



V I S I O N S

Fall
Vol. XXXIX
No. 3

AAUW and Crisis Recovery Emerging from the Pandemic

The past eighteen months have been devastating on so many fronts. The United States has lost 625,000 people to Covid. Businesses, educational institutions, cultural institutions have all been severely impacted. Crisis recovery requires not only a multi-faceted response, it requires renewed focus on the many roles women in our society are expected to juggle - simultaneously.

While our nation's infrastructure is certainly worthy of funds for repair, infrastructure also includes good jobs for women, affordable health care, high quality child care and educational and vocational opportunities for all Americans. These aspects of American infrastructure suffer in comparison to what is the norm in much of the industrialized world.

Women are the glue that holds society together. Women are often both homemakers and wage-earners. Women bear a disproportionate burden in normal times and this is exacerbated during a crisis. We are IN A CRISIS NOW!

What can we do? We need to make sure our elected officials hear us. Women and children need government programs and protections so that women can continue to make essential contributions to society and children are guaranteed good care and education.

Contact your members of Congress

Write a Letter to the Editor

Participate in local organizations which focus on societal improvement and
AAUW is at the top of that list!

Study and Interest Groups

Diverse Topics At this time,
no in-person meetings

Mahjongg 2nd & 4th Mon.
September 13
Host: Dotty Potochnik

Varied Interests
Thursday, September 9
Lunch at the Glenville
Queen

Gourmet
September – No meeting
October 8 – TBD
Host, Pat Terry
November – No Meeting
December 4 - Holiday fest,
Host: Puckette, Weldon

Modern Literature

September 14 – *The Girls with the Louding Voice*
By Abi Dari
Host: Bobbi Richardson, 1417 Fox Hollow Rd.
Niskayuna

October 12 – *The Henna Artist* by Alka Joshi
Host: Robin Eddy 1222 Hempstead Rd.
Niskayuna

November 9 – *The Vanishing Half*
by Britt Bennett

Host: Dottie Potochnik
5000 Queen Philomena Blvd. Apt. 229, Schenectady

*If you have an idea for another group or would
like to join one of these groups, please contact
Arlene Mananville at 518-384-1639 or
amara041@aol.com*

MEMBERSHIP

Thanks to all our members who renewed on time. It is wonderful to see the commitment we all have to support our AAUW mission. We are slowly returning to gathering together in our Study Groups. Some of our groups have been very creative during the pandemic by meeting in parks and on zoom. We hope we will be able to return to a normal schedule in the near future.

This pandemic has had its ups and downs and we are so thankful that our members have continued to support our Branch even though our programs are on pause. We are looking forward to our 2021/22 program year and hope we can once again gather as a Branch at a luncheon or a General Meeting.

I am saddened to inform you of the passing of honorary life member, **Ann Bish**. Ann has been a loyal and supportive AAUW member since 1958. She contributed in so many ways to our Branch and was a strong defender of women's rights. I will always remember Ann's story of meeting Eleanor Roosevelt. Ann was a gracious lady and we will miss her warm and beautiful smile. ~ Bobbi Richardson, Membership Co-chair

NOTES FROM THE BOARD

We continue to meet via Zoom, to keep up with issues affecting our branch.

We NEED your help. The members you see listed below have been on the Board for years. We need your help to share responsibilities. If you are interested, *even a small part of a position*, contact Bobbi or Robin.

The following is the slate of candidates for the upcoming year: If you are interested in one or more of the open positions, contact Bobbi or Robin.

Presidential Council: **OPEN**
Treasurer: Karen Huggins
Secretary: Ann Hicks
Membership: Bobbi Richardson
& Jackie Mendini
Directory: Robin Eddy
Circulation: Pat Terry
Website: Robin Eddy

Social Events: **OPEN**
Program VP: **OPEN**
Communication/Publicity: Ellen Auerbach
AAUW Funds: **OPEN**
College/University Liaison: Robin Eddy
Newsletter: Faith Weldon and Robin Eddy
Bylaws: Robin Eddy
Circulation: Pat Terry



Here's an upcoming opportunity that provides lots of smiles and fun creativity to the children in our community. The annual **Kids' Arts Festival** will be held Saturday, September 25 from 12-4 at Schenectady City Hall. We staff a booth in 2 hr. shifts, where children decorate tote bags to carry the treasures they create at other booths. It is a fun day for everyone. Our Branch has been participating for years. If you can help, contact Bobbi Richardson at 518-346-6697 or Roberta_Richardson@hotmail.com

Check out these upcoming programs:

Thursday September 9th, 7:00 p.m.

