

Presenters:

Lila Meade, Co-founder and Executive Director of the Haiti Project at Vassar College

Lila and her husband started the Haiti Project in 2001 after they decided it was time to stop talking about making a difference and actually start doing it! As young parents, they started with the idea of feeding 125 children annually one meal a day in a remote Haitian village (the primary reason for sending children to school). Initially, the project focused only on educating the children and they raised funds by selling Haitian art.



Sara Neequaye, is a Vassar College sophomore, and the Vice President of the Women's Initiative Student Committee.



Notice: Branch Business Meeting

As required by our branch bylaws, there will be a **brief** business meeting at our November regular program meeting. The agenda will include general reports and the election of the Nominating Committee. We look forward to seeing you at the November program meeting.

Coming in December: Festive Foods

What are the traditional delicacies served at your family's special occasions? Do you often wish you could get some new ideas for those events? Find out what others serve at their family gatherings. Come to the December AAUW meeting (December 12) where members of our Branch will share some of the festive foods they prepare for these events.

**Woman to Woman:
from Poughkeepsie to Chermaitre, Haiti
What can we create?**



**November 9, 2023
7:00 PM in person**

The Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church
1168 Route 55, Lagrangeville, NY 12540

After twenty two years, the impact of the Haiti Project has been significant and profound for the region. The people of 45 villages are now getting healthcare through the clinic that the project has built; 250 children are enrolled in primary school getting breakfast and lunch; 40,000 trees have been planted; purified water is now readily available up and down the mountainside; and women are coalescing towards financial independence. Lila will be speaking specifically about the women of Chermaitre and their struggle to raise huge families with little income. Sara Neequaye from the Women's Initiative will be joining Lila in the presentation.

"The strength, dignity and hope for their families and community are significant. I'm looking forward to sharing their stories and the next step of supporting them. I have grown to love Haiti through its incredible art, culture and spirit. This project has taught me much about what is truly rich in life." Lila mentors Vassar College students who learn how to take on projects from beginning to end, work in collaborative teams and create tangible results, which they can never forget.

Contacts: Gail Sisti or Kay Saderholm at
program.aauw.poughkeepsie@gmail.com

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Online Calendar: <https://poughkeepsie-ny.aauw.net>

Calendar listing: Philippa Goodman,
communications.aauw.poughkeepsie@gmail.com

To contact interest groups: interest.aauw.poughkeepsie@gmail.com

LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER! See page 7

Fundraiser: AAUW Wine Tasting and Talk: Oct 29

2:30 - 5:00 pm, Crown Heights Clubhouse, 34 Nassau Rd,
Poughkeepsie; Questions? Contact Margaret Nijhuis.

See you there!

- 1 **Gourmet: Out & About 6:00pm**
Ship Lantern Inn
1725 Route 9 W, Milton NY 12547
Coordinator: Jo Anne Abraskin
- 2 **Intermediate Bridge Instruction: 1-2pm on Zoom**
Coordinator: Cathy Kinn
- 2 **Board Meeting: 7:00pm on Zoom**
- 3 **Extending Girls' Horizons: 6pm**
Activity: *Woodworking*
Zion Episcopal Church, Wappingers Falls
- 6 **Word Games: 1:30-4:00pm**
Coordinator: Sharon Fleury
(sharon.fleury@earthlink.net)
- 7 **World Travelers: 7-9pm on Zoom and live**
Mary Gregorius will present her recent trip to England
and Scotland.
Coordinator: Bonnie Auchincloss
- 9 **Monthly Program: 7:00 pm, see page 1**
- 13 **All those books...: 2:30 pm on Zoom**
Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck
Coordinator: Carol Loizides
- 14 **Reely Together: 2:00 pm on Zoom**
Discussion of the film, *Language Lessons*
Coordinator: Jackie Vierno
- 15 **Bridge I: 1:00 - 4:00 pm**
Coordinator: Susan Fink (sbudson34@gmail.com)
- 16 **Aventures en Soleil: 2:00 pm**
Details TBD
Coordinator: Terry Jackrel (AAUWsoleil@gmail.com)
- 18 **Days for Girls Poughkeepsie NY Team**
Work session: 1:30-4:30 pm, Zion Church Parish Hall,
12 Satterlee Place, Wappingers Falls
Coordinators: Judy Longacre and Sabashnee Govender
- 20 **Manderley Literary Society: 4:30 pm**
The Many Daughters of Afong Moy by Jamie Ford
Reviewer: Diana Salsberg
Coordinator: Shelly Friedman
- 21 **Cuisine Interest Group: details TBD**
Coordinators: Jo Anne Abraskin and Blanche Bergman
- 22 **Mah Jongg: Noon - 4:00 pm**
Lunch from 12-1; Play from 1 to 3:30/4:00 pm
TGIFridays Restaurant in the Poughkeepsie Plaza
Coordinator: Blanche Bergman
- 23 **Bridge II: Lunch at 12:00; Play 1-4:00 pm**
Red Lobster, Route 9, Poughkeepsie
Coordinator: Sandy Goldberg

