

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

SEATTLE BRANCH AAUW NEWSLETTER - COME JOIN US

Volume 67, Issue 9

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[www.aauw-seattle.org](http://www.aauw-seattle.org)



**Saturday, May 18—9:30am**

**Annual Branch Meeting  
with Pamela Beer, Artist and Program Director of  
Women Painters of Washington**

**Executive Inn by the Space Needle**  
(formerly the Best Western Plus Executive Inn)

**200 Taylor Ave North  
Seattle, WA 98109**

Pamela Beer, artist and Program Director of Women Painters of Washington, will discuss the history of that organization, the artists, and the organization's direction. She will illustrate her talk with representational samples of women artists' works, many of which have appeared in the Women Painters of Washington Gallery in the Columbia Center.

We hope to introduce our first community college scholarship recipient and hear briefly from the UW students who we sponsored to attend NCCWSL in 2018.

We will also conduct our Annual Meeting on May 18<sup>th</sup>. We will be voting on new officers for co-President, Programs Chair, and Secretary—see candidate descriptions on page 5—and we will also be voting on proposed revisions to our Bylaws—see page 6 for details.



**Book Exchange at the May meeting! Bring a book to pass along and/or take a book to enjoy!**

## **Come Join Us!**

**Location:** Executive Inn by the Space Needle, 200 Taylor Ave North, Seattle, WA

**Cost:** \$15 inclusive - *No charge for full-time students or matriculated students with corresponding student ID (reservations still required)*

**Menu:** Hot breakfast buffet including breads, fruit juice, freshly brewed coffee, decaffeinated coffee, and tea.

**Parking:** Free in hotel garage (sign the book at the front desk). Paid parking can usually be found on the street.

**Reservations required by Friday, May 10, 2019**

To reserve your place, send an email to: [RSVP@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:RSVP@aauw-seattle.org).

**Have a great summer!**



**Next year's Program Committee  
is hard at work putting together  
programs for 2019-2020. Look  
for details on our website and in  
the September Catalyst.**

## Leadership Corner—Pam Forsha

Gender shouldn't be a factor in whether or not a person can be a great leader – a person's leadership abilities should depend on their individual strengths and personality traits.

Well sure, everyone knows that, right?

Unfortunately, while the world is evolving, women are still lagging behind when it comes to leadership roles in business. According to a recent Forbes article, today, only 26 women are in CEO roles at Fortune 500 companies, making up 5.2% of the female population, and the stats stay virtually the same for women CEOs of Fortune 1000 companies at 5.4%, showing that there is little movement of women making up these high-ranking positions as company leaders. One statistic states that it will take 108 years to close the gender gap. In a nutshell, women's progress in the workplace is stalling out.



One of the biggest challenges women are currently facing is equality in the workplace. The economic gender gap is moving too slowly despite the attention being paid to pay equity and gender bias. To heighten awareness, the campaign theme of this year's International Women's Day was 'Balance for Better' - Better the balance, better the world. The campaign theme provided a unified global direction and called for collective action and shared responsibility all year long.

With women still pushing to reach the top, they are faced with a range of challenges that many of their male counterparts don't have an understanding of. It is these issues that are preventing many women from achieving their goal of becoming leaders and diminishing their ability to get ahead in business. Take, for example, the unpaid burdens that women shoulder like child care or the 'motherhood penalty' as identified by some, the lack of division of household chores, lower access to venture capital funding for women entrepreneurs, less pay for women's sports teams, and gendered pricing.

While achievements for diverse representation in top leadership roles should be celebrated, this in no way ensures women's continued advancement across a variety of domains at work and beyond. AAUW is an advocate for civil rights, supports education, and enforces Title IX while promoting gender fairness, equity, and diversity. Remain engaged with AAUW during our 'summer break' and continue the fight for equality. See you in the Fall!

***This newsletter is a publication  
of the  
Seattle Branch of the AAUW***

### **Mission Statement**

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

### **Vision**

Equity for all.

### **Values**

Nonpartisan. Fact-based.  
Integrity. Inclusion and  
Intersectionality.

## **Seeking Volunteers to Help with September's New-Member Social**

It's fun getting to know our newest members and important to help orient them to all the good things we do as a branch. If you'd like to help with this event in August-September, such as preparing the new-member informational folders, deciding on the appetizer menu, picking up food, making something yummy, or supporting this event in some other way, please contact Gay Armsden at: [publicpolicy@aauw.org](mailto:publicpolicy@aauw.org).

