



## AAUW Tennessee Serving Its Branches

Dear AAUW Tennessee Members and Friends,

By the time you read this letter, I will have passed the president's gavel to our new state president, Samantha Cantrell. Thank you, Samantha, for serving AAUW Tennessee in this important way. I look forward to your capable leadership.

One of the great lessons I have learned from serving as state president is how much our branches and members benefit from the state organization, so that will be the theme of this, my last message as your state president.

AAUW Tennessee was founded in 1926 to further AAUW purposes and policies and to promote, encourage, and coordinate the work of the branches within the state. The state serves its branches and members in a number of ways:

- **Branch Networking**—AAUW Tennessee works to keep its nine branches connected through meetings at state conventions and leadership summits, sharing branch success stories in newsletters and emails, and announcing branch activities and events on the state website, facebook, and twitter.
- **Branch Assistance**— AAUW Tennessee assists branches with bylaws revisions, membership recruitment, mission-based programming, and social media tutoring.
- **Leadership Training and Opportunities**— AAUW Tennessee has twelve leadership roles to fill each year and focuses on leadership training at its summer meeting, giving members opportunities to build on their leadership skills and enhance their resumes.
- **Public Policy Resource**— AAUW Tennessee invites and assists branches in planning advocacy activities and events and provides branches with materials to support those activities and events, such as the *Tennessee Voter Registration Guide* and position papers on public

policy issues. The state also offers branch members opportunities to participate in public policy initiatives via statewide Action Alerts, meetings with state legislators, and grants to branches for public policy work.

- **AAUW-TN NCCWSL Scholarships**— AAUW Tennessee invites branches to nominate college students for AAUW-TN Scholarships to attend the annual National Conference for College Women Leaders. The scholarship covers the student's conference fee and is supported by the state's NCCWSL fund raising activities.
- **Communication with AAUW Members-at-Large in Tennessee**—AAUW Tennessee also encourages National Members in Tennessee to support AAUW's mission in Tennessee. MALs receive state newsletters, invitations to state meetings, and most other notices that branch members receive.

AAUW Tennessee supports the work of its branches and recognizes that a strong AAUW presence in Tennessee depends on the communication, collaboration, and coordination between branch and state. State leaders value branch representation on the state board of directors where as members of the Advisory Committee, branch representatives have an important role in determining the goals and programs of the state.

As nine separate branches, we are limited to what we can accomplish, but bound together as a state organization, we can do much together to advance AAUW's mission in Tennessee.

Yours in the One AAUW,  
B. Ayne Cantrell, President  
AAUW Tennessee 2015-2016

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## AAUW-TN Leadership Summit



Fourteen AAUW State and Branch leaders met on June 4 in Murfreesboro for the **AAUW-TN Leadership Summit** where Dia Cirillo led the group through strategic planning for 2016-17. First row L to R: Dia Cirillo, Anne Loy, Phyllis Driver, Samantha Cantrell, Nancy James, Letha Granberry. Second row L to R: Myra Norman, Connie Malarkey, Ayne Cantrell, Heidi Busch, Ann Indingaro. Back row L to R: Sue Byrd, Peggy Swann. Photographer Rachel Schultz.

## AAUW ONLINE

[aauw.org](http://aauw.org)

[aauw-tn.aauw.net](http://aauw-tn.aauw.net)

[facebook.com/aauw.tn](https://facebook.com/aauw.tn)

# AAUW TENNESSEE - 2015-2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In 2015-2016 AAUW Tennessee celebrated its 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary and

- Awarded state scholarships (\$500 each) for three students to attend the 2016 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)
  - Ran a successful bumper sticker fund raiser--I AM WOMAN WATCH ME VOTE--that yielded over \$1000 to offset state operational expenses
  - Co-sponsored the Tennessee Economic Summit for Women (October 25-26, Nashville)
  - Received an AAUW National Impact Grant for the second year
  - Conducted a successful public policy program in support of Equal Pay:
1. Built an effective partnership with the House Democratic Caucus on the existing Pay Equality Act (HB1947/SB2298). Through this partnership, the state developed the Pay Transparency Act (HB1948/SB2297), provided testimony at the hearing for Pay Equality, and served as the go-to organization on all matters regarding pay equity

