



## **Kensington-Rockville Newsletter**

**American Association of University Women**

**Website: [kensingtonrockville-md.aauw.net](http://kensingtonrockville-md.aauw.net)**

**Volume 17 No. 4**

**December 2018**

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# **Kensington-Rockville AAUW Holiday Open House**

**Sunday, December 9, 2:00-4:00 p.m.**

**The home of Dian and Brian Belanger**

**115 Champion Drive, Rockville, MD 20833**

Please join us for our holiday open house at the home of Dian and Brian Belanger.

You are encouraged to bring a snack to share. Your contribution of cheese and crackers, veggies and dip, pita and hummus, fresh fruit, sweet treats, or your favorite seasonal specialty or drink will provide a bountiful buffet.

Our annual drop-in creates a festive opportunity to chat informally with new members, friends, guests, partners and spouses as we welcome the holidays and look forward to exciting State and Branch events and activities for the coming year. The holiday open house has become a branch tradition and we look forward to seeing you.

## 2019 Women's Legislative Briefing

The Montgomery County Commission for Women and many co-sponsoring organizations including AAUW Maryland and Kensington-Rockville Branch, invite you to the 2019 Women's Legislative Briefing. The purpose of the Briefing is to inform the residents of our state about legislative proposals before local, state, and national legislative bodies that address issues of specific concern to women. This exciting event brings national state and local elected officials as well as experts in areas such as health, education, pay equity, legislative advocacy, immigration, older women's issues, workplace issues, family issues, justice, human rights, and poverty.

**January 27, 2019**

**Sun, January 27, 2019**

**10:30 AM – 6:00 PM EST**

### **LOCATION**

**The Universities at Shady Grove, Building II**

**9630 Gudelsky Drive**

**Rockville, MD 20850**

For program and registration information (\$30 advanced registration, \$40 at the door), go to:  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2019-womens-legislative-briefing-tickets-50422826030?aff=erelexpmit>

## Notes from the President:

### KR Members at Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women Conference Erin Prangley



*Delegate Pamela Queen, AAUW MD  
President Kate Campbell Stevenson, Erin  
Prangley at the MLAW Conference*

The Kensington Rockville branch was a sponsor of the successful MLAW Fall Conference held in Baltimore on November 17. AAUW Maryland President Kate Campbell Stevenson, Erin Prangley, and Anita Rosen were among the hundreds of participants gathered at the Notre Dame University of Maryland to meet with legislators and discuss proposed legislation that is important to women and families.

After a warm welcome by University of Notre Dame of Maryland President Dr. Marylou Yam, Women's Caucus Chair Del. Sheree Sample Hughes kicked off the conference by highlighting the importance of legislation that supports women veterans and the elderly. The panel discussion that followed focused on protecting fundamental rights and featured Nikki Thompson, Job

Opportunities Task Force; Jennie Guilfoyle, American Immigration Council; Krish Vignarajah, 2018 Maryland Gubernatorial Candidate; Robyn Elliott, Public Policy Partners; and Ariana Kelly, Maryland House of Delegates.

After lunch, the highlight of the event was the presentation of 15 legislative proposals for the upcoming 2019 legislative session. AAUW member and Maryland State Senator Susan Lee presented AAUW-endorsed legislation to allow judges to enforce child support orders until children are 21 if they are enrolled in post-secondary college education or vocational training programs. MLAW members will vote on which proposals will become MLAW priorities this session. You can view summaries of the initiatives presented at the conference by copying and pasting this address into your web browser <https://mdlegagendaforwomen.files.wordpress.com/2018/11/mlaw-2019-proposals.pdf>

AAUW Maryland supports the MLAW legislative agenda and will be partnering with them in the legislative session. Join AAUW Maryland's monthly policy calls to learn more about opportunities to get involved with state legislation next year! The next call is Monday, December 3, 7-8pm at call in number: (515) 739-1469; access code: 740270.

## AAUW Funds:

### Chair Ella Iams [AAUWKenRock@gmail.com](mailto:AAUWKenRock@gmail.com)

AAUW Fund (# 9110) is the general fund of AAUW. The donations are *unrestricted* and will allow AAUW to use the gifts where AAUW needs to react to develop and disseminate new challenges, and sustain programs such as camps, trainings and advocacy efforts. The funds will support existing programs and allow AAUW the flexibility to act quickly and responsibly as new challenges facing women and girls arise. If you want to contribute to this campaign or any other AAUW fund, go on-line or refer to your new Kensington-Rockville Directory on how to contribute.

There are several other funds to which you can contribute to including Fellowships and Grants (#4336), Legal Advocacy Fund (#3999), Public Policy Fund (4337), Eleanor Roosevelt Fund (#9170), Campus Leadership Fund (4339 and the Maryland Honorary Fund (#4355).

Maryland Honorary Fund # 4355 supports the Women of Distinction ceremony of the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders. The Maryland Woman of Distinction for 2018-19 will be of the Judy Carbone from Garret County Branch.

