



VIEWPOINTS

North Hills Pittsburgh, (PA) Branch

Vol. 54 APR 2025

April PROGRAM Program: Environmental Issues

At this program we will learn how Phipps Conservatory can help care for their plants and facilities, so that they can continue to be the source of beauty and enrichment that they have been for over 125 years.

There are impacts—positive and negative—associated with our actions. We all make choices, including what we eat, what we buy and where and how we live our lives. As population increases, we are using resources at a rate faster than they can be replenished. But we can make choices that improve the quality of life, health and well-being of all people and the planet.

If demand exceeds supply, then the region runs an ecological deficit, which means that we're using more than can be replenished. If supply exceeds demand, then the region runs an ecological surplus. According to these analyses, the United States' demand requires a supply of 4.97 Earths. Gabrielle Marshall, Sustainability Manager at Phipps Conservatory, the world leader in sustainability will be our speaker in April.

Speaker: Gabrielle Marshall works at Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens as Sustainability Manager.

April Program

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

Location: La Roche University,
Ryan Room

6:00 P.M. Social

7:00 P.M. Program

8:00 P.M. Branch Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88354321163?pwd=LadZwitlFLc6l433m1jXfT8xOv3nP2.1>

Meeting ID: 883 5432 1163

Passcode: aauw

Speaker: Gabrielle Marshall



Gabrielle Marshall- de la Torre ✓

Sustainability Manager • WELL AP • LEED AP BD+C • ActiveScore AP •

April Community Service Project: Pack a purse

April at a Glance QUICK REFERENCE CALENDAR

Apr 02, 3p.m. Board Meeting

Zoom Meeting

Please note date and time change

Apr 04, 7pm La Roche Literary Society

La Roche University Zappala Campus
Center, Ryan Room

Apr 08, 9:30 a.m. Morning Book Group Planning Meeting

Hostess: Donna Martin

Apr 11, 1:00 p.m. Lunch Bunch Bellisario's Restaurant:

1710 Duncan Ave Allison Park PA 15101
412-3677616

Apr 16 6:00 p.m. Branch Meeting Program: Environmental Issues

Location: La Roche University,
Ryan Room

Apr 21, 7:00 p.m. Evening Book Group The First Ladies

By Marie Benedict and Victoria
Christopher Murry

Facilitator: Ann Carlson

Hostess: Barbara Matthews

Apr 25 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. IPODs

The Lynn's are hosting

April 30, 6 p.m. Annual Dinner Wildwood Golf Club

2195 Sample Rd Allison Park PA. 15101

Save The Date!

**May 31, 2025 Authors Lunch
For The Love of Books**

Viewpoint Articles

We encourage all of our members to submit articles to the Viewpoints. If you have something to include in our newsletter the deadline is the **25th of each Month**. Please send to Debbie Rosenfelder in word format at rosenfelderd@verizon.net



If I do not have it by 5 P.M. on the 25th of the month it may not make the Viewpoints

WEB SITE



Don't Forget Me...
I'm always here!
I'm your Branch AAUW Website:
<https://aauwnorthhillspgh.org>
Stay informed!

Webmaster: Susan Banerjee

President's Message

There are two seasons that are my favorite...Fall and Spring. I love the crisp air and the changing of the leaves of fall, but spring holds a special place as well. Within the month of April, spring starts to wake up the earth and give us new surprises each day. There is always something to find each day in April. At this time of year we celebrate Easter and start planning our summer activities. I hope all of you enjoy this wonderful month.

This April is a busy month for our branch. This month we have a speaker coming from Phipps Conservatory to discuss Environmental Issues. We will be voting on our new slate of officers at our April Meeting. The officers will be installed at our April Dinner at Wildwood Gold Club and will be taking over starting July 1st. At our June board meeting, your current board will work together with our new officers so that we have a smooth transition.



Don't forget to put May 31st on your calendar. This is our Fundraising event "For The Love Of Books" and we need everyone's support!

All of you who attend our meetings every month and branch activities this make such a difference and encourage us to continue the good work that we do. I look forward to seeing you at meetings/activities.

Thank you, ladies, for just being you!

Volunteers are paid in six figures... S-M-I-L-E-S. —Gayla LeMaire

When I saw this quote, it reminded me of all of the times we have done something for others, and although we always receive a thank you, it is the smile that makes all of the difference.

