



JAMESTOWN BRANCH

Volume 23 • Issue 3

May/June 2018

President's Message

By Christina A Marsh, AAUW Jamestown Branch President

As we complete our year, looking back, we have a lot to be proud of. We offered some great missionbased programs that were well attended. I mention mission-based programming because that was a resounding theme at the AAUW-NYS Convention. We were fortunate to have the AAUW National CEO Kimberly Churches as Friday's keynote speaker and she delivered a powerful message, a message I believe, you will see filter down to each branch. Kimberly describes her vision on AAUW National's YouTube as one of a continued "catalyst for change."

"In order to continue to be a catalyst for change we need rigorous focus to ensure continued relevance and enhanced impact on the equity issues where AAUW can lead. Clearly, that means continued research, educational programs that help women and girls flourish, our fellowships and grants, and advocacy efforts. And, it means we'll need to engage with new audiences and disseminate information differently to reach people in their communities and on the national stage to truly inspire action resulting in measurable change."

During the keynote, she discussed how AAUW must be set apart as an

organization in order to become the go-to voice for equity for women and girls. As a former educator, Kimberly knows that there is power in knowledge and she is making it a National goal to have 10 million women trained in salary negotiation through StartSmart and WorkSmart!

As well, our AAUW-NYS presidentelect, Janice Brown, has taken on a similar goal. She plans to have the entire NYS board trained StartSmart and WorkSmart facilitators. If you have ever read Malcom Gladwell's The Tipping Point, you would recognize this strategy; "fundamental changes can occur quickly when the beliefs and energies of a critical mass of people create an epidemic movement toward an idea." Janice is also looking into assistance with funding these programs through the state for individual branches which is a critical point in moving this work forward.

Altogether, 2018 Convention was the most inspiring I have attended. I could go on and on about Aileen Rizo, the Legal Advocacy Fund litigant, or Aasha Shaik, AAUW Girl Advocate to the United Nation. But, I will stop here and let you do some discovering on your own about these AMAZING women!

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Calendar of Branch Events and Programs

June 20 · 6:30 p.m.

Divas Dine at the Hadley House 3328 Hadley Bay Rd. Stowe N.Y.

July 20 - 22

NYS Summer Leadership Conference Cazenovia College



We're on Facebook!

Please visit our Facebook page and Like us.

Find our page by typing in AAUW Jamestown Branch in the Search space at the top of the page.

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April 25 Membership Social

By Linda Fellows

Our Membership Social was held on Wednesday, May 25th at the James Prendergast Library in Jamestown, NY. Fifteen women graduating from JCC who are enrolled to continue their education towards a Bachelor's degree were awarded scholarships. AAUW has been awarding the scholarships for sixty -two years.

We thank the Rev. Mary Lee Talbot, Presbyterian minister, author and editor, and director of administrative services for People Helping People for presenting a talk on Pay Equity entitled "You Are Valuable".

We are pleased to welcome a new member to AAUW Jamestown, Jenny Rowe. Ms Rowe is currently the Chief Financial Officer of the Mental Health Association of Chautauqua County. She has a BBA in Management and a MBA in Finance. We would like to remind our AAUW members to please pay the dues for the upcoming year



2018 Scholarship Winners

2018-2019 and to fill out the interest form. Your interest sheet helps us to know how to best help you to become actively involved in our mission.

The Legal Advocacy Fund

By Emily McVay

We spend so much time talking in acronyms that sometimes we forget the true meaning of the cause. At the NYS AAUW Convention in Corning, NY, we had the privilege of hearing first hand from Aileen Rizo. Aileen had a crucial job, educating educators at the Fresno County Office of Education in Fresno, California. She took a big risk, moving her family to a new state and assuming the role of the sole breadwinner in their home. It was 2012 when Aileen discovered that a less experienced, and less educated colleague was placed on step 9 of the county's 10-step pay scale when she was placed on step 1.

After speaking with Human Resources she was told that her salary history had led to the decision to place her on step 1. Via the the support of the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund she was able to take the case through the court system. It was an emotional uphill battle. There wasn't a dry eye in the room as we listened to her struggle. Everyone cheered her on as we heard that the Ninth Circuit announced the following:

"On April 9, 2018, the Ninth Circuit held that using prior salary alone, as a "factor other than sex," or in combination with other factors cannot justify a wage differential, further reasoning that this would allow employers to profit on this inequity and perpetuate a gender wage gap in direct contrast with the intent of the Equal Pay Act of 1963.

