

**Vol 47, Number 2 ~ Woodbridge, VA Branch Newsletter ~ October, 2019**

**Upcoming Dates for Your Calendar**

**Monday, October 14**  
**11-12:30 pm**

**Dedication of Women’s Monument**  
Capitol Square, Richmond  
<http://womensmonumentcom.virginia.gov/>



**Thursday, October 17**  
Public Policy)

**Federal Lobby Day** (See info under

**Thursday, October 24**

**“Sound Health” Program**

**7 pm**

*Leesylvania Room, Ferlazzo Building, 15941 Donald Curtis Dr., Woodbridge 22191*

**Saturday, October 26**

**AAUW VA Northern District Meeting**

**1 pm**

Thomas Jefferson Library, 7415 Arlington Blvd., Falls Church

**American Education Week Celebration of Our Educators with**  
The Prince William Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority  
**November 18-22** (one evening date TBA)

**President’s Message: “We’re Off to a Great Start!”**

Thanks to Susan B for hosting and all the members who attended our September Luncheon. It was great to meet a new member, reconnect with long-standing members, have an excellent presentation from one of our Science Fair winners and meet her supportive parents, and hear Lillian Garland tell about her case that went up to the US Supreme Court and was the catalyst for getting the Family Medical Leave Law (FMLA) passed in 1987. Oh, yes, the food was wonderful!

We are working hard on the branch tasks for AAUW [Five-Star Recognition Program](#) . We have already achieved some of the tasks and are planning how to complete the other tasks. More information to come

I hope to see everyone at our October program and meeting. Bring friends and family.

**Sandy Lawrence**

[sandyaauw@juno.com](mailto:sandyaauw@juno.com)

## **Public Policy & Advocacy**

### **Local & State Initiatives**

Although AAUW is a strictly nonpartisan organization, there is much we can do to promote voter registration and to provide information on issues key to women's equity. AAUW of VA has three main areas of focus for public policy: ratifying the ERA in Virginia, Pay Equity, and Human Trafficking. We are still working for Virginia to become the 38<sup>th</sup> and last state needed to ratify the ERA. We hope you will continue to check the VAratifyERA website and Facebook page.

### **National**

**Federal Lobby Day will be October 17<sup>th</sup>.** If you are interested in attending, please contact Sandy (email below) to register by October 10<sup>th</sup>.

AAUW "**Washington Update**" newsletter will be on hiatus as a new platform for AAUW advocacy is created. However, if you have not already done so, I urge you to register as a Two-Minute Activist (you only need to provide your email address). Go to <https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist> to sign up. You will also receive updates via AAUW newsletter that will keep you informed about what your AAUW is doing: *Mission & Action, the Action Network, and LAF Express*.

**AAUW's state policy guide road maps are up to date with new pay data by state and congressional district!** The upcoming congressional recess is a great opportunity to share this resource with your legislators — consider **setting up an in-district meeting** to share the new data and urge them to support strong pay equity legislation.

**Sandy Lawrence**, Public Policy Chair

[sandyaauw@juno.com](mailto:sandyaauw@juno.com)

*{With input from AAUW, members, and other news outlets}*

### **AAUW News**

**Work Smart** - With a lot of help from our members, AAUW hit a major milestone in our partnership with the Coca-Cola Foundation to teach women everywhere to negotiate effectively. As of August 23, we've trained **102,656** women to ask for the salary they deserve, either through [Work Smart Online](#) or in-person workshops.

We knew our goal of reaching 100,000 women through Work Smart in less than a year would be ambitious. But we also knew our members would deliver — and you did (and then some). To further expand the program, we're entering into strategic partnerships with [women.nyc](#), Starbucks Global Academy, the city of Wichita, and many others. Through your support, we've engaged 500 professional organizations and state and local commissions through our outreach. The first New-York-based workshop will take place [next week](#).

A huge thank-you to all who helped us spread the word about Work Smart Online. For those who haven't, we still need you! Please continue to share [Work Smart Online](#) with your networks, including alumni groups and other online communities, and helping us [promote women's economic security](#).

