

AAUW VIEWPOINTS

North Hills Pittsburgh, (PA) Branch

January Presidents Message

Happy New Year.

I hope everyone had a fun, peaceful, and wonderful holiday season. We ended 2019 with our annual holiday social at Frescos Restaurant, which was attended by 33 of our members. Such a festive event. Our branch is looking forward to an exciting 2020 as we have many exciting events planned. Always remember, you're never too old to set another goal, dream a new dream, or try new things.

I hope that many of you have sent in your reservations for the January 20th MLK, Jr. Unity Breakfast. Our branch has been active in the North Hills Anti-Racism Coalition since its inception. Our January program will take a look at women in politics.

Most of our interest groups are back on their normal schedules in January, so check the newsletter for meeting dates, times and locations. Why not explore a new interest group this year and take full advantage of all the benefits of your AAUW membership?

This year we need to fill the offices of Membership VP and Finance Officer for two-year terms, beginning July 1, 2020.

The 2020 Great Decisions Series, an 8-week series, will begin on February 1, 2020 (see information in the Viewpoints or on our website.)

Please save March 7th for our Shape the Future celebration of Women's History Month. The Heinz History Center will be presenting the program. This is a great event to invite your friends and prospective members to join us as we enjoy a little bit of history and a lot of entertainment.

These are just a few of the many upcoming events that our branch will be involved in this year.

Inspirational Messages for Women: Throughout the history of women empowering there are lots of pioneering women activists who have been a source of inspiration and have made it more acceptable for other women to succeed in their source of work.

January Program

Saturday January 25, 2020
Ryan Room, La Roche University
9:30 A.M. Social Time
10:00 A.M. Speaker
10:45 A.M. Meeting

Program Title: Women in Politics

Last year, we heard from first time female Congressional candidates who shared their stories and aspirations.

This year, we are taking it local! Joining us on Saturday, January 25, will be local councilwomen and a local mayor.

100 years after women achieved the right to vote, how would they describe their experiences in local politics?

Debbie

Search for New Officers

January is the period in which our nominating committee begins its search for new officers. This year we need to fill the offices of Membership VP and Finance Officer for two-year terms, beginning July 1, 2020. This year’s Nominating Committee will be chaired by Janice Peischl. Please send your suggestions for candidates for either of these offices to Janice Peischl at peischl@comcast.net or phone 412-367-4546. If you are interested in either of these positions please reach out to Janice.

AAUW Student Update



The Festival of Lights was held on Dec 6th, 2019 at La Roche University and began with a craft show and concluded with a firework display on the La Roche campus. Evening events included a live nativity, ice carvings, carriage rides, and activities for children including storytelling, cookie decorating and a bounce house. The event concluded with a visit from Santa Claus and a firework display over the La Roche campus. The AAUW students participated in this event with a craft table where children could make reindeer hats and reindeer candy canes.

Quick Reference Calendar

JANUARY 8 – 6:00 p.m. Board Meeting, Fisher Room, La Roche

JANUARY 14 – 9:30 am Morning Book Group, “The Blues Walked In” at the home of Linda Joy

JANUARY 20 – 8:00 a.m. MLK Breakfast, Zappala Student Center, La Roche University

JANUARY 21 – 12:30 p.m., Lunch Bunch at Hartwood Café, 3400 Harts Run Road NOTE DATE CHANGE

JANUARY 24 – 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. IPOD’s at the home of Deborah & David Hackney

JANUARY 25 – 9:30 a.m., Branch Meeting Ryan Room, LaRoche University

FEBRUARY 1 --9:30 a.m., Great Decisions Room 101, La Roche

FEBRUARY 5 -- 6:00 p.m., Board Meeting, Fisher Room, La Roche

Thank you to everyone who rang the Salvation Army Bells for the North Hills Community Outreach.

Your effort has been greatly appreciated. Thanks to 136 volunteer bell ringers, six kettle collectors and four money counters we raised **\$18,648!** Jan Peischl

Thank you to everyone who attended our recent Happy Hour!

