



of Oregon

COVID-19 Guidelines: AAUW's recommendation is to adhere to the state guidelines as determined by its governor. Link to <https://govstatus.egov.com/OR-OHA-COVID-19>

# OREGON NEWS

## Conference & Annual Meeting Special

March 2022

In this Issue: Schedule of Events, Speaker Profiles, Officer Candidates, and 2022-2024 Strategic Plan.

### Virtual Lobby Evenings were a Resounding Success!!

*Trish Garner, Public Policy Chair*



Our February Lobby Evening sessions were stellar!

Thank you to our impressive guest speakers Dick Hughes, Representative Lisa Reynolds, Representative Courtney Neron and Representative WLnsvay Campos for sharing their time and expertise with us.

Not able to join us? (Or just want to watch again?) Thanks to Nancy Brown, both sessions are available on the AAUW of Oregon YouTube channel. Go to the website at <https://aauw-or.aauw.net/public-policy/> and click on the links.

## Invitation from the State Presidents

**Finding Common Ground** with those who hold different views on important issues is a goal to which we aspire, but how to begin the process?

AAUW of Oregon's meeting events will get us started, while also offering enrichment activities to delight and inform us, an inspiring awards ceremony, and even a chance to socialize without an agenda! While we regret that we can't meet in person this year, Ashland Hills beckons for 2023. Meanwhile, we will have an amazing Zoom Annual Meeting and Conference that is more concentrated and more powerful than ever.

When you review this year's program, we are sure you will be as excited as we are. Program Vice President Pat Squire and Events Coordinator Nancy Brown have assembled an outstanding series of events, and we can hardly wait to dive in!

Enlightenment, inspiration, friendship and fun—and all absolutely free. We look forward to seeing you April 7-9.

*Pat Lehman & Sue Klumph, AAUW of Oregon Co-presidents*

# 2022 Online Conference & Annual Meeting



AAUW of Oregon

*Note: New logo for online meeting created by Nancy Brown.*

# State Conference and Annual Meeting Schedule

Pat Squire, Program VP & Nancy Brown, Events Coordinator

*Our Long-anticipated Conference/Annual Meeting is Almost Here!*

**Come Zoom-along April 7-9.** You will be able to see your friends, learn about finding common ground, advance our AAUW organization, and celebrate some wonderful achievements, in just a few sessions!

We are starting with an engaging workshop on Thursday night, will enjoy some enrichment programs on Friday afternoon, hear from a state legislator Friday evening, be inspired by our CEO in preparation for our annual meeting on Saturday and end early Saturday afternoon when we'll meet an AAUW Fellow and participate in some fun awards.

## CONFERENCE & ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE:

### Sunday, April 3

2:00-3:30 p.m. AAUW of Oregon Board Meeting

### Thursday, April 7

7:00-8:30 p.m. **Can We Get Along: Examining our Personal Experiences of Connection and Community**, Chisao Hata, Oregon Humanities Conversation Project Leader

### Friday, April 8

3:00-4:00 p.m. **Ageing Gracefully**, Dr. Neesha Patel, OHSU

4:15-5:15 p.m. **Tasting and Learning**, Wine Expert Dr. Scott Burns

6:30 p.m. No-host social half hour

7:00 p.m. **Bridging the Gap**, Keynote Speaker, Representative Pam Marsh, Dist. 5

### Saturday, April 9

10:45 a.m. **Opening remarks**, AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell

11:00 a.m. – Noon, **AAUW of Oregon Annual Meeting**, Co-presidents Sue Klumph and Pat Lehman

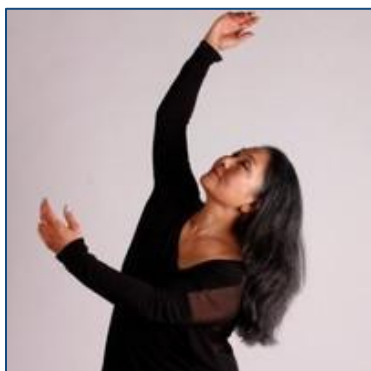
1:00-2:30 p.m., **AAUW of Oregon Awards Celebration**

