

Branch Program

Healing Palestine One Life at a Time

**Tuesday, November 11 at 7 pm
Virtual via Zoom**

Learn one family's story of helping a child from Palestine through HEAL Palestine. HEAL Palestine is a non-political nonprofit organization founded in January 2024, in response to the unimaginable devastation in Gaza, where thousands of lives were lost in a short period, impacting generations for decades to come. Through its core pillars – Health, Education, Aid, and Leadership – HEAL Palestine aims not only to meet the basic needs of Palestinian children, but to empower them to meet their full potential. Through this program, to date, 63 children have been evacuated from Gaza for surgeries, prosthetics, and rehabilitative care in the U.S.

At our meeting on Tuesday, November 11 at 7 pm via Zoom we will hear the amazing journey of one Palestinian child saved by the Gormans. Please join us as we welcome Miriam Gorman to tell her experience with saving Walid.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86528093123?pwd=8QR0EnxNlpHTDk8VQ77E3qlGWriHcG.1>

Meeting ID: 865 2809 3123

Passcode: 316268

One tap mobile

+13052241968,,86528093123#,,,,*316268# US

+13092053325,,86528093123#,,,,*316268# US

Join instructions

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/86528093123?pwd=8QR0EnxNlpHTDk8VQ77E3qlGWriHcG.1>

President's Message



Happy Halloween! The holiday season has begun, although in the stores it began a few months ago! In October, we had a very informative and interesting presentation about sustainability given by Hingham resident, Peter

Swanson. He has done amazing things with a group of young people in Honduras teaching them about composting using a system called Bokashi which is a process that converts food waste and similar organic matter into soil amendment which adds nutrients and improves soil textures. In addition they are growing gardens at their school, and learning about solar energy, water filtration and reforestation. Peter is also trying to find ways to get his message out to people here in the US. He has been using the Bokashi compost system with some of the boys in his neighborhood. We're so glad he shared it with us as we all learned a lot and now we will do what we can to share it with others. If you'd like to try Bokashi composting or support the work Peter is doing in Honduras you can contact me and I'll put you in touch with him.

Our upcoming meeting in November looks like another great meeting. We will hear from a couple in Brookline about how they helped a young boy and his mother from Palestine when the young boy was in need of medical care and came to live in Boston. Then in December we will gather at the Weathervane Restaurant in Weymouth for our annual holiday brunch on Sunday, December 7th at noon. Remember to let others know about our wonderful organization and invite them to join you to come to one of our events with you.

[Lynn Howard](#), President

Membership Matters



Here we are ...already in November. How time flies! I hope everyone is continuing to look for possible new members to join our South Shore AAUW

group. It could be a new neighbor down the street or a cousin who has shown interest in politics. We need to increase our membership. Remember ...there is strength in numbers.

Our board members continue to find excellent speakers for our monthly programs. Our October speaker, Peter Swanson, a Honduras volunteer, gave an interesting presentation on how to achieve sustainability both here and in Honduras. During the month of November AAUW will be offering a series of webinars. Take advantage of these. Nov. 5 Work smart: know your value and get the salary you deserve. Nov. 13 Start smart: teaching effective salary negotiation. These are just a few of the webinars offered online every month on various topics. Do check them out.

Every day we hear new attacks on democracy. This is why AAUW is always ready to take action. The No Kings March was very successful throughout the country. It is important to let our government know that we care about losing our democracy, our children's educational opportunities, civil rights, and our economy that affects every family as prices keep rising. On the National, State and Local levels, we all need to become involved and as a member of AAUW we are given the opportunity to help to make a difference in the lives of women and girls who are so adversely affected by what is happening in our country.

It is so important to increase our membership. One powerful step at a time.

[Anne Foley](#)
Membership

Visit our [branch web page](#)
Visit and contribute to our [branch Facebook page](#)
Newsletter editor: [Hollie Bagley](#)

Public Policy

The federal government may be shut down, but AAUW is still showing up!

- **At the Supreme Court:** AAUW showed up. Our CEO, Gloria L. Blackwell, spoke at the rally, and our members were there on the steps. While some of the justices' questions were disheartening, it was powerful to see our



community out in force. Check out the pictures of our members in this article: <https://www.reuters.com/legal/government/us-supreme-court-hear-case-that-takes-aim-voting-rights-act-2025-10-15/>

- **More layoffs? Maybe not.** AAUW signed a joint statement with disability, civil-rights, and education partners opposing harmful layoffs that would have gutted the Office for Civil Rights (OCR), the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), and the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE). A judge temporarily blocked the administration from moving forward at most agencies. Read more:

<https://ncld.org/departments-of-education-condemned-for-ending-support-for-students-with-disabilities/>

- **Opposing the Higher-Ed "Compact":** The administration's "Compact for Academic Excellence" ties funding to rollbacks of DEI and academic freedom. AAUW will issue our own statement, and we've joined a coalition letter urging presidents and trustees to reject the "administration's invitation to violate the law, abdicate your duty to your students and campus community, and betray academic freedom." MIT and Brown University have both publicly rejected the Compact.

