

MARCH 2025 the

AAUW
empowering women since 1881
AAUWHarrisburg.org



CONNECTION

Thursday, March 20, 2025
sign in at 6:00, speakers at 6:30 pm
at Fredricksen Library
100 North 19th Street Camp Hill PA 17011

Talking Tombstones : Female Voices of the Past



**Hettie
Simmons
Love**

All three deceased ladies changed the local landscape with their vision and persistence, inspiring us to do the same. You must attend the meeting on Thursday, March 20, at the Fredricksen Library in Camp Hill to discover for yourself the details of just how they accomplished milestones and breakthroughs in their lives that effect us today.

As a tribute to Women's History Month, AAUW Harrisburg welcomes three twenty-first-century women sharing the lives of women who each made local history in her own way. How have **HETTIE LOVE**, **MARY ELLEN MORIARTY BRINDLE**, and **IDA KAST** made history? Hear the voices of trail-blazing women from beyond their graves. Karen Love will share her mother's legacy. Ann Ariano and Patti Uhrich, local actresses, will share the struggles and successes of Mary Moriarty Brindle and Ida Kast, respectively. (Ida Kast was an AAUW member!)



Mary Moriarty
Brindle



Ida Kast

Our Speakers:
Hettie Simmons Love, Ida Kast, and Mary Moriarty Brindle through the living voices of Karen Love, Ann Ariano, and Patti Uhrich



Ann Ariano is thrilled to be part of this special event and to once again work with Cindy Dlugolecki. Ann is active in local community theatre. She was most recently seen as Shaindel in "Fiddler on the Roof" at Theatre Harrisburg. Other favorite roles include Mrs. Medlock ("Secret Garden"), Polly Dickinson ("The Hand That Holds the Quill"), Mrs. Leacock ("Far From Heaven"), Mrs. Sowerberry ("Oliver"), Mother ("A Christmas Story") and Maria ("Lend Me A Tenor"). Ann also sings with the Harrisburg Choral Society. When not performing she practices law as a solo practitioner. Thanks to Anthony, Peter and Nicoletta for all their support.



Karen Love's lifelong dedication to education was shaped by her parents, both educators, kindling her desire to teach from the age of eight. A resident

of Philadelphia, before her family moved to Harrisburg in 1971, Karen graduated from Philadelphia High School for Girls. After earning her bachelor's and master's degrees in education from West Chester University, she embarked on a 36-year teaching career, primarily with the Harrisburg School District at Lincoln School, and then at Susquehanna Township SD at Thomas Holtzman, Jr. Elementary School. Her commitment to educational excellence was recognized in 1999 as Teacher of the Year by the Council for Public Education.

Karen's belief in the transformative power of learning led to her role as Lincoln School's reading facilitator for the Success For All program where she focused on enhancing student literacy and engagement. Karen's 2011 retirement didn't diminish her drive; she continued to host literacy events in schools and churches.

Beyond the classroom, Karen has been an advocate for community service and literacy. She has served on, and often chaired, the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Epsilon Sigma Omega Chapter's African American Read-In for over two decades, promoting diverse literature and amplifying the voices of Black authors and illustrators.

Her service extended to educational boards, including a six-year tenure at St. Stephen's Episcopal School, her last two years as the board chair. Karen Love's legacy is a testament to the example set by her parents who exemplified the importance of education and community service in fostering a more inclusive, literate and just society.



For the past 40 years, **Patti Uhrich** has acted on stages from Hershey to NYC. She's pleased to make her first venture into history's spirit world. Patti made her television debut on NBC's "Unsolved Mysteries." Favorite local roles include Joanne ("Company"), Florence ("The Odd Couple" -Female Version), Anna ("The King and I") and Jennie ("Chapter Two.") Her NYC credits include competitive improv at Broadway's John Houseman Theatre, original off-Broadway plays, and work in a traveling murder mystery troupe.

March Message from Our Co-Presidents MaryAnn Daniels and Kathy Seidl

Dear Members of AAUW Harrisburg,

In these uncertain times, we are reminded of the importance of staying united and resilient in the AAUW mission. The challenges we face are significant, but so too is our resolve. AAUW Harrisburg, PA, and National are working tirelessly to protect the rights of women and girls and to advance economic opportunities for all.

