



Ferguson-Florissant (MO) Branch

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January 2023 Newsletter REVISED EDITION

MISSION & ACTION

AAUW's newsletter

From Gloria L. Blackwell, AAUW Chief Executive Officer

2022 IN REVIEW

As another year full of milestones, challenges and accomplishments winds down, I hope you take some time to rest and reflect on what matters most to you. For me, our work together to create a fair world for women and girls is near the top of that list.

Day to day, it's all too easy to lose sight of the big picture. Fleeting personal and professional roadblocks gobble up whole days, and the relentless 24/7 news cycle can make yesterday feel like last year.

Now, as we quickly approach the day when yesterday will become last year, I want to take this opportunity to remind you of the meaningful difference you're making in the lives of women and girls everywhere. This special yearend issue of Mission & Action highlights some of the many achievements your work made possible in 2022.

I hope you feel the same sense of pride and accomplishment I did when you read this list. Let it leave no doubt that we took tangible steps this year toward the equitable world we all deserve. That's my gift to you this holiday season.

*Warm wishes to you and yours,
Gloria L. Blackwell
Chief Executive Officer*

We Released Cutting-Edge Equity Research.

In February, we partnered with the Eos Foundation to publish *The Women's Power Gap at Elite Universities: Scaling the Ivory Tower*, which found that only 22% of presidents at elite U.S. research universities are women, and a mere 5% are women of color.

In August, we published a survey highlighting how student loans are burdening women of color, released the same day President Biden announced he would cancel a portion of Americans' educational debt.

Shortly afterwards, AAUW CEO Gloria L. Blackwell wrote an op-ed in the Miami Herald spotlighting this important racial and gender equity issue.



This fall, we released an analysis of the gender pay gap that included a calculation of all workers (including part-time and seasonal), providing a more accurate picture of the post-pandemic labor market. The 2022 update of The Simple Truth shows that, using the new calculation, women were paid just 77 cents for every dollar paid to men in 2021.

We Gave Women Access to Career-Building Skills.

This summer, the Coca-Cola Foundation renewed its support of our Women's Economic Empowerment Initiative for another year. This allowed us to expand our partnership with Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs), and others to reach even more women with our award-winning Work Smart salary-negotiation program and financial literacy training.

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Contact the Ferguson Florissant AAUW Branch
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In May, we held our second successful all-virtual National Conference for College Women Student Leaders.

Hundreds of students were inspired by Gloria Blackwell's keynote conversation with Nikole Hannah-Jones, the Pulitzer-prize-winning creator of the "The 1619 Project" and a staff writer at The New York Times Magazine.

Nikole Hannah-Jones

(Photo by James Estrin, The New York Times.)

We Stood Up for Women.

We supported and celebrated the confirmation of Ketanji Brown Jackson, the first Black justice to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court. This spring, Gloria Blackwell stood with members, employees and other activists on the steps of the Supreme Court in celebration of this historic nomination—a proud moment for all.

Following the Supreme Court's devastating decision to overturn Roe v. Wade in June, we took to the streets in protest, worked in close coalition with our partners, and provided updated guidance to our members and supporters on how to rally for reproductive rights.



The AAUW Action Fund worked hard to ensure our members and supporters were well-informed voters during this critical midterm election year. They produced an informative voter guide, webinar and other resources so people could cast their votes for equity in November.

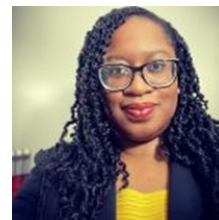
We also empowered women to become better allies and change agents by offering webinars on social justice and belonging and a toolkit on diversity, equity and inclusion.

We Marked Many Milestones.

Following the Title IX 50th anniversary in June, we celebrated in style with AAUW alumna and U.S. Attorney Rachael Rollins. And we worked in partnership with members and other organizations to ensure the new proposed rules issued by the Biden Administration strengthen this landmark legislation.

Last November, we kicked off our yearlong celebration of AAUW's 140th Anniversary with a festive event to present the 2021 AAUW Alumnae Recognition Award to Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Ileawa, the first woman and first African to serve as director-general of the World Trade Organization. Over the course of 2022, we highlighted other remarkable alumnae, including Esther Ngumbi, Ph.D., on International Women's Day in March, and Keisha Blain, Ph.D., in October.

Photo: Keisha



And speaking of our amazing Fellows and Grantees, we were thrilled to award **\$6 million—our largest-ever amount**—to women scholars and equity-based community projects in 2022-23.

We Shared AAUW's Voice on Key Issues.

From podcasts to social media to leading media outlets, we got the word out to everyone about the importance of our cause. This year's media mentions included the *Washington Post*, *ABC News*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, *The Miami Herald* and *Diverse Issues in Higher Education*.



Pregnant Workers Fairness Act

Also from Gloria L. Blackwell, AAUW Chief Executive Officer

Dear [AAUW Member],

You did it! Because of committed activists like you, the Senate voted 73 to 24 yesterday to pass the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act (PWFA). With this overwhelming bipartisan support, PWFA passed as an amendment to the omnibus bill and will soon become law!

This momentous win will allow millions of pregnant people to finally provide for their families without compromising their health or pregnancies. It's about time!

I can't thank you enough for never giving up on a safer future for all workers! After the pandemic laid bare our country's desperate need for paid leave and other family-friendly policies, I truly believe we're on the cusp of revolutionary change ... change that wouldn't be possible without you.

Together, we kept up the pressure on Congress to pass the PWFA, which will:

- Give pregnant workers access to basic accommodations like carrying a water bottle and taking bathroom breaks.
- Clarify that it is unlawful to discriminate against pregnant workers by forcing them out of their jobs unnecessarily or denying them reasonable accommodations.
- Prohibit employers from retaliating against pregnant workers who request accommodations.

