

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

American Association of University Women-Alabama (AAUW-AL)

The year 2017 has passed quickly; here we are at the door of the next year 2018! We are looking for this year to be “a year of renewal” for all AAUW-AL Branches. First thing first: AAUW-AL MISSION: “advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research”.

Secondly, our value promise entitles women and girls the opportunity to belong to a community that breaks through educational, economical, and employment barriers. Every woman and girl should have a fair chance. We need to make “SMART MOVES” during our planning that insures successes. We must be creative thinkers as we find ways to provide vital funding for women and girls especially at critical stages in their careers. Slowly closing the wage/pay gap, AAUW Start Smart is designed for college women and Work Smart is designed to help women negotiate for a new job, raise, or promotion.

Thirdly, women and girls must be prepared to compete in an already difficult work environment, even with education...just imagine how this difficulty is multiplied without an education or some formal training. We are breaking barriers in offering STEM and STEAM curricula for women and girls throughout Alabama. Helping women and girls identify and articulate their personal values. We help women and girls gain confidence in pursuing careers in STEM.

Finally, let's continue to be the catalyst for sustainable change in the lives of women and girls. Now with the latest technology, we can share our concerns, questions, and successes throughout our southern communities. AAUW-AL is always looking for new ways to involve women and girls in our mission. It is time for all Alabamians to “pay it forward”.

From the desk of Leevones G. Fisher, AAUW-AL President

SAVE THE DATE
AAUW State Convention
April 6-8, 2018
Hyatt Regency, Riverchase Galleria
Birmingham Alabama



AAUW of Alabama State Convention

April 6 - 8, 2018

REGISTRATION

- To reserve rooms:** Call The Hyatt Regency Birmingham at 205-705-1234 and ask for the special AAUW rate of \$119 (plus tax). Bookings at this rate are available until **March 26**.
- To register online:** Go to Eventbrite.com and search "AAUW-AL Annual Meeting." You will be prompted to pay by credit card.
- To register by mail:** Complete the form below and mail with your check payable to "AAUW-Birmingham Branch" to:
Eleanor Wright, AAUW Finance Officer
P.O. Box 550085
Birmingham, AL 35255

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ AAUW Member # _____
Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
Email _____ Student/Affiliate _____ Campus _____

\$_____ Annual Meeting, includes lunch Saturday and breakfast Sunday, \$100
\$_____ Banquet Saturday evening, \$55
\$_____ TOTAL ENCLOSED

Registration & payment due by March 26. Same-day registration is plus \$20.

Please list any food allergy or dietary restriction: _____

Will you be attending the Board Meeting and Dinner Friday, April 6? _____

For questions or more information, contact Birmingham Branch President,
Sharon Bounds, 205-901-2453 & sharonbounds16@bellsouth.net; or
Finance Officer, Eleanor Wright, 205-200-7955 & ewrightbhm@msn.com.



ANNUAL STATE MEETING

April 6 - 8, 2018

The Hyatt Regency Birmingham,
The Wynfrey Hotel at the Riverchase Galleria

(Tentative Schedule)

Friday, April 6	6:00 p.m.	AAUW of Alabama State Board Dinner and Meeting
		All state officers and branch presidents/ representatives are welcome At a local restaurant with fun activity TBD
Saturday, April 7	7:30 a.m.	Registration
	8:30 a.m.	Welcome - AAJW AL President and Host City
	9:00 a.m.	Breakout Session 1
	10:10 a.m.	Officer/Topic Roundtables
	11:30 a.m.	Breakout Session 2
	12:30 p.m.	Keynote Speaker Lunch provided
	1:30 p.m.	Breakout Session 3
	3:00 p.m.	Know Your Communication Style
	4:30 p.m.	Annual Business Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Banquet - Speakers and Awards
Sunday, April 8	7:30 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
	8:00 a.m.	Breakout Session 4
	9:30 a.m.	Breakout Session 5
	10:30 a.m.	Panel Discussion - Topic TBD
	11:30 a.m.	New Executive Committee Meeting

All sessions on Saturday and Sunday are in the
Wyndor Meeting Rooms I & II on the Main Floor