## SESSION SPEAKERS AND TOPICS:

### Thursday, April 7, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

**Chisao Hata**, an Oregon Humanities Conversation Project Leader

**“Can We Get Along: Examining our Personal Experiences of Connection and Community”**



Chisao Hata is an artist, facilitator, community activist and highly regarded presenter. Ms. Hata will facilitate an interactive session exploring the theme of conversations with those who hold opposing views. She says:

*“It is our responsibility as artists to offer ways for people to express their creativity and humanity amidst a world of global wars, community divisions and rising human fear. Creative expression, invention and action are the cornerstones for a world of interconnectedness, global well-being, and personal fulfillment.”*

Ms. Hata recently facilitated a similar conversation for Multnomah County's Everybody Reads event, which featured *Good Talk: A Memoir in Conversation*, an adult graphic novel by author Mira Jacobs.

Hosted by Trish Garner, AAUW of Oregon Public Policy Chair.

## Are you interested in learning more?

Here are some resources about finding common ground – Google any of them for more information:

*Getting to Yes: Negotiating Agreement without Giving In*, Roger Fisher, William Ury, et al.

*Anatomy of Peace: Resolving the Heart of the Conflict*, The Arbinger Institute

*Crucial Conversations: Tools for Talking When the Stakes are High*, Joseph Grenny

*Difficult Conversations: How to Discuss What Matters Most*, Douglas Stone and the Harvard Negotiation Project

*The Bridging Differences Playbook*, The Greater Good Science Center at University of California, Berkeley

*Good Talk: A Memoir in Conversation*, Mira Jacobs\*

\*highly recommended!

*We begin this afternoon with two enrichment activities.  
We couldn't have a conference without enriching ourselves!*

**Friday, April 8, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.**

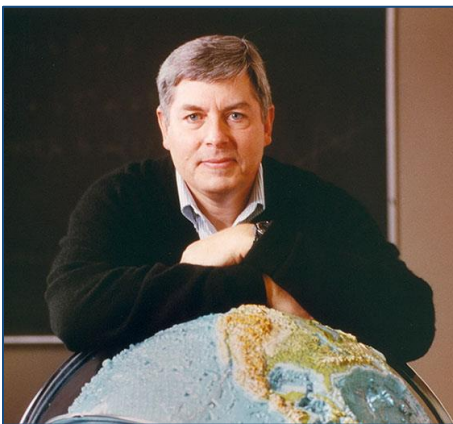
**Aging Gracefully with Dr. Neesha Patel**, OHSU, Family Medicine and Geriatrics



You think you know everything about how to age gracefully? Tune in to Dr. Neesha Patel, who will open your eyes and mind to new things to think about as we grow older. Dr. Patel is a family physician who provides care for the whole family. She has special expertise in geriatrics and enjoys helping patients navigate the changes that come with aging and focus on quality of life. She recently spoke to the Vancouver (WA) Branch, which highly recommend her. Hosted by Pat Wozniak, Vancouver (WA) Branch.

**Friday, April 8, 4:15 – 5:15 p.m.**

**Tasting and Learning with Wine Expert Scott Burns**, Professor Emeritus of Geology, Portland State University



Dr. Burns is a geologist and a well-known wine expert. He has taught geology and studied wine in Switzerland, New Zealand, Washington, Colorado and Louisiana. He is particularly interested in terroir, the natural environment where wines are produced, and the different AVAs in Oregon, which he will discuss.

He is a popular wine tour leader for various groups, and he is frequently featured in the media addressing landslides, earthquakes and wine. His warm conversational style and sense of humor will make this a fun tasting and learning event. He encourages you to join with a glass of wine and showcase the bottle so he can discuss it with you. Hosted by Pat Squire, AAUW Oregon Program VP.

