

September 2019

Celebrating 95 Years of AAUW in Monmouth!

President's Report

Mary Osborne, president

August 26 marked the ninety-ninth anniversary of the Nineteenth Amendment's ratification. Since 1973, we have been commemorating this date as Women's Equality Day. Although women have the right to vote, we are still striving towards equality in other areas, such as salary. I encourage everyone to complete AAUW's free online course Work Smart. One of AAUW's goals is to end the gender pay gap by 2030 by training 10 million women by 2022. This course teaches women how to negotiate for fair and equal pay. You can learn more about the course by visiting salary.aauw.org. In recent weeks, there has been some encouraging news on this front. Governor Steve Bullock of Montana has announced \$25,000 in grant funding from the Department of Public Health and Human Services for workshops on equal pay. AAUW will be hosting fifteen Start Smart and Work Smart workshops over the next eighteen months around the state. You can learn more about economic security in Illinois by attending the Fall Conference on October 12 in Springfield. Check the Link for more information.

I look forward to seeing everyone on the 10th when we will hear from Natalie Curtis, the Artist-in-Residence at the Buchanan Center for the Arts.



AAUW September 10, 2019 Program

Mary Osborne

Artist-in-Residence Gallery Talk
Tuesday, September 10 @ 6:00 PM
BCA Gallery

This month, we will gather at the Buchanan Center for the Arts to hear from Natalie Curtis, the Artist-in-Residence. She will discuss her installation and her experience teaching art classes and supervising the completion of the new mural. We can start gathering at 6:00 PM, and there will be refreshments. Natalie's talk will begin at 6:30 PM.



Inside this issue

President's Report	page 1
September Program.....	page 2
Public Policy.....	page 2
Film Group	page 4
Book Group	page 4
Membership.....	page 3
Buchanan Center for the Arts.....	page 5
Mission Statement.....	page 4

Public Policy

Jan DeYoung

Although I announced at the kickoff meeting in August that I would have Public Policy brochures available for you at our September meeting, I have learned that the Association will not be printing the brochures this year. Therefore, Sharon is including this very important information in the September "Initiative". Please print off a copy and read it carefully; highlight a few of the topics that are important to you. Then, when one of these issues comes before Congress, call, write, or email your Member of Congress and let her/him know your position. Frequently an opportunity to act on the issue will come up on the Two-Minute Activist button on the AAUW website, or you may receive an email if you are signed up for this service. In these cases, email letters are already written for you. Just personalize the letter (or, better yet, compose your own letter), sign it, and send it on its way. In most cases you will receive a reply from Senator Duckworth, Senator Durbin, or Congresswoman Bustos.

Your active participation is SOOO important right now!

AAUW Public Policy Priorities

Adopted May 2019

AAUW's Public Policy Priorities, adopted every two years by every-member vote, establish the federal action issues on which AAUW members across the country focus their advocacy efforts and guide the work of the national staff. States and branches should also use the Public Policy Priorities to inform their advocacy efforts on state and local issues.

The strength of the AAUW Public Policy Priorities is that they originate and end with the membership. In the fall of even-numbered years the AAUW Public Policy Committee (APPC) solicits feedback from members and staff to develop proposed Public Policy Priorities based on viability, critical need, strong member support, and potential for distinctive contribution. Once the draft is developed, it is posted online for a comment period and submission of additional proposed revisions. The APPC then finalizes the proposed Public Policy Priorities, and the AAUW Board of Directors reviews, amends as necessary, and approves them before they go to the membership for a vote in the spring of odd-numbered years.

2019-21 AAUW Public Policy Priorities

The Public Policy Priorities underscore AAUW's mission to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. The work of AAUW builds upon responsible public participation, and the following priorities provide a basis for AAUW members' actions at the local, state, national, and international levels. Implicit in each is support for government agencies administering programs, including adequate appropriations, effective and accountable administration, and provision for citizen participation. We advocate public discussion to ensure enlightened decisions on these priorities. We work to increase the number of women and other underrepresented populations in policy- and other decision-making positions. Our positions are shaped by our commitment to being nonpartisan and fact-based, and to acting with integrity. We strive for our work to be inclusive and intersectional, collaborating with diverse allies and coalitions to achieve equity for all.

Basic to all of AAUW's public policy efforts is the understanding that true equity requires a balance between the rights of the individual and the needs of the community. AAUW opposes all forms of discrimination and supports constitutional protection for the civil rights of all individuals.

AAUW believes that high-quality public education is the foundation of a democratic society and the key to improving economic prosperity and gender equality. We advocate equitable access to education and climates free of harassment, bullying, and sexual assault. We support academic freedom, civic education, protection from censorship, bias-free education, and responsible funding for all levels of education, including early childhood education and programs for students with disabilities. We advocate for increased access to higher education, especially for women in poverty. We promote equitable efforts to close the persistent achievement gap that disproportionately affects low-income children and students from communities of color.