AAUW Talladega County Branch Focuses on College/University Relations and STEM

The AAUW Board of Directors approved the formation of the AAUW Talladega County Branch. The officers are Alesia Williams, President/Administrator, and Audrey L. Salgado, Secretary/Treasurer. They have completed their charter member/officer form as well as applied and received their EIN number and official copy of their IRS tax determination letter. These documents have been submitted to AAUW along with the AAUW Talladega County Branch 501(c)4 Affiliate Agreement with their Dues Remittance Form. The dues and six member's information were mailed to AAUW on October 18, 2017. The branch plans to have one membership meeting by the end of the year to approve their bylaws, which must be received by national on December 26, 2017. College/University Relations and STEM will be their main focus in 2018.

AAUW of Alabama Student Advisory Council to hold ALA-WSL in Spring 2018

The AAUW of Alabama Student Advisory Council (SAC) held their first meeting of the year at Birmingham-Southern College on Saturday, August 26, 2017. The decision to hold ALA-WSL, a mini-version of the AAUW National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, was decided to be held in the Spring 2018. The location and date is still being decided.

The theme of the 2018 ALA-WSL will be "Creating a Climate of Support Among Women."

Three committees were formed with the following individuals serving on each committee:

- Agenda Committee: Dr. Tedi Gordon, Athens State University/Member Leader/Co-Advisor; Liz Reid, University of Alabama at Birmingham Graduate/Co-Director; Alexia Johnson, Alabama State Student; Erica Web, University of Alabama at Birmingham Student; and Kimberly Wise, University of Alabama in Huntsville Student.
- Location/Facilities Committee: Dr. Laura Stultz, Birmingham-Southern College/College-University Representative; Ann Townsend Freeman, Birmingham-Southern College Student, Co-Chair; and Su Jeong, Birmingham-Southern College Student, Co-Chair
- Recruitment/Promotion Committee: Audrey L. Salgado, Member Leader/Co-Advisor; Anna Selsvik, Athens State University Student/Co-Director; Shannon Beck, Auburn University at Montgomery Student/Co-Chair; Trinh Hunyh, University of Alabama at Birmingham Student/Co-Chair; and Jillian Fantin, Samford University Student

All committees have met at least one or two times. Once date and a location are confirmed, speakers will be requested to present and promotional letters will be sent to approximately 100 Alabama College/University Campuses.

Applications are being accepted for AAUW of Alabama Student Associates/Affiliates who wish to serve on the AAUW of Alabama SAC. To apply, contact Audrey L. Salgado, audrey5190@yahoo.com or 205 249-7788.

14th Annual ALA-WSL ALABAMA WOMEN STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

[Create a climate of support among women]

Hosted by the **American Association of University Women
(AAUW) of Alabama**



Guest speaker

**Dr. Jan Davis
Former NASA Astronaut**

**March 3, 2018 | 8:30 - 4 PM | Athens State University
Lunch will be provided.**

Planning to attend?

Please make your reservation at

**<https://goo.gl/forms/TV251L3tNxEFWin82>
by Jan. 31, 2018**

Scan this QR code to access our event page on Facebook



AAUW Birmingham Branch Girls STEAM Project

The AAUW Birmingham Branch Girls STEAM Project conducted a summer art camp at the Isabel Anderson Comer Museum and Arts Center, Sylacauga, AL, in July with ten Talladega County seventh through twelfth grade girls. Classes were conducted by Natalie Davis, art instructor, and Alesia Williams, Girls STEAM Project Co-Director.

Code and Create, two free after-school workshops for seventh and eighth grade girls, were held at Earle A. Rainwater Memorial Library, Childersburg, AL, in October. The classes taught by Alesia, explored fundamental concepts of coding and computer technology while completing fun web-based creative project.

The next Girls STEAM Project held a workshop at Central Alabama Community College (CACC), Childersburg Campus, on November 17, 2017. Approximately 200 Childersburg, Fayetteville, and Winterboro Schools students in Talladega County attended the all-day event. The morning included Alabama College/University students in STEM fields presenting Women in STEM to empower girls to explore STEM studies, degrees, and careers. Based on these explorations, the girls worked collaboratively to identify words and phrases that symbolize women in STEAM. This was the first of three events which will culminate on February 16 at CACC. Audrey L. Salgado, Girls STEAM Project Co-Director, is leading this effort.