2. Hosted a delegation of 11 individuals at 4 scheduled legislative visits during Women's Day on the Hill (Tennessee General Assembly, March 16<sup>th</sup>), one visit each with a Republican and Democrat of each chamber to advocate for pay equity
  3. Created a Voter Registration and Turn-Out Guide, which will serve AAUW-TN for years to come
  4. Collaborated with 7 branches and 20 organizations to host 4 Equal Pay Forums across the state in Knoxville, Martin, Memphis, and Murfreesboro—with a total of 181 attendees
  5. Garnered media coverage in four publications and on one TV newscast
  6. Sent out 5 action alerts to the state's 1500+ action network members
  7. Conducted a Twitter Storm on Equal Pay Day
- Created a Communications Team, which produced and widely disseminated a one-page core document that describes the work of AAUW Tennessee, completed a revision of the state website, expanded the use of

social media to promote AAUW in Tennessee and provided members with Twitter Tip Sheets, revised a listserv for contact with AAUW Members-at-Large in Tennessee, and published three newsletters sent to branch members statewide and to AAUW Members-at-Large in Tennessee

- Focused on the need for membership diversity by encouraging branches to name Diversity Chairs, publicizing national's Diversity/Inclusion Tool Kit and diversity webinar, and surveying branch progress on reaching state diversity goals
- Presented an outstanding annual convention--"Examining Equity in Education and Employment"--hosted by the Nashville Branch at the Scarritt Bennett Center (April 8-9, Nashville) with 47 registrants (an increase of 13 attendees over the previous convention) and a program with two national speakers and one local speaker

Thanks to all who helped us advance the mission of AAUW in Tennessee in these remarkable ways!

## NEWS FROM THE BRANCHES

**MURFREESBORO**—Since you last heard from us, the "Boro" branch has made great strides in shaping the public debate.

- Launched a new fundraiser in February, "Songs for Scholarships," featuring live music and a silent auction to benefit our scholarship fund
- Held a February workshop on "Talking About and Closing the Pay Gap," presented by branch members with professional experience in public policy
- Co-hosted "Equal Dime for Equal Time" forum in March with the Nashville branch, where elected officials from both parties collaborated in discussion
- Attended the Women's Day on the Hill in Nashville to advocate for equal pay



- Presented Equal Pay Day programs to students in collaboration with the MTSU graduate college, including a Start Smart workshop and an advocacy training
- Nominated two branch members for the Rutherford County "ATHENA Award"
- Hosted a panel discussion on sexual assault during April as part of Sexual Assault Awareness Month
- Celebrated our accomplishments in May and acknowledged contributions of our talented branch members
- Raised in total ~\$7500 this year and gained 5 new branch members

**OAK RIDGE**—HAPPY 65TH ANNIVERSARY, Oak Ridge Branch!

- Co-hosted the East Tennessee Forum "Women's Pay Equity: Why It Matters to You!" on March 15 with the Knoxville and Maryville branches and

co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters and Knoxville YWCA

- Co-sponsored the March 24th branch meeting with FORNL (Friends of Oak Ridge National Lab) which featured astronomer Dr. Nancy Grace Roman, who is known by many as the "Mother of Hubble" for her role in planning the Hubble Telescope. 175 people attended the meeting, which was also held in celebration of the branch's 65th anniversary
- Created a Women's History Month display at the Oak Ridge Public Library that announced Dr. Roman's speaking event and the branch's 65th anniversary
- Focused on "Community Colleges" as the May branch program and invited the branch's 5 scholarship recipients to attend



# AAUW-TN 2016 Convention in Snapshots

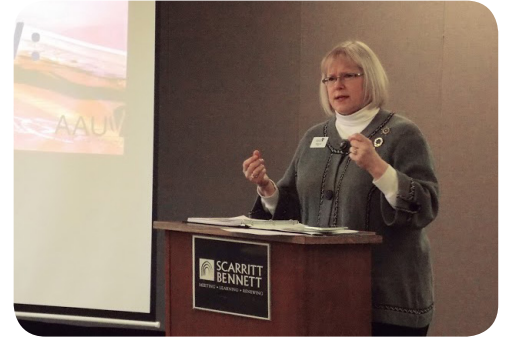
On April 9, 2016, AAUW Tennessee convened in Nashville at the Scarritt Bennett Center to celebrate its 90th anniversary with an outstanding convention. Here is a sampling in snapshots of convention activities. Much thanks to photographer Rachel Shultz.



President-Elect Samantha Cantrell introduces the convention theme "Examining Equity in Education and Employment."



Members peruse items at the NCCWSL Used Book Sale fundraiser. Development Chair Anne Loy reported that \$135.00 was raised for the AAUW-TN NCCWSL Scholarship Fund.



Malinda Gaul of the AAUW National Board gave the latest updates from national and also reported that Tennesseans sent more than 2,800 messages to the US Congress about equal pay.



