



ROCKLAND COUNTY (NY) BRANCH



FACETS

March 2018

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research

Co-presidents:

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Tuesday, March 6

Board Meeting 7:00 pm
Conference Call 1-515-739-1033
Access Code 454779

Thursday, March 8

International Women's Day

Saturday, March 24

Branch Meeting
1:00 – 4:00 pm, **Valley Cottage Library**
Women's History Month Celebration
Women in Entertainment

Tuesday, April 3

Board Meeting 7:00 PM
Sandy Masiello's House

Friday, April 6

19th CTAUN Conference at the United Nations
"Stepping Up to Protect the World's Children"

Tuesday, April 10

EQUAL PAY DAY

Tuesday, April 17

Branch Business Meeting 7:00 PM
"Pay Equity Program" and Election of Officers
New City Library - Community Room

April 20 – 22

AAUW STATE CONVENTION
Corning, NY

Tuesday, May 1

Board Meeting 7:00 PM
Dorothy Flieger's House

Tuesday, May 15

Woman of Achievement Annual Dinner
Nyack Seaport, Nyack, NY

President's Message

#WeAreTheChangeAgents: The Exhilarating 19th Annual Diversity Brunch

Saturdays are precious for busy women. Balancing the demands of work, home, and civic commitments can be overwhelming at times, so if we make a commitment on a Saturday, it has to be worth the additional time we are spending away from our families, it must be meaningful, and it must be impactful. - This year's Annual Diversity Brunch was just such an event.

On Saturday, February 24th, within the historic St. Charles A.M.E. Zion Church in Sparkill, NY, AAUW Rockland and Empire State Virtual Branches, in collaboration with the Rockland chapters of Delta Sigma Theta, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Zeta Phi Beta, and the Rockland Women's Political Caucus, hosted the 19th Annual Diversity Brunch, "*Take Another Step: Empowering Women in the Political Arena*"

Moderated by me, the event's engaging panelists included Beverly Neufeld, founder and CEO of PowHer New York, Maureen McGarry Porette, Chair of the Rockland Women's Political Caucus, who ran for County Executive in 2017; and Emilia White, a licensed child care provider and Deputy Mayor of Spring Valley who ran for Mayor of Spring Valley in 2017.

The well-attended program provided a wide-ranging exploration of the issues on the legislative agenda in Albany this session – including reproductive rights, maternal mortality and depression, storage of rape kits, sexual harassment, statewide childcare and Pre-K expansion, a NYS Salary History Ban, Tipped Worker issues, childcare subsidies, the need for more women to be a part of these policy discussions, and the challenges women face when running for office. The discussion and Q&A touched on the special sacrifices that women make in running for office, challenges in fundraising; and the preparation needed when running outside of established political party support structures. Other ideas discussed by the attendees included - demanding gender and racial parity on local boards and commissions and sponsoring a joint Legislative Advocacy Workshop session.

NYS Assembly Member and AAUW - Rockland member Ellen Jaffee attended the event and was an active participant. She also graciously gave New York State Assembly citations to the panelists. Our special guest, AAUW-NY State President, Roli Wendorf was an active participant in the discussion and offered insight on AAUW positions on gun control and other topics which arose.

It was a challenging, deeply personal, engaging, and ultimately exhilarating day. There was an incredible energy in the room and it was clear that we were all excited to work together to lift up all women and families in our communities.

Edwina Frances Martin, Esq.



The AAUW – Rockland Book Club meets in the Conference Room of the New City Library on the 3rd Monday of each month from 2:30 - 4:00 P.M.

ALL are welcome

Mar. 19 A Gentleman in Moscow,
by Amor Towles

Apr. 16 Before You Know Kindness,
by Chris Bohjalian

**Check with Library to confirm the date.*

The Flower Photography of our own KAREN MARTIN will be on display at the West Nyack Library throughout the month of March.



West Nyack Free Library
65 Strawtown Road
West Nyack, NY

Check it out...

(well, actually they won't let you check it out...but you get the picture...)



AAUW has A NEW MAILING ADDRESS!!!!

