



The Marylander

Volume 92 #5 Summer 2024

President, Tracy Lantz

Editor, Susan Wierman

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

2024 AAUW MARYLAND SUMMER CONFERENCE

SATURDAY, JULY 20, 2024

Grace United Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall

5407 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21210

Learn and Connect:

How the Maryland Attorney General's Office Is Improving Women's' Lives; and How to Get the Most out of the AAUW.ORG Website!



Carisa Hatfield, Assistant Attorney General,
Office of Equity, Policy, and Engagement
Office of the Maryland Attorney General (OAG)
Co-chair of the OAG's Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging Committee

Attorney General Anthony G. Brown has developed several initiatives, including efforts to defend federal rules to implement the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act. Learn more about work to combat systemic inequities and protect the rights, responsibilities, and privileges of all Marylanders.



Jeanne Blades, AAUW MD Membership Vice President & Harford County Branch member
Adjunct instructor at Goucher College

An educator with an MS in education and over 40 years' experience as a reading specialist and special educator, Jeanne will help us stay active, connected, and informed as we learn about resources available to members on the AAUW website.

Please note that the location has changed from the previous announcement. The conference will be at Grace United Methodist Church. Register online at Eventbrite for the conference [here](#) or mail the registration form included on the next page by July 5. Directions follow on page 3.

Welcome to Baltimore for the Summer Conference!

From Dorothy Fraquelli and Yvonne Higgins, Incoming Baltimore Branch Co-Presidents

On behalf of the Baltimore Branch, we welcome you to the AAUW Maryland 2024 Summer Conference on Saturday, July 20th!

Light refreshments will be available at 9 a.m., the program will begin at 9:30, and lunch will be included. The AAUW Board will meet following lunch, concluding by 3:30.

Thanks to Heather Reichardt and Carolyn Fisher for arranging an informative and interesting program, And thanks to Janice Zimmerman, outgoing Branch Co-President, and branch members Eileen Menton, Christine Schmitz, Jean Smith, Susan Wierman, Eunice Young for helping organize this conference.

As we say in Baltimore, we look forward to seeing you, hon!

AAUW MD Summer 2024 Conference Registration

Registration cost includes a light breakfast and lunch on July 20, the day’s program, and the business meeting. You are encouraged to bring guests/prospective members and “new” officers.

Refreshments will be available at 9 AM. The program starts at 9:30 AM and runs until 1:30 PM. The Board meeting follows lunch and concludes at 3:30 PM.

Register online at Eventbrite for the conference:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/aauw-maryland-summer-conference-tickets-918359145927?aff=oddtcreator>

OR complete and mail the registration form with a check payable to AAUW MD:

Name: _____ Branch Affiliation: _____

Phone: _____ Branch Office: _____

Email: _____ State Office: _____

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

Please describe any special dietary needs:

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

_____ \$45 if postmarked by July 5th

_____ \$50 if postmarked after July 5th or paid on site

_____ \$10 Student

_____ \$15 Zoom (opens at 9 AM)

Use Eventbrite, or use this form and write check payable to AAUW Maryland and send to:

Christine Schmitz, 5925 Grace Lee Ave, Sykesville, MD 21784.

No cash payment accepted on-site for registration. Bring a check.

