

ASHLAND

BREAKING THROUGH BARRIERS

VISION



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Celebration of Scholars is Alive and Well



Sunny Anderson and Carol Mockridge

There's a new date for the Celebration of Scholars. Our most important event of the year will not be eclipsed by current events, only postponed. The scholarship committee is in the process of selecting this year's AAUW Ashland scholarship awardees. Look for information about this year's winners in the June newsletter.

Our scholars appreciate our awards ceremony and we look forward to celebrating with them, to meet them and hear about their accomplishments. We are excited to coordinate our next awards event in time for our September Branch meeting, conditions permitting.

When: Wednesday, September 30, 5:30 pm
Where: SOU Stevenson Union, Rogue River Room

"For the scholarship winners, I think the experience of seeing a roomful of powerful, caring women cheering them on is probably even more valuable than the scholarship money they receive. I wish I had experienced that as I made choices to prepare for my future career."

—Carol Mockridge,
co-chair Celebration of Scholars

"It is certainly my privilege to support this wonderful event. When I attended my first COS I was so impressed that AAUW Ashland not only gave women scholarships, but also provided a celebratory forum for scholarship recipients to tell their stories in front of their family, friends, and our members. Our mission states that we believe in the power of women and we acknowledge and support their goals. COS puts those words into action. That is why this event is so meaningful and important."

—Sunny Anderson,
co-chair Celebration of Scholars

Love your home

Save the Date: Annual Board Retreat

Mark your calendars for the annual Board Retreat on Saturday, June 27. At this moment we are planning for an in-person meeting. That could change depending on the status of social distancing.

Although the event is called a "Board" retreat, it's open to all members of our AAUW Ashland Branch. This is an opportunity to discuss our priorities and goals for the upcoming year. The meeting will be held from 10 am-2 pm. Come a little early for coffee. We will enjoy a potluck lunch so please bring something yummy to share. If you can't attend but would like to express your concerns or wishes to the Board, please contact Paula Wiiken by email.

When: Saturday, June 27, 10am-2 pm

Where: Ashland Asante Community Hospital
Conference Room, 280 Maple Street, Ashland

Membership Renewal

It's Membership Renewal time! We have new registration forms with a new design and new features including the ability to fill out your form online. And because we are not meeting for our April meeting, these new features are more useful than ever.

See Membership News on page 2 for more details.



Dear Members,

Since we all began sheltering in place, I have noticed a common theme in Ashland AAUW emails. One member expressed this theme well, "I sure miss all my AAUW friends."

I hope you and your families are weathering the pandemic with a cheerful spirit and good health. I took an informal survey of our committees and interest groups. Here are some ways we are staying in touch.

Your co-presidents are conducting Zoom meetings as issues arise. The Board will also meet online for the first time at our April session. Seven Ashland members were delegates to the online Oregon AAUW meeting April 19th. We voted on state issues and shared strategies with other branches.

Committees are meeting online and by email. Both the Celebration of Scholars and Public Policy committees met using Zoom. There was lots of laughter as we all figured out the finer points of using our devices to converse and make timely decisions.

The interest groups are using various methods to communicate. A day fiction book club member told me the readers are "trading emails about how we are coping, what books we are reading, and some funny stories - which helps a lot!" The day nonfiction group is selecting books for the next six months via email.

The night fiction group is meeting by Zoom in May. The Thursday Mystery readers met via Zoom in April and "had a lively discussion which covered PD James's 'The Lighthouse' very thoroughly. We loved seeing each other and will meet again via Zoom if needed."

Movie Musicals is sending out links to watch musicals online for free and trading song quotes, all by email. The Opera group is "staying in touch primarily via email, sharing links to beautiful music, humor and joy. Many are enjoying the Metropolitan Opera's free streaming."

Genealogy is meeting by email and will reconvene once the Jackson County Genealogy Library re-opens. One Friendship Circle is meeting by Zoom while others are waiting until they can visit each other's homes. Play Reading and Shakespeare at OSF wrote "We keep in touch. That's the bottom line."

