

# AAUW VIEWPOINTS

North Hills Pittsburgh, (PA) Branch

## Presidents Message

March is the month when spring officially begins. As the seasons change from winter to spring, take some time to review the special days, holidays, and other observances for March. This is a great time to explore historical facts, interesting people, new concepts, and hobbies.



March is **Women's History Month**. This is a celebration of women and all their accomplishments, contributions and involvements throughout history and even into today. Women have a long history in this country and many were pioneers of the freedom's women enjoy today.

The theme of Women's History Month for 2020 is "**Valiant Women of the Vote**". Our 2020 theme celebrates the women who have fought for the woman's right to vote in the United States.

Our local March events kick off with our **Shape the Future Event on March 7, 2020** with "**NOTABLE WOMEN OF THE KEYSTONE STATE**". I hope that you will be able to make it to this exciting event.

This month the North Hills Pittsburgh Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) and the AAUW La Roche University Student Organization is proud to host a program entitled **Social Justice "Finding Your Voice" on WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2020, 6PM - 9PM**. La Roche University requested that our organization host an event for women's social justice week. The AAUW Students have worked very hard on this program and I think that it would be awesome for a large turnout from our branch to support this event.

Great Decision is at the half way point and attendance thus far has been amazing. We have had 50 or more attendees at each session. A huge thank you to MaryAnn Anderson and Frances Cech for all your hard work in making this program a success.

I hope each of you will find time to attend some of these activities listed throughout the Viewpoints. Don't forget to take walks, plant flowers, and pull the dandelions.

*Debbie*

### March Program

Saturday March 07, 2020

Ryan Room, La Roche University

*Shape the Future*

### NOTABLE WOMEN OF THE KEYSTONE STATE

**Guest speaker: Anne Madarasz from the Heinz History Center**

9:30 A.M. Social Time

10:00 A.M. Speaker

10:45 A.M. Wrap UP

**The 100th Anniversary of the Women's Suffrage Movement**

**ATTENTION: Election for 2020-2022 AAUW Pennsylvania Board positions for President and Program Vice President is happening now. Cast your vote online, or via paper ballot at the March 7 branch meeting.**



## Special EVENT!

The North Hills Pittsburgh Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) and the AAUW La Roche University Student Organization is proud to host a

# Social Justice “Finding Your Voice”

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2020 6PM - 9PM

La Roche University, Zappala Center (Ryan Room)  
9000 Babcock Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15237

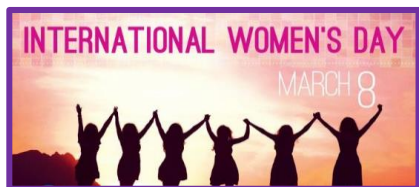
**AAUW Speaker:** Peggy Schmiedecke, “Limiting our Livelihoods: The Cumulative Impact of Sexual Harassment on Women’s Careers”

**Crisis Center North:** Cora Koller, “The 3 R’s Recognize, Respond and Refer for Victims of abuse”

**Anchorpoint:** Jennifer Register, “Empowering Through Knowledge”

Panel Discussion with speakers and attendees

**Come out and support our branch members and students that have organized this event**



**International Women's Day** (March 8) is a global **day** celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of **women**.

The International Women's Day theme for 2020 is [#EachforEqual](#), which reminds everyone that it’s on each of us to help create a gender equal world.

### AAUW State Convention

Our PA 2020 state convention is fast approaching: April 24-26,

It will be held at The Central Hotel and Conference Center in Harrisburg.

Early registration ends March 15. After that, all convention prices increase by \$30.

If you are planning to go, get your reservation in by the 15<sup>th</sup>.

