



OREGON NEWS

*Spring Edition
February 2021*



**Celebrating
OUR
Resilience
and
Commitment**

**AAUW of Oregon
2021
Annual Meeting**

Annual Meeting Highlights

- Keynote Speaker Profile
- Your Candidates Running for Office
- Awards Celebration

Individual Highlights:

Page 2	Invitation
Page 3-4	Awards
Page 5	State News
Page 6-7	Candidates
Page 8	Public Policy
Page 9	Membership
Page 10	Fundraising

AAUW of Oregon Annual Meeting and Awards Program 2021

AAUW of Oregon and our 24 branches have much to celebrate even during a challenging year! As in 2020, we will do so virtually in 2021 in two inspiring Zoom sessions. We invite every one of you to join in “Celebrating Our Resilience and Commitment” April 18th and 20th.

Our committed and resilient State Program VP Pat Squire and Events Coordinator Nancy Brown (remember all those terrific learning opportunities from Summer Skills Camp, the Continuing Education and Anti-Racism series!) will make you feel comfortable, inspired, informed and excited during our annual meeting.

The first session will feature our keynote speaker and a streamlined business meeting. In response to your evaluation comments last year, the entire event is scheduled for no more than one and a half hours.

Our amazing leaders Gini Dideum, Claudia Gray, and Betsy McDowell have more treats in store for you as well. You won't want to miss the April 20th awards ceremony, where you will meet and be inspired by an AAUW Fellowship student and discover who have been selected as our Named Gift Honorees, our Membership winners and much more. Fun and surprises will happen too. Sshhh—come and see.

We can't provide all the advantages of an in-person annual meeting. However:

- you can wear your sweatpants and bedroom slippers;
- your pets can attend too (as long as they don't dominate your screen);
- you can donate travel, lodging and meal expense money to AAUW Greatest Needs, AAUW of Oregon Special Projects Fund, NCCWSL and/or branch scholarships;
- you won't have to stand in line to purchase beverages that probably weren't that great anyway;
- you'll have no expense forms to send to State.

In 2022, we expect to convene in person; we've all missed the hugs, the instant camaraderie, the connections with others we didn't know before, and the experiences learning about other parts of our amazing state. Meanwhile, let us keep working and learning—and Celebrating Our Resilience and Commitment together!

Pat Lehman & Sue Klumph, Co-Presidents



Keynote Speaker

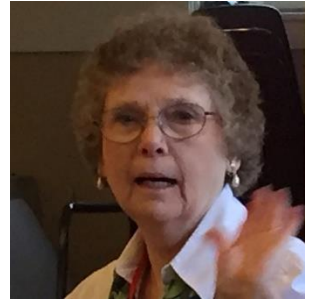
Jessica Vega Pederson is a Multnomah County Commissioner, winning re-election outright in the primary election in 2020. She is also a former member of the Oregon House of Representatives from 2013 to 2017.

A proud resident of East Portland, Jessica was raised in Northwest Indiana among her large, loving Mexican American family. Following the lead of her mother, who was a local activist for civil rights and her grandfather, she became involved in advocacy in high school. Jessica received her bachelor's degree from Loyola University of Chicago and spent fourteen years in the technology industry.

Breaking Barriers Achievement Award

The AAUW of Oregon Breaking Barriers Achievement Award for 2021 will feature a look back at this award and an update on all the incredible recipients of the past six years.

This annual award is given to Oregon women who are currently NOT an AAUW member OR an Oregon group, organization and/or institution who, within the past five years, have exemplified AAUW's mission in a manner that has had a demonstrative impact on our state's women and girls in the areas of equity and/or education.



Penney Hoodenpyle

This program will be held on Tuesday, April 20th at 7:00 PM as a part of AAUW of Oregon's Awards Event.