We look forward to the Ashland AAUW meeting when we can greet each other and swap stories in person. Until then, be well.

—Paula Wiiken, Co-President

Membership Renewal

Greetings from Membership in Quarantine!

I hope this finds you all enjoying this glorious weather, this season of renewal and rebirth, and that you are able to keep your sense of purpose strong in these uncertain times.

Because we will not have an April meeting, when renewal forms are handed out, we'll be doing a virtual handoff. This year, your renewal forms are available on our recently updated Ashland AAUW website <https://ashland-or.aauw.net> under the header at the top that says JOIN.

The form can be filled in online and consists of (1) the renewal page and (2) the Interest Survey. Remember, this is a virtual handoff. The form must be printed out and put into an envelope to be sent to the address shown on the renewal form, together with your check, or you may check the box to have your bank send a check (if you subscribe to such a service.) Just follow the directions on the website --Easy peasy!

The march toward equity for women and girls that National AAUW and our Branch is committed to does not stop for COVID-19. It is so important that you renew before our directory deadline of June 30, so there is no lapse in our funding to continue this very important work!

Feel free to contact me with questions or concerns.

Keep well, keep safe, renew.

—Catherine Lutes, Membership Chair

New Registration Forms Design and Features:

- Registration Forms including the Interest Survey can now be completed online before printing
- New option to pay through your bank's bill pay

Select the applicable link to join or renew

1. **Complete** the form online*
2. **Print** out the completed form
3. **Mail** the completed form with your check (if sending a check) to: AAUW Ashland, 2305 Ashland Street, Suite C, #406, Ashland OR 97520

*Works best with Adobe Acrobat Reader: <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>

To use the fillable forms feature on your mobile devices such as smart phones or tablets, download the Adobe Acrobat Reader app from your device's app store.

Note: If you wish, you may always just print out the blank form and complete it by hand, before mailing.



Celebrate 30 Years of Resilience

By Kate Wolf-Pizor,
co-chair AAUW Ashland Scholarship Committee

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY! Thirty years ago the first AAUW Ashland scholarship fund was formed by our members who believed a college education is truly the gift that keeps on giving for a lifetime. Research shows that when a woman is educated, her family and community also succeed.

AAUW Ashland joins our foremothers in moving forward: Like when Ashland women started the first library in town, or when women advocated for Lithia Park. Decisive and dedicated women persevered through the challenges of the times!

This year's coronavirus [Covid 19] pandemic necessitates us to work creatively and from a social distance. Because so many of us persevere to empower women—via policy, community programs and networks, fundraising and more—we need to celebrate and acknowledge one another for our long-term efforts.

AAUW Ashland endowed scholarship funds at Southern Oregon University (SOU) and Rogue Community College are what we have worked toward for years. Thirty years later, our endowed funds earn money to be used annually while protecting the principal in perpetuity.

We are still working with our partner schools, SOU and RCC, to select wonderful scholars this year. You can look forward to “meeting” them in our June newsletter.

Milestones must be celebrated. We work as a community all year, and one day we get to award and meet our AAUW Ashland scholarship recipients. We get to celebrate theirs and our accomplishments. Celebration is a way of welcoming the future into the present and of thanking each other for the work we have accomplished. It is a time out to take a breath together and say, “Look how far we have come.” Celebration is a pause that allows us to count blessings and to reset the course to continue the work.

So, Happy Anniversary! Coming in the fall, we look forward to get together for our traditional Celebration of Scholars where you can meet and hear from our next generation of leaders.

Thank you for your part in continuing this heritage—empowering women!

Wanda Chin and Kate Wolf-Pizor
Scholarship Committee co-chairs



In Her Own Words: Adapting to Change

Samantha Sochia
RCC - Nursing

November 2019. My final year in nursing school is in full swing and I am having a blast! My responsibilities as a student nurse have literally doubled. It has been an incredible journey working in a hospital and learning something new every single day. I am over the moon to have been presented with multiple opportunities to observe and assist in bedside surgical procedures, and collaborate with complex wound care. These experiences are opening my eyes to the vast realm of options within the nursing field, and I'm excited to find my own place.