It was a wonderful time complete with yummy drinks, delicious food, and great conversation! Our next Happy Hour will be on Friday, February 21 from 4-6pm at Emiliano's in McCandless. We were going to change the location but everyone enjoyed this spot so much, we decided to hold one more Happy Hour here! Kelley Clouser

January Lunch Bunch Change in Date

to Tuesday January 21,
2020 at 12:30 pm

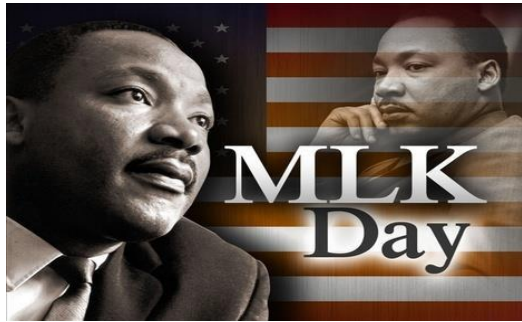
Same place, Hartwood
Café



Don't Forget to Save These Dates!!!

Saturday, October 3, 2020
For the Love of Books
La Roche University

Saturday, December 5, 2020
50 in 2020 Celebration
Brunch at Wildwood
Country Club



20th ANNUAL!
Martin Luther King Jr.
Unity Breakfast
Monday, January 20, 2020

LA ROCHE UNIVERSITY, Zappala Student Center
 9000 Babcock Boulevard, McCandless Township
Registration at 8:00 AM | Breakfast promptly at 8:30AM

Keynote Speaker
Wasi Mohamed

**Commissioner, Governor’s Advisory Commission on
 Asian Pacific American Affairs**

Limited seating – make reservations now! Seating cannot be guaranteed without reservations.



For reservations please return this portion of the form along with your check, made payable to the **North Hills Anti-Racism Coalition**, in the amount of \$18.00 for adults and \$9.00 for students. Questions? maryhsheehan@gmail.com

Please mail reservations including payment by January 13, 2020 to: MLK Breakfast
 J. Peischl
 8244 Coach Court
 Allison Park, PA 15101

Name _____ Number of Adults _____

Address _____ Number of Students _____

Please list names on reverse side.

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email _____ Organization _____

OPEN SEATING

_____ I am unable to attend. Enclosed is my donation to support this worthwhile function.

Total enclosed \$ _____

AAUW New Book Group

AAUW members have always had a love of reading. The 650 branch book clubs across the country are a testament to that. More than 20 years ago, we started the “Adelante” Book of the Month Club to give AAUW members a space to read and discuss books about gender equity, diversity, and inclusion. But conversation isn’t enough. We have to move from talking about gender equity to *doing something to advance it*.

That’s why AAUW is starting a new book club, **Operation Equity: Reading for Results**. It merges AAUW members’ love of reading with easy action projects. Every quarter, we’ll focus on a different aspect of AAUW’s strategic plan. Use the books and articles suggested to start a conversation and then pick a related project that will make a difference in the lives of women and girls. We will continue to update the list when new, relevant resources become available. Please log on to the National web site to obtain more information.

February–April 2019: Economic Security

Reading Recommendations

Feminist Fight Club: A Survival Manual for a Sexist Workplace by Jessica Bennett

Be Fierce: Stop Harassment and Take Your Power Back by Gretchen Carlson

The Cost of Being a Girl: Working Teens and the Origins of the Gender Wage Gap by Yasemin Besen-Cassino

Because of Sex: One Law, Ten Cases, and Fifty Years That Changed American Women’s Lives at Work by Gillian Thomas

#MeToo: A Practical Guide to Navigating Today’s Cultural Workplace Revolution by Mirande Valbrune

Under the Bus: How Working Women Are Being Run Over by Caroline Fredrickson

Unequal: How America’s Courts Undermine Discrimination Law by Sandra F. Sperino and Suja A. Thomas

Black Women in the U.S. Economy: The Hardest Working Woman by Nina Banks, Cecilia A. Conrad, Rhonda Sharpe.

“Entitled”: Why Victims of Sex Discrimination Should Be Entitled to Seek Relief Under Title VII and Title IX by Pamela Prescott.

Shooting for Equality: An Analysis of the Market Force Defense As Applied to the U.S. Women’s Soccer Team’s Equal Pay Claim by Ali Jessani.

When the Shadow Is the Substance: Judge Gender and the Outcomes of Workplace Sex Discrimination Cases by Matthew Knepper.

Justifying Gender Discrimination in the Workplace: The Mediating Role of Motherhood Myths by Catherine Verniers and Jorge Vala.

Title VII and the #MeToo Movement by Rebecca White.

Nursing Gender Pay Differentials in the New Millennium by Barbara L. Wilson Ph.D., Matthew J. Butler Ph.D., Richard J. Butler Ph.D., William G. Johnson Ph.D.