Have a wonderful month and enjoy the coming of the warmer weather!

Debbie

April 2025 Financial Report – June Maier

(as of March 20, 2025)

CHECKING		SAVINGS		9-MONTH CD	
Beg.	\$7,171.14	Beg.	\$3,836.62	Beg.	\$3,130.38
Balance		Balance		Balance	
Deposits	\$335.00	Transactions	\$0.00		
Expenses	\$0.00	Interest	TBD	Interest	TBD
End.	\$7,506.14	End.	\$3,836.62	End.	\$3,130.38
Balance		Balance		Balance	
CHECKING + SAVINGS + CD = \$14,473.14					

April Happenings

Lunch Bunch

Bellisario's Restaurant: 1710 Duncan Ave Allison Park Pa 15101 412-367-7616

This is a must-visit for true New York-style pizza lovers. This eatery delivers perfection with its homemade Italian pasta, huge and delicious salads, and great pizzas. The prices are unbeatable, making it an ideal spot for lunch, dinner, or a quick snack. The Chef Specialties are highly recommended, as they are made fresh and are simply delicious.



Morning Book Group Planning Meeting

Donna Martin/Host

April is the morning book group's planning meeting. Fran Bogos will provide a list of books that have been submitted by this group. This is a great time to have a lively discussion on next year's books and enjoy a great lunch.



Evening Book Group The First Ladies, By Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murry

A novel about the extraordinary partnership between First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and civil rights activist Mary McLeod Bethune—an unlikely friendship that changed the world, from the New York Times bestselling authors of the Good Morning America Book Club pick *The Personal Librarian*.

The daughter of formerly enslaved parents, Mary McLeod Bethune refuses to back down as white supremacists attempt to thwart her work. She marches on as an activist and an educator, and as her reputation grows she becomes a celebrity, revered by titans of business and recognized by U.S. Presidents. Eleanor Roosevelt herself is awestruck and eager to make her acquaintance. Initially drawn together because of their shared belief in women's rights and the power of education, Mary and Eleanor become fast friends confiding their secrets, hopes and dreams—and holding each other's hands through tragedy and triumph.



Membership

Membership in AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh 2025-2026

I have been asked many times in the past few months why I am such a supporter of AAUW, and every time I respond with the same words:

Joining AAUW is like going on a road trip with the most wonderful women; thoughtful, kind, supportive, determined, and funny. Like most good road trips, we have a shared destination and in this case, that destination is equity for women and girls. And everyone brings something of great value to the trip.

I truly cannot imagine making this journey alone. We are better together, equipped with an abundance of wisdom, experience, talents, and passion. Although there are many reasons to love our North Hills branch of AAUW – the many opportunities to grow through meeting new people, learning new things, reading new books, or sharing a meal - the reason that means the most to me is the opportunity to be part of something that is much bigger than myself in the mission of supporting equity for women and girls. This quest for equity is so very important to me not only in terms of creating a more equitable and just world, but as a woman with two daughters and two granddaughters. I remain optimistic that we are moving in a better direction for the future of women despite the many hurdles that have occurred in recent years. I am grateful to have found our branch of AAUW and continue to be inspired by the many women who, while having many different experiences and interests in their lives, share the mission of AAUW. I have loved learning and growing with this group that shares this commitment to equity and I so hope that you, too, will continue this commitment by **renewing your membership! Be part of our road trip to a better future for all!**

Here are **four** important things we would like you to know regarding the website, and the renewal process for this year:

- 1) This year the renewal campaign begins April 1st the target closure date June 30th, 2025. PLEASE try and renew BEFORE June 30th! And since our branch of AAUW has been fortunate to have added 5 new members in the past few months, we are able to offer 2 paid National Dues!

We will be raffling these 2 memberships at our April meeting – Wednesday, April 16th!

- 2) National dues are \$72.00, having just been increased by \$2.00. Pennsylvania state dues remain the same at \$12.00, and local dues remain the same at \$31.00. Thus the total is \$117.00.
- 3) If you are interested in getting on to the website, here are the steps to follow:
 - Log on to AAUW.org and read the directions for entering your email and your password. This will take you to a screen that will ask you to verify your address and information before hitting the button to renew.
 - The renew button should allow you to do three things – verify your information, (address, email, years of membership, etc.) renew with your credit card, and have the option of donating to AAUW's Greatest Need Fund.
- 4) As in years past, there is the option to renew with a check written to our Finance Officer June Maier. Two things to know if this is your method of renewal:
 - The check should be written to **AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh for \$117.00**, and

given/sent to June Maier, financial officer at 959 Broadmeadow Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15237.

