

AAUW Mission

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

AAUW Unifying Focus

Statement: Breaking through Barriers

AAUW Value

Statement:

As a member of AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

AAUW-NM Focus

Statement: Empowering women to take charge of their lives.



Co-Presidents' Message

Can it be time for our annual convention already? Thank you, Nina Thayer and Sonya Berg, Public Policy Co-Chairs for an excellent Lobby Corps training at the Round House January 7 presented by Rep. Stephanie Garcia Richard, D District 43, and Rep. James Smith, R District 22. Stephanie Garcia Richard is an AAUW member and chairs the House Education Committee. Thank you to all who joined the Women's March January 21 in Washington DC, Santa Fe, Albuquerque and Las Cruces. It was heartwarming. It was empowering. It was an historic event!

We had the Santa Fe LTM and Legislative Day and we are in the second half of the 60-day New Mexico Legislative Session. We advocated for public policy priorities and established relationships with our state leaders during our Lobby Day February 6. Your Lobby Corps has been attending committee hearings for bills AAUW-NM supports. AAUW will have a table at the March 10 Women's History Day, *Keeping Our Eyes on the Prize = Equality*, at the Capitol Rotunda and we will participate in the program.

We hope each branch will have an Equal Pay Day program on April 4. Las Cruces will be hosting their first Start Smart workshop on that day.

AAUW advocacy is more important than ever. The 2016 election and the new president's cabinet choices brought out strong emotions and introduced an unprecedented level of stress for many. The winter 2017 edition of **Outlook** provides AAUW insight into the Next Four Years.

Planning for Tech Trek NM 2017 is well underway. Nominations were received from more New Mexico Schools than ever before. Donations are still needed for the camp June 18-24 at New Mexico Tech in Socorro.

We look forward to seeing you at our annual convention *Hilltop Views: Advancing Innovation and Gender Equality* in Los Alamos, NM April 21-23 at the Holiday Inn Express. The Convention Planning Task Force has planned an exciting program for you taking advantage of the scientific atmosphere, the ancient peoples of the Pajarito Plateau, and the local geology. Los Alamos is the proud home of three National Parks: Bandelier, Valles Caldera, and the Manhattan Project National Parks. One important aspect of the annual convention is the election of officers. We still need a few good AAUW women to run for AAUW-NM state office for 2017-2019. We need a Program VP, a Public Policy Chair, and an AAUW Funds Chair. Donna Rea has agreed to run for the Finance Chair vacancy. We also need a Nominating Chair for one year, 2017-2018. And we need to fill the appointed officer Historian vacancy.

**AAUW of New Mexico
Elected Officers**

Co-Presidents

Helena Whyte
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Program Co-Vice Presidents

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Vice President Membership

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Immediate Past President

Karyl Lyne
Karyloz5051@gmail.com

Co-Presidents' Message (Continued)

June 2017 is the 45th anniversary of Title IX. The AAUW National Convention will be in Washington DC June 14-17 at the Renaissance Hotel. One Member One Vote online voting should begin around April 13. A Las Cruces Branch member, Julia Brown is a candidate for AAUW Chairman. Follow her campaign on Facebook @JuliaBrownforAAUWChairman. You will be voting on a few bylaws changes. Membership eligibility will be voted on again. There is a proposal that members no longer vote on Public Policy Priorities. Information about the convention can be found on the AAUW website at <http://convention.aauw.org>

Helena Whyte and Sylvia Fink, Co-Presidents

Notice of Proposed Revised AAUW-NM Bylaws

The bylaws for AAUW-NM have been substantially revised to include 2016 mandatory language from AAUW, and to conform to New Mexico state law requirements. The Leadership Team reviewed the proposed revisions at the February 2017 LTM and approved them for submittal to the membership. The membership will be asked to approve and adopt them at the State Convention in Los Alamos in April. The Manual of Policies and Procedures was also revised to include all the officer job duties and rearrange wording of a few sections for clarity. The Leadership Team approved these revisions. The Proposed Revised AAUW-NM Bylaws, and the revised Manual of Policies and Procedures are being posted on the AAUW-NM website. Please read them and be prepared to vote on the Proposed Revised Bylaws at the State Convention in April. If you have questions or concerns, please call or email either Bylaws Co-Chair Shelley Rossbach at 505-980-8955, shelley0424@gmail.com, or Phyllis Ludi at 505-425-1066, pcludi@cybermesa.com.