History Shock: When History Collides with Foreign Relations

Presenter: John Dickson

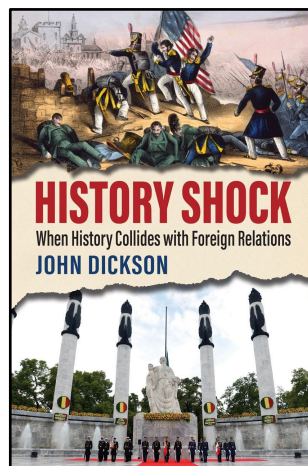
Retired Foreign Service Office & Author of the New Book

For more information about this interesting program, go to
<https://berkshireolli.org/event-4432586>

This program will be Online via Zoom.

Free & Open to All

Register at <https://berkshireolli.org/event-4432586/Registration> or [RSVP here to receive link.](#)



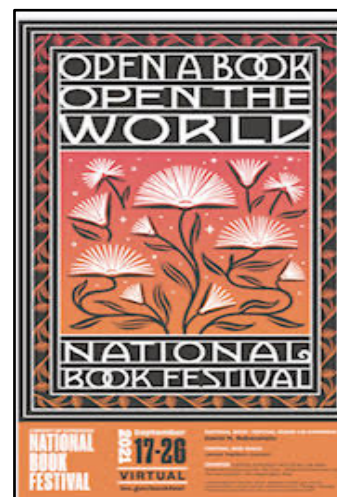
September 17-26

The National Book Festival, Washington DC 2021

For a number of years some members of AAUW have been traveling to Washington DC to participate in the annual National Book Festival held in September. It was a great opportunity to listen to authors of your favorite books.

Since the COVID crisis, the Festival has gone virtual. This year the Festival will offer a variety of ways to see famous authors online, through videos on demand, author conversations in real time and live question-and-answer sessions, as well as a new podcast series and a national television special on PBS.

You will be able to create your own festival experience from a variety of programs and formats with an expanded schedule over 10 days, September 17-26. For full details and the authors participating this year go to www.loc.gov.



October 14, 7:00 pm on Zoom

Women's rights, Education, Leadership and Social Justice: What did Sojourner Truth Say?

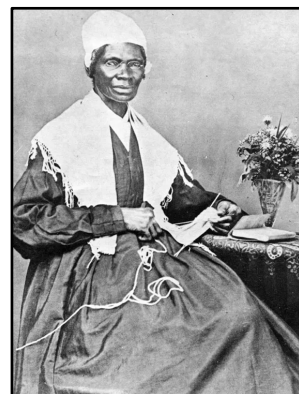
Grace Angela Henry's captivating portrayal of Sojourner Truth will give a glimpse into the thoughts and perspectives of the 19th century civil rights icon.

This program is being sponsored by the AAUW-Poughkeepsie Branch.

Register in advance for this meeting using this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUkc--hqDsvGtQMEMFSW-XmmNog9IXlcKL1>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.





VISIONS

Schenectady Branch Newsletter AAUW

The deadline for newsletter items is the 1st week of the month prior to publication.

Editor Faith Weldon and Robin Eddy
Circulation: Pat Terry

Website: schenectady-ny.aauw.net

AAUW's Strategic Plan

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

Vision: Equity for all

Values: Nonpartisan, Fact-based. Integrity, Inclusion and Intersectionality

Our Focus

- Education & Training
- Economic Security
- Leadership

<https://www.aauw.org/who-we-are>

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Clifton Park, NY 12065*

**GET YOUR
NEWSLETTER
IN COLOR
Just a click away!**

To get VISIONS in color with the ability to click on links, get it delivered to your email days earlier, and save on printing and postage costs, email Faith Weldon to update your delivery status.
fpweldon@gmail.com