This year, our advocacy took the form of countless letters to elected officials, in-person meetings with policymakers, a rally at the U.S. Capitol, social media posts and more. And, during this season of giving—when every donation is doubled through December 31—I would be remiss not to mention that your financial support propels our advocacy.

For all the ways you're making a better world for women and girls, I am grateful beyond words.

Wishing you a safe and cozy winter,

Gloria L. Blackwell
Chief Executive Officer

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2022/12/30/omnibus-pregnant-breastfeeding-congress/>

Congress expands protections for pregnant and nursing workers

The new rules, included in the latest omnibus package, come as the pandemic forced employers and the public to reexamine how child care disproportionately affects working mothers

By Lauren Kaori Gurley and Rachel Siegel

Updated December 30, 2022 at 10:11 a.m. EST | Published December 30, 2022 at 6:00 a.m. EST

Tucked in the \$1.7 trillion bill to fund the government that Congress passed last week are two key provisions aimed at protecting pregnant and nursing workers.

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The first measure, the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, requires that employers provide pregnant workers with reasonable accommodations, such as access to water, increased bathroom breaks and restrictions on lifting heavy objects.

Separately, the Pump Act expands on legally protected breaks for workers who are nursing babies.

Put together, these provisions are aimed at addressing holes in existing law that have allowed employers in the United States to force pregnant and nursing workers to choose between a paycheck and their health, advocates say. The rules also come as the pandemic has forced employers, and the public, to reexamine how child care disproportionately affects working mothers, many of whom struggled to stay in their jobs or reenter the workforce since the pandemic upended the U.S. economy.

The measures are included in the sprawling omnibus bill that funded everything from defense spending to emergency aid for Ukraine to election reform. Provisions for working mothers aren't expected to affect overwhelming swaths of the workforce — fewer than 2 percent of all workers in the United States are pregnant each year, according to estimates from the National Women's Law Center. But experts say these provisions will help close the gender wage gap and improve conditions for pregnant workers, especially in physically demanding jobs — such as janitors, home health aides and waitresses — who also tend to be lower-wage workers and women of color.

"Pregnant workers were falling through the cracks with our existing laws," said Dina Bakst, co-founder of A Better Balance, a legal advocacy nonprofit that helped draft the bill. "This is an incredible milestone for gender, racial and economic justice."

Pregnant workers did have some legal protections from the landmark Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978, which specified that pregnant workers should be treated the same as those who are "similar in their ability or inability" to work. But under the law, workers with severe morning sickness and other serious conditions such as preeclampsia, a potentially life-threatening blood vessel disorder, have been denied pregnancy accommodations because they have been unable to identify co-workers in similar roles with the same accommodations they are asking for.

The Pregnant Workers Fairness Act requires employers to provide reasonable accommodations for all pregnant workers, unless it would cause the employers "undue hardship." The law is modeled after the Americans With Disabilities Act, which requires employers to make reasonable accommodations for disabled workers but doesn't apply to most pregnant workers. Pregnancy is not considered a disability.

The new rule also prohibits companies from discriminating against job applicants, or denying them jobs altogether, on the basis of pregnancy.

"For decades, women have been fired, passed over for promotion, or forced out on leave when they become pregnant, when they simply required a modest accommodation to continue working without jeopardizing their health," Rep. Jerry Nadler (D-N.Y.), one of the leaders of the bill, said in a statement. "Guaranteeing pregnant workers reasonable accommodations will erode pernicious discrimination against pregnant women, strengthen our economy, and keep women and children healthy and safe."

Natasha Jackson, 39, a mother in Charleston, S.C., said the new law will help prevent women from going through what she did. In 2008, Jackson was put on unpaid leave and ultimately terminated from her job at a national furniture leasing service after requesting to temporarily change her hours during a bout of pregnancy-induced morning sickness.

The loss of her job had a severe effect on Jackson's finances. She was forced to back out of buying a house she had already put a down payment on. She also spent part of her pregnancy living in her car.

Jackson traveled to Washington earlier this month to push Congress to pass the bill.

"When I got the news that the law passed, I cried and cried and cried," Jackson said. "I have two daughters and I have nieces. I am so grateful that they won't have to choose between starting a family or keeping their jobs."

The second provision is known as the Pump Act, short for Providing Urgent Maternal Protections for Nursing Mothers. It requires that employers designate time and space for nursing employees to pump milk during the day. Time spent pumping must also count as hours worked if employees are doing their jobs at the same time.

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The Pump Act strengthens protections from 2010, which covered hourly employees for up to one year, including salaried and hourly employees for up to two years. That means an additional 9 million women will now be covered, according to the American Civil Liberties Union.

Yana Rodgers, a professor of labor relations at Rutgers University School of Management, said that the new law could raise labor force participation among women by increasing their ability to advance in their career with a single employer. The 2010 law excluded many salaried and non-hourly occupations, such as teachers, nurses and farmworkers.

"If there were people who were forced to decide between continuing to work or be pregnant or nursing, it no longer needs to be that difficult choice," Rodgers said. "People can do both."

The measures drew bipartisan support, plus backing from workers rights groups and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. In a letter, the big business group wrote that the Pump Act would improve current law by protecting small businesses, since the rule does not apply to employers with less than 50 employees where compliance would present an "undue hardship."

But the measures had a few critics. Speaking on the Senate floor earlier this month, Sen. Thom Tillis (R-N.C.) argued that the rules could compel employers to make accommodations "such as leave, to obtain abortions on demand under the guise of pregnancy-related conditions."

Tillis ultimately voted in favor of the measure helping pregnant women, which got attached to the overall omnibus, after its sponsors added "clarifying language" that addressed his concerns, his office said.