Fundraise to host a salary negotiation workshop in your community.

Share the *Know Your Rights* resources on Title VII, Family and Medical Leave, Equal Pay, Pregnancy Discrimination, or Workplace Sexual Harassment.

Action Projects

Participate in the Members Mobilize a Million challenge to encourage women in your family and community to take the AAUW Work Smart Online salary negotiation tool.

Fundraise to support the Economic Security Focus Area.

Hold a signature drive for an AAUW Two-Minute Activist Petition.

Co-host a salary negotiation workshop in your community with a local college/university.

STEM Career Café

Submitted by Peggy Schmiedecke



Susan Banerjee and Peggy Schmiedecke STEM Co-Chairs have established a cooperative initiative for the North Hills Pittsburgh Branch. The branch initiative supports STEM Stars which is a collaborative project of the YWCA Greater Pittsburgh and Carnegie Science Center.



Directed at girls from economically disadvantaged homes, the program helps improve academic achievement, increase interest in STEM topics and careers by interacting with professional women who have been successful in their fields. STEM Stars provides hands-on, project-based STEM activities; math and science enrichment; life skills development; mentoring; pre-college experiences; and STEM career exploration.



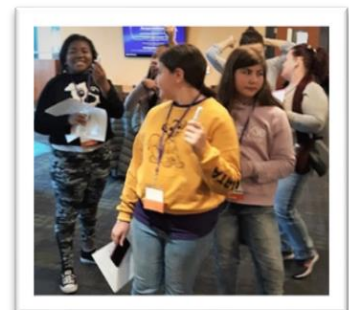
One Saturday each month, girls visit a local college or university and attend the STEM Stars event called Saturday Academies. North Hills Pittsburgh Branch STEM Co-Chairs are supporting two Saturday Academies.

The first one took place on Saturday, November 16, 2019 on the Carlow University campus (Carlow is an AAUW C/U Institution). The second program will be on February 29, 2020 at La Roche University.

At the Carlow campus we coordinated a panel of STEM women professionals to speak with the girls about their careers. In our first program we completed a schedule of four sessions throughout the day. We spoke to approximately 45 girls in grades fifth-seventh from McKeesport School District (SD), Propel SD, Woodland Hills SD and Pittsburgh Public SD. In AAUW Career Café sessions we educated students on STEM careers.

We also discussed subjects they need to take in school to be prepared for college, and types of degrees required for STEM careers. Additionally, we discussed who AAUW is and our mission. We provided each student and the educator team with a vanilla chap stick with our logo.

This project fulfills the branch objective to support local community programs for girls to explore STEM careers.



Great Decisions Discussion Series

Join the Discussion on World Affairs

Free & Open to the Public

8 TOPICS - 8 GREAT DISCUSSIONS!

- Feb. 1 - The Philippines and the U.S.
- Feb. 8 - India & Pakistan
- Feb. 15 - Red Sea Security
- Feb. 22 - U.S. Relations with the Northern Triangle
- Feb. 29 - China's Road into Latin America
- Mar. 14 - Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking
- Mar. 21 - Artificial Intelligence & Data
- Mar. 28 - Climate Change & Global Order



Attend the Great Decisions topics that interest you, whether 1 or all 8!

**Saturdays starting Feb. 1, 2020
9:30 - 11:30 AM**

**La Roche University
Room PSC 101**



The Great Decisions Briefing Book features thought-provoking analyses on each issue. Each article offers questions and tools for discussion, as well as policy options for U.S. officials. The \$30.00 cost covers the book which may be purchased from the Wright Library at La Roche University after January 10. Checks should be made payable to American Association of University Women (AAUW) North Hills Pittsburgh. **Note: cash cannot be accepted.**

Get up-to-date information on the schedule and guest speakers from our web site (northhills-pa.aauw.net) and Facebook ([AAUWNorthHillsPgh](https://www.facebook.com/AAUWNorthHillsPgh)).