## **Gender Pay Gap Forum Conducted at the University of Washington - Robin Hendricks**

On April 17 the Women's Center at the University of Washington and the Seattle branch of the AAUW hosted a forum in Kane Hall on the university campus that provided information on the gender pay gap. The forum presented causes and consequences of the issue as well as information on individual rights, what individuals can do to further change, and legislative actions. Marilyn Watkins, Ph.D., Policy Director and Gabriela Quintana, Advocacy Director from the Economic Opportunity Institute (EOI) presented the history of the pay gap, what is currently happening, and ways individuals can make a difference. Dr. Sutapa Basu, Ph.D., Executive Director, UW Women's Center moderated. Fiona Goodchild gave an overview of the work and mission of AAUW. The event was attended by about 50 young women, under graduates and graduate students. Included in those attending was a graduate student who had received a scholarship from an AAUW branch while she was an undergraduate. She was delighted to see the AAUW was a co-host.

## April Board Meeting Summary—Marianne North

The Branch paid most expenses for five Branch delegates to attend AAUW Washington State Convention in Bellingham April 12-13. We will again sponsor the TABLA basketball and Branch volunteers are needed for an event in July. AAUW has a Branding Guidelines document, [AAUW-Brand-Guidelines](https://www.aauw.org/files/2013/02/AAUW-Brand-Guidelines.pdf) (<https://www.aauw.org/files/2013/02/AAUW-Brand-Guidelines.pdf>). Our Branch's total assets have now recovered from the market drop in December. The Finance Committee is reviewing our investment options as well as considering increasing insurance coverage, because of our expanded publicity. We have 101 members. Those members renewing by July 1 may attend the September meeting for free. A revised Policy 10 governing the Program Committee was approved and is posted on our website [Under Policies & Procedures](https://seattle-wa.aauw.net/policies-procedures/) (<https://seattle-wa.aauw.net/policies-procedures/>). The final Board Meeting of the AAUW fiscal year will be Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm, an end of year potluck with incoming officers.

### Tech Trek-Tonna Kutner



We are delighted to have 13 girls who have qualified for Tech Trek camp this summer. I want to thank the members who helped with the schools: June Arnold, Rachael Foe, and Gaby Tosado. It's always inspiring to read the girls' applications and essays and interview them. Thanks to Rosemary James, Marianne North, Laila Adams, Judy Waring, Ann Dennis, and Leah Early who participated in the interviews at seven schools. And more thanks to Fiona Goodchild and Marianne North who helped interview the parents. Thanks to the teachers who nominated these great candidates. Cheers to the whole team. We can send so many girls this year because we have two Dorm Monitors from our branch: June Arnold and Tonna Kutner. Thanks to everyone! I'll really be looking forward to attending camp.

## Legislative Update and Special Message from the Public Policy Chair

Gay Armsden

WA Legislature. There is a lot of good news out of the legislative session (last day: April 28<sup>th</sup>). All but one of the bills that were detailed in March's *Catalyst*, have passed both houses. They are:

**ESHB 1696** would prohibit employers from asking job applicants about their wage or **salary history**. ESHB 1198, on the Governor's desk, would improve oversight and accountability in enforcement of **Title IX** and allow WA to respond to any changes in Title IX law making college students less safe on campus.

**HB 1149** clarifies that, to obtain a **sexual assault** protection order, a survivor is required only to allege and prove that she/he was sexually assaulted, but not prove that she/he has a "reasonable fear" about future assaults. The Reproductive Health Care for All Act (**2SSB5602**) seeks to enhance state law to ensure **reproductive health care access** for immigrant and transgender communities. Unfortunately, the House voted to amend it to exclude undocumented immigrants and the Senate didn't concur with the amended version, so its fate presumably will be negotiated. **ESSB 5258** requires employers in service occupations that involve workers working in isolation to adopt a **sexual harassment policy**. **SB 5649**, signed by the Governor, will extend or remove (in the case of minors) statutes of limitations for **sexual assault**.

Special message. I will have been your branch Public Policy Chair for 2-1/2 years when my term is up in June. It's time to hand over the reins and engage another member in this very interesting position. This has been a bit of a challenging ride at times. First, fairly ignorant Me had to learn very quickly about the legislative process (who knew committees have such power?). Lobby Day intimidated me (turned out it's fun and fascinating). Then there was a new White House administration whose policy priorities often conflicted sharply with AAUW's and threatened hard-won rights and protections; yet it was obligatory to be nonpartisan in my reports to members (that's when "Speaking Truth to Power" became my refrain). Nevertheless, serving in this position was enriching and empowering: I am much more of an activist, more informed and more committed to trying to change things for the better through our laws - because that is really the best and possibly only way to achieve equity for women. And, it's been a pleasure! Keep up the great work with your activism. If you'd like to be considered for this position, contact Lynn Dissinger or Fiona Goodchild. I will support you in every way I can.