## Quick Reference Calendar

**MARCH 4** — 9:30 a.m., Board Meeting, Fisher Room, LRU

**MARCH 7** — 9:30 a.m., Branch Meeting, Ryan Room, LRU, “Shape the Future” NO GREAT DECISIONS

**MARCH 10** — 9:30 a.m., Morning Book Group, Home of Jan Peischl. “The White Darkness”

**MARCH 14** — 9:30-11:30 a.m., Great Decisions, Room PSC 101, LRU

**MARCH 16** — 7:00 p.m., Bookers of the Evening, Home of Cindy Stewart, “The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek”

**MARCH 20** — 12:30 p.m., Lunch Bunch, Gaucho Parella Argentina, Strip District, 1601 Penn Avenue

**MARCH 21** — 9:30-11:30 a.m., Great Decisions, Room PSC 101, LRU

**MARCH 21** — 6:00-8:00 p.m., IPODS, Home of Sylvia and Jerry Lynn

**MARCH 25** — 6:00-9:00 p.m., Social Justice Event, Ryan Room, LRU

**MARCH 28** — 9:30-11:30 a.m., Great Decisions, Room PSC 101, LRU

**MARCH 31** — 3:00-4:00 p.m., Pay Equity Event, Senator Lindsay Williams, 5000 McKnight Road, Suite 405

**APRIL 1** — 9:30 a.m., Board Meeting, Fisher Room, LRU

## DON'T MISS OUT! ONLY THREE SESSIONS OF GREAT DECISIONS LEFT for 2020

There is still time for you to be part of our Great Decisions series. The schedule for March is as follows:

- **March 14th: Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking**
- **March 21st: Artificial Intelligence and Data**
- **March 28th: Climate Change and Global Order**

Come and learn from the Foreign Policy Association videos and our expert guest speakers.

There is also opportunity for you to ask questions and contribute to the discussion.

Saturdays, 9:10-11:30 a.m.  
La Roche University, Room PSC101

### Programs:

If you are interested in helping to plan for programs next year, please join us on **Saturday, March 21** following Great Decisions, so anticipate we will begin no later than noon. The plan is to meet and have lunch together while we talk. (Be sure to bring money if you plan on buying lunch!) However, if anything changes and we need to move the meeting, I will let you know in advance. Bring your creativity and fun ideas! Hope to see you there! Also, if you have any suggestions but are unable to attend on the 21st, please be sure to email/text me prior to the 21st so I can add those to the list. Thanks!

### Happy Hour:

Unfortunately, unless someone else wants to plan a happy hour for March, I will not be planning one. I am so disappointed because they are always so much fun, but I just don't have any open dates in March. If someone else wants to plan one, though, please do!

We will have our next happy hour on **Thursday, April 9 from 4-6 at Bonefish Grill in McCandless Crossing.**

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**Kelley Clouser**  
VP of Programs  
[kellyclouser@aauw.com](mailto:kellyclouser@aauw.com)



### Non AAUW Events:

- Sunday, March 8th, 2020, 3:00 p.m.** A Forum for sharing. Thoughts on Peace & Justice: Kearns Spirituality Center Conference Center 9000 Babcock Blvd. McCandless. SPONSORED BY: **Pittsburgh North People for Peace & North Hills Anti-Racism Coalition.** All are welcome. Suggested donation \$5.00. For more information: email: [info@pnpp.northpgh.org](mailto:info@pnpp.northpgh.org)
- The Pittsburgh Suffrage Centennial Committee** is leading the charge, highlights Pittsburgh's notable contributions to the fight for suffrage, showcases events. To find events log on to their website: <https://pghsuffrage100.com>

### Nominating Committee Announces Slate of Officers for 2020- 2022

Membership Vice President - Janis Kapadia  
Finance Officer - Betty Kroniser

**Elections will be held on April 22.  
Installation will be on May 20.**

This year's Nominating Committee wants to thank Janis and Betty for willing to serve another two-year term and for President Deborah's assistance. The committee included Jane Depee, Katherine Keith, Barbara Matthews, Sina Murphy, and Janice Peischl, Chair.

### Climbing Mount Everest

The La Roche University Literary Society invites us to hear Alumnus Jeff Sradomski recount his experience Climbing Mount Everest.

He will discuss the training and preparation for his two-month adventure from Kathmandu to the Everest Base Camp and his climb to the summit.

