



The Marylander

Volume 92 #1 Summer 2023

President, Tracy Lantz

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

Welcome to AAUW Maryland's 2023 Summer Conference

July 29, 2023 9 AM - 4 PM

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Harford County (UUFHC)

2515 Churchville Road, Churchville, MD 21028

The theme for this year's AAUW Summer Conference will be **The Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)- Then and Now. This timely topic is pertinent when we remember that** the Equal Rights Amendment has not yet been officially added to the U.S. Constitution as the 28th Amendment! This amendment was proposed more than 100 years ago and the thirty-eight state ratification requirement was finally met in 2020 (Virginia being the 38th state). However, red tape and politicians continue to stall the effort to add the amendment to the Constitution.

The Harford County AAUW Branch is hosting this year's conference at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Bel Air and is excited to welcome you to our county.

Program: Following a continental breakfast, the day will begin with an entertaining performances and thoughtful presentations from **Maureen Broy**, a professional vocalist and ERA advocate, who sings about and discusses her family's historical involvement in the suffrage movement.

We'll also hear from **Mary Ann Gorman**, the leader of Maryland NOW's ERA Taskforce, on what direct action we can take to further the advancement of the Equal Rights Amendment. Following that presentation, Harford County Branch member, **JoAnn Macdonald** will provide information about and lead a discussion on Patsy Mink, the first woman of color elected to the U.S. House of Representatives and the first Asian-American woman to serve in Congress.

This information will provide material for lively discussion over a lunch provided by Panera.

The afternoon session will consist of a Diversity and Inclusion presentation that dovetails with the fight for equality for all, and a State Board business meeting.

All members are encouraged to stay and participate. We look forward to connecting with many Maryland members. Please feel free to bring interested friends and family.

Logistics: The Unitarian Universalist Church is easy to get to if you are traveling North on I95. Just take the ramp for exit 80 (Belcamp) and turn left at the light onto Rt. 543. Go approximately 6 miles until you get to Rt. 22. Turn right and follow the road for 2.5 miles until you see the church on the right side of the road.

If you are traveling a distance to attend the meeting, there are two hotels located minutes away from the conference site in Bel Air. The Hilton Garden Inn (410- 306-7800) is located right off I95 in Aberdeen at 1050 Beards Hill Rd in Aberdeen, MD and is a ten-minute ride down Rt. 22 to the Unitarian Universalist Church in Bel Air. Another option is the Country Inn and Suites by Radisson (443 345-4362) located off I95 in Belcamp at 1435 Handlir Dr, Bel Air, MD 21015.

After the conference you may enjoy a walk down Main Street in Bel Air, or through the historic Havre de Grace downtown. Both small towns have many interesting sites and restaurants. You will find restaurants options in Bel Air if you follow this link (<https://www.belairmd.org/589/Dining-In-Bel-Air>), as well as options for restaurants in Havre de Grace if you follow this link (<https://wanderlog.com/list/geoCategory/372981/best-restaurants-to-have-dinner-in-havre-de-grace>.)

We want to spread the word as much as possible regarding continuing ERA efforts! Don't miss it! **Registration is open via Eventbrite or use the form below to send a check by mail.**

Heather Reichardt and Jacki Gray, AAUW MD Program Co-Vice Presidents
Sheila Allen, Incoming President, AAUW Harford County



President's Message

By Tracy Lantz, President, AAUW Maryland

Yes, that's me dressed as my superhero during our most recent cruise. Everyone recognized me as Ruth Bader Ginsburg immediately! I certainly miss her especially during these last few weeks when we've learned of so many extremely troubling decisions from the current members of the Supreme Court with the potential to impact our country for decades to come. Justice Ginsburg told us: *"I don't say women's rights – I say the constitutional principle of the equal citizenship stature of men and women."* Wow, do we have work to do! I know I promised to pick up the torch after she left us and I'm guessing you did too.

**Transition meeting
for AAUW Maryland
Board Members**
Via Zoom
Sunday, July 16, 2023
2:30 to 5:00 PM
See email for details

The concepts of 'equal citizenship' including LGBTQ+ rights are certainly under attack. Discrimination against minority populations is on the rise. Federal protections that have existed for these groups are currently eroding. Protections against gender-based discrimination in areas such as employment, education and reproductive health have continued to be weakened over the past decade. A constitutional amendment would ensure the longevity of these protections, regardless of the makeup of the Supreme Court, and help to establish more inclusive legislation.

What can you do to make a difference, to pick up the torch to honor RBG? Attend the summer conference hosted by AAUW Harford County to hear Maureen Broy, a professional vocalist and ERA advocate sing about and share her family's historical involvement in the ERA movement. Then listen to Mary Ann Gorman, the leader of Maryland NOW's ERA Taskforce discuss the direct actions you can take to further advance the ERA.