Phyllis Ludi & Shelley Rossbach, Bylaws Co-Chairs

2017 Calendar

March is Women's History Month!
March 8 International Women's Day
March 10 Women's History Day at the Roundhouse, Tabling at 12-1 p.m., Santa Fe
April 4 Equal Pay Day
April 7 Annual Reports due from State Officers & Branch Presidents to Los Alamos
April 21-23 State Convention, Los Alamos
May 30 Deadline for entering new state & branch officers to national MDB
May 30-Jun 4 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)
June 14-17 National Convention, Washington, DC
June 18-24 Tech Trek NM 2017, New Mexico Tech
June 30 Deadline for membership dues for 2017-2018 year
July/Aug. Summer AAUW-NM Leadership Team Go-to-Meeting
Aug. 10 Deadline for Fall Roadrunner

**AAUW of New Mexico
Appointed Officers**

Awards Chair

Sheila Portillo
ssport53@gmail.com

**Branch Project Grants
Chair**

Karyl Lyne
karyloz505@gmail.com

Bylaws Co-Chair

Shelley Rossbach
shelrossbach@aol.com
Phyllis Ludi
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College/Univ. Chair

Cassie Marrs
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AAUW-NM Ingenious Ideas Award

This award, given annually to AAUW-NM branches for innovative and successful mission-based programs, was originally created and inspired by longtime AAUW-NM members Marjorie Bell Chambers and Gloria Cordova. The award of \$75 is presented at the state convention.

The award recognizes groundbreaking and outstanding branch programs, activities, fundraising ideas, member recruitment activities, and governance practices. It also aims to encourage mission-based programs, which other branches can replicate.

Criteria (must meet one or more):

- Innovative and successful mission-based branch program
- Successful new branch activity or new collaboration (within the past 3 years)
- Innovative and successful membership recruitment activity
- Innovative and successful fundraising activity
- New and successful governance practice (within the past 3 years)

Branch boards, council, or president can nominate for this award. **The deadline is April 1st.**

Email your completed a nomination <http://aauw-nm.aauw.net/files/2015/02/II-Nominations-Form.pdf> to Sheila Portillo at ssport53@gmail.com.

Public Policy Impact Grant as of February 20th

As you remember, AAUW-NM was awarded a Public Policy Impact Grant in May 2016. The \$1,000 grant is to be spent on Get Out the Vote (GOTV) activities and on expenses incurred distributing copies and promoting the public comment forums around the state for the draft regulations for the New Mexico Fair Pay for Women Act (NMFPWA). We have completed the GOTV activities we outlined in the proposal and our mid-year report has been filed with AAUW national. Draft regulations have been created by the Southwest Women's Law Center in cooperation with the general counsel of New Mexico Workforce Solutions, the state department in which the act is located.

However, one of the central elements of the NMFPWA and the key argument in a case pending in the New Mexico Appellate Court is whether or not the law applies to governmental/state agencies. A district court has ruled that the law does apply to governmental/state agencies. That ruling is being challenged by the State of New Mexico Department of Corrections. The outcome of this case will determine some of the final wording of the regulations, could result in very positive gains in pay equity in New Mexico, and as well as set an example for other states.

Unfortunately, the case referred to above may not be addressed by the appellate court until April or May, very close to the end of the AAUW grant period. Fortunately, the AAUW national staff handling the Public Policy Impact Grants have assured us that the \$1,000 will remain with AAUW-NM regardless of when it is actually used for the grant project activities. We will provide a status report on May 31, 2017 when the final grant report is due and keep the national staff apprised of other developments as they unfold. The AAUW-NM Public Policy Impact Grant Steering Committee remains committed to completing this project.

Karyl Lyne, Branch Projects Chair

What's Happening in the NM Roundhouse?

