

Advancing equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

www.aauwstatecollege.org



DIVERSITY CORNER

TELLING YOUR STORY

23rd Cultural Empowerment for Women Series

Co-Sponsored by the Community Diversity Group & AAUW State College

THURSDAY, MARCH 17th, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm (Zoom)

Please join us for this engaging program. It features a panel of local women who will share their unique stories and provide ideas that will inspire participants to empower themselves by telling their own stories.

Moderator: Joleen Hindman, Consultant, Regional External Affairs, West Penn Power

Panelists:

- **Carline Crevecoeur**, retired OB/GYN and State College Area School District Board member, and AAUW State College member
- **Pamela Robb**, decorated veteran and Chair of the Patton Township Board of Supervisors
- **Theresa K. Vescio**, Professor of Psychology and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Penn State

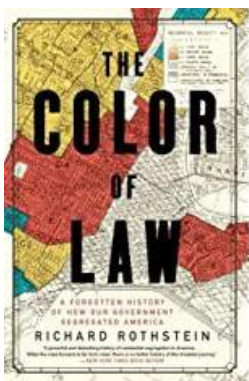
Flyer to Distribute: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-ru-7to0F8UzJuiLKDMWJRFBgXSoYqbK/view?usp=sharing>

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAocOGqpzMsGdYjNAXoyLGuQndevFu8ZYol>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.





¡Adelante! BOOK CLUB to MEET VIA ZOOM MARCH 17TH

Our book club features diverse cultures in both fiction and nonfiction offerings. We meet during the afternoon every other month on the third Thursday of the month, with our next (virtual) meeting taking place on **Thursday, March 17th at 2:30 pm**. We will discuss *The Color of Law: A Forgotten history of How the Government Segregated America* by Richard Rothstein. To participate with the group, please contact info@aauwstatecollege.org. We welcome new members. **Join us:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84109016353?pwd=MUIkWiVNN0h4R1hXR0hncjF3c3B2QT09>

-Naana Nti, AAUW State College Diversity Chair



AAUW STATE COLLEGE SELECTS NAMED GIFT HONOREES

As a result of our \$5000 donation to the Greatest Needs Fund at AAUW National, AAUW State College may name branch members as **Named Gift Honorees**. The Board has endorsed recognizing the Program Co-Vice Presidents and their committee members for their perseverance during the challenges of the past two years. They found creative ways to develop and deliver programming—often in partnership with local organizations—that promoted AAUW State College initiatives and mission, and they coped with Zoom admirably. Special thanks to the **Program VPs—Susan Chyczewski ('21-'23), Nina Cowart ('20-'22), and Naana Nti ('20) and their committee members: Christine Bishop, Jordan Glover, Epiphany Loux, and Jeannine Lozier.**



WATCH the MARCH 22nd CYBER CHARTER SCHOOLS HEARING

On March 22nd at 9:30 am, the Pennsylvania House Education Committee will hold a public hearing on the cyber charter school application and renewal process. Critics say that the renewal process needs more rigor and better oversight. The link to the live stream of this hearing, for those wishing to listen, is listed under Upcoming Meetings:

<https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/CteeInfo/index.cfm?Code=12&CteeBody=H>

The goal of the 1997 charter school law was to “encourage the use of different and innovative teaching methods” and to “improve student learning that could be replicated by other public

schools.” Now, Pennsylvania has more students enrolled in cyber charter schools than any other state. Their graduation rates remain much lower than non-charter public schools. Cyber charters receive funds per enrolled student, but often are reimbursed for more than the actual costs of the cyber education, a practice that brings increased property taxes. The present law is decades old and needs to be updated. **Tune in March 22nd to listen and learn.**

--Carol Hodes, Branch Education Chair



***VOTE NOW THROUGH APRIL 13th
in the AAUW PENNSYLVANIA ELECTION***

This month, AAUW Pennsylvania announced officer nominations for their 2022 election. AAUW State College member and Immediate Past President, Cindy Hall, has been nominated for president. Congratulations on your nomination, Cindy, and best wishes. ***VOTE TODAY!***

Voting may be done online or by paper ballot. The deadline to vote is April 13th. For details visit: <https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/aauw-pa-2022-elections-voting-instructions/>



This March, AAUW Pennsylvania has two remaining Zoom programs to promote – two sponsored by branches and the third sponsored by AAUW Pennsylvania. Please join us!

*--Ann Pehle, President, AAUW Pennsylvania
Changing the Climate for Women and Girls*

***WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16th, 7:30 – 9:00 pm
Follow the Money...to School***

A three-person panel delves into funding K-12 public schools. The majority of Pennsylvania students attend publicly funded schools which includes charter and cyber-charter schools. How are they performing? How are they funded? Are our tax dollars advancing students and working for us? The program is sponsored by AAUW West Chester/Chester County.