**Friday, April 8, 6:30 p.m.**

**Social half-hour.** No host, join us for conversation and preparation for our keynote.

**Friday, April 8, 7:00-8:00 p.m.**

**Bridging the Gap, keynote address by Rep. Pam Marsh (D, Dist. 5)**



Representative Marsh was first elected to the Oregon House of Representatives in November 2016 and represents Southern Jackson County, including Ashland. Prior to joining the legislature, she served as a member of Ashland's City Council, and its Planning Commission and Charter Review Committee. From 2006-2012 she worked as Deputy Director of a nonprofit providing drug and alcohol prevention and treatment. From 2012 to 2016 she acted as the Executive Director of Ashland Emergency Food Bank. In her legislative work she listens to and provides leadership for both urban and non-urban areas. The 2022 Session has brought a number of challenges to Representative Marsh, including the need for expanded broadband service, school funding, recovery from fires, housing assistance, regulation of hemp production and protection from our climate extremes.

She will be speaking to us about the apparent divisions that currently exist in our state and country, and, instead of reflexively withdrawing from the field of public policy, how we might bridge the gap and achieve a better future. Hosted by Trish Garner, AAUW Oregon Public Policy Chair.

**Saturday, April 9, 10:45 a.m. - Noon**

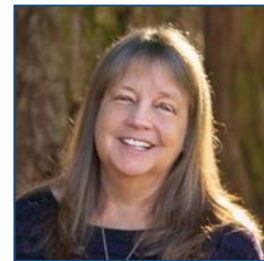
**AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell will give opening remarks at 10:45 a.m.**



**Gloria Blackwell, CEO**



**Pat Lehman**



**Sue Klumph**

**Saturday, April 9, 11:00 a.m. - Noon**

**AAUW of Oregon Annual Meeting**

Hosted by **Sue Klumph and Pat Lehman, AAUW Oregon Co-Presidents**

Delegates will vote on proposed state bylaws amendments and public policy priorities, and on 2022-2024 state officers.

#### **Annual Meeting Delegates**

##### **Mary Pat Silveira, Credentials Chair**

All AAUW members and C/U representatives are welcome to participate in the AAUW Oregon Annual Meeting. However, only delegates may vote.

The number of delegates allowed each branch is set by the state By-laws, Article XIX, Section 2 which stipulates that there may be one delegate for each 25 members of each branch or major fraction thereof, and that each branch is entitled to at least one delegate in addition to the president. State officers, past presidents, and Oregon members serving at the national level may also all be delegates.

A request for selection of branch delegates has recently gone out to all branch presidents. The deadline for reply is **March 15**. If you have any questions or if you have not received a delegate form, please contact Credentials Chair Mary Pat Silveira <mpsilveira@usa.net>.

AAUW reached a historic benchmark at the 2021 Annual Meeting: every branch in the state was represented by delegates. Representation is important. Don't be left out.

**Saturday, April 9, 1:00 -2:30 p.m.**

**AAUW of Oregon Awards Event**

Hosted by **Claudia Gray, AAUW Funds Co-chair**, and **Gini Dideum, AAUW of Oregon Membership VP**

Scheduled for the awards celebration are:

- Special guest speaker AAUW Fellow Safia Farole
- AAUW Funds top ten branches
- Membership Awards
- Breaking Barriers Award
- State Named Gift Honorees
- Prize drawings



The program will open with guest speaker **Safia Farole, AAUW American Fellowship** recipient, who is studying at Portland State University. Her postdoctoral work is in political science with specialization in comparative politics and African politics.

In her research, Dr. Farole focuses on local elections, party systems and the political representation of women in Africa. Her recent research on how opposition political parties build support at the local level has been published in peer-reviewed journals in political science. Her new work on women’s representation in local elections in South Africa examines why female politicians are less likely to win seats in direct elections even in the context of gender quotas.

Her sponsor, in part, is Fund #1904, OR State Division (1963).



**Lisa Palermo, Development Director of Oregon Tradeswomen**, was named the 2022 recipient of the AAUW Oregon Breaking Barriers Achievement Award.

Lisa grew up on the east coast but when she moved to Portland in the early 1990's, she knew she had found her home. Loving this wonderful community led to a desire to support it through volunteering and, ultimately, working in the nonprofit community. The combination of her passion, being a lifelong feminist and a mother of daughters, made working at Oregon Tradeswomen (OTW) a dream come true.