The 2017 New Mexico Legislative 60-day session is in full swing as we write this. AAUW-NM was very visible on our Legislative Day, February 6th with AAUW banners hung and a table just beside the rotunda. Your Public Policy Co-Chairs and Lobby Corps have compiled a list of nine bills and joint resolutions that we support:

- HJR 1 Permanent Funds for Early Childhood, Constitutional Amendment
- HJR 3 Independent Redistricting Commission, Constitutional Amendment
- HJR 8 State Ethics Commission, Constitutional Amendment
- HB 98 Paper Ballot access for Blind Voters
- HB 179 Pregnant Worker Accommodation Act
- HB 211 School Next Generation Science Standards
- SB 115 Safe Schools for All Students (Bullying Prevention)
- SB 282 Hospital Patient Protections
- SJR 6 Statewide Millage for School Funding

And two we oppose:

- HB 37 Born Alive Infant Protection
- HB 221 Parental Notification of Abortion

A joint resolution originating in the House (HJR) is a bill authorizing a constitutional amendment to be put to the voters in the next general election (2018). It does NOT require the governor's signature and is being used extensively this session to avoid the governor's heavy veto pen.

Please read more about these bills, their content and progress through the committees and chambers of the legislative process at www.nmlegis.gov. We will continue to add bills to this list as we become aware of them.

AAUW in Santa Fe, January 21

AAUW-NM was well represented in Santa Fe at the Women's March on a cold snowy Jan. 21. About a dozen members with signs marched the mile route ending at the Capitol, see pictures.



Nancy Scheer, Sonya Berg, and Lina Germann

Sonya and Nina in Santa Fe sporting AAUW ball caps

Sonya Berg & Nina Thayer, Public Policy Co-Chairs



Hilltop Views: Advancing Innovation and Gender Equality

2017 AAUW-NM State Convention April 21-23, 2017 Los Alamos, New Mexico

AAUW-Los Alamos invites all AAUW members to join us for the 2017 AAUW-New Mexico State Convention. We have planned a variety of activities that draw on the science our community is known for, showcase local attractions like our new planetarium, and feature the work AAUW is doing to promote gender equality. We hope you will make your way up to our Pajarito hilltop for a weekend of learning and fun.

Friday, April 21

We will meet in the lower-level meeting rooms of the Oppenheimer Place Condos in central Los Alamos. Registration starts at 2 pm, and the Leadership Team Meeting will run from 2:30 to 4:30. After dinner at local restaurants, we'll gather at the Los Alamos Nature Center (run by PEEC) for a planetarium show. Reclining beneath a 30-foot-diameter dome, we'll be treated to a digital exploration of "Life in the Universe?" After the show, we'll enjoy tempting desserts on the Center's patio.

Saturday, April 22

Registration starts at 8 am, with the convention opening at 9 am in the main meeting room of the Holiday Inn Express. Anne Hedgepeth, Senior Government Relations Manager for AAUW, will talk about AAUW's involvement in international collaborations to promote gender equality and educational opportunities for women, provide insights into AAUW's latest research report, *Higher Ed, Higher Debt*, and share the latest news from national. After lunch at the hotel, Fattaneh Behdani, an AAUW International Fellowship recipient, will talk about her engineering studies at NMSU and plans to promote STEM studies to women when she returns home to Iran.

After lunch, we'll tour the New Mexico Consortium's Biological Laboratory, located within walking distance of the hotel, and learn about its unique research. Formed by UNM, New Mexico Tech, and NMSU, the consortium collaborates with Los Alamos National Laboratory and industry in research that ranges from improving algae as a feedstock for biofuels to extending the shelf life of cassava roots, benefiting women farmers in sub-Saharan Africa. (Note: you'll need closed-toe shoes and long pants for the tour.) Back at the hotel, the AAUW-NM business meeting will run from 3 to 4:30 pm. That evening, we'll meet at Cottonwood on the Greens, part of the new clubhouse at the Los Alamos Golf Course, for our annual banquet. Evening activities will include a Lab speaker, awards and recognitions, and installation of our newly elected state officers.

Sunday, April 23

We will return to the Oppenheimer Place Condos for Sunday's meetings, which will start at 8:30 a.m. and will include discussions of public policy and officer training; a diversity presentation by Julia Brown; and a Town Hall meeting. The convention will adjourn at noon.

Canyon Rim Trail Walk: Early risers can get their exercise Saturday and Sunday mornings by taking a guided walk on this scenic paved trail near the hotel; walkers will meet in the hotel lobby at 7 am.