Your unwavering support and dedication have been the bedrock of our branch. We want to extend our heartfelt gratitude for everything you do and for the overwhelmingly positive response we received to send the call-to-action letter to AAUW's CEO, Gloria Blackwell. Each of your contributions, whether big or small, have made a substantial difference.

Now more than ever, your involvement and expertise are crucial. We encourage you to stay active and engaged with our initiatives and to read the emails requesting your follow up on pertinent issues. Your knowledge, passion, and support are invaluable as we navigate these challenging times. Together, we can continue to make a powerful impact and drive meaningful change, not so much for ourselves, but to honor those who came before us and to ensure future generations of women have the opportunities they deserve.

Thank you for standing with us and for your continued commitment to our cause.

MaryAnn and Kathy

From: AAUW Pennsylvania President
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 5:04 PM
To: Blackwell, Gloria Subject: A Letter from AAUW PA

Dear CEO Blackwell,

As AAUW faces the escalating assaults on equity, please know the membership of AAUW Pennsylvania stands ready for an unrelenting fight.

AAUW Chair Cheryl Sorokin stated emphatically that we are a leader in equity for women and girls and need to ACT: "We're going to need to engage in advocacy at all levels. Speaking out against injustice and working to advance policies that support and empower women and girls."

Historically, AAUW stood strong for the right to vote, for expanding equity initiatives nationally, and for endorsing strong measures embodied in the Biden Administration Title IX regulations. All of these victories are under attack. Our members are looking to AAUW National for the path to push back on these concerted efforts to eliminate the progress women and girls have made.

AAUW Pennsylvania supports moving boldly forward, recognizing the risk, and knowing the risk of doing nothing is even greater.

Respectfully,

Cynthia Hall, President

Sandra Miller, Public Policy Chair

AAUW PA State Board

From: Blackwell, Gloria <blackwellg@aauw.org>
Date: Fri, Feb 21, 2025 at 3:18 PM
Subject: Re: A Letter from AAUW PA

Dear Cindy and AAUW PA Leaders:

Thank you so much for your support. I admit that I was very moved when I read it. The nightmare that we are currently experiencing is unreal and we appreciate you all having our backs. We know how much our members tireless efforts have helped to move our mission forward and these days it will be needed more than ever.

Our National Staff are navigating this whirlwind, recommending action and helping us keep our issues front and center to continue the fight for equity and access to higher education for women. We are not backing down and appreciate your resolve to stand with us!

Onward,

~Gloria

In this issue:

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The Search Has Begun

Every year our Branch elects members to serve as our officers for the upcoming year. We are fortunate to have a large number of capable, educated women who keep our Branch vibrant and engaged. The Nominating Committee is looking for members who are willing to step up and take a leadership role with our association.

The offices for 2025-2026 are as follows:

- President
- President-Elect
- Program Vice President
- Membership Vice President
- Finance Officer
- Secretary
- Nominating Committee (5, including outgoing Presidents (s))

All of these positions may have co-chairs.

Position descriptions and responsibilities for these roles are available in the “Members Only” section of our webpage.

Although the Nominating Committee has already contacted a number of individuals, if you think you may be interested in serving our Branch, please reach out to the Committee by March 3rd. Please also feel free to contact the current officer at any of the positions for more details.

We welcome your inquiries.

2024-2025 Nominating Committee

Christine Zuzack, Co-Chair czuzack@hotmail.com

Jane Pomerantz, Co-Chair jrcp@comcast.net

Kathy Bard BARDK475@aol.com

Lillian Grieco liliangrieco@verizon.net

Barbare Warfel warfelb@yahoo.com



“What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make” - Jane Goodall

Bobbi Carmitchell & Friends - the Hot Ticket for Women's History Month!!!

Get them at zoetropolis.com - hustle before you miss out .

Note: " a portion of the night's proceeds goes to support the Dauphin County Chapter of AAUW.
(We'll get them to fix that part)

Bobbi Carmitchell & Friends
Sat. March 8th Int. Women's Day
Women's Stories ~ Women's Songs
A Night Of Music and Activism
Zoetropolis Cinema Stillhouse 112 N. Water Street Lancaster
Ticket info: zoetropolis.com 717.208.6572
\$15 Admission 6:30- 10:30



Ashley McFalls



Bobbi Carmitchell



Tammi Hessen
Bumbada Women Drummers

Your host for tonight...