### **Legal Advocacy Fund**

**The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund** adopted a new pay equity lawsuit this week. *Freyd v. University of Oregon* addresses pay discrimination faced by Jennifer Freyd, a professor at the university who is paid substantially less than her male colleagues who hold the same positions, are junior to her, and are no more accomplished. The disparity is due primarily to retention raises, and the case will help to establish whether such raises are considered "a factor other than sex" under the Equal Pay Act. AAUW signed on to a new amicus brief to the Ninth Circuit concerning the case of Aileen Rizo. Rizo is a Legal Advocacy Fund-supported plaintiff who faced pay discrimination in her teaching role due to the use of salary history.



## October 24<sup>th</sup> Program – “Sound Health”

On Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm, our branch program will take a unique look at both definitions of sound- sturdy/well-balanced +

hearing. As I shared my idea with our members, presenters, and friends, it has morphed into an exciting program which I truly believe is relevant to all our members! Please invite family and friends as guests. It will be held at the **Ferlazzo Building’s Leesylvania Room; 15941 Donald Curtis Drive, Woodbridge 22191**. This is a new venue for our branch programs in the 2000s; but we’ve attended art performances here and it is closer for some of our Montclair and the eastern end of our county. This location is off both Route 1 near Blackburn Avenue or from Cardinal Drive in Montclair. Here is a link for directions and information:

<https://www.google.com/search?q=ferlazzo+building+address&oq=ferlazzo+building+address&aqs=chrome..69i57.9014j0j8&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8>

There are three parts of our program: ballroom dance combining movement, balance, and music; movement of fitness; and hearing health. **Landra Vallejos** will present how music, dance, and music combine to promote physical well-being. She and a partner will demonstrate moves that incorporate the theme of our program. **Michelle Logsdon Viggiano** will show us how attention to fitness serves to enhance a sound body & health. She will talk about how she uses sound to increase focus during exercise and why this is beneficial. **Dr. Mary Jo Grote** will present the background and integral part hearing health plays in social, emotional, and physical well-being. Both Michelle and Mary Jo are alumnae SUCCESS! Conference presenters and have shared their careers with our branch previously- Michelle in April, 2019 and Mary Jo in April, 2017.

**Landra Vallejos**, founder of Modern Ballroom Dancing Studio, has been in the ballroom dancing industry since 1999. Having worked professionally for Arthur Murray Franchised schools as well as in her own dance studio, she brings 16 years of experience as a dance instructor, dance competitor, dance trainer, studio manager, and studio owner- she has won several awards which acknowledged her excellence in all these roles. Landra has a passion for dancing and a love for people. She has set out on a mission to change the dance industry one step at a time by providing excellent instruction in her ballroom dance studio, and the interpersonal supports which will improve the overall learning experience for every person that walks through her doors. In her own words, “I want everyone walking into my studio to feel as comfortable as walking into their own home. We are family, a dancing family that will continue to grow year after year!” From Michelle, “She is doing an outstanding job introducing our community to dance/movement and music at her studio. As another woman entrepreneur, I can confidently recommend her; and, as a student of hers, I can also recommend her (& her staff!) as experts on movement and sound.”

**Michelle Logsdon Viggiano**, co-founder of AIM Human Performance and a fitness trainer, has been working in the fitness industry for over 15 years, first as a pilates instructor and then becoming a personal trainer. She has since then become a Certified Post-Rehabilitative Breast Cancer Exercise Specialist and a Muscle Activation Techniques Specialist. She is currently working towards her Mastery level certification from the prestigious Resistance Training Specialist Program. Employing intelligent exercises enables Michelle to produce profound results in her clients’ lives. She is passionate about helping individuals achieve their personal health and fitness goals.