Directions to the Summer Conference

Saturday, July 20, 2024

Grace United Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall

5407 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21210

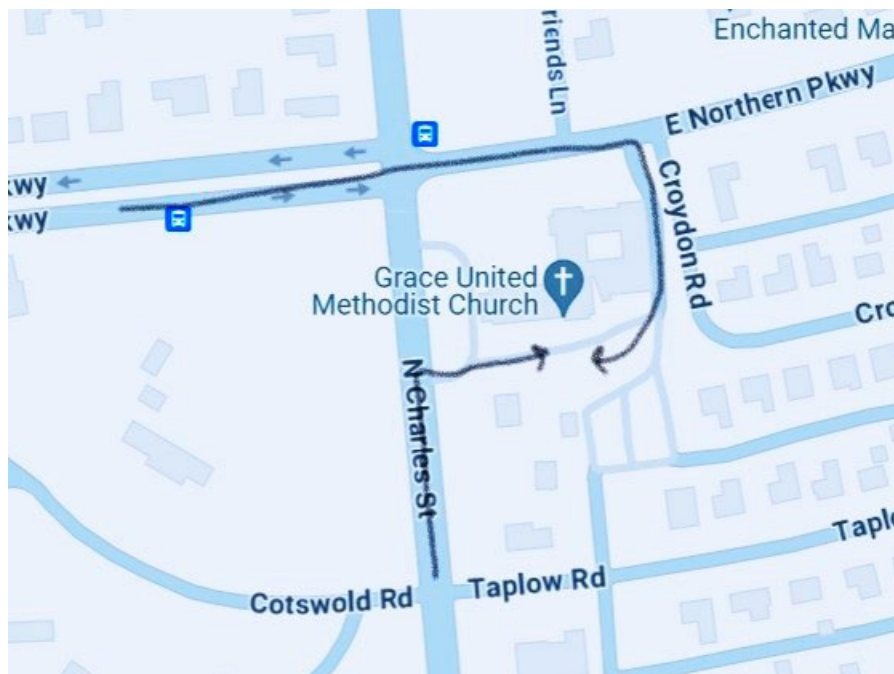
Grace United Methodist Church (GUMC) is located at the southeast corner of North Charles Street and Northern Parkway. Parking is available in the lot on the south side of the church. The lot is accessible from both Charles Street and Northern Parkway.

For those wishing simple directions, take 695 to 83 south toward Baltimore. Use the Northern Parkway exit to go east, up the hill past Roland Avenue to the light at Charles Street, where you will see your destination: the white church on the southeast corner. Otherwise, you are welcome to follow your GPS.

To enter the parking lot from Northern Parkway, proceed across Charles Street just past the church, and take the first right turn. **It is a driveway, not a street.** Proceed to the parking lot behind the church.

Those driving north on Charles Street can turn right just before reaching the church and proceed to the parking lot behind the church.

Enter through the glass door that faces the parking lot, under a white portico. There should be AAUW signs on or near the entrance. You'll find the conference in Fellowship Hall on the second floor of the church hall, not in the church itself. You may use the elevator or the stairs.



President's Message

By Tracy Lantz, President, AAUW Maryland

Thank You and One More Ask...

It's time for my final message to you as your State President. Thank you for the opportunity to represent you! I so enjoyed this honor while participating in many special events; the ERA March on Washington, ERA Rally in Annapolis, the Artist4ERA events throughout the state, the ERA Centennial Celebration in Seneca Falls, as well introducing our honoree at the 2024 NCCWSL conference, just to name a few!

I'm so very excited to welcome your new president, Heather Reichardt. We've already been working together to establish a smooth transition.

Congratulations also to others who were elected to new terms at the 2024 AAUW Maryland Convention. The full results of the elections of state officers are posted in this issue of the Marylander. We are still looking to replace Heather and Jackie Gray with a new Programs Vice President. Please volunteer or encourage someone to step up to this important office.

The 2024 AAUW Maryland Convention, beautifully hosted by the Kensington-Rockville Branch, also included a great presentation on ranked choice voting, remarks by AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell, and updates on the ERA and state legislation. Congratulations to all who made this event so successful.

And a huge **thank you** to you for participating in AAUW Maryland! Whether you attended a state meeting via zoom, served on the state board, enjoyed the speakers at one of our in-person state meetings hosted by local branches, joined us for a march, rally, lobby day, local book sale, branch meeting or luncheon, we're glad you're here and may you continue to join us this summer and fall!

Thanks to the Baltimore Branch for hosting the July 20 summer conference, and to Heather Reichardt, outgoing Co-VP for Programs, and Carolyn Fisher, Chair of our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, for finding outstanding speakers. Please remember to mail your registration by July 5 to get the best rate. I look forward to seeing you soon at Grace United Methodist in Baltimore!

We'll be replacing our usual statewide fall meeting with the **Atlantic Regional Conference** to be held in Glen Allen, Virginia, just north of Richmond! Maryland has been on the planning team with 11 other regional states for more than a year. The event begins on Friday afternoon and continues until mid-day Sunday (Sept. 27th-29th).