WXPN's Amazon Country's Deb D'Alessandro



Frances Miller



With Special Guests!

Anie Carmitchell Laurie Reese Tish Brown

and Many More!

A portion of tonight's proceeds goes to support
the Dauphin County Chapter of AAUW.

Planning Is Underway for AAUW PA's Summer 2025 Retreat



Please keep an eye on *the Keystoner* newsletter and your email for updates on retreat speakers, programs and activities. We are looking forward to having good representation from all branches at the retreat!

Based on the responses to inquiries to our local branches on specific topics their members would like to see covered, the top topic is *public policy and advocacy*. Many raised concerns about the impact of the recent election on women's issues, how changes in the political climate will impact our advocacy efforts, and how to engage members in political advocacy. Another key topic was *membership*, particularly focusing on strategies to attract young members.

A third area of interest was *leadership*, with concerns raised about the workload for leaders, and strategies for attracting new leaders, and leadership succession.

Rest assured, we are designing programming that incorporates this valuable input, focusing on three key objectives for the retreat:

- *increasing engagement with mission*
- *lowering the average age of new members*
- *identifying the right leaders.*

For now, please mark your calendars to reserve
Saturday , June 28, 2025

- the retreat will take place at the Wyndham Garden State College
310 Elks Club Road,
Boalsburg PA 16827
- on Saturday, June 28, 2025
- it will feature a full program, luncheon, and guest speaker(s);
- a social reception is planned for Friday evening;
- a room block has been arranged at the Wyndham Garden for those arriving on Friday
- there also will be options for post-retreat excursions on Saturday afternoon.



Stay tuned for program details coming soon!

Pennsylvania has been asked to host the **2026 Atlantic Regional Conference**. From our work in Richmond, we know this will be a big job, but we are supported by the participating states. We are developing an organizational structure for the conference to avoid an overload on our Pennsylvania volunteers. Stay Tuned!!



Join the AAUW-PA 2025 DEIB Book Series: Thursday, March 6th at 7:00 pm

Please join us on Thursday, March 6th at 7:00 pm as we kick off our 2025 DEIB Book Series to highlight DEIB topics and impact while fostering discussion through a shared passion for books and reading. AAUW Pennsylvania is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

We look forward to seeing you!

Warmest Regards,
Lori and Ajla



What's included : Reading thought-provoking books, Engaging in meaningful discussions, Gaining new perspectives, and Connecting through a shared love of reading. The AAUW DEIB Book Series is a way to create a space where people can come together to explore and discuss these important topics. The series aims to help people understand how inclusion is important in every decision they make.

Topic: AAUW PA DEIB Book Group

Time: March 6, 2025, 07:00 PM Eastern Time

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87459360454?pwd=H-1PHAk5aC0JD24IAQQLRINbaJftxtw.1>

Meeting ID: 874 5936 0454

Passcode: 672457



UPDATES

from local to national

...from the Harrisburg Branch

Program Committee:

Joan Swetz, Chair

Program planning committee meeting for 2025-26 on Monday, March 17, 2025

New members and ideas welcome!

Contact Joan Swetz for details

jswet3@yahoo.com or (717) 564-4983

We are looking for suggestions as we begin thinking about the 2025 - 2026 year (September through June)

- ideas for places to meet - preferably places which, like the libraries, are low cost - or free
- ideas for relevant topics that would appeal to the majority of our members
- speakers you would recommend that you may have heard elsewhere or would like to hear

AAUW FUNDS CHAIR for the Harrisburg Branch is now open:

Unlike most of our other chair positions, the AAUW Funds Chair's responsibilities follow the calendar year - January through December - with final submissions tallied with the national office at the end of the year. Between local money raising, individual contributions to national in the Harrisburg branch's name, and a lump sum set aside in the budget, we were able to donate a total of \$2,000. this year. Karen Cullings has served us well and we thank her for her time and effort in exploring initiatives to raise monies for our contribution to the national effort as well as local projects. We are now in need of a member interested in exploring creative ideas for our 2025 Funds campaign. Are you up to the challenge? Contact Kathy Seidl and MaryAnn Daniels at HarrisburgAAUW@gmail.com

