



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

CARBONDALE BRANCH IN FOCUS

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AAUW website: <http://web.coehs.siu.edu/wed/wallace/AAUW%20page.htm>

READING OF THE WINNING ESSAYS

TUESDAY, MARCH 20 (CHANGED FROM THE 6TH), BUSINESS MEETING AT 6:30 P.M.; 7:00 P.M. RECEPTION; PROGRAM 7:30 P.M. at the SIUC FACULTY HOUSE, GRAND & ELIZABETH STREETS, CARBONDALE

HOSTED BY ELAINE JURKOWSKI, ANNE HILL, & BETH ARTHUR

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH ESSAY CONTEST "READING OF THE WINNING ESSAYS"

For a number of years, the Carbondale Branch in celebration of Women's History Month has sponsored an essay contest for seventh and eighth grade girls and boys in the area. The assigned topic is "The Woman I Most Admire." Again this year the students have written about local women of renown and women who have been nationally and internationally recognized for their achievements. The very special accomplishments of several mothers and other relatives have been among the award-winning essays of past years.

Twenty-one essays were received this year from the Carbondale Middle School, the Murphysboro Middle School, and the Unity Point School in Carbondale. Essays were rated by judges, Bonnie Heidinger and Kem Howze. The Essay Contest Committee is composed of Martha Ellert (chair), Lelia Marvin, and Carolyn Snyder.

Last year we had a packed house for this very important event. Please don't miss this one. Parents, teachers, and friends are invited to attend. Let's show them our support and enthusiasm.

CELEBRATE WOMEN DAY WEDNESDAY MARCH 28TH UNIVERSITY MUSEUM AUDITORIUM

On Wednesday, March 28th, between Noon and 6:00 PM, at the Faner Hall University Museum Auditorium, women's scholarship will be highlighted, with a Juried Poster session between Noon and 6:00 PM, two informational workshops (see Page 2 for details), and an Award Presentations from 5:00 to 6:00 PM. The following awards will be presented:

- AAUW graduate scholarships, including the Joyce A. Kelly Memorial Scholarship
- AAUW Lelia Marvin Award
- Women's Studies scholarships, including the Elizabeth Eames Women's Studies Graduate Scholarship; Marlene Rotbart Matten Academic Excellence in Health Research Award; and the Donna M. Summerfield Women's Studies Undergraduate Scholarship
- Women's Caucus scholarships, including one non-traditional/reentry undergraduate scholarship, one undergraduate minority scholarship, and one graduate student - the Deb Morrow Scholarship

- University Professional Advancement Awards:
University Women of Distinction Awards
- Workshops:
 - *Past, Present and Beyond Historical Notes on African American Women's Health*, Pamela Smoot, Clinical Assistant Professor, Black American Studies, SIUC, 1200 Noon to 1:30 PM.
 - *Women and Investments in Today's World*, Andrea Turner, Investment Representative, Edward Jones, 3:30 PM. to 5:00 PM.

The day includes University Professional Advancement presentation of research, noon-6 p.m., University Professional Advancement informational workshop, Noon-1:30 PM, University Professional Advancement informational workshop 3:30-5:00 PM and an awards presentation, 5:00-6:00 PM.

APRIL'S CONVENTION

Anyone interested in attending the April 27-28 convention, please contact Mary Wallace, mreekat@siu.edu. I'm planning on an Amtrak ride to Bloomington. Mary Lou McLaughlin can pick us up from the train.

Email from Mary Lou McLaughlin, District 1 Director: Dear Friends.....darn that Mother Nature w/her ice and snow. I regretted calling to cancel my accommodations and missing out on what must have been a very entertaining evening!:((Black History program). I trust there is a rain check I can "cash" in for another opportunity to meet w/ the other members.

Hopefully we see each other soon, if not, hop on board the AAUW Amtrak to Bloomington for the Spring Convention and I will be happy to pick you up @ the depot! We'll be having a representative from Association planning to attend.

Board Meetings



Want to know what we do at AAUW board meetings? Sometimes we endure extremes but we always get a lot done.

WE CELEBRATED BLACK HISTORY MONTH

A Circle of Friends ~ A Circle of Love

Last month's program was exceptional and one for the history books. Three women portrayed the wives of three slain husbands: Medgar Wiley Evers, husband of Myrlie Evers, portrayed by Beverly Love; Malcolm X, husband of



Betty Shabazz, portrayed by Gloria Jones; and Martin Luther King, Jr., husband of Coretta Scott

King, portrayed by Hope Horace Logwood. AAUW member Jo Poshard and her husband, SIU



President Dr. Glenn Poshard, greeted and hosted participants of the celebration. Despite the inclement weather at the Stone Center, participation was very good.



The women portrayers shared the experiences, the sorrows, and

the hopes of themselves and their husbands for the future of America.