AAUW will continue to support Rizo through our legal case-support program as her case moves through any further appeal."

Read more by visiting: https://www.aauw.org/resource/rizo-v-fresno/

However, the fight isn't over. It is expected that school district will take the fight to the next level. Aileen is battling for all of us. If we allow employers to base one's future pay on their previous pay we will only continue to perpetuate inequality. AAUW will be there to support her. However, we can't do it without raising money for the Legal Advocacy Fund. The next time you think of the acronym LAF, think of Aileen Rizo. Think of her struggle, and her family. We don't want the world to continue this way. We must do our part to stop it. Donating to the Legal Advocacy Fund and participating in our chapter fundraisers is only the first step.

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AAUW - JCC Women's Issues Advisory Board

By Yvonne Makl

A re-energized JCC Women's Issues Advisory Committee ploughed right into our overdue spring time and came up soaring! As the JCC spring semester 2018 comes to an end we wish to thank the EmpoweMe! Club students and 'transferring' President, Ebehitale Imobhio for the all-hands-together relationship that so imprinted the successes of our collaborative events reflecting AAUW Women's Issues. The following recaps a startup March & a breakout April with extra kudos to our teams of women that made it all happen.

March 14th Dress for Success - Fashion Show! Interview role play & fashion prep for the world of work. *Thank you area department stores!

March 24th Get in the Game JCC Students AAUW Volunteer Opportunity!

April 10th Equal Pay Day Panel & Discussion
This Equal Pay Day event brought awareness to
wage inequities between men and women in the
workforce. The discussion was broad and diverse,
touching on: societal norms/cultural standards
valuing males; maternity leave/breastfeeding rights;
in-adequate childcare systems and supports; guilt
and work-life balance; female-to-female support,
mentorship and more.

The dynamic panel consisted of Catherine lannello, MSW, Associate Professor and Director of Human Services at SUNY Jamestown Community College and a Delegate to the Faculty Council on Community Colleges; Simone Sellstrom, Assistant Professor, Director of Media, Visual and Performing Arts, and Coordinator of Communication at SUNY Jamestown Community College; Elizabeth Starks, Coordinator of Early Childhood Education at SUNY Jamestown Community College and Executive Director of Chautaugua Lake Child Care Center; Breeanne Agett, Epidemiology Manager at Chautauqua County; and Shannon Frentz, Case Manager for Chautaugua County Department of Health & Human Services. Tory Irgang, Executive Director of the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation did an excellent job moderating the event. Community wide attendance included political candidate for NY's 23rd Congressional District, Eddie Sundquist. An additional special thanks to Linda DeJoseph & Courtney Reardon

for their contribution and participation on our planning committee.

April 11th Net-the-Work Area professionals provided net-working opportunities for students to navigate conversations for the world of work.

April 30th Empower Me! Series: Take Back the Night

"Take Back the Night" was a student driven community come together event for women's rights and human rights to end sexual harassment, sexual assault and violence against women. With the #MeToo movement in an unprecedented spotlight, this public conversation reinforced our belief that each one of us has a role to play in intervention and only in coming together can we begin to create a culture of respect, equality and safety. Our Special thanks to Leslie DeSantis and Natasha Juma for their distinct participation and the domestic violence services provided at the Salvation Army's Anew Center.

And thank you Linda Fellows for being there, the AAUW membership table looked great at the events. To sum it all up – we're exhausted! However, our eyes are wide open for our 2018-19 campus events and new collaborations. But for now, ... hello Summer time!

If you have ever thought of working with students on the collegiate level, please, join us! We're doing our best for Women's Issues of Advocacy, Community, Education, Workplace and Leadership.