As an AAUW member, your voice counts. Take time to review the proposed changes/updates prior to voting:

1. Proposed dues changes
2. Proposed changes to the AAUW national bylaws
3. Proposed changes to the Public Policy Priorities

Why it matters: The Board of Directors is considering a change to AAUW member dues to help meet rising costs. AAUW member dues have not kept pace with the cost of supporting AAUW's membership and the Board will consider a \$5 per year increase in dues from 2025-2029. This dues change supports AAUW's commitment to financial sustainability, the financial strength of the national office and our ability to support branches and states.

To review the proposed bylaws amendments, sign in to the national website

aauw.org,

in order to gain access to and click on individual items under

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/lead-er-resources-tools/national-election/>

FYI: Under Dues Change Frequently Asked Questions, the current proposed chart of updated dues is

April 1, 2025 - \$77

April 1, 2026 - \$82

April 1, 2027 - \$87

April 1, 2028 - \$92

April 1, 2029 - \$97

If you have questions, please review the FAQ or email me at

wolfes@aauw.org.

In solidarity,
Shannon Wolfe
Managing Director &
Chief of Staff



Culture Vultures In New York City

Contact Barb Passeri-Warfel warfelb@yahoo.com

TIME SENSITIVE : Responses of Commitment Required by MARCH 10, 2025 , to Solidify This Trip so that transportation arrangements and total cost can be established.

Contact Barb Warfel at warfelb@yahoo.com

Culture Vultures NYC Trip - Saturday, April 19, 2025 to the Morgan Library and Museum

Culture Vultures are making a day trip to visit the Morgan Library and Museum, particularly for the major exhibit focused on the Morgans' young inaugural director, curator, and advisor, Belle da Costa Greene (1879–1950).

Widely recognized as an authority on illuminated manuscripts and deeply respected as a cultural heritage executive, Greene was one of the most prominent librarians in American history. American financier J. Pierpont Morgan hired her as his personal librarian in 1905.

She ran the Morgan library for forty-three years, building one of the most important collections of rare books and manuscripts in the United States as well as transforming an exclusive private collection into a major public resource, originating the robust program of exhibitions, lectures, publications, and research services that continues today.

Belle was a black woman who, following the guidance of her mother, passed for white throughout her life in a racist and segregated America.

Read more about the exhibit at

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2024/12/23/belle-da-costa-greene-art-reiew-morgan-library>
and <https://www.themorgan.org/belle-greene>

There is also on display from the Bodleian Library in Oxford, England, a collection of Franz Kafka documents including the original manuscript of his novella *The Metamorphosis*.



Departures: from Harrisburg area at 7:30 AM at
- Capital City Mall, Camp Hill – Behind JCPenney's – 3506 Capital City Mall Drive, Camp Hill, PA

Lunch on your own

Depart NYC - 4:30 PM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ Cell _____

e-mail _____

Your check, paid in full, is your reservation.
Please make checks payable to:
Barbara Warfel
619 Haldeman Blvd.
New Cumberland, PA 17070
717-774-5559

Cancellation policy: A refund will be made if the trip is canceled. If you cancel, you will receive a full refund, only subject to operator's ability to resell your seat. Your canceled check is your receipt.

Waiver: I waive all claims for myself, my heirs, and assigns against the sponsors of this trip and will hold them harmless for any and all injuries or illness which may result from my participation.

