

# Branching Out

*Mission: Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research*

## Teaching in a Time of Divisive Concepts—Melissa Peterson, ISEA AAUW Des Moines Co-hosts with eNetwork Branch

On Wednesday, March 16 at 7:00 p.m., Melissa Peterson, Government Relations Specialist with the Iowa State Education Association, will present a program about the challenges educators currently face in Iowa. Teachers are confronting years of under-funding, efforts to divert public funds to private schools, challenges of teaching during a pandemic, threats of book-banning, warnings not to mention sensitive topics, and criminal penalties for teaching curriculum materials. We have never needed teachers more. We invite you to join in for this important presentation, and ask a friend to log on as well. To join use this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2017201809?pwd=WXcyREhjcllOZlNQMUtMzjlCU0RQQT09>



## Help AAUW Keep in Touch with You—National Member Database

Joanne Page, Membership VP

National AAUW has unveiled a new member database. It promises to be easier for branch officers to use and update. For you, as a branch member, it continues to offer all of the services you have had in the past. However, you must create a new login to use it.

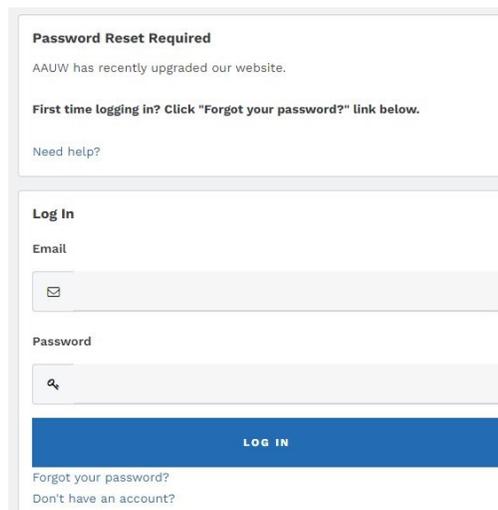
To begin, go to [aauw.org](http://aauw.org). In the far right-hand top corner, click on Log In. It will bring up a screen requiring you to reset your password. The old database used your member number as your user id. Now, you will use your email address. For your first time, click on “Forgot your password.” The screen will not change, but you should receive an email in your inbox that will give you a reset screen. Several of us have experienced problems at this stage. Keep checking your email inbox. If you can’t get this to work after a couple of tries, give me a call or send me an email and I will try to help.

After you have successfully logged in, please check your Personal

Snapshot information carefully. We have already found a number of errors and omissions. You should be able to edit your own information. I have checked every current branch member’s information, and have edited some to update information changes that I know about. However, I do not know when you first joined AAUW. Please check your Join On date carefully, as a number of our members have had wrong dates listed.

This process has been stressful for the branch officers, who tried it out first before the system was fully operational. I think our feedback to national has led to some improvements. Please, if you are having difficulties editing your data, contact me. As Membership VP for the branch, I can, and have already, corrected some of your data. Once we all get used to this new system, I think we will notice many improvements over the previous one. Contact info:

[page@dwx.com](mailto:page@dwx.com) 515-243-5740



**Password Reset Required**  
AAUW has recently upgraded our website.  
First time logging in? Click "Forgot your password?" link below.  
Need help?

**Log In**  
Email  
  
Password  
  
**LOG IN**  
Forgot your password?  
Don't have an account?

## Dr. Amy Getty to Receive Distinguished Faculty Award

Each year, AAUW Iowa AAUW recognizes a distinguished faculty member at the spring conference. AAUW Iowa College/University Director Ellaine Kresse has announced that this year the honoree will be Dr. Amy Getty, Professor of English at Grand View University. The award is based on the faculty member's exemplary contribution toward creating a climate of gender equity in education in the state of Iowa. Dr. Getty was nominated by members of the Des Moines branch. We are proud of her, and we congratulate her for this recognition. Members are encouraged to register for the spring conference to be there for this event.



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### Topics for March 16 After the Program

Please plan to stay around for a branch meeting after Melissa Peterson's presentation on "Teaching in a Time of Divisive Concepts" at the March 16 meeting. After Melissa's presentation, the zoom technology will allow us to separate into two different breakout rooms. Topics for our branch include:

- Nominations committee needed
- Basket for silent auction at spring conference
- Volunteers at registration table
- Do we want a brag table at spring conference?
- Equal Pay Day Table at Capitol 9- 1 on March 30
- Dues for 2022-23

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### Nominations Committee Needed

Terms of office for our branch president, membership vice president, and leadership team are for one year. We will elect new officers at the annual meeting on June 15. We need 2 or 3 members who are willing to serve as a nomination committee. Please get in touch with Ann Gale at 515-320-4404 or [ann.gale9@gmail.com](mailto:ann.gale9@gmail.com) if you are

willing to serve on a nominations committee. Current officers include President Ann Gale, Membership Vice President Joanne Page, Treasurer Janet Pickerell, and Leadership Team members Sharon Gee, Faith Sherman, and Leora Thomas.

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### Basket for Spring Conference Silent Auction



There will be a silent auction at the spring conference, and funds will go toward the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund. Each branch is asked to bring a basket for this event. Past baskets for silent auction have included handcrafted items, tea, coffee, wine, books, plants, movies, and more. Ann would like to gather members' ideas for a basket following Melissa Peterson's presentation at our March 16 virtual meeting. Please log on and contribute some ideas.