Important Deadlines

March 21: Holiday Inn reservations for the special AAUW convention rate (\$110+tax/night)

April 7: Early Bird registration (\$45) and guaranteed tickets for the planetarium show

April 7: LTM/Convention reports submitted to Terry Marzili (tmarzili@aol.com)

Directions to Holiday Inn Express (60 Entrada Dr)

Heading north on I-25, take exit 276 for NM-599 N around Santa Fe; then take the US-285/84 exit toward Espanola; in Pojoaque, take NM-502 W to Los Alamos. Once "up the hill" and just past the historic guard tower, turn right on Camino Entrada and then left on Entrada Drive; the hotel is just before the Los Alamos Airport.

Heading south on I-25, take exit 282B for US-285/84 N (St. Francis Drive) through Santa Fe. In Pojoaque, take NM-502 W to Los Alamos. Once "up the hill" and just past the old guard gate, turn right on Camino Entrada and then left on Entrada Dr; the hotel is just before the Los Alamos Airport.

Directions to Oppenheimer Place Condos (1001 Oppenheimer Drive)

Stay on NM-502, going past the Los Alamos Airport. At the "Y" in the road just before the Hilltop House, bear right onto Central Ave (follow signs to Historic District & Visitor Center). At the first stop light, turn right onto 15th St. Go 3 blocks and turn left on Nectar. Nectar becomes Peach after the playground; at the Yield sign, cross Rose to go into the driveway for the condos (on right); parking is beyond the covered entrance. You can also park in the parking lot for the Los Alamos Senior Center, opposite the condos.

Directions to Cottonwood on the Greens (4244 Diamond Drive)

From Holiday Inn Express, turn right onto NM-502 and go past the Los Alamos Airport. At the "Y" in the road just before the Hilltop House, bear left onto Trinity Dr. Stay on Trinity until you reach the traffic light at the Los Alamos Medical Center (about 1-3/4 miles); turn right onto Diamond Dr. Three blocks after the hilltop light at Arkansas Ave, the golf course will appear on both sides of the road; the clubhouse and restaurant will be on your right a half mile farther.

2017 State Convention Registration Form

Hilltop Views: Advancing Innovation and Gender Equality

2017 AAUW-NM STATE CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM
April 21-23, 2017

Name: _____ E-mail: _____
Address: _____ Phone (Home): _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Phone (Work): _____ Phone (Cell): _____
Branch: _____ Delegates check one: State _____ or Branch _____
Current Positions: Branch _____ State _____
Association _____
Special Needs: _____

Registration Fee (includes Saturday lunch):

Early Bird (postmarked by April 7)	\$45.00	\$ _____
Late Registration (postmarked after April 7)	\$55.00	\$ _____
Saturday, April 22 only (postmarked by April 17)	\$40.00	\$ _____

Saturday Night Banquet, Cottonwood on the Greens, 4244 Diamond Dr., Los Alamos, NM
(Includes hors d'oeuvres, choice of 3 entrees, vegetables, dessert, non-alcoholic beverage, tax and gratuity. A cash bar is also available.)

Please choose your entree(s)

_____ Salmon
_____ Prime Rib (Circle one: rare, medium rare, medium, medium well done, well done)
_____ Vegetarian dish

Spouses or guests are welcome to attend the banquet for the cost of the meal.

\$40.00 x No. People _____ \$ _____

Planetarium Show & Desserts at PEEC on 4/21 \$10.00 x No. of Tickets _____ \$ _____

(After April 07, tickets will be available only at the door on a first come, first serve basis.)

TOTAL enclosed \$ _____

Send your registration form and check made payable to AAUW-Los Alamos (no credit cards) to:

AAUW-Los Alamos
Mona Wecksung
PO Box 272
Los Alamos, NM 87544-0272

On the memo line please indicate 2017 AAUW-NM Convention
If you have any questions, please contact Mona at 505-662-7084

The official hotel is **Holiday Inn Express**, 60 Entrada, Los Alamos, NM 87544. Please call the desk at 505-661-2646 by **March 21, 2017** to receive the special AAUW convention rate for the rooms, (\$109.99 + tax for 2 queen size beds, with full breakfast included). Reservations for dates earlier than April 21 or remaining later than April 23 will be charged the normal rate of \$123.53 for those days.