Signature _____

Culture Vultures On the Move

Contact Barb Passeri-Warfel warfelb@yahoo.com

brochure link is <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1277117>

American Association of University Women- Harrisburg presents:
Discover the Canadian Maritimes and Coastal Wonders

Departing **September 14, 2025** - Contact Barbara Warfel for more specific details and an
 E-mail brochure warfelb@yahoo.com

Those interested in going on this trip, please be aware that
a deposit of \$648.00 is due by **March 14, 2025**, with Travel insurance
 of \$429.00 in addition, which is recommended but not required, for
 a total of \$1077. 11 Days 16 Meals



From the nautical beauty of Peggy’s Cove to the rugged splendor of the Cabot Trail, the Maritimes will enchant you. Choose how you explore Lunenburg – at the Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic or on a locally guided walking tour. Partake in a PEI tradition with a supper of fresh lobster and mussels. Visit the Anne of Green Gables Museum and learn about potato farming. See the 4-story high Hopewell Rocks. Savor a traditional Maritimes seafood feast beside the Bay of Fundy, where some of the world’s highest tides are recorded. Explore interesting inventions at the Alexander Graham Bell Museum. Learn a few handy Gaelic phrases and join in the fun of a “milling frolic.” Take a ferry ride to Prince Edward Island, the “Land Cradled on the Waves Don’t miss the rugged beaches, picturesque fishing villages, and rich seafaring history of Canada’s amazing Maritime Provinces.

Itinerary in Brief:

- Days 1 - 4 spent in Halifax, Nova Scotia and region
- Days 5 - 8 Baddeck - Cabot Trail, Prince Edward Island
- Days 9 - 10 Saint John
- Day 11 - return to Halifax

Here Come the T-Shirts...They will be on display at Upcoming Meetings

Logo T-Shirt Order Form								
Style	Color	Size		Quantity	Unit Price			Total Amount
		S/M/L/XL	XXL/XXXL		S/M/L/XL	XXL	XXXL	
crewneck	light blue				\$22.00	\$24.50	\$25.50	
	white				\$22.00	\$24.50	\$25.50	
	sport gray				\$22.00	\$24.50	\$25.50	
V neck	sport gray				\$22.00	\$24.50	\$25.50	
TOTAL								
Name _____								
Phone _____								
email _____								
address _____								



Bring cash or check made out to AAUW Harrisburg

Some sizes available in crew neck to take home. Orders will be taken for others.

Events With Like Minded Entities

Equal Pay Day in PA : March 5, 2025

Pennsylvania women are not on track to earn equal pay for equal work until 2072. This means that women in Pennsylvania are paid 79 cents for every dollar paid to men, amounting to an annual wage gap of \$10,507. The wage gap is larger for women of color. Among Pennsylvania's women who hold full-time, year-round jobs, African-American women are paid 68 cents, Latinas are paid 56 cents and Asian women are paid 81 cents for every dollar paid to white, non-Hispanic men. Pennsylvania women who are employed full time lose a combined total of more than \$19 billion every year due to the wage gap. While gender wage gaps persist across the country, Pennsylvania women are worse off than the national average. American women, on average, will not achieve equal pay until 2058. **Pennsylvania women, however, are not on track to earn equal pay until the year 2072.** Pay discrimination, penalizing workers for pregnancy, occupational gender segregation, nursing and care-taker responsibilities, wage theft and an inadequate minimum wage all contribute to the gender pay gap.



From AAUW-PA :

The General Assembly is not in session during the two weeks around Equal Pay Day in 2025 so we are asking members to reach out to the members in their local offices. Talking points and resources will be shared to support your meetings. Please check your emails.

From our friends at **Children First:**

Last week, Children First shared that the PA State House of Representatives is considering HB200 - the Family Care Act — a bipartisan bill that would make paid leave possible for the four million PA workers who are forced to choose family or financial security.

This could be the year Pennsylvania finally passes paid family and medical leave, but we need your help to get this bill out of committee.

Please Join us in this fight by emailing your state representative and urging them to co-sponsor HB200 - the Family Care Act now!



Thank you for taking action to bring paid family and medical leave to Pennsylvania.