In her role as Development Director, Lisa feels privileged to connect with people every day who care about, and want to support, financial security for women. In her spare time, Lisa serves as Co-Chair of the Board of Directors of Portland Homeless Family Solutions, is setting up a community resource, SharingGoods.org, and buys way too much yarn. When she's not knitting, you'll find her trying new recipes and cooking for friends. *(Biography from OTW website.)*



## Candidates for AAUW of Oregon State Office

*Susan Wahlke, Nominations Committee Chair*

### Communication Vice President Candidate



**Kelli Matthews**

In any community service role I accept, it's important to me that it aligns with my values and allows me to use my expertise to further the organization's goals. That alignment is my highest priority. As communications VP for AAUW, that alignment is clear to me. I am standing up to be Communications VP as a professional with more than twenty years of experience in public relations committed to advocating for women and girls. While I have only been with AAUW a short time, my community and public service track record goes back much further.

I'm a member of the Eugene-Lane Branch (4 years), a founding member of the Tech Committee (3 years), a workshop leader at the annual meeting and summer skills camps (4 years), a senior instructor at the University of Oregon (17 years), a consultant with an active practice (20 years), a partner to Michael (29 years) and a mom to two active boys (ages 16 and 9).

You can learn more about my professional experience and community service via my LinkedIn profile:

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/kellimatthews/>

### Membership Vice President Candidate



**Catherine Lutes**

I attended the University of California, Berkeley majoring in and getting a masters in Linguistics. Later I got a second master's at night in Educational Administration . After retiring from first, teaching, then Administration, teaching Educational Psychology at Dominican University, then as a principal coach in Northern California, I moved to Ashland. The first thing I did was join AAUW, and there I found my people—wonderful intelligent, caring women, and oh, so much fun!! My first job was hospitality chair for our branch and then I got recruited to be the membership chair. That was perfect because then I would get to meet every member. I am currently serving as President of the Ashland Branch and, because we've been in COVID Zoomland, I have many new members to meet in person.

I'm looking forward to working with a great State team and meeting members from all over our great state.

### Central District Director Candidate

*No one has been slated for Central District Director. Nominations will be taken from the floor at the meeting. Candidates must accept nomination in writing.*

AAUW of Oregon website password to "Member Center" is *oregonaauw*

## Northeast District Director Candidate



**Karen King**

I joined AAUW Pendleton Branch in 2004 and have served as Co-president, Finance VP, Communications VP and Membership VP. I am currently chair of the branch's grapefruit sale fundraiser.

Because I have a BS degree in chemistry, a BS in secondary education, and a MS in environmental science, I have been privileged to have three different careers. First, I worked as a lab technician for about 9 years. Next, I taught nursing chemistry, basic skills and oceanography at Blue Mountain Community College and at Eastern Oregon Correctional Institution for 11 years. And finally, my last career was as regulatory specialist for city of Pendleton for 17 years, which involved compliance with environmental and safety regulations. I retired in 2013.

My husband, David, and I just celebrated our 50th anniversary. We have one son, Joshua, who has worked in theater for many years but is currently returning to college studying anthropology and sociology.

## Northwest District Director Candidate



**Kathi Gervasi**

My name is Kathy Gervasi and I have been nominated for the Northwest District Director position. As a retired teacher and elementary principal of 35 years, I have supported AAUW's mission to provide educational opportunities for girls and women.

I was the Family/School Coordinator for Tech Trek Camp on the Oregon Coast for seven years and connected with the Northwest Branches to recruit students to our camp. I had the pleasure to attend the Tech Trek training at National in D.C.

After joining Tillamook's Branch, I served as President, Communication VP, and now as editor of the newsletter and membership directory. For several State Annual Meetings, I edited the Workbook and was part of the planning committees when the conferences were held in Garibaldi and Lincoln City. I served on the State Nomination Committee and was the State STEM chair for two years.

I'm presently in my second term as chair of the Tillamook Bay Community College Board, and I work as a church musician and community theater pianist and actor. Because of Covid, I will use Zoom as a tool to connect with the branch presidents in my district. I look forward to networking with our Northwest Branches and being available to help them meet their goals and be acknowledged for their accomplishments.

