



AAUW – Iowa State Conference

Saturday April 9, 2022

Striving-Thriving-Moving Forward

Hilton Garden Inn-Des Moines/Urbandale

8600 Northpark Drive, Johnston, Iowa 50131



PROGRAM SCHEDULE

- 8:00-8:30** **Registration** - Rolls, coffee
- 8:45-9:00** **Welcome, Announcements .. Carletta Knox Seymour, AAUW Iowa President**
IntroductionGloria Blackwell
- 9:00-10:00** **Presenter: “Stronger Together: Building Equity for All”...CEO Gloria Blackwell**
..... (virtual)
- 10:00-10:30** **Breakout Sessions**
 - 1. Author “Women in the World of Long-term Care”...Mary Helen Stefaniak
 - 2. Award Recipient Mallory Tollefson
 - 3. Marketing/Membership Part 1Kim Folkers & Elaine Kresse
- 10:30-11:00** **Break, Hotel checkout** (must check out by noon)
- 11:00-11:45** **ERA - “Hard Won-Not Done: Pursuing the Equal Rights Amendment”**
Presenter and Q/A Doris Kelley
- 11:45-12:00** **Break**
- 12:00-1:00** **Lunch and Awards**
- 1:00-2:00** **Business Meeting..AAUW Iowa President Carletta Knox Seymour, presiding**
- 2:00-2:45** **1619 Freedom School - Presenter and Q/A** Sheritta Stokes
- 2:45-3:15** **Breakout Sessions**
 - 1. Author “Women in the World of Long-term Care” ..Mary Helen Stefaniak
 - 2. 1619 Project Freedom School....Pam Burnett, Catherine Worden & Dev Kiedaisch
 - 3. Marketing/Membership Part 2Kim Folkers & Elaine Kresse
- 3:15-3:30** **Auction Results**





AAUW 2022 Spring Conference Registration Information April 8 & 9, 2022



AAUW Iowa is looking forward to hosting the 2022 spring conference at the (Hotel & Address).

Registration Deadline:

All registrations should be postmarked on or before March 25th, 2022.

Please return the registration form below to:

Make checks payable to AAUW Iowa.

Send to:

Pat Higby
718 Blue Jay Court
Tiffin, IA 52340

Hotel Information:

Hilton Garden Inn Des Moines/Urbandale – 8600 North Park Dr. Johnston, Iowa 50131

Check the nights carefully. Program defaults to 3.

Online Hotel Registration

[AAUW-IA \(hilton.com\)](http://AAUW-IA (hilton.com))

<https://www.hilton.com>



Registration Form

I will be attending the Meet and Greet on Friday, 5:00-6:00 pm. (no charge)

(Friday night dinner is on your own.)

I will be attending Saturday, 8:30-4:00. (Includes Lunch)

\$75 Member Rate (Please add \$10 if postmarked after March 25, 2022.)

\$75 Non-member Rate (Please add \$10 if postmarked after March 25, 2022.)

\$20 Student Rate (Please add \$5 if postmarked after March 25, 2022.)

Name: _____ Member: Yes No Student: Yes No

CIRCLE WHAT APPLIES:

Branch: _____

Address: House/Apartment Number: _____ Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email address: _____



Spring Conference Update

April 8-9, 2022

Striving-Thriving-Moving Forward



Message from Pat Newman,
AAUW Iowa Program Vice President

We are excited about our AAUW Spring Conference which is less than two months away! We have lined up outstanding speakers who are sure to inform and inspire us as we **move forward** in promoting diversity, equity, inclusion, educational opportunities, engagement in public policy, and other AAUW goals! Our breakout sessions will feature a number of our members as leaders as we share ideas that will positively impact our local branches! Because of the continuing uncertainty surrounding Covid, Omicron, and possible future variants, we are also **striving** to figure out how to meet this challenge. We sincerely hope that we will be able to meet in person at the Hilton Garden Inn/Urbandale, and plans are going forward. We encourage the use of masks for everyone's safety. Because safety of our members and presenters is a top priority, we are also developing a Plan B to have our conference on Zoom on April 9 if ongoing conditions indicate that is necessary. A Zoom conference will include our featured speakers, breakout sessions, and our business meeting.

The in-person conference registration form is in this issue of *Iowa Initiative*. We encourage you to print it, fill it out and send it to our treasurer, Pat Higby, along with your check for \$75. Pat will hold all checks until the in-person conference. If our Executive Committee decides that we must have a virtual conference, all checks will be voided, and there will be no charge. A specific date has not been set to make a decision, but we will keep you updated. (If you are registering for a hotel room at the conference site, reservations must be made at our special rate by March 18. Reservations can be canceled by 6:00 pm the day that you would have arrived.)

Whether the conference is in person or on Zoom, we look forward to your participation! Each of you will play an important part in helping AAUW Iowa **thrive** as we **move forward!**

The Hotel

We have arranged for a block of rooms for AAUW members. Some may want to come early or stay an extra night in the Des Moines area, so we have arranged for a block of rooms at a reduced rate of \$109 plus tax for April 7, 8, and 9. The rate is based on one member per room, but you may share a room for the same cost. You may reserve a room online or by phone. Your credit card will be charged at the time of your stay. Breakfast is not included in this rate. However, there is a restaurant on-site, and coffee, juice, and rolls are available during registration and during the morning sessions on April 9. Snacks and lunch are also included in your registration fee. Room reservations must be made by March 18. After that date, rooms will be released for general sale.

Check in time is 3:00 p.m. Check out by noon.

To Reserve a Room Online

The hotel has provided an AAUW Guest Attendee Link for making room reservations. (Please read the directions below before clicking on the link.)

