

AAUW Ohio's Convention 2020

2020
VISION

April 18, 2020

Quest Polaris Conference Center

AAUW Ohio Convention 2020 is coming to the centrally located Quest Polaris Conference Center on the north side of Columbus for a day of AAUW inspiration, buzz, and business. April 18, 2020 is the day.

Lisa Maatz will launch our theme of how to effectively advocate for women's equity—*Thinking and Negotiating across Generations*. She was the face of AAUW on Capitol Hill



Lisa Maatz

for many years and is now a nationally sought-after speaker, writer and political analyst. Lisa was an invited witness to President Obama's signing of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act because of her strategic approach to legislation and advocacy. Learn to make your advocacy more effective.

As AAUW Ohio continues work within the pillars of Economics and Leadership, we will share experiences with women leaders and women who will lend a new view to investments. Mayor **Jennifer Lyle**, recently elected mayor of New Concord, Ohio, **Michelle Wilson**, of Athens Impact Socially Responsible Investments, and **Dr. Cynthia Anderson**, a renowned expert of the Pay Gap, are confirmed presenters. What else can you expect? Teaching the Pay Gap, More AAUW Buzz: Could Twitter help your branch? Generational relationships: when Gen X parents meet Gen Z students. Can you start a rally? How can women

INSIDE...

2020 Convention, pp. 1-2

NCCWSL Scholarships, p. 2

President's Column, p. 3

Branch Awards, p. 3

AAUW Ohio candidates, p. 4-5

How to reach us, p. 6

Shape your branch, p. 6

EdChoice vouchers, p. 7

Convention Registration, p. 8

support women business owners? Can you use a refresh on updating your website? Plan to network energetically at lunchtime.

Convention should be both useful and affordable. This is a one-day convention to bring you program ideas, AAUW news, and an Ohio Annual Meeting with biennium reports, branch awards and election of officers. If you choose to stay overnight, there are hotels next door and nearby, but it's not a mandatory part of convention. Join us for an enjoyable day of positive and valuable activity.

→ More Convention News
on next page!

Featuring Branches

Place your branch at the forefront; gain exposure and share ideas when you bring an exhibit. We urge AAUW branches to bring a creative table display or poster of best branch programs and events of the year, so we can effectively share ideas. Handouts are encouraged.

Email president.aauw@gmail.com to reserve a table space for your display.

Convention Location & Cost

The Quest Polaris Conference Center is located at 8405 Pulsar Place, Columbus, Ohio 43240 with easy access from I-71 on the north side of Columbus.

Your registration fee includes a soup and sandwich buffet lunch with dessert. Coffee, tea, hot chocolate, and water will be available all day.

Registration is limited, so plan to register early. Be among the first ten to register and you can attend for \$49. After the first ten, regular registration is \$57 through March 31. Late registration, those received April 1 through April 10 is \$60. Register by mail, using the form on page 8, or [online](#).



NCCWSL Scholarships



AAUW Ohio is offering two scholarships for Ohio women college students to attend AAUW'S National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) near Washington DC at the University of Maryland in College Park. This year's conference will be Wednesday, May 27 through Saturday, May 30, 2020.

The deadline to return an application for an AAUW Ohio scholarship is March 18, 2020. Forms and more information are available on AAUW Ohio's website aauw-oh.aauw.net. Find the stories just below the convention story.

There is another scholarship opportunity for five of Ohio's women college students in STEM fields. Thanks to PPG and DuPont, funding is available for five full awards for these students. This year's conference will include a STEM roundtable.

To be eligible for a scholarship award, college women leaders must apply by February 16 at nccwsl.org.

Things To Do in Columbus

If you or your family have time to see out of the way sites in the Columbus area. Here are a few for you to look up on Trip Advisor, your search engine, or phone for more information.

[Topiary Garden](#) (or return in summer when shrubs are in full bloom and sculptured. Georges Seurat's "Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte" is recreated in a sculptured evergreen garden featuring larger-than-life human figures, animals and boats. 480 E Town St, Columbus, OH 43215-4708

[Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens](#)

[Center of Science and Industry \(COSI\)](#)

[Ohio History Center](#)

[ZipZone Outdoor Adventures](#)—ziplining in the heart of Columbus, 7925 N. High Street, Columbus, Ohio

[Kelton House Museum & Garden](#)
Experience urban life and the decorative arts, as they existed in the second half of the 19th century, through the collection of the Sophia and Fernando Cortez Kelton family. This was a house on the Underground Railroad.

President's Column



Convention-time is on the horizon. Have you asked, “Why do Ohio’s AAUW members gather for a convention?” Convention delegates elect new leaders. Conventions combine the brightest minds with a social support network and the opportunity to create our own action plans. We need news on diverse topics—news we can expand and then bounce off colleagues. We expect to be moved to action by provocative conversations and compelling storytelling. We expect to promote change.

