

THE HEART OF THE ARROWHEAD

AAUW Hibbing Branch Newsletter

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"I believe the rights of women and girls is the unfinished business of the 21st century."

– Hillary Clinton

Contact:

Sara Merfeld, AAUW-Hibbing
Branch President
merfeldsara@gmail.com

President's message —

I hope everyone is having a merry holiday season, even if it doesn't quite look like the end of December yet!

The last calendar year for Hibbing AAUW was an exceptional one. We have welcomed many new members since the book sale last year, and we are looking forward to another incredible sale this spring. Plus, we get to celebrate 100 Years of Hibbing AAUW very soon!

Stay safe and warm during this rather interesting winter we are having.

Sara



AAUW Hibbing Branch Programs for 2024

January 20 5:30 pm	TBA	TBA
February 15 5:30 pm	No Limits: Angelique Fredrickson, retired biochemist and corporate program manager, shares her adventures in adaptability while pursuing a second career after retirement.	TBA
March 14 5:30 pm	Centennial Celebration! Join Jan Carey, AAUW MN president and an all-star cast for music, readings and memories from AAUW's first 100 years.	Crescendo Orchestra Studio 214 E. Howard Str. Hibbing
April 4 5:30 pm	Adventure with a Capital W: an evening with Doris Kolodji, the Assumption School educator who guides women of all ages to personal growth in the BWCA.	Valentini's Supper Club Chisholm
May 16 5:30 pm	Spotlight on Mental Health: Natalie Johnson, from Ketamin North Infusion Center, discusses new perspectives on science-based treatment for PTSD and Trauma.	TBA



Planning is well underway for the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the AAUW Hibbing branch. Kathy Gargano and the planning team are finalizing an evening filled with memories and entertainment. Jan Carey is publishing a "100 day Countdown" on the AAUW Hibbing Branch FB page. An announcement of the project was published in the [Mesaba Tribune, Tuesday, December 5, 2023](#). Starting Tuesday, Dec. 5, the AAUW features milestones from the past 100 years on its Facebook page. "Accomplishments, notable members and special events," are being included in the 100 days of posts, leading up to the 100 year celebration March 14, 2024. The postings will provide a piece of history from the AAUW Hibbing branch archives, currently housed at the Iron Range Research Center. **Every branch members is encouraged to LIKE and FOLLOW the AAUW Hibbing Branch FB page to view this historical review!**

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BOOK SALE 2024

If possible, as you make future plans please schedule time to work at the book sale. Thank you. Barb.

Below are the opportunities to work:

Hauling: Saturday, April 13, 10:00, from new storage facility, Greyhound Storage, 900 Greyhound Blvd.
This is north of bus museum and Fraboni's.

Sorting: Saturday, April 13, 12:30-3:00 and 3:00 to 6:00

Sunday, April 14, Anytime 9:30-6:00

Monday, April 15-Thursday April 18 9:00 am-8:00 pm

Selling: April 19, 20 & 21

Donation dates and times at the Armory

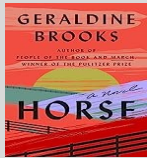
Books may be brought to the Armory between 9:30-3:30 on the following days:

April 3-April 5 April 8-12 April 15 & 16

With your help, we will have another fantastic sale!

LITERATURE GROUP SETS READING LIST.

Hostess/location will be posted as an Event on AAUW Hibbing FB page.



JANUARY 23

HORSE by Geraldine Brooks

MEMBERSHIP COUNTS!

You make it happen when you become a member of a powerful community that breaks through barriers facing women and families today.

Established in 1881, AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research. Minnesota has a membership of over 1,700 in its 24 branches spread over the state. It's a dynamic organization with a long record of affecting change on issues of importance to women, such as education, equity in the workplace and sex discrimination.

We extend a grand welcome to Carol Cotter & Julie Brunette, our newest members of AAUW Hibbing branch.

If you know of any prospective members, please send their names, addresses, and phone numbers to:

Marcella Schwecke—micahandmarcella@gmail.com

SAVE the DATE

AAUW MN ANNUAL MEETING

"CONFLUENCE = INCLUSION, COLLABORATION, EMPOWERMENT"

The Confluence Hotel & Event Center

Hastings, MN

April 26 - 27 , 2024

The AAUW MN state board is actively organizing the 2024 Annual Meeting. With the aid of Hastings Branch members, the board will host the Annual Meeting. (previously The Convention).

The board has secured the new Confluence Hotel & event center for the meeting. Located in Hastings MN which is at the confluence of the Mississippi, Vermillion, and St. Croix Rivers.

<https://confluencehotel.com/>

The board is in the process of confirming presenters which will represent the Annual Meeting theme— "Confluence = Inclusion, Collaboration, Empowerment". Prospective presenters are Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan, MN Senator Sandra L. "Sandy" Pappas , U.S. Representative Angie Craig, U.S. Senators Amy Klobuchar & Tina Smith, ERAMN president Suzann Willhite, Prof. Karen Kedrowski an expert on the Gender Pay Gap and a panel of women-owned businesses in Hastings.

Branch presidents have been contacted to donate to the 'Silent Auction'. All additional planning, such as registration, hotel reservation, delegates, and schedule will be forthcoming.

ST. LOUIS CONFERENCE REVIEW

As most of you know, I attended the AAUW Central States Regional Conference in St. Louis MO, October 19-21. I was on the planning committee, helped arrange Swap Shops, wrote 'AAUW' lyrics to Meet Me in St. Louis, introduced panelists and presented an overview of the AAUW National Advancement Committee.