Things to See and Do in Los Alamos and the Surrounding Area

ATTRACTION	Web Address/Phone
1. Bandelier National Monument 15 Entrance Rd.	www.nps.gov/band 505-672-3861, Ext.517
2. Bradbury Science Museum 1350 Central Ave.	www.lanl.gov/museum 505-667-4444
3. Historical Museum Complex, Shop & Tours 1050 Bathtub Row	www.losalamoshistory.org 505-662-6272
4. Fuller Lodge & Art Center 2132 Central Ave.	www.fullerlodgeartcenter.com 505-662-1635
5. Los Alamos Nature Center (PEEC) Pajarito Environmental Education Center 2600 Canyon Rd.	www.LosAlamosNature.org 505-662-0460
6. Valles Caldera National Preserve 39201 State Road 4 Jemez Springs, NM	www.vallescaldera.gov 1-866-382-5537
7. Pajarito Mountain 397 Camp May Rd.	www.skipajarito.com 505-662-5725
8. Scenic Overlooks	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Anderson Overlook</u> Half way up the hill to Los Alamos on NM Hwy 502 • <u>Camp May Rd. Overlook</u> Go W toward Jemez Mountains & follow signs to Pajarito Mountain & Camp May Rd.. After the initial incline and turns pull over to see Los Alamos on the left and LANL on the right, connected by the Los Alamos Canyon Bridge • <u>White Rock Overlook</u> Two miles from the White Rock Visitor Center on State Rd. 4, head S. on Rover Blvd, turn left on Meadow Lane and left onto Overlook Rd., following the signs to the end for a 270-degree open space view of the Rio Grande and Black Mesa 	
9. Parks & Recreation	www.losalamos.us/rec
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skate Park (Adjacent to Mesa Public Library) 2400 Central Ave. • Aquatic Center 2760 Canyon Rd. • Ashley Pond Park Downtown Los Alamos • Golf Course & Community Center 4250 Diamond Drive • Canyon Rim Trail (Site of early morning hike. Easy paved path 1.5mi 1-way) www.losalamosnm.us/parks/trails • Trail heads S. of NM 502 across from the Co-op Market • Aquatic Center to Pueblo Canyon Hike (Moderate, historic trail built by LA Ranch School, 0.6 mi 1-way) 	505-662-8173 505-662-8170 505-662-8170 505-662-8139
10. Visitor Centers	www.VisitLosAlamos.org
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Los Alamos Visitor Center 109 Central Park Square • White Rock Visitor Center 115 State Road 4, White Rock, NM 	505-662-8105 800-444-0707



UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL DAYS

Many AAUW Branches have special programs or events in March to celebrate Women's History Month or International Women's Day on March 8th. The United Nations has designated the observation of many special international days and new ones are established regularly. There are observances for events (April 26, International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day), for certain medical conditions (April 2, World Autism Awareness Day), for health & safety issues (November 19, World Toilet Day), for earth related subjects (September 16, International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer), more days related to women and children (June 12, World Day Against Child Labor), for animals (May 2, World Tuna Day) and on it goes. Of course the above are special days, there are also special weeks. At the present time, the U.N. lists ten specially designated weeks and over 100 special International Days.

Branch program committees often are searching for ideas to keep the monthly programs interesting. There are years when no one has any new ideas and the same topics as the year before resurface. The United Nations website <http://www.un.org/en/sections/observances/international-days/index.html> contains the entire list of special international days. Each day listed has a link to information about that particular day. You may find all sorts of new ideas for branch programming. A few of the days that might be of interest are:

February 11	International Day of Women and Girls in Science
February 20	World Day of Social Justice
March 21	World Poetry Day
April 30	World Jazz Day
May 15	International Day of Families
September 8	International Literacy Day
October 5	World Teachers' Day
October 11	International Day of the Girl Child
October 16	World Food Day
November 20	Universal Children's Day
November 25	International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women
December 10	Human Rights Day

Nancy Scheer, AAUW-NM International Interest Chair

Become a Two-Minute Activist

Join the AAUW Action Network today!

Receive urgent e-mail notices to contact your members of Congress right in your inbox.

<http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/>

Around the State: Santa Fe Branch

The Santa Fe Branch provided food for thought for the New Mexico LTM on Feb 5th at the Santa Fe Community College. Even though it was Super Bowl Sunday, the turnout for the meeting was strong. New Mexico League of Women Voters State President Meredith Madchen was the keynote speaker. She was knowledgeable about all the bills that were being presented at the legislature this year.