AAUW promotes the economic, social, and physical well-being of all persons. Essential to that well-being are an economy that provides equitable employment opportunities; reduction of poverty; a living wage; quality, affordable dependent care; paid family and medical leave; safe, livable, and affordable housing; quality, affordable, and accessible health care for all, including reproductive health care; and a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment. We support a Social Security system that provides inflation-protected, guaranteed lifetime benefits with a progressive benefit formula, spousal and widow benefits, and disability and survivor benefits. We

support robust and strong Medicare and Medicaid systems and oppose any efforts to undermine them; including privatization and block grant proposals. AAUW recognizes that gun violence is a public health crisis. AAUW believes in the right to privacy and freedom from violence. We firmly believe in the separation of church and state. We support a fair, balanced, and independent judiciary. We support public budgets that balance individual rights and responsibility to the community. We see an urgent need for meaningful campaign finance reform, open and fair elections, and nonpartisan voter education efforts that will promote equitable political participation and representation in appointed and elected office.

AAUW supports efforts to improve racial, ethnic, and gender justice and will work to eradicate intersectional bias as well. This includes creating a diverse culture of involvement, respect, inclusion, and connection, where the richness of ideas, backgrounds, and perspectives is fully appreciated and utilized.

AAUW believes that global interdependence requires national and international policies against human trafficking and that promote peace, justice, human rights, sustainable development, and mutual security for all people. We support the civil and human rights of all immigrants, including a fair and just path to legal status. We support a strengthened United Nations and its affiliated agencies. We advocate implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action from the 4th World Conference on Women and subsequent declarations. We affirm our active participation in the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women and our commitment to ratification of the U.N. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). We support international family planning programs that are consistent with AAUW policy.

Biennial Action Priorities

national priorities inform state and local action. Biennial priorities for national action are chosen according to the criteria of viability, critical need, strong member support, and potential for distinctive AAUW contribution or leadership. Based on the National Board's adoption of the 2018 strategic plan for AAUW, national public policy priorities are focused first on our major areas of focus: education and training, economic security, and leadership. Additional policy priorities are also critical to ensure equity for all. No further order of importance for the additional priorities is implied.

To support a strong system of public education that promotes gender fairness, equity, diversity and inclusivity, and to address the barriers and implicit biases that hinder the advancement of women and girls, AAUW advocates

Vigorous enforcement of Title IX and all other civil rights laws pertaining to education

Adequate and equitable funding for quality public education for all students

Opposition to the use of public funds for nonpublic elementary and secondary education and to charter schools that do not adhere to the same civil rights and accountability standards as required of other public schools

Increased support for and protection of programs that meet the needs of girls and women in elementary, secondary, and postsecondary education, including strong promotion of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education and comprehensive sexual health education

Increased support for and access to affordable higher education for women and disadvantaged populations

Support for practices that halt the flow of students from schools to prisons, including reforming school disciplinary practices that disproportionately punish girls and students of color.



To achieve economic security for all women, AAUW advocates

Pay equity and fairness in compensation and benefits

Equitable access and advancement in employment, free from systemic barriers and biases, including vigorous enforcement of employment discrimination statutes

Closing the gender and race gaps in leadership opportunities for women of all backgrounds

Greater availability of and access to a high standard of benefits and policies that promote work-life balance, including quality and affordable dependent care and paid family, medical, and sick leave

Programs that provide women with education, training, and support for success in the workforce, including nontraditional occupations and women’s entrepreneurship

Strengthening programs, including welfare and career and technical education, to improve postsecondary education access, career development, and earning potential

Strengthening retirement benefits and programs, including pension improvements and protecting Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid from privatization

Access for all women to the full range of health care services to ensure economic security

Increasing the number of quality jobs that pay a living wage

To guarantee equality, individual rights, and social justice for a diverse and inclusive society, AAUW advocates

Vigorous enforcement of and full access to civil and constitutional rights, including affirmative action and expanding voting rights

Self-determination of one’s reproductive health decisions

Universal access to quality, affordable health care and comprehensive family planning services, including expansion of patients’ rights

Freedom from violence and fear of violence, including hate crimes, in homes, schools, workplaces, and communities

Support for U.N. programs that address human rights and women’s and girls’ concerns

Freedom in the definition of self and family and a guarantee of civil rights for all family structures

Passage and ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment



Film Group

Nancy Buban

September 23, 2019

Film group will begin its thirteenth season with the Documentary, “She’s Beautiful When She’s Angry,” by Director Mary Dore. The film was on PBS in 2014 but it is worth revisiting. IMDb describes the film as, “A documentary that resurrects the buried history of the outrageous, often brilliant women who founded the modern women’s movement from 1966-1971.” These women were called, “threatening” by the FBI. The film will be shown at 207 South Eighth Street on Monday, September 23rd at 6:30. Please let me know if you plan to attend and I will pop a couple more kernels of corn.



