

ASHLAND VISION

APRIL 2018

BREAKING THROUGH BARRIERS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



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Looking Ahead

Annual Meeting	Apr 14
AAUW Oregon State Convention	Apr 20-22
Celebration of Scholars	May 22
June Retreat	June 8
AAUW Medford Garden Tour	June 9

April Annual Meeting

Join us at our April Branch meeting on Saturday, April 14, 9:30–12 noon. Help celebrate our new Florence Schneider Award recipient and our Named Gift honorees. The number of Named Gift honorees depends on the amount of money people in our Branch donate to National AAUW Funds. We then select those who have served our Branch well over the past year.

We will elect officers for the next year and learn who has agreed to serve in our Board-appointed positions. We will hear from member Irene Kai about the Peace Flame. You will have an opportunity to provide feedback about this year and to voice your ideas about what our Branch should be doing in the future. Some questions to be thinking about: What did you like best about AAUW opportunities? What did you like least? Would you change our fundraising activities? What would make you feel more a part of Ashland AAUW? Do you like meeting at SOU?

Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate and collaborate with your fellow Ashland AAUW members.

When: Saturday, April 14, 9:30 am–12 noon

Where: SOU Stevenson Union, Diversions Room

Celebration of Scholars May 22

Meet and celebrate our 2018 scholarship recipients. Hear their stories and rejoice in our mission of advancing educational opportunities. Check your calendar:

When: Tuesday, May 22, 6 to 9 pm.

Where: SOU Stevenson Union, Rogue River Room

Calendar: 2018

April 14, 2018

SAT, 9:30 am–12 noon

AAUW Ashland Annual Meeting
Diversions Room, SOU

May 22, 2018

TUES., 6–9 pm

Celebration of Scholars
Rogue River Room, SOU

June 8, 2018

FRI., 10 am–2 pm

Annual Board Retreat
Ashland Public Library,
Guanajuato Room



All organizations require a regular influx of new members to inject energy and provide new ideas. I am so thrilled we welcomed 16 new members to Ashland AAUW this year. I remember being new to Oregon six years ago and not knowing anyone. It took quite a while to find my niche in the community and in AAUW. I hope that our new members will each discover her best avenue into

AAUW membership. There are many ways to get involved. One of our brand new members, Carole Forgan, has volunteered to serve on the Board next year as a member-at-large. This is a great way to get to know the organization without taking on a lot of responsibilities. Thank you, Carole! At the time of this writing we still have an opening on next year's Board for the recording secretary. This is another great position for a new member: taking the minutes at monthly Board meetings.

One explanation for our success at attracting new members has been our outstanding programs this year. Who would have thought we would have an overflow crowd in the Music Hall for Jean Houston? Actually, Tricia Acheatel, our Program Chair, was quite confident that we would. She has shown great imagination and confidence in bringing us four outstanding programs. Thank you, Tricia!

A second reason for our increase in membership, I feel, is the warmth and enthusiasm of our Membership Chair, Priscilla Arnold, and her team. I have had the pleasure of attending two new-member orientations this year coordinated by Priscilla and Erin Finklea, the Member Welcoming Coordinator. Their enthusiasm for AAUW is infectious. Membership is a time-consuming job and we owe Priscilla a big thank-you for all her efforts the last two years. Priscilla will be stepping down from membership at the end of our year, but we are excited that Catherine Lutes will move into Membership Chair.

Keeping Ashland AAUW running smoothly takes a lot of dedicated women, and there will be a lot more thank-yous at the Annual meeting April 14. Join us to congratulate the 2018 Florence Schneider recipient and the Named Gift Honorees.

—Gretchen King, Co-president



In Her Own Words:

Sweet Strength

*Edited by Wanda Chin,
AAUW Ashland Scholarship Co-Chair*

Our AAUW Ashland members are contributing to our scholarship fund accounts at Southern Oregon University and Rogue Community College. Each school has two accounts: one for annual gifts, and another for endowment. For 28 years our members have recognized the powerful strength when we give as a group. Scholarship co-chair Kate Wolf-Pizor commented during a planning meeting, “In our mother’s or grandmother’s day, they may not have been working at a job to have the means to give. What a privilege that we are in the position to provide for our women students to help them realize their educational dreams.”