**Dr. Mary Jo Grote**, an audiologist who founded Hearing Health Care of Manassas, will present on hearing health and how balance, social connections, and thriving as a person are intertwined. As a cellist in the Manassas Symphony Orchestra, Mary Jo is especially keen on young and old maintaining their ability to enjoy both music and voice. She began her career as a second grade teacher. She graduated with honors in 1994. Having more than 25 years of diverse experiences, especially as a qualified audiologist, Mary Jo cooperates with many other doctors and specialists. From Susan, “Mary Jo’s work was validated when I attended the Kennedy Center’s ‘Sound Health’ programs (yes, I was inspired) and *heard* from Dr. Francis Collins, Renee Fleming, Mickey Hart (Grateful Dead drummer), and so many more iconic figures in health and the arts.”

**Please RSVP by replying to the announcement email to which this newsletter is attached. ☺**

## NORTHERN DISTRICT MEETING Saturday, October 26th

Our fall meeting will be held at the Thomas Jefferson Library, 7415 Arlington Blvd., Falls Church. Gather at 1:00; the program starts promptly at 1:15. Please mark your calendars now to attend and consider carpooling with other branch members. There will be several interesting and informative presentations you will not want to miss. **Tremayne Parquet**, the Director of Advancement at AAUW National Headquarters, will bring us up to date on some of the changes occurring recently. **Leslie Tourigny**, the Virginia Co-President, will discuss what's going on in the state, including the state conference which will be held in Northern Virginia in April, 2020. **Cyndi Shanahan**, the Virginia State Board representative for Diversity and Inclusion will talk about this new position and how the branches can contribute to this initiative. Representatives from the Alexandria branch will present the program they have been developing over the past year to deal with "Human Trafficking" issues, and what other local branches can do to support their efforts. Please bring announcements to share with all of us on your branch's upcoming programs and events!



### Celebrating the Autumnal Equinox Luncheon

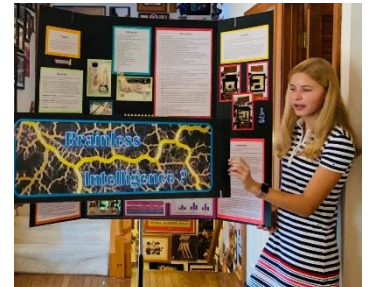
On 9.22, the day before the autumnal equinox, we had our luncheon at **Susan's** home in Manassas. Our Science Fair winner, **Lexi**, shared her project, "Brainless Intelligence" with her proud parents, **Margaret** and **Chris**, joining us. Her presentation sparked lots of insightful questions and answers.

Joyce's guests, our SUCCESS! Conference presenters,

**Lillian Garland** (Elizabeth Keckley, Mary Todd Lincoln's seamstress re-enactor) and **John Davis** (who portrayed his great-grandfather, Henderson Wilson, a runaway slave and harness maker in 2017) shared their life stories



with us. The delicious food provided by our members – **Pam, Irene, Sandy, Barbara B, Lucy, Tara, and Joyce**- gave us a variety of snacks to salads to entries to desserts. President Sandy led our brief meeting with updates on the 5-Star Program, our branch's role at the state conference in April, and Federal Lobby Day; Susan gave updates on our membership and upcoming programs; and Barbara shared her previous role and ideas for baskets for fund-raising for the state conference. Our wonderful afternoon concluded with door prize gifts brought by members- we raised \$37 towards AAUW's greatest needs fund. Thanks to Margaret for getting photos for us!



### Membership Updates & Member News

I'm so pleased to share that we met the goal of 100% renewals by September 30<sup>th</sup>! Thank you SO much for assisting with this piece of our 5-Star recognition. This includes updating membership by former members and new members. *In communicating with previous members – our "alumni" – and friends, I have news to share with you:*

**Terry R** moved to Florida and has joined the St. Augustine branch of AAUW. Terry remains in touch with **Angela B** who moved to Lancaster, Pennsylvania and is continuing her community activism and also recently got married! **Sharon E**, who took up full-time residency in Florida in 2014, misses our branch and has supported AAUW on our behalf with a donation to the "greatest needs fund" in September. Sharon's mom, former branch member **Della D**, moved with her to Florida; she died last year. Here is a link to share in her

memory: <https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/tallahassee/obituary.aspx?n=della-bernice-burch-dempsey&pid=190016142&fhid=12898>

**Martha L** is looking forward to the births of two grandchildren this fall and Pat C is doing well and enjoys her grandson's visits. **Tania I-G**, who moved to Maryland participates in many community groups, is active on her condo board, and started a "Pittsburgh Club" with friends.