-If you would like to renew with a check **AND** donate to the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund at that time, be sure to make a note to June letting her know your intentions.

We do realize that, like many things in our lives, the cost of membership has increased slightly. But by being a member of AAUW you are part of something much bigger than yourself and therefore able to be part of the ongoing mission to gain equity for women and girls. Our North Hills Pittsburgh branch has a history dedicated to diversity, offering educational support, (Sister Matilda) and educational outreach to our community (Great Decisions) for over fifty years, not to mention the opportunities offered through book clubs, IPODS, Lunch Bunch, Bridge, holiday celebrations, diversity initiatives, For the Love of Books, and collections to support women. **We hope you will renew and continue to grow with us!**

PLEASE do not hesitate to reach out to us if you have any questions.

Francie Cech and Jennifer Schwoebel NHP Membership VP's (412-448-1182)

2025 Branch Slate of Officers

Voting will occur at the April 16th Branch meeting, please plan to attend.

Additional Nominations can be made from the floor prior to voting.

The Nominating committee consisted of June Maier (Chair) and member Francie Cech

The slate of officers for 2025:

President: Deborah Rosenfelder, 2-year term

Program Co-Vice Presidents: Fran Bogos and Kathleen Batykefer, 1-year term

Branch Secretary: Christine Ley, 2-year term

Board Secretary: Susan McAuliffe, 2-year term



Newly elected officers will be installed at the Annual Dinner on April 30, 2025

Bylaws Update

A special meeting of the branch was held March 24th via Zoom. The quorum requirements were met, and a vote was taken to pass the proposed new branch Bylaws. The vote was unanimously in favor of adopting these new Bylaws. They will be sent to the state bylaws chair who will share them with national. They will be available on our AAUW website shortly.

Katherine Keith
Branch Bylaws

Public Policy

National

AAUW Defends Higher Education

From Gloria L Blackwell

AAUW remains committed to defending and promoting the value of higher education, the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion, and upholding our mission to advance equity for women and girls.

Amid these attacks, AAUW is taking action. We have launched the [Defend Higher Education Fund](#) to help elevate the critical higher education issues impacting women.

AAUW is holding a series of events on Defending Equity. AAUW is continuing to invest in women through direct funding, leadership development, and support for women in academia. Our collective action is needed now more than ever when the consequences are so widespread.



AAUW National has several presentations planned for April

- **Building A Stronger AAUW April 1 | 7:00 p.m. ET**
Strong fundraising fuels AAUW's impact. This session, led by AAUW National's Advancement Committee, will provide strategies for successful branch fundraising. Learn about AAUW's budget, the Greatest Needs Fund, and hear directly from branches with proven fundraising success. Walk away with tools and resources to help your branch grow its financial support. [Register here.](#)
- **AAUW Advocacy Strategies for In-District Meetings April 8 | 7:00 p.m. ET**
Face-to-face advocacy can drive real change. This session will guide members on how to set up in-district meetings with members of Congress, maximize town hall participation, and effectively use key talking points during the upcoming April congressional recess. Learn how to make your voice heard. [Register Here.](#)
- **Funding Futures: Understanding Changes to Sex and Gender-Based Scholarship Programs April 15 | 7:00 p.m. ET**
Navigating legal changes to sex-based scholarships can be complex. This interactive session will provide information to AAUW branches on funding scholarships amid evolving regulations while staying true to our mission of advancing education for women and girls. Space is limited. [Register Here.](#)

National Dues Increase

Your Voice made a difference; National AAUW had proposed an annual increase in dues of \$5 per year for the next five years. During the comment period members throughout the country wrote in protest of such a large increase. Your voice was heard. There will be a dues increase but not as substantial.

What's happening: The AAUW Board approved a modest dues adjustment, \$2 per year over the next two years. Starting April 1, 2025, individual member dues will be \$74. On April 1, 2026, dues will change to \$76.

Why it matters: Member dues are an important funding source for AAUW. While costs for member support increase annually, member dues have not kept pace. The Board's decision to increase dues by \$2 allows AAUW dues to keep up with inflation and continue supporting the important work of AAUW.