Erin Prangley, Associate Director of Government Relations for AAUW, gave us new ammunition in the fight for equal pay by pointing out how the pay gap causes women to lag behind men in repaying their student loans.



Kayce Matthews, Program Specialist for the Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence, walked us through the complexities of Title IX and the latest federal requirements about reporting on, responding to, and working to prevent sexual assaults on campuses.



2016 AAUW-TN NCCWSL Scholarship recipients Molly Blankenship (MTSU) and Ufoma Otebele (UT Martin) are recognized by state NCCWSL Co-chairs Teresa Collard and Lis Le Bleu. Scholarship recipient Haley Wilson (UT Chattanooga) was not able to attend the convention.



Branch presidents (Anne Loy, Knoxville; Peggy Emmett, Oak Ridge; Rachel Wright, Nashville; Vicki Armstrong, Memphis; Dia Cirillo, Murfreesboro; Heidi Busch, Martin; Karen Coleman, Maryville) display their certificates recognizing branch achievements in membership, mission-based programming, STEM activities, AAUW workshops, and AAUW funding.



AAUW-TN Public Policy Chair Dia Cirillo shared highlights of the state's Equal Pay activities: "By far, this year has produced the most noteworthy accomplishments in the last three years. We demonstrated to ourselves and the public that we have the knowledge and skill to shape the public dialogue on equal pay in Tennessee and became the de facto organization shaping this discussion."



AAUW-TN Past President Peggy Emmett (L) installed 2016-17 state officers President Samantha Cantrell and President-Elect Letha Granberry. As immediate past president, Ayne Cantrell (R) will sit on the Executive Committee.



UT Martin students with advisors Lisa Le Bleu and Teresa Collard left home at 4:00 AM to make it to the convention on time. Now that's dedication!



Left: Nashville Branch President Rachel Wright (L) with branch members Amanda Chiavini and Kim Troup. Thanks Nashville Branch for hosting a great convention!

# AAUW Tennessee 2016-2017 Calendar

2016

2017

## August 23

African American Women's Equal Pay Day (On the average African American Women earn 63% of what men earn. Although women of all races are paid \$.79 for every dollar men of all races, across all occupations are paid, the wage gaps for nearly all other major racial groups are dramatically wider. Data based on calculations using 2014 median year round, full time earnings.)

## August 26

Women's Equality Day (Proclaimed each year by the United State President to commemorate the granting of the vote to women throughout the country. Women in the United States were granted the right to vote on August 26, 1920, when the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution was certified as law.)

## August 26

Unveiling of the Woman Suffrage Monument, 11:00 AM, Centennial Park, Nashville

## September 14

Native American Women's Equal Pay Day (On the average Native American Women are paid 59% for every dollar men of all races, across all occupations are paid.)

## October TBA

AAUW-TN Board Conference Call

## October 31

Publication of AAUW Tennessee Fall Newsletter

## November 1

- First Call for AAUW-TN NCCWSL Scholarship Nominations
- Call for Nominations for AAUW-TN President-Elect and Financial Officer.
- Latina Women's Equal Pay Day (On the average Latina women are paid 54% for every dollar men of all races, across all occupations are paid.)

## January 5

Second Call for AAUW-TN NCCWSL Scholarship Nominations

## February 15

Deadline for Nominations for AAUW-TN NCCWSL Scholarships

## February 28

Publication of AAUW Tennessee Winter/Spring Newsletter

## March 1

Deadline for Nominees' Applications for AAUW-TN NCCWSL Scholarships

## March

Women's History Month

## March

Women's Lobby DAY ON THE HILL in Nashville (Date and Time TBA)

## March 8

International Woman's Day (Annually held on March 8 to celebrate women's achievements throughout history and across nations. It is also known as the United Nations Day for Women's Rights and International Peace.)

## March 31

Pre-convention Board Dinner Meeting, Hosted by the Memphis Branch. Time and Place TBA

## April 1

AAUW Tennessee Convention & Annual Business Meeting, Hosted by the Memphis Branch, Time and Place TBA

## April 4

Equal Pay Day & AAUW Tennessee Twitter Storm (This date symbolizes how far into the year American women of all races must work to earn what men earned in the previous year.)

## June/July

AAUW TN Leadership Summit (Date and Place TBA)

## June 30

Publication of AAUW Tennessee Summer Newsletter

# 2016-2017 AAUW of Tennessee Officers

## Executive Committee

**PRESIDENT**—Samantha Cantrell  
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