**Friday, March 20 at 7 p.m. in the Ryan Room.** Registration is suggested at [laroche.edu/climb](http://laroche.edu/climb), or contact Gina Miller at [gina.miller@laroche.edu](mailto:gina.miller@laroche.edu) or 412 536-1085

Donations are appreciated and are tax deductible.

Send to Sr. Rita Yeasted, 9000 Babcock Blvd. Pittsburgh 15237

### AAUW 2020 Convening Series – to replace an AAUW national convention

There will be a series of online conference calls.

<https://www.aauw.org/convention/>

Mark Your Calendar – Next 2020 Convening event will be April 14<sup>th</sup>.

### February 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

#### CHECKING:

Beg Balance	\$13,754.95
Deposits	\$960.00
Expenses	<u>(\$5,076.43)</u>
Ending Balance	<b>\$9,638.52</b>

#### SAVINGS:

Beg Balance	\$4,833.68
Interest	
Earned	<u>\$0.19</u>
Ending Balance	<b>\$4,833.87</b>

## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL ALERT!!

**ALL** AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh Branch members will receive an email from National, subject – [AAUW Membership Renewal Notice](#) that will instruct you on how to renew your membership and pay your dues online. Again, we ask you to **please utilize this feature** as so many of you have done in the past. It is easy and safe.

As a thank you for doing this promptly, if you pay your dues online, you will be entered in a drawing to receive a \$59 rebate, which is the amount of AAUW National Dues. The drawing will take place at our annual dinner meeting on **Wednesday, May 20, 2020 at Treesdale Golf and Country Club.**

If you pay dues by May 1<sup>st</sup>, you will receive two chances; by May 15<sup>th</sup>, one chance! You need not be present at the dinner to win, but then you will miss all of the fun!

If, for any reason, you are unable to complete the dues renewal online, you may send your check for \$100.00 to [Betty Kroniser, Finance Officer, 920 Camelot Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15237.](#)

Thanks so much for your cooperation!

Betty Kroniser, Finance Officer and Janis Kapadia, VP of Membership

## Equal Pay Day

Equal Pay Day is **Tuesday, March 31, 2020.** This date symbolizes how far into the year women must work to earn what men earned in the previous year. It's important to remember that although March 31<sup>st</sup> is Equal Pay Day for the average American woman, the wage gap is even greater for women of color.

### 2020 Equal Pay Days:

<b>February 11</b>	Asian American Women	<b>March 31</b>	All Women
<b>June 4</b>	Moms	<b>August 13</b>	African American Women
<b>October 1</b>	Native American Women	<b>November 2</b>	Latinas



Students will host a bake sale on La Roche University campus on March 31<sup>st</sup> to raise awareness of Equal Pay Day. They are asking if branch members will help support this event by providing baked goods for the event. The money the students raise will be donated to an organization that supports impoverished women. Bake goods can be dropped off in Julies office on March 30<sup>th</sup> and the morning of March 31<sup>st</sup>

Do you have family members or friends who are graduating from college this spring? You can help them celebrate this accomplishment by giving them a free one-year national membership in AAUW through the Give-a-Grad-a-Gift program. It costs you nothing but offers a life-time of possibilities to the honoree. Please contact me for more information about how to do this. *Debbie*

## STEM Career Café

*Submitted by Peggy Schmiedecke*



STEM Stars is a collaborative project of the YWCA Greater Pittsburgh and Carnegie Science Center. STEM Stars is an afterschool enrichment program for middle school girls, which operate in 15 sites in the Pittsburgh area. It includes Pittsburgh Public Schools, Propel Schools, Woodland Hills School District, and McKeesport Area School District. On February 29<sup>th</sup> AAUW NH Pgh hosted on the La Roche University Campus a STEM Stars Saturday Academy with 45 middle school girl students. Additionally a LaunchPad a track was added to the day. Programming was provided to five high school girl students.

We had five STEM professional women join Peggy Schmiedecke & Susan Banerjee in the AAUW session called Career Café. Additionally we had four LRU students participate. Two from AAUW Student Organization members participate in Career Café and two LRU students gave campus tours. It was a great day long program working with awesome STEM professionals and the female students. Please check out more pictures at the AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh Branch Facebook page.