## Seattle Branch Scholar Recognition – *Barbara Sando*

Our 19<sup>th</sup> annual Scholar Recognition event was, as usual, inspiring, fun and very well attended. Thirty scholars from 11 schools were honored this year for their achievements in math, science and technology – all but five of them present at the event with parents, grandparents, siblings, and others who have supported their academic and personal journeys thus far. Just over 120



2019 Scholars

scholars, guests and members were there to celebrate the students' achievements and be part of our program – our biggest event yet.



Keynote Speaker  
Marina Gillett

This year's reception began with Tonna Kutner sharing information about AAUW as an organization, with a focus on our efforts to eliminate the gender pay gap. Scholar Recognition chair June Arnold introduced and thanked this year's committee. Renée Agatsuma



Math Scholars



Science Scholars



Technology Scholars

introduced our keynote speaker and emceed the awards ceremony. Programs co-chairs Pam Forsha and Sam Montgomery worked with the Executive Inn, handled the RSVP process and greeting guests at the door. Many others worked behind the scenes to make this year's event a success. Thank you to all!

Keynote speaker, Marina Gillett, an avionics integration engineer at Blue Origin, shared the story of her own path to enjoying a fulfilling career, emphasizing to the students that discovery and learning from failure were healthy parts of the process, along with continuing their education. The presentation was inspiring and well received, and it sure looked like everyone had a great time.

## Give Every Grad You Know the Gift of AAUW Membership at No Cost! - *Heather Dohan*

Do you know a woman graduating college? Did you know you, as an AAUW member, can gift a one year national membership to as many recent college graduates that you like at no cost to them or you? Well you can! I have in the past. This is a great way to introduce the AAUW to our member of the future. Anyone who has completed an undergraduate degree in the past two years can receive a free membership. You need some basic information from the graduate, and then enter the information online. Shortly, the graduate will be an AAUW member! It is that easy. For more information and the form visit: <https://www.aauw.org/resource/give-a-grad-a-gift/>.



## UW Women's Center "Women of Courage" Gala 2019 – Barbara Sando

Ten Seattle Branch members attended the UW Women's Center "Women of Courage" Gala on March 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Seattle Sheraton Hotel, sitting at the table we proudly sponsored. In addition, Seattle Branch member Dr. Patricia Dawson, also a long time Women's Center board member, was a Gala sponsor. This year, the Gala celebrated 20 years of Making Connections, a college-readiness program for underserved students that seeks to increase college enrollment and career interests in the STEM fields. We learned about the committed women who started the program, as well as hearing from some of its alumnae, three of whom were honored as "Women of Courage." As always, it was a fun and inspiring evening, as well as a huge success for the Women's Center, which raised over \$282,000 to support its programs. You can learn more about the Women's Center at:

<http://www.washington.edu/womenscenter/>. Thank you to Renée Agatsuma for coordinating this event for the branch and to the others who represented us at it.



## Nominating Committee News– Tonna Kutner

We are excited with our slate of officer candidates for the next term. We will have the election at our May meeting. The elected positions are for two years. We welcome members to volunteer with our branch. Please let us know where your interests lie so we can find something that best suits your volunteer interests. The Nominating Committee – Judy Waring, Gay Armsden, Tonna Kutner – [nc@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:nc@aauw-seattle.org).

## Running as a Co-President Team–

**Lynn Dissinger.** Lynn joined AAUW in the mid 1980's in PA, joined the Renton branch when she moved here in 1993, and later joined the Seattle branch in 2011/12. She is a seasoned office-holder, having held state and branch officer positions in both PA and WA (branch President, state Programs and Public Policy) and most recently served as the Seattle branch treasurer. Lynn enjoys reading and her marathon Seattle International Film Festival film-going.



**Fiona Goodchild.** Fiona joined AAUW in 1993, attracted by its encouragement of women pursuing STEM fields. She worked with the Santa Barbara and Goleta, CA, branches to promote STEM education and related professional development. Fiona and her husband moved to Seattle in 2012. As a member of this branch, Fiona has served as Secretary and has been involved with Tech Trek and the Scholarship Program. She is interested in the value of mentoring in professional education, especially in fields not traditionally accessible to women. She's also a lifelong participant and fan of competitive sports, particularly for women.