Join Generation Ratify and get involved: www.generationratify.org Follow the ERA Coalition and take action: www.eracoalition.org

Appreciation: Thanks to all the members of the AAUW Howard County Branch, as well as our state officers, especially our program VP's Heather Reichardt and Jackie Gray, for planning and hosting a terrific Annual Convention in Columbia! I especially enjoyed hearing about the work of their county executive, Dr. Calvin Ball and Delegate Courtney Watson and was enlightened by the presentations on maternal wellness and post-partum health from Dr. Barlow and Dr. Kumi. **Your branch can be the host of our next annual meeting.** Please seriously consider this opportunity to showcase your branch and community. Contact me if your branch is interested.

Tracy Lantz, AAUW Maryland President

"When you get into a tight place and everything goes against you, till it seems as though you could not hang on a minute longer, never give up then, for that is just the place and time that the tide will turn." Harriet Beecher Stowe

Current AAUW MD Officers and Committee Chairs



Tracy Lantz, President (2022-2024)

Jacki Gray and Heather Reichardt, Co-Vice Presidents for Programs (2022-2024)

Bea Dane, Vice President for AAUW Funds (2022-2024)

Lydia Alcock, Susana Hernández Martín, and Susan Wierman, Co-Vice Presidents for Communications (2022-2024)

Roxann King and Debby Chessin, Co-Vice Presidents for Public Policy (2021-2025)

Christine Schmitz, Treasurer (2023-2025)

Diane Roca, Secretary (2023-2025)

Jeanne Blades Vice President for Membership (2023-2025)

Carolyn Fisher, Chair of Diversity and Inclusion (2022-2024)

Terry Saylor, Archivist (2022-2024)

Note: Branch Presidents are also members of the AAUW MD Board of Directors

Board Meeting via Zoom on July 16

All Board members are encouraged to attend the Transition Board Meeting, which will be on July 16 via Zoom starting at 2:30 p.m. An agenda and link to join the meeting will be distributed by email from AAUW Maryland. Looking forward to seeing you there!



News & Announcements

Maryland Secretary of State, Susan C Lee, Honored at National Conference



AAUW Maryland's 2023 Woman of Distinction, Maryland Secretary of State Susan Lee, was the inspirational star of the evening on June 2, 2023 at the 2023 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). The energizing Women of Distinction event was held at the University of Maryland College Park. AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell praised AAUW Maryland for our generous financial support, which enabled hundreds of young women from across the US to attend this event in person once again. Many thanks to all the individuals and branches who contributed to make this possible!



NCCWSL photos courtesy of University of Maryland photographer Thai Q. Nguyen: 1) Susan Lee. 2) The room was packed. 3) Susan Lee, 3) Top row, the Women of Distinction with AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell: Swati Sharma, Gloria Blackwell, Jodi-Ann Burry, Susan Lee, Natalie Gillard, Jean Chatski, and Blair Imani. Front row AAUW MD attendees S. Wierman, A. Rosen, B. Hayden, P. Stocker, D.Roca, S. Soules, M. Sullivan, D. Belanger, Lynn Hapchuk, and E. Menton.

AAUW MD Successful 2023 State Convention



Many thanks to the Program Vice Presidents and to the Howard County Branch team who hosted the 2023 AAUW Maryland Convention on April 15, 2023, at Howard County Community College. Speakers were outstanding, and the venue and food couldn't be beat. Howard County Executive **Dr. Calvin Ball** (photo with Branch President Beth Hayden and State President Tracy Lantz) welcomed us with appreciation for AAUW's

leadership, service, and dedication. We learned important information about the "fourth trimester"—issues facing women after giving birth. In a spirited presentation, **Dr. Jameta Barlow** (left) noted that race is a social construct that is statistically



associated with adverse outcomes of pregnancy. One third of deaths related to pregnancy come in the first year after delivery. She encouraged listening carefully to new mothers, checking on how they are doing, and responding to what they need—e.g., do the laundry, provide food. **Dr. Nicole Kumi** (right) movingly explained her own experience with postpartum depression, both before and during the pandemic. She reminded us it can be very difficult for women to recognize their own needs and to ask for help. She encouraged focusing on the mom, not just asking to hold the baby. Help wash and clean. Her book, *Postpartum My Language: My True Account of the Fourth Trimester*, is available online to help women understand and cope with their own and others' trauma.