I've recently volunteered at a few local flu clinics around the valley and have been honing my injection skills while helping the elderly community to stay protected this upcoming season. While nursing school and children have been keeping me busy, I'm still a country girl at heart and have spent the last three months helping my parents with the fall harvest at their farm.



Samantha Sochia prepares a flu shot at Rogue Valley Manor.

This scholarship has personally helped me fund my education and allowed me to help my family on their homestead without having to get a second job. Agriculture is essential to a sustainable valley and I feel truly thankful to have time this year to chip in.

April 2020. My life has changed quite a bit with the coronavirus [Covid-19]. School-hospital training is all online now with virtual simulations. It is a very different experience, but I am thankful that the school [RCC] found a way to help us get our hours to still graduate on time. The hospitals also have been accommodating to our changes.

Along with my own full time schooling, I am also homeschooling my children. This has left me feeling very thankful for their past teachers, and I am humbled by the amount of work it takes. I am expecting a baby girl and our family is very excited to introduce a new member early this summer. Afterwards I hope to be applying for a surgical RN position at the local hospitals.

Hope you all are staying safe and your lives aren't getting too chaotic with all these crazy changes going on these days.



Samantha works to harvest the last round of pumpkins in the Applegate Valley.

In Her Own Words: Cause to Celebrate

Sierra Sims

Wolf-Pizor Family Scholar, SOU Undergraduate McNair Scholar, English major with a Certificate in Native American Studies

I was accepted to the University of California San Diego in Ethnic Studies PhD program, to begin in fall 2020. UCSD offered me four years guaranteed funding, including a \$2,000 moving scholarship, guaranteed housing, and health insurance. For the first two years I don't need to teach and I have been awarded a \$22,000 fellowship per year. I am excited to begin this new adventure and further my goals to work with tribal communities to combat the endemic issues around Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Two Spirit folks, a movement that raises awareness about the epidemic of Native women going missing or being killed.

The scholarship has helped add a substantial breath of air for me, allowing me to purchase my books, parking passes, and other items without having to worry. This quarter [spring 2020] I am managing, but it's difficult in these times. Our club's [Native American Student Union] annual powwow and SOU commencement have been cancelled. These exciting spring events gave me energy and joy, now put on hold.

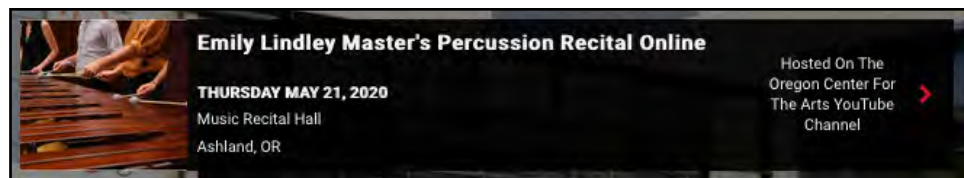


Sierra Sims (center) with SOU students Jordan Bruyn and Stasie Maxwell (left and right), wear red handprints in solidarity with Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW). The red hand symbolizes the silenced voices of these women. May 5, 2020 is a National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

Notes Online:

Emily Lindley

Graduate SOU Music major



Awarded an AAUW Ashland scholarship (2019-20), Emily Lindley has been studying and performing with SOU music professor Terry Longshore. With several of the scheduled spring 2020 concerts cancelled, enjoy two of Emily's percussion performances online.

Attention - Charlie Puth (Percussion Cover; 3:56)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g9BQeRjVwWo>

Attention by Charlie Puth arranged for percussion by Emily Lindley.

How many instruments does she play?

SOU Percussion Festival 2020 w/ Guest Artist Ivan Trevino (1:11:33)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=84Q0Q_sKa0E

Listen to the entire concert; Emily plays at 32:01.

See Emily Lindley Master's Percussion Recital Online at the Oregon Center for the Arts Youtube Channel – Thursday, May 21, 2020

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCf_UqkkG53MS5_st4-7P-Mg/videos

Here is a picture of me and my mom, Dr. Eunice Elizabeth Cox, who died in Ashland in 2018. She was a first generation college graduate and an AAUW member in Santa Barbara, CA. Her death prompted us to form the Wolf-Pizor Family Scholarship at AAUW Ashland. She would have been so proud!