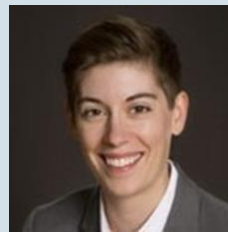
Since 2015 the following women have received AAUW of Oregon's Achievement Award:



2015: Carrie Hull,
You Have Options



2016: Brenda Tracy, Advocate
for Victims of Sexual Assault



2017: Emily Evans, Women's
Foundation of Oregon



2018: Sheila Roley,
Superintendent,
Seaside Public School System



2019: Felicita Montebianco,
Advocate for Latinx Women
and Girls



2020: Kimberley Jensen,
Oregon Women's History
Consortium



2020: Janice Dilg, Oregon
Women's History Consortium



Thank You 2020 Legacy Circle Members

AAUW gratefully acknowledges the 35 visionary women and men who joined AAUW's Legacy Circle in 2020.

Celebrating All AAUW of Oregon Members

On April 20th, two nights after the AAUW of Oregon annual meeting, an awards celebration will be held on Zoom. All Oregon members are invited to this special event!

Awards will be for the top ten branches in the state for contributions to the AAUW Funds and Branch Named Gift Honorees will be announced. These are often kept a secret until the awards ceremony.

An update on the activities/ achievements of the previous six recipients of the Breaking Barriers Achievement Awards. Membership awards will be given and the AAUW of Oregon Named Gift Honoree(s) will be revealed.

We are looking forward to a special speaker, with more details just before the event. We hope you will join us for this night of celebrating ALL AAUW of Oregon members!

Claudia Gray & Betsy McDowell



State Policy Changes for Funds

At the AAUW of Oregon Board meeting on January 10th, 2021, the board approved changes to the state policy regarding the state Funds committee.

The language regarding a focus on the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund was removed, as that Fund is now fully endowed. The section on the Century Club Plus was removed, as that category was to honor the 175th anniversary of AAUW, many years ago. Minor changes were made for clarification.

Updated 1/10/21 - Policy 142 Standing Committees

D. AAUW Funds Committee -- The AAUW Funds Committee shall be composed of the state Funds chair, the president, a past state Funds chair and two other branch members recommended by the Funds chair. The committee shall be responsible for naming the state Named Gift Honorees and other such duties as directed by the state board of directors.

The Funds chair shall:

1. Inform AAUW of Oregon of the work of the AAUW Funds and of how they benefit Oregon.
2. Encourage branches and individuals to contribute to the AAUW Funds and forward those contributions to the AAUW Development Office in a timely manner to ensure proper credit.
3. Recognize individual contributors to the Funds Century Club (\$100) and major donor categories (\$1,000 or more).
4. Recognize Named Gift Honorees:
 - a. Each branch shall be entitled to one Named Gift Honoree for every \$500. contributed by the branch and all its members, MINUS any individual major donations of \$1,000 or more;
 - b. Major donors may choose one Named Gift Honoree for each \$1,000 contribution;
5. Encourage branch presidents to appoint Funds Chairs in the branches; and
6. Encourage membership in the AAUW Legacy Circle.

The entire policies document may be seen as posted on the state website.

Betsy McDowell & Claudia S. Gray, Co-chairs
AAUW of Oregon Governance, AAUW of Oregon Funds



“Let us keep working and learning—and Celebrating Our Resilience and Commitment together!”

Technology Tips

Recordings of the State Zoom sessions are edited and posted on the AAUW of Oregon YouTube channel, and are available for viewing by all members.

[Go to YouTube>](#)

Members' Website Password
oregonaauw

Continuing Education Series Provides Statewide Training Opportunities

After the success of the Summer Skills Camp online series, state Program VP, Pat Squire, and Events Coordinator, Nancy Brown, designed a Zoom-based continuing education program for AAUW of Oregon members.

Fourteen sessions were held from October through January, consisting of training for branch leaders and members, an anti-

racism series curated by Trish Garner, state Public Policy Chair, and a digital technology series coordinated by Nancy Brown. A variety of sessions will continue to be held throughout the spring, including a virtual Lobby Day.

Questions about the Continuing Education series?

Contact Nancy Brown,
aauw.or.events@gmail.com

Fundraising Modified for Covid-19

Hillsboro-Forest Grove Branch's "Poinsettia Sale" is an annual tradition. Buyers picked up their plants outdoors from a member's open garage.

