

News of Note

AAUW South Shore Area Branch April 2025



Legislative Update with State Representative Joan Meschino April 8, 7 pm via Zoom



It's time for our annual update with Representative Joan Meschino! She will bring us up-to-date with the progress of State legislation and the likely Federal funding impact generally and especially on climate goals and the Early Education and Childcare

bill as well as the effects of the assault on the U.S. Education Department. There will be time for discussion. Representative Meschino represents the Third Plymouth District in the Massachusetts Legislature covering Cohasset, Hingham, and Hull.

Please join us on Tuesday, April 8 to welcome Representative Meschino.

[Patrice Metro](#)
Public Policy Chair
T 781-378-1291
C 203-535-6740

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83125360128?pwd=NU6LPs8o16HtU8iRsII6YYZbBGXAyZ.1>

Meeting ID: 831 2536 0128

Passcode: 821929

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,83125360128#,,,*821929# US (Washington DC)

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Dial by your location

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President's Message



Spring has arrived! We've changed the clocks ahead, baseball season has started, the flowers are sprouting, the trees are blooming, and the weather is getting a little warmer too!

At our March Meeting Gabrielle Jackson, the Eastern Region Commissioner of the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women (MCSW) was our guest speaker. The MCSW was created in 1998 as an independent state agency seeking to advance equality for women across the state and to promote their rights and opportunities. The commission consists of 19 volunteer commissioners who are appointed by the Governor, Senate President, Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Caucus of Women Legislators. In addition, there are eleven regional commissions throughout the state. Each year the regions work together on two projects: **Advocacy Day** which this year was held on March 24th. Each MCSW region establishes legislative priorities that advance the rights and opportunities of women and girls and then MWCS members, community members and partners rally at the State House on Advocacy Day to visit the legislators in their region. **The Girls Empowerment Leadership Initiative (GELI)** will be held on April 24th in Woods Hole. GELI seeks to empower young women ages 14-22, across Massachusetts to advocate for

themselves and their communities. This conference offers leadership and STEM workshops. In addition each region organizes their own programs. For example the Eastern region had Spring Tea with the Junior League and then the Eastern region had a table display at the Mass Conference for Women where Oprah was the Keynote speaker. On March 22nd the Eastern Region hosted a Women's History event at Fontbonne Academy titled "**Women Who Accelate Action**" which I attended and found very informative and inspiring. The panel discussion featured five prominent women who are doing great work in their communities on behalf of women and girls while blazing trails in their professional careers. They discussed the importance for women to be mentors for other women, find your passion and get involved and take action, make sure to vote, support other women, and stand together in solidarity. These women are definitely women who are driving to make changes and to make a difference for women and girls in their communities! Finally each MCSW region holds public meetings throughout the year that everyone is welcome to attend. As you can see the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women (MCSW) addresses a lot of the same issues as AAUW therefore, I would suggest that you check out their website and sign up for their mailing to find out more about their programs and events.

Our April Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 8th at 7pm via Zoom. Representative Joan Meschio will be joining us again this year to give us a legislative update. I look forward to this meeting every year. Joan always provides us with lots of great information about where things stand and she listens to our questions. So please join us on April 8th.

It's that time of year again for us to begin collecting our annual dues. If you missed the email from National, the AAUW Board approved a modest dues

adjustment for National dues of \$2 per year for the next two years. The new National dues will be \$74 starting April 1, 2025 and \$76 starting April 1, 2026. So the total this year for our dues which includes national, state and branch dues will now be **\$87**. The bill for your dues is included with this *News of Note*.

As Michelle Obama said, "There is no limit to what we, as women can accomplish". So let's continue to work together to advocate for the women and girls in our communities and let's accelerate action together!

Lynn Howard
President

Membership Matters

With the latest news coming out of Washington, we need to continue to stay alert. Our new President is making quick decisions that are negatively affecting many family lives. It is important that we stay focused. We cannot lose the progress AAUW has made in helping women and girls excel in their field and become leaders in business, government, academia etc. We seek a diverse pool of applicants. This may not 'sit well' with our new president.

We are so fortunate to have our Representative Joan Meschio join us on April 8 to update us on the progress the legislature has made this year and what we need to look forward to next year. She will be available for questions following her presentation. This is an excellent program on Zoom to have a friend join you.

Let's "Each one, Reach one"

In May, we will gather at Grille 151 at 151 Main Street in Weymouth for our end of the dinner. This is a great way to end a most successful year.

Anne Foley
Membership VP

Money Matters

You will find with this month's *News of Note*, two attachments from the Branch Treasurer.

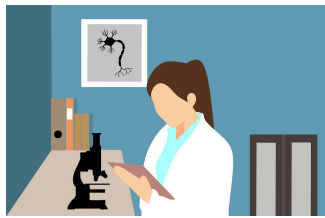
The first is the **Proposed Budget** for the 2025-26 Year. It was also attached to the March *News of Note*. Our Bylaws require the budget be published to the members before the vote is taken in April. At the branch meeting on April 8 members will vote on this Budget.

The other attachment is the **Dues Bill** for the 2025-2026 Year. Please fill out and return to me with your dues. Your input is important to keep our branch functioning. If there are any questions regarding the bill feel free to contact me. Dues are also payable online at auw.org.

[Gail Saccone](#)

Treasurer

Public Policy



Know a young woman who loves science?

Please share the information below about the GELI Summit in Woods Hole on April 24th. The Summit is part

of the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women's Girl's Empowerment Leadership Initiative. The 2025 GELI Summit is a part of the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women's Girls Empowerment Leadership Initiative. It takes place Thursday, April 24, 2025.