—Kate Wolf-Pizor



Essential Services: Full Zoom into Scholarship

Our scholars report rushing through their winter term, not knowing how the coronavirus was going to affect their studies and their lives. The spring break stretched to two weeks. Suddenly they were not returning to a physical campus. The spring quarter would be conducted online.

Samantha Sochia, RCC Nursing student, has to complete her own training and also homeschool her children. Sierra Sims, Wolf-Pizor Family Scholar, shares the bittersweet loss of college commencement while looking forward to her 4-year graduate school scholarship. Music graduate student Emily Lindley had a whole schedule of performances cancelled around the

country, but she is scheduled to hold her Master's recital online.

Our AAUW Ashland scholarship committee wasted no time complaining about the pandemic inconveniences. Our students and their schools needed us to keep going, from a distance, to select scholars for the next school year.

Our good-humored members had only 5 days to learn the videoconference technology on their own. Fortunately, our criteria and process developed over the years could be discussed via videoconference and committee members were tenacious to DIY problem-solve when their systems crashed. No IT staff for volunteers.

The long-term economic outlook forecasts significant financial challenges ahead. But we are grateful that our colleges, their respective foundations and staff have instituted standards that support students and donors alike. We are grateful to our Endowment Committee and member donors who have generously funded the AAUW Ashland scholarships at RCC and SOU. Through thick and thin, we can't imagine a more resilient group to sodier on.

—Wanda Chin and Kate Wolf-Pizor, co-chairs AAUW Ashland Scholarship

To Zoom, or Not to Zoom?

What the heck is Zoom? That seems to be the question in the air these days. A month ago none of us had ever heard of Zoom, either as a noun or a verb, and now it's part of the everyday experience for millions of Americans—including AAUW Ashland Branch members. While there are many ways to stay connected through technology, such as FaceTime, WhatsApp, Facebook, or Google Hangouts, the Zoom platform seems to be the most popular, especially among us novices.

I will confess to being a Zoom skeptic, thinking it was too complicated, not secure, or a poor substitute for “real” human connection. But as the stay-at-home weeks drag on, I have become an initially reluctant convert and have actually hosted a book group meeting. I'm even enjoying a weekly virtual happy hour that has become increasingly comfortable and fun. On April 19 I was brave enough to be a delegate to the virtual AAUW Oregon Convention held via Zoom with about 80 participants. It certainly wasn't as fun as the real convention would have been, but it worked!

As Paula's President's Message shows, many of our interest groups and committees have gone virtual and are getting comfortable with Zooming. Once you have done a meeting via Zoom you'll realize that it's not difficult. The Zoom website has a lot of easy-to-use information, tutorials, and YouTube links to learn how to use their service. It's simple to sign up for a free account that entitles you to Zoom for an unlimited time with one person, or for up to 40 minutes for up to 100 people.

Here are some links to get you started.

<https://zoom.us>

<https://zoom.us/download>

I'll also post information on our AAUW Ashland home page at <https://ashland-aa.uw.net> where we've posted some great suggestions on how to stay connected from our AAUW Oregon President, Georgia Applegate.

Happy Zooming! Please contact me if you have suggestions, questions, or comments.

—Ellen Fowler, Communications Chair



Six members of the AAUW Ashland Scholarship Committee met online via Zoom to review, discuss, interview and select scholarship applicants from RCC and SOU. Top, left to right: Ann Lovett, Wanda Chin, and Erin Finklea, 2nd row: Elaine Sweet, Katharine Lang, and Kate Wolf-Pizor, Bottom: Peggy Moore. Committee members, not pictured, include Priscilla Arnold, Lyn Gutierrez, Suzanne Hering, Mary Renaud, Stephanie Bullock, Margaret Humphrey, Sharon Dean, Sara Seybold, Anne Cowden, and Carole Florian.

