

The Branch Line

American Association of University Women-Denton



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE OCTOBER MEETING

The next AAUW-Denton Branch meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 7, at 6:00 p.m. at Giuseppe's Italian Restaurant (821 N. Locust, Denton, TX).

Dinner is \$17 per person. Please RSVP by completing the online form at <http://denton-tx.aauw.net/meetings/>.

Our speaker will be Rima Abunasser, Instructor of British Literature and Global Literatures at Texas Christian University. She will discuss her recent trip to Jordan and Turkey to take part in the CIEE seminar "Borders, Identity, and Displacement: The Evolving Syrian Crisis."

Dr. Abunasser received her PhD from the University of North Texas in Eng-

lish Literature and Theory. Her current research examines the ways in which Arab women writers rearticulate nationalism and reject the monolithic image of woman as



Dr. Rima Abunasser

signifier of tradition and nation. Dr. Abunasser is interested in how writings by Arab women participate in revolutionary and post-revolutionary discourse, challenging the assumption that the Arab woman has a single, fixed role to play in the national, and pan-Arab, identity narrative.

She is also the co-editor of Bahamut, a bi-annual literature anthology series dedicated to the translation and publication of transgressive work from around the globe. Her teaching interests reflect this global perspective, as Dr. Abunasser frequently teaches global literature and writing courses, with the goal of introducing her students to, and involving them in, ongoing transnational conversations about agency and cultural production.

Reminders

- It's time to renew your membership for 2015-2016.
- Nut sales will begin in November. Please see Ruth Johnson for more information.



INTERBRANCH NEWS

Dear Ladies of AAUW North Texas,

Fall is a busy time of year as we get back into the swing of things. I have enjoyed reading many of your newsletters and seeing all the wonderful things you have planned. Please add to that list our fall Interbranch meeting.

Many thanks to Tarrant County Branch for hosting this event. The topic is The Blue Zone Project, an initiative for healthy living. Please share the following details with other branch members, by voice, by email, by newsletter. After the program we will have a time for each branch to share what's new and wonderful in your world. Please bring your \$10 interbranch dues to the meeting or mail them directly to our treasurer, Stephany Compton, PO Box 238, Denton, TX 76202. Please view the Interbranch meeting as an opportunity to visit with your AAUW sisters in the area, and renew those connections you made at the last state convention, or in San Diego this past June. If you live some distance from the meeting location in East Fort Worth, near I30 and 820, just think of it as a "ROAD TRIP" and an opportunity to carpool and spend some quality time with your fellow branch members.

Looking forward to seeing you on October 10th.

Gloria Long, Interbranch President

**AAUW Interbranch Meeting**

Saturday, October 20, 2015

Registration: 9:30 a.m.

Meeting Time: 10 a.m.-
12:30 p.m.

Handley United Methodist Church

2929 Forest Ave

Fort Worth, TX 76112

Directions: The church is conveniently located just off of SE Loop 820. From Loop 820, take the Craig St. Exit. Continue EAST on Craig to Forest Ave. (4th street on the RIGHT). You will pass a football stadium on the left and McClung Middle School on the right as the church comes into sight on the right at Forest Ave. We will meet in Fellowship Hall on the south-east corner of the main building. Can enter off Forest Ave. or Handley Dr. (preferable) and park on the east side of building. There is a sign pointing to Fellowship Hall on back of building.

HELP SELECT THE NEXT CLASS OF AAUW FELLOWS AND GRANTEES

AAUW is seeking new talent and expertise for each of the four award selection panels. Contribute to the advancement of women and break through barriers to women's achievement in education and the workplace by serving on an AAUW Selection Panel. Find out more about each award and the requirements and responsibilities for serving on a panel, and make sure to apply by October 31.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS ELECTION GUIDES AVAILABLE

*Get out the vote
on November 3*

There are seven (7) amendments being proposed to change the Constitution of the State of Texas on the November 3rd ballot. Click on the links below for unbiased Pro's and Con's for all seven Texas Constitutional Amendments that you will be voting on Nov. 3, 2015.

[2015 LWV-TX Constitutional Amendment Voters Guide in English](#)

[2015 LWV-TX Constitutional Amendment Voters Guide in Spanish](#)

SEE AAUW'S IMPACT IN TEXAS

AAUW is as relevant and vibrant today as it was at our inception in 1881, and that's because of the work we do together, a legacy of which we all can be proud. The generosity of members and supporters makes the vast array of projects and initiatives in each state possible. Attached to this newsletter is a paper on AAUW's impact in the State of Texas. Please read about it and distribute to others!



REGISTER FOR THE 2015 SUPREME COURT PREVIEW CALL

Federal courts are sometimes the last, best hope for women who have experienced discrimination in education, employment, or health care. This year, the U.S. Supreme Court will consider a number of cases with the potential to significantly affect the rights of women and girls. Reproductive freedom, access to health care, and affirmative action are all likely to be on the court's schedule. As the term begins, **join AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund for a members-only call on Thursday, October 15, at 8 p.m. ET to stay informed about these cases and others.** The call is free, but you must register to receive the call-in information.

