



Branch Co-President 1997-2001
Dedicated member and friend for many years

Virginia's Newest Branch:

AAUW Fredericksburg Area Branch

**Celebrating AAUW of Virginia
A Century Of Empowering Women and Girls
in the Commonwealth**



Photo Credit Janet Hedrick

A decorative border of pink cherry blossoms and buds frames the central text. The blossoms are in various stages of bloom, with some showing detailed stamens and others as buds. The background is a soft, light pink with a subtle floral pattern.

AAUW ALEXANDRIA
WELCOMES
AAUW VIRGINIA TO ITS BEAUTIFUL CITY
CELEBRATING
AAUW VIRGINIA'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY
AND
AAUW ALEXANDRIA'S 80TH ANNIVERSARY



EMPOWER FUTURE GENERATIONS

Join the Legacy Circle to ensure AAUW's mission continues to advance gender equity through education, advocacy, and research.



**SCAN TO LEARN
MORE**

NEED MORE INFO?

Contact your state liaison **Kristin Moyer:**
kcmoyer65@gmail.com

or AAUW National:
planned-giving@aauw.org

TOGETHER WE CAN SHAPE THE FUTURE

bit.ly/AAUWLegacy

Kudos to AAUW Virginia for celebrating "100 Years of Changing the Conversation"

HAMPTON BRANCH

For the last 75 years, the Hampton branch has assisted in changing the conversation in the Hampton area by:



Advocating for girls in Science, Technology, Mathematics, and Science through hands-on workshops for middle and high school girls since 1991. The workshop was opened to boys in 2024.



Joining with community organizations to ensure our citizens register to vote, elementary school girls are introduced to STEM, middle school girls have period products, and women are educated in the various forms of domestic violence.



Sharing meals and ideas with women from other organizations as we plan our programs for the year and concentrate on fund-raising strategies to raise money for girls entering their freshman year of college/technical school.

The Arlington AAUW branch thanks the many women who came before us for the opportunities we enjoy today.



Founded in 1944, we celebrated our 80th anniversary this year.



100 Book donations to celebrate AAUW 100 years



Scholarship recipients



For Women and Girls Throughout Life



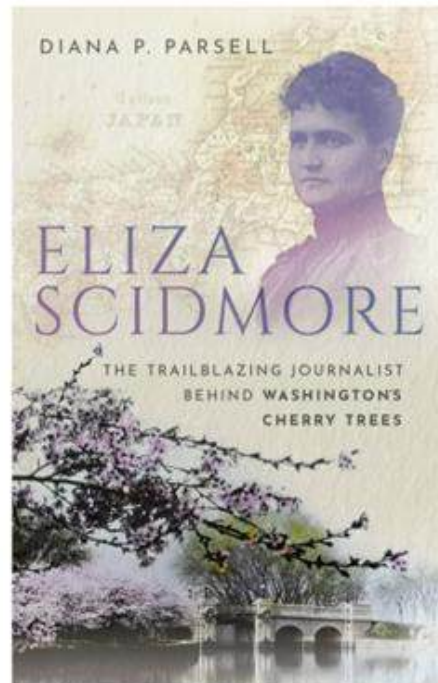
<https://richmond-va.aauw.net/>

Eliza Scidmore: AAUW member, 1921

One of America's pioneering female reporters, Eliza Scidmore (1856-1928) blazed trails from Alaska to Asia, reporting so vividly on little-known places that reviewers likened her words to "Kodaks." In her most enduring legacy, she pushed to have Japanese cherry trees planted in Washington — and partnered with First Lady Helen Taft to make it happen. Now, from AAUW McLean Branch member Diana Parsell, the first biography of this remarkable woman who was far ahead of her time.

❖ Featured by NBC's "Today" Show and Japan TV

❖ Finalist for Society of Midland Authors' 2024 Biography Award



Author Diana Parsell
www.dianaparsell.com

Oxford University Press, 2023
ISBN13: 978-0198869429
In hardcover or Amazon Kindle

"To the canon of women explorers like Gertrude Bell and Nellie Bly,
add Eliza Scidmore to the list of exceptionals."

— Cathy Newman, author of *Women Photographers at National Geographic*

"Inspiring, well researched and a compulsive page turner, this biography is a
thrilling look at an incredible woman and a fascinating era in history."