Dinner Honoring Eileen Menton

At a festive dinner the evening before the Convention, members and friends celebrated the many ways Eileen Menton has contributed to AAUW. AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell recognized Eileen's support for international student fellowships and her service on the national Board, presenting Eileen several gifts from the AAUW staff. Dian Belanger celebrated Eileen's life membership, generous philanthropy, and selfless leadership. State President Tracy Lantz shared Kate Campbell Stevenson's appreciation of Eileen's ability to have confidence in themselves. Pat Stocker, Susan Wierman, Yvonne Higgins, Janice Zimmerman, Denise Gray, and Diane Roca and others recognized Eileen for supporting her own and other branches as well as her invaluable work on the Marylander and the state website. After the event, Susan Wierman compiled photos and messages into a memory book for Eileen. Thanks to organizers Pat Stocker, Dian Belanger, Diane Roca, Susan Wierman, Christine Schmitz, Kate Campbell Stevenson, and Tracy Lantz. (Photo of Eileen with Gloria Blackwell.)



EPA Invites Youth to Serve on National Environmental Youth Advisory Council

(News submitted by Carolyn Fisher, AAUW MD Chair of Diversity and Inclusion)

On June 22, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the formal establishment of the agency's first- National Environmental Youth Advisory Council (NEYAC). The NEYAC will provide independent advice and recommendations to Administrator Michael S. Regan on how to increase EPA's efforts to address a range of environmental issues. The NEYAC will provide a critical perspective on how the impacts of climate change and other environmental harms affect youth communities.

EPA is soliciting applications for youth to fill 16 vacancies on the NEYAC. Selected applicants will contribute to a balance of perspectives, backgrounds, and experience of the council and will be appointed by the Administrator. All members of NEYAC will be between the ages of 16 and 29. As part of the agency's commitment to centering environmental justice communities, at least 50% of the overall membership of NEYAC will come from, reside primarily in, and/or do most of their work in disadvantaged communities as defined by the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST) as part of Justice40.

Applications to the NEYAC are due by August 22, 2023 at 11:59PM ET. To apply for appointment to the council, the below information is required:

- Contact information
- Resume, short biography, or qualification essay
- Statement of interest
- Explanation of your point of view using your chosen media (various options)

Visit the [EPA NEYAC webpage](#) for more information on the council and to apply.

EPA will be hosting a virtual application webinar where the public can ask EPA staff questions live. The webinars will be on Zoom and will be held Monday, August 7, 2023 @ 12PM – 1PM ET // [Register here](#)

In accordance with [Executive Order 14035](#) (June 25, 2021), EPA values and welcomes opportunities to increase diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility on its federal advisory committees. EPA's federal advisory committees should reflect the diversity of the American people.

Help Your Nominations Committee Do a Great Job!

Don't hesitate to volunteer or suggest a friend for upcoming vacancies on the AAUW Maryland Board of Directors! The 2023 Nominating Committee members are Pat Stocker, Bev Fallik, and Susan Wierman. Officer elections are held each spring at the annual state convention.

In 2024 officers whose terms expire in 2024 may be nominated to serve another term if they have not already served 2 terms, and/or new candidates may be nominated. Thus, the Nominating Committee is responsible to nominate four or more individuals (or teams) for the following offices: President, and Vice Presidents for Programs, Funds, and Communications—as well as candidates for the 2025 Nominating Committee.

We look forward to hearing your ideas for 2024 nominees!

Registration for AAUW MD Summer 2023 Conference

July 29, 2023 9 AM – 4 PM

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Harford County
2515 Churchville Rd., Churchville, MD 21028

Hotels: Please see information regarding hotels: Hilton Garden Inn, Aberdeen (410) 306-7800 or Country Inn and Suites, Riverside (443) 345-4362. Multiple Bel Air restaurants can be found at <https://www.belairmd.org/589/Dining-In-Bel-Air>

Register online at Eventbrite for the conference here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2023-aauw-maryland-a-summer-conference-near-bel-air-md-july-29-2023-tickets-638848542187>

OR complete the registration form below and send it with a check payable to

AAUW Maryland no later than July 19

Sheila Allen, 332 West Gordon Street, Bel Air, MD 21014



Name: _____ Branch Affiliation: _____

Phone: _____ Branch Officer: _____

Email: _____ State Officer: _____

_____ Check if you wish to opt out of sharing your contact information in the list of attendees.

Registration cost includes light breakfast and a box lunch on July 29 with the day’s program and the business meeting. Free parking at the conference site is available and is handicap accessible.

Please send your payment by check for the following (choose 1):

_____ \$40 if postmarked by July 19

_____ \$45 after July 19

_____ \$15 Students

_____ \$10 Zoom beginning after the vocalist at approximately 10:50 AM

- **Only checks will be accepted at the door.**

Check **one** box lunch option:

Deli Turkey Sandwich _____ Mediterranean Veggie Sandwich _____

Strawberry Poppyseed Salad with chicken _____ without chicken _____

Please list any special dietary needs or allergies:



The Marylander
 AAUW Maryland
 607 Wilton Road
 Towson, MD 21286

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

Our Vision: Equity for all.

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.

2023 Calendar					
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