The national part of your member dues help fund our work such as:

- **Education & Advocacy:** Member dues help support AAUW's public policy and member advocacy programs, which are now vitally important to defending higher education and rights for women on campus
- **Member Trainings:** Our regular virtual member gatherings and training programs provide education and engagement on several relevant topics
- **Member Engagement:** We organize member-led groups and committees like Archives Corps, Lobby Corps, and national committees, and coordinate AAUW's member advocacy through 2-Minute Activist
- **Real-Time Support:** Connect Team provides daily assistance to members
- **And more!**

The bottom line: The dues increase balances AAUW's financial sustainability with the member feedback we received. Thank you for all you do as an engaged member of AAUW!

With gratitude, Shannon Wolfe

Managing Director & Chief of Staff

**See membership information about renewal
and total cost of dues.**

State



Register today at: AAUW PA Summer Retreat Registration

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AAUWPASummerRetreat25>

Kick Off the Weekend with Our Welcome Reception!

Friday, June 27th | 6:30–8:00 PM

Wyndham Garden State College

Book your room with hotel block AAUW2025 at Wyndham Hotel – State College

The cost for the retreat is \$75.00 and includes meals. Hotel reservations can be made by contacting the [Wyndham Garden State College](#). Mention AAUW to get the conference rate.

The retreat fee is non-refundable.

Local

The Impacts Of Federal Funding Decisions On PA's Education Landscape

On March 14, 2025 Education Voters of PA hosted a webinar. [Click HERE](#) to watch a recording of their webinar, "The Impacts of Federal Funding Decisions On PA's Education Landscape." The session is about 30 minutes long and very informative.

You can find a copy of the [slide deck used in this webinar HERE](#). There is a lot of information that you can scroll through here.

Please find a 3-page document with condensed information from the webinar here: <https://edvoterspa.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/DOE-Overview-4.pdf>

Sharing a section of the information covered:

What is an Executive Order?

- EOs are directives from the President that explain how that administration plans to interpret and enforce the law.
- Executive orders cannot override laws or case law interpreting those laws.
- Any action the president directs the federal government to take must be based on an existing statute or a constitutional power of the president.
- An executive order is not law. An executive order that directs the executive/agency to act beyond what is allowed by those statutes and powers is unconstitutional.

Source: Education Law Center PA

An Invitation To Attend, AAUW PA Western District Meeting

The Fox Chapel and North Hills Pittsburgh AAUW branches have kindly scheduled a **regional meeting date and location for branches located in Western PA.**

The meeting is June 14 at the Cooper-Siegel Library in Fox Chapel, from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

This is the first regional meeting that has been held in a good number of years.



The meeting will be informal, providing an opportunity to cover a wide range of topics including any burning issues.

This is a great opportunity to meet PA state official and members from other branches.

Additional information will be forth coming.

The Save Act and Its Impact On Women

A renewed Republican push to pass the Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) Act has put voting rights in the spotlight as Congress debates the legislation.

The **SAVE Act** (Safeguard American Voter Eligibility Act) is a legislative proposal that requires **citizenship documentation to register to vote**. The **League of Women Voters** opposes this Act, arguing that it imposes unnecessary barriers to voting, as voters are already required to affirm their citizenship status when registering. The Act is seen as a threat to voting rights, particularly affecting marginalized groups, including married women. Citizens are encouraged to contact their representatives to oppose the SAVE Act, which is viewed as a voter suppression bill.

It **passed** in July 2024 with a recorded vote of 221 – 198, but it was never **passed** by the Senate. In January 2025, as a new legislative session started, the bill was reintroduced in the House of Representatives as H.R. 22. The **SAVE Act** is currently pending review by the House of Representatives.

Why should you care?

For many Americans, primary proof of citizenship is their birth certificate. If an applicant's birth certificate doesn't match their legal name — or if an applicant doesn't have proof of citizenship at all — they may have to produce additional documentation to vote under the SAVE Act.

Research suggests up to 34% of voting-age women don't have documents with their current legal name proving citizenship and more than 9% of Americans don't have readily available documents proving citizenship.

Please let you legislators know how you feel about this bill.

Diversity

Why Diversity Is Really Our Greatest Strength

There is so much misconception and misunderstanding about diversity

Diversity is a good thing, when we understand how it works.

