

## The 2021 AAUW Funds Report Dian Belanger, Vice President

As with everything else, the Covid-19 pandemic challenged normal fundraising opportunities and outcomes. Nevertheless:

- 1. AAUW Maryland, over two years, successfully raised the \$20,000 required to be named a platinum sponsor of the Women of Distinction ceremony of AAUW's 2021 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, to be held online. Our financial contribution allows AAUW Maryland to name our own Woman of Distinction. Introduced by Jacki Gray, Dr. A. Yvette Myrick of the Baltimore Branch, our honoree, will address hundreds of young women leaders from around the country on Wednesday, 26 May. Sixteen state members have requested invitations to participate virtually in this highlight event, which we have supported since 2011.
- 2. In addition, AAUW Maryland branches and individual members have donated generously to AAUW's Greatest Needs Fund (winning by far the greatest, most liberal response) as well as funds dedicated to Education and Training, Economic Security, Governance and Sustainability, Leadership, NCCWSL scholarships, and unrestricted fellowships, for a grand total of \$58,291.15 in calendar year 2020! First quarter gifts in 2021 have augmented our NCCWSL fund with \$5760 plus \$1255 for NCCWSL scholarships and more than \$2000 for Greatest Needs. Thank you for your awesome generosity!
- 3. Sixteen AAUW Marylanders, including Jo Brooks, newly retired staff member who unstintingly served our volunteer Legacy Circle Liaison Team, are members of the **AAUW Legacy Circle**. You, too, can help secure our organization's future by adding AAUW to your estate plan. To join the Legacy Circle, simply promise a bequest to AAUW, in any amount or percentage—no minimums. The paperwork is fast, easy, and confidential. I can get you started.

At our summer meeting, I propose that we review our fundraising and giving priorities, to ensure that we continue to maximize our impact and member involvement.