We'll have speakers, some AAUW leaders and others from outside organizations, on topics including Generative AI, Ending Period Poverty, Ranked Choice Voting, Reproductive Rights, The Attack on our Public Schools, Strengthening our Advocacy, Voting Rights and Challenges, the Status of the Equal Rights Amendment and AAUW's role in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, also referred to as the international bill of rights for women. There will be opportunities to learn from members in neighboring states and to share your ideas to help our organization thrive!

It will be an exciting conference and I am looking forward to seeing each of you there! Find a couple of friends and carpool to Richmond! Check out the information on our website and register today! <https://www.aauwatlanticregionalconference.com/>

Tracy Lantz, AAUW Maryland President





Empowering for Equity



SAVE the DATE



AAUW

Atlantic Regional Conference

September 27th–29th, 2024

Virginia Crossings Hotel & Conference Center
1000 Virginia Center Pkwy, Glen Allen, VA 23059



Hotel Amenities

- The Tavern Bar & Grill
- The Glen Restaurant
- Fitness Center
- Free Wifi
- Room Service
- Free parking

Nearby Attractions



- Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden
- James River Cellars Winery
- Richmond National Battlefield Park
- Virginia Museum of Fine Arts
- Children's Museum of Richmond
- Crossings Golf Course



**“Each time a woman stands up for herself,
without knowing it possibly, without claiming
it, she stands up for all women.”
– Maya Angelou**



Thank you & congratulations to AAUW Maryland leaders!

New & Returning AAUW MD Officers (Executive Board)

Heather Reichardt, President (2024-2026)

Tracy Lantz, Past President (2024-2025)

_____ **(TBD)**, Vice President for Programs (2024-2026)

The Nominating Committee is seeking a nominee to be Programs Vice President. This vacancy is to be filled by the Board at a regular Board meeting or by electronic vote.

Jeri Rhodes, Vice President for AAUW Funds (2022-2024)

Lydia Alcock and Susana Hernández Martín (2024-2026) and **Susan Wierman** (2022-2025), Co-Vice Presidents for Communications

Roxann King and Judy Carbone, Co-Vice Presidents for Public Policy ('21-'25 & '23- '25)

Christine Schmitz, Treasurer (2023-2025)

Diane Roca, Secretary (2023-2025)

Jeanne Blades Vice President for Membership (2023-2025)

AAUW MD Committee Chairs (Appointed Members of the Board)

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

Terry Saylor, Archivist (2022-2024)

Diane Roca, Chair of the Bylaws Committee

ERA Taskforce Chair, Judy Carbone

Regional Event Planning Committee: Dian Belanger, Carol Mueller, and Tracy Lantz

2025 Nominations Committee: Anita Rosen (Kensington-Rockville), Bev Fallik (Howard County), and Edie Allison (Gaithersburg). Susan Wierman (Baltimore) (past chair) will serve ex officio.

Each Branch President is also a member of the Board of Directors

AAUW Database Access Rights — Update Officers by June 30!

If your branch/state title is president/administrator, membership vice president or finance officer, you have the access rights to update officers for FY25 by June 30. Even if an officer is returning, make sure to update your records if their next term starts July 1, 2024. Login to the AAUW Community Hub, then go to MY AFFILIATIONS and click the button next to your branch name. Choose BRANCH COMMITTEE to update officers by following the step-by-step screen instructions.

AAUW Maryland continued support of NCCWSL

On May 30-June 1 this year, over 600 college students participated in AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders at the University of Maryland College Park. AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell greeted each of the AAUW MD representatives at the May 31 Women of Distinction event, and we were given special front row seats. Gloria's opening remarks stressed the importance of AAUW Maryland's long-term support for the Conference and AAUW's gratitude for that support. Tracy Lantz introduced Dian Belanger, AAUW Maryland's Woman of Distinction.



One of several students supported by AAUW MD branches was Alayna Savage, a rising sophomore at Garrett College who is also the President of the AAUW Garrett College Student Chapter. Alayna received a unique scholarship from AAUW-Garrett Branch, covering registration, room and board, and transportation. The conference’s overall theme was “Dare To Be...” Alayna attended keynote presentations and break-out sessions on topics that challenged attendees to embrace their power and dare to be the fearless, bold leaders needed to shape a more equitable future for all.