Dan O'Brien

Policy Manager, Education & Family Stability

Children First



the SAVE Act: The Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) Act would impose new restrictions on voter eligibility

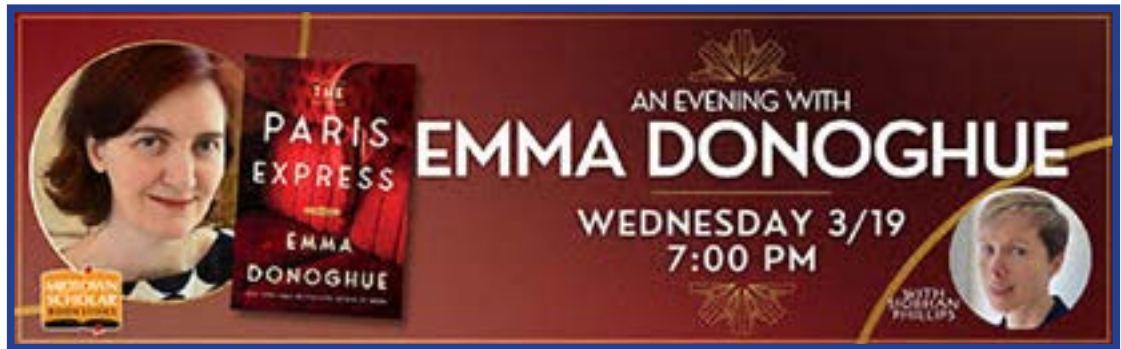
and registration and limit the ability of organizations like the LWVPA to do our work.

This Act introduces severe barriers that will disproportionately affect women, marginalized groups, and under-resourced communities, including requiring that the name on a voter's ID match exactly with their birth certificate, and it limits voter registration to government agencies. The so-called "SAVE" Act and other proof of citizenship laws pose major threats to our voting rights. We want to be sure you understand the far-reaching implications these laws would have for your work on voter engagement, voter registration, and/or election administration.

Join the Zoom call March 6, 2025 03:00 PM - speakers from the League of Women Voters of the US, VoteRiders,, and the Institute for Responsive Government to learn more about the far-reaching implications that the SAVE Act would have for voter engagement, registration, and election administration. Registration required.



1302 North
3rd Street
Harrisburg, PA,
17102



The **Midtown Scholar Bookstore** is honored to welcome award-winning author Emma Donoghue (ROOM) to Harrisburg for a conversation and signing on her new novel, **THE PARIS EXPRESS**. Donoghue will be in conversation with author Siobhan Phillips.

This is a ticketed event. Every ticket includes a signed copy of the book and up to two general admission seats. Doors will open at 6:00pm, and the event will begin at 7:00pm. Seating is general admission; first come, first served. Book signing to follow discussion.

Emma Donoghue, the “soul-stirring” (Oprah Daily) nationally bestselling author of **Room**, returns with a sweeping historical novel about an infamous 1895 disaster at the Paris Montparnasse train station. Based on the 1895 disaster that went down in history when it was captured in a series of surreal, extraordinary photographs, **The Paris Express** is a propulsive novel set on a train packed with a fascinating cast of characters who hail from as close as Brittany and as far as Russia, Ireland, Algeria, Pennsylvania, and Cambodia.

Learn more about the book at:

<https://www.midtownscholar.com/calendar/2025/3/19/an-evening-with-emma-donoghue-the-paris-express>

You and your guests are cordially invited to the

45th Anniversary Celebration

of the founding of the Zonta Club of Harrisburg-Hershey

The Vineyard at Hershey
598 Schoolhouse Road, Middletown PA 17057

Saturday, March 22, 2025

11:30 am-2pm - Wine Presentation and Tasting,
Light Fare, Silent Auction

2-4pm – Live music and social time

Cost: \$45.00/person / cash bar available

Please Respond by Friday, March 14, 2025

Sponsored by Zonta Club of Harrisburg-Hershey Foundation
www.zontaharrisburghershey.org

**** Contact Kathy Gates for details and Reservations. kgates808@gmail.com ****

Carpe Diem Dept

We have some VERY active Branch members, but we would like to feature YOU. Send us those candid !!!

Thanks



2.15.25 AAUW members Kathy Seidl, Cindy Dlugolecki, MaryAnn Daniels, Erica Meloy, Carol Nechemias, and Christine Zuzack attended this year's offering of *Voices of the Eighth Part III: Hallowed Ground* at Gamut theater. As part of the ongoing commemoration of Black history Month, this chapter continues a compelling journey through Harrisburg's historic Old Eighth Ward, a journey through time and spirit, where the past and present collide again, and the power of community and ancestral wisdom light the path to liberation and hope."