Flyer to Distribute: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-kqSI-uDubydqNI6QiIBTqwifLNfgEJ7/view?usp=sharing>

Register: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwrde6grTMqHtTmxCoTa27LzZc06D4L91zU>

TUESDAY, MARCH 29th, 7:30 - 8:30 pm

Lifting as We Climb: Our Journey with AAUW

Our speakers, including **Penn State University Assistant Vice President of Diversity, Inclusion & Belonging, Dr. Lisette Garcia**, are distinguished in their careers and serve on AAUW's National Board of Directors. Hear about their passion for AAUW's mission; history of AAUW involvement; their career journey; and why they think AAUW is relevant and needed today.

Flyer to Distribute: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-oKcDJjWW_vXK2vamZXEyB6ploWywB8B/view?usp=sharing

Register: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYsdO6trjgrHtVFh980uqi_qjvavRy4vi61



2022 AAUW STATE COLLEGE COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED THROUGH APRIL 1st

Applications are now being accepted from Centre County non-profits for AAUW State College's Community Grants. Learn more: https://aauwstatecollege.org/community_grants_centre_county/

If you have questions about the 2022-2023 community grants application process, contact Philanthropic Priorities and Funds Distribution Committee Co-Chair Connie Wheeler, cmwheeler15@gmail.com. **Applications due April 1st.**

--Connie Wheeler and Donna Trapp

AAUW State College Philanthropic Priorities and Funds Distribution Co-Chairs



AAUW State College helps fund the Penn State Envision event, which engages girls in grades 6-12 in STEM activities.

STEM ACTIVITIES OFFER MANY PATHWAYS

The March 2022 STEM Committee report to the AAUW State College Board outlined a wide range of wonderful STEM activities in which AAUW State College and STEM groups on campus and the community are engaged. Discovery Space, GWIS (Graduate Women in Science), GWIE (Graduate Women in Engineering), and Office of Science Outreach, Eberly College of Science were listed in the report. Learn what the Committee is up to:

[STEM Committee Report to AAUW State College Board – 3/22](#)

The STEM grants awarded by the branch each year fund or partially fund these activities, and are derived from our Used Book Sale proceeds.

STEM activities are coordinated and facilitated by the STEM Committee, which holds monthly meetings that includes both AAUW branch members and

community members interested in supporting women and girls in STEM. Thank you to branch STEM leaders **Carol-Beth Book** and **Michele Crowl**, and committee members **Candace Davison**, **Kristin Dreyer**, **Mary Dupuis**, and **Vasundara Varadan** for good work.

BOOK DONATIONS WELCOME THROUGH TUESDAY, APRIL 5th



After a very busy winter with volunteers culling, sorting, and pricing books, the Used Book Workshop will be closing for book donations on **April 5th**. This will give them time to process remaining book donations in time for the May 14th – 17th Used Book Sale. The workshop will reopen for book donations on **Tuesday, June 14th**.

The workshop is located at 2197 High Tech Road. High Tech Road is directly across from University Park Airport. The workshop is on the right behind Handy Delivery. Donations are preferred during workshop hours - **Mondays, 6:00-8:00 pm; Tuesday/Wednesdays 9:00 am-2:30 pm**. Books also may be delivered to outdoor donation bins anytime. Details: https://aauwstatecollege.org/used_book_sale_donations/

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for AAUW STATE COLLEGE MAY 14-17 USED BOOK SALE



October, 2021 Sale: 1) *Volunteers unload book boxes;* 2) *Estelle Call and friend take a break;* 3) *Carol-Beth Book serves as sale cashier.*



To volunteer for Move-in Night, table volunteer, or cashier, sign up [HERE](#).

To volunteer for the Hospitality Table in the Lobby, sign up [HERE](#).



Move-in takes place on Thursday, May 12th, with volunteers loading trucks at the Used Book Workshop (2197 High Tech Road near University Park Airport) and unloading at the Snider Agricultural Arena. Dinner will be provided. The sale runs May 14-17th 9:00 am – 8:00 pm each day.

Questions? Be sure to contact me directly at (812) 325-1028 or estelle.stroup@gmail.com. **The Used Book Sale is the financial engine of our branch, and relies on strong volunteer coverage.**

Thank you in advance for your help in making the Used Book Sale a success!

--Estelle Call, Used Book Sale Volunteer Scheduler

Left: Straightening books on tables improves shoppers' experiences.

BRANCH AWARDS SCHOLARSHIP to NCCWSL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



Annually, AAUW invites hundreds of college women from around the country for three days of leadership training, inspiration and networking at the **National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)**. This year's conference, held May 24-26, will be held virtually, and AAUW State College has awarded a scholarship for Penn State student Maanasi Gothoskar to attend. Learn more about the NCCWSL leadership conference at:

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/events/nccwsl/>

Meet Manaasi Gothoskar, 2022 NCCWSL Scholarship Recipient



Originally from Allentown, Pennsylvania, Maanasi Gothoskar is a senior at Penn State University and will be graduating with a degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Science in May. A certified EMT, she plans to attend medical school after taking one gap year.

Maanasi is involved with a social STEM sorority on campus, Meals on Wheels, and the Big Brothers Big Sisters of America program. She enjoys participating in service activities both locally and abroad and is passionate about mental health awareness. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with friends and family, playing sports, and

traveling to different countries.