The Trending Topics and Swap Shops were exemplary in content and information. CEO Gloria Blackwell gave a compelling presentation and answered frank questions from attendees. There were a number of sessions about equality, equal pay, DEI, coalitions and fundraising. A session I found most useful, as AAUW MN partners with ERAMN, was the session by AJ Convooy, from Illinois, who represented AAUW Illinois as they procured state passage of ERA.

[ERA ILLINOIS - The Equal Rights Amendment is the 28th Amendment. For clarity, Congress and the Supreme Court should give their blessing the ERA](https://www.eraillinois.org/) <https://www.eraillinois.org/> AJ Convooy brought a number of samples of marketing tools including their Activity Book. [Coloring Book - ERA ILLINOIS](#) It is copy-righted, but she said anyone may take the concept and create their own. They gave copies of it to legislators, and it proved illuminating. It was a persuasive, educational tool. Branches should consider creating their own version.

If you're looking for fundraising information, the Fundraising swap shops sessions were very useful.

Swap Shop presentation documents used by the presenters will be hosted on the AAUW MO website for 1 year.

[AAUW SWAP SHOPS-SHARING BRANCH PROJECTS | of Missouri](#)

LOOKING for ideas to rejuvenate members and branch programming—view the Swap Shop projects!



AAUW Holiday Gift Suggestions

The booklets to accompany the Arrowhead Map have been printed and ready for sale at \$5 each. Some members already signed up to purchase them and Barb Wojciak will bring them to January 20, 2024 meeting unless other arrangements are made.

Map and booklet \$ 20.00 / Booklet \$ 5.00 / Mailing Tube \$ 4.00

Please contact Barb Wojciak by text at 218-340-2639 if you need to purchase items before the January 20th meeting . Include your name.



Congratulations to Our Future Collegians

The Hibbing Branch of the American Association of University Women announced their Future Collegians. AAUW is a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education in critical areas impacting girls and women.



December - Kate Toewe is a senior at Hibbing High School. She is able to take CTIS (college in the school) classes while continuing to be a full time student. School activities include President of the Student Council, publicist for Key Club and member of the National Honor Society. Organizing events such as Homecoming activities and Senior Sunrise are part of her school career. Sports include member of the Girls Golf team and Girls basketball team. In the fall, she manages the Cross Country team. Work experience include the Wellness Club and Mesaba Country Club. Future plans are to attend college to pursue a career related to the medical field while continuing to play basketball.



November - Kaitlin Olson is a senior at Nashwauk-Keewatin High School. School activities have kept her busy as President of Student Council, member of the National Honor Society, Knowledge Bowl and Math team. She is also vice president of the band council. Sport endeavors include Captain of the cross country team and member of the basketball and track team. Over the years she has volunteered at the Second Harvest Food Bank and Salvation Army. Through her church she works with vacation bible school. Future plans include earning a degree in elementary education at a 4 year university and participating in their cross country and track programs.



October - Tresa Baumgard is a senior at Chisholm High School. Currently she is doing post secondary classes through Minnesota North College-Hibbing Campus. By taking these classes she will be graduating from High School and also with her AA degree. As a High School athlete, she is involved in swimming, basketball and track and field. She loves coaching and helping the younger girls in any activities, and being a mentor for them. Her local Chisholm parish keeps her busy also, helping with her mom's women group set-up and prepare for events. She states, "Chisholm is a great place and a wonderful family community." After high school she will spend the next 4 years at Minnesota State Moorhead studying sports medicine. She received a scholarship offer to play for the women's basketball team.

From the Sunshine Committee Chair



If you know of an AAUW member who needs a get well, sympathy, or congratulatory card, please let me know, and I will send one. Marilyn Kaeli, marilyn.kaeli@gmail.com or 218-263-3431



HIBBING (MN)
BRANCH

AAUW-Hibbing Branch Officers: 2023-24

President	Sara Merfeld
VP Membership	Marcella Schwecke
VP Programs	Gretchen Wright & Becky Kapella
Secretary:	Kathy Laffin
Treasurer:	Julie Takkunen

Like & Follow AAUW on FB.

Follow AAUW-Hibbing

Follow AAUW MN

Follow AAUW

Don't forget to mail the newsletter to a friend or prospective member.

Print/address/fold/stamp/mail - It's that easy!

AAUW-Hibbing: Committees & Chairs

Programs, Gretchen Wright & Becky Kapella

Public Policy, Stefanie Carlson

By-Laws, Sara Merfeld

Membership, Marcella Schwecke

Book Sale/AAUW Funds, Barb Wojciak

Scholarships, Shanna Eskeli & Sara Merfeld

Cultural Interest, Mary Enge & Peggy Vidmar

Historian, Mary Petron

Projects, vacant

Reservations, Linda Manney & Sue Moody

Future Collegians, Sue Moody & Lynn Stish

Literature, Patty Miller

Special Funds, Jeannie Brandstrom

Sunshine, Marilyn Kaeli

Newsletter Editor/FB Administrator, Jan Carey



HIBBING (MN)
BRANCH

Heart of the Arrowhead: AAUW-Hibbing Branch Newsletter is compiled by Jan Carey and member contributors. c2023

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The Heart of the Arrowhead
403 Highland Drive
Hibbing, MN 55746

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

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