

February 2026

Branch Meeting

Branches in Action: A Century of Advocacy, Fundraising & Impact

February 10, 7 pm via Zoom

Behind every milestone at AAUW, our nationwide network of local branches has been the force driving our mission forward. Please join us on Tuesday, February 10 at 7 pm for a webinar exploring the history of AAUW Branches – how they began, how they have shaped our organization, and how they have fueled AAUW's accomplishments through the decades with tireless advocacy, fundraising, and commitment to advancing equity for women and girls in higher education.

Get cozy, grab a cup of your favorite beverage, and join your fellow branch members as we watch a webinar that will leave you stunned about the incredible history AAUW has. You will be very proud to be an AAUW member. After the viewing we will be sharing our comments. I can guarantee we will all learn a fact or two that we did not know about AAUW. This is the perfect meeting to invite a friend to join you just by sharing the meeting link. They will be impressed.

I look forward to seeing and chatting with you on Zoom on February 10 at 7 pm. The Zoom link is on the calendar page.

[Hollie Bagley](#)
Newsletter Editor

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

President's Message



We had a great discussion at our January meeting with author Jane Healey about her latest book *The Women of Arlington Hall*. Jane provided information about how she got the idea for her book and some of the research she did. Then she answered questions from the audience. Everyone who had read the book enjoyed it and highly recommends it if you haven't had a chance to read it yet. Jane did a great job telling the story about these female codebreakers that worked in Washington D.C. during the Cold War era.

At our February Branch Meeting on February 10th we will watch and discuss an AAUW webinar called "Branches in Action: A Century of Advocacy, Fundraising & Impact" that was recorded in October 2025. In this webinar the AAUW archivist and others explore the history of AAUW branches – how they began, how they have shaped our organization, and how they have fueled AAUW's accomplishments through the decades with tireless advocacy, fundraising, and commitment to advancing equity for women and girls in higher education. This meeting will be held via Zoom at 7:00 p.m. This is a great way for others to learn about AAUW so please invite family and friends to attend the meeting with you.

[Lynn Howard](#)
President

Visit our branch web page:

<http://aauw-ma.aauw.net/branches/southshorearea/>

Like and contribute to our branch Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/AAUWSouthShoreAreaMassachusetts>

Public Policy

There's a lot to see here.....

AAUW National is working hard to stand up for women and girls: for our education, economic security, and civil rights. Click on the hyperlinks to access more information about the issues.

Press Releases:

- [AAUW: VA Abortion Ban Denies Veterans Essential Health Care](#)
- [AAUW Warns DOJ 'Merit' Rule Undermines Civil Rights Safeguards, December 12, 2025](#)

AAUW action, experts and research making headlines:

January 2026

Nonprofit Quarterly. [Women's Rights Under Siege—but We've Come Too Far to Go Back.](#)

January 7, 2026

December 2025

The Daily Record. [Crackdown on international students continues with threats on F-1 visas.](#)

December 9, 2025

Letters, Comments, Testimony & Legal Briefs

Explore our letters, comments, testimony and legal briefs to learn more about AAUW's positions and advocacy efforts regarding education, economic security, and civil rights.

- [Coalition Letter Urging Appropriators to Pass Clear FY26 Education Funding Levels and Oppose Transfer of Education Programs from the U.S. Department of Education \(12/18/25\)](#)
- [Coalition Comment Letter Urging the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau to Rescind Proposed ECOA Rule Eliminating Disparate Impact \(12/15/25\)](#)
- [Coalition Comment Letter Sharing Concerns Regarding the U.S. Department of Education's Proposed Implementation of the Admissions and Consumer Transparency Supplement \(ACTS\) Survey in IPEDS \(12/15/25\)](#)
- [Coalition Letter to the House Constitution Subcommittee Condemning Attempts to](#)

[Discredit the Southern Poverty Law Center \(12/15/25\)](#)

- [AAUW Letter to Congress Calling for Urgent Congressional Action on the Dismantling of the U.S. Department of Education \(11/24/25\)](#)

[Patrice Metro](#)

Public Policy Chair

Membership Matters

We have reached the half way mark for the 2025/2026 year. There is so much going on in the world today. Trying to follow the many bad choices our president is making on a daily leaves us overwhelmed. AAUW is working diligently to maintain the progress we have made and look forward to continuing to improve the lives of women and girls.