SOU students Shu Yang and Aiyana Donske, tell their stories of how the AAUW Ashland scholarship awards have helped them tackle their educational goals and persevere.

Shu Yang, SOU Master’s in Business Administration, and mother

“I look out of my window, see the beautiful blue sky and realize that spring is coming. I am feeling strong and hopeful that life will bring more sweetness. When I received the AAUW Ashland scholarship, I was so happy because it released so much financial stress, and it recognized my hard work.

In Chinese, we talk about “eating bitter” as the ability to work diligently and consistently. Since I was a child, I have been told that the only way for someone with my background to be successful is by “eating bitter.” This has been an important principle of my life, yet AAUW has given me some opportunity to find the balance and the ability to be happy as I push at my limits.

I started my MBA studies at SOU in September 2017. I love and enjoy this program--the studying and working with other students. The female students are from different cultures and countries. They are so smart and capable that they inspire me to think bigger.

This confidence didn’t come easy for me. Although I started learning English in a Chinese middle school, my English was not proficient enough for me to take college courses when I first came to this country. Rogue Community College (RCC) offered me the opportunity to learn English and American culture while I was getting ready to transfer to SOU. It was at RCC that I learned to be confident as a nontraditional student who wanted to continue with higher education.

In my family life, a lot of wonderful things are happening, too! My husband just graduated with a Master’s in Public Health last fall, and he is doing some meaningful work for the Southern Oregon community. My son is growing so happily and beautifully. He is going to be five years old--hooray! It is so incredible, and life seems to be going so fast that I value every moment with him so much.

I’m so grateful for all the people and organizations, especially AAUW, who supported us in going through this very challenging journey. To all the volunteers and contributors to AAUW, thank you for being such a wonderful and powerful part of my life. I will always remember and appreciate your contribution and recognition.”

AAUW Ashland (Judy Shih Family Trust) scholar Shu Yang (China), 2nd from right, stands with her international classmates. Elizabeth Hamilton (Kenya), Maha Alsolami (Saudi Arabia), and Soraya Tantikarnjathep (Thailand) are enrolled in the SOU MBA program.



Aiyana Donske, Digital Cinema and Honors College

“Moving from Europe back to the Southern Oregon Valley this past year was a difficult transition to adapt to. The guidance and kindness of ever-inspiring women of AAUW Ashland reminded me of the personal strengths, abilities, and self-courage that I know I possess. Being a recipient of the AAUW scholarship has been a constant reminder to continue to uphold my persistent and determined qualities to achieve my goals to graduate with my Digital Cinema and Honors degrees this June.

Thanks to the added help of this scholarship, I have been able to explore other educational passions in the sciences. I have become increasingly interested in applying to a Master of Science in nursing in San Francisco. I have been able to exchange work time to begin volunteering at the Asante Hospital. I also have been able to fulfill the beginning stages of a life as a nurse and my desire to help and aid others through that field.”

Aiyana Donske in Ashland during the Christmas Parade 2017



**RISE UP
Give to
AAUW
Ashlan**

27 Years – AAUW Ashland Scholarships

4 ways to Give To AAUW Ashland Scholarships! Scholarship funds are managed by each institution’s Foundation.

Donations made to the **Annual Funds** will be used this year for scholarships awarded in May 2018.

Endowment Funds were established to benefit women students for years to come. The principal remains intact and the earnings will be used exclusively for AAUW Ashland Scholarships at RCC and SOU, this year, next year, forever.

Check-Writing Instructions:
Use a separate check for each fund.

Gifts for Southern Oregon University: Make a check to **SOU Foundation** with one of these in the Memo line:

1. AAUW Annual
2. AAUW Endowment

Gifts for Rogue Community College: Make a check to: **RCC Foundation** with one of these in the Memo line:

3. AAUW Annual
4. AAUW Endowment

**Gifts of every size are appreciated!
No gift is too small or large!
All contributions are tax-deductible.**

Your employer may have a Matching Gift Policy. Inquire if they will match your donation.