Diversity leads to innovation. Simply put, each one of us—due to how our minds are wired, our experiences, and our worldview—has a particular lens through which we see and analyze situations and others around us.

Many organizations find that diversity of culture and diversity of thought promote innovation, allowing them to unearth ideas that execute new ways of thinking and behavior.

Because of diversity, teams or communities can better problem-solve. There are more minds who can see a situation from different perspectives and help minimize groupthink and biased conceptualization. Bias isn't just due to racial or social biases; it can come from simply having limited experience.

For example, someone who is raised on a farm may have a different view than someone raised in a city. As such, when there is diversity of thought and people, it can help better understand the impact of a policy or action on all people involved.

Another of diversity's strengths is the assurance of equity. Like taxation with representation, you can ensure all voices are heard and share input on both the benefits and consequences of a decision. How can you create a policy or law without getting a wide range of input on its impact on the people it governs?

Diversity is not just about race, religion, or other social dynamics but about being equitable, transparent, and minimizing disproportionate experiences or realities where overrepresentation or underrepresentation is prevalent. In short, diversity helps decentralize power, resources, and opportunities in the best interest of all beings.



PACK-A-PURSE 2025

April Branch service Project



We will once again be doing the Pack a Purse for our branch April Service Project. For several years now the evening book group, and last year the branch, has been collecting in April for The Pack-A-Purse project. Once again AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh Branch is happy to be helping with this initiative that supports women in need.

The actual collection will take place in April as our community project. In case you are getting a jump on some early spring cleaning and have a gently used purse or two to donate, or just would like to start tucking a few items aside each week that will be used to pack those purses, here is a list of items that the Pack-A-Purse team "packs" in all purses before they are distributed:

- shampoo, conditioner, brushes/combs
- hand lotion, hand wipes, tissues
- body wash, deodorant, wash cloth/shower puffs/loofahs
- toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss
- tampons, pads, hand sanitizer
- breath mints, fragrance, small umbrella

Thank you, in advance, for your support. The purses will be distributed to numerous organizations that support women including Angel's Place, Crisis Center North, Dress for Success, Genesis House, North Hills Community Outreach, Sojourner House and Veterans' Leadership Program of West PA.

You can bring donation to any April branch event

Gateway to Equity Award – North Hills Pittsburgh



The North Hills Pittsburgh Branch of the AAUW was honored to present Samantha Salopek with the branch "*Gateway to Equity 2024-2025 Award*" on March 19, 2025.

This award was presented to Sam for her advocacy efforts and actively serving on the leadership team for Pittsburgh for CEDAW, which recently resulted in the re-establishment of the Pittsburgh Gender Equity Commission. She is currently working to promote gender equity policies across Allegheny County. Sam also served our country by enlisting in the United States Air Force in 2009.

This award includes an honorarium of \$100 to a charity of the recipient's choice. Sam has chosen to donate the \$100 to Gwen's Girls Capital Campaign <https://gwensgirls.org/>. Gwen's Girls was started by a fellow woman veteran, Gwen's Girls seeks to empower girls and young women to have productive lives through holistic, gender-specific programs, education, and experiences. Additionally, Gwen's Girls is currently renovating a new headquarters in Wilkinsburg.

Save The Dates**ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER**

Please join us at Wildwood Golf Club
for our annual celebration dinner

April 30, 2025 Wildwood Golf club: 6:00- 8:00 PM

Flyer will be sent

“For the Love of Books”**Branch Fundraiser**

Saturday, May 31, 2025, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

\$45 includes

- Help support AAUW's mission
- Meet local authors, presentations, & panel discussion
- Morning refreshments
- Light lunch
gluten free, nut free
- Raffle baskets
- Shop with vendors
- Book signings

FOR THE LOVE OF BOOKS FUNDRAISER

 Liz Milliron	 LIZ MILLIRON	 JoAnne Klimovich Harrop	 JOANNE KLIMOVICH HARROP	 Jocelyn Kraemer	 JOCELYN KRAEMER
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MAY 31 2025

