

Branching Out

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

AAUW Iowa Positions Open

AAUW Iowa nominations committee chair Janie Montang has announced that positions open for the following year include President-Elect (or co-president-elect), Treasurer, and Program Co-Vice President.

The AAUW Iowa board has an in-person meeting during the spring conference, and an all-day in-person meeting during the summer to plan for the following year. Serving on the board of AAUW Iowa is a good way to meet other AAUW members from across Iowa. Anyone who is interested is encouraged to contact Janie Montang at 515-450-2992, or janiem@netamumail.com.



For Your Calendar

Dec. 10 at 2:00. Holiday Tea at Sharon Gee's home, at 4323 Grand Avenue, Apt 427. Bring an appetizer or treat to share.

Jan. 3 at 7:00 using zoom. Beginning of *The 1619 Project* study. This study will continue on a weekly basis on Tuesdays through March 7.

Feb. 7 at 7:00 p.m. Title IX and 50 Years of Fighting Sex Discrimination. Sherry Boschert at Great Hall, Memorial Union, ISU, Ames.

Apr. 21-22. AAUW Iowa Spring Conference, Hilton Garden Inn, Des Moines/Urbandale,.

You Are Invited to a Holiday Gathering

Members will meet at the home of Sharon Gee on Saturday, December 10, from 2:00 – 4:00. Please bring a treat to share, such as an appetizer or dessert. Sharon lives at 4323 Grand Ave Apt 427, Des Moines. Please park west of the building toward the rear, and enter through the breezeway. There is a call box, and Sharon will buzz you in. Please call her at 515-274-8156 if you have questions.



Mark Your Calendar

Spring Conference April 21-22, 2023
Hilton Garden Inn, Des Moines/Urbandale

Our Time Is Now

Karen Kedrowski on the ERA at 100
Mary Jane Cobb on Supporting Public Education
Laurie Schipper on Creating Beloved Communities
Break the Cycle 200— to End Human Trafficking
Handling Difficult Conversations
Diversity
Gun Safety



Des Moines Branch to Study the 1619 Project

All Iowa AAUW members are invited to join the Des Moines Branch this winter for an intensive study of historian Nikole Hannah-Jones' pathbreaking *The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story*. Described as "visionary," "sweeping," and "up-to-the moment," this 2021 book builds on the original research published in *The New York Times Magazine*. Beginning on January 3, 2023, we plan to meet weekly on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. for an hour via Zoom.

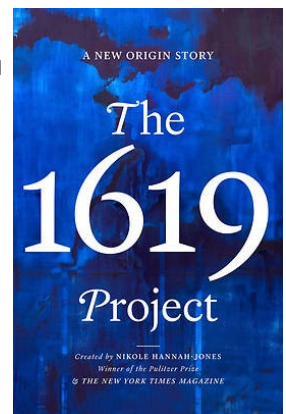
Race and the role it has played in American history is at the forefront of politics in America now. The tragic deaths of George Floyd and many others have led to a long-overdue reexamination of many deeply held beliefs and biases. The current controversy over "critical race theory" is only one way the topic is being addressed. AAUW's emphasis on the importance of an educated and diverse citizenry provides another perspective to frame the conversation.

We plan to follow the rules adopted by Grand View University for all classes that deal with issues of race,

gender, and other such topics. The rules provide a background for valuing other viewpoints and learning from them, even when you might disagree.

On January 3, we will review the Grand View rules, select discussion leaders for each session, and discuss the book's preface. Each subsequent session will cover two chapters in the book. Discussion leaders will be asked to come prepared with several open-ended questions for discussion. This will *not* be a lecture series, and everyone's opinions will be solicited. If the group is large, we will use the "Raise Your Hand" function in Zoom to ensure everybody can speak.

Please consider joining us. If you would like to participate, please contact branch membership VP Joanne Page at page@dwx.com. She will send you the Zoom link for the meetings, the meeting dates and chapters to be covered, and the rules for participation.



37 Words: Title IX and 50 Years of Fighting Sex Discrimination

Speaker Sherry Boschert will discuss Title IX as part of the Mary Louise Smith Lecture Series on February 7 at 7:00 p.m. in the Great Room in the Memorial Union at ISU in Ames.

Sherry Boschert is an award-winning journalist and author of *37 Words: Title IX and Fifty Years of Fighting Sex Discrimination*, a history of Title IX, the law that prohibits sex discrimination in federally

funded education.

Half a century of legal battles and social backlash revolve around a law that girls and women wield to demand fairness in education.

This event will be recorded and available for two weeks on the Lectures website

Plans are being made to carpool to Ames for branch members who are interested in attending.

Sad News

AAUW member Frances Shoop passed away in Johnston on November 19, 2022. Fran Lunan was originally from Chariton, Iowa, and she earned a BS in Dietetics at Iowa State University in 1953. She was married to Ron Shoop for 63 years until he died in 2017.