If you are 70 ½ or older, and want to directly transfer a gift from your IRA account, see your IRA administrator.

EIN #93-6029623

Mail checks to:
**AAUW Ashland
2305 Ashland St. Suite C #406
Ashland, OR 97520**

We will be distributing the membership renewal forms beginning at the April Branch meeting. You will notice three changes on these forms.

First, as previously announced, there will be a \$10 increase in National dues, which will bring our total annual member payment to \$110.

Second, our Board approved addition of another option for scholarship donation. This will be used to support attendance at the AAUW National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). Last year we helped four young students participate in this important leadership training conference, and the goal is to establish an ongoing method for funding that award.

Third, we have revised the reverse side of the renewal form to include a new skills and interest survey which will more accurately reflect the Branch organizational needs and various options for involvement. Please carefully consider these opportunities for service, and take the time to complete this side of your renewal form.

—Priscilla Arnold,
Membership Chair



In Our Thoughts

I sent these cards to Ashland Branch members:

- Sarah Cottrell - Continuing medical treatment
- Sylvia Whitman - Surgery
- Christine and Phyllis Fernlund - Passing of their brother
- Kori Calvert - Passing of her spouse, Scott

—Rosemary Adalian,
Corresponding Secretary

Last Chance

Get your picture taken for the 2018 AAUW Ashland Directory

The April 14 Branch meeting is your last chance to have your portrait taken for the 2018 Member Directory. We will begin taking pictures at 9:00 am and continue through the social time until the meeting begins at 9:30 am and again, at the end of the meeting from 12:00 – 12:30 pm. If you haven't yet had your picture taken, please make an effort to attend. There will NOT be another opportunity after the April 14 meeting.

—Chris Licata, Directory Editor

Add a Little Color to Your World

Production on the 2018 directory is in full swing and with a new format and the addition of member photos it promises to be more useful than ever, but we're not stopping there. The new look includes the addition of color and another opportunity to be represented. In order to offset the additional cost of printing in color we are offering business card ad space. Your business card in the AAUW Ashland Member Directory provides an ideal venue for advertising your business. The cost is \$30.00 for a black & white ad and \$35.00 for a color ad. **Mail your business card and a check** made out to AAUW Ashland to:

AAUW Ashland
2305 Ashland St. Suite C #406
Ashland, OR 97520

—Chris Licata, Directory Editor

AAUW Medford Branch

Saturday, April 7, 9:30 am
Rogue Credit Union, 1330 Poplar Drive

Program: “To Live and Die a WASP: Women Air Service Pilots,” presentation by author William H. Miller

Saturday, June 9, 10 am–4 pm

Medford Spring Garden Tour — 10th annual tour, tickets \$20 at all Grange Co-ops. Four gardens in Eagle Point and two in Medford



AAUW Grants Pass Branch

Saturday, April 21, 10 am
Fruitdale Grange

Program: “AAUW Funds Enrich Lives”

AAUW Oregon Convention “Now More Than Ever”

April 20–22,
Tanasbourne Embassy Suites,
Hillsboro



Workshops:

- “I Am Not Invisible”— a look at women veterans
- “Mentoring the Next Generations for Public Office”
- “Title IX Compliance in Oregon K–12 Schools”
- “Oregon Tradeswomen”—founded in 1989 to promote women in the trades

Oregon Legislators’ Panel, moderated by Trish Garner

Counterpart sessions, Table talk collaborations

Details: <https://aauw-or.aauw.net/files/2018/02/Oregon-News-January-2018-Convention-Issue-Public.pdf>

Register online by APRIL 1:

<https://aauw-or.aauw.net/2018-convention-registration/>

INTEREST GROUPS

Contact the Coordinator to join a group.