Said Alayna about the conference program, “I attended presentations on a wide range of subjects such as transforming my life through compassion, learning about the latest changes to Title IX, and information on creating institutional change when it

comes to menstruation. There were so many more panels to pick from, and I wish I had been able to attend them all. The speakers were all so informative and open to questions about their topics and I know I learned so much from them all.”

Garrett Branch president and AAUW MD Co-VP for Public Policy, Judy Carbone and Ting Ting Cheng of the Columbia Law School presented a session at NCCWSL on the Equal Rights Amendment. (See details in Judy’s ERA Taskforce Update.)



Some of the AAUW MD members attending the Women of Distinction Award Event included Top left: Alayna Savage and Judy Carbone, Top right: Tracy Lantz, AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell, Eileen Menton, Pat Stocker. Bottom: Tracy Lantz, Margery Sullivan, Judy Carbone, Carolyn Fisher, Diane Roca, Anita Rosen, Beth Hayden, AAUW MD 2024 Woman of Distinction Dian Belanger, and Susan Wierman

Thank you, THANK YOU, AAUW Maryland

. . . for your generous sponsorship once again of the Women of Distinction awards ceremony of the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders. That you named me NCCWSL’s Maryland Woman of Distinction was an over-the-top honor, a heady climax to a half-century-plus of participation in our historic organization of and for women. Thank you, Tracy Lantz, for your warm and thoughtful introduction.

I didn’t have much opportunity to interact with AAUW’s national Women of Distinction, or to chat with you whose presence meant so much to me, because so many students, inspired and grateful, kept me surrounded.

--Dian Belanger



Heartfelt thanks to all the donors listed below for contributing to the Maryland Women of Distinction Fund between October 18, 2023, and April 4, 2024

Edith Allison
Dian Belanger
Lia Belanger Book
Walter Burgess
Renee Carlson
Patricia Crane
Beatrice Dane
Ruth Dusan
Carolyn Fisher
Carol Fivozinsky
Dorothy Fraquelli
Maritsa George
Joyce Graf
Cynthia Graham
Carol Graves

Lynn Hapchuk
Beth Hayden
Ella Iams
Howard Iams
Linda Kilroy
Tracy Lantz
Bernadette Low
Ruth Manchester
Eileen Menton
Anna Palmisano
Mina Parsont
Veronica Roberts
Sharon Robinson
Diane Roca
Anita Rosen

Terry Saylor
Christine Schmitz
Ruth Spivack
Kate Campbell Stevenson
Patricia Stocker
Susan Wierman
Connie Wolfe
AAUW Maryland
AAUW Baltimore Branch
AAUW Harford County
AAUW Howard County
AAUW Kensington-Rockville
AAUW Northern Ocean County NJ
Anonymous Donor

Equal Rights Amendment Task Force Update

By: Judy Carbone, AAUW MD Co-Vice President Public Policy and ERA Task Force Chair

Judy Carbone continues to work with the Maryland Equal Rights Action Network (MERAN) as part of its leadership team. Maryland SJ01, the Resolution Reaffirming Maryland’s support for the Equal Rights Amendment was approved April 6th in a contentious floor discussion in the House. Along with other MERAN leaders, Judy attended Governor Wes Moore’s bill signing ceremony for SJ01. A copy of the reaffirming resolution was forwarded by the Department of Legislative Services and to President Joseph R. Biden; Vice President Kamala Harris; Colleen Joy Shogan (Archivist of the United States); the Maryland Congressional Delegation. Copies were also sent to all other state legislative presiding officers, with the request to circulate it among leadership of the state’s legislative

branch. Judy says that her experience in this action and its results remind her that any of us can initiate a bill in our state legislature and see it through to the end.

As ERA Taskforce Chair for AAUW-Maryland, Judy co-presented a session on the ERA at NCCWSL on May 31st. The program was entitled “The Equal Rights Amendment: More Important Than Ever...And Closer Than Ever, Too!” Co-presenter Ting Ting Cheng is the Director of the ERA Project at the Center for Gender and Sexuality Law at Columbia Law School in New York. The session was only an hour, but after Judy gave an overview of the ERA and its status, Ting Ting spent the remaining 45 minutes answering questions from a very engaged and interested student audience. Meghan Kissell, AAUW Public Policy Director, also attended the session and was very complimentary to both presenters about their session.