On Feb 18th the branch had lunch at Tortilla Flats and then went to a program at Cacao – chocolate shop, classroom and makers of exquisite chocolate. The owners talked about the history of chocolate and the best countries to get excellent cocoa bean from. Interesting fact that Maui has become a source of world-respected cocoa bean. Samples were passed around to the group. Everyone had a different favorite flavor. One type of chocolate had prickly pear pieces in it.

On Feb 24th the Julia Robinson Mathematics Festival takes place at Santa Fe Community College. Santa Fe AAUW is supporting this event with volunteers from our branch.

We are conducting a quilt raffle to benefit our STEM programs. The raffle ticket sale started in January and will continue for few months until the raffle drawing on May 6 at our Annual Business meeting.

In March our program will be on Santa Fe Trail Women's Diaries with Joy Poole. We are also currently in discussion with our AAUW university partner Santa Fe University of Art and Design about supporting an event on campus called Women of the World on March 31 and April 1.

Jeanne Patrick & Lina Germann, AAUW Santa Fe Co -Presidents

Around the State: Albuquerque Branch

The Branch's membership thoroughly enjoyed our December Holiday Luncheon, and ended 2016 with a social event for the membership to meet and visit with each other.

Sonya Berg and Nina Thayer conducted informative legislative update/lobby corps training at our January General Meeting, during which there was an energetic give-and-take with Senator Sander Rue (R) Many members signed up for Lobby Corps.

Our February program featured the AAUW-NM Tech Trek Camp and focused on: "Perspectives from Core Teachers and Workshop Leaders." The presentations by core teachers, Cheryl Leung, Cheryl Kerby, and Denette Martinez and workshop leader, Kim Linder, inspired the membership and gave all of us a feeling for how wonderful these girls are. Tech Trek Camp Director Cheri Burch gave an overview of the application process and the support needed; in response, many members volunteered to be essay readers and interviewers for Tech Trek NM (2017).

Our membership stands at 102, and our nine interest groups are still going strong The Branch posted a Get-Out-the-Vote message for the upcoming APS School Board and CNM Governing Board elections on all the Flying Star digital/electronic message boards, and it ran for the week preceding the February 7th election.

Albuquerque Branch (Continued)



Carolyn Glen, Elizabeth Gordon, Shila Marek

Approximately 10 Branch members participated in the Albuquerque Women's March on January 21, 2017, which had crowd estimates that ranged from 3,000 to 6,000 attendees.

Around the State: Las Cruces Branch

The AAUW-Las Cruces whirlwind of activity has continued through the past three months. The highlight was our wonderful 'One for the Girls' fundraiser on January 29 at the Rio Grande theater. Over 200 members and community guests attended an afternoon of oldies but goodies music by a popular local musical group, Remember When, and performances by young students from Michele's Dance Academy. We earned just under \$6,000 and feel we accomplished our other goals of 1) involving the community (not just our members) in fundraising and 2) increasing community awareness about AAUW.

Our programs have been interesting and varied. In December, we held our annual social holiday luncheon complete with a visit from Santa Claus and a bag of goodies for all attending. Our January program focused on the 100th anniversary of the national park system with Carrie Hamblen, president of our local Green Chamber of Commerce, talking about the impact on our local economy brought about by the establishment of the Organ Mountains Desert Peaks National Monument. We also hosted our NMSU 2016-2017 scholarship recipient who told her poignant story and expressed great gratitude. With February being heart health month, we had three speakers from Mountain View Hospital who shared information and tips on women's health. We also had a short video about Tech Trek followed by two of last year's participants sharing their adventures and thanking AAUW for the experience.

Our board continues to work on several upcoming events and activities: March 11 is our 23rd Girls Can! career exploration event for sixth grade girls and April 4 we will be presenting a Start Smart workshop on the NMSU campus. Other members are working on 1) the nominating committee to develop our officer slate for 2017-2018, 2) the by-law revision; and 3) the various fund raising possibilities for next year. Membership is busy welcoming the 8 new members since December 1 and our active interest groups continue to be a strong player in the local branch.

On a sadder note, as many of you know, Mary Rita Chapman died on December 17. Her family hosted a memorial for her on February 11 that was attended by many of our branch. We were pleased and honored that Helena Whyte, our NM state co-president, traveled here to attend the memorial and coincidentally our February general meeting that same morning.