Arts and Language

AFTERNOON MOVIE GROUP meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month to watch a movie at the Varsity or Ashland Street Cinemas. We meet in the lobby 10 minutes before the selected movie begins. If you wish, we can discuss the movie at a local hotspot afterward. The selected movie and the time are announced by email. *Coordinator: Jean Conger*

MUSICALS meets the 3rd Monday of the month at 4:30, usually at the home of Ed Perkins. Look for a group e-mail. *Coordinator: Diane Novak*

OPERA meets the 1st Tuesday of each month at 4 pm. Our next meeting is April 3 at the home of Ed Perkins. The opera will be announced via email. Bring an appetizer or potluck dish, and wine or other beverage to share. *Coordinator: Nancy Kramarenko*

PLAY READING is the 4th Friday of each month at 4 pm. On April 27, at Carolyn Peake's home, we will begin "Snow Falling in Midsummer," available at the Tudor Guild. *Coordinators: Annette Lewis and Carolyn Peake*

SHAKESPEARE AT OSF meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 12:30 to 3:00 at Annette Lewis's home: April 11 and 25. We are in "Loves Labor's Lost" and will begin "Romeo and Juliet" when we finish LLL, which might be before the last April meeting, so bring both scripts or check with Annette. *Coordinator: Annette Lewis*

Book Groups

ADELANTE! Online book group sponsored by AAUW. Go to www.aauw.org/resource/adelante-book-list. April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and the book is "The Kindness of Strangers" by Katrina Kittle. Sarah Laden's life is tumultuous enough, but she finds herself fostering her closest friend's young son after he suffers through a family tragedy. Everyone must reckon with the truth and learn how to forgive and heal.

BRAIN BOOKS will meet on Tuesday, April 24, 1:30-3:30 pm, in Ashland Public Library, to discuss "The Politics of Resentment: Rural Consciousness in Wisconsin and the Rise of Scott Walker" by Katherine J. Cramer. How is it that the very people who stand to benefit from strong government services not only vote against the candidates who support those services but are vehemently against the very idea of big government? *Coordinator: Sandra Coyner*

DAY NONFICTION We meet on the 1st Wednesday at 1 pm. On April 4 we will gather at the home of Terrie Jensen. She will lead us in discussing "Stranger in the Forest: On Foot Across Borneo" by Eric Hansen. *Coordinator: Linda Lipkind*

EVENING NONFICTION meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7 pm. On April 18, Fran Adams will host and lead a discussion of "The Hidden Life of Trees" by Peter Wohlleben and Mike Grady. *Coordinator: Ellen Fowler*

FICTION DAY BOOKS has reached a size that allows us only to take a waiting list for now. We meet in the homes of members 1-3 pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. If you would like to be on the waiting list, please contact *Coordinator: Kate Wolf-Pizor*

MONDAY EVENING BOOKS will meet on Monday, April 9, at 7 pm at Peggy Audibert's home to discuss "Homegoing" by Yaa Gyasi. Margaret Dole will lead the discussion. *Coordinator: Shannon Stuver*

THURSDAY EVENING MYSTERY will gather at 7 pm on Thursday, April 12, at the home of Phyllis Fernlund, to discuss "Silence of the Grave" by Arnalder Indridason. *Coordinators: Carol Ryan and Rosemary Adalian*

Games, Genealogy, Knitting & Dining

BOARD GAMES meets the 4th Wednesday at 7 pm: April 25. The host will be Gayle Turner. *Coordinator: Marcella Theeman*

GENEALOGY We meet at 1:30 pm on the 4th Thursday at the Jackson County Genealogy Library, 3405 S. Pacific Hwy., Medford. Our next meeting is April 26. Any AAUW Ashland member interested in family research (beginning or advanced) who would like to participate in the exchange of family history discoveries, stories, photos, and tips is welcome to join us. *Coordinator: Linda Lipkind*

KNITTERS AND STITCHERS will be held Thursday, April 12, 1-3 pm, at the home of Marlyn Barrick. RSVP to Marlyn if you plan to attend, and bring with you a hand project to work on, and any completed projects you would like to share. *Coordinator: Peggy Audibert*

POTLUCK DINNERS: will meet on Wednesday, April 18, at 6 pm at the home of Elaine & Dick Sweet. Please bring a dish to share and a bottle of wine. Be sure to RSVP so there is enough space for everyone. *Coordinator: Elaine Sweet*

March to a Million Campaign Moves Forward!

