



# THE SAGE HEN

## A Quarterly Publication of the AAUW Nevada State Council

### 2023 - 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter



Mission Statement: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

## President's Message:

### ***Greetings all!***

*So much has happened since I last communicated with you! November midterm elections are history. Our families celebrated holidays with loved ones. AAUW members met in their local Branches across the state, heard inspiring speakers, attended community events and learned more about DEI (diversity, equity and inclusion). And, others like me, recovered from surgery!*

***ARE WE THERE YET??*** AAUW has been empowering women since 1881 – working to improve the lives of women and their families. So, how are we doing?? AAUW's mission/purpose is to provide equity for women and girls. Our AAUW CEO, Gloria Blackwell addressed this question in the January 5, 2023 issue of Ms. Magazine. There was a link to the article in her Mission and Action Newsletter which was emailed out on January 19, 2023.

***Gender remains a major obstacle!*** Women have equal opportunities in education – BUT, a pay gap still continues. Gender biases and stereotypes about leadership persevere. Implicit biases about leadership skills are inherently masculine. I encourage you to check out the article – maybe discuss at a Branch meeting. Better yet, make plans to attend AAUW Nevada's Conference on April 23<sup>rd</sup> and hear from our speakers on how they were impacted by gender inequity – and how they persevered and became successful!

### ***AAUW Nevada's Members can speak out, learn, or be inspired!***

- ***Our Nevada Legislature officially begin their 82<sup>nd</sup> session on February 6, 2023.***  
*There are numerous ways, YOU can participate – either as an individual or a member of AAUW. Governor Joe Lombardo has shared his vision and the legislature will be reviewing his proposals and budgets! It will definitely be interesting. Debbie Nicholas is our state Public Policy Chair – check out her column on page 3 of this newsletter and sign up for the FREE Training Opportunity!*
- ***Are you baffled about gender pronouns and how to use them correctly?***  
*Sign up for the ZOOM DEI session being scheduled for this Spring! Jennifer Verive, AAUW NV Program & DEI Chair is planning a session in collaboration with our Capital Branch. More details coming to you via email!*
- ***Attend our AAUW Nevada State Conference on Saturday, April 22, 2023!***  
*You should already have received the "Save the Date" flyer. You are encouraged to "Get IN the Mood: INspire, INnovate, and INform." These women leaders are inspirational! All members will receive an email invitation to register for this ZOOM meeting. You will be inspired and informed!*

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**President's Message:** (Continued from page 1)

***YOUR vote needed in AAUW National election!***

- *AAUW's National Election begins on April 5<sup>th</sup> and ends on May 15<sup>th</sup>. Election results will be announced on May 17<sup>th</sup>! This election includes major revisions to our AAUW National Bylaws. The proposed revisions ensure compliance with all Internal Revenue Codes and Law, as well as being consistent with District of Columbia requirements.*
- *Other election matters include the election of new Board members and approval of AAUW's Public Policy..*
- *ALL AAUW members will have the opportunity to vote. ALL AAUW MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO VERIFY THEIR EMAIL ADDRESS IN THE AAUW COMMUNITY HUB! If you are having problems – reach out to your Branch membership chair to see if she can help you. Ballots will be sent to all AAUW members at the primary mailing address listed in your membership information.*
- *AAUW's NCCWSL Conference will be in-person! May 31 – June 3<sup>rd</sup>! AAUW NV is offering scholarships for interested young women. Check out our website at <https://aauw-nv.aauw.net/> Applications are due no later than March 15, 2023. Maybe some Branch scholarship recipients might be interested – just a thought.*

*Looking forward to see you on April 22nd- or before!*

*Thanks for all YOU do in support of AAUW locally, statewide AND nationally.*

*Caroline Punches  
President, AAUW of Nevada*



**In adversity, there is beauty  
and there is strength.**

**– Maya Angelou**





## PUBLIC POLICY

by Debbie Nicholas

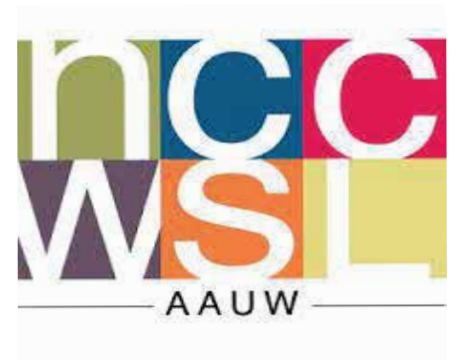
### Free Training for Nevada Legislature

The Nevada Women's Lobby is hosting a **Pre-Game Zoom** for 2023 Grassroots Lobby Days on Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 from 6 – 7:30 p.m. Learn about this great opportunity to participate in the Nevada Legislative Session! It's FREE!!!!