Get ready to UNLEASH YOUR POTENTIAL at the 2025 Girls Empowerment Leadership Initiative ([GELI](#)). If you are a fierce female between 14-22 interested in STEM and Leadership, this is YOUR moment to shine alongside powerhouse organizations like the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women ([MCSW](#)), the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution ([WHOI](#)) and the Marine Biological Laboratory ([MBL](#)) for the 2025 Summit!

This transformative youth summit is designed to equip the next generation with the skills, connections, and confidence to lead in STEM, leadership, and community impact. This isn't just an event—it's a launchpad for future leaders, innovators, and changemakers. Whether you are passionate about science, leadership, or making a lasting impact, this is your moment to shine!

- Hands-on STEM/STEAM experiences
- Exclusive access to groundbreaking ocean science experts
- Leadership development workshops
- Networking with like-minded young women ready to change the world

The available sessions from leading female scientists are truly one of a kind - you won't want to miss it!

2025 GELI Summit Workshop Titles:

- ★ Presence Is Power
- ★ Speak Up, Stand Out: How to Be Heard and Taken Seriously
- ★ Advocacy Unlocked: How MCSW Empowers Emerging Leaders
- ★ The Lego Link: Building Interpersonal Talents with Lego
- ★ The Fundamentals of Finding Your Voice and How to Use it to Create Meaningful Change
- ★ Making Waves: Women in Marine Science
- ★ Sea the Science: Discover the Ocean's Wonders
- ★ Sea Reflections: What Aquatic Life Reveals About Us
- ★ Trekking the Tides: Coastal Resilience in Action at Woods Hole
- ★ Under The Microscope: Detecting Toxic Algae
- ★ Shifting Sands: Measuring Coastal Change
- ★ Sediment Secrets: Discovering the Seafloor
- ★ Hands on Deck: Exploring Ocean Motion
- ★ Tides of Innovation: Engineering at WHOI
- ★ Her Science, Her Story: Our Legacy via our Archives

The 2025 GELI Summit takes place Thursday, April 24, 2025.

Lunch and snacks will be provided, and transportation and translation options are available. Overnight lodging is available for groups. Register to indicate your needs.

[Space is limited, so register now!](#)

For more information on the MCSW Girls' Empowerment Leadership Initiative, visit our [website](#) or email MCSWprograms@mass.gov.

AAUW upcoming webinars of interest:

AAUW Advocacy Strategies for In-District Meetings

April 8 | 7:00 p.m. ET

Face-to-face advocacy can drive real change. This session will guide members on how to set up in-district meetings with members of Congress, maximize town hall participation, and effectively use key talking points during the upcoming April congressional recess. Learn how to make your voice heard. [Register Here](#)

Funding Futures: Understanding Changes to Sex and Gender-Based Scholarship Programs

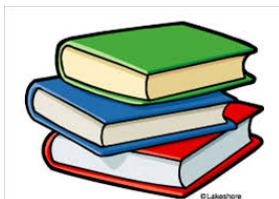
April 15 | 7:00 p.m. ET

Navigating legal changes to sex-based scholarships can be complex. This interactive session will provide information to AAUW branches on funding scholarships amid evolving regulations while staying true to our mission of advancing education for women and girls. Space is limited. [Register Here](#)

[Patrice Metro](#)
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Book Discussion

Our branch book discussion group meets monthly from September May usually on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm. The monthly



selections for 2025-2026 are posted on <https://aauw-ma.aauw.net/branches/southshorearea/> under the Activities menu. The meetings are open to all branch members. If you would like to receive a Zoom link to any of the discussions, please contact [Lynn Howard](#) (781-901-9120, mobile). Also the Zoom link to attend is on the calendar page. The April 15th selection is *We Are Home-Becoming American in the 21st Century: An Oral History* by Ray Suarez.

May Celebration





Our May Celebration this year will be held on Tuesday, May 13, at Grille 151, 151 Main St. (Route 18) Weymouth. We will be meeting at 6:00 pm. We will be ordering off the dinner menu with individual checks. Please let me know if you are coming by Saturday, May 10 so I have an accurate number for the reservation. I hope you can attend as it will be our last AAUW meeting until September. See you on May 13th.

[Sheila Doherty](#)
Social Chair
781- 267-1098



SOUTH SHORE AREA BRANCH CALENDAR

April 2025 Celebrate Diversity Month

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1 April Fool's Day	2 World Autism Awareness Day	3	4 National School Librarian Day	5
6 National Library Week 6th-12th	7 World Health Day	8 Branch Program 7pm	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 Book Discussion 6:30 pm	16	17	18 Good Friday	19
20 Easter 	21 Patriots' Day 	22 Earth Day 	23 Administrative Professionals Day	24 Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day	25 Arbor Day 	26
27	28 Global Pay It Forward Day 	19	30	1 1st Day of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month	2	3

April 8, Branch Meeting: *Legislative Update with Representative Joan Meschino*, 7 pm.
See Zoom link in the lead article.

April 15, Book discussion of *We Are Home -Becoming American in the 21st Century: An Oral History* by Ray Suarez
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84205460588?pwd=IFzqioa2PBou35lqb6Gz1qrdByajLC.1>
Meeting ID: 842 0546 0588
Passcode: 235976
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Articles for publication in the South Shore Area branch newsletter, ***News of Note***, should reach the editor, Hollie Bagley (holliebagley@gmail.com) by the 20th day of the previous month

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