## Programs Chair–

**Cynthia Sheridan.** She grew up in eastern Washington and attended college in California at University of the Pacific where she married her college sweetheart. Cynthia taught elementary education for 35 years, and spent summers in Seattle earning a Master's Degree from the University of Washington. In retirement, she had three goals: travel in her RV, move to Seattle and write a book. Two down and one to go! She enjoys playing bridge, belongs to several books clubs, writes for The Shoreline Area News and spends a lot of time gardening. She is (almost!) a fifty year AAUW member.



## Secretary–

**Rachael Foe.** She joined Flagstaff (AZ) Branch AAUW and served as Membership Chair 2016-2017. Soon after Rachael and her husband arrived in Seattle last summer, she joined our branch. Rachael participated in Lobby Day in Olympia, the UW Women's Center Gala, and worked with Chief Sealth High School on the Scholar Recognition program. She teaches at Aki Kurose Middle School and was also a competitive swimmer and swim coach. Rachael is passionate about advocating for gender equity and solutions for climate change. A favorite activity is camping with her husband and husky dog while exploring Washington.







## Interest Group Corner

The Seattle Branch has four very active interest groups and hopes to add new ones in the near future, so stay tuned. Check this space each month to learn what's happening with each interest group and consider joining one or more. The more members who join in, the merrier. A contact person is listed with each group below.

### **Art Smart**—Ann Dennis—[ad@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:ad@aauw-seattle.org)

The group will visit the always-fascinating Museum of History and Industry (MOHAI; <https://mohai.org>) in Seattle near Lake Union Park on Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. We will meet at 11am and enjoy lunch afterward at the museum's café, for

those who are interested. For more information about this visit, email Gay Armsden at:

[publicpolicy@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:publicpolicy@aauw-seattle.org).

### **Book Group**—Fiona Goodchild—[books@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:books@aauw-seattle.org)

The AAUW Book Discussion Group will meet at 1 pm Tuesday May 28<sup>th</sup> in the Stadler Room of Third Place Commons in Lake Forest Park to discuss ***Andy Warhol Was a Hoarder: Inside the Minds of History's Great Personalities*** by Claudia Kalb about Einstein, Marilyn Monroe and others. In June, the group will discuss ***Hope More Powerful Than the Sea*** by Mellissa Fleming about a young Syrian woman refugee's struggle. We will resume our discussions on the fourth Tuesday of the month in September. For more information, contact Marianne at: [secretary@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:secretary@aauw-seattle.org).

### **Stage Presence**—Bev Fogle—[finance@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:finance@aauw-seattle.org)

Our group will be seeing Shakespeare's ***As You Like It*** on Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm at the Center Theater at Seattle Center. This classic comedy needs no introduction, and we expect the Seattle Shakespeare Company to do it full justice. This should be a real 'upper' to close out our initial year. Tickets are \$44, or \$34 for Seniors and going fast! Family and friends are welcome to join us. Contact Bev right away if you want her to get tickets for you and your party.

### **Writer's Group**—Tonna Kutner—[TechTrek@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:TechTrek@aauw-seattle.org)

The Writer's Group meets at members' homes on the first Wednesday of the month at 11:30 am. We work on a variety of projects from fiction to family history. The group discusses each member's work for the month and offers our thoughts and advice. New members are welcome!

## Revised Bylaws to be Voted on at May Annual Meeting—Barbara Sando

The Board has identified four areas of change for the Seattle Branch Bylaws, and is recommending those changes to branch members for their approval by vote at the Annual Meeting on May 18<sup>th</sup>. The first revision is to update the succession plan for filling a vacancy in the office of President, such that any elected officer deemed suitable may be appointed, rather than only the VP Programs. The second and fourth revisions, respectively, reduce the minimum number of required board and branch meetings each year from eight to seven. These changes provide some latitude when meetings can't be held due to unforeseen circumstances (such as inclement weather or a power outage). The third revision addresses the requirement for financial reviews. Due to the complexity of the branch's financial assets, the board believes it is prudent to have an independent financial review conducted at least once every five years, and sooner if the board so determines. This bylaws change does not preclude the branch from conducting internal reviews of its finances as often as it sees fit. In addition to these changes, the revised bylaws also incorporate 'friendlier' titles for our elected officers, clarify (without changing) how our election process works, clarify the role of AAUW Washington State in the bylaws revision process, and correct a few typographical errors. These administrative changes do not require a vote, as they do not impact the way Seattle Branch operates. All of the revisions to the bylaws can be reviewed on our website, [www.aauw-seattle.org](http://www.aauw-seattle.org). Click on "Members Only", then select "\*\*\*Proposed Bylaws - May 2019\*\*", to review them. If you have any questions, please contact me, Barbara Sando at: [president@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:president@aauw-seattle.org).