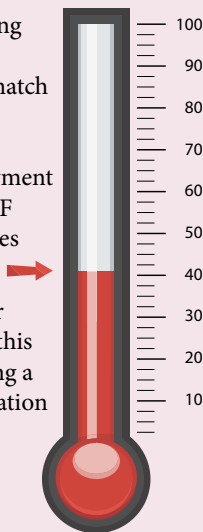


Lang Match Challenge Update

Great news! Because of the incredible generosity of our members and friends, the Lang Match Challenge has already achieved **41.4%** of the final match goal of \$50,000. The 2020 donations raised to date are \$15,364 for the RCCF endowment fund and \$5,650 for the SOUF endowment fund which makes a total of **\$21,014**.

When you are returning your Membership Renewal Form this month, please consider adding a gift to either the RCC Foundation or the SOU Foundation. Remember that your gift will be matched dollar for dollar.

Let's keep that donation thermometer rising!



Thank You
—Endowment Committee



Check out the New National AAUW Website!

After a thorough and lengthy process, National AAUW has rolled out its newly designed and greatly improved website. They analyzed in detail how visitors interacted with the site and what pages had the most traffic. They eliminated over 15,000 pages of obsolete content that made it hard to navigate, and now there are 250 pages of sharp, focused, and easy to find timely information. It aims to not only be a resource for members, but also the go-to source for anyone seeking information about issues affecting gender equity. It's bold, relevant, high impact, and focused! Check it out here:

<https://www.aauw.org>

Later this year local and state websites will be able to mirror the national site, so stay tuned! In the meantime your Communications team is keeping our local website as up to date and helpful as possible, especially during these trying times when we can't get together, so please check it out, too.

<https://www.aauw-or.aauw.net>

<https://www.ashland-or.aauw.net>

Named Gift Honorees Announced

Individual members and the Branch, as a whole, make contributions to AAUW National Funds throughout the year. For each \$500 in donation, the Branch qualifies to select a Named Gift Honoree. Branch leadership selects members who have made an outstanding or uniquely helpful contribution to programs and projects. For the calendar year 2019, as AAUW Funds Chair, I am please to announce nine honorees.

- **Anne Ainsworth** and **Karen Hueston**, our storage angels, for many years of generous garage space for our Garden Tour, \$\$ 4 Scholars, party, and Celebration of Scholars supplies.
- **Sandy Burd** for creating a book library within our Upscale Sale two years running and for helping shoppers find just the right books to buy.
- **Wanda Chin**, named gift honoree for the second time, for leading teams to review scholarship applications and make selections and then to share their stories in our Vision.
- **Ellen Fowler** for updating our website, serving as communication chair, and serving as editor of the Vision.
- **Katherine Lang** (and her husband) for inspiring continued support for RCC by initiating the Lang Match Challenge.
- **Chris Licata** for lending her graphic skills to our award-winning Vision newsletter.
- **Kathleen Mackris** for securing the Asante conference room for our Branch meetings, for preparing the room each month, and bringing us interesting mission-related programs.
- **Carol Ryan** for her years of leadership of the Women in Need (WiN) team assisting Dunn House with needed items and for our Branch meeting book sales for bus tokens for Dunn House residents.
- **Janet Troy** for securing the Asante conference room, for preparing the room for our meetings; and bringing us interesting mission-related programs.

AAUW of Oregon has recognized our honorees with a certificate and our branch will celebrate their honor at the September Branch meeting. The Florence Schneider Awardee will be celebrated at that meeting also.

Congratulations to all!

—Bessie Azari

LOOKING FORWARD

Even in these troubling times of COVID-19, Ashland's Public Policy committee is reflecting on the work we have done this year and more importantly looking forward to the work that lies ahead at the national, state, and local levels in 2020-2021.

AAUW Ashland Branch's 2020 -21 Agenda

The Public Policy committee usually takes its lead from the State Public Policy Committee and its chair Trish Garner when we strategize about our coming year's priorities and focus. Those state priorities are always subject to change as we move closer to the opening of the Oregon Legislative Session in February 2021, but our team likes to use the summer months to start researching an issue.