- 27 **Movie Mavens: details TBD**
Coordinator: Linnea Mason (patandlinnea@yahoo.com)
- 27 **Craft 'n' Create: 1:30 pm**
Coordinator: Pat Luczai and Mary Ann Williams
maryannwms@optonline.net
- 28 **Contemporary Literature: 3:00 pm**
The Henna Artist by Alka Joshi
Coordinators: Ann Wade and Linda Freisitzer

Art on the Go: No meeting this month.

Next meeting is Dec 1

Coordinator: Mary Coiteux (mwcoiteux@gmail.com)

Poetry & Plays: No meetings in Nov & Dec.

Coordinators: Maria DeWald & Jackie Sweeney

Pedal Pushers: See you in the spring!

Coordinator: Patricia Luczai

Election Day is Nov 7

Check your voter registration status and make a
plan to vote. Local elections matter!

<https://vote.gov/register/ny/>

POUGHKEEPSIE BRANCH OFFICERS 2023-2024

President	Celia Serotsky
Program Co-VPs	Kay Saderholm Gail Sisti
Membership VP	Bonnie Auchincloss
Development VP	Betty Harrel
Communications VP	Barbara Durniak
Secretary	Beth DeFiglio
Treasurer	Diane Jablonski
Membership Treasurer	Kathy Friedman

President: president.aauw.poughkeepsie@gmail.com

Board members: board.aauw.poughkeepsie@gmail.com

Association: www.aauw.org NY State: www.aauw-nys.org

Poughkeepsie Branch: <https://poughkeepsie-ny.aauw.net>

MISSION: To advance gender equity for women and girls
through research, education, and advocacy.

VISION: Equity for all.

VALUES: Nonpartisan. Fact-based. Integrity. Inclusion and
Intersectionality.

AAUW Poughkeepsie values and seeks an inclusive membership,
workforce, leadership team, and board of directors. There shall be no
barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age,
disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographical location,
national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, and
socioeconomic status.

THE **BRANCH** is published ten times a year, September through June,
by the Poughkeepsie Branch of the AAUW, Inc. Submit articles to
Cyd Averill, editor.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Celia Serotsky president.aauw.poughkeepsie@gmail.com

“The Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc. Strategic Plan was created through an inclusive process involving the membership and the board of our organization and aligned with the AAUW, Inc. Strategic Plan and AAUW-NYS goals. The goals and strategies reflect an integrated approach to fulfilling our mission, vision, and core values. It is reviewed bi-annually by the board and updated as necessary. In order to be most effective, we work toward collaboration with organizations having similar missions and core values.”

This is the opening paragraph of our Strategic Plan 2020-2022. It has been revised over the years, but this year we intend to do a more comprehensive review of the Plan. At our October Board meeting, we voted to contract with Ingrid Kulick of Forward Solutions, to lead us through this process. Our Treasurer, Diane Jablonski, has worked with Ingrid before and speaks very highly of her consultant work.

Just what is a strategic plan and how does it benefit us? By definition, a strategic plan is “a process in which an organization’s leaders define their vision for the future and identify their organization’s goals and objectives.” We are a vibrant branch that continues to evolve. Therefore, it is important to review our plan and make any necessary changes.

The current Strategic Plan, which is on our website, contains these elements at the beginning: our mission statement, a vision, and a list of core values. Following this introduction there is an inclusive statement that reads as follows:

“In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks an inclusive membership, workforce, leadership team, and board of directors. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status.

Our goals address all issues faced by women and girls. However, we recognize that women of color and minorities face additional challenges in achieving gender equity and will strive to address these disparities.” After this paragraph are listed four goals:

1. Education: Address barriers and implicit biases that hinder advancement of women and girls.
2. Economic Security: Ensure livelihoods for women.
3. Leadership: Closing the gender gap in leadership opportunities.
4. Governance and Sustainability: Ensuring the strength, relevance and viability of AAUW well into the future.