**AAUW Rockland County
PO Box 19
West Nyack, NY 10994-0019**

Please Update Your Personal Directories



**AAUW- Rockland's
Women's History Month Celebration**

Saturday March 24th

1:00 – 4:00 PM

Valley Cottage Library
110 NY-303, Valley Cottage, NY
FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

See Page 5 for details



Registration deadline is March 23rd.
Visit www.aauw-nys.org for more information
and to register.

Need a ride??? Contact:
Suzanne Young Mercer at (845) 425-8559 or
(212) 241-7947



**TUESDAY – MAY 15
WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT AWARD DINNER
Nyack Seaport | 21 Burd Street | Nyack | \$55.00
*See page 5 for details***

Important Skill-Training Webinar Series by National: National AAUW has started a free monthly skill-training webinar series to be held on the **second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 PM**. Check out this worthwhile series in the comfort of your own home: Go to.... and sign up TODAY!

<http://www.aauw.org/event/2017/09/skill-training-webinars/>

March 13, 2018: "How to Get Publicity"

Your branch holds great events and does wonderful things in your community. How do you get the publicity you deserve?

April, 2018 Hiatus for state conventions.

May 8, 2018: "Writing to Engage"

Find out how to make the most of your websites, brochures, newsletters, and emails!

June 12, 2018: "Creating the Value of Membership"

Learn how to help current and future members feel connected to AAUW's work and realize the value of their membership. *See website for archives of the past seminars*

CELEBRATING ITS CENTENNIAL THIS YEAR!!!!!!



Celebrating 100 Years of Changing Lives

3,600
scholars

145
nations

From harboring women academics persecuted by totalitarian regimes during World War II to developing leaders in business, higher education, science, and technology, AAUW International Fellowships have supported some outstanding players in the global struggle for equality for all women and girls.

Since 1917, the International Fellowships program has funded more than 3,600 women representing 145 countries. The program was expanded in 1999 to include International Project Grants, which are awarded to International Fellowship alumnae to launch community-based projects in their home countries. For the 2017–18 academic year, more than \$1 million will be awarded in International Fellowships.



Thinking about attending the NYS AAUW Convention next month? Check this out!...

Friday afternoon pre-convention activity will be held at the *Corning Museum of Glass*. Two sessions of sandblasting workshops involving decorating a drinking glass are planned.

On both Saturday and Sunday Mornings of Convention, we will be offering both a guided tour of the Gaffer District and nearby Chemung Riverfront and an exercise walks starting at 6:30am. from the hotel lobby.

On Saturday afternoon, Yoga Instructor Kim Knapp will be leading a gentle yoga class as one of the afternoon workshops. Please note your interest in this workshop on your registration form and please bring exercise clothes and a yoga mat. **On Sunday afternoon**, we have arranged for a post-Convention docent-led activity at the *Rockwell Museum*. After the *Rockwell Museum Tours*, you can stop at the *Corning Museum of Glass* to explore their Earth Day Nature Academy Celebration with hands-on exhibits before heading back home.



L.A.F. Doe v. Boyertown Area School District, currently in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, involved the rights of transgender students under Title IX. AAUW, along with 12 other organizations, signed on to an amicus brief in support of the Boyertown school district. The brief highlights the history and purpose of Title IX, which is one of the most valuable tools in ensuring access to education, and identifies Title IX's role in eliminating sex stereotypes from education. (from Charlotte Sorger)

MIMI KORB SCHOLARSHIP - Since we did not have a special fundraising event this year, we want to remind you that **contributions to the Mimi Korb Scholarship** (tax deductible) can be made to honor any occasion or to generously support this most worthwhile endeavor as you have in the past. Please make your tax-deductible check payable to AAUW Rockland County Branch and write **"Mimi Korb Scholarship"** on the detail line. Mail your check to: Sandra Blasi | 29 Hickory Hill Lane | Tappan, NY 10983

WOMEN'S HISTORY- (BRANCH MEETING) In celebration of **Women's History Month**, the AAUW will present a group of **"Women in the Performing Arts"** who will discuss their backgrounds, training, experiences, and women's issues. We are fortunate in having on our panel the following artists:

