**AAUW Kensington-Rockville Branch**

**Holiday Sweets and Savories Potluck**

**Sunday December 10, 2023, from 2:00-4:00 pm**

Home of Anita and Howard Rosen

3800 Glen Eagles Dr.

Silver Spring, MD 20906

**Join new and old members, spouses/partners and guests for food, drink and socializing for a celebration of many diverse holidays in December.**

In addition, we have invited branch scholarship recipients from Montgomery College and others to join with us to celebrate our branch and the season.

For members only, bring a hot or cold appetizer or a dessert for 8-10 to share with others. Hot and cold drinks, wine, and chocolate Chanukah gelt will be provided. We look forward to celebrating the season together.

Note: Anita and Howard live in a gated, senior community in Leisure World. To enter at the Georgia Ave. or Connecticut Ave. gates, tell them you will be at the Rosen Holiday Party. You may park on the streets or at any guest parking spaces. However, do not park on a side of the street with a car across from you. Help will be available on the street outside the house for special needs and questions.

Please RSVP to Anita so she can give the main gate a count.

Looking forward to seeing you and your significant others and guests.

Anita

anitarosen123@gmail.com

**Presidents’ Message**

Gatherings…

We gathered more than once at Ingelside in November. There was the ‘Great Decisions’ meeting; this for the last time this year, but very much anticipated to begin again in 2024. These are always lively discussions centering around issues presented in the magazine, “Great Decisions”. All Kensington/Rockville members are welcome as are interested guests. Contact Anita Rosen and or Bobbe Mintz for further information.

Veronica Otero, niece of our member, Beatriz Ostria-Calvo, was our speaker at the Branch meeting on November 11 also at Ingleside. This young woman: what an amazing story she had for us! Fell in love with planetary space as a child, wondering …

” what’s out in space? Other planets? Other people?” Veronica holds several degrees in engineering and spoke movingly about her work and with NASA and Goddard Space Center. Bobbe Mintz opened the discussion asking if there were comments and questions and they came fast and furious. Ms. Otero described some of the complexities of the missions in which she had been involved as well as spoke about challenges of being the only woman in her classes or when working on space projects. While the days of being referred to as a, “woman scientist” are over, or at least receding, many members of the audience listening to her, offered examples of being referred to as a, “woman lawyer” or other tag-on titles they had experienced. It was a stimulating afternoon followed by lunch when we met in the Café in Ingelside.

President Dian Belanger, spoke about our Branch’s commitment to gather on April 20th to host the 2024 AAUW Maryland Convention. This will require some effort by our Branch to pull it together, but things are shaping up.

Lastly, we anticipate a gathering on Sunday, December 10 at our annual Holiday Party, to be held at Anita Rosen’s gracious home. Be sure to put this on your list of must attend and see the details in this Newsletter.

Hoping you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving gathering,

Maritsa George,

With Dian Belanger,

K/R Co-President

**Follow up to Veronica Otero presentation last month.**

Our NASA speaker for November, Veronica Otero, sent a message to us about seeing ***Beyond the Light, An Artistic Exploration of Our Unseen Universe*** in DC at Artechouse. ARTECHOUSE worked in collaboration with NASA scientists to interpret the frontier-pushing data NASA collects about our universe, then brought it to life in the highest resolution possible utilizing today’s latest creative technologies and experiential storytelling. Find out more at:

[https://www.artechouse.com/program/beyond-the-light-dc/?gad\_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQiA6vaqBhCbARIsACF9M6meGTlhWuS1ZGOoqOtvKKsQvD8URz9Vo76-j8hRBCMRYCwRstD\_bY4aAiepEALw\_wcB](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.artechouse.com%2Fprogram%2Fbeyond-the-light-dc%2F%3Fgad_source%3D1%26gclid%3DCj0KCQiA6vaqBhCbARIsACF9M6meGTlhWuS1ZGOoqOtvKKsQvD8URz9Vo76-j8hRBCMRYCwRstD_bY4aAiepEALw_wcB&data=05%7C01%7CMSULLIVAN%40niaid.nih.gov%7C33954ab861da4daf368b08dbebb0e08d%7C14b77578977342d58507251ca2dc2b06%7C0%7C0%7C638362917508491078%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9vvmDSRkwOdek2RI61pLsQviPXs2ZOJh46A960z87wI%3D&reserved=0)