All our efforts - our community service initiatives, our public policy, and our support of legislation, are focused on accomplishing our mission and these goals. Following this is a chart that shows how the Board of Directors, our program meetings, communication activities, membership

recruitment/engagement/retention, development activities, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, International Relations, Public Policy, interest groups, and community service initiatives meet these four goals.

This is what we will be reviewing as a committee that consists of members: Maria DeWald, Cindy Emmer, Betty Harrel, Diane Jablonski, Pat Luczai, and myself. In subsequent messages I will keep you informed of the committee’s work.

MEMBERSHIP COUNTS

Bonnie Auchincloss and Linda Eagleton
membership.aauw.poughkeepsie@gmail.com



Happy Fall to all of our members, near and far. We are women with many commonalities, who seek camaraderie and/or to participate in civic action. We are educated women of varied backgrounds, with varied interests and at various phases within the life span. We honor each other and meet each other where we are, in this moment in time.

We welcome back all who renewed their memberships and greet those who have joined our Branch. We appreciate members who maintain their memberships even when distance or other circumstances prevents them from participating in initiatives and interest groups. The AAUW Poughkeepsie Branch is alive and well.

Many new members have already started to participate in their chosen groups. We encourage you to reach out to our leaders to connect with the interest and community initiatives of your choice. Leaders will also be reaching out, or may already have reached out to those who have expressed interest in their groups. We look forward to welcoming all of our members to meetings and events. The directory of the current membership is in progress, soon to be released and shared with all.

Please contact Bonnie or Linda with any questions or concerns about connecting with your preferred groups.

Happy Birthday to all of those members with birthdays in November:

Cyd Averill, Blanche Bergman, Cathy Bokor, Helen Buhler, Barbara Cohen, Shelly DeWitt, Karin Fein, Susan Fink, Barbara Glassman, Liz Graham, Marcine Humphrey, Stephanie King, Maura Kristofik, Judy McGowan, Jean Menuez, Jewel Ratzlaff, Amelia Roger, Janet Santoro, Ruth Sheets, Marta Sherman, Kathy Smith, Suzi Stoller, Fran Traver, Sharon Trocher.

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

Katerine Betz
Peter Buntin
Laura Chasen
Margaret Flynn
Mary Gregorious
Ellen Haggerty
Susan Hansen
Maura Kristofik
Victoria Lee Lorenzo
Amy Matts
Ruth McKeever
Jody Miller
Michelle Miller
Kathy Prisco
Jewel Ratzlaff
Danielle Rudi
Maria Sherman
Vivien Simpson
Pam Terwilliger
Roberta Wiener
Francine Wizner

PUBLIC POLICY

Patricia DeLeo board.aauw.poughkeepsie@gmail.com

While composing an article about book banning and strategies to stop censorship on the local, state and national level, the news diverted my attention.



Ukraine and Russia at war and civilian attacks continue. US government in chaos as Congress deactivates in the absence of a Speaker (no bills on the agenda). Illegal immigration out of control at border (women and children homeless and suffering). Israel and Hamas, along with other terrorist cells, seek destruction of each other as war erupts inviting the Middle East to partner (women and children taken as hostages as civilians get slaughtered). How do I focus on book banning? Why bother worrying about censorship in light of what is occurring in the world? I was about to surrender but something ignited the brain. Years of training? History? Refusal to be a victim? Disgust? Voices of the past? Fear of the present?

I had to focus on what we can do. We have to plan for the long run, not the short term. This is a bottom-up, not a top-down scenario. Action can be taken to improve our local lives despite the isolation we are facing at the national and international levels. By actively engaging in the battle “to support a strong system of public education that promotes gender fairness, equity, diversity and inclusivity, and to address the barriers and implicit biases that hinder the advancement of women and girls” perhaps we will find minds wise enough to discover answers. It takes time and it begins with pursuing an issue.

Book banning attempts to direct people what to think rather than how to think. It insinuates there is one thought process. It denies exposure to divergent thinking and the freedom of choice. The first book ban in the United States took place in 1637 when Thomas Morton’s New English Canaan was banned by the Puritan government. It was considered a harsh and heretical critique of Puritan customs and power structures. Consistently, today’s censorship attempts target materials dealing with themes of religion and current “unpopular topics” of physical abuse, sexual assault, race and LGBTQ+ identities, and offensive language. All topics have had a profound impact on women and need to be addressed to improve quality of life and culture. We aren’t in Salem any more.