Great Decisions is sponsored by AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh  and supported by  LA ROCHE UNIVERSITY

November Branch Meeting



PENNSYLVANIA FIREARMS LAWS AFFECTING WOMEN, CHILDREN, FAMILIES

According to the Giffords Law Center, Pennsylvania's gun laws scored a C+ in 2019. One reason our score improved is the implementation of Pennsylvania Act 79. See <http://www.lawcenter.giffords.org>. Act 79 amends Pennsylvania's Protection from Abuse Act (23 PA C.S.A) and Crimes Code (18 PA. C.S) to help prevent domestic violence-related homicides. It requires defendants to relinquish their firearms to appropriate law enforcement agencies, commercial armories or unrelated attorneys with whom they have a prior attorney/client relationship. Relinquishment must happen within 24 hours after issuance of a final protection from abuse order; and remains in place for 3 to 12 months. Failure to comply is a 2nd degree misdemeanor, and significantly extends the prohibition against owning/possessing firearms in Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV) supported the changes and works with local police, district attorneys and courts to ensure consistent implementation. For more information, go to <https://www.pcadv.org/policy-center/pennsylvania-laws/domestic-violence-firearms-pa-act-79/>

Pennsylvania has not enacted a law that 17 other states and the District of Columbia have enacted in hopes of preventing other gun tragedies, including suicide and community shootings. Laws authorizing extreme risk protection orders (ERPO) allow family or household members and law enforcement officers to petition courts to restrict an individual's access to firearms when they believe the individual is a risk to him/herself or others. After finding that the defendant does represent a danger to him/herself or others; the court can require him/her to relinquish their firearms to law enforcement officials before violence occurs. (S)he is prohibited from buying, selling or possessing firearms while the order is in effect. See https://ballotpedia.org/Extreme_risk_protection_orders_in_state_legislatures for more information. The Pennsylvania legislature is considering enacting such legislation.

Arguments in favor of ERPO laws include:

Supporters of extreme risk protection orders (ERPO) believe the orders save lives.

The Giffords Law Center describes ERPOs as "lifesaving tools that can prevent gun tragedies before they occur" and are "being used to prevent mass shootings, suicides, terrorism, and other types of gun violence." According to the Everytown For Gun Safety Support Fund's website, "When a person is in crisis, loved ones and law enforcement are often the first to see the warning signs. ERPO laws empower family members and law enforcement to petition for an order that temporarily removes guns from a dangerous situation and reduces the risk of suicide."

The Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund (<https://everytown.org/>) addresses opponents' due process concerns by pointing out provisions in ERPO laws allowing defendants to appear in court for a full legal hearing. The Alliance for Gun Responsibility (<https://gunresponsibility.org/>) also notes that evidentiary standards must be met before courts issue an ERPO.

Arguments against ERPO laws include:

Opponents of extreme risk protection orders argue that they violate Second Amendment rights, that existing laws already provide ways to respond to situations addressed in ERPO legislation, and that ERPOs do not provide mechanisms to deal with underlying causes of danger or threat.

The [National Rifle Association](#) believes ERPO laws allow "persons who have no specific expertise, and who may be mistaken" to seek extreme risk protection orders. In situations where the ERPO can be issued at an *ex parte* hearing (where the defendant is not present) a person's rights disappear merely on the say-so of someone else." They believe "This law would be ripe for abuse by individuals that disagree with the Second Amendment. They find "the mere insinuation that gun ownership makes you a danger to yourself or others offensive and insulting."

According to the website *The Truth About Guns*: "Judges can issue an ERPO without any testimony from the accused; thus denying his or her Sixth Amendment protected rights." The article also raises concerns that an ERPO does nothing to help suicidal or homicidal citizens (who can find other means to kill themselves or others); and that it disarms citizens who may face a lethal threat from a dangerously disaffected spouse, former spouse or family member, or a corrupt police officer.

See Something. Say Something. Do Something.

Both sides raise valid arguments that can and should be addressed through bi-partisan legislation. The AAUW has a long history of advocating for gun violence prevention: to increase safety for individuals in their homes, schools, workplaces, places of worship and communities. See the website at <https://www.aauw.org/article/history-of-position-on-gun-violence-prevention/>

As individuals, members of AAUW, and as a branch; we can:

Be educated about causes, warnings and effects of violence on individuals, families and communities.

Be educated about proposed state and national legislation.

Write letters (or a petition) to our state legislators thanking them for enacting Act 79 last year; and encouraging them to support the proposed ERPO legislation this year.

Participate in CeaseFirePA's "Move the Extreme Protection Order Bill" lunchtime action on January 17 at Speaker of the PA. House Mike Turzai's McCandless Office (125 Hillvue Lane 1st Floor McCandless PA 15237.