[https://nevadawomenslobby.salsalabs.org/2023GLDPreGame/index.html?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=435f17d6-8e87-4558-89ac-af48e8b7a78d&sl\\_tc=GLD2021](https://nevadawomenslobby.salsalabs.org/2023GLDPreGame/index.html?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=435f17d6-8e87-4558-89ac-af48e8b7a78d&sl_tc=GLD2021)



### 2023 NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR COLLEGE WOMEN STUDENT LEADERS (NCCWSL)



**AAUW Nevada is pleased to announce that applications for scholarships to attend the 2023 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) in May are now open! Locally funded scholarships are available to any female college student who is a Nevada resident or attending a Nevada college or university. The scholarship includes conference registration and meals, airport transportation and up to \$500 for airfare.**

NCCWSL is where hundreds of young women come to turn a moment into a movement. Each year, hundreds of college women from around the country come together for three days of leadership training, inspiration and networking. It is the premier experience for elevating leadership, advocacy and equity for college women, with access to dynamic speakers, workshops and panels. This year's event will be held at the University of Maryland, College Park from **May 31-June 3, 2023**. You can find the latest conference information at [www.nccwsl.org](http://www.nccwsl.org)

Please ask your eligible friends, daughters, granddaughters to apply.

- All eligible candidates for the AAUW Nevada NCCWSL scholarship <https://aauw-nv.aauw.net/nccwsl-registration/> Applications are due by March 15, 2023.
- Any female college student who does not meet the AAUW Nevada criteria can apply for the NCCWSL national scholarship (registration-only) at <https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/nccwsl/attend/scholarships/> .





SAVE THE DATE



**APRIL 22 ,  
2023**  
9:00 a.m. to  
12:30 p.m.

**2023 AAUW Nevada  
SPRING CONVENTION**  
“Get IN the Mood:  
INspire, INnovate, INform”  
Via ZOOM

Focusing on Women's Health and Wellbeing,  
we are honored to share presentations by

- Keynote Speaker: Michelle Joy, President & CEO of Carson Tahoe Health
- Keynote Speaker: Marissa Castillo, Executive Director of Miss Silver State Pageants, first pageant to crown a transgender winner
- Panel discussion on Reproductive Rights - Moderator: Daphne DeLeon, Administrative Services Officer, Nevada Division of Museums & History



**Michelle Joy**  
President & CEO of  
Carson Tahoe Health

**Marissa Castillo**  
Executive Director of  
Miss Silver State Pageants

**Daphne DeLeon**  
Panel Moderator  
Administrative Services Officer  
Nevada Division of  
Museums & History

- Get IN the mood to be INspired, to INnovate, and be INformed!
- LISTEN to several outstanding women leaders in one day!
- YOU can attend from the comfort of your OWN home.
- **YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS!!**



### ***From the Boulder City Branch:***

November 2022 brought the Director of the Boulder City Library as our guest speaker. She announced new programs and discussed management of book banning requests. In the process, no books have been banned from the Boulder City Library.

In December 2022, our members gathered for a social Holiday Luncheon at the Boulder Dam Restaurant and discussed books suggested at the last monthly Book Group meeting.

January 2023 monthly meeting included members from the Boulder City Art & History Foundation and the Boulder City Preservation Committee to discuss ideas and recommendations pertaining to resuming AAUW's Home Tour Scholarship Fundraiser. This event has been a local tradition for more than 40 years but was on hiatus during the pandemic. A date in November 2023 was identified and potential homes and volunteers recruited. Boulder City membership has increased to 22 members.



January also brought the Las Vegas Branch to Boulder City for a social luncheon at Fox's Smokehouse BBQ. Ideas for program socials and other Branch activities were shared by the members.



***Do the best you can until you know better.  
Then, when you know better, DO better!  
- Maya Angelou***

### ***From the Capital Branch:***

Capital Branch is pleased and proud to announce the appointment of our new DEI Coordinator. Kathy Steinle has been appointed to this new role and will begin her duties in February. We know she will do a splendid job in this role as she brings new projects, knowledge, and information to our Branch. Thank you, Kathy and we wish you much success!