So we work where we can have an impact. Keep abreast of challenges at local libraries and schools. Request banned books to see what people don’t want you read. Read “The Dirty Thirty,” but I bet most of you have. Encourage all forms of reading to people of every age. Regionally, Somers CSD, Washingtonville CSD, Marlboro CSD and Yorktown have banned books. Attend school board and public meetings to protest banning. Write letters and e-mails to all government

representatives and protest censorship. Use the Two Minute Activist to communicate. Think long-range impact and NEVER GIVE UP!

LEADING TO READING

Betty Harrel board.aauw.poughkeepsie@gmail.com

Hudson River Lodging Giftwrapping

When you’re shopping locally or online, be sure to buy your gift wrap, ribbon and gift tags for our annual gift wrapping days at Hudson River Lodging. This temporary shelter, run by Hudson River Lodging, is home to approximately 100 children. We wrap donated gifts and provide new books from Leading to Reading.



More information will be coming. Sessions will be held from 9:30 – 11:15. To sign up for Wednesday, December 6, contact Kathy MacCarthy. To sign up for Wednesday, December 13, contact Flo Mondanaro. For Friday, December 15, contact Judy Linville. Their contact information is in our directory.

Leading to Reading Thank You’s

Throughout the year, Leading to Reading has donated books and book kits to children taking part in a variety of community programs. A few of the thank you notes we’ve received show the scope and importance of our community outreach.

Lori Cassia-Decker, Executive Director of **Angels of Light**, wrote, “Your support, compassion and kindness has given families the most precious gift of all, quality time together.” Joanne Temmel from **Love, INC.** said, “They (the children’s books) will be enjoyed by many children in our Love, INC families.” Carol Broadwell from **St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry** stated, “Your support is a tremendous help in reaching so many families in need. The books are greatly appreciated by the kids.” Jane Konitz from the **Rural and Migrant Ministry** wrote, “AAUW’s reading books were so welcome. Thank you so much for your faithful support.”

Thanks to all of our members, as well, for your dedication to this project!

Little Libraries Everywhere

While in France, branch member Sharon Fleury snapped this picture of a kiosk inviting people to “Let’s cultivate a taste for reading” (*courtesy of Google translate*). It demonstrates that Leading to Reading is not alone in providing accessible books to the community.



COURT WATCH

Ann Pinna, Chair



“I'm shocked, shocked that our rights are being taken away right before our very eyes!”

The previous statement is a take-off on the famous quote from *Casablanca*, a film from the 1940's, but part of it rings true even today. We see on daily news reports evidence that women's rights are being restricted or compromised entirely. The rights and choices so fiercely fought for and so dearly won are being challenged today and, we seem to be going backwards, instead of surging ahead and progressing forward as we should.

In an effort to sustain and ensure protections for women, eliminate bias, and promote gender equity, AAUW is at the forefront, and Court Watch stands as a sentinel to advance this organization's agenda.

Created in 2010 because of systemic and egregious failures of Family Court and the legal system to protect women, especially in cases of domestic violence and at a time when several women died at the hands of their abusers, Court Watch today continues to stand firm to ensure women's rights are being honored and protected.

For 13 years, Court Watch monitors have consistently gone into the Poughkeepsie Family Courtrooms to observe, take notes, and cite any areas of concern they deem might have a negative impact on domestic violence victims, especially women and children, who are seeking justice from their abusers.

With the exception of a year off due to the Covid pandemic when monitors could not enter the courtroom due to health reasons, and then, a year hiatus after that when Court Watch monitors could only monitor remotely in a special room in court with a big screen, the Court Watch team is currently monitoring today as it has always done in the past. Monitors physically enter the actual courtroom, sit in the back of the room, make observations of court proceedings, all the while attempting to ensure that women's rights are being protected. Court Watch 2023 continues to do the job for which it was created.

Today, we have four active, loyal volunteers who attend court at least once per month and as often as 2-3 times per month, observing judges as they litigate cases, filling out observation forms, and analyzing their findings for a final summarized report, which they will eventually share with judges, staff, and other court personnel about what is going on in the courtroom today.

The goal is as it has always been: sorting out any concerns that jeopardize women's rights in the court, citing these concerns with the hope of making a difference, namely improving women's experiences in court and the justice system as a whole.

In September, Court Watch held a reorganization meeting to reassess its mission, re-state its goals and rejuvenate its program. Court Watch welcomes new members to support and advance its goals and, for this reason, it is heartening to note that there are some new members of AAUW who have expressed an interest in joining and participating on the Court Watch team.