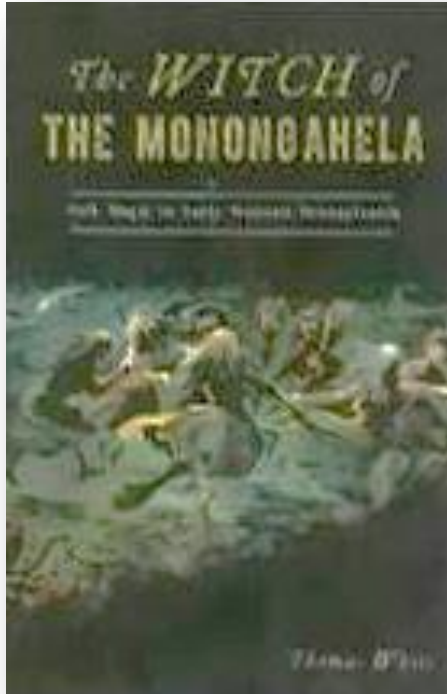
10 AM - 2 PM
La Roche University
Zappala Center Campus Square
9000 Babcock Blvd. Pgh, PA 15237
Website: <https://shorturl.at/eQdUm>
Reserve your spot by May 23!



AAUW
NORTH HILLS PITTSBURGH (PA) BRANCH

La Roche University Literary Society

Thomas White '97: "The Witch of the Monongahela: Folk Magic in Early Western Pennsylvania"



Award-winning author Thomas White '97 will discuss his book, "The Witch of the Monongahela: Folk Magic in Early Western Pennsylvania."

This presentation will explore the legend of Moll Derry, a woman said to possess mysterious magical powers in the hills and hollows of Fayette County, Pennsylvania.

Known as the Witch of the Monongahela, she has captivated writers and folklorists for over two hundred years and is featured in tales like the Lost Children of the Alleghenies and Polly Williams and the White Rocks.

**Friday April 4, 2025
7:00P.M.**

**La Roche University
Zappala Campus Center, Ryan Room**

Earth Day 2025



On **Tuesday, April 22, 2025**, we celebrate the **55th anniversary of Earth Day** under the theme: **OUR POWER, OUR PLANET™**. This year's theme emphasizes the collective strength of communities, individuals, and nations to protect and restore our planet through actionable, sustainable solutions.

Earth Day 2025 is a call to harness our collective power to address the pressing challenges facing our environment and health, including climate change, biodiversity loss, and environmental degradation. These challenges directly affect the most vulnerable populations; particularly women, children, and adolescents, whose health and livelihoods are disproportionately impacted by environmental crises.

Why A Primary Election Matters So Much

Local elections can be decided by a small number of votes, and local officials make decisions about things that affect you every day like schools, housing and transportation. Casting your vote and staying involved after the election are ways to make change.

Exercise Your Civic Right: Voting is one of your rights as a citizen, and you should seriously consider exercising this precious right by voting in the coming elections.

Prevent Others From Choosing For You: It is said that if you fail to make a decision, others will make it for you.

You Have A Say As A Taxpayer: As a taxpayer, you have skin in the game. You have a say on how your taxes are spent, and voting is one of the ways to make your voice heard. Voting for the right people makes the political leaders accountable to the citizens, which includes you.

Your Vote Counts: This is a common mantra. Your vote counts because one person can make all the difference to determine any election. Everyone has an equal chance to decide who will represent them at the various levels of the government. So, don't deny your hard-fought freedom to vote.

On May 20th Pennsylvania will hold primaries for statewide and local elections. Those who advance will then face off in a Nov 4th general election

**2025 Municipal Primary
Important Dates**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

May 5	Last day to register to vote in the municipal primary. vote.pa.gov/Register
May 13	Last day to apply for a mail ballot. vote.pa.gov/ApplyMailBallot
May 20	Election Day. Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. vote.pa.gov/Polls
May 20	Completed mail ballots must be received by 8 p.m. vote.pa.gov/ReturnBallot

  **Get ready to vote**
vote.pa.gov

Great Decisions 2025 Rap-Up

Our Great Decisions program had another wonderful season! We had six excellent sessions with good attendance, great speakers, and interesting discussions. Our 2025 schedule included:

Session #1 – Saturday, February 1st, 2025 -“U.S. China Relations” with speaker Dr. Mark Haas, Duquesne University (attendance 60+)

Session #2 – Saturday, February 8th, 2025 - “International Cooperation on Climate Change” with speaker Dr. Danielle Falzon, Rutgers University (attendance 55+)