## Allegheny County for CEDAW

*Submitted by Peggy Schmiedecke*

### What is CEDAW?



The **Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women** or CEDAW for short is an international treaty adopted by the United Nations in 1979. By 1982, 189 countries had signed and ratified CEDAW. The United States signed the treaty, but has yet to ratify it. Ratification requires two-thirds of the U.S. Senate to stand together for women's equality. With ratification stalled in the U.S. Senate local activists and public officials around the country are joining together in the Cities for CEDAW campaign. Pittsburgh became a CEDAW City in December 2016 by passing an ordinance; our branch is and has been a supporting organization for approximately five years under the leadership of Peggy Schmiedecke. Now we turn our efforts to Allegheny County.

### Allegheny County for CEDAW Mission

To establish a Gender Equity Commission to study and make recommendations to ensure that the needs of women, girls, and non-binary people are appropriately considered in all Allegheny County programs and services.

### Update

The Allegheny County for CEDAW subcommittee of Pittsburgh for CEDAW members including Linda Tozier and Peggy Schmiedecke met with Bethany Hallam, At Large Council Representative, Council Members Olivia "Liv" Bennett D13 and Council Member Anita Prizio D3. We discussed developing an Allegheny County CEDAW Ordinance in time for it to go thru committee with a goal of the end of June. This would position the ordinance to then move to the budget planning cycle for a January 2021 start. The elected Allegheny County members that we met with expressed optimism on moving this forward. The Allegheny County for CEDAW subcommittee will assist with writing the ordinance and pursuing obtainment of community organizations and elected officials in key Allegheny County municipalities to endorse and support the efforts. We are moving forward and gaining momentum on our efforts of the past 12 months.

**Annual May Dinner  
Wednesday, May 20, 2020  
Treesdale Golf & Country Club**

**6:30 PM: Social & Cash Bar  
7:00 PM: Dinner  
7:45 PM: Program**

**Menu Choices**

Please choose an entrée and either write your choice on your check or print this page and circle your choice. Checks are due to Janis Kapadia **by May 9, 2020.**

- **Apple & Brie stuffed Chicken Breast with a honey Bourbon Glaze**
- **Seared Herb butter Salmon with a White Wine Lemon Sauce**
- **Vegetable Napoleon Stack (Vegan)**

(All served with a Treesdale House Salad, Wild Rice Pilaf with Fresh herbs, Match Stick Vegetables)

**Turtle Cheesecake**

Cost: \$42.00

Checks made payable to: AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh

**Mail/Give checks to:**

**Janis Kapadia  
2553 Glenwood Drive  
Wexford, PA 15090**

724-935-7507

[jkapadia@consolidated.net](mailto:jkapadia@consolidated.net)



**TALKING WITH A LEGISLATOR:  
MEETING WITH SENATOR LINSEY WILLIAMS ABOUT PAY EQUITY AND WOMEN'S HEALTH**

Three basic ways to communicate your point of view to your state legislator are: letter/email, phone or office visit. A personal visit to the legislator's local or Harrisburg office is probably the most effective.

*On March 31, 2020 four to six members of the AAUW North Hills Branch will meet with State Senator Lindsey Williams and/or her local staff members at their office (5000 McKnight Road, suite 405 Pittsburgh PA 15237) from 3:00 to 4:00 pm. Our primary focus will be pay equity and women's health. We need volunteers for this interesting, fun and valuable public policy activity! To participate, please contact Cora Koller at 412-656-3109 or [photowriter56@verizon.net](mailto:photowriter56@verizon.net) by March 10, 2020. Then we will schedule a planning meeting.* Here are 10 tips for talking with our legislator and/or her staff (adapted from <http://davidsusman.com/2019/03/07/10-tips-for-talking-with-legislators-about-mental-health-issues/>.)