— Amy Stewart, best-selling author of *The Tree Collectors*



Joins in Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of AAUW of Virginia
1925-2025

Salute to our McLean Area Branch members who have helped lead AAUW of Virginia



Elaine Lailas
State President
1978-1980



Nancy Richardson & Peggy Stotz
State Presidents
1996-1998



Caroline Pickens
State President
2010-2014



Carol Langelier
AAUW-VA 50th Anniversary
Convention Chair, 1975

Branch Highlights



Local STEM Awards for Middle School
and High School Students



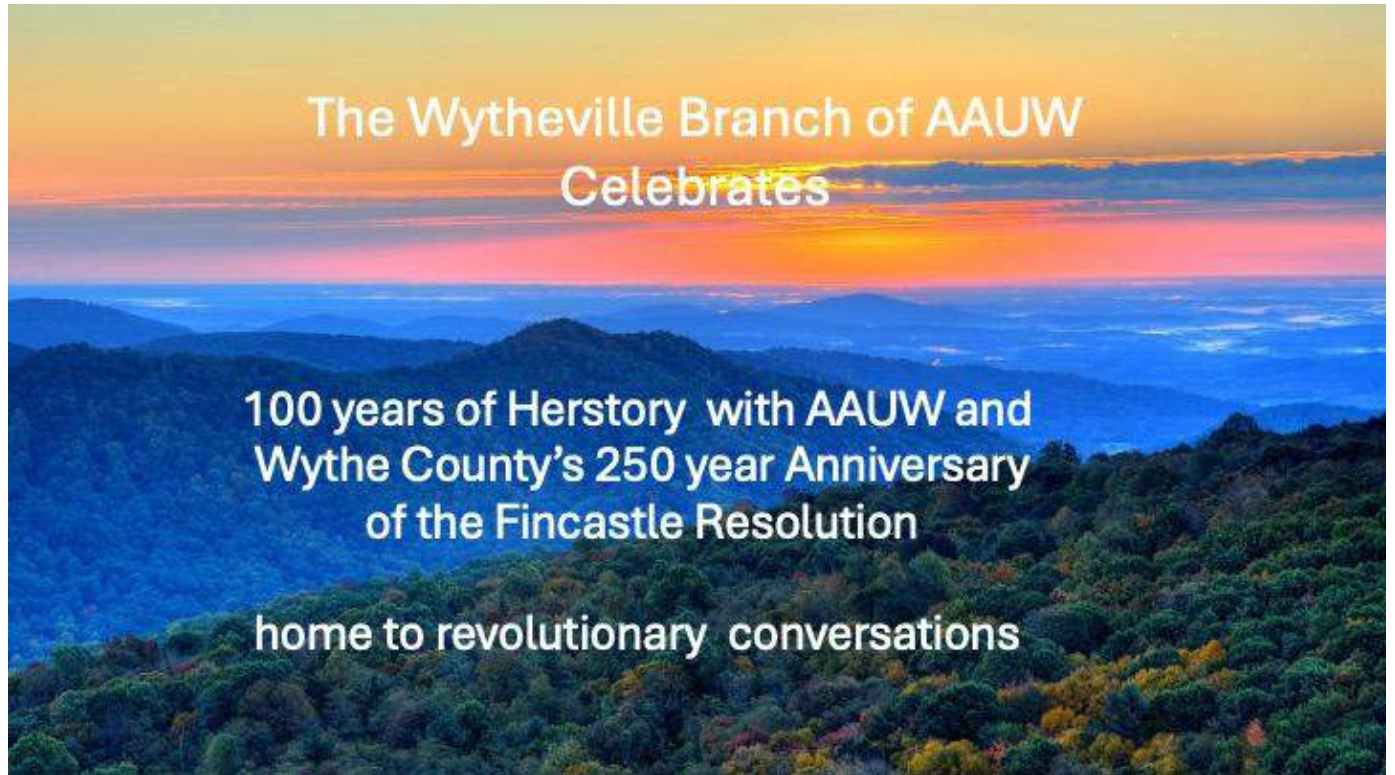
Lobby Day 2025



100+ books donated to Title1 School
Graham Road Elementary



Education support
Scholarships, Fellowships &
Grants for women





Proud to support
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Congratulations