We are encouraging branch members to attend the April convention in Los Alamos and hope to have a good turnout from Las Cruces.

What is Tech Trek?

June 18-24, 2017 at New Mexico Tech, Socorro, NM

1. Tech Trek is a science and math camp for girls.

- The week-long program is uniquely designed for girls entering the eighth-grade.
- The girls stay on a college campus for the week learn about math and science, perform cool experiments and hands-on activities, and meet female role models who are already working in STEM fields.
- The camp opens a world in which girls become scientists, engineers, mathematicians, and computer scientists. They see first-hand how exciting these careers can be and that they have what it takes to go into STEM. It's very empowering.
- Girls and women are underrepresented in STEM fields and this camp gives them a chance to begin a successful path toward college and entering the STEM workforce.

2. The program has a successful track record in California as well as the national pilot locations.

- In 1998, the AAUW branch in Palo Alto, California launched the first Tech Trek camp at Stanford University.
- Over the last 18 years, Tech Trek expanded to eight college campuses in California and served more than 11,000 girls – that's more than the [combined number](#) of women who earned bachelor's degrees in computer science degrees and chemical engineering in 2009.
- The program's results demand that we expand this program. Girls who attend Trek Tech are more likely to enroll in science and math courses in high school – and they credit Tech Trek for sparking their interest.
- In 2015, AAUW expanded the program to eleven new sites, where the camps successfully served more than 525 girls nationwide.
- A survey of girls who attended Tech Trek in 2013 found that there was a statistically significant difference in their attitudes before and after the camp about themselves and STEM and an increase in self-confidence.

3. Tech Trek doesn't just fulfill AAUW's mission – it reflects the results of our research.

- Tech Trek is our way of “putting our money where our mouth is” by building the future workforce for STEM fields.
- In a [2010 AAUW research report](#), “Why So Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math”, AAUW presented the most compelling and well researched information available on women and girls in STEM fields. We have a unique understanding of the barriers to full representation of women in STEM and what needs to be done to rectify this underutilization of human capital.
- In AAUW's [2015 research report](#), “Solving the Equation: The Variable for Women's Success in Engineering and Computing”, AAUW asked why there are *still* so few women in the critical fields of engineering and computing — and explains what we can do to make these fields open to and desirable for *all* employees.

4. Widening the STEM pipeline benefits women, STEM industries, and the American economy.

- The science and technology workforce in this country is aging, while the demand for talent keeps increasing.
- Preparing, motivating and empowering girls to go into these fields will increase the science and technology talent pool.
- This is an opportunity for all boats to rise. Women benefit from highly stable, well-paying jobs while the STEM industry gains diverse perspectives from a deeper talent pool and more voices at the table – a win-win for our economy.

Six Women to Inspire You on International Women's Day

March 06, 2017

In her [2017 International Women's Day address](#) UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka said that the United Nations “[wants] to construct a different world of work for women. As they grow up, girls must be exposed to a broad range of careers and encouraged to make choices that lead beyond the traditional service and care options to jobs in industry, art, public service, modern agriculture, and science.”

For us at AAUW International Women's Day also serves as an opportunity to take a step back and think about our AAUW fellowship recipients, who represent a diversity of professions and who act on the belief that women's equality benefits society as a whole. While it's difficult to choose from among the thousands of bright and inspiring women we have funded since 1888, we've chosen six special women you might not have heard of.



2010-2011 AAUW American Fellow Ayana Johnson at work on the ocean

Ayana Johnson, Ph.D., (2010–11 [American fellow](#)) is a [marine biologist](#), policy expert, and [independent consultant](#) currently [in residence at TED](#). Johnson's mission is to build bridges among science, policy, and people. As the executive director of the [Waitt Institute](#), Johnson cofounded and led the [Blue Halo Initiative](#), a science-based overhaul of ocean management undertaken in partnership with Caribbean governments and community stakeholders. Previously Johnson was the director of science and solutions at the [Waitt Foundation](#) and held policy positions at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency. As she continues to expand her conservation efforts and create new projects, Johnson's hope for her future research is to “understand the perspectives of other individuals who use the oceans” and “help make the use of natural resources more sustainable.” Johnson is currently serving as one of the partnership outreach coleads for the [March for Science](#).