In March, as President of AAUW-Garrett Branch, Judy gave a presentation on the ERA to a Psychology of Women class at Garrett College. None of the students in the class knew about the Equal Rights Amendment, and, like many Americans, they thought that gender equality was already guaranteed in the U.S. Constitution. Judy also talked about NCCWSL in the class in hopes a student might be interested in attending. (See the Garrett Branch report for more details.)

Please contact Judy with any questions at judy@corgi-cottage.com or at 301-616-5036. And if you haven't already done so, please sign the petition at www.sign4era.org and get everyone you know across the country to do the same!! Thank you!

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Update

By Gloria Salazar, MSW, Representing Garrett Branch

During the 2023–2024, Garrett County’s [Diversity & Inclusion \(DI\) Advisory Committee](#) concluded its community experience survey and listening tours. These activities explored ways to enhance or improve the lives of those living in the County. The AAUW Garrett Branch DEI Committee Chair participated on this committee. (Notably, only two counties in the state of Maryland have formal DEI Committees, Garrett and Washington. During this last year, there was an attempt to disband the Washington County DEI Committee, but with sufficient public pressure, the Committee remains active.) The Garrett County DI Advisory Committee will formally submit its final summary report to the Board of County Commissioners on July 3, 2024, and then it will be available to the public in electronic format. AAUW-Garrett Branch members plan to attend this meeting.

The [Maryland Commission on Civil Rights \(MCCR\)](#) is conducting listening tours throughout the state. Several members of the Garrett County DEI Committee and AAUW Garrett Branch members were present at one session to share their findings and experiences. Please visit the MCCR website to look for a listening tour in your area.

AAUW Garrett Branch will join the Garrett County NAACP (GCNAACP) in the first ever Pride celebration in Garrett County on Saturday, June 15, 2024. AAUW-Garrett Branch will be tabling at this event. GCNAACP, with AAUW Garrett Branch member participation, hosted several events in 2023, including the Kwanza celebration, presentations by well-known civil rights leaders, monthly PRIDE events, and an MLK Day Celebration

Pact, an adoption alliance, will be conducting a week-long camp for 150 adopted children of color and their families in Garrett County, and GCNAACP will be assisting participants. AAUW-Garrett Branch will help with this event in any way we can.

GCNAACP/AAUW members spoke publicly at a school board meeting where high school students were requesting that a PRIDE flag be taken down by one of their teachers. The teacher in question is an AAUW-Garrett Branch member and our branch was represented at the school board meeting to support her and advocate for equity. Support for the teacher and her desire to have an inclusive classroom was overwhelming, and the flag remained. One month later, the teacher resigned from teaching because she no longer could withstand the bullying and pressure from students and their parents as well as the lack of support from the school board. Our branch will continue to advocate for equity with the school board.

BRANCH ACTIVITIES

Gaithersburg Branch Annual Used-Book Sale & Celebrating Mary Wykes

By Edie Allison

The Gaithersburg branch celebrated Honorary Life Member Mary Wykes' 99th birthday at a potluck lunch June 1. Mary has held branch officer positions multiple times and continues to be active in branch meetings and special interest groups including Great Decisions and HerStory. Her success at living a long and fruitful life may be enhanced by her continuing involvement with family, church, AAUW, and continuing work as a real-estate agent.



Gaithersburg branch used book sale, April 2024, was a wonderful success. The book dealers and shoppers came by the dozens with happy faces and left with bags or boxes of their chosen reading materials. Asbury Methodist Village hosted the sale, and its residents were particularly appreciative of the return of the book sale after five years, as many are not able to go out to other bookstores. We raised thousands of dollars for scholarships at Montgomery College and the Universities at Shady Grove. The final amount will be determined after all our expenses are tallied. Several families unable to afford books for their children were given bags of books for their families to enjoy. After the sale was completed, four local non-profit organizations took about 70 boxes of unsold books to use with their programs.

After the sale, over a hundred volunteers helped with set-up, sorting, customer service, and clean-up. These included about 75 students, as well as Asbury residents and members of Gaithersburg and other AAUW Branches. We owe them our deep appreciation as our branch has fewer members and many are unable to assist in moving heavy boxes.