Another fund you may choose to support is the Montgomery College Foundation. Add AAUW Kensington/Rockville Scholarship on the notation line. Instructions for donating are on page 18 of the 2017-18 Directory.

## Kensington-Rockville Branch's leadership team:

President

Erin Prangley

Program Co-Vice Presidents

Pat Ameling, Anita Rosen

Membership Co- Vice Presidents

Sylvia Crowder, Maritsa George

Co-Treasurers

Joyce Graf, Ella Iams

## Title IX Under Attack

November 15, 2018



Credit: U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos. Gage Skidmore. (CC BY-SA 2.0)  
The U.S. Department of Education is working to systematically dismantle Title IX protections. After rescinding critical guidance documents in September 2017, the Department of Education has now **announced** a plan to make sweeping changes to Title IX's regulations, which would have significant implications for students' civil rights and for federal enforcement of the law.

### Background

We can't let the Department of Education weaken Title IX. Add your name today to oppose the changes, and to learn more about how you can help fight back.

### Take Action

In September 2017, the Department of Education **rescinded** two important documents related to Title IX: the **2011 Dear Colleague Letter on Sexual Violence** and a **2014 Q&A on Title IX and Sexual Violence**, which had provided much-needed clarification about what Title IX requires schools to do to prevent and address sex discrimination in educational programs. Specifically, these documents gave critical guidance to schools about their legal obligations under Title IX to respond promptly and fairly to allegations of sexual assault, and set forth guidelines for how to handle these allegations.

At the same time it withdrew these documents, the Department of Education issued a new interim guidance on Title IX. These rollbacks paved the way for the current attempt to further erode the protections of Title IX, announced in the November 2018 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

### What Does This Mean for Women and Girls?

Make no mistake — the Department of Education's actions amount to a blatant rollback of strong and necessary protections for students, and particularly for student survivors of sexual assault. Specifically, the November 2018 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking would weaken Title IX's protections by narrowing the

definition of sexual harassment to potentially exclude much of the abuse students experience and altering when schools will respond to reports of sexual harassment and violence. In addition, the rule would put in place school processes that make it harder for students to come forward and receive the support they need when they experience sexual harassment or assault. Title IX protects **all** students from discrimination — students of all genders, from kindergarten through college — and these expansive changes would put those protections at risk.

AAUW stands with survivors and we remain committed to protecting and defending Title IX, and to pursuing its vigorous enforcement. We must ensure our nation's dedication to full and equal educational opportunities for all students. After all, students' access to education is on the line.

### **Take Action be an AAUW Two Minute Activist**

Over the next 60 days, we have an opportunity to weigh in with the Department of Education on their proposed changes. It's crucial that advocates speak up — loudly — and fight back against any attacks on Title IX that attempt to diminish students' protections.

[http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/50796/p/dia/action4/common/public/?action\\_KEY=25579](http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/50796/p/dia/action4/common/public/?action_KEY=25579)

## **Join the AAUW Archives Corps!**

Does the Past stir your juices? Are you curious about what AAUW has done to keep women loyal and committed for 136 years, and counting? Have you ever wondered who all those thousands of women were, and would become, that we have supported with AAUW fellowships and grants since 1888? Do you enjoy piecing together long-forgotten stories from fragile, faded papers?

**Join the AAUW Archives Corps** to work with other local members, under staff direction, to rediscover, process, and preserve for future use the documentary record of AAUW's extraordinary history. Archives volunteers commit to one partial day per month, usually the first Monday or Tuesday. Intrigued? Query Dian Belanger.

## Join the AAUW Lobby Corps!

Does the Future push your buttons, especially the future for women and girls? Do you care about Title IX, sexual harassment, pay equity, voting and human rights? Does today's political atmosphere keep you up at night? Would you like to rationally promote and influence nonpartisan progress at the highest level?

**Join the AAUW Lobby Corps** on Capitol Hill to inform and urge legislative action for a more just world. Volunteer lobbyists, trained and briefed by AAUW public policy staff, commit to Thursday mornings when Congress is in session. Impassioned? Query Erin Prangley,

## Interest Groups

### ***GREAT DECISIONS***

Marianne Jacobs  
[AAUWKenRock@gmail.com](mailto:AAUWKenRock@gmail.com)

### ***Le Groupe Français***

Ruth Spivack  
[AAUWKenRock@gmail.com](mailto:AAUWKenRock@gmail.com)

December 13 at 7 p.m. at the home of Mary Dominick with the continuation of Bonjour Tristesse.

### ***The Afternoon Literature Group***

**December 2018**                      **No meeting**

**January 15, 2019**                      ***The Summer Before  
the War* by Helen  
Simonson**

**Deadline for the January Newsletter is December 20. Thank you to all who have submitted material for this newsletter.**

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

**AAUW has been empowering women as individuals and as a community since 1881. For more *than 135 years*, we have worked together as a *national grassroots organization to improve the lives of millions of***

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***The American Association of University Women (AAUW) advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.***

***AAUW Vision Statement: AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls and their families.***

**Newsletter Editor**

Margery Sullivan

**Circulation**

Ruth Spivack

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