Attention all Non-Event Chocolate Lovers who want to relax at home! Our Branch is holding our traditional Non-Event "Feast of Chocolate" Fundraiser this Spring. The kick off will be prior to Valentine's Day. Invitations to participate through donations will be sent to members and past donors in the next week or two. We encourage all those interested in supporting our scholarship program for graduating high school seniors and college students to make whatever donation they are able to provide.

Capital Branch has had a very busy year already with more events and excitement to come! Following our September Membership Luncheon at the Governor's Mansion, we had an amazing program presented by Ian Smith from *Braver Angels* discussing how to have difficult conversations with members of a different political party. In November, our speaker was not able to join us, so we took the opportunity to discuss ways our Branch can operationalize our DEI values and build an Allyship program. There were many suggestions for our Branch to follow up on in the months ahead.

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Branch News  
(Continued from Page 5)

***From the Capital Branch (continued):***

December brought us together for our annual holiday party attended by more than 35 members and significant others. We shared great food and wonderful connections in the lovely home of Barbara Kuehner. Our thanks to Barbara!

In January, Shannon McDaniel joined us to share her amazing experiences working as an engineer for our area's water district. In addition to bringing great information about our water supply and sources, she also shared her experiences being a young woman in what has been traditionally a man's career. She was a wealth of knowledge and an inspiration for future engineers!

Our topic for February will be mental health and promises to be a fascinating presentation and follow up discussion, and in March, our Public Policy Co-Chairs will present details on the 2023 Legislative Session.



***From the Fallon Branch:***

In September we began our new year with a Welcome Back - Membership Pot Luck. Our special guest was Caroline Panches, our state President, who between my directions and Google maps, found us. We had a lovely lunch and Caroline was very informative about AAUW issues and the upcoming election.

Our October program was a visit to the Churchill County School District offices and a sit down lunch with Superintendent Summer Stevens. We were very impressed with all the opportunities our district is providing for the students at all grade levels.

November found us taking a tour of the new Rafters 3C Arena at the Fair Grounds. What a spectacular building! The public was invited and lunch was provided. We also got two new members!

December was our yearly candy sale fundraiser at one of the Christmas Fairs. We actually did much better than expected!

We enjoyed a January New Years Luncheon, and our Film Festival will be held on Saturday, February 11th at 1:00 p.m.. The film will be French Kiss, with Meg Ryan. Hors d'oeuvres and treats will be served.

We are looking forward to the AAUW State Spring Convention on April 22nd.



***From the Las Vegas Branch:***

AAUW Las Vegas Branch has made a positive impact in our community by participating in the Girl Scouts of Southern Nevada coat and toy drive. Donations were collected during our November and December meetings. The donated coats went to the Las Vegas Mission, Shade Tree, Las Vegas VA, and Shannon West Homeless Shelter. The toys went to the children at Boys Town. We plan to continue to support the Girl Scouts by volunteering on February 11, 2023 for the *Cookie Mega Drop*. It is sponsored by the Southern Nevada Outreach Program for the Girl Scouts. Members of the Branch will help out at this event.

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Branch News  
(Continued from Page 6)

***From the Las Vegas Branch (continued):***

The Las Vegas Branch has had engaging speakers and wonderful get-togethers. At our kick-off ice cream social in August, we were able to meet prospective new members and invite them to our meetings. So far this year, we have welcomed 15 new members. We held a candidate forum and have had engaging speakers who have enlightened us in the areas of gender equity, economic security, empowerment, education, advocacy, and inclusion. Our speakers have been Dr. Evelyn-Thompson Hilbert, Mindfulness and Leadership; Joe Schoenman, News Director Nevada Public Radio and Mark Vogelzang, President & CEO Nevada Public Radio; Marie Mortera, KSNV Channel 3; and Chelonda Whitscell-Tuggle, CDC Certified Lifestyle Coach and NASM Personal Trainer. Our future guests will be Dr. Sandra Mack, Gender Equality and Women in Education; Women in Medicine (a panel of women doctors); Angel Brock, Nurse Practitioner and President of Southern Nevada Black Nurses Association; and our Scholarship winners, Fuatino Aimaasa, NSC; Kaila Charlebois, NSC; Carly Conrad, NSC; Vanessa Magana-Pedraza, NSC; and Miah Strellnauer, UNLV.