## AAUW-WA Annual Meeting with Kim Churches

### Barbara Sando

Seattle Branch was very well represented at the AAUW-WA 2019 Annual Meeting, held April 12-13 in Bellingham. Eight members attended the meeting, which featured fabulous speakers on various topics relevant to AAUW. A highlight was the Friday dinner speaker, AAUW CEO Kim Churches. What an inspirational leader she is! Kim discussed AAUW strategies for thriving in the current era, and was quite candid about the challenges the organization faces. The transparency she demonstrated during our presentation was much appreciated. Her leadership style will serve the organization well.



## AAUW Dues and Membership Renewal 2019-2020—Judy Waring

It's time to pay your dues for the July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 membership year. We have begun e-mailing invoices with a personalized link so that you can easily renew your membership using a credit card, no login or password required! National dues are \$59—so with state dues of \$10 and branch dues of \$16, the total is \$85 for Seattle Branch membership. **All who have paid their dues by July 1st can attend the September meeting free of charge.** Please renew your membership when you receive your personal e-mail. If you prefer to pay with a check, there's information on where to mail the check in the e-mail or you can pay at our May 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

If new members join at a meeting, they can save half on national dues through the Shape the Future membership campaign. To get this \$55.50 rate, payment with a check or cash is necessary. You will find a Membership Form on our website: <https://seattle-wa.aauw.net/files/2019/03/AAUW-membership-form-2019-2020.pdf>. We plan to publish our next directory in September and want to include any corrections or changes since the last directory was printed in September 2018. Please let me know of any changes in your information. Any questions, contact Judy Waring at: [membership@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:membership@aauw-seattle.org). And thank you to those who have already renewed their membership!

## AAUW-Seattle Branch Officers 2018-2019

### Elected

#### President:

Barbara Sando - [president@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:president@aauw-seattle.org)

#### VP Finance:

Beverly Fogle - [finance@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:finance@aauw-seattle.org)

#### VP Programs:

Pamela Forsha & Sam Montgomery - [programs@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:programs@aauw-seattle.org)

#### VP Membership:

Judy Waring - [membership@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:membership@aauw-seattle.org)

#### Secretary:

Marianne North - [secretary@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:secretary@aauw-seattle.org)

### Appointed

#### Web Site:

Heather Dohan - [website@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:website@aauw-seattle.org)

#### Catalyst Newsletter Editor:

Heather Dohan - [catalyst@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:catalyst@aauw-seattle.org)

#### Public Policy:

Gay Armsden - [publicpolicy@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:publicpolicy@aauw-seattle.org)

#### College/University Relations:

Renée Agatsuma - [c-u@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:c-u@aauw-seattle.org)

#### Scholar Recognition:

June Arnold - [recognition@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:recognition@aauw-seattle.org)

#### Tech Trek:

Tonna Kutner - [TechTrek@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:TechTrek@aauw-seattle.org)

#### Marketing & Communications:

CJ Nash - [marketing@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:marketing@aauw-seattle.org)

#### Nominating Committee:

[nc@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:nc@aauw-seattle.org)

#### Board Member at Large

Penny Tetter - [pt@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:pt@aauw-seattle.org)



**Seattle Branch AAUW**  
**16921 28th Ave SW**  
**Seattle, WA 98166-3207**  
**Address Service Requested**

***Upcoming Events...***

Date	Day	Time	Location	Program
May 13, 2019	Monday	6:30 pm	Contact Secretary— ( <a href="mailto:secretary@aauw-seattle.org">secretary@aauw-seattle.org</a> ) for information	Branch Board Meeting—end of year potluck
May 18, 2019	Saturday	9:30 am	Executive Inn by the Space Needle	Annual Branch Meeting with Women Painters of Washington
May 29, 2019	Wednesday	6:00 pm	UW Intellectual House	UW Making Connections Graduation
June 19, 2019	Wednesday	TBD	University of Washington	UW Women's Center NEW Leadership Political Day
July 18, 2019	Thursday		Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, WA	Tech Trek Visitor's Day at Pacific Lutheran University

**AAUW NATIONAL ELECTION**  
**VOTE 2019**

All AAUW members received an e-mail message in early April from CEO Kim Churches, kicking off the voting period for the National Election. The ballot includes. Board of Directors members and the proposed Public Policy Priorities for 2019-2021. Information on the candidates and the priorities are on the website at: [AAUW-national-election](http://AAUW-national-election). This year, the first year of implementation of staggered board terms, members will vote on a chair, vice chair, and 10 directors. Voting is online and the e-mail you received included your voting PIN. If you need help with your PIN, email AAUW at: [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org). **The voting period concludes on May 14<sup>th</sup>.**