[Patrice Metro](#)
Public Policy Chair

Holiday Social

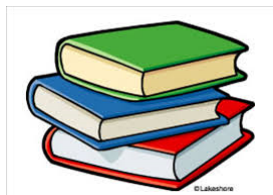
Our Holiday Social this year will be held on Sunday, December 7th, at noon at the **Tavern at the**



Weatherwane,
117 Clubhouse Drive,
Weymouth. We will be ordering off the menu with separate checks. It will be fun to see everyone in person especially since some of our monthly meetings are on Zoom. Please let me know if you can come by texting me 781-267-1098 by Monday, December 1st so I can confirm our reservation. Thanks!

[Sheila Doherty](#)
Social

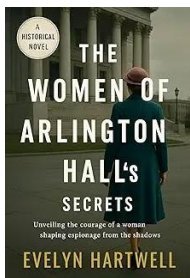
Book Discussion



The branch book discussion group meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm.

The November 18th book selection is *All The Beauty in the World* by Patrick Bringley. Even if you have not been part of the group before, we'd love to have you join us! Just let Lynn Howard (lynnphoward97@gmail.com) know and she will include your email for the Zoom link. If you can't join us for all of the monthly meetings just let us know if there is one or more you'd like to be part of and you'll get the Zoom link.

The reading list is also posted on the branch web page under Activities. The direct link is <https://aauw-ma.aauw.net/files/2022/03/AAUW-SS-AB-Book-List-2025-26.docx-Google-Docs.pdf>.



Our January 13th meeting is our traditional all-member read. We will be reading *The Women of Arlington Hall*, a stirring novel about love, loyalty, betrayal, and Cold War spy games, by best-selling author Jane Healy.

Jane will be joining us for the meeting via Zoom! We hope all members will participate in this exciting event!

Game Night is Back



Game Night will be held on October 27th at 6 pm at the home of Gail Saccone. Members will play a fun game of their choice and snacks will be available. All are invited to have some fun, laughs and stress relief. Let [Gail Saccone](mailto:gvsaccone@gmail.com) (gvsaccone@gmail.com) know if you plan to attend.

AAUW Atlantic Regional Conference 2026



We are excited to announce the **AAUW Atlantic Regional Conference 2026**, hosted in **Lancaster, Pennsylvania!** The Conference will be held **September 25–27, 2026 at the Lancaster County Convention Center & Marriott Hotel**. This gathering will bring together AAUW members from 13 states for a weekend filled with:

- Dynamic sessions on leadership, equity, and innovation
- Interactive workshops you can take back to your branch or state
- Conversations with thought leaders and changemakers
- Networking with members who share your passion for equity
- Celebrations and special events that make the weekend unforgettable

This conference is more than an event, it's an opportunity to **recharge, reimagine, and recommit** to AAUW's mission with friends old and new. The **hotel room block will open soon**, reserve your place early to stay in the center of the action! We look forward to you joining us in Lancaster in 2026! Let [Lynn](#) know if you are interested in attending.

SOUTH SHORE AREA BRANCH CALENDAR

November 2025 National Higher Education Month

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
26	27 Game Night 6 pm	28 Board mtng 7pm <u>Defending Equity in Education: Equity Rollbacks & Curriculum Bans.</u>	29	30	31 Halloween 	1 All Saints Day
2 All Souls Day	3	4	5 <u>Work Smart: Know Your Value and Get Paid</u>	6 <u>Working in Coalition: Building Power Through Partnerships</u>	7	8
9	10 Veterans Day Observation	11 Branch Program 7 pm Veterans Day	12	13 <u>AAUW Money Smart: Future</u>	14	15
16	18 Native Women's Equal Pay Day	18 Book Discussion 7pm	19 AAUW Member Recruitment Best Practices 7pm <u>Register</u>	20 <u>AAUW Alumnae Recognition Award in DC</u>	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 	28	29
30	1 RSVP Deadline for Holiday Social	2	3	4	5	6

October 27, Game Night, 6 pm, home of Gail Saccone. Braintree. All are welcome but let [Gail](#) know if you will attend.

November 11, Healing Palestine
One Life at a Time, 7 pm, via Zoom
(Zoom link on page one)

November 18, Book Discussion of *All The Beauty in the World* by Patrick Bringley, 7 pm via Zoom
Join Zoom Meeting
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Meeting ID: 890 2157 1311
Passcode: 555617
mobile+13052241968,,89021571311#,,,,*555617#