November 2019 FINANCIAL REPORT

CHECKING:

Beg Balance	\$ 14,698.08
Deposits	+ 3,700.00
Expenses	(5,311.23)
Ending Balance	\$ 13,086.85

SAVINGS:

Beg Balance	\$4,833.06
Interest Earned	0.20
Ending Balance	\$4,833.26

December 2019 FINANCIAL REPORT

CHECKING:

Beg Balance	\$ 13,086.85
Deposits	+ 0.00
Expenses	(1,048.45)
Ending Balance	\$ 12,038.40

SAVINGS:

Beg Balance	\$4,833.26
Interest Earned	0.21
Ending Balance	\$ 4,833.47

Christmas Social



November and December IPODs



2020 AAUW-PA Convention

- April 24-26, 2020 at the Central Hotel & Conference Center in Harrisburg, PA.
- The Convention theme is “Purple Sashes and Persistent Women”
Women in honor of the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment
- Keynote speaker is **Rebecca Boggs Roberts**, daughter of the late Cokie Roberts and author of *“Suffragists in Washington DC”*
Registration is now open at: <https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/2020-stateconvention/>

The National Level

On December 5, 2019 Kim Church presented a webinar entitled “Together in 2019 Together in 2020”. This webinar outlines the successes of 2019 and is an introduction to 2020. This was a great Webinar. If you were not able to attend you can go on line to listen at your convenience at:

<https://www.aauw.org/event/2019/12/together-in-2020/>

As we plan out branch events for 2020 we will be looking at what National is discussing.

AAUW's latest research was published in early December entitled “Limiting our Livelihoods: The Cumulative Impact of Sexual Harassment on Women's Careers. <https://www.aauw.org/research/limiting-our-livelihoods/>

Previous Webinars that occurred in 2019 are available if you want to go back and listen:

October 22, 2019 <https://www.aauw.org/event/2019/10/our-path-forward/>

Update on AAUW's achievements, including reaching our Work Smart goals, rolling out the new 5-star recognition program, and strengthening our governance and sustainability.

May 21, 2019 <https://www.aauw.org/kim-churches-leader-webinar-presentation-for-5-21/>

First Kim Churches webinar for members. Outlined AAUW's financial condition and impact on AAUW budget, programs, staffing.

Save the Dates for upcoming webinar in 2020: January 28 and April 14.

MISSION STATEMENT OF AAUW LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

LAF provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

AAUW MEMBERSHIP

AAUW, founded in 1881, is open to all graduates who hold an associate's or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university.

AAUW DIVERSITY STATEMENT

In principle and practice AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

BRANCH CONTACT INFORMATION

President: Deborah Rosenfelder	412-916-9073 or rosenfelderd@verizon.net
Program VP: Kelly Clouser	717-283-6344 or kellyclouseraaauw@gmail.com
Membership: Janis Kapadia	724-935-7507 or jkapadia@consolidated.net
Viewpoints Editor: June Maier	412-445-5135 or junemaier@gmail.com

Branch Website: <http://northhills-pa.aauw.net>

Branch Email: aauwnorthhillspgh@gmail.com

Facebook Page: AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh branch

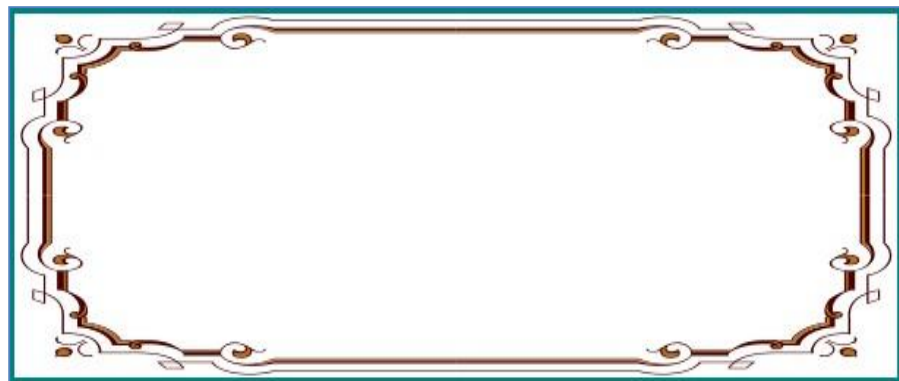
CONNECT2AAUW: 800-326-2289 or connect@aauw.org

National Website: www.aauw.org

State Website: www.aauw-pa.org

Viewpoints

AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh Branch
Linda Tozier, Distribution Manager
31 Oxford Court, Pittsburgh, PA 15237



Because **Equity** is still an issue