I just got off the phone with **Toni H** who sends her love to us all. She is upbeat and vibrant as she is working with a phenomenal team of staff at the Mayo Clinic in Florida; she qualified for a 2-year trial study to address her stage 4 metastatic cancer recurrence. We chatted about our dads; she's looking forward to a birthday cruise with hers to the Bahamas in November. ☺ Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

There are a few others who are considering becoming members. Plus, please consider inviting colleagues and friends to our branch events. Please recall that AAUW sponsors two programs: "Gift a Grad" and "Shape the Future". The link for the first explains how you can give a free national membership <https://www.aauw.org/resource/give-a-grad-a-gift/> - I've used it several times. Most recently, **Lyndsay W** earned her MSW from VCU and will be again a member of our branch. In March of 2017, she joined us at the BOCS meeting; she currently lives and works in Richmond; Sandy and I see her at events for advocacy. **Paige E** began her AAUW membership in this program and is now at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore as an AAUW e-graduate student and also retains her state & branch membership with us.

The second, "Shape the Future," is when a new member can join with ½ price national dues <https://www.aauw.org/resource/shape-the-future-membership-campaign/>. Let me know if you need more information on the process. Several of our members have joined this way.

**Susan Bardenhagen**, Membership & Program VP

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**Why Cokie Roberts Admired Dolley Madison - The legendary newswoman, who died at 75, appeared on a Smithsonian podcast earlier this summer to speak about a favorite topic, the first ladies** {*Jackie Mansky, 9.17.2019*}

The late journalist Cokie Roberts recently visited the Smithsonian to discuss some of the presidents' wives in a new podcast "Portraits." If only, she remarked the First Ladies had been painted when they were young and vivacious, before they had gray hair. ( New York Daily News Archive / Contributor)

When Cokie Roberts started out in journalism in the 1960s, the constant refrain she heard from men in the business was "we don't hire women to do that." But the congressional journalist and political commentator—who died at age 75 today "due to complications from breast cancer,"—carved her own space in the industry and, in the process, helped transform the role of women in the newsroom. "It was very difficult," Roberts later said. "When you moved up through the ranks you were often the only women there. When people finally put women on the air, they basically had their one woman and that was it."

The daughter "of prominent U.S. Representatives Hale Boggs and Lindy Boggs, who represented a New Orleans-centered district for half a century," as a biography and oral history by the U.S. House explains, her early memories were filled with moments like "riding the old Senate subway, with its wicker seats; accompanying her father on the House Floor on the Opening Day of Congress in the late 1940s; prodding her father to speak out on the floor in support of the Voting Rights Act of 1965; and listening to prominent dinner guests such as Speaker Sam Rayburn of Texas."

Because of her family's history, Roberts—born in New Orleans, in 1943, never questioned that she would get into politics in some capacity. All of those formative years spent at the Capitol and House of Representatives made an impact. "I became deeply committed to the American system," she recalled in the oral history project, "And as close up and as personally as I saw it and saw all of the flaws, I understood all of the glories of it."

Throughout her career, Roberts was widely respected by her peers in media and by the politicians she covered on both sides of the political aisle. Upon her death, a Congressman posted, "a 2001 talk in which she 'encouraged all of us, Republicans and Democrats, to always seek consensus where we could.'" Perhaps because she was long accustomed to being one of the few women in the room, Roberts also paid special attention to women's history. {*Editor's note: Cokie and her daughter, also an author, were the guests of honor last year at the Turning Points fund-raiser event. Cokie's books are excellent for both adults and children.*}