Twenty-four Republican senators voted against the amendment.

Correction

A previous version of this story correctly stated Sen. Tillis voted against the omnibus but omitted the fact that Tillis voted for the amendment helping pregnant women attached to the omnibus. This version has been updated.

Lauren Kaori Gurley is the labor reporter for The Washington Post. She previously covered labor and tech for Vice's Motherboard.

Rachel Siegel is an economics reporter covering the Federal Reserve. She previously covered breaking news for the Post's financial section and local politics for the Post's Metro desk. Before joining the Post in June 2017, Rachel contributed to The Marshall Project and The Dallas Morning News.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/kimelsesser/2022/12/22/senate-passes-two-bills-for-pregnant-and-breastfeeding-moms-at-work/?sh=7c96b3b533c2>

Senate Passes Two Bills For Pregnant And Breastfeeding Moms At Work

Kim Elsesser, Senior Contributor

Dec 22, 2022, 11:33pm EST

The U.S. Senate passed two acts that help working moms who are pregnant or breastfeeding. The Pregnant Workers Fairness Act and the Providing Urgent Maternal Protections for Nursing Mothers Act (known as the PUMP Act) were added to the 2023 omnibus spending bill, which now passed the Senate and is headed for a House vote.

The PUMP Act

The PUMP Act for nursing mothers requires organizations to provide time and space for breastfeeding parents. The Affordable Care Act of 2010 already requires that employers provide reasonable time to express breast milk and provide a place for pumping, other than the bathroom, that is shielded from view and private.

But the previous pumping law excluded most salaried employees, and the PUMP Act will extend these rights to all breastfeeding employees for the first year of the baby's life. In addition, the new bill states, "Further, time spent to express breast milk must be considered hours worked if the employee is also working."

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According to the Surgeon General, breastfeeding can help protect babies from illnesses like ear infections, diarrhea and pneumonia and longer-term conditions such as obesity and asthma. It also lowers mothers' risk of breast and ovarian cancer. Three out of four mothers in the U.S. start breastfeeding at birth, but only 13% of babies are exclusively breastfed by the end of six months.

One study in the journal *Pediatrics* estimates that if 90% of U.S. families breastfed for six months, the U.S. would save \$13 billion from reduced medical and other costs and prevent over 900 infant deaths. In addition, individual families would save up to \$1500 per year in infant formula costs.

The complications involved with pumping at work may contribute to women's decision to stop breastfeeding. Nearly half of moms have expressed concern that breastfeeding at work could impact their career growth, according to a survey by a breast pump maker. And almost half of these women have considered a job change because of their desire to pump at work. A whopping 62% said there is a stigma attached to moms who breastfeed at work, indicating that workplaces still have much room for improvement.

Even when an organization wants to help women pump, individual managers can make expressing milk at work challenging. In her book *Bully Market*, Jamie Fiore Higgins describes her experience working at Goldman Sachs after her children were born. "Goldman had a lactation center, an entire floor with hospital-grade pumps, private lockers, a full-size kitchen and lactation consultants available 24/7," she writes. But when her boss noticed Fiore had signed up for the lactation rooms, he allegedly told her that she needed to be at her desk working, not pumping, if she wanted to be promoted to managing director.

The PUMP Act garnered bipartisan support with some pushback from the airline industry. Given the small space on board flights, airlines had legitimate concerns about finding private areas for breastfeeding employees. The current bill made accommodations for the airline and rail industry and was amended to include a hardship exemption for small businesses. The PUMP Act was approved in a 92-5 Senate vote, with Republican Senators Rand Paul, John Cornyn, Mike Lee, Ron Johnson and Patrick Toomey voting against it.

Pregnant Workers Fairness Act

The second bill which helps mothers is the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act which requires employers to provide reasonable accommodations for medical conditions related to pregnancy and childbirth. While this bill also had bilateral support, the Senate voted to include it in the spending bill with a vote of 73 to 24. The law states that employers can't deny employment opportunities based on these pregnancy accommodations, and they can't "require employees to take paid or unpaid leave if another reasonable accommodation can be provided."

"If a woman requests a stool to sit on or bathroom breaks, or a water bottle, even accommodations that are that simple, that basic and the subject of so much consensus — employers don't have to provide those right now," Senator Bob Casey said in an interview after the vote.

Although the bill has widespread bipartisan support, not everyone was in favor. Some felt the bill could force employers to make accommodations for abortions. Senator Thom Tillis told the Senate, "the legislation would subject pro-life organizations to potentially crippling lawsuits if they refuse to facilitate abortions in direct violation of their religious beliefs and their moral convictions."

Tillis' comments came after the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) had endorsed the bill and after the law had been revised to clarify that no employer would have to subsidize "any particular item, procedure or treatment."

James Rogers, a spokesperson for the USCCB said the bill "helps advance USCCB's goal of ensuring that no woman ever feels forced to choose between her future and the life of her child."

This vital act comes at a time when one in five mothers is afraid to tell their employer about their pregnancy. And nearly one in four mothers (23%) have considered leaving their jobs due to a lack of reasonable pregnancy accommodations or fear of discrimination, according to a Morning Consult survey conducted in February 2022.

Working women should be able to choose to procreate and take steps to raise healthy children without jeopardizing their jobs. The PUMP Act and the pregnancy bill are steps in the right direction.

From AAUW METRO ST. LOUIS INTERBRANCH COUNCIL

Online Security – Knowledge is Power

**HOW DO TODAY'S THREAT AGENTS INVADE HOME COMPUTERS,
AND WHAT AGENCIES EXIST TO HELP CONSUMERS?**

There is a St. Louis office of the U. S. Secret Service that handles financial crimes, and crypto and general financial fraud. Agents can help if a widespread problem exists.