2.1.2025 - below: Tanya Cane and Mary Kratzer attended Chocolate Ball 2025 at Hershey Lodge, a fund raiser held for Keystone Human Services. You look *gorgeous*, ladies!

Carol Nechemias, Barb Warfel, MaryAnn Daniels, Kathy Seidl, and Chris Zuzack were at the debut of *The Call of the Crusades*, a play inspired by Martin Luther King Jr. performed at PSU Harrisburg. It is about nine Penn State Harrisburg students who discover a hidden MLK Memorial in the Capital Area Greenbelt. The students' journey uncovers the history of King's 12 crusades and connects the civil rights past to today's challenges.



2.7.25 right: Carol Nechemias *had to* get this shot with Abe. left: Our avid walker/hikers Chris Zuzack and Kathy Seidl, friend Joann Smith, and Carol Nechemias (behind the camera) took the chill off from their Gettysburg day with dinner at the Bushman House.



1.22.2025 - below: Dine Around met for dinner at Black n Bleu in Mechanicsburg. left - right: Beth Klein, Pat Riker, Kathy Krausse, Phyllis Skok, Joan Swetz, Grace Huber, Chris Zuzack, Kathy Seidl, and Carol Buskirk.



2.22.2025 - left: Chris Zuzack and Kathy Seidl went to the Lititz Ice Festival (although Chris looks a little less comfy on that throne than Kathy).

January 14, 2025

More Winter Moments



Thirty+ Harrisburg AAUW members came to our home yesterday to hear a superb and riveting presentation on C-SPAN by Connie Doebele, whose exciting C-SPAN career included moderating C-SPAN's BookTV and other major C-SPAN projects dealing with the Supreme Court, German reunification, and more. Especially interesting were interview segments with well-known authors including Gore Vidal, Christopher Hitchens, and Jimmy Carter. Thanks, Connie!
- Tom Diffenbach & Marcia Hajduk



background: Tom Diffenbach and Erica Meloy watch from amongst his online science class experiments with Bella and the lush foliage the day room encourages.
left: new members Pam Weaver, Eily Stewart, and Alice Kirchner join Marcia Hajduk and Anita McCarthy in the mezzanine.



Our Day at SAM

right: Our tour guide, Alice Anne Schwab, Executive Director of the Susquehanna Art Museum explains the symbolic details of the Palestinian needlework, *Tatreez*, in the display by Jordan Nasser whose *Shade of the Cypress* was created involving craftswomen in Bethlehem, Hebron, and Ramallah.



top: Alice Kirchner, co-chair, welcomes a great turn out of members and friends in front of Nasser's 20 foot long multi-panel collaborative creation.
above left: We hear background about the *Patricia I. Murray Gallery*. Patty, a Branch member, served as one of the founders of the Susquehanna Art Museum (SAM). Parts of her collection are on long term loan to SAM, a Non-collecting museum.
above right: The Yamaha C7 piano seen in the quilt display area is housed at the museum but is owned by Central PA Friends of Jazz.
right: Our Co-chairs Alice Kirchner and Lee Johnson pose with Alice Anne Schwab in front of one of the many intricate quilts in the Wall Power! collection on loan from from the American Folk Art Museum in NYC.



Harrisburg Branch Special Interest Groups

With the exception of the book groups and Culture Vultures, all of whose meetings require planning and preparation before attending, all our SIG's meet through the suggestions of group members and are of somewhat an impromptu nature which does not usually fit into *the Connection's* publishing timeframes. **To get involved:**

*****Email the *Contact* for a group that interests you and be added to their eblast list for coming events.*****

and refer to <https://harrisburg-pa.aauw.net/special-interest-groups/>

Chefs at Home

Contact: **Joan Swetz** jswetz3@yahoo.com

This group plans and prepares gourmet meals in each other's homes.

Culture Vultures

Contact: **Barb Warfel** warfelb@yahoo.com 717-774-5559

Special Upcoming Trip: ***Discover the Canadian Maritimes and Coastal Wonders***; departs September 14, 2025
also see P.7 for potential day trip

Dine Around

Contact: **Carol Buskirk** cmbuskirk@verizon.net

The group meets once or twice monthly to enjoy great meals and lively conversation at a wide variety of local and regional restaurants, with dinners on the second Wednesday and lunches on the fourth Wednesday. Members take turns hosting, which involves contacting members by e-mail, making reservations with a restaurant (your choice or one suggested by the group), and being there. All group members receive email notices of venues and dates.