## From Our Finance Officer

	Proposed	Actual		Proposed
Income	2018-2019	2018-2019		2019-2020
Dues'18-19 9/30/2018	\$204.00	\$276.00	Dues'19-20 9/30/2019	\$348.00
Membership Initiative			Membership Initiative	
AAUW of VA rec'd '16	38.80	38.80	AAUW of VA rec'd '16	38.80
United Cash on Hand			United Cash on Hand	
09/30/18	638.78		09/30/19	579.78
United Cash on Hand				
06/30/19		471.78		
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$881.58</b>	<b>\$786.58</b>	<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$966.58</b>
<b>Expense Budget</b>				
Officers	\$70.00		Officers	\$70.00
Conference	115.00		Conference	115.00
Programs	100.00		Programs	100.00
Insurance	185.00	185.00	Insurance	185.00
Newsletter	50.00		Newsletter	50.00
Membership	50.00		Membership	50.00
Membership Initiative	38.80		Membership Initiative	38.80
Directory	50.00	50.00	Directory	50.00
NOVA District Dues	10.00		NOVA District Dues	10.00
Success Conference	100.00	100.00	Success Conference	100.00
Contingency	112.78		Contingency	197.78
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$881.58</b>	<b>\$335.00</b>	<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$966.58</b>

In between extended stays in Oklahoma to prepare her late father's home and finances and excursions to Vermont & New Hampshire (Susan B received a legendary "My Car Climbed Mt. Washington" sticker!) and a weekend trip with her husband, Karen was able to meet with your board for our monthly meeting Monday night. She has prepared this proposed budget, approved by your board, for your review. We will vote on it at our October 24<sup>th</sup> meeting after the "Sound Health" program. Please let Karen know if you have any questions.

**Karen Wolf**    [kleewolf@verizon.net](mailto:kleewolf@verizon.net)

## STEM & STEAM from Susan & Susan

**From: Aerospace America**, journal of *American Institute of Aeronautics & Astronautics*, Keith Button

**The U.S. is reinvigorating its basic research toward hypersonic flight.** One product of that initiative is a sounding rocket that's scheduled to take off from Sweden next year. It will gather never-before-collected flight data that could help pave the way for development of weapons or vehicles that would maneuver over long ranges in the atmosphere at more than five times the speed of sound, something that no known weapon today can do. Next May, if all goes as planned, a sounding rocket will soar to an altitude of nearly 300 kilometers over a test range in Sweden, and as it descends it will accelerate to a hypersonic speed of Mach 7 to 7.5. A nearly meter-long metal wedge on its tip will gather hundreds of aerodynamic measurements for the U.S. Air Force Research Lab. U.S. engineers hope that this experiment called BOLT, short for Boundary Layer Transition, will tell them when the thin layer of air flowing smoothly over the surface of the wedge turns turbulent, and where on the shape this transition begins. **"If you're actually trying to make something that flies, you should know that, right?"** says AFRL's Ivett Leyva, the BOLT project manager and creator.



From: <http://www.greatmindsinstem.org/role-model-of-the-week/ivett-leyva-ph-d> Ivett Leyva grew up in Torreon, Mexico, brought up by a single parent and part of a strong family support system. An exemplary elementary school student, Ivett was provided with the encouragement and opportunity to travel within the country to compete in academic competitions. Ivett attended a technical junior high school, and while there, she developed a passion for math, science and public speaking. Her experiences at the elementary and junior high levels allowed her to smoothly transition into her chosen high school, which was a technical school specifically geared for engineers. It was during high school that Ivett determined that she would move to the United States to pursue her dreams of going to college. Soon after graduating from high school, she applied to a United Nations program aimed to help students from Mexico and Central America, seek higher education in the United States and was selected out of thousands of applicants, and after raising enough funds to cover her expenses for Whitman College in the state of Washington. During this time, Ivett was introduced to pre-engineering courses that motivated her to transfer to CalTech in pursuit of her bachelor's degree. Along the way, Ivett became fascinated with understanding re-entry problems for hypersonic vehicles. So naturally, seeking a master's and Ph.D. in high speed aerodynamics was logical.