¡Adelante! Book Group

Jan DeYoung

Book Group will begin its 2019-2020 year with a discussion of Can You Ever Forgive Me: Memoirs of a Literary Forger, by Lee Israel. It’s an interesting story of an unlikely second career by an author who fell on hard times. We will meet on Thursday, September 12, at 1:00 p.m. at Vicky Gladfelter’s home. The book is very short, so if you haven’t read it yet, you still have time! Both Geneen Gillen and Carol Bowman have copies available for you to borrow. We have a great time and delicious refreshments; we’d love to have you join us for our monthly discussions!



News from Buchanan Center for the Arts

Kristyne Gilbert

Artist in Residence Gallery Talk

6pm in the BCA Gallery
Tuesday, September 10

We are pleased to host Natalie Curtis in the BCA gallery to view her newest installation as well as to discuss her artist in residence experience and her wonderfully creative summer. Refreshments will be served. This event is free and open to the public. See you in the gallery!

Fused Glass with Judi Minor

Fused Glass Pocket Vase 11am Saturday, September 14. The fee is \$25 and includes instruction, materials, and refreshments. Class size is limited and registration is required. Students 18 years old and younger are FREE. Call 309-734-3033 to reserve your spot today!

Clay Classes with Janis Mars Wunderlich

5:30-7:30pm Wednesdays
Monmouth College Ceramics Lab
McMichael Academic Building

Our clay class series begins Wednesday, September 18, with Janis Mars Wunderlich on the Monmouth College campus. \$20 per session includes materials, instruction, and refreshments. This 10-week series designed for participants 18 years or older includes basic hand building, wheel work, and opportunities to explore working with clay. Class size is limited and registration is required. Call the BCA at 309-734-3033 to reserve your spot.

The BCA Needs You!

Are you looking for a way to make a difference in your community? The BCA's Art Presenter Program is looking for volunteers to visit K-6 grade classrooms once a month from October to May. Volunteers present a short lesson and guide students in a hands-on arts making activity. Lessons and activities are prepared and ready for you! Our Art Presenter volunteer orientation is 5:30pm Monday, September 16 in the BCA gallery. Contact the BCA at 734-3033 and become a part of this wonderful tradition.

Security Savings Bank

Photography Show

The 38th-annual Security Savings Bank Photography Show is on view through October 11. Stop in and see more than 125 images from area photographers. Artist credit: Keith Williams "Pond Frog"

Featured Artist: Elizabeth Klise

Klise currently serves as artist-in-residence at the Prairie Center of the Arts in Peoria, where she uses vintage art to create personal sequences that explore themes of media, language, education, and identity. Her primary interest is the intersection between writing, education, and visual arts. Klise received a BA from the University of Notre Dame and an MFA from Sarah Lawrence College. In addition to her visual art, she is a writer and widely-published poet, with literary honors including an Illinois Arts Council Fellowship Award, two IAC Literary Awards, the Robert Frost Foundation Poetry Award, and others. Klise also edited and produced a five-part educational art history video series entitled **Exploring Art: Forms and Ideas in Art of the Western World**, which has been used in classrooms across the country. Her current work **Check Them Out** is on view in The Keefe Gallery through October 31.

Check Them Out is an art installation created by Elizabeth Klise that features hundreds of vintage library due-date cards upon which people have shared personal memories of encounters with famous people. The artist has paired these sightings with vintage card catalog cards that relate in some way to the encounter or the celebrity. In this way, viewers can "check out" library books at the same time as they "check out" celebrities.

Easy Does it Yoga for Folks over 50

(or those whose bodies feel like that!)

Wednesdays 5-6pm in the BCA gallery with yoga instructor Sallee Wade. \$10/session or \$55 for a six-week series (paid in advance). Participants need to bring a mat and wear comfortable clothing. In a six-week series, you'll learn breath techniques, simple movements, and postures you can do at home. Plus, it's fun! Call 734-3033 and reserve your spot today.

PLEASE NOTE: Yoga will NOT meet on Wednesday, September 4 - support our community and attend the Warren County Prime Beef Festival Parade!

Old Friends Talk Art

10am Wednesday, September 11

Our 2019 juror, Rich Ankeney, is in the BCA gallery this month to discuss the Security Savings Bank Photography Show. This event is free and open to the public. See you in the gallery!

Mission Statement: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

Vision Statement: 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.

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

Association Web site: www.aauw.org

AAUW-Illinois Web site:

<http://aauw-il.aauw.net/>

Monmouth Branch Web site:

<http://monmoutharea-il.aauw.net/>

AAUW Initiative Editor: Sharon Gilbert,
sharongilbert1484@comcast.net