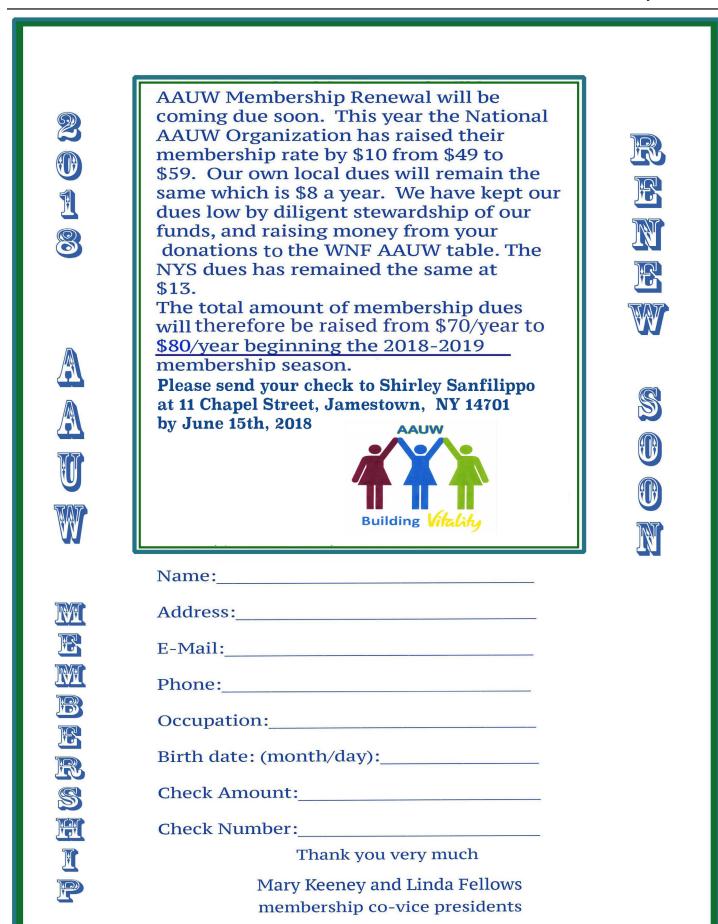
Women's Issues Advisory Committee: Yvonne Makl, Julie Page, Valerie Chaplin, Kayla Crosby, Kerri Brown.

Who Can Join AAUW?

A graduate holding an associate or equivalent, baccalaureate or higher degree from a nationally accredited educational institution is eligible for membership.

Contact:

Linda Fellows, 716-665-6863 or Mary Keeney, 716-664-4758 Volume 23 • Issue 2 May/June 2018



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Join your fellow Divas for an evening of dining and fun

6:30 pm, Wednesday, June 20, 2018

3328 Hadley Bay Road, Stow, NY

RSVP: Kathy Colby, kjcolby@hotmail.com or (716) 720-0234



Advancing Equity for Women and Girls through Advocacy, Philanthropy, Education, and Research Volume 23 • Issue 2 May/June 2018

About the AAUW

AAUW Mission

The American Association of University Women advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

AAUW Diversity

In principle and in 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, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

AAUW Vision

AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

AAUW Value Promise

By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so all women have a fair chance.

National Website:

www.aauw.org

State Website:

www.aauw-nys.org

Jamestown Website:

http://jamestown-ny.aauw.net

Branch Leadership 2017-2018

Executive Board(Electe	ed Officers)	Directory	. Debra Eck
President	. Christina Marsh	Social Media	. Kathy Colby
Program VP	. Janet Forbes	Member Communications	. Maggie Irwin
Membership Joint VPs	. Linda Fellows	STEM	. Janet Forbes
	Mary Keeney	Nominating Committee	. Linda Fellows
EOF VPs	. Emily McVey	Hospitality	. Dixie Segal
	Christina Marsh	Scholarship	. Wendy Present
LAF VPs	. Emily McVey		Rebecca Nystrom
	Christina Marsh		Yvonne Makl
Public Policy	. B. Dolores Thompson	Dining Divas	. Kathy Colby
Treasurer	. Shirley Sanfilippo	Historian	. Elaine Rissel
Recording Secretary	. Ruth Wahl	Interclub Council	. B. Dolores Thompson
		Circle of Distinction	. B. Dolores Thompson
Committee Chairs		Education Partners	. Valerie Champlin
NYS BOD Liaison:			Yvonne Makl
	Parhara Sanyar	Get In the Game	. Wendy Present
NYS Membership VP NYS Member/Finance Liaison			RaeLynn DeAngelo
NYS Member/Finance Liaison	Pheobe Forbes	What's New Fair:	. Kathy Stanton
Communications			Mary Lee Talbot
	Kari Drawa		Emily McVey
Publicity		International Issues	Open Position
TWIGS Editor	. Leslie Calimeri		