After years of schooling, Dr. Ivett Leyva was finally able to apply her talents and skills to her chosen field, beginning her professional career working in Industry as a Mechanical Engineer for General Electric's Global Research Center in New York. Two years later, she found herself working for the Air Force Research Laboratory where she has

continued since, making significant contributions to the rocket propulsion technology base in the U.S. Today, as a Sr. Aerospace Engineer and Branch Technical Advisor, oversees the technical accomplishments of an 11-member team executing a \$36M annual budget. Dr. Leyva provides critical technical guidance and corrective actions to ensure the program produces state-of-the-art technology. She also presents the technology developments in the program to industry, NASA, academia and other Air Force Agencies.

## GENDER EQUITY

### **A New Monopoly Celebrates Women. But What About the Game's Own Overlooked Inventor?** **At the turn of the 20th century, Lizzie Magie created the Landowner's Game, which sought to teach players about the injustices of wealth concentration {Brigit Katz, Smithsonian.com, 9.12.2019}**

In "Ms. Monopoly," a new version of the iconic board game that, according to the company, "celebrates women trailblazers," Rich Uncle Pennybags has been booted, replaced by his niece, a young woman wearing a blazer and holding a cup of coffee (ready for a round of seed funding, presumably). On Tuesday, Hasbro announced the launch of game, which seeks to both spotlight women's innovations and call attention to the gender wage gap. "With all of the things surrounding female empowerment, it felt right to bring this to Monopoly in a fresh new way," Jen Boswinkel, senior director of global brand strategy and marketing for Hasbro Gaming, tells Kelly Tyko of *USA Today*. "It's giving the topic some relevancy to everyone playing it that everybody gets a turn, and this time women get an advantage at the start." ...

But as Antonia Noori Farzan of the *Washington Post* reports, critics have been quick to point out that the game does not acknowledge Lizzie Magie, who, at the turn of the 20th century, created the game upon which Monopoly was based. In fact, Charles Darrow, the man widely credited with inventing Monopoly, copied Magie's idea and sold it to Parker Brothers; Darrow became fabulously wealthy, while Magie, who sold her patent to Parker Brothers for a mere \$500, was largely forgotten. Ironically, the game that Magie invented was anti-monopolist in sentiment. She subscribed to the principles of Henry George, an American economist who believed that "individuals should own 100 percent of what they made or created, but that everything found in nature, particularly land, should belong to everyone."

**(NEWSER, POSTED 9.28.2019)** – For decades, the message to women in track and field was crystal clear: get pregnant, lose sponsorship money. A rebellion led by some of the sport's top runners, Allyson Felix, Kara Goucher and Alysia Montano, is helping to change that, [the AP](#) reports. Two months after the US women's soccer players stated their case for equal pay, women in track and field come to their major event, the world championships in Doha, having found their footing on another important crusade—retaining full pay from their sponsorship deals after they get pregnant. "It's the power of the collective," says Felix. "Alysia speaking, Kara speaking, the women's soccer team. It's just such a pivotal time right now in women's sports, and we're seeing change happen."

The six-time Olympic and 11-time world champion had a baby girl in November and will compete on the women's relay team next week at the worlds in Doha, where she will have a new apparel sponsor, Athleta, after spending years with Nike. Nike responded to the outcry, as well, announcing in May that it would not apply performance-related pay reductions for pregnant athletes for a consecutive period of 12 months. Then, last month, the company expanded that to 18 months—starting eight months before the due date—and pledged to include specific language about pregnancy in its contracts to reinforce the policy. "We recognize we can do more and that there is an important opportunity for the sports industry to evolve to support female athletes," Nike says in a statement.

**Position Statement on Gender Equity Available for Member Review:** *The National Science Teaching Association (formerly The National Science Teachers Association) strongly asserts that gender equity is critical to the advancement of science and to the achievement of global scientific literacy. NSTA members are invited to review and provide their [feedback](#) on a draft of the revised position statement on [Gender Equity in Science Education](#) this month. {When the final document is released, we will include a link in this newsletter. At present, I found it to be quite inclusive and it addresses an extensive range of strategies- Susan B.}*

## From the National Women's History Alliance (formerly NWH Project)

*Smithsonian American Women's History 100* will showcase the institution's rich collection of art and artifacts that tell the story of women's contributions to art, history, science, culture and education in a beautifully produced book to be published in the Fall of 2019. To ensure you're hearing the latest announcements and updates on the Smithsonian Women's History Initiative, you can simply get on their mailing list via <https://womenshistory.si.edu/join-the-community>.