At our April Zoom meeting, we discussed several topics of interest:

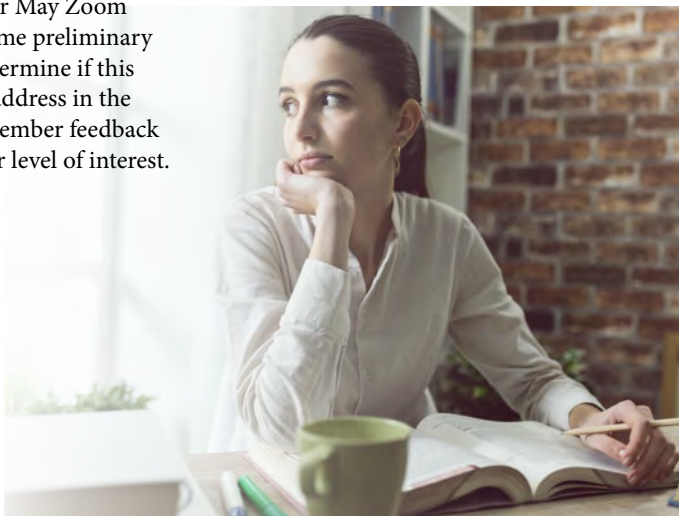
- Gender diversity on company boards
- Civics education in our schools
- Rollout of the Student Success legislation
- Child care needs of college students

After discussion, the team was most interested in the topic of gender diversity on company boards. Prior to our May Zoom meeting, the team will do some preliminary information gathering to determine if this issue is one that we want to address in the coming year. We welcome member feedback on these four issues and their level of interest.

AAUW National's 2020-21 Agenda focuses on three main areas:

1. **Economic Security**
 - Equal Pay
 - Paycheck Fairness Act
 - Retirement Security
 - Paid Leave
 - Healthcare
2. **Education and Title IX**
 - Higher Education
 - Elementary and Secondary Education Act
 - School Vouchers
 - STEM Education
 - Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence in Schools
 - Title IX
3. **Civil Rights**
 - Equal Rights Amendment
 - Human Trafficking
 - Reproductive Rights
 - LGBTQ Rights

For more details on National issues go to the [AAUW website https://www.aauw.org/act/policy-center/](https://www.aauw.org/act/policy-center/)



AAUW Oregon's 2020-21 Agenda

The 2020 Oregon Legislative Session was cut short due to Republican legislators leaving the capitol building prior to the official end date. Therefore, none of the bills of interest to AAUW of Oregon passed.

The top three priorities were:

- HB 4076 - Establishing a Taskforce on Age Discrimination.
- HB 4131 - Providing Statutory Authorization and Funding for the Family Preservation Project at Coffee Creek Correction Facility.
- HB 4132 - Requiring Oregon Health Authority & Oregon Department of Education to administer and collect data from student health surveys.

Bills actively supported:

- HB 4005 - Requiring firearms to be secured with a trigger or cable lock and in a locked container.
- SB 4010 - Providing for disconnection of Oregon from the federal "Opportunity Zone" tax break.
- HB 4040 - Establishing a Family Treatment Court Pilot project in five counties including Jackson County.
- HB 4112 - Expanding funding for high school staff to teach a child abuse prevention program and create Children's Advocacy Centers.
- HB 4133 - Funding to locate domestic violence advocates in DHS offices.
- HB 1540 - Providing a licensing framework for student loan service providers.

- HB 1566 - Allowing foster children to qualify for Oregon Promise based on the highest educational level they achieved while placed out of state.
- HB 4055 - Requiring a study and recommendations on how community colleges and universities can combat food and housing insecurity among students.
- HB 4104 - Authorizing political contributions to be used to defray both health insurance premiums and caregiving expenses.
- HB4098 - Directing the Department of Education to develop a statewide, long term strategic plan to provide computer science education to all schools by the 2025-2026 school year.
- HB 4160 - Establishing a Taskforce on Student Success for underrepresented students in higher education.
- SB 1522 - Modifying definitions of "sexual conduct" and "student" for purposes of requirements for education providers related to abuse of sexual conduct toward students.
- SB 1538 - Authorizing various jurisdictions to adopt ordinances limiting the possession of firearms in public buildings on the basis of having a concealed handgun license.