The "Clean Closets for College" fundraiser was contact-less this year. Tigard Area Branch members dropped off their discarded clothing and household goods at a designated front porch or called for pickup.

Pendleton Branch's "Grapefruit Sale" was by pre-order only this year. On pick up day, customers drove up and stayed in their cars. One AAUW member came out to ask for their order information. Then the boxes were brought out and loaded into the customer's car. Masks were required of all members.

Photos on Page 10

Candidates for AAUW of Oregon State Office

Linda Lybecker, President-Elect Candidate



A long-time national member of AAUW, I joined my local branch in 2007, when I saw a flyer in my public library inviting people to an AAUW Hillsboro-Forest Grove Branch meeting. There I met such interesting, well informed and passionate women so I joined the branch that morning. Since then, I have served the branch in various ways, including VP Programs and Co-President. After retiring from public library management, I served as AAUW Oregon Programs co-VP from 2016-2019. I see continuing successes in our organization and look forward to working with the smart, dedicated and fun group on the state board.

Pat Squire, Program Vice President Candidate



During this time of Covid and political and racial unrest, it has been rewarding to collaborate with colleagues to provide virtual programs for AAUW of Oregon. With the cancelled 2020 convention with Washington, lots of careful planning was put aside, and we had a virtual state meeting for the first time. It inspired Nancy Brown and me to stage Zoom meetings for "Summer Skills Camp" and later in the fall for "Continuing Education". My experience with these programs, and my past professional experience planning programs at Portland State, make me ready and eager to continue, with my events partner Nancy, in this position.

Monica Weyhe, Finance Vice President Candidate



I am currently the Communications Coordinator for AAUW Medford, following my 2-year term as Finance VP for our branch. I have master's degrees in Public Administration and Information and Library Sciences, and retired with about 30 years and three careers as an employee, manager and director in public administration, finance and libraries in Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Michigan, and California. I have served about 20 years on aviation, library, Rotary and AAUW boards. It would be an honor to serve you as Finance VP, and a great way to learn about AAUW at the state level.

Marie Mueller, Secretary Candidate



I'm running for office at the request of the AAUW of Oregon state board, after finishing the term begun by Kristin Mauro. Qualifications: Note-taking for years beginning in college-prep classes. B.A. Honors College, M.A from University of Oregon in Eugene with a major in Interdisciplinary: English, History, and Education. Experience: Taught high school English for 5 years, then at Rogue Community College (Grants Pass, Oregon) for 40 years: Business English I and II; Business Communications, Technical Writing; United States, World, and Western Civilization History I, II, III; accreditation editor for 31 years; committee secretary for many groups. Familiar with word processing. Good listener. After finishing the previous term for Kristin, I even have some idea of what I'm doing.

Mary Pat Silveira, North-Central District Director Candidate



My background is in international public policy and diplomacy. I enjoyed a 30-year career at the United Nations, in New York and abroad, that ranged from policy advice for governments, consensus-building, directing emergency operations and peacekeeping. I joined AAUW Lake Oswego Branch in 2016 after moving to Oregon. I have served as Finance VP and President of the branch, interim North Central District Director and Credentials Chair of the 2020 Annual State Meeting. I consider it a privilege and a pleasure to work with the branches of this district in pursuit of a common mission, for which purpose I seek election to a full term as District Director.

Pam Shay, South District Director Candidate



It would be an honor to serve as the Southern District Director. I am an active participant in Ashland Branch leadership. In the past five years, I served as an at-large member of the board and as co-president. My professional resume includes over 35 years of service in Montessori schools and in secondary education. I believe that the skills I developed as a successful high school principal include listening and valuing the ideas of others, honoring the organizational mission and keeping the community focused on the accomplishment of their goals. If given the opportunity, I will assist our branches to strengthen our bonds of friendship, increase membership and raise awareness of AAUW's mission throughout Southern Oregon.