100 Years of AAUW Virginia



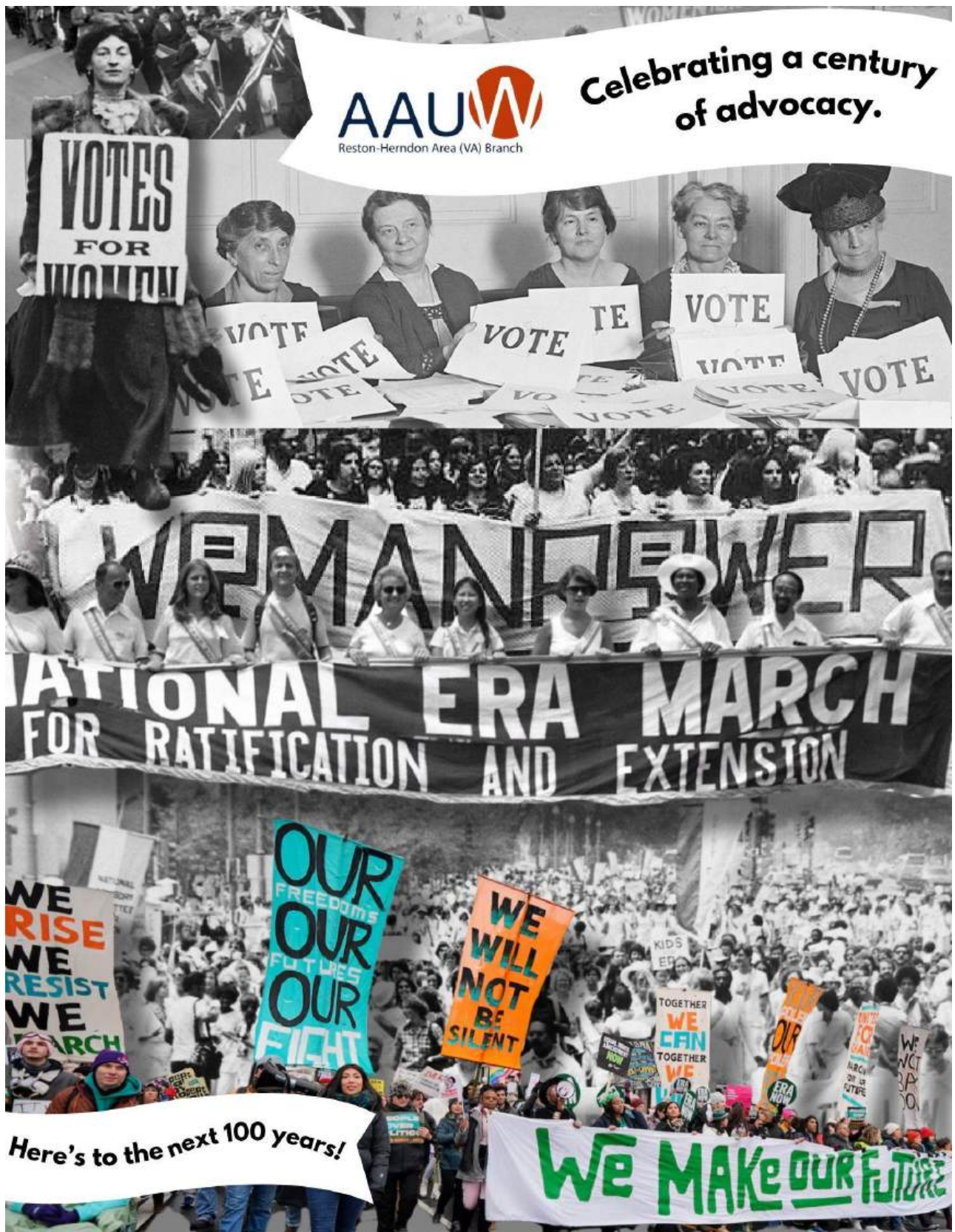
Collected over 100
books for REACH



Team rolled \$104 in
change for our Pennies
for Prescription program



Virginia Beach Branch



AAU
Reston-Herndon Area (VA) Branch

**Celebrating a century
of advocacy.**

Here's to the next 100 years!



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EMPOWERMENT IS BAKED INTO EVERYTHING WE DO!

Together We Bake's mission is to provide a comprehensive workforce training and personal development program to help women facing barriers to employment gain self-confidence, transferable workforce skills, and invaluable hands-on experience which will allow them to find sustainable employment and move toward self-sufficiency.

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