We are hopeful that many of these bills will be reintroduced in the 2021-2022 Legislative Session.

If you are interested in joining the Public Policy team to be a part of our civic engagement efforts—please contact Regina Ayars, Chair Public Policy

Primary Election May 19

Did you receive your Voter Pamphlet? If not, call 541-774-6148. Ballots are being mailed May 1, so you will have 2+ weeks to fill yours out before Election Day, Tuesday, May 19.

You have decisions to make:

- Vote for a candidate to run for Greg Walden's 2nd Congressional District seat
- Statewide offices: Secretary of State, Treasurer
- Jackson County offices: County Commissioner, Assessor
- Nonpartisan offices: Judges

Ashland Ballot Measures:

- Amend the Ashland City Charter to create a City Manager position?
- New Jail: Form a District to construct and operate a local correctional facility?
- Issue \$8.2 million in bonds to finance City Hall, Pioneer Hall, and Community Center capital projects?

VOTE by May 19!

Ballot drop box behind Ashland Library is open until 8 pm on May 19.

Charitable Partners

These two 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.

Liz Murphy, CFP MBA/Financial Advisor
Raymond James Financial Services
541-779-9907
Liz.Murphy@RaymondJames.com
raymondjames.com/lizmurphy

Sara Walker, Broker
Patricia Sprague Real Estate
541-951-5454
sara@hatsoff2u.com
hatsoff2u.com

Scholarships Available for Childcare Expenses

Last fall during the "welcome to campus" orientation at SOU, Mimi Pippel hosted an AAUW table that advertised our mission of "Empowering Women Since 1881." Several women stopped by the table with children in strollers and suggested AAUW could best empower women by assisting with childcare costs.

The Schneider Children's Center and the Student Associations at RCC and SOU have provided childcare subsidies in the past. Unfortunately, those programs were terminated as budgets tightened.

This year, in partnership with both RCC and SOU, the AAUW Board modified our scholarship program to include childcare expenses. The criteria for the scholarships will remain the same: female, 3.25 GPA, full-time student, demonstrated leadership ability, community service, and financial need. Scholarships will first be used to cover RCC and SOU costs for tuition, room and board, books, fees, and supplies charged to a student's account. Any remaining balance in the student account may be applied to childcare expenses.

RCC and SOU have already established the program requirements. The student must:

- Be a parent or the legal caregiver of the child;
- Enroll their child in a DHS-approved program;
- Maintain at least 8 on-campus credits while receiving the subsidy;
- Remain in 'good academic standing; and
- Continue making adequate progress toward graduation.

The subsidy will be awarded in one full amount each term. The maximum amount of the subsidy is calculated at \$400/month, 3 months/ term, and for three terms (fall, winter, and spring only), or a total of \$1,200/term and \$3,600/year. Once awarded, students need only verify eligibility to continue receiving the subsidy for the duration of that academic year.



INTEREST GROUPS

In light of the limitation on group gatherings due to the corona virus COVID-19 situation, unless otherwise specified below, these groups will NOT meet during the month of May. We hope we'll have better news in the June newsletter!

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

OPERA usually meets the first Tuesday of each month at 4 pm at the home of Ed Perkins. *Coordinator: Nancy Kramarenko*

PLAY READING normally meets the fourth Friday of each month at Annette Lewis's home. *Coordinator: Annette Lewis*

SHAKESPEARE AT OSF usually meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 12:30 to 3 pm. We read aloud those plays being performed at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, and share interesting information regarding both the subject being read and the writing itself. *Coordinators: Michaela Rae and Peggy Audibert*

Book Groups

BRAIN BOOKS usually meets on the 4th Tuesday from 1:30-3:30 pm at the Ashland Public Library Guanajuato Room. *Coordinator: Sandra Coyner*