At our scholarship fundraiser, we raised over \$4,000 for scholarships. We hope to get applicants from both Nevada State College and UNLV.

We have made strides with Public Policy. Evelyn Thompson-Hilbert is our new Public Policy Chair. We are excited to have her keep us current on AAUW policy and the Nevada State Legislation's 82<sup>nd</sup> session.

The Las Vegas Branch has been asked to be the host for the 2023 AAUW State Spring Conference in April. We will be doing a 10 to 15 minute PowerPoint presentation. We look forward to highlighting our Branch and its rich history.

Our interest groups have been thriving. The *Bridge Group* raises money during their bridge marathons and donates the money to the Scholarship Fund. The *Book Club* meets monthly on the fourth Monday of each month. They recently read The Paris Apartment. The *Out to Lunch* group has been meeting monthly, usually on the fourth Thursday. In January, they met in Boulder City to have lunch with the Boulder City Branch ladies. They would love to do it again in the near future! The *Theatre* group is planning another outing. It will be on Saturday, May 13, at 2 pm, at the Smith Center to see the Nevada Ballet perform the *Wizard of Oz*. After the performance, they will meet for dinner. Las Vegas Branch encourages getting together with members and new friends to share our wonderful organization.

*It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our dear AAUW friend, Dr. Lola Vivian Jefferies Jackson. She passed on October 17, 2022. Lola was our Las Vegas Branch President from 2012-2014 and 2009-2010. She was a long time member of AAUW. In Greensboro, North Carolina, Lola received the AAUW Educational Foundation Award in 2002. In 2007, she received the Dr. Mary B. Floyd Award. This award was for AAUW members whose service goes beyond their elected or appointed office. Lola, we will miss your good heart, sense of humor, and the helping hand that you selflessly extended to us. We were fortunate that when you moved to Las Vegas, you shared your enthusiasm of promoting equity and education for women and girls with us!*



Dr. Lola Jackson

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Branch News  
(Continued from Page 7)

**From the Reno Branch:**

The Reno Branch DEI committee has developed a very exciting, interesting, and informative array of programs for our monthly meetings. We have had presentations on a variety of topics related to our AAUW mission by professors and experts from UNLV and UNR, as well as wonderful documentary films scheduled for viewing prior to the meetings.

The November program focused on the oppression of Indigenous populations and the slowness of change. The accompanying video, *Warrior Women*, is available for a fee at

<https://vimeo.com/ondemand/warriorwomen/444067688>.

The January program looked at the history of efforts to obtain gender equity across cultures and was preceded by the opportunity to view the documentary *She's Beautiful When She's Angry* (available on YouTube at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e-n829QzZ58&t=48s>).

Yet to come are more exciting programs and films: one looking at academic successes for students of color and another on the implications of overturning of Roe v. Wade on women's reproductive rights and what is being done to ameliorate the situation.

The membership has shown great interest by attending and being prepared with many relevant questions and comments.

**From the Tahoe-Nevada Branch:**

The Tahoe Nevada Branch was very active in the second half of 2022. We began in July by celebrating our Scholarship Recipients as our Hometown Heroes in our local 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. In August, we sent out \$15,000 in scholarship payments for the seven students we are currently supporting as they pursue their college careers at institutions across the country.

Our Scholarship Committee also started a mentoring program for the newest class of scholarship recipients; Members volunteered to be matched with the new college students to help them successfully navigate the transition from high school to the next phase of their academic career. We have found that, especially since COVID, some of the young women were having difficulty continuing with their planned academic path. Using a mentor as a sounding board and a resource to help get classes added in a timely manner and discuss career paths has been very beneficial as they begin their college journeys.

We wrapped up the month of August with a very successful Silent Auction and Garden Party fundraiser which showcased local artists on a beautiful estate on Lake Tahoe.

The highlight of our Fall was the initial offering of our new Community Education Grant Program. We were able to award over \$12,000 in grants to fund programs in all three Incline Village public schools and at the local branch of the Washoe County Library. Benefitted programs include Engineering classes at Incline High, a Culinary Club at the local middle school, a math intervention program at Incline Elementary School, and a Living Library Garden to be used during Weird Science Wednesdays at the public library. Our Community Education Grant Program will be accepting applications for another grant period this Spring, and we anticipate distributing nearly another \$8,000 to programs that advance our mission in our community.