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### Dues for 2022-23

Our membership year goes from July 1 through the following June 30. Membership opens on March 15 – in other words, you can pay dues for membership anytime from that point on, and your membership will continue through June of the following year. If you have a friend who is interested in joining AAUW, please encourage her to join on or after March 15 for the best deal. The national AAUW office has announced that dues for fiscal year 23 are \$67, \$64 or which are tax-deductible. Branch dues are \$10, and AAUW Iowa dues are \$10, making the total \$87. Members may pay dues online by logging onto the AAUW member hub using the procedures described

by Joanne Page earlier in this newsletter. The national website has recently undergone some revisions, so if you have some difficulty, you may wish to give them a few more weeks before doing it that way. Or, you can always pay dues by mailing a check payable to AAUW to treasurer Janet Pickerell at 915 NW Prairie Ridge Dr., Ankeny, IA 50023. Paid life members or honorary life members who have reached 50 years of membership are exempt from paying dues. If life members would like to pay state and branch dues as a friendly gesture, that would be appreciated.

## Mark Your Calendar

March 16 at 7:00. Teaching in a Time of Diverse Concepts, Melissa Peterson, ISEA. Zoom  
March 30 from 9:00—1:00. Mark Equal Pay Day at the Iowa State Capitol rotunda.  
April 8-9. AAUW Iowa Spring Conference, Hilton Garden

Inn in Johnston

May 21 at 10:00 a.m., Smokey Row, Ankeny. Legislative Wrap-Up with Connie Ryan.

June 15 at 11:30. Annual Meeting, Open Shelter behind Urbandale

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### AAUW Table at the Capitol Rotunda March 30 from 9:00—1:00

AAUW Iowa will have a table at the Iowa State Capitol Rotunda on March 30. The main focus will be on the gender pay gap, so we will have flyers about how women's salaries compare to men, legislative remedies, and how Iowa compares with other states. We will also have

PayDay candy bars. Legislators will be invited to stop by our table. Ann would welcome volunteers, either 9:00-11:00 or 11:00-1:00. Masks are recommended. Get in touch with Ann if you can be there. 515-320-4404 or [ann.gale9@gmail.com](mailto:ann.gale9@gmail.com).

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### AAUW Iowa Spring Conference in Johnston

Make plans to come to the AAUW spring conference at the Hilton Garden Inn in Johnston April 9. There will be a social hour with light appetizers and beverages from 5:00—6:00 on April 8th, featuring ISU violinists Amelia Dixon and Elise Poulsen. Members are welcome to come to the social hour on April 8.

presented with the distinguished faculty award during the conference. The complete schedule is available in the March *Iowa Initiative* newsletter. Registration is \$75 on or before March 25. See the registration form later in this newsletter. Vaccinations for COVID-19 and wearing masks for consideration of others is encouraged.

The conference will begin with registration at 8:00 a.m. on April 9. Conference highlights include a message from AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell, talk by 1619 Freedom School Co-founder Sheritta Stokes, Doris Kelley on pushing for the ERA, new novel by Mary Helen Stefaniak, membership and marketing the branch, panel by branches that studied *The 1619 Project*. Branch member Amy Getty will also be

Volunteers are needed to staff the registration table at 8:00 on April 9. If you would like to volunteer at the registration table, please contact Ann Gale at 515-320-4404 or [ann.gale9@gmail.com](mailto:ann.gale9@gmail.com).



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### Legislative Wrap-Up with Connie Ryan

Connie Ryan, Director of the Interfaith Alliance of Iowa, will present a legislative wrap-up following a brunch on **Saturday, May 21 at 10:00 a.m.** at Smokey Row, 1530 SW Vintage Pkwy, Ankeny, IA. This would be another good opportunity to invite a friend to join us.

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### Picnic Lunch and Annual Meeting June 15

We plan to meet in the shelterhouse behind the Urbandale Public Library and Police Station for our annual meeting on **Wednesday, June 15 at 11:30 a.m.** Park in the library or police station parking lot. The shelter is easily accessible from the parking area.

Bring a sack lunch. After lunch, we will hold the election of officers, and make



plans for the 2022-23 year.

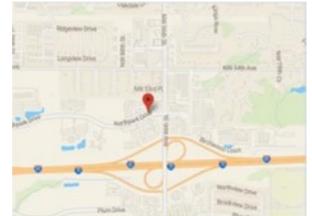
Current officers are: Ann Gale, President; Joanne Page, membership vice president, Janet Pickerell, treasurer. Leadership includes officers plus Sharon Gee, Faith Sherman, and Leora Thomas. If you are interested in serving as an officer or on the leadership team, plus get it touch with one of the people listed.



# AAUW 2022 Spring Conference

## Registration Information

### April 8 & 9, 2022



AAUW Iowa is looking forward to hosting the 2022 spring conference at the Hilton Garden Inn in Johnston.

#### Registration Deadline:

All registrations should be postmarked on or before March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

#### Make checks payable to AAUW Iowa.

Please return the registration form with check to:

Pat Higby  
718 Blue Jay Court  
Tiffin, IA 52340

For additional information: Pat Higby 319-266-4934. If you are unable to print this form, you may simply send your \$75 check to Pat at the address above.

#### Hotel Information:

Hilton Garden Inn Des Moines/Urbandale – 8600 North Park Dr. Johnston, Iowa 50131

Check the nights carefully. Program defaults to 3.

Online Hotel Registration

[AAUW-IA \(hilton.com\)](https://www.hilton.com)

<https://www.hilton.com>

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#### Registration Form

I will be attending the Meet and Greet on Friday, 5:00-6:00 pm. (no charge)

(Friday night dinner is on your own.)

I will be attending Saturday, 8:30-4:00. (Includes Lunch)

\$75 Member Rate (Please add \$10 if postmarked after March 25, 2022.)

\$75 Non-member Rate (Please add \$10 if postmarked after March 25, 2022.)

\$20 Student Rate (Please add \$5 if postmarked after March 25, 2022.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Member: Yes No Student: Yes No

CIRCLE WHAT APPLIES:

Branch: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: House/Apartment Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_