TV Emmy Award Winner, Film and Documentary Producer - Suzanne Mitchell

Jazz Vocalist - Shirley Crabbe

Producer and Director - Dana Duff

Dancer, Choreographer and Artistic Director - Diane Coupe Frankel

Director and Producer of the Children's Shakespeare Theatre - Diana Green

Stage Manager - Patricia Sosnow

The event will take place at the Valley Cottage Library at 1 PM on March 24 and is FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD – We are happy to announce the selection of this year's Woman of Achievement. Sister Cecilia LaPietra is the founder and director of One to One Learning in Nyack, New York. One to One Learning is a not-for-profit outreach organization which provides immigrants with free evening classes in the English language, preparation for the GED, citizenship, computer skills, parenting, and nutrition. In its twenty-year history, the program has served approximately 6,000 students. The event will take place on Tuesday, May 15th from 6:00 to 9:30 pm at the Nyack Seaport Restaurant. **Ticket price is \$55.00 Checks should be made payable to: Rockland County AAUW and mailed to: Sandra Masiello, 95 Green Road, West Nyack, NY 10994 with your name and phone number.**

FROM CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, ANITA NESSIN: Please forward any information regarding special events, such as weddings, illnesses, graduations, surgeries etc. She will be happy to send a greeting card. Please forward your birthday month and date (year is NOT necessary) so that your name can be placed on her special birthday roster.

Amn46@hotmail.com

FROM COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR, SYLVIA MILLER: Reproductive Freedom Is Tied to Women's Economic Security. This year marks the 45th anniversary of the landmark Supreme Court Case *Roe v. Wade* which legalized abortion in the United States. Access to safe and legal reproductive health care and information, including abortion, fosters self-sufficiency, promotes preventive health care, protects individuals and their families from the spread of sexually transmitted infections. But control over one's reproductive life is also part and parcel to achieving economic autonomy. Without reproductive choice, women cannot attain equal pay or opportunity in the workforce.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE – The Nominating Committee Slate of Officers to be elected at the **April 17th Meeting** Is as follows - Co- President: Colleen Biavati Membership Vice President: Ellie Grossman. Additional candidates for these positions may be nominated from the floor at the meeting *provided that the nominee has consented to the nomination.*

AAUW NATIONAL BYLAWS AMENDMENT VOTE 2018 - The **April 17th Meeting** will also feature discussion on the proposed changes to the National Bylaws – specifically -

- Creating three-year staggered board terms
- Opening board service to those outside of AAUW membership
- **Eliminating the degree requirement for membership**

Voting will open on April 25, 2018 and close June 9, 2018. Come to our branch meeting on April 17 for further discussion on these proposed amendments.

MORE IMAGES FROM THE DIVERSITY BRUNCH... Special thanks to Suzanne Young-Mercer and Ann Mulligan, committee chairs, Edwina Martin, moderator/facilitator, Colleen Biavati, food coordinator, Anita Nessin, Bach Tuyet Pham, Pam Guevara, Sylvia Miller, Sorority supporters, and Many Guevara (photographer) for a job well done.



From left to right: Hon. Ellen Jaffee, Ironda Lynce (Zeta Phi Beta), Diane Serratori (People to People), Charlene Weaver (Delta Sigma Theta), Maureen Porette, Viveca Williams (Alpha Kappa Alpha), Roli Wendorf (AAUW-NYS), Beverly Neufeld (PowHer NY), Maria Ellis (AAUW-ESVB), Hon. Emilia White, Edwina Martin (AAUW-Rockland)



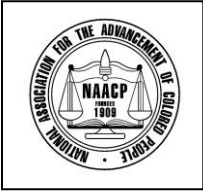
Rabia Nagin was awarded this month for her Outstanding Community Service by the Rockland County Legislature in honor of Women's History Month. Rabia has faithfully volunteered for many years in AAUW Rockland's STEM Program at Summit Park Elementary School.