Our endowment match campaign to raise \$500k in bequests and outright gifts marches on! Two more substantial gifts have come in since our last update! Many thanks to the two recent, generous donors who gave to the campaign. They are making a difference to the futures of young women in this Valley. **Won't you join them in making a difference?**

To recap . . . our Ashland AAUW Branch has been challenged to raise \$500k in bequests and outright cash gifts to the SOU Endowment Fund. An anonymous donor has pledged a \$500k bequest to match any monies we raise up to that amount. **That means that we could potentially establish a \$1 million SOU Endowment Fund that would annually provide multiple SOU scholarships in perpetuity!**

Your gift of outright cash and/or bequest to the SOU Endowment Fund will continue to have an impact on higher education for women in the Rogue Valley **forever! So come join us now and be part of the future!**

For information on how to give a cash gift or on how to set up a bequest to the SOU Endowment Fund, please email or call Jean Conger, Endowment Committee Chair.

From the Board meeting on February 26, 2018

We are still seeking a co-financial officer to work with Diana Quirk for 2018-19. Please contact Gretchen King if you are an interested in serving. We have recently contracted with a bookkeeper, so much of the routine work is covered.

Membership Chair Priscilla Arnold will be handing out a membership form at the April Branch meeting. Please help by filling it out at the April meeting. If you are unable to attend, please contact Priscilla for a copy of the form. REMEMBER the form has a back side, which many people neglect to complete. It asks for information about your skills and interests to help us serve you better.

Vision committee members Ellen Fowler and Pat Brewer provided the Board with an update on the new format for the “Vision” to make it more accessible and provide information in a shorter format. They reminded the Board that the Newsletter is member driven.

Mimi Pippel will write a grant to help pay for a banner to advertise the Sexual Assault Awareness event.

The Board was reminded of an upcoming Women’s Leadership Conference on May 11 at the Ashland Hills Hotel. If you are interested, contact Mimi.

Gretchen King and Sandy Theis reminded the Board that the State Convention is April 20– 22 in Hillsboro. We have several delegate slots available. If interested, contact Gretchen. We will raffle a basket from the Branch, focusing on local items.

—Peggy Moore
Secretary



Equal Pay Day 2018 — April 10

Yes ladies, we are still lobbying for equal pay even though the Oregon Legislature passed the **Equal Pay Act** in 2017. Last year, we gathered on the Plaza and then rallied along E. Main with signs and t-shirts. This year, we

are hosting a public meeting at the Ashland Library from 12 to 1 pm to educate employed women and employers on what the Equal Pay Act is and how it changes the workplace for the better.

We will be using the new **Equal Pay Toolkit**, a resource manual from the State Public Policy Committee (on which I represent the Southern District) to educate those who attend. The Equal Pay Toolkit can be found on the Oregon AAUW website at <https://aauw-or.aauw.net/oregon-equal-pay-tool-kit/>

The event will be a brown bag lunch so that working women can attend during their lunch hour. So if you are working or have working friends, daughters, granddaughters, invite them to join us. If you know business owners, invite them to attend. The law has passed, but we need to educate both employees and employers on the new law.

Lobby Day 2018

Over 50 AAUW members from across the state attended Lobby Day 2018 on February 9 in Salem. Ashland AAUW members Phyllis Fernlund, Catherine Lutes, Sara

Brown, Susan Hollandsworth, myself and Susan Moen, Executive Director, Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) of Jackson and Josephine counties, traveled north for the annual event. This year’s topic was **Oregon’s Policy on Sexual Harassment, Bullying and Assault in our Schools: Is it Enough?** A panel of experts spoke in the morning on this ongoing critical issue facing our children and young adults. The afternoon was devoted to lobbying our legislators: Senator Alan DeBoer and Representative Pam Marsh.