We encourage any new members who may be interested in joining Court Watch to look at its description on the AAUW Poughkeepsie branch website. If so, please contact Ann Pinna, Chair of Court Watch, who can explain more fully what Court Watch does and how to go about training to become part of the team.

Guidelines to become a monitor may be a bit daunting to some. Below is the procedure that is necessary to become a Court Watch monitor. Take a look to see if it fits you:

- You must be able to go to Family Court on Market Street in Poughkeepsie at least one time per month and sit for either an entire morning or afternoon session.
- You must observe domestic violence cases. Sessions usually run Monday – Friday in the morning from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM and afternoon cases run from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM.
- Before actual training begins, you must attend court at least 3 times with a veteran monitor to determine whether or not it is something you would like to do. Listening to cases can be disturbing and unsettling for some, and, for this reason, you should attend at least 3 court sessions to see if it suits you. Attending court prior to training also acquaints a newcomer with court proceedings and protocols.
- Once you have completed your 3 preliminary observations with a veteran monitor, and are comfortable sitting inside the courtroom and witnessing unpleasant, and sometimes stressful cases related to domestic violence, training can then begin. Training takes a considerable amount of time. It consists of learning about expectations, court demeanor, protocols inside and outside of the courtroom, courtroom practices, scheduling, and a series of other guidelines, tasks, and practices suitable and appropriate for courtroom monitoring. You will also learn to fill out an Observation Form.
- Observation Forms must be filled out each time you go to court and for each court case you witness that deals with domestic abuse. At the conclusion of your session, you should submit this form for data entry. After a significant number of forms are submitted by the entire monitoring team, an analysis will take place and conclusions will be drawn regarding any systemic or serious concerns found in the courtroom. A report will be written based on the outcome of the data submitted by all the monitors, and this report can then be shared with the judges, court personnel, staff and, if desired, with the community with the hope

that improvements, adjustments, or accommodations can be made that make the legal system more efficient, or better for all in some way.

- Additionally, as a monitor, you may also be required to offer your time for other Court Watch activities which can include educational and speaker programs, group shares, or other events which could advance your knowledge and understanding of domestic violence, the courts, or the justice system.

So if you're looking to volunteer and help make a difference, consider becoming a monitor for Court Watch and help us look for ways to fight against gender bias, improve the court system, and seek justice, equity, and fairness for all. As a result, instead of being “shocked, shocked, and again shocked!” by the erosion of our rights, we can actually do something about it and can be assured that women have a voice and are heard.

EXTENDING GIRLS' HORIZONS

Peggy Kelland

Our first event this year is "Woodworking" on Friday, November 3, at 6:00 pm at Zion Episcopal Church, Wappingers Falls, across from Grinnell Library. AAUW members Kathy Prisco and Amy Matts will teach the craft for girls in grades 6-8. All AAUW members are encouraged to help or just see what we're doing.

The next event is Samba dancing on Friday, December 29 - same time and place. Ginnia Hargins, Gwen Higgins' daughter, will instruct.

Extending Girls' Horizons is a collaboration between AAUW and the Girl Scouts. AAUW provides the programming and venues, while the Girl Scouts provide girls, chaperones, transportation, and insurance. The programs are open to all girls in grades 6-12.

DAYS FOR GIRLS

Judy Longacre and Sabashnee Govender

Celebrating a Milestone

Days for Girls International has reached **3 million girls and women** with menstrual health education and washable menstrual pad Kits!

- **3 million girls** have the menstrual supplies they need to stay in school
- **3 million girls** have participated in menstrual health education, helping increase their body literacy and break down menstrual stigma
- **3 million girls** have the tools they need to pursue their goals and reach their potential



HAT'S OFF TO:



Leah Feldman, CEO of Family Services, recently completed a grueling 50-mile run to raise awareness and funds for her organization and as a “testament to the courage of survivors.” She said the physically and emotionally demanding run symbolized the lengthy and often challenging journey faced by individuals through various life obstacles. Leah is a former Poughkeepsie branch member who guided our members through the formation and early years of Court Watch. She was one of the speakers at our April 2023 program.



Maria DeWald, who graciously stepped up at the last minute to welcome members to the AAUW Open House when our president, Celia Serotsky, was unable to attend due to a family emergency.