The next dinner is planned for **March 12, 2025**, hosted by Jeanie Gui at 5 pm at the [Progress Grill](#).

*****Reserve with Jeanie by March 10. Guiteach@hotmail.com or phone 717-657-2389 *****

The next lunch will be **March 26, 2025**, hosted by Chris Zuzack at 1 pm at [Nick's 114 Cafe, 114 Bridge St, New Cumberland](#). ***** Reserve with Chris by March 24. czuzack@hotmail.com or phone (724) 840-7908 *****

***** All group members receive email notices of venues and dates. *****

Fine Film Group

Contact **Erica Voss Meloy** ericameloy@comcast.net

The group meets approximately once a month, usually at the Midtown Cinema, usually for a matinee
- for the movie, coffee, and conversation.

Morning Paperback Book Group

Contact: **Dorothy Brown** dorothymb4ever@gmail.com Meets - 3rd Thursday. 10:00 am to noon.

March 20, 2025 [Americanah](#) By Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. Kathy Bard reviewing and hosting

Please contact Dorothy to verify if you plan to attend as sometimes capacity is limited.

Nonfiction Book Group

Contact: **Chris Zuzack** czuzack@hotmail.com Currently Meeting - 2nd Thursday from 12:30 - 2:00pm

March 13, 2025 [The Art Thief](#) by Michael Finkel. Mary Jean Holmes reviewing and hosting.

Please contact Chris for location.

Walking Group

Contact: **Lee Johnson** lee6646@verizon.net

If you would enjoy occasional walking excursions with AAUW companions, this group is for you. Anyone may propose a walk (or even a hike) and we'll see who would like to go along.

AAUW HARRISBURG DIVERSITY STATEMENT

AAUW Harrisburg condemns racism. We are committed to building a more just society where everyone, no matter the color of their skin, can live without fear, pursue their life goals, and thrive. Systemic racism is firmly rooted in the U.S., and today's injustices mirror our shameful history — from police brutality to inequality in educational opportunities to the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on communities of color. Our country needs healing. That healing will only come with justice.

AAUW Harrisburg is committed to fighting for justice and long-term and lasting change and will collaborate with government officials, educators, and community organizations to address systemic racism and inequality in our community. To make a change, we must ACT, identifying ways in which each of us can optimize our recognition, acceptance and inclusion of all diverse groups and our roll in achieving equality in all its aspects in our community and our country, from patronizing minority owned businesses to contacting our government leaders.



OUR MISSION

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

OUR VALUES

Nonpartisan. Fact-based.

Principled. Inclusive and

Intersectional with *Equity for All*.

2024-2025 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Co-Presidents - MaryAnn Daniels
& Kathy Seidl

Program Vice President - Joan Swetz

Membership Co-Vice Presidents -
Diane Shoop & Barbara Warfel

Finance Officer - Eileen Carson

Co-Secretaries - Cindy Dlugolecki
& Margaret Gingrich

Nominating Committee - Christine Zuzack
& Jane Pomerantz, co-chairs.

Kathryn Bard, Lillian Grieco, and
Barbara Passeri Warfel

Please
"Like" us
on FaceBook!



AAUW Harrisburg

2024/2025 Board Meetings

will be held live at Perkins Restaurant, 7 Erford Rd, Lemoyne,
or via Zoom, on the second Thursday of each month

from 3:00 - 4:30 pm

next meeting: **March 13, 2025**

MaryAnn Daniels or Kathy Seidl will send the meeting agenda
and information to all Board members

The Connection

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Editor:
Carol Stark

Newsletter Contributions

Any members who wish to contribute an article, upcoming event notice,
or news item to the newsletter may do so by emailing them in the form
of a Word document no later than the twentieth of the preceding month,
to:

hbgauwnewsletter@gmail.com

Pictures Welcome!

Pictures of any AAUW events, or branch members taking part in any
other relevant community events, may be sent in as well.

Picture submissions should be in jpeg format.