Directions: The reservation link is designed for making a reservation for Thursday, April 7; Friday, April 8; and (or) Saturday, April 9. After clicking on the link, click on **Book a Room**. Then you must click on **"edit stay" (right of center at top)** to indicate which night(s) you will be staying. Most of our members will be staying on Friday night in order to be on site for the 8:30 meeting on Saturday. Be sure to edit your stay to avoid being charged for all three nights.

Our attendee website is: www.my-event.hilton.com/dsmuhgi-aaw-36a9e469-932b-447f-8780-9e48e30a20f2/

To Reserve a Room by Phone

If you prefer to make your reservation by phone, call 515-270-8890 and ask for the group date and group block (AAUW).

Cancellations: Call 515-270-8890 if you need to cancel your reservation. Cancellations are allowed up until 6:00 pm the day of arrival.

To Find the Hotel: From I-35/I-80, take the NW 86th Street exit in Johnston. Go north, and then left at Northpark Drive.

Silent Auction

Pat Wilson, AAUW Fund Director



The silent auction is our fundraiser for the AAUW Fund. This fund allows AAUW to use the donation where the need is the greatest. We are asking each branch to donate one or more baskets for the silent auction. Each branch needs to let me know how many baskets their branch will be bringing so that we will be ready with enough tables. Baskets need to be in the main room by 8 AM on Saturday. Each branch will set the minimum bid amount. Payment for whomever wins the basket will be cash or check. We are not able to accept credit cards

AAUW Keokuk Co-Sponsors 1619 Project

Catherine Worden, Keokuk Branch



“In August of 1619, a ship carrying more than 20 enslaved Africans arrived in the English Colony of Virginia.”

Kickoff for *The 1619 Project* was held February 1 at New Bethel Church in conjunction with the annual chicken potpie dinner our members look forward to each year.

Poetry readings from *The 1619 Project* were presented by AAUW members Dev Kiedaisch, Susan Dunek, KARE members as well as community members. The poems can be found in the book, *The 1619 Project*, by Nicole Hanna-Jones.

As with so many projects that are

embraced by AAUW members, *The 1619 Project* is one fraught with controversy and yet one of our members from Keokuk, Dev Kiedaisch, has championed this program together with Keokuk Association for Rights and Equality. The class begins Feb 10 and continues for 6 weeks. All materials are provided via the web and podcasts.

Diane Kearns and Dev Kiedaisch have been busy coordinating Public Policy information that they disseminate to our Iowa members. Diane worked hard putting together this year's Lobby Day. Thank you Diane. We are proud to have you as a Keokuk branch member.

Conference Presenters

Gloria Blackwell is the CEO of AAUW, and is also AAUW's main representative to the United Nations. Among her many accomplishments is her 15-year management of AAUW's highly esteemed fellowships and grants programs, awarding more than \$70 million in funding to women scholars and programs in the U.S. and overseas. Before joining AAUW in 2004 she was the director of Africa education programs at the Institute of International Education. She also managed fellowships programs during her decade at IIE and has held positions as a Peace Corps staff member and volunteer in Africa. Gloria is committed to supporting opportunities and empowerment for women and girls globally.



Mary Helen Stefaniak is an author, teacher, and mother of three. Before moving to Iowa City with her family in 1982, she taught high school English and French in Milwaukee, her hometown. A graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop, she is Professor Emerita of English at Creighton University and teaches in the Pacific University MFA in Writing program. She has served as president and co-communications director for the eNetwork branch.



Mallory Tollefson is an AAUW grant recipient for 2021-22. She is a doctoral candidate at the University of Iowa in biomedical engineering specializing in computational biophysics. Mallory does research in computational biophysics, and she develops simulation techniques for studying proteins that are implicated in human disease. The AAUW grant allowed her to pursue her own research interests and have time focused solely on writing her dissertation.



Kim Folkers retired last spring from Wartburg College, where she was a tenured marketing professor for 32 years. She earned a B.A. in Finance Management at UNI and an MIM in International Management at the University of St. Thomas. In retirement she continues to serve on boards and committees in the Waverly community. She has



been an AAUW member since 1989 and is currently the President of the Waverly AAUW branch, VP of Membership for Iowa AAUW, and a Lifetime National AAUW Member. She and her husband, Bruce Ecker, live on a small acreage and have adopted numerous dogs through Retrieve a Golden of the Midwest over the years. They enjoy bicycling, golfing, kayaking, cross-country skiing, reading, and getting together with family and friends.

Elaine Kresse is a long-time member of the Davenport-Bettendorf branch of AAUW and served on the AAUW Iowa board for many years. She taught 7th and 8th grade English and Title I reading and math in Davenport and North Scott. She has worked actively in her community with One Human Family, NAACP, and AAUW on issues of gender, race, trauma, and equity.



Doris Kelley has an extensive professional background in community economic development for Cedar Falls and Waterloo. She has served on numerous civic boards and commissions. She served in the Iowa House of Representatives from 2007-2011. Doris chaired Iowa's 19th Amendment Centennial Commemoration Committee and chaired Iowa's Equal Right Amendment Committee, and she serves on the League of Women Voters of Iowa's Board of Directors.



Catherine Worden is currently President of the Keokuk branch. She became active in AAUW in 2018. She is recently retired from a 25-year career as a Nurse Practitioner who provided health care to women of all ages, backgrounds, and educational levels.



Dev Kiedaisch is a 50-year member of AAUW Keokuk Branch. She has held many positions in her local branch and is a past AAUW Iowa Program co-chair and Gender Equity chair and current Public Policy co-chair. Dev is a retired middle and high school math teacher. She has been involved with the Keokuk Association for Rights and Equality, a group that promotes justice,



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