Session #3 – Saturday, February 15th, 2025 -“American Foreign Policy in the Middle East” with speaker Professor Ross Harrison, University of Pittsburgh (attendance 55+)

Session #4 – Saturday, February 22nd, 2025 – “The Future of NATO and European Security” with speaker Dr. Soren Fanning, Robert Morris University (attendance 65+)

Session #5 – Saturday, March 8th, 2025 – “AI and American National Security” with speaker Professor Soheli Sarwar, La Roche University (attendance 69+)

Session #6 – Saturday, March 15th, 2025 – “American Foreign Policy at a Crossroads” with speaker Dr. Soren Fanning, Robert Morris University (attendance 58+)

Our Great Decisions team had three major goals for the 2025 season, and all of our goals were met:

- 1) Explore six of the eight topics offered by the Foreign Policy Association with speakers.
- 2) Continue to offer the program in hybrid form, allowing for an expanded audience and reach for speakers. I have included at least one speaker from outside of Pittsburgh for the past 4 years and have a goal to increase the weekly attendance. Our attendance this year averaged 61, an increase over last years average of 54. We have come very close to doubling our Great Decisions audience from 2022 when we brought the program back after a Covid hiatus and averaged 32+.
- 3) Continue to place a “tip jar” in the room to cover the cost of technology support. This year we collected \$395.00 which not only covered our tech support but also covered the cost of the teacher “kit” we need to purchase in order to share the videos, and articles, with our speakers.

We would like to thank:

- La Roche University for once again being our gracious hosts
- Julie Makuta for room reservations
- Aleksi Hamalainen for weekly tech support
- Rich Boguszewski for uploading the FPA videos and Alan Cech for scanning the articles for speaker preview
- Judy Daw for sharing the information to our attendees contact list
- Jennifer Engel (director of Lifelong Learning at la Roche University) for sharing the information with all of the Lifelong Learning community
- Susan Banerjee for posting our information on our AAUW NHP website each week
- Peggy Schmiedecke for posting our information on our AAUW NHP Facebook page

It truly takes a village – Francie Cech, Fran Bogos, and Sr, Rita Yeasted

March Pictures

Gateway to Equity



March Branch Meeting



Equal Pay Day Program



IPODs



MISSION STATEMENT OF AAUW LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

LAF provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

AAUW MEMBERSHIP

AAUW, founded in 1881, is open to all graduates who hold an associate's or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university.

AAUW DIVERSITY STATEMENT

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

BRANCH CONTACT INFORMATION

President: Deborah Rosenfelder	412-916-9073 or rosenfelderd@verizon.net
Membership: Frances Cech	412-448-1182 or fmcech@gmail.com
Membership: Jennifer Schwoebel	412-559-1053 or jenniferbmcelroy@gmail.com
Viewpoints Editor: Debbie Rosenfelder	412-916-9073 or rosenfelderd@verizon.net

Branch Website: aauwnorthhillspgh.org

Branch Email: aauwfam@gmail.com

Facebook Page: AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh branch

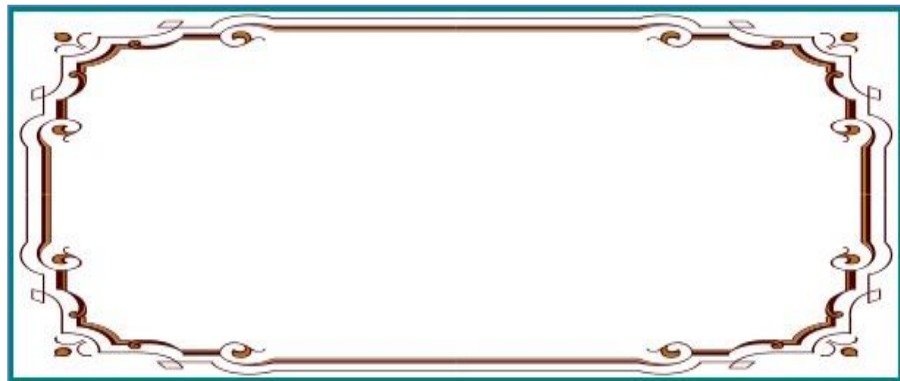
CONNECT2AAUW: 800-326-2289 or connect@aauw.org

National Website: www.aauw.org

State Website: www.aauw-pa.org

Viewpoints

AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh Branch
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Because Equity is still an issue