**An AAUW Policy Report**

# AAUW Survey: NYC Women and the Pandemic

## Women Were Already Feeling Economically Pinched. Then the Pandemic Hit.

## In August 2021, AAUW contracted with the public opinion research firm [Ipsos](https://www.ipsos.com/en-us/news-polls/economic-outlooks-among-women-nyc-01142022" \t "_blank) to poll women in New York City about how they fared economically during the pandemic. Women—including many women earning middle-class incomes—report that they were in a financially precarious position well before the pandemic pushed them over the edge. While those living in New York City and other high-cost cities face some unique challenges, their experiences before and after the pandemic provide a window into the larger national issue of how quickly all women can fall into financial hardship. These findings underscore the need for a full range of programs, policies, and services to help women thrive in the good times and survive the bad.

The complete report is very interesting and disturbing, a must read. When we think we have made progress. Download the complete report from the AAUW website.

<https://www.aauw.org/app/uploads/2022/01/NY-Survey-Report_Final-3.0.pdf>

**A Time for Giving:**

**AAUW Greatest Needs Fund, #9110**. This general fund is for unrestricted gifts, which are used when and where they are most needed, thus providing flexibility to respond to new and emerging challenges facing women and girls.

To donate: Start with aauw.org.

Then click Donate. Greatest Needs will be at the top of the list of donation choices. Use your credit card, or write a check, as above, designating your preferred fund(s). If you do not state a preference, your gift will go to Greatest Needs.

\***Montgomery College Foundation**. Gifts support scholarships for women returning to school, while supporting themselves and dependent(s).

To donate: Give online with credit card at <https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/alumni-friends-donors/foundation/donate.html/>. Or write check payable to Montgomery College Foundation, with “AAUW Kensington/Rockville Scholarship” in the memo line. Mail to Montgomery College Foundation, 9221 Corporate Blvd, 3rd Floor, Rockville, MD 20850.

**National Conference of Collegiate Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)**

Dian Belanger has been selected to be the 2024 Woman of the Distinction for AAUW Maryland.

To donate by check:

Make your check out to AAUW.

On the check put the fund name and number:

4355-Maryland Women of Distinction (NCCWSL) Fund

Mail to: AAUW

1310 L Street, NW

Suite 1000

Washington, D.C. 20005

To donate online:

Go to aauw.org. Use the DONATE Tab.

**Discussion Groups:**

**Literature Group-Live!**

Joyce Graf  [joyce@regraf.com](mailto:joyce@regraf.com)

Ella Iams [ellaiams@gmail.com](mailto:ellaiams@gmail.com)

There will be no December meeting.

**Great Decisions-Live!**

Anita Rosen anitarosen123@gmail.com

Bobbe Mintz [Bobbeandherb@comcast.net](mailto:Bobbeandherb@comcast.net)

We have completed the 2023 book. The 2024 books are on order and should be ready for the next meeting on January 12th. If you are interested in joining, contact Anita or Bobbe**.**

**Le Groupe Francais**

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

The **Le Groupe Français**will meet on Monday, December 11 at 7 p.m. via ZOOM.  The Zoom link will be sent out prior to the meeting.  We will continue reading “Une Femme” by Annie Ernaux, starting on page 65.

Rsvp to Ruth so you can be included in the Zoom.

**Deadline for the next Newsletter is December 20.**

Newsletter Editor Circulation Editor

Margery Sullivan Ruth Spivack

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

***The Afternoon Literature Group***

Judy Burr [judyb429@verizon.net](mailto:judyb429@verizon.net)

October 17, 2017, the group will be discussing My Brilliant Friend by Elena Ferrante

**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.***

**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 women and their families.**

**In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks and inclusive membership, workforce, leadership team, and board of directors. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization based on age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status.**

**AAUW Kensington-Rockville Branch**

**6540 Wiscasset Rd**

**Bethesda, MD 20816-2113**