St. Louis cyber-insurance agents watch Cyber “threat actors” who threaten corporations and businesses. (<https://www.secretservice.gov/investigation/cyber>)

Lawyers are available who specialize in cybersecurity issues – there are now U.S. cyber-laws that can protect you. The most risk today is from cyber criminals, rather than from flaws in the systems as in the past.

There are different types of fraud today.

- One is Social Engineering fraud such as Romance Schemes (social manipulation). Anyone can be duped – we all can be made more vulnerable when personal buttons to be pushed are discovered. You can be known to threat actors through your emails, and online presence.
- Good news: corporate threats using ransomware have largely stopped.
- A guess might be that offenders are busy fighting a war. (Ukraine is guilty of harboring many such offenders). But the danger of a ransomware attack still exists. In this type of attack, you are locked out of your systems until you pay a ransom.
- Personal invasion is still active. Online greeting cards are a major threat by providing pathways for offenders to enter your system and deposit corrupting software, which drains your personal information. Your personal accounts can provide a pathway to invasion by invaders ferreting out your corporate and banking contacts. Beware of news that you need a new address for banking or bill paying. Always call the company to check before changing anything. Or ignore it (double check where the request came from!)
- Since today's invasions are “human-managed”, traditional anti-virus programs are less effective. Threat actors can find a way “in” as you open unknown mail, click on phony offers or reply to dubious emails.

Windows may be more vulnerable to threats than Apple OS because Windows is used more widely for business and finance. But Apple systems are not 100% safe either. Effective antivirus software is offered free through internet service providers. Check with your provider for download instructions. Bear in mind that business may need upgraded protection, but the home user will probably find these free included protections sufficient.

- Be your own threat actor. Update your devices when prompted—daily if necessary, Install anti virus software: Windows 11 includes it free, and Microsoft offers it free for older versions of Windows. You can also buy anti virus programs. But viruses are not the only invasions you can experience.*
- Back up personal documents and photos on an external source: an auxiliary hard drive or simple flash drives: be offline when you back up. Use Cloud storage for photos, contacts and media, but use a non-cloud backup for financial data.
- **Do not respond to online requests for money or account management.** Always either follow up requests to report passwords or files by calling the company to ascertain legitimacy....or simply ignore the request. Through you the invader learns about your bank, your payment programs, etc., and will usually “give” you a “needed” or “updated” change of address for the bank or bill pay method.

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Today's threat invasions are usually "human-managed", that is, caused by bad actors and deliberate criminals. Anti-virus software guards against known threats, but not against this type of invasion. Although Windows is more vulnerable than Apple because it is more widely used for business, Apple is also vulnerable today. So, what will help? Read more ...

- **If you are asked to update your password and a link to do this is offered, DON'T!** Either make a call to determine legitimacy or simply ignore the request.
- Use different passwords for different sites – sounds simple (and it is) but it is surprising how many people just repeat passwords over and over!
- Your cell phone's SIM card can be easily corrupted at a phone store by unscrupulous employees. They can then keep a copy of all your data and share that with hackers. Be aware.

There is really no "sure" way to protect yourself except by being constantly aware and trying to stay away from vulnerable situations. Don't be tempted by pathetic requests or extravagant offers. Remember that threat actors invade the contacts lists of your friends and neighbors, and their messages are often disguised as communications from people you know. What do to if you suspect you have been invaded?

- If you have experienced a financial threat, disconnect your computer and contact law enforcement and the firm that has been invaded (your bank, stock broker, etc.). Tell them what has occurred and see if you can involve law enforcement.
- Reinstalling your computer's operating system can eliminate corrupt files. Of course you will lose all your stored data – it's like starting off "new" — but if you have backed up everything, this can be managed. (Just be sure you backed up files BEFORE you were threatened!)

Be safe not sorry!
Your friend in AAUW
Joyce Katz

THE 2023 AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN OF MISSOURI LEGISLATIVE RETREAT

AAUW MO is facilitating another Legislative Retreat on **Saturday, February 11, 2023, via Zoom, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** and we would like you to attend.

The leaders of Missouri organizations will give a brief description of their group, an explanation of their main legislative priority, and the bill number, title, and author they would like us to monitor.

Activists from organizations across the state will share information about the Initiative Petition, Clean Slate, book bans, economic issues, educational issues, gun safety, health and reproductive rights, social issues, and voting laws.

The Zoom information will come from Sue Shineman on Friday, February 3, 2023.

Contact Karen Francis, AAUW MO President for more information or for an answer to a question at 314.223.4235 or karenbitzafrancis@yahoo.com.

Please join us as we strive to do what Ruth Bader Ginsburg suggests:

Fight for things you care about but do it in a way that leads others to join you.

NCCWSL News

NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders)
will return to an in-person conference in 2023.

NCCWSL 2023
May 31-June 3, 2023
NCCWSL 2023 schedule coming soon!

Early Bird Registration: Ends April 3, 2023

Regular Registration: Ends May 5, 2023

STEM half-day option May 31, 2023

Early Bird: \$65

Regular: \$75

Residential June 1-2, 2023

Early Bird: \$565

Regular: \$685

Commuter June 1-2, 2023

Early Bird: \$385

Residential: \$505

Group Coordinator (Not Attending) June 1-2, 2023

\$0

Group Coordinator (Attending) June 1-2, 2023

Early Bird: \$565

Regular: \$685

Group discount 10% off registration on a group of ten or more!

Visit <https://www.aauw.org/resources/events/nccwsl/>

From Program VP Diane B. Ludwig

Save the Date! May 6, 2023

Time to plan our **annual conference**! The 2022 AAUW MO state meeting will be on Saturday, May 6, 2023. Mark your calendars now.

