

# Branch Mini-Grant Program

AAUW MD 2023-2024 Program Year

Please review the [Application Instructions](#) before submitting a mini-grant request.

Choose Category of Planned Activity \*

Tried and True

Bold and New

Title of Planned Activity \*

Resnik Brunch (named after Judith Resnick)

Start Date of Planned Activity \*

MM DD YYYY

04 / 20 / 2024

End Date of Planned Activity \*

MM DD YYYY

04 / 20 / 2024

Location and Venue of Planned Activity \*

Harford Community College - Open Space for brunch/speech/awards

Branch(es) Submitting this Application \*

Harford County

Full Name of Applicant \*

Sheila Allen, Branch President

Applicant Phone Number \*

443 956 0051

Applicant Email Address \*

sheilahcc@gmail.com

Briefly describe your planned activity. (a) What do you plan to do? (b) Who will be your audience? (c) Name(s) of any organization(s) collaborating with you? \*

A. Each high school in Harford County (11 public and one private) is asked to nominate one top junior female in a STEM area. These young women will be celebrated for this achievement at the Resnik Brunch. At the event, in the past held at Harford Community College, the following activities occur: brunch (Harford Community College catering service); a female speaker, which in the past few years has been a Harford County graduate now a leader in a math or science field, and who provides stories and advice to the young women; presentation of awards from AAUW branch and local constituencies; pictures taken of each girl and group for a local newspaper. The event has been ongoing, except for 2 years due to COVID, for approximately 37 years. B. Each young woman is invited to a brunch presented by the Harford AAUW Branch and may bring up to four guests and a teacher to the event at no cost. The principal of each school is also invited. C. Local government officials attend and provide certificates of recognition to each of the young women. This event is sponsored and coordinated completely by the Harford AAUW Branch.

Financing the planned activity: (a) What will be the total cost? (b) How much are you requesting to support this activity? (c) What expenses will the grant be used for? (d) If other parties/sources are collaborating with you, what funds are they contributing? NOTE: If your grant application is approved, when your activity is completed all receipts for expenditures must be itemized and submitted to the AAUW MD Treasurer. \*

A. Total Cost Last Year was \$1600. This includes paying for meals, speaker gift, books for the young women, tablecloths, skirted tables, centerpieces, name cards, certificates, invitations, postage, and napkins - all paid for by the Harford County AAUW Branch. B. I am requesting \$500 to support this activity. C. The grant will be used to help pay for the meals of the guests of the young women. Last year, the total cost for food per person was 12.75. If the cost of food remains the same (and it will most likely not), this would total \$561 D. Sponsors in the past have been 1) Harford Community College - they have provided the space and some money for sponsorship; however, the college recently changed its policy and will be charging a rental fee this year; 2) APG Federal Credit Union has provided funding in the past, and this has assisted with food costs. 3) Sponsors also include Bravura and the Harford County Discovery Center, which helps to cover the cost of an appropriate book bought for each young woman. We have also asked our members to pay for their meals when attending this event; this has helped us in the past to remain in the green with the event.

Promotion of AAUW Public Policy Priorities and Diversity Issues: (a) Which public policy priority \* or diversity issue does this activity advance? (b) How?

A. The diversity issue addressed: promoting STEM studies/careers. Also of note, the high school nominated awardees represent many different races and cultures. This reflects the growing diverse population in Harford County, and thus in the schools. B. Each young woman is celebrated for her excellence in a STEM subject; this is done by our branch members and by local government officials. Each is also asked to complete a questionnaire including questions asking about a future career; hobbies and how they may be related to STEM areas; a role model in the STEM field who has inspired her; and what she will tell people about being a Resnik award winner. The answers to questions are used to introduce each young woman when she is presented her certificates.

Anticipated Outcomes: (a) What are the goals of this planned activity? (b) How will achievement \* of the goals be measured?

A. Goals: 1. Informing the community of the importance of women in STEM; 2. Encouraging young women to pursue STEM; 3. Community recognition of the work AAUW does; 4. Partnership with the county school system; 5. Increasing our branch membership.

B. Achievement of Goals: 1. and 3. An article with a picture of the young women will be written and submitted to the local newspaper; 2. and 4. Although important, this is difficult to measure; One measure is the fact that our branch has been holding this event for 37 years. Two years ago, the branch had no volunteer to chair this event, so our president called the school system's Supervisor of Science to ask his opinion about not holding the event. His answer, after a thoughtful pause: "Please don't discontinue this event. Our students look forward to it, and we think it is an excellent tribute to their hard work." 5. At the brunch, we display information about AAUW national, state, and branch along with membership information and forms. Asking new members to indicate how they heard of our AAUW branch would provide information to address this goal. Additionally, this branch activity is an opportunity for our members to work together on something they enjoy. About 30 of our members are directly involved; this maintains interest in the organization and ultimately renewal of membership. Some duties requiring membership participation: contacting each school for the nominee, contacting each young woman to inform her of the award and communicate with her concerning guests, the questionnaire, etc., creating centerpieces, setting up and taking down the event, greeting students, parents, teachers and principals at the event, taking photos, introducing each student at the breakfast, addressing the group and telling them about AAUW, It is truly a group effort, one loved by our members.

AAUW Recruitment: (a) How will the planned activity promote recruitment to AAUW? For example, would your branch be able to distribute membership materials in conjunction with the activity, advertise the activity in local press, and/or implement other recruitment activities? \*

Our branch does the following regarding this event: 1. The Membership Chair has a table with AAUW information as well as membership forms. 2. a member writes an article for the local newspaper, which has published it with a picture of the young women. 3. Our president highlights the work of AAUW from the podium to an audience of 100.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: (a) Will the planned activity promote and enhance aspects of diversity, equity, and inclusion within AAUW and in the community? (b) If so, how? \*

NOTE: Branches awarded mini-grants will be required to provide a brief report to the Mini-Grant Committee on the results of the project, level of participation, and other relevant information to document the activity and the extent to which its objectives were met.

The activity promotes diversity, equity, and inclusion by honoring female juniors in the STEM areas. As mentioned above in Anticipated Outcomes, the local school system has indicated that this award is something that the young women know about and the school system feels is a tribute. We have also had a student who was transgender and questioned whether they could receive the award. We worked with them as we wrote the script to introduce them, modifying pronouns for that into and the newspaper article. Finally, the last 5 years, our speaker for this event has been a young woman who has graduated from one of the local schools. We have no proof, but the fact that it is easy to find these young women can be a testament to this long-running program.

If your branch is requesting a mini-grant for a "Tried and True" activity for more than a second year, please briefly explain: explain: (a) Why an exception to the two-year limit should be allowed for your proposal. What is the planned activity's enduring value to your branch and the community? (b) How would your branch plan to sustain the project if mini-grant funds were not available? \*

This is a first-time request. Even if it wasn't, we know that we have more expense this year due to increases from the college new rental fee and increases in food costs.

This form was created inside of AAUW.

Google Forms