### **HERstory – Writing Women into History**

## **World-Renowned Soprano Jessye Norman Dies at 74 – October 1, 2019**

*Meilan Solly, Smithsonian.com*

**The opera star, who championed diversity in the arts, was known for her singular voice and versatile range.** When France celebrated the 200th anniversary of revolution in 1989, Jessye Norman sang "[La Marseillaise](#)" while clad in a dress of red, white and blue. In 1986, she marked Elizabeth II's 60th birthday with a rendition of "God Save the Queen." The soprano also performed at two presidential inaugurations—that of [Ronald Reagan](#) and [Bill Clinton](#)—and was friendly with President Barack Obama, who presented her with the National Medal of Arts in 2009. Norman always credited African-American predecessors including Marian Anderson and Dorothy Maynor with paving the way for her success.

"They have made it possible for me to say, 'I will sing French opera,'" she explained in a 1983 [New York Times](#) interview, "or, 'I will sing German opera,' instead of being told, 'You will sing *Porgy and Bess*.'"

The international opera star—heralded by the [Metropolitan Opera](#) as "one of the great sopranos of the past half-century"—sang it all, embodying [roles](#) such as [Aida](#), [Carmen](#) and Isolde of [Tristan and Isolde](#), as well as starring parts in numerous [Wagnerian productions](#), over the course of her [50-year career](#).

### **October Highlights & Birthdays in U.S. Women's History from NWA**

**October 2, 1895:** Ruth Streeker, when Marines recruited women she became the first female colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve



(1943), she was awarded the Legion of Merit (1946); **1912:** Alice Bourneuf, economist, worked on the Marshall Plan to help Europe after World War II, taught economics at Boston College (1959-77)

**October 3, 1897:** Ruth Muskrat Bronson, Cherokee poet, educator and Indian rights activist, National Congress of American Indians forced authorities to honor treaties (1944), wrote *Indians are People, Too*; **October 3, 1904:** Mary McLeod Bethune opens her first school

for African American students in Daytona Beach, Florida. The Educational and Industrial Training School for Negro Girls went on to become the Bethune-Cookman College.



**October 4, 1976:** Barbara Walters becomes the first woman co-anchor of the evening news

**October 5, 1959:** Maya Lin, artist and architect of the Vietnam Memorial in Washington D.C. (1980-82) and other public sculptures, author of *Boundaries* (2000)

**October 8, 1993:** Toni Morrison becomes the first African American woman to win the Nobel Prize for Literature

**October 10, 1983:** Dr. Barbara McClintock receives the Nobel Prize for Medicine for her discovery in genetics.

**October 11, 1984:** Dr. Kathryn D. Sullivan is the first U.S. woman astronaut to walk in space during

Space Shuttle Challenger mission STS-41-G; **1884:** Eleanor Roosevelt, civil rights advocate, feminist, author, world diplomat, former First Lady, she was the first presidential spouse to hold regular press conferences.

**October 15, 1948:** Dr. Frances L. Willoughby is the first woman doctor in the regular U.S. Navy

**October 16, 1916:** Margaret Sanger opens the U.S.'s first birth control clinic in Brooklyn, NY.

**October 17, 1943:** Vilma Socorro Martinez, lawyer, first woman to serve as U.S. Ambassador to Argentina (2009)



**October 23, 1910:** Blanche Stuart Scott, already known for being the second woman to drive across the United States, becomes the first American woman pilot to make a public flight when she made her debut as a member of the Curtiss exhibition team at an air meet in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

**October 23, 1906:** Gertrude Ederle, Olympic champion, former world record-holder in five events, she was the first woman to swim the English Channel (1926)

**October 24, 1830:** Belva Lockwood, attorney, the first woman admitted to practice law before Supreme Court (1879), ran for U.S. President in 1884 and 1888, she was the first woman to appear on official ballots

**October 28, 1958:** Mary Roebing is the first woman director of a stock exchange (American Stock Exchange)

**October 31, 1860:** Juliette Low, founder and first president of the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.