AAUW Alabama STEM: Another Successful Tech Trek; Changes in AAUW Support; Dates for 2018

STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. It's one way women can break into higher income levels, improving life for themselves and their families.

Tech Trek 2017 was a great success again. Our 4th camp saw 64 8th grade girls from across the state spend a week being immersed in a variety of STEM subjects, and of course, a lot of fun. We had girls from locations as far south as Mobile County. The girls stay with us, on campus, for the entire week, and they leave us changed: more determined, focused, and confident. These are their words, not ours.

One area we could use help with in recruiting for 2018's camp: recruiting nominations from some of the more disadvantaged counties. This means personal inroads with teachers and systems in the Black Belt and other areas of the state. We have been sending requests and information to these areas along with the rest of the state, but feel that a personal contact could be more effective. Are you able to help? Use the email below.

These are exactly the girls Tech Trek is designed to help!

National AAUW financial support of Tech Trek will shrink to \$0 beginning with the 2018 camp. That leaves us with a \$500 deficit over 2017, and although we fundraise from area individuals, organizations, and corporations, we will need support this coming year from AAUW State and Branches.

How can you help? Consider making a personal donation, connecting with a corporation or organization for foundation that may be willing to give towards making our workforce more tech-ready. Plan a fundraiser as a branch for Tech Trek.

Since campers come from all over the state, the camp benefits reach far.

Tech Trek 2018 will be held once again at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH). The dates will be June 10 - 16. Teachers and counselors will be needed, and will be recruited early 2018, but if there's an interest in applying for either position, send me and email (cindi@netfocusmarketing.com) and I'll get you to the right person.

Cindi Branham
AAUW AL STEM Director

Tuscaloosa Branch - Campus Action Grant Winner



The National AAUW has supported a new project at The University of Alabama through a Campus Action Project grant. The Women and Gender Resource Center is working in partnership with The Blackburn Institute and the AAUW Tuscaloosa Branch to offer a series called IDEAL (Intentionally Diversifying Engagement and Leadership). The series will include an opening reception, talks with elected officials, and skills building workshops aimed at recruiting diverse candidates to run for elected office and equipping them with the skills needed to win. Additionally, student and community leaders will host a workshop called “Standing on My Sister’s Shoulders” at a local elementary school to encourage civic engagement. The full calendar of events will be released at the opening reception and will be available on the UA Women and Gender Resource Center Facebook page.

Membership Matters

In It for Life? Make It Official

“I believe that we define who we are not by what we say but by to what we commit. By being a member of AAUW (I am a life member), I believe that I define my lifelong commitment to the advancement of all women.” — Bernadette Pawlik, 2017–19 AAUW membership committee member

Put your values into action and empower women and girls for generations to come! Contact AAUW to upgrade from annual to lifetime membership today and you will receive a letter of recognition, a certificate, and a lapel pin that you can wear proudly knowing that you’ve put your values into action to advance AAUW’s mission. Lifetime membership in AAUW is a one-time, fully tax-deductible gift of \$980. Become a life member today!

AAUW of Alabama

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. Postage

PAID

Permit No.

Mission Statement

AAUW advances education and equity for women and girls through research, education, advocacy and philanthropy.

Value Promise

By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

Membership in AAUW is open to all graduates who hold an associate (or equivalent), bachelor's or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university.

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

Send address changes to your branch membership vice president and to:

AAUW Records Office

1111 16th St. NW

Washington, DC 20036-4873

You may also change your address through the AAUW website, in the Member Center. You will need your membership number, which may be obtained from your branch membership chair.

AAUW Member Helpline: 1-800-326-AAUW
(326-2289)

AAUW Help Email: connect@aauw.org

AAUW-Alabama Website: <http://aauw-al.aauw.net>

AAUW National Website: <http://www.aauw.org>