The day-long event will include our state business meeting, elections, state awards, breakout sessions, presentation by an AAUW national spokesperson, and lots of time for networking and sharing.

Full details will be in the winter edition of Missouri in Motion

Contact the Ferguson Florissant AAUW Branch
Pam Meyers 314-303-6661 wpemeyers@gmail.com

Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri and AAUW

From Ellen Irons, AAUW St. Louis Branch...

Here is an opportunity to think about for the months of February and March 2023.

The St. Louis branch has collaborated with the Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri to create a 2023 March Women's History Fun Patch. The Fun Patch is now designed and being launched by the GSEM programs group, with already over 100 girls signed up!!

I have attached the internal document describing the program. [See images]

What Can Branch Members Do?

We are looking for women who want to get involved in two different ways:

1. Put your name on a list of resources who can be contacted and interviewed during the month of March by participating Girl Scouts.
 - Example - You are a scientist who can share what it took for you to get into the field and what your job is like
 - Example - You are a business owner who can share what your business is and what it is like to run it (even encourage an in-person visit)
 - See list [images] for more specifics
2. If you have an expertise/background in the categories listed, volunteer to be a panelist during one of the 60-minute virtual programs. The programs will be led by a very experienced GSEM program manager, Denise Sallee. You would be part of a very well-designed Zoom program and need only a small amount of prep time. The programs are all from 6 - 7pm and are scheduled as follows:

Date	Topic
Wednesday, Mar. 1	Women Entrepreneurs: Then and Now
Tuesday, Mar. 7	Health, Wellness and Women's History
Thursday, Mar. 23	The Art of Women's History
Wednesday, Mar. 29	Invent the Change: Women in STEM

Both Denise Sallee and the other program manager involved, Brooke Stochl, went to NCCWSL during their college days and are big on AAUW.

I hope you will be able to share this with your Branch as well! For those who are interested, I can share lots more details. It's a great collaboration and I look forward to getting more members involved!!

Yours,

Ellen Irons

AAUW St. Louis Branch President

Developer of 2023 March Women's History Fun Patch with GSEM

AAUW Metro IBC Luncheon 2023

Celebrating Strong Women

Join us on March 18, 2023, for the AAUW Metro IBC Luncheon

The IBC planning committee is looking forward to our IBC Spring Luncheon to be held at the EdgeWild Winery and Restaurant located at 550 Chesterfield Center on Saturday, March 18th from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. **Registration is now open! Our event includes:**

Barbara Lackritz Honorees: After 19 years the IBC Barbara Lackritz AAUW Award continues to honor the memory and legacy of Barbara Lackritz. The 2023 honorees will be recognized for upholding the mission to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy; providing service to AAUW at any of the local, state, regional or national level(s); providing leadership to AAUW at any of the local, state, regional or national level(s); and providing service and leadership in non-AAUW areas in the community, religious, professional, and/or political arenas.

Entertainment: Our program will be presented by *USA Today* bestselling author and nationally recognized speaker **Nicole Evelina**. Nicole has a passion for stories of strong women from history and within contemporary society. She writes both fiction and non-fiction, and has two critical books about to be published: *"Raising Our Voices, the League of Women Voters in St. Louis 1960 – 2020"* (Fall 2022) and *"America's Forgotten Suffragists: Virginia and Francis Minor"* (March 1, 2023). In the spirit of our 2023 IBC Annual Luncheon theme "Celebrating Strong Women", Nicole will share about her love of history, why it is important to keep re-telling strong women's stories and provide highlights of her book on St. Louis suffragists Virginia and Francis Minor. Explore more about Nicole's mission, biography and list of published books at: <https://nicoleevelina.com/>

Fundraising: With the loss of gift wrapping at Barnes and Noble, our Spring Luncheon is our primary way to raise funds to support the multiple operations of AAUW Metro St. Louis Interbranch Council (IBC). We really hope you participate in our offerings this year!

We are continuing with a gift card raffle as our primary fundraiser, and the theme this year is gift cards from our St. Louis cultural institutions. Also, available at the day of the event, will be lottery ticket scratch off cards and 50/50 raffles.

Venue: This year our venue is the beautiful EdgeWild Winery and Restaurant in Chesterfield. The event will be held in the Belmont Room. There will be a choice of four lunch entrees to choose from at the time of ordering (no advanced selection needed). There are eight handicapped parking spots with a large parking lot and ramps on both sides of the front door. For more information <https://edgewildwinery.com/>.

Look for the registration flyer at the end of the newsletter and on the IBC website.
<https://stlouis-ibc.aauw.net/>. Contact Ellen Irons, ironnew82@gmail.com for more information.

A note from Patty: The luncheon committee ran into significant challenges finding a venue that would agree to a reservation and pricing more than three months in advance.

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

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Metro St. Louis Interbranch Council
2023 Spring Luncheon
Celebrating Strong Women

Recognizing IBC Barbara Lackritz Honorees

Entertainment: *Nicole Evelina*, *USA Today* bestselling celebrated author and nationally recognized speaker, will share about her love of history, why it is important to keep re-telling strong women's stories, and provide highlights of her newly published book on St. Louis suffragists Virginia and Francis Minor.

Saturday, March 18, 2023, 11:30 am – 2:30 pm

Doors open at 11:15 am

EdgeWild Restaurant & Winery

edgewildwinery.com

550 Chesterfield Center, Chesterfield, MO 63017

Choice of one of four Lunches at the event: Dijon Chicken; Salmon and Grits; Center Cut Sirloin, OR Stuffed Mushrooms w/ roasted vegetables. House salad, water and iced tea, and Ultimate Chocolate Cake dessert included.