Get a 2020 view of advocacy when Lisa Maatz, former head of AAUW Government Relations, kicks off the morning as keynote speaker.

Our vision is clear. We see equity for all. We have made strides to advance women’s economic equity, but we need efficient tactics to work successfully and effectively. As we develop allies and supporters, we need ways to appeal to their enlightened self-interest. What do we want to accomplish in the next two years? How will we do it? We’re not done.

Branch Awards 2020 Due Dates

STARZ awards applications:	March 16
Diversity and Inclusion	March 18
Newsletter	March 5
Website, Social Media	March 5
Program/Yearbook	March 5

STARZ: JoAnn Benseler has mailed forms to branches that qualify to apply for glitter points.

Diversity and Inclusion: Sally Dye has mailed a form to each branch. The explanation page is posted on the website’s Branch Corner page.

Newsletters: Send one copy of each of your three best issues in hard copy format. The newsletters must be accompanied by the completed Communication Star Entry Form. Check out the Newsletter Evaluation Criteria. Send entries to Karen Rainey, 48 Columbus Ave, Delaware, OH 43015

Program Book/ Yearbooks: To document your branch’s mission-based programming, send a hard copy of your program booklet and documentation of press coverage to Janice McCloud, 1061 Georgian Way, Zanesville, OH, 43701 or send a clearly named electronic copy to janicemcccloud@yahoo.com. For example, name your electronic file “Branch name Program Book 19-20,” where you fill in “Branch name” with the name of your branch.

Websites: Send a full-color printout of your branch homepage. This must be accompanied by the completed Communication Star Entry Form. Send entries to John Roberts-Zibbel, 874 West Wooster St., Bowling Green, OH 43402.

Social media: Send a full-color printout of your branch Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn or other social media homepage. This must be accompanied by the completed Communication Star Entry Form. Send entries to Leah Sakacs, 5135 New Rd., Youngstown, OH 44515.

Meet this year's AAUW Ohio candidates!



Candidate for President: Michelle (Mickey) Radtkin

Michelle is past president of the AAUW Toledo Branch and currently its treasurer. She also serves on the following boards: YMCA/JCC of Greater Toledo, Storer Camps, Maumee Valley Partners for Inclusion



and Women of Toledo. Michelle has worked as a program manager with the Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities until 2017. After retiring, she opened an agency that serves individuals

with developmental disabilities. Past positions include Lucas County Special Olympics, Religious Education Director of the First Unitarian Church of Toledo, and restaurant management.

Candidate for Co-Program VP: Chris Fowler

Chris is the Associate Director with the Office for Multicultural Student Access and Retention within the Division of Diversity and Inclusion at Ohio University. She earned a PhD in Higher Education from Ohio University in 2019, with a research focus on women leaders in higher education. For her work, she was awarded the Allushuski Fellowship

in Women's, Gender and Sexualities Studies at Ohio University. Prior to her time at Ohio University, Chris served in multiple roles at Iowa State University, including the Women's Center, Carrie Chapmann Catt Center for Women and Politics, and the Department of Residence. Chris has



served on numerous committees and boards such as Chair of the Iowa State University Committee on Women, Chair of the Board of Directors for ACCESS (Assault Care Center Extending Shelter and Support), and most recently, United Campus Ministry in Athens, OH.

Candidate for Co-Program VP: Marlene De la Cruz-Guzmán

Marlene is the Director of the Office for Multicultural Student Access and Retention at Ohio University, where she serves on Administrative Senate. She also serves on the AAUW's national Equity and Inclusion Committee and as the current program vice president for the AAUW Ohio. Marlene earned a PhD in the Department of English at Ohio University, an MA at Michigan State University, and a BA at Barry University. Her primary research and publication areas are diversity in higher education, women's literature, critical theory, and African and diasporic literatures.



She has received national and university fellowships and published Spanish language poetry as well as numerous articles on Sefi Atta, Laila Lalami, Yvonne Vera, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Chin Ce, and Zee Edgell, among others. Originally from Guatemala, Marlene has lived and conducted research in Belize, Morocco, Zimbabwe, and South Africa. As a first-generation college graduate in the United States, she has dedicated her career to working with multicultural students in higher education. She has also served as an Assistant Dean for

Multicultural Programs at Marquette University, a Learning Services Specialist at the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine, and an Education Program Officer with Inter-Country People's Aid, an NGO in Zimbabwe. In 2015, she was awarded the prestigious Federal Women's Program Medal for her work promoting educational and professional access and retention for women of color, and she was the 2017 recipient of the Ohio University Award for Excellence in Global Engagement.