**AAUW Re-Launches Branch 5-Star Recognition Program:** The new program is outlined below, with highlighted actions our branch has **already addressed** and **planned actions**. Your board will keep you apprised of continued reaching of goals.



**Programs**

- Host 3-5 strategic plan- related programs (e.g., Forum on economic security, Work Smart Online Training Day, Operation Equity: Reading for Results participation, panel on women and leadership) in FY20. **SUCCESS! Conference, Women in STEM follow-up, January program, Science Fair Judging, AEW Presentations & Testimonial**
- Representative(s) from the branch complete the community resource mapping exercise.



**Advancement**

- \$30 per capita (member) gift raised for greatest needs. Shift focus in branch giving from fellowships and grants/LAF to greatest needs or strategic plan focus areas by 50%. **{Currently, we are only \$81 away!}**
- **Retain 90% or more of your branch membership and submit annual dues by September 30.**



**Communications & External Relations**

- **All existing websites and social media presences include an Economic Security Focus and Work Smart Online.**
- (Note: Monthly posts are required for social media; Work Smart Online must be included on the website home page.)



**Public Policy & Research**

(Note: States that do not have annual legislative calendars are only required to complete two activities.)

- Conduct an annual meeting with U.S. representative(s) and/or state legislators around a strategic plan area of focus.
- **Ensure a branch public policy chair is appointed who collaborates with the state public policy chair.**
- Host at least one public event where Action Network sign-ups are collected. **November joint meeting +**



**Governance & Sustainability**

- **Align planning with state and AAUW national strategic plans.**
- Branch board institutes a succession plan to ensure new ideas and perspectives are included in the future leadership.

## Calendar for 2019 Moving Forward to 2020

~~Tuesday, March 5: Asian American Women's Equal Pay Day (Asian Women v. White, non-Hispanic Men - \$0.85)~~

~~Tuesday, April 2: All women's Equal Pay Day (Women overall v. Men overall - \$0.80)~~

~~Friday, April 19: White women's equal pay day (White, non-Hispanic Women v. White, non-Hispanic Men - \$0.77)~~

~~Monday, June 10: Moms Equal Pay Day - (\$0.69)~~

~~Thursday, August 22: Black Women's Equal Pay Day (Black Women v. White, non-Hispanic Men - \$0.61)~~

~~Monday, September 23: Native Women's Equal Pay Day (Native Women v. White, non-Hispanic Men - \$0.58)~~ *All have passed for this year's catch-up to last year when compared to men's 2018 pay.*

~~Wednesday, November 20: Latinas' Equal Pay Day (Latinas v. White, non-Hispanic Men - \$0.53)~~

**December Holiday Dinner at The Occoquan Inn ~ Date TBA**

**January Movie & Program, "Beyond Belief & Perspectives of Muslim Women" @ Ali's Home Theater ~ TBA**

**VA AAUW State Lobby Days: January 15<sup>th</sup> and February 12<sup>th</sup> (tentative)**

**February 8, 2020- "Looking Forward to Spring" Luncheon at Madigan's in Occoquan**

**March 7, 2020- Prince William-Manassas Regional Science Fair Judging**

**March 28, 2020- 30<sup>th</sup> Annual SUCCESS! Conference, Marsteller Middle School**

**April 17 - 19, 2020: VA AAUW State Conference in Alexandria!** *The Northern District branches are coordinating the event. Our branch is planning the silent auction/tickets for the baskets!*

American Association of University Women's Mission:  
*To advance gender equity for women & girls through  
research, education, and advocacy.*

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks an inclusive membership, workforce, leadership team, and board of directors. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status.

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**Kate MacLeod** [bobmacleod@verizon.net](mailto:bobmacleod@verizon.net)

AAUW of Virginia homepage <http://aauw-va.aauw.net>