Registration fee: \$45 - includes meal, program, and entertainment

Registration deadline: March 3, 2023

For more information, contact Ellen Irons at ironnew82@gmail.com

A copy of the flyer and registration form was emailed to our branch members for printing and by US Mail to those branch members who do not have access to a printer. Please contact Patty Murray if you did not receive one.

314-838-7887

**Contact the Ferguson Florissant AAUW Branch
Pam Meyers 314-303-6661 wpemeyers@gmail.com**

2023 International Relations Lecture Series

<https://lectureseries.org/>

Sponsored by the American Association of University Women (AAUW)
And the Tuesday Women's Association (TWA) of the Ethical Society of St. Louis

The Ethical Society of St. Louis

9001 Clayton Rd, St. Louis, MO 63117

The Society is located on the north side of Clayton Road between McKnight Road and Brentwood Boulevard. Events are held in the Upper Auditorium.

Parking & Accessibility. It is most convenient to enter

through the rear (north side) of the building for the Lecture Series. The Ethical Society building is fully accessible. You'll find the elevator near the northwest entrance at the rear of the building, which is on the right as you face the building from the back parking lot. There are 5 accessible spaces in the front of the building as well.

Dr. Lea-Rachel Kosnik
International Energy Markets in Flux
January 10, 2023 – 10:45 AM

About The Topic

Professor Kosnik will discuss historical and current trends in global energy patterns, including how political shocks such as the war in Ukraine has been affecting particular energy markets. She will offer policy prescriptions on possible ways to regulate energy markets in the future, in particular with an eye towards managing climate change and other global crises.

About the speaker

Lea-Rachel Kosnik is a Professor of Economics at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. She received her PhD from the University of California-Los Angeles after having spent a year as a Fulbright Scholar in Ankara, Turkey, studying hydroelectric power and renewable energy in the Middle East.

Dr. Linda Lindsey
Afghan Refugee Resettlement: Focus on Education of Women
February 14, 2023 – 10:45 AM

About the Topic

Dr. Lindsey's presentation will spotlight the issues, challenges and resilience of Afghans as they resettled in St. Louis, and the specific issues faced by Muslim women caring for their families under the Russians, the Taliban, the Americans in Afghanistan, and now in the United States.

About the Speaker

Dr. Lindsey recently retired as Senior Lecturer at Washington University and is Professor Emerita at Maryville University. She received her PHD in sociology from Case Western Reserve University and a later M.A. in education from St. Louis University. Her academic career is under a gender and intersectional umbrella, focusing on inequality, diversity, globalization, and health and society.

Dr. Henry Rowold
Relations among Taiwan, China and the United States
March 14, 2023 – 10:45 AM

Dr. Marlene Katz
A Truly Global Problem: Coping with Climate Change
April 11, 2023 – 10:45 AM

Book Clubs 2022-2023

Ferguson Florissant AAUW Book Group 4th Thursdays at Noon at Reviewer's home. Please bring a sandwich.		
Date 2022-2023	Book	Reviewer/Hostess
January	No meeting	---
February	No meeting	---
March 23	<p>Jack the Ripper in St. Louis: Winner of Mayhaven's Award for Fiction</p> <p>by Fedora Amis 256 pages, February 2013</p> <p><i>Fedora Amis won Mayhaven's Award for Fiction for this Victorian whodunit. The author cleverly weaves a tale of a young woman's quest to become the next great female reporter. Her adventurous investigation leads to a mad doctor, actually suspected by modern researchers to be the first modern serial killer, the infamous Jack the Ripper. Fedora Amis is a member of AAUW in St. Louis County</i></p>	Joyce Wolf
April 27	(open)	
May 25	<p>Half American: The Epic Story of African Americans Fighting World War II at Home and Abroad</p> <p>by Matthew F. Delmont 400 pages, October 18, 2022</p> <p><i>Over one million Black men and women served in World War II. Black troops were at Normandy, Iwo Jima, and the Battle of the Bulge, serving in segregated units and performing unheralded but vital support jobs, only to be denied housing and educational opportunities on their return home. Without their crucial contributions to the war effort, the United States could not have won the war. And yet the stories of these Black veterans have long been ignored, cast aside in favor of the myth of the "Good War" fought by the "Greatest Generation."</i></p>	Patty Murray
June	No meeting	---
July	No meeting	---
August	No meeting	---