What: AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund conference call discussing the upcoming Supreme Court term

When: Thursday, October 15, at 8 p.m. ET

Registration closes October 13. [Register for the call today!](#) You must RSVP to receive the dial-in information for the call.

AAUW'S IMPACT IN TEXAS

Fiscal Year 2014

AAUW is as relevant and vibrant today as it was at our inception in 1881, and that's because of the work we do together. The generosity of members and supporters makes possible the vast array of touch points you see below. The AAUW impact can be felt in communities across the country, a legacy of which we all can be proud.

AAUW Advocacy

AAUW members are eager to educate citizens and lawmakers about the results of our research and the policies needed to advance our mission. From informing voters about the issues, to registering new voters, to advocating for or against proposed legislation, AAUW is there. AAUW + Advocacy = Real Change!

- AAUW Action Fund Lobby Corps made 57 visits to members of Congress from Texas.
- AAUW public policy staff provided materials for 18 events in Texas, including 12 Equal Pay Day events.
- AAUW staff liaised with members of Congress and the AAUW of Texas members to hold a Women's Economic Agenda event with Leader Pelosi.
- AAUW staff provided expertise to AAUW of Texas members in drafting, circulating, and delivering a petition opposing an extreme state anti-choice bill. More than 1,000 Texas residents signed the petition and AAUW of Texas leaders delivered the petition during a rally outside the state capitol.
- Provided free access to state Salsa platform to Texas and training to Texas leaders.
- Texans sent 12,769 messages to Congress and the president through the Two-Minute Activist tool.

AAUW around the World

AAUW has long had an impact outside the United States, and our coalitions and relationships with international colleges, universities, and organizations are extending this international reach. From our strategic partnership with the Clinton Global Initiative to AAUW's special consultative status with the United Nations, we are a trusted source of information and expert at applying a gender lens. The recent effort to recruit new AAUW college/university partner members worldwide is just the latest chapter in engaging women globally. AAUW + International Work = Global Network!

- Clinton Global Initiative University Participant Danielle Lane, Lewisville

AAUW on Campus

The AAUW birthplace continues to be a vital hub of activity in the AAUW community. Women gain valuable leadership skills they'll need throughout their lives through programs such as the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, Elect Her, and \$tart \$mart, to name a few. Many others find the funding necessary to earn advanced degrees and shape their future. AAUW + Campuses = Action!

- American Fellowship Panelist Sarah Whiting, Houston
- American Fellowship Recipient Lilian Calles

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- Barger; University of Texas, Dallas
- American Fellowship Recipient Maria Blaszczyk, New York University
- American Fellowship Recipient Carol Brochin; University of Texas, El Paso
- American Fellowship Recipient Claudia Rueda; University of Texas, Austin
- American Fellowship Recipient Heather Sinclair; University of Texas, El Paso
- American Fellowship Recipient Allison White; University of Texas, Austin
- Career Development Grant Panelist Nancy Nadeau, Edinburg
- Career Development Grant Recipient Sarah Brown, University of Texas Health Science Center
- Career Development Grant Recipient TaShanda Hall, Lamar University
- Career Development Grant Recipient Christine Powell, University of Texas
- Career Development Grant Recipient Lisa Warshaw, Southern Methodist University
- Community Action Grant Panelist Elizabeth Trejos-Castillo, Lubbock
- Community Action Grant Panelist Nancy Trevino-Schafer, Lubbock
- Community Action Grant Panelist Genny Carrillo Zuniga, McAllen
- Elect Her, Southern Methodist University
- Elect Her, Texas A&M University
- International Fellowship Panelist Laura Hanson, Denton
- International Fellowship Recipient Rhoda Annoh Gordon, Texas A&M University
- International Fellowship Recipient Itohan Idumwonyi, Rice University
- International Fellowship Recipient Dorothy Lawrenson; Texas State University, San Marcos
- International Fellowship Recipient Mine Tafolar; University of Texas, Austin
- International Fellowship Recipient Ly Tran, University of Texas School of Public Health
- International Fellowship Recipient Vinh Thi Quang Nguyen, Texas A&M University
- National Student Advisory Council, Maria-Luiza Popescu, University of Texas at Dallas
- 1 NCCWSL Attendee, Southern Methodist University
- 1 NCCWSL Attendee, Texas A&M University
- 1 NCCWSL Attendee, Texas Christian University
- 1 NCCWSL Attendee; University of Texas, Dallas
- 1 NCCWSL Attendee; University of Texas, Tyler
- 7 NCCWSL Attendees; University of Texas, Austin
- 17 NCCWSL Attendees; University of Texas, El Paso
- NCCWSL Scholarship Recipient Christina Ramon, Texas Woman's University, sponsored by AAUW Douglas County (CO) Branch
- NCCWSL Scholarship Recipient Jessica Stroup; University of Texas, Arlington, sponsored by AAUW of New Mexico
- Selected Professions Fellowship Recipient Stephanie deJesus, South Texas College of Law
- \$tart \$mart, Texas A&M University
- \$tart \$mart, Texas Woman's University