Dr. Frances Pratt, Nyack NAACP President will be receiving the Historical Society of Rockland's "Living Landmark" award at their Annual Dinner on Sunday, April 8th at the View on the Hudson in Piermont

In and About Town

Nyack Branch NAACP Annual Membership Renewal and Recruitment Dinner



Thursday, April 19, 2018 at 6:00 PM

Pearl River Hilton | 500 Veteran's Memorial Drive | Pearl River, NY 10965

Adults \$85.00 – Non-Youth Council Member Youth \$60.00

For Reservations Contact: Voncile Oliver (845) 268-6626 | Ann Christian (845) 356-7046 |

Maria Whittingham (845) 664-8492 OR Mail check to:

Nyack NAACP P.O. Box 285 Congers, NY 10920

DEADLINE for Ticket Sales: Monday, April 24, 2017

PLEASE NOTE: Your donation is **NOT** tax deductible.



OUR MEETINGS ARE AT THE NYACK CENTER

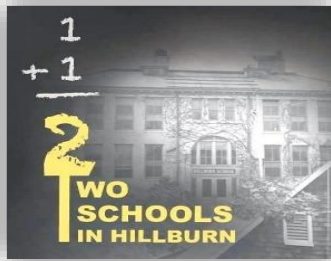
The monthly meetings are especially for "graduates" of the Undoing Racism Workshop. Those who have not yet taken it, however, are also invited. The goal is to have discussion which is facilitated in a manner that is consistent with the tenets of the **Undoing Racism Workshop**. **Daytime** : 9am - 10:30am on the 2nd Wednesday every month.



Wednesday, March 14, 7:15PM FESTIVAL PRELUDE

Rockland Community College: **BODY AND SOUL: AN AMERICAN BRIDGE**

In this musical documentary, the fascinating evolution of the jazz standard “Body and Soul” becomes a symbol of the complicated relationship between African Americans and American Jews. Written by a Jewish composer in 1929 and famously interpreted by Louis Armstrong and the Benny Goodman Trio, the song played a major role in smashing the color barrier in popular music.



Lecture: Two Schools in Hillburn

The Historical Society of Rockland County will be screening "Two Schools in Hillburn", Q&A with filmmaker Joe Allen to follow. When: Thursday, March 15, 2018, 7:15 SHARP Where: History Center, 20 Zukor Road, New City Admission: \$FREE (reservations required) "Two Schools in Hillburn", which premiered in 2017, explores one of the most important moments in the history of civil rights and education in the United States. To reserve online, visit their website or email info@rocklandhistory.org or call (845) 634-9629.

Come Dance Your Heart Out!

SATURDAY
7:30 PM
March 17th
Snow Date: Sunday, March 18th • 6:30 pm

Get your groove on to the music of the *Swing-a-Deje* band

Lessons by Jennifer McCalla
Films by Marta Renzi

Food & Beverages by:
Chef Marcello
Gourmet Imports, LLC
PATISSEIRE
DIDIER DUMAS
included in ticket

THE ARTS COUNCIL OF ROCKLAND

Coupe Theatre Studio
430 Market Street
Nanuet, NY
to the right of Tiger Schulmann's

TICKETS:
\$35 at the door / \$30 in advance
\$25 members

LINK HERE TO PURCHASE TICKETS:
<http://artscouncilofrockland.org/dance-your-heart-out/>

Don't forget to wear your favorite dance shoes! Please leave your stiletto heels behind!

Painting by Lynn Stein
www.lynnstein.org

Proceeds will benefit programs funded by THE ARTS COUNCIL OF ROCKLAND

The 16th Annual "What's REALLY COOL? –To Empower Young Women" will take place on March 24, 2018 1:30 – 3:00 at the Finkelstein Library. Sponsored by Rockland Success Team / MHA, American Association of University Women (RC Branch) Fielding Room 24 Chestnut St. Spring Valley, NY 10977 (845) 352 5700 Refreshments served. Community Service Credit available.

AAUW empowers all women and girls to reach their highest potential.

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in the organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

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

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aauwrockland62@gmail.com
<http://rocklandcounty-ny.aauw.net>