Book Clubs 2022-2023

2022-23 ¡Adelante! Book Club Adelante - Spanish word meaning "Forward" 4th Thursday by Zoom at 1:30		
Date	Books	Reviewer
January 26	<p>Hidden Valley Road: Inside the Mind of an American Family by Robert Kolker 400 pages May 6, 2021</p> <p><i>Don and Mimi Galvin seemed to be living the American dream. After World War II, Don's work with the Air Force brought them to Colorado, where their twelve children perfectly spanned the baby boom: the oldest born in 1945, the youngest in 1965. In those years, there was an established script for a family like the Galvins-- aspiration, hard work, upward mobility, domestic harmony--and they worked hard to play their parts. But behind the scenes was a different story: psychological breakdown, sudden shocking violence, hidden abuse. By the mid-1970s, six of the ten Galvin boys, one after another, were diagnosed as schizophrenic. How could all this happen to one family? What took place inside the house on Hidden Valley Road was so extraordinary that the Galvins became one of the first families to be studied by the National Institute of Mental Health. Their story offers a shadow history of the science of schizophrenia, from the era of institutionalization, lobotomy, and the schizophrenogenic mother to the search for genetic markers for the disease, always amid profound disagreements about the nature of the illness itself. And unbeknownst to the Galvins, samples of their DNA informed decades of genetic research that continues today, offering paths to treatment, prediction, and even eradication of the disease for future generations. With clarity and compassion, bestselling and award-winning author Robert Kolker uncovers one family's unforgettable legacy of suffering, love, and hope.</i></p>	Jan Barrett
February 23	<p>Jackie, Janet & Lee: The Secret Lives of Janet Auchincloss and Her Daughters Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis and Lee Radziwill by J. Randy Taraborrelli 528 p January 30, 2018</p> <p><i>"Do you know what the secret to happily-ever-after is?" Janet Bouvier Auchincloss would ask her daughters Jackie and Lee during their tea time. "Money and Power," she would say. It was a lesson neither would ever forget. They followed in their mother's footsteps after her marriages to the philandering socialite "Black Jack" Bouvier and the fabulously rich Standard Oil heir Hugh D. Auchincloss. Jacqueline Bouvier would marry John F. Kennedy and the story of their marriage is legendary, as is the story of her second marriage to Greek shipping magnate Aristotle Onassis. Less well known is the story of her love affair with a world renowned architect and a British peer. Her sister, Lee, had liaisons with one and possibly both of Jackie's husbands, in addition to her own three marriages—to an illegitimate royal, a Polish prince and a Hollywood director. If the Bouvier women personified beauty, style and fashion, it was their lust for money and status that drove them to seek out powerful men, no matter what the cost to themselves or to those they stepped on in their ruthless climb to the top. Based on hundreds of new interviews with friends and family of the Bouviers, among them their own half-brother, as well as letters and journals, J. Randy Taraborrelli's book paints an extraordinary psychological portrait of two famous sisters and their ferociously ambitious mother.</i></p>	Deb McWard

Book Clubs 2022-2023

2022-23 ¡Adelante! Book Club

Adelante - Spanish word meaning "Forward"

4th Thursday by Zoom

Date	Books	Reviewer
March 23	<p>The Girl with Seven Names: A North Korean Defector's Story Hyeonseo Lee [Lee Hyeon-seo] with John David (also a YouTube interview) 320 pages July 7, 2015</p> <p><i>An extraordinary insight into life under one of the world's most ruthless and secretive dictatorships – and the story of one woman's terrifying struggle to avoid capture/repatriation and guide her family to freedom. As a child growing up in North Korea, Hyeonseo Lee was one of millions trapped by a secretive and brutal communist regime. Her home on the border with China gave her some exposure to the world beyond the confines of the Hermit Kingdom and, as the famine of the 1990s struck, she began to wonder, question and to realize that she had been brainwashed her entire life. Given the repression, poverty and starvation she witnessed surely her country could not be, as she had been told "the best on the planet"? Aged seventeen, she decided to escape North Korea. She could not have imagined that it would be twelve years before she was reunited with her family.</i></p>	Carol Davis McDonald
April 27	<p>The Bookshop of the Broken Hearted by Robert Hillman 304 pages April 9, 2019</p> <p><i>It is 1968 in rural Australia and lonely Tom Hope can't make heads or tails of Hannah Babel. Newly arrived from Hungary, Hannah is unlike anyone he's ever met --she's passionate, artistic, and fiercely determined to open sleepy Hometown's first bookshop. Despite the fact that Tom has only read only one book in his life, the two soon discover an astonishing spark. Recently abandoned by an unfaithful wife--and still missing her sweet son, Peter--Tom dares to believe that he might make Hannah happy. But Hannah is a haunted woman. Twenty-four years earlier, she had been marched to the gates of Auschwitz. Perfect for fans of The Little Paris Bookshop and The Tattooist of Auschwitz, The Bookshop of the Broken Hearted cherishes the power of love, literature, and forgiveness to transform our lives, and--if we dare allow them--to mend our broken hearts.</i></p> <p>Continued on next page.</p>	Teri Brecht or Karen Francis



**Congratulations to Pam and Bill Meyers
on the birth of a new granddaughter!**



Contact the Ferguson Florissant AAUW Branch
Pam Meyers 314-303-6661 wpemeyers@gmail.com

Book Clubs 2022-2023

2022-23 ¡Adelante! Book Club Adelante - Spanish word meaning "Forward" 4th Thursday by Zoom		
Date	Books	Reviewer
May 25	<p><i>This Tender Land: A Novel</i> by William Kent Krueger 464 pages September 3, 2019 <i>1932, Minnesota—the Lincoln School is a pitiless place where hundreds of Native American children, forcibly separated from their parents, are sent to be educated. It is also home to an orphan named Odie O'Banion, a lively boy whose exploits earn him the superintendent's wrath. Forced to flee, he and his brother Albert, their best friend Mose, and a brokenhearted little girl named Emmy steal away in a canoe, heading for the mighty Mississippi and a place to call their own. Over the course of one unforgettable summer, these four orphans will journey into the unknown and cross paths with others who are adrift, from struggling farmers and traveling faith healers to displaced families and lost souls of all kinds. With the feel of a modern classic, This Tender Land is an en-thralling, big-hearted epic that shows how the magnificent American landscape connects us all, haunts our dreams, and makes us whole.</i></p>	Lynne Roney
Please Join!	<p>Ferguson Florissant Mary Ellen Starr 314-521-9232 ¡Adelante! Patty Murray pattymurrayauw@gmail.com or 314-838-7887</p>	

REMINDER

Branch President Pam Meyers has made the following request and would like to call it
"Lillian's Law."

All Branch members are to provide

- An emergency contact name (relative, neighbor, friend); preferably two people
 - Emergency contact phone numbers

Please send this information at your earliest convenience to Pam at
wpemeyers@gmail.com

Thank you

Branch News

The Facebook page at the link below is the expired page for our branch. It has been closed.