2003–04 International Fellow Afia Nathaniel

Afia Nathaniel (2003–04 [International fellow](#)) is a computer scientist-turned-filmmaker who enjoys “pushing the boundaries of narrative cinema.” Her debut feature film [Dukhtar](#) (daughter), which sought to bring attention to the global issue of child marriage, was Pakistan's official submission for foreign language film at the 87th Academy Awards. The film has received critical acclaim in more than 20 countries and became a Critics' Pick New York in 2015. Nathaniel said that thanks

to [Dukhtar](#) she was able to “create an [awareness campaign](#) in Pakistan called I Support Dukhtar, which featured a lot of well-known Pakistani stars who supported the message of standing up against child marriage.”



2003–04 AAUW Selected Professions Fellow Joyce Kim

Joyce Kim (2003–04 [Selected Professions fellow](#)) left her career as a lawyer to develop [Stellar](#), a [decentralized protocol](#) for sending and receiving money. Since its development, Stellar's low-to-no-cost infrastructure has translated into significant savings for immigrants and those in the developing world in particular. In its first pilot operation, which included six million transactions, Stellar saved [end users](#) more than \$150 million in fees when compared to Western Union. Essentially, [Kim](#)

[notes](#), what Stellar provides is an opportunity for people to “[keep] more money in communities so that [they] can invest more into the well-being of their families.” [Through her work](#) Kim is using technology to make the world a better place.

Six Women to Inspire You on International Women's Day (Continued)



1990-1991 Selected Professions Fellow Kimberley Hatchett

Kimberley Hatchett (1990–91 [Selected Professions fellow](#)) is an executive director at top investment firm [Morgan Stanley](#), where she manages more than \$2 billion in assets. For more than 25 years she has blazed a trail for black women who share her interest in a career as a financial adviser. Her tenacity and dedication have earned her spots on Barron's Top 100 Women Financial Advisors (a list on which she is the only black woman) and Top 1,000 Advisors lists. She takes her confidence in part from her favorite

quote from Josephine Baker: "I'm not intimidated by anyone. Everyone is made with two arms, two legs, a stomach, and a head. Just think about that."



Photo by Graces Matthews, 1993

Faith Ringgold (1976–77 AAUW Creative Arts Award winner) is an [internationally renowned artist, educator, and social activist](#) who has used her art to draw attention to racism and gender inequality. Ringgold organized and participated in protests against museums who excluded artwork by black and women artists and cofounded the Women, Students, and Artists for Black Liberation group to demand that black art exhibitions equally represent women and men. Ringgold is best known for her story

quilts, which are narratives painted on fabric. Her work can be found in permanent collections at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Museum of Modern Art. Ringgold recently created an art-making app, [Quiltuduko](#), which features thousands of beautiful images designed by Ringgold herself.



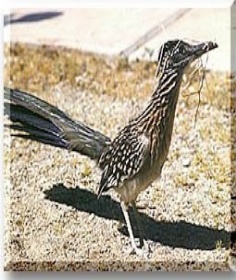
1945–46 International Fellow Anne Sofie Østvedt

Anne Sofie Østvedt (1945–46 [International fellow](#)) became involved in the [Norwegian resistance](#) after German forces invaded her home country in 1940 while she was still a student at the University of Oslo. Østvedt quickly rose through the ranks of the Norwegian resistance to become the deputy commander of the underground intelligence-gathering resistance group [XU](#). According to the once top-secret document in her AAUW file, "From the summer of 1943 she functioned as the proxy of the chief and in

that capacity had contacts with the leading underground organizations. During the stays abroad and inspection trips of her chief, she was the acting leader of the whole system, comprising that whole of south Norway (about 3,000 men)." [Østvedt's heroism continues to inspire us](#) to stand up for what's right and to believe in our capacity as women to make a difference in the world.

For all of these women, professional success has translated directly into social progress and innovation. We at AAUW count ourselves fortunate to have had some part in so many remarkable careers and to be able to continue sharing our support and work on a global field.

To celebrate women and the great contributions they have made to society, join the [Twitter](#) conversation about International Women's Day by using the hashtags [#BeBoldForChange](#) and [#IWD2017](#) or check out the International Women's Day UN webcast "Women in the Changing World of Work: Planet 50-50 by 2030" on Wednesday, March 8, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., live at [webtv.un.org](#).



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