Garrett County Branch Activities and Plans

By Judy A. Carbone, Branch President

Thirteen members and possible members attended the AAUW-Garrett Branch Annual General Membership Meeting on May 22nd at the Green Turtle in McHenry, MD. It was a good meeting to plan for the upcoming year, elect officers, and celebrate all that we have accomplished in the past year. Judy Carbone and Linda Carr were re-elected for their 8th term as President and Vice President, respectively. Kathy Zimmer was elected in as Vice President of Membership; Elaine Formsby was elected in as Treasurer; and Linda Herdering was elected in as Secretary. Committee Chairs to continue include Christine Campe-Price as Scholarship Chair and Gloria Salazar as Diversity Chair. Judi Merriman will continue as lead for Legislative Issues, especially in terms of notifying members and supporters of activist opportunities issued by MLAW.

The End of the Line Bookstore opened for the 2024 summer season on May 18th with Linda Carr serving her final year as Bookstore Manager. Members Gloria Salazar and Maxine Shindel will be managers-in-training this summer and take over as Co-Managers at the end of the year. On June 8th, a one-day sale helped move some of the remaining books. The bookstore has raised several thousand dollars each summer by selling donated books for no more than \$1 each. AAUW-Garrett Branch manages the bookstore, with our branch and a local Girl Scout Troop providing volunteers throughout the summer. Funds are distributed based on the amount of time spent volunteering.

Christine Came-Price has done an amazing job in her second year as Chair of the Scholarship Committee. The committee has awarded 10 scholarships to date to women continuing their post-secondary education for a total of almost \$9,000. One additional scholarship will be awarded later this summer. Our scholarships are awarded to selected County high school graduates, Garrett College transfer students to Allegany College for Allied Health degrees or transferring to a 4-year institution to complete their bachelor's degrees, and non-traditional aged women attending Garrett College for the first time in either certificate or degree programs. We also award scholarships from a General Scholarship line item to women seeking funds for other educational purposes.

After Judy made a presentation to a Garrett college class in March, one student requested sponsorship to attend NCCWSL (The deadline to apply for NCCWSL scholarships had passed). The Scholarship Committee decided to award a scholarship to Alayna Savage for this purpose. Alayna has worked to keep the AAUW-Garrett College Student Chapter open, even though she hasn't been able to recruit many student members. Our branch will most definitely work with her on this.

For the past 4 years, AAUW-Garrett Branch has been the lead sponsor and organizer of the Women's Equality Day (WED) Celebration in Garrett County, a collaboration of several local women's organizations. WED2024 will be held on Monday, August 26th at the Career and Technical Training Center of Garrett College. The topic this year will be Title IX and its role in women's equality, and Meghan Kissell from AAUW will be our keynote speaker. We will invite Equity Officers from Garrett College and the Garrett County Public Schools to discuss their programs and activities.

Howard County Branch Ongoing Activities

By Beth Hayden, Branch President

At our May 14th meeting, our speaker was a fraud prevention expert from AARP, Ted Meyerson, who presented information on Identity Theft--how it happens and how to protect ourselves from the criminals in our current environment.

Planned activities over the summer include monthly meetings of our Special Interest Groups-- "Great Decisions," AAUW Readers, Adventures in Dining, Lunch Bunch, and helping at the Howard County Food Bank.

Howard County Branch officers recognized for their work. In front, Susan Hailman. Back row from the left: Beth Hayden, Bobbi Brooks, Jeanne Parr, Cindy Graham, Barb Carter (holding plant), Carol Phelps, Diane Roca, Bea Dane, Suzanne Soules.





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.

2024 Calendar	Page Contents
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July 20 th : AAUW MD Summer Conference in Baltimore at Grace United Methodist Church	5 - Atlantic Regional Conference 6 – State Officers & Board Members
September 27 th -29 th : AAUW Atlantic Regional Conference in Glen Allen, Virginia	6-8 – NCCWSL & Woman of Distinction 8 – ERA Task Force Update
November 23 rd : MLAW (Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women} Fall Agenda Conference at The Meeting House, Columbia, MD (Registration available in August)	9 – DEI Committee Update 10 – Gaithersburg & Garrett Activities 11 – Howard County Activities 12 – 2024 Calendar