Do not follow where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.

-Muriel Strode (Poet)



MARCH is WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

The Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service, Smithsonian Institution and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum join in

commemorating and encouraging the study, observance and celebration of the vital role of women in American history. **Learn more:** <https://womenshistorymonth.gov/>



Dickens, a physician and advocate for women's health, preventive care, and health equity for Black women and girls, was influential in her profession from the 1930s until her death in 2001. (Image courtesy of Dickens' daughter, Jayne Henderson Brown.)

In recognition of Women's History Month, AAUW State College honors the work of
HELEN OCTAVIA DICKENS.

Following are excerpts from a story on Dickens by Rachel Ewing and Carol Benenson Perloff. Read more at [Penn Medicine News](#).

Helen Dickens, a physician and advocate for women's health, preventive care, and health equity for Black women and girls, was influential in her profession from the 1930s until her death in 2001. Dickens was not only the first African-American woman faculty member in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Penn, but a vital leader in the community advocating for preventive health care for women and teen girls of color.

Dickens made her mark in cancer prevention and education in the late 1940s, in particular as a crusader for Pap smear testing. This was on top of her private practice and, in 1948, appointment as director of Ob/Gyn at the newly merged Mercy Douglass Hospital, where she created residency-training opportunities for Black physicians. Dickens lobbied doctors throughout Pennsylvania to offer the Pap test and taught 200 Black physicians how to perform it. Equally important, she addressed reluctance within the Black community for women to have pelvic exams and Pap smears due to fears of sterilization, a concern rooted in generations of mistrust in the medical profession from non-consensual experimentation on Black individuals.

In 1965, Dickens became the first African-American woman faculty member in OB/GYN at Penn. She continued her advocacy for cancer education and made trailblazing contributions to family planning, addressing teen pregnancy and sexual health issues within Philadelphia's Black community.

Welcome

New Members



JANE STANTON - jstan2000@gmail.com

Jane Stanton, who earned both a B.S. and an MEd from Penn State, is a retired educator. She lived and taught in various parts of Pennsylvania but was happy to move back to State College more than 30 years ago. She taught for 24 years in the State College Area School District, beginning part-time at what was then Park Forest Junior High and later, teaching in every district secondary building as her part-time work gradually increased to full-time. Jane also had the privilege of working for one year as a halftime instructor in Workforce Ed when Penn State had a grant from the Department of Education to work with pre-student teachers and to edit a newsletter for Family and Consumer teachers.

Jane is active in the University Women's Club, serving as past president and current website editor. She serves on the Penn State IRB (Institutional Review Board) and continues to support the youth of our community as a member of the Youth Aid Panel.

AAUW Introduces the AAUW COMMUNITY HUB, a New Personal Portal for Members

AAUW National is implementing a personal portal for AAUW members called the AAUW Community Hub. Currently members can update their profiles and contact information, and after a second upgrade at the end of March, they will be able to renew their memberships online.

For instruction and video tutorials, members are asked to activate their accounts now at <https://www.aauw.org/new-systems-update/>. Stay tuned for additional information.

Branch Bulletin

The next *Branch Bulletin* will be issued **Monday, March 28th**. Please send submissions for inclusion in that issue by **Monday, March 21st** to *Branch Bulletin* Editor Connie Schroeder, connieschroeder@gmail.com. *Bulletins* are sent electronically to branch members and friends and also are accessible at <https://aauwstatecollege.org/blog/>.



EDUCATION VOTERS
of Pennsylvania

**EDUCATION VOTERS PENNSYLVANIA
NEED OUR HELP TUESDAY, MARCH 15th**



Recently, AAUW members in Pennsylvania received a letter from Sue Spicka, Executive Director of Education Voters PA, asking for their help with a campaign to show students in underfunded schools that people throughout the commonwealth support fair, adequate, and equitable funding for their schools. Witness testimony in the Pennsylvania school funding trial concluded last month and the judge will spend months reviewing testimony and evidence before issuing her decision in the case.

Education Voters PA are inviting our members to join *Shine a Light on Education Justice* in a statewide action on **Tuesday, March 15th**, by **sharing a picture of themselves with the *Fully Fund Our Schools* flyer** on their personal social media, and/or by sending the photo along to Sue Spicka, sspicka@educationvoterspa.org **prior to March 15th.**

Additional information: <https://thoroughandefficient.org/>

[Education Voters PA LETTER](#)

Flyer for Posting: [Education Voters PA FLYER](#)

JOIN MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS

All branch members are welcome to attend monthly board meetings. They generally occur via Zoom at **12:00 noon the first Monday of each month**. To receive the agenda, please notify either Sally Kalin (sallywkalin@gmail.com) or Linda Friend (lx5@psu.edu) several days before the meeting. The next meeting is **Monday, April 4th**.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85183353133?pwd=amFnekIqSnErRHdvQ3o2RjVGdGdmZz09>

Submit Events to the Branch Website Calendar

Link to submit events for the
Branch web calendar:

<https://forms.gle/4XoLCgQnLKj>