Candidate for Membership VP: Linda Lehman

Linda is an active member of the Greater Cleveland Area AAUW branch, and has twice served as secretary on the AAUW Ohio board. She also served for four years on the AAUW national legal advocacy fund committee before being named chair two years ago. A practicing

attorney for more than twenty-five years, she has represented both plaintiffs and defendants in civil litigation. Linda recently was selected to serve as an attorney poll worker at Ohio primary and general elections. Established by the Ohio Supreme Court, the goal

of this new program is to assure secure elections in the state. Linda received a law degree from Cleveland Marshall College of Law, a master's degree from Ohio University, and a bachelor's degree from the University of Pittsburgh.

Candidate for Fundraising VP: Naykishia D. Head

Naykishia received her Bachelor and Master of Arts Degrees in English from Jackson State University. She is a former instructor of English in the Department of Languages, Literature, and Philosophy at Tennessee State University. She also taught Cultural Diversity and Information Literacy classes, along with Composition courses at IADT-Nashville. Additionally, she taught Composition and World Literature courses at Georgia Gwinnett College and Jackson State University. Her research interests include Gender and Women's Studies, African American Literature, the LGBTQ experience,



and anything HBCU-related. She has publications in *Black Magnolia Literary Journal*, *The Researcher*, *Jackson State University's Interdisciplinary Journal*, *Tennessee Philological Bulletin*, and *Meeting Points in Black/African Women's Literature*. Furthermore, she was also a regular contributor to *HBCULifestyle*.

Naykishia currently serves as the Corresponding Secretary and Fundraising Committee Co-Chair for the AAUW Bowling Green group. Although she is a native of Forest, Mississippi, it was during her tenure at Jackson State

University that she first learned the importance of serving one's community and campus. Naykishia is also a member of the Popular Culture Association, Modern Language Association, and the American Studies Association. Ms. Head has also presented at several conferences and symposiums, and additionally served as a panelist and moderator for various literary and cultural events. Her educational journey continues at Bowling Green State University, where she is pursuing her PhD in American Culture Studies, with a concentration on Ethnicity, Gender, and Social Identities. She is a native of Forest, Mississippi and loves her God, her Family, and her JSU.

Candidate for Secretary: Debby Stein

Debby presently serves as co-president of the Circleville Branch of AAUW, where she has previously served as vice president for membership, secretary and hospitality. She continues to serve as public policy chair as well as chair

of the branch web page and yearbook. Debby is also a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, a hospital volunteer, and on the board of Friends of the Library in Circleville. A speech and language



pathologist for 35 years in public schools in Ohio and Virginia, Debby is a graduate of The Ohio State University with a BS and The George Washington University with an MA.

The candidate for finance officer will be announced in another pre-convention mailing.

How to reach us...

The Ohio Directory of Officers is in the [Branch Resources section](#) of our website at aauw-oh.aauw.net. You will need the password aauwohmember.

President:

Nancy Stellhorn president.aauwoh@gmail.com

Administrative Coordinator:

Debbie Yokosuk adcoord.aauwoh@gmail.com

Program VP:

Marlene De La Cruz-Guzmán delacr@ohio.edu

Membership VP:

Angela Clark-Taylor angela.clark-taylor@case.edu

Philanthropy VP:

John Roberts-Zibbel jzibbel@bgsu.edu

Finance Officer:

Renée Spiker finance.aauwoh@gmail.com

Public Policy Co-Chairs:

Rush Rogers rushcoenrogers@yahoo.com

Karen Rainey kgraauw@yahoo.com

Diversity Chair:

Sally Dye sallydye34@gmail.com

College-University Relations:

Janice McCloud Janicemccloud@yahoo.com

Leadership Chair:

Deborah Wooldridge dgwoold@bgsu.edu

Starz Chair:

JoAnn Benseler joannbenseler@yahoo.com

Bylaws and Policy Chair, Parliamentarian:

Leah Sakacs leah.sakacs@gmail.com

STEM Ohio Chair:

Deborah Wooldridge dgwoold@bgsu.edu

Newsletter Design and Production:

Stefan Gleissberg stefan_gleissberg@me.com

District Coordinator Central:

Jo Glenaman livewire.nurse@gmail.com

District Coordinator Northeast:

vacant; Acting: Leah Sakacs leah.sakacs@gmail.com

District Coordinator Northwest:

Mickey Radtkin m.radtkin@yahoo.com

District Coordinators Southeast:

Marlene De La Cruz-Guzmán delacr@ohio.edu

Tara Griffiths stowet@ohio.edu

District Coordinators Southwest:

Elaine Nishwitz nishwitzcountry@yahoo.com

Carolyn Smith csrsmith48@gmail.com

Shape Your Branch Programs and Advocacy

AAUW has announced its new 2020 gender policy agenda outlining AAUW's priority issues for the 2020 election season. The agenda offers us a guide. It is a great planning tool to shape your branch programs and advocacy.