—Regina Ayars, Public Policy Team



Oregon Legislative Session 2018

The short session of the Oregon Legislature ended March 5. Seven of the eight bills that AAUW of Oregon Public Policy supported passed.

Education

- **House Bill 4150:** Requires State Board of Education to adopt rules regarding the investigation of sexual harassment claims.
- **House Bill 4141:** Requires colleges and universities to have an advisory body to advise their presidents regarding resident tuition and enrollment fees.
- **Senate Bill 1563:** Students who are part of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program who qualify for it can obtain in-state tuition status and financial aid.

Housing

- **House Bill 4007:** Increases document recording fee by \$40 to \$60 with funds estimated at \$60 million for the biennium to be allocated for affordable housing and emergency shelter programs.

Public Safety and Firearms Violence Prevention

- **House Bill 4145:** A person can be convicted for stalking members of one’s family, and the convicted stalker may be prohibited from possessing firearms.
- **Senate Bill 1562:** Adds family or household members to the class of victims against whom one can commit the felony crime of strangulation.

Healthcare

- **Senate Bill 1534:** Requires the Department of Human Services to establish minimum training standards for home care workers and personal support workers.

—Regina Ayars, Public Policy Team

March 2018

Charitable Partners

These five members have pledged to make a donation to either the AAUW/SOU or AAUW/RCC Scholarship Fund every time an AAUW member uses their services or refers someone who uses their services. We thank them for their generosity and dedication to AAUW.

Julie Downey, Broker
Gateway Real Estate
541-261-7939
gateway-realestate.com/julie-downey

Liz Murphy, CFP MBA/Financial Advisor
Raymond James Financial Services
541-779-9907
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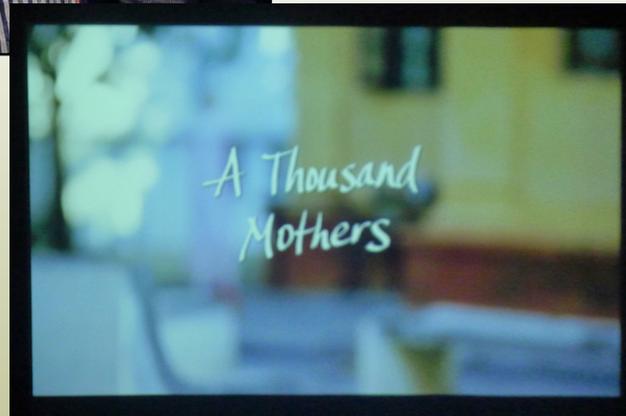
Annette Pugh, Broker
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541-840-1455
eap@mind.net

Dhyan Summers,
Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist
Summers Therapy
541-930-1100
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Sara Walker, Broker
Patricia Sprague Real Estate
541-951-5454
sara@hatsoff2u.com
hatsoff2u.com



Program Chair Tricia Acheatel and Joanne Feinberg, Associate Producer of the documentary "A Thousand Mothers" and co-founder of AIFF



Title slide from "A Thousand Mothers"



Ashland Vision

is a monthly newsletter of the Ashland, Oregon, Branch of AAUW

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Co-Presidents:
Sandy Theis and Gretchen King

Financial Officer:
Diana Quirk

Recording Secretary:
Peggy Moore

Membership Chair:
Priscilla Arnold

Public Policy Chair:
Paula Wiiken

Contact Secretary:
Rosemary Adalian

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Pat Brewer, Ellen Fowler, and Marisa Stone

Designer:
Chris Licata

Photographer:
Alice Mallory

Readers:
Margaret Karsten, Alice Mallory, Rae Otto, and Sylvia Whitman

Newsletter deadline is the 15th of the month. Photos of interest group activities are welcome.

AAUW Ashland Website:

<http://ashland-or.aauw.net>

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



Give to Scholarships

Mail checks to:
AAUW Ashland
2305 Ashland St. Suite 406
Ashland, OR 97520