Dr. Claudia Goldin Wins Nobel in Economics for Studying Women in the Work Force



The 2023 Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences was awarded to Claudia Goldin, 77, a Harvard professor, for advancing the world's understanding of women's progress in the work force and the reasons for gender gaps in labor force participation and earnings. Her research and work is of particular interest to AAUW members because it aligns with our mission of “Providing equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.” Without her ground-breaking work, we would not have the data and information that allows us to fulfill that mission.

During her doctoral studies at the University of Chicago, Goldin became interested in women and the economy. Her most influential papers in that area have concerned the history of women's quest for career and family, coeducation in higher education, the impact of the “Pill” on women's careers and marriage decisions, women's surnames after marriage as a social indicator, the reasons why women are now the majority of undergraduates, and the new lifecycle of women's employment. As a result of that research, Goldin realized that women had been largely overlooked in economic history, and she set out to study how the female labor force evolved and its role in economic growth. Her book *Career & Family: Women's Century-Long Journey toward Equity* contains the full history and concludes with the impact of the pandemic on women's careers and couple equity.

The topic of equity for women and girls cannot be overstated, and we are grateful for the comprehensive effort of Claudia Goldin to bring this topic to the forefront of our society, which guides all that we do in Poughkeepsie AAUW.

(Source: Wikipedia and The New York Times, 10/9/2023)

2023 DCC SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Your donations to the Poughkeepsie Branch Scholarship Fund make a positive impact on people in our community. Here are the notes of appreciation from this year's recipients:



Shernette Bourdier

I would sincerely like to thank the Poughkeepsie AAUW for giving me this scholarship opportunity. It is indeed a pleasure to recognize that I was chosen for this scholarship and do take pride in the fact that as a woman, I am being supported by other women on my path towards further advancement of my education. This scholarship will help me purchase books as I pursue my next chapter.

I came to the US from Jamaica about 18 years ago to seek better opportunities for my children and myself. Working as a Sergeant in the Department of Corrections, I have seen the justice system firsthand. Now I am changing my career path to Human Services in order to work with adolescents to prevent incarceration. I hope one day I will join AAUW and help someone else on their path. Thank you again for your support and help.



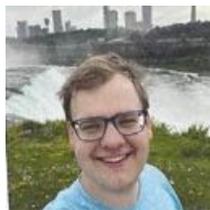
Athena Xenakis

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for this AAUW Scholarship. It provides validation to continue and excel in my studies. I am thrilled to be graduating from Dutchess Community College's esteemed Nursing Program and

becoming a Registered Nurse. I will attend SUNY Buffalo in the fall to pursue a bachelor's degree in Nursing. My long-term goal is to acquire a master's degree to practice as a Nurse Practitioner.

I firmly believe in your organization's mission that education and advocacy is the key to gender equity, and I will carry that role into the healthcare field. Your organization's generosity reduced my financial stress and allowed me to focus solely on my academic goals. Thank you for your generosity and for believing in me.

2023 Trudy Hankinson Briggs AAUW Scholarship



Thomas Paulet

I am incredibly grateful and honored to be the recipient of this scholarship. Your generous support is truly life-changing, as it not only alleviates my financial burden but also empowers me to focus

on my educational pursuits and reach my fullest potential.

This opportunity will undoubtedly pave the way for my academic and professional success, and I am committed to making the most of it. Thank you for investing in my future and for believing in my potential to make a difference in this world.



AAUW Wine Tasting and Talk
Sunday, October 29th 2:30 – 5:00
Crown Heights Club
34 Nassau Road
Poughkeepsie, NY

Last Chance!

The History of Women in Wine Fundraiser is Oct 29

Send your check or pay online now!

We're in for a delightful afternoon. **Learn** about the important role women have played throughout history in winemaking. These forward-thinking women helped to lay the foundation for today's market for wine. **Taste** a variety of wine and **enjoy** the expertise of **Arnie Serotsky**, who has studied wine for many years. Non-alcoholic beverages will be available for those who don't drink wine.

Send your check for \$40 to Margaret Nijhuis, 100 Woodland Pond Circle Apt. 214, New Paltz, NY 12561 or pay \$42 using PayPal or credit card.

SUPPORTERS OF ^{THE}BRANCH

Many thanks to our newsletter Patrons (\$25 or more) and Sponsors (\$10 or more). Their annual contributions help defray the expense of publishing ^{THE}BRANCH and other communication expenses. To add your name, send a check, payable to: "**Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc.**" to Cyd Averill, editor.

Patrons: Ruth Aldrich Gau, Shaileen Kopec, Margaret Nijhuis