DAY NONFICTION ordinarily meets on the 1st Wednesday at 1 pm at the homes of our members. *Coordinator: Linda Lipkind*

DAYTIME FICTION usually meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month in members' homes. Currently we are not accepting new members due to the size of the group. *Coordinator: Colleen Patrick-Riley.*

EVENING NONFICTION usually meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7 pm. *Coordinator: Ellen Fowler*

MONDAY EVENING BOOKS will not meet in May and will resume in August. *Coordinator: Shannon Stuver*

THURSDAY EVENING MYSTERY usually meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7 pm. *Coordinator: Phyllis Fernlund*

Games, Genealogy, Knitting & Dining

BOARD GAMES meets at 7 pm on the 4th Wednesday of the month at rotating host homes. We will not be meeting in May, however, due to the current stay-at-home situation. The group is considering suspending gathering until September 2020 at which time we will be revisiting our options. *Coordinator: Sylvie Whitman*

GENEALOGY GROUP We ordinarily meet at 1:30-3:30 pm on the 4th Thursday at the Jackson County Genealogy Library, 3405 S. Pacific Hwy., Medford. The Library is now closed because of COVID-19 and we will not meet until it re-opens. *Coordinator: Linda Lipkin*

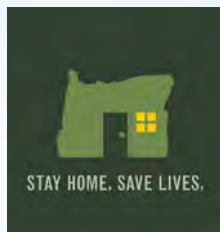
KNITTERS AND STITCHERS We usually meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month from 1-3 pm at the home of a member, where we work on hand projects and talk about the news of the day. We won't be meeting until the health conditions permit. *Coordinator, Peggy Audibert*

POTLUCK DINNERS gets together 4-6 times a year for casual dinners. No gatherings are currently scheduled. *Coordinator: Elaine Sweet*

Contact the coordinator to join any group or for information about meetings. Their contact information is in the membership directory, which is also available on our website <https://ashland-or.aauw.net/membersdirectory/>



When Can We Get Together Again?



We're all missing getting together with our Ashland AAUW friends – socially, for interest groups, or committee work. It's especially difficult when the timeline is so uncertain and we can't look forward to events scheduled on our calendars.

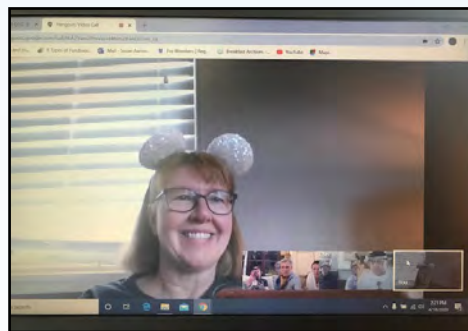
We've received guidance from both National AAUW and AAUW Oregon on how to deal with this uncertain situation at the local level.

From Kim Churches, National AAUW CEO: "You **MUST** follow your Governor's and Mayor's guidance. We at National have strongly advised absolutely **NO** meetings in person for the foreseeable future for all affiliates (branches/states), and in compliance with local/state guidance/orders. Our state/local laws supersede in this very difficult time. Better for all AAUW members to absolutely shelter in place and meet virtually via Skype, FaceTime, Zoom or conference calls."

Georgia Applegate, AAUW Oregon President, echoed this position: "As President of AAUW of Oregon I am strongly advising that all branches **do not have any in person meetings** until Governor Brown lifts her "Stay at Home" order. That includes Interest Group meetings. **No branch** should sanction **any** meetings of **any** group within the branch."

Until we can meet again, Stay Home, Save Lives.

What some of our members are doing while staying home.



Susan Aaronson playing pub Trivia with friends in Ireland



Elaine Sweet walking in Lithia Park and working in her garden



Phyllis Fernlund babysitting her daughter's new puppy, Greta.



Regina Ayars making masks

Ashland Vision

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Chris Licata

Photographers:

Members at large.

(Photos taken by members of branch meetings or interest group activities are welcome. Please submit photos for consideration to one of the newsletter editors.)

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Alice Mallory, Rae Otto, and Sylvie Whitman

Newsletter deadline is the 15th of the month.

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.