[Find a copy here](#). Be part of AAUW's large voice when National asks you to send an immediate message to your member of Congress. If you hesitate about AAUW's position, look up the gender policy agenda.

Learn techniques at AAUW Ohio events so you can employ the gender policy. Do you have talking points to respond to someone who argues that women do not face pay inequity? [AAUW's Simple Truth research report](#) will help.

Want a little practice? Last fall the EEOC announced its intent to stop collecting pay data from employers. In January 2020, Newsweek posted an opinion, titled, [Why Do Women Earn Less Than Men? Gender Bias Is Not the Only Likely Answer](#). The author, Richard A Epstein, seems to argue that wage discrimination is impossible in a competitive labor market and that studies that show otherwise are flawed. How do you react?

Do you remember that recent AAUW email asking you to send a message to your Congress person? Will you help advance gender equality in education and the workplace?

About those EdChoice Vouchers

by Karen Rainey, Public Policy Co-Chair



The Ohio legislature has been roiling recently with the EdChoice voucher dilemma. The largest of Ohio's five voucher programs, it was originally intended to provide an escape from failing schools for students from low-income and middle-income families. But, changes to the state's report card system appeared to drastically expand the program into school districts not considered to be failing. A low letter grade for even one component in an individual building could affect a district's standing, so that many districts considered to be of high quality could be considered failing. The number of failing school districts would have grown from 139 in the fall of 2019 and 40 in 2018 to almost 400, including 1,227 individual buildings. There were loud protests from the newly eligible school districts. Note that currently, the money for the vouchers comes from the local district's resources.

The legislature responded to the pending changes by kicking the can down the road—moving the application date for parents from February 1 to April 1, in hopes that given more time they could come up with a workable solution. The House acted quickly and amended a Senate bill, SB 89, by a vote of 88-7

to end the EdChoice program and replace it with Buckeye Opportunity Scholarships. The new vouchers would be funded entirely by the state and would make low-income students a priority. The Senate, however, has a different plan. The Senate amended a House bill, HB 9, that essentially preserves the EdChoice program but limits the number of eligible districts to 425.

The latest development is the call by the House Speaker for a conference committee to meet very soon and for the Senate to concur with the House-amended SB 89. At this time the two bodies appear to be at odds in scheduling action. Advocates for public education are supporting this bill primarily because it transfers the cost of vouchers from the local districts to the state and limits the eligibility to families with incomes up to 250% of poverty. There are a couple of other desirable features to the House amendment of SB 89—one is ending academic distress commissions and the other is creating study groups to review testing and its relationship to the state report card and to find better ways to support struggling school districts.

And meanwhile, a group of parents and conservative organizations have

asked the Ohio Supreme Court to block the 60-day delay and let students apply for vouchers based on the earlier expanded list. The suers claim the delay is causing "irreparable harm to Ohio's children and families."

AAUW's position on school vouchers is clear: AAUW strongly supports providing an excellent education for all children, not private school vouchers for a few.

Please share [AAUW's Quick Facts on Private School Vouchers](#) with your branch members and friends. Key points are that vouchers weaken public education, and vouchers do not improve academic achievement. The document cites two studies in Ohio (among others) that found that vouchers do not result in better outcomes for students; students actually performed worse on standardized tests than their peers who are not in the voucher programs.

Despite AAUW's strong position against vouchers, members may want to contact their representatives to encourage their support of this solution. Adoption of amended SB 89 appears to be the lesser of two evils in that it stops the drain on local school district finances and limits student eligibility to those in most need.

REGISTRATION—AAUW OHIO 2020 CONVENTION

Deadline for us to **receive** your Regular Registration is March 31, 2020

Late Registration must be received by April 10, 2020

2020 Vision—AAUW Ohio Convention

Date: Saturday April 18, 2020

Location: Quest Polaris Conference Center, 8405 Pulsar Place
Columbus, Ohio 43240

Your Name: _____
First Name Last Name

Address: _____
Street City, State, Zip

Your Email: _____

Your Branch: _____

Will your branch want space for a table display? _____yes;_____no

Are you a 50-Year Honorary Member of AAUW? _____yes;_____no

Conference registration fee is \$57 by March 31, 2020 \$_____

Late registration fee (April 1 to April 10) is \$60

Includes morning sessions, soup and sandwich lunch, and afternoon sessions. Water, coffee, tea, and hot chocolate will be available all day.

Register early and save! The first ten people to register will receive a rebate of \$8 at convention.

Mail check payable to AAUW Ohio to Renee Spiker, 1005 Somers Street, Zanesville, OH 43701

OR register [online](#)

Due date for **receipt** of your regular registration is **Tuesday, March 31, 2020**

or for late registration, receipt is **Friday, April 10, 2020.**