AAUW in the Courthouse

AAUW exists because every day, somewhere, an injustice is perpetrated against women, and those injustices must be countered in our courts. Title IX violations, wage discrimination, and sexual harassment are still prevalent in

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the United States, and we're there to make sure women know their rights and that they aren't alone in the fight. AAUW + Courthouses = Justice!

- Title IX Champion Kavya Ramamoorthy, AAUW Austin (TX) Branch
- Title IX Champion Priya Ramamoorthy, AAUW Austin (TX) Branch

AAUW C/U Partners

Colleges and universities (C/Us) continue to flock to the AAUW fold because they realize the important edge we give their student population. With undergraduate women and men eligible for free e-student affiliation with AAUW, the sky's the limit for recruiting students at C/U partner institutions. C/Us have always been the best place to inform students about AAUW so take advantage of this unique recruitment opportunity at any one of these schools. AAUW + C/U Partners = Awareness!

- Austin College
- Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary
- Brookhaven College
- Del Mar College
- Hardin-Simmons University
- Lone Star College System
- Lone Star College, North Harris
- Lubbock Christian University
- Our Lady of the Lake University
- Rice University
- San Antonio College
- Schreiner University
- Southern Methodist University
- Southwestern University
- St. Edward's University
- Stephen F. Austin State University
- Tarleton State University

- Texas A&M University
- Texas A&M University, Commerce
- Texas State Technical College, West Texas
- Texas Tech University
- Texas Wesleyan University
- Texas Woman's University
- Tyler Junior College
- University of Houston
- University of Houston, Clear Lake
- University of Texas, Arlington
- University of Texas, Austin
- University of Texas, El Paso
- University of Texas, Pan American
- University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas

AAUW in the Media

Our research and advocacy make headlines. So do the fellows we fund, leaders we grow, and women we support. When the media is looking for analysis for their stories, they come to us. AAUW + Media = Power!

- AAUW's voice was amplified by mentions in more than 804 national media outlets for Equal Pay Day in 2014, nearly doubling the number of mentions in 2013. Outlets included National Public Radio, the *New York Times*, CNN, and the *Washington Post*.

AAUW Research in Action

You can't advocate, educate, or motivate without the facts. Since our first research report debunked the then-common myth that higher education made women sterile, AAUW has been at the forefront of timely, thought-provoking research. This year we'll release the definitive report on women in engineering and computing and yet again change the

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- AAUW worked with the National Education Association and the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement to produce *Closing the Leadership Gap: How Educators Can Help Girls Lead*.
- AAUW was invited by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor to contribute to a 50th-anniversary update of the influential *American Women* report.
- AAUW released an update of *The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap* that uses the latest data on the pay gap between women and men.
- A panel at the 58th session of the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women featured AAUW's *Women in Community Colleges: Access to Success*.

AAUW Student Organizations

Students are inspired by NCCWSL, local AAUW branches, dedicated faculty, and so many other factors to start AAUW campus organizations — and the number of these organizations is growing by leaps and bounds. Watch out for these women: They're passionate, dedicated, out to change the world — and they are the future of AAUW. AAUW + Student Organizations = Our Future!

- Lone Star College, North Harris
- Saint Mary's University
- Tarleton State University
- Texas Tech University
- University of Texas, El Paso

National Trainings and Presentations

Well-educated professionals in their fields and armed with the facts, AAUW leaders and

staff are respected content experts. From branch skill-building workshops to conference keynotes, you'll find AAUW staff and leaders sharing our time and talents to further our mission. AAUW + Trainings = Shared Expertise!

- Melodia Gutierrez, an AAUW state organizer, gave a presentation at the AAUW North Texas Inter-Branch Council Meeting.
- Melodia Gutierrez, an AAUW state organizer, participated in a Women's Conference Panel Discussion at Texas A&M University.
- Melodia Gutierrez, an AAUW state organizer, spoke at an AAUW Georgetown (TX) Branch event.
- Melodia Gutierrez, an AAUW state organizer, spoke at the AAUW of Texas lobby day.
- Melodia Gutierrez, an AAUW state organizer, spoke at the AAUW of Texas state convention.
- Melodia Gutierrez, an AAUW state organizer, spoke at the Texas A&M Elect Her training.
- Melodia Gutierrez, an AAUW state organizer, worked with AAUW of Texas state leaders on advocacy efforts and other mission-based programming, including membership recruitment and growth.