1. **Say you are a constituent.** Legislators highly value their constituents' opinions. represent. They want your vote in their next election. Address or refer to Senator Williams as "Senator Williams."
2. **Build a relationship.** A significant part of the conversation is just chatting about who you are, what you do, who they are, what they are working on, and so on. We will take a little time to develop the relationship before launching into our issues. This relationship will encourage Senator Williams and her staff to come back to us about pay equity and women's health.
3. **Be prepared.** Be familiar with Senator Williams' background and prior voting record on these issues, to get a sense of her viewpoint and history on these issues. Sources of information include <https://www.senatorlindseywilliams.com/> and [https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/home/member\\_information/Senate\\_bio.cfm?id=1803](https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/home/member_information/Senate_bio.cfm?id=1803)
4. **Know what bills related to pay equity and women's health are before the legislature, and where they are in the legislative process.** Understand the issues of pay equity, women's health and the AAUW's positions. Know about the key bills that are we want to discuss. For example: bills that are now in Senator Williams' Labor and Industry Committee include SB860 (Family Medical Leave), SB12 (Minimum Wage), HB849 (Nondisclosure Agreements in Sexual Harassment Cases), SB 614 (Pa Human Relations Act). To learn more, go to <https://www.legis.state.pa.us/>. Click on legislation and enter the bill number.
5. **Be concise.** To make the most of our time with Senator Williams and/or her staff, we'll rank order 2 or 3 significant bills and decide who will be the lead speaker on each one. That person will briefly state the bill number and title, what it's about, where it is in the process and why we support it.
6. **Be even more concise.** The group will decide which aspect of pay equity and women's health are most important to us, and which bill we are most interested in. We'll talk about that one first.
7. **Tell stories.** To promote specific bills, share a brief personal story about why it is important to you as a woman, a family member, an employee, manager etc. Doing so puts a "face" on the issue and can help Senator Williams connect more personally with the issue.
8. **Be pleasant but assertive.** Don't expect the Senator to be on board with our viewpoints on every bill. If she is not fully on board, politely ask what might help her consider supporting the issue. Provide any research or other information that supports our viewpoints.
9. **Leave behind information.** At the end of the meeting, we will leave behind a brief one or two-page typed summary of all the bills we are supporting for the Senator's future reference. This is a way to provide information more information about pay equity and women's health, our viewpoints and recommendations that we did not have time to talk about.
10. **Say thank you and offer to keep in touch.** Thank the Senator and her staff as we leave the meeting and send them a hand-written (yes, hand-written) thank you card in the next day or two. Offer to be available if they need further information on any of the bills or if they would like to discuss them further. Provide them your business card, email or phone number so they can easily reach you.



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**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 <a href="mailto:rosenfelderd@verizon.net">rosenfelderd@verizon.net</a>
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Branch Website: <http://northhills-pa.aauw.net>

Branch Email: [aauwnorthhillspgh@gmail.com](mailto:aauwnorthhillspgh@gmail.com)

Facebook Page: AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh branch

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CONNECT2AAUW: 800-326-2289 or [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org)

National Website: [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

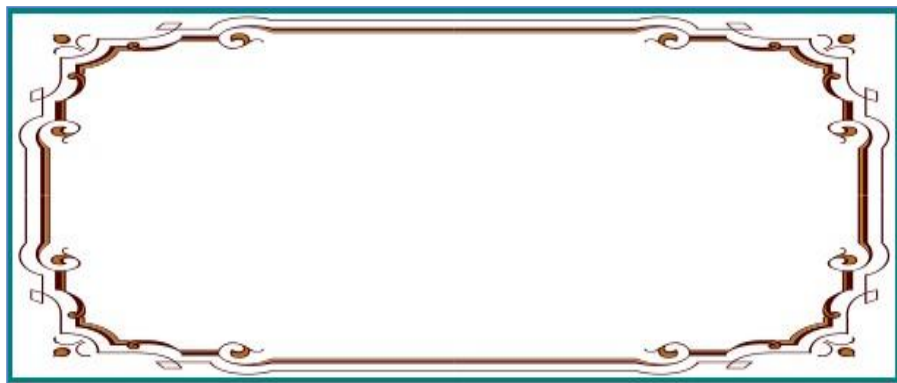
State Website: [www.aauw-pa.org](http://www.aauw-pa.org)

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## Viewpoints

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



Because **Equity** is still an issue