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

## Public Policy Goals 2022-2024

### 1. Public Education: Pre-K through Higher Education

- Improved and stable funding for Title IX enforcement;
- Increased proficiency of K – 12 school students in civics and civic engagement;
- Equal educational opportunities for all with emphasis on the protection and preservation of academic freedom and access to broad-based, bias-free education at all levels;



- Opposition to the use of public funds for nonpublic elementary and secondary education and to charter schools that do not adhere to the same civil rights and accountability standards as required of other public schools;
- Sufficient funding to ensure high quality, affordable education at all levels, especially for women in poverty and women who are incarcerated, including access to pre-school education, continuing education and workforce technical programs, and job training;
- Closing of the persistent achievement gap that disproportionately affects low-income children and students from communities of color;
- Support for programs that break through barriers for women and girls in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), and civics, history and political science (CHiPS);
- Provision of financial assistance for childcare and other costs associated with being a student parent.

## 2. Elimination of Discrimination and Violence

- Protection of all persons from discrimination and violence on the basis of gender, race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, marital status, disability, age or class;
- Elimination of bullying, sexual harassment and sexual assault;
- Promotion of racial, ethnic and gender justice, including creating a diverse culture where the richness of ideas, backgrounds and perspectives is fully appreciated and utilized;
- Adoption of the Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution and the ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women;
- Support of programs that address human trafficking;
- Freedom from violence and fear of violence, including hate crimes, in homes, schools, workplaces and communities.

## 3. State and Local Government

- Ensure full and fair access to civil and constitutional rights, including meaningful campaign finance reform, nonpartisan voting districts, open and fair elections, and nonpartisan voter education efforts;
- Fair and equitable taxation at all levels of government;
- Elimination of the kicker and establishment of an adequate reserve fund;
- Reaffirmation of the separation of church and state;
- Ensure adequate long-term funding for education, public safety and human services;
- Accountability and transparency in government operations;
- Support of a fair, balanced and independent judiciary.

## 4. Health Care

- Universal availability of quality, affordable and accessible health services for all;
- The right of all persons to have access to the reproductive health care options of their choice;
- Adoption of policies that mitigate climate change and lead to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment;
- Recognition that gun violence is a health care crisis.

## 5. Economic Self-Sufficiency

- Greater availability of and access to benefits that promote work and life balance, including quality and affordable dependent care;
- Strengthening access to safe, affordable housing for women and children, especially those living at or below the poverty level;
- Prevention of discrimination based on age;
- Equitable advancement for and recognition of women in employment and leadership roles;
- Pay equity and fairness in compensation.
- ***The ability of all persons to have affordable access to electronic and other communications systems. (new for 2022-2024)***

## AAUW of Oregon Strategic Areas of Focus 2022-2024

	<b>Education &amp; Training</b>		
<b>Goal A</b>	Facilitate sharing of programming, fundraising and public policy ideas between branches.	Presidents; Committees: Communications; Programs; Funds, Public Policy	Ongoing
<b>Goal B</b>	Host state-wide collaborative and mission-based programs that align with the strategic plan.	Programs VP; Event Coordinator;	Ongoing
<b>Goal C</b>	Provide technology training for members	Technology committee	Ongoing
	<b>Economic Security</b>		
<b>Goal D</b>	Provide or promote access to workshops on personal finance and negotiating salaries such as the ones developed by the national office of AAUW.	Communications & Technology Committees; StartSmart, WorkSmart, MoneySmart Liaisons	Ongoing
	<b>Leadership</b>		
<b>Goal E</b>	Host a Lobby Day program during the legislative session	Public Policy Committee;	Feb 2022
<b>Goal F</b>	Develop a succession plan for State Board positions.	Co-Presidents	2022
<b>Goal G</b>	Develop mentorship program for AAUW officers relevant to both state and branch levels.	Executive Board	2023
	<b>Governance and Sustainability</b>		
<b>Goal H</b>	Continue to modernize and integrate our communications avenues (website, social media, member newsletters, all member e-mail, virtual meetings)	Communications committee, Technology committee	Ongoing
<b>Goal I</b>	Post-pandemic, review format options for continuing training, programs and annual meetings considering new technology skills, accessibility and time commitments for members.	State Board; Technology committee	TBD

Adopted by the AAUW of Oregon Board of Directors January 9, 2022