Old page - please do not follow, like or use:

<https://www.facebook.com/equalityforwomenandgirls/about>

Our correct page: www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100065021670881

Pam Meyers Delete 314-921-7109 **Use 314-303-6661**

Carolyn Herkstroeter New email address cmw2139@gmail.com

Patty Murray Preferred new email address pattymurrayauw@gmail.com

Wilzetta Bell will be moving to Arkansas to live near her daughter sometime in the next few months. We all wish Wilzetta our very best and will miss her presence in our branch very, very much.

Branch Outings?

HERstory Comes Alive

Friday, February 3rd, 7 pm

Shrewsbury City Center

5200 Shrewsbury Ave., STL 63119

Voice of American HERstory, an educational arts initiative, brings the voices of the women's rights pioneers to life. Experience Susan B. Anthony, Sojourner Truth and Elizabeth Cady Stanton give their actual words spoken in the 19th century. Tickets \$25; funds their school programs.

<https://www.ticket signup.io/ticketevent/herstorycomesalive>

Missouri History Museum Black Resistance: Extraordinary Black Missourians

Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at 11:00 am

If anyone would like to attend, I will drive, and of course, we must have lunch afterwards! Patty Murray 314-838-7887

The Association for the Study of African American Life and History's national theme for Black History Month 2023 is Black Resistance.

Join Dr. John A. Wright Jr. for a deep dive into the history of Black resistance in Missouri and in St. Louis, highlighting historical figures from the book *Extraordinary Black Missourians*. Dr. John A. Wright Sr. served as chief author of the first edition, with Sylvia Wright and Dr. John A. Wright Jr. as coauthors of the second edition.

This program will be followed by a book signing in the Missouri History Museum Shop.

Extraordinary Black Missourians: African Americans have been a part of Missouri from its territorial days to the present, and *Extraordinary Black Missourians* describes more than 100 pioneers, educators, civil rights activists, scientists, entertainers, athletes, journalists, authors, soldiers, and attorneys who have lived in the state for part or all of their lives. Josephine Baker, Lloyd Gaines, Langston Hughes, Annie Malone, Dred Scott, Roy Wilkins, and others featured in the book are representative of individuals who have contributed to the African American legacy of Missouri. They set records, made discoveries, received international acclaim and awards, as well as led in the civil rights movement by breaking down racial barriers. These accomplishments, and others, have played a major role in shaping the history and culture of the state and nation. *Extraordinary Black Missourians* attempts to put a face on these individuals and tells of their joys, failures, hardships, and triumphs over sometimes insurmountable odds.

Extraordinary Black Missourians, 2nd Edition: African Americans have been a part of Missouri from its territorial days to the present, making significant contributions across myriad professions as pioneers, educators, civil rights activists, and journalists, to name a few. Now in its second edition, *Extraordinary Black Missourians* profiles more than 100 notable citizens, such as Grace Bumbry, George Washington Carver, Elizabeth Keckley, Frankie Freeman, Scott Joplin, Jean Baptiste Point du Sable, James Beckwourth, and others who have contributed to Missouri's African American legacy Co-authors John A. Wright, Sr., Sylvia A. Wright, and John A. Wright, Jr. bring decades of experience writing about their native St. Louis and the heritage of African Americans in their hometown.

Contact the Ferguson Florissant AAUW Branch

Pam Meyers 314-303-6661 wpemeyers@gmail.com

Visit these AAUW websites often:

www.aauw-mo.aauw.net/connect/mim/ (Missouri in Motion)
www.aauw.org/resources/programs/webinars/

Calendar

January 16	Monday	Martin Luther King, Jr., Day
January 21	Saturday	State Board Meeting via Zoom
January 26	Thursday	¡Adelante! Book Club by Zoom, 1:30
February 1	Wednesday	First Day of Black History Month
February 3	Friday	Receive Legislative Retreat Zoom link from Sue Shineman
February 3	Friday	HERstory Comes Alive, 7 pm, Shrewsbury City Center
February 4	Saturday	National Women's Political Caucus Campaign Training. Contact Pam today.
February 6	Monday	Branch Board Meeting; more information to come
February 11	Saturday	AAUW MO Legislative Retreat, Zoom, 9 am to 11
February 14	Tuesday	Valentine's Day
February 14	Tuesday	IRLS, "Afghan Refugee Resettlement: Focus on Education of Women" 10:45 am
February 20	Monday	Presidents Day
February 22	Wednesday	Ash Wednesday
February 28	Tuesday	Possible Branch Outing to Missouri History Museum and Lunch, 11 am
March 1	Wednesday	First Day of Women's History Month
March 1	Wednesday	Girl Scouts Women's History Fun Patch, virtual, 6 pm
March 7	Tuesday	Girl Scouts Women's History Fun Patch, virtual, 6 pm
March 14	Tuesday	IRLS, "Relations among Taiwan, China and the United States" 10:45 am
March 18	Saturday	2023 Luncheon, Edgewild Restaurant, 550 Chesterfield Center, Chesterfield
March 23	Thursday	Girl Scouts Women's History Fun Patch, virtual, 6 pm
March 29	Wednesday	Girl Scouts Women's History Fun Patch, virtual, 6 pm
April 3	Monday	NCCWSL Early Bird Registration Ends
April 11	Tuesday	IRLS, "A Truly Global Problem: Coping with Climate Change " 10:45 am
May 5	Friday	NCCWAL Regular Registration Ends
May 6	Saturday	Missouri State Conference
May 20	Saturday	Ferguson Florissant Spring Luncheon, Catering to You



January 11, 2023 plm

Contact the Ferguson Florissant AAUW Branch
Pam Meyers 314-303-6661 wpemeyers@gmail.com