Other women such as Sojourner Truth, portrayed by Julia Hines, Harriet Tubman portrayed by Pauline Dixon, and Octavia Albert portrayed by Kara Gregory among 11 other women portrayers circled the wives with love and support. This was a very moving and poignant experience.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN

“Islam & The Women’s Movement in Morocco” was presented by Moroccan scholar and author Fatima Sadiqi who is currently a visiting scholar at Harvard. This presentation was held March 8th. In the photo is Susie Kapp (top), (left to right) Naseem Ahmed, Dr. Kathryn Ward (Sociology), Dr. Fatima Sadiqi (speaker); and Ana Velitchkova (Media/Communications and Foreign Languages). All enjoyed dinner following the event. The March 9th Daily Egyptian newspaper covered the event.



Support the Healthy Families Act

AAUW has long supported flexible workplace policies to address the family responsibilities of employees. AAUW advocated for nearly a decade to pass the Family and Medical Leave Act, which was finally signed into law in 1993. While the FMLA has been an enormous gain for millions of workers, millions of Americans still do not have the option of taking a sick day to care for family members or themselves without putting their jobs, their healthcare benefits, or their family stability at risk.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, nearly half of American private-sector workers, including 21 million women, do not have paid sick days. Only one in three has paid sick days for doctors' appointments or to care for a child. Low-wage workers are especially hard hit, with three in four workers without any paid sick days. A study published by the Kaiser Family Foundation found that 27 percent of low income workers put off getting health-care because they cannot take time off from work, and 18 percent of women at all income levels face this situation.

Families with children are often confronted with difficult choices—a decision to stay home to care for a sick child or family member could jeopardize their job or family income. Half of working mothers, who most often provide the lion's

share of family care giving, report that they must miss work and often go without pay when caring for a sick child. With more than a third of Americans already experiencing significant elder care responsibilities, coupled with the aging of the baby boomers, the problem is likely to worsen in the years ahead.

For these reasons, AAUW strongly supports legislation like the Healthy Families Act, which was to be introduced by Sen. Kennedy (D-MA) and Rep. DeLauro (D-CT) on Tuesday, March 13. The bill provides full-time employees with seven paid sick days a year to be used for their own medical needs or to tend to the medical needs of a child, spouse, or parent. Part-time employees would receive a pro-rated share of paid sick days.

Take Action! To urge your senators and representative to become original cosponsors of the Healthy Families Act so that America's families don't have to choose between keeping a job and caring for themselves or a loved one, click this link <http://capwiz.com/aauw/issues/alert/?alertid=9481711> or copy and paste it into your Internet browser, then follow the instructions to send a message to your U.S. Senators and U.S. Representative:

If your representative or senator has already signed on as an original cosponsor, you will be able to send them a separate message thanking them for their leadership.

Vocational Education and the Perkins Act

In case you didn't know, any legislation advancing career and technical education must provide programs, policies and resources for women and girls to have access to education and training for high-skill, high-wage jobs. AAUW supports the following priorities.

Programs and services must be made available to women and girls through career and technical programs that will enable them to achieve high wage/high skill and nontraditional employment that leads to economic self-sufficiency.

- Career Guidance and Counseling must be provided to all students and delivered in an extensive and fair manner that ensures

students are receiving the most valuable information that will lead to high skill/high wage and nontraditional careers.

- Professional development must be provided to personnel in preparing students for their educational and career choices.
- National research activities must support research on the outcomes of women and girls in career and technical education.

RECRUITING YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

Helpful Hints

Kimberly Edger, Valley Forge Branch, AAUW

1. Be aggressively friendly
2. Recognize professional women in your community
3. Contact new people immediately through e-mail, phone calls, faxes, postcards
4. Have a focused strategic plan for recruitment
5. Hold events not meetings, try to streamline meetings

6. Take risks with programs/events, try something new
7. Vary meeting times, days, and locations
8. Promoting the idea of "working for AAUW"
9. Form coalitions with other community-based organizations
10. Get branch officer business cards
11. Form new study groups/interest groups
12. Offer mentoring to children, college students, and women entering the workforce
13. Partner with colleges/universities for shared events
14. Promote networking opportunities
15. Address diversity issues
16. Provide assistance to women returning to college
17. Start a pay equity coalition with business and professional women's organizations
18. Have food and other refreshments at meetings or small dinners with speakers
19. Get AAUW Materials to graduating seniors
20. Encourage members to sponsor the memberships for young professionals

OUR AAUW MISSION

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

VISION STATEMENT

AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

AAUW's Educational Foundation provides funds to advance education, research and self-development for women, and to foster equity and positive societal change.

LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

AAUW's Legal advocacy Fund provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT

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

See you on the 20th!

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