Our monthly program meetings have covered topics such as the history of Incline Village, the Nevada Land Trust, a tour of the Thunderbird Lodge, and a Creativity Workshop.

As we look forward to 2023, we will have presentations by a local author on memoir writing, a presentation by the organization working towards forming the City of Incline Village, and a discussion with a representative from the new University of Nevada at Lake Tahoe campus. The work our Branch is able to accomplish is possible because of a dedicated leadership team, enthusiastic volunteers, and our 128 motivated Members.





### 2022-2024 AAUW State Council Information

	OFFICE	NAME	EMAIL	PHONE #	BRANCH
E	President	Caroline Punches	<a href="mailto:Cpunches206@charter.net">Cpunches206@charter.net</a>	775-246-1850 775-443-8318	Capital
E	Treasurer/Finance	Jane Johnson	<a href="mailto:jane3491@charter.net">jane3491@charter.net</a>	775-267-3427	Capital
E	Secretary	Helene Winkler	<a href="mailto:hipwinkler@yahoo.com">hipwinkler@yahoo.com</a>	702-916-4663, 310-998-7969	Las Vegas
E	Program/DEI	Jennifer Verive	<a href="mailto:jmverive@gmail.com">jmverive@gmail.com</a>	775-315-4748	Capital
E	Public Policy	Debbie Nicholas	<a href="mailto:Nicholas89451@gmail.com">Nicholas89451@gmail.com</a>	775-843-0775	Tahoe
E	Newsletter	Millie Szerman	<a href="mailto:MillieSz746@gmail.com">MillieSz746@gmail.com</a>	775-833-3311	Tahoe
E	Membership	Marian Stanton	<a href="mailto:mikistanto@aol.com">mikistanto@aol.com</a>	702-263-1028	Las Vegas
E	At Large	Janet Usinger	<a href="mailto:usingerj@unr.edu">usingerj@unr.edu</a>	775-831-0343 775-240-1004	Tahoe
	Past President	Janice Flanagan	<a href="mailto:janflangan@aol.com">janflangan@aol.com</a>	775-828-1993	Reno
E	Communications	Doris Dowden	<a href="mailto:Dsquared2@sbcglobal.net">Dsquared2@sbcglobal.net</a>	775-827-2481 775-750-1560	Reno/Cap



## Academic Success

**Speaker:** Dr. Donald Easton-Brooks is Dean of UNR College of Education and Human Development. He's a distinguished scholar, prolific author, and forward thinker on culturally responsive practice, diversity, equity, and anti-racism in higher education.

**Topic:** Dr. Easton-Brooks will speak about the work in promoting student success.

**Our recommended documentary film is available on Vimeo. You can watch it before the program meeting:** SNCC. Danny Lyon, 2020. MusicBox Films. Vimeo, <https://vimeo.com/483738977>

**Zoom Program Meeting:**

Lorem ipsum

Please click here to **RSVP**. The meeting is on Saturday, February 11, 2023, from 9:30-11:30 a.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87271316958?pwd=Q2VCdk50REFodHRsL3llbU9QMnBRQT09>

Or join us by phone: 1 (408) 638-0968

Meeting ID: 872 7131 6958; Passcode: 763651

# LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

Could fame, fortune, and love be on the menu for a hapless flower shop assistant after he crosses paths with a new and unusual plant? or will this strange, sentient seedling have other things in mind? This campy, cheerful romp has devoured the hearts of audiences throughout the world for over 30 years. The legendary team of Howard Ashman and Alan Menken (Disney's *Aladdin*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and *The Little Mermaid*) are behind this delicious sci-fi smash musical that features popular favorites such as "Suddenly, Seymour," "Skid Row," and "Somewhere That's Green."



present a  
Summer fundraiser

LAKE TAHOE  
*Shakespeare*  
FESTIVAL

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**5:30 p.m.**

**Sand Harbor Amphitheater**

**Tickets: \$ 85.00**

**includes: Appetizers, Wine/Beer, Dessert, Coffee/Tea**

**BUY YOURS TODAY!!**

AAUW Tahoe Nevada  
P.O. Box 5465  
Incline Village, NV 89450

For more information:  
Millie Szerman  
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American Association of University Women Tahoe Nevada is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation formed in Nevada and registered with the Nevada Secretary of State (Federal Tax I.D. #943055754). Our purpose is the advancement of equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.