Public Policy Report, January 2021

Hot off the press!! Although we won't be able to have an in-person Lobby Day, complete with visits to legislators, we are planning a Virtual Lobby Day. It will likely take place in March although we haven't set a firm date yet. We're planning on spending about a half an hour on the best ways to communicate with legislators and then taking a deeper dive into the down-to-earth mechanics of how a bill proceeds through the legislative process -- or doesn't. A panel of legislators will discuss how they anticipate their legislative priorities will survive this process.

Our primary bills for the 2021 Legislative Session include

- (1) requiring publicly traded corporations whose principal offices are in Oregon to have a minimum number of women and people from underrepresented communities on their boards of directors, and
- (2) an age discrimination task force bill.

The corporate diversity bill will likely be filed later in January.

Trish Garner, Public Policy Chair



Left: 2019 Lobby Day—

Dina Press, Georgia Applegate, Susanne Harmony, Marguerite Damewood, Sue Klumph, all of Grants Pass Branch

Your Assignment:

If there is a topic that you would like to see addressed at our Virtual Lobby Day, please let Trish know at (garner37@mac.com).

She will take it up with our wonderful State Public Policy Committee. She's looking forward to hearing from you!!

Membership: Some Random Thoughts

The new membership dues period will begin March 16th. National dues will increase to \$61.

This spring, members will vote on a proposed bylaw change that would allow an individual who supports the AAUW mission and pays annual AAUW dues to be eligible for membership.

Make your opinion heard.

Comments can be made through February 5th on the National website.

Are you connecting with your members through your electronic meetings?

It is difficult to connect when all you see are rows of heads. Some suggestions to help connections are:

1) have a meeting agenda, send it out to members

before the meeting and stick to it,

2) try to acknowledge all attendees,

3) don't let one or two members hog the meeting (that's what mute is for) and

4) make membership reach out a part of every meeting, welcoming new members and cheering on what members are doing during this pandemic.

Use social media to reach out to prospective members.

Nancy Brown and Pat Squire have put together excellent classes to make us tech savvy. Even this old dog is learning some new tricks.

Remember, we can't be all things to all people. Focus on a few things and do them really well.

*Gini Dideum
Membership VP*

“Remember, we can't be all things to all people. Focus on a few things and do them really well.”

Is Your Elevator Speech Ready?

What is an “elevator speech?” It's what you say when someone asks, “What is AAUW?” It's a reply as brief as the time it takes to travel between floors on an elevator.

Have your response on the tip of your tongue and be able to say it without reciting the AAUW Mission by rote.

Start with, “It's the American Association of University Women. We work for advancement for women and girls.” Then follow with a fact. “We give a scholarship at the college.” “We were instrumental in passing Oregon's fair pay law.”

Then ask the person a question and engage in as much conversation as time allows. Finish by handing them a business card and encouraging further contact.



Resilience & Commitment: Fundraising



Hillsboro-Forest Grove Branch "Poinsettia Sale"



Pendleton Branch "Grapefruit Sale"



Hillsboro-Forest Grove Branch "Poinsettia Sale"



Tigard Area Branch "Clean Closets for College"

Preschool for All

Did you know that Oregon and Washington are in the top ten of the least affordable states for center-based infant care? Or that families pay at least 30% of their income for this care? As we all know, the early years of a child's life are crucial for social, emotional and cognitive development.

Jessica Vega Pederson, Multnomah County Commissioner and former legislator, is author of a ground-breaking report "[Preschool for All](#)". She spearheaded a two-year-long process that gathered community leaders from across many sectors, including education, business, housing, healthcare, and parents, to craft a ballot measure, 26-214, which would levy an income tax on the county's highest earners. In the November 2020 election, Multnomah County passed the ballot measure "Pre-School for All" with 64% support.

Join us for the kick-off talk on April 19th by Commissioner Pederson about the importance of this amazing effort.

Trish Garner, Public Policy Chair



AAUW of Oregon

Mission

AAUW of Oregon promotes advocacy, takes action to empower women and girls, and connects National AAUW with branch members.

Value Promise

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

Vision

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

We're on the Web!

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

Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/aauworegon>

Instagram!

https://www.instagram.com/aauw_of_oregon/

Pinterest!

<https://www.pinterest.com/aauworegon/saved/>