In these uncertain social, political, and economic times, our strength lies in the collective power of our members who advocate and support equity for women and girls. Our president's intention to dismantle The Department of Education is illegal. Only with Congress's approval can this be done. This is an attack on student rights, educational equity, and civil rights enforcement. This is one important issue AAUW will keep fighting for. For quite some time, we have been working on the unfairness of the gender gap. Women make 81 cents for every dollar paid to men. AAUW refuses to accept a future where women continue to be left behind. These are only two of the numerous issues we have been working tirelessly on.



Our upcoming February 10th program is a perfect opportunity to invite a few friends to join you for a very informative presentation on the history and the accomplishments AAUW has made over the years. Lynn has given us a good overview in this issue on what this program is about. Check it out!

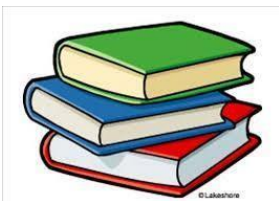
We continue to look for new members. As we always say, "there is strength in numbers."

[Anne Foley](#)

Membership VP

Book Discussion

Our branch book discussion group meets monthly from usually on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm via Zoom. The monthly selections for 2025 - 2026 are posted on the branch web page under Activities, direct link: <https://aauw-ma.aauw.net/files/2022/03/AAUW-SSAB-Book-List-2025-26.docx-Google-Docs.pdf>. 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](#) (781-9019120, mobile). This month's selection is *Mockingbird Summer* by Lynda Rutledge. Zoom link is on the calendar page.



Branch Calendar

You will find our monthly branch calendar on the last page of this newsletter. It is on a separate page so that you can print it or transfer the dates to your personal calendar. All events on the calendar are open to all members.



AAUW Tidbits

AAUW's Winter Member Gathering

Wednesday, February 18, 4:30 p.m. ET

Please join us for AAUW's Winter Member Gathering. At this special event, we will:

- Recognize outstanding supporters and branches,
- Update you on the impact of our Strategic Plan's 3 key priorities, and
- Provide you with the information you need to answer our 5 Calls to Action!

[Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate our achievements and learn about our shared impact! Register here.](#)

Dues Update

Reminder: The AAUW Board of Directors voted to increase national dues last February 2025. Beginning April 1, 2026, national member dues will increase \$2 to \$76. [Learn more here.](#)

Is your contact information up to date with AAUW?

Access your AAUW Personal Snapshot and update your contact information and preferences. Frequent users, click [LOG IN](#) to our web portal, as usual. Non-frequent users, click [LOG IN](#), then below the blue log in button, click FORGOT PASSWORD. Enter your email address and click RESET YOUR PASSWORD to receive and confirm a new password to access your Personal Snapshot. Need help? Email connect@aauw.org and enter LOG IN HELP in the subject line.

Calling All AAUW Artists!

We are thrilled to announce the opening of the 2026 AAUW Annual Art Contest! This is your opportunity to showcase your artistic talents and have your work featured in our annual notecard collection, distributed to members nationwide. Sign-up is easy and only requires your email address or AAUW member ID! [Entries are open now through January 30, 2026 on the AAUW Art Contest page.](#)



NCCWSL at

NASPA: Registration Open

AAUW is pleased to share that registration for the 2026 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) is now open. NCCWSL offers an exciting program that includes a transformative experience in leadership development, networking, and inspiration. Please visit [NASPA's website](#) for the most up-to-date information. The conference will be held at the University of Maryland, College Park, from May 27-30, 2026. [Register today!](#)

SOUTH SHORE AREA BRANCH CALENDAR

February 2026 Black History Month

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5 National Women and Girls in Sports Day	6	7
8 Super Bowl	9	10 Branch Program 7pm	11 AAUW Work Smart: Refresher	12 Promoting AAUW Education Values Through School Board Advocacy	13	14 Valentine's Day 
15 Susan B. Anthony Day 	16 President's Day	17 Book Discussion 6:30pm AAUW Start Smart	18 AAUW Winter Member Gathering	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day	27	28

February 10, Branch Program: Branches in Action: A Century of Advocacy, Fundraising & Impact, 7 pm via Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83190253763?pwd=QLivCJ4WZnHFeGir8PrOzAAVTUzMwR.1>

Meeting ID: 831 9025 3763

Passcode: 028644

One tap mobile

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February 17, Book Discussion: *Mockingbird Summer* by Lynda Rutledge, 6:30 pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89603333870?pwd=Fass8DaaOSD9gtyPLgHnDVVEbCv99P.1>

Meeting ID: 896 0333 3870

Passcode: 908419

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+19292056099,,89603333870#,,, *908419# US (New York)