



Carletta Knox-Seymour  
 AAUW Iowa President 2020-2022

IN THIS ISSUE:	
President’s Letter.....	1
AAUW Iowa Virtual Gathering.....	2
Nominations Committee .....	3
Legacy Circle .....	4
College / University .....	4
Shape the Future .....	5-6
Cedar Falls-Waterloo Invitation.....	6
Diversity Director, AAUW Election .....	7
Des Moines Program, Tax Tip .....	7



## From the President

Greetings,

Since 1987, the U.S. Congress has made it possible for this country to commemorate women’s history all month long. The fundamental purpose is to celebrate the advancement of women and their progress. And though many women of all races and in many arenas have made significant strides, the pandemic has revealed the major holes in our society, where Black and Latina women were hit the most in our economy. And as they were hit, so were their children.

This affects the future of this country. Children who already live in impoverished environments, who lack decent housing conditions and higher quality educational accommodations and curricula, suffered even greater losses during the pandemic. Those same children, without serious intervention in their lives, will not become the beacons of light needed for the future of this nation. Many of them will continue on the downward spiral of being the problems in our society instead of being producers of solutions. And there are many policy makers who are way too eager to find ways to keep women and children of all races down, particularly those who are counted least in this country. It is with hope that the Biden-Harris administration will find a way to lift them up.

For centuries women of all races and creed have fought the good fight against closed doors. Our fight is not over. As a matter of fact, we are facing a new frontier in our rise to power. Now, we must work even harder not to lose any ground that we have won. In war, the ground that you have conquered must be maintained. To the victor goes the spoils, and the victor does not give them back. We must not retreat; we must march forward and conquer more. We must continue to raise the banner high for all women and girls. If one female is suffering anywhere, then all females are suffering everywhere.

Let the AAUW women be the leaders and show the world what real female power looks like. The late James Brown wrote a song titled, “This Is A Man’s World.” The refrain states these words over and over again: “This is a man’s world, this is a man’s world but it wouldn’t be nothing, nothing without a woman or a girl.”

Carletta Knox-Seymour

# AAUW-Iowa State Virtual Gathering

Saturday May 8, 2021, 9:00-11:30 AM

Ann Henninger Trax and Katherine Farris. Program Co-Vice Presidents

Plans are now set for this year's state meeting, which will be held via Zoom. Here is the schedule and a few details about our speakers.

- 9:00 AM Welcome by Iowa AAUW President Carletta Knox Seymour
- 9:05 AM Jessica Crawford, Self Help International (SHI) – "Empowering Women & Girls through Education & Small Business: Self-Help International Programs in Ghana & Nicaragua"  
A 10-minute breakout-discussion time will follow her presentation.
- 9:45 AM Dr. Barb Ramos, Simpson College, Professor of Teacher Education – "COVID's Impact on PK-16 Education"
- 10:15 AM AAUW Iowa Business Meeting  
Drawing for a 25 x 34 inches rag rug made from denim jeans and easy to care for: machine washable, line dry, courtesy of Pay Higby. (Recipient must be "present.")
- 11:00 AM Congresswoman Cindy Axne, IA-03 – "Making Both Halves Whole: Ensuring Full Recovery through Investments in Working Women and Moms"

Online registration is free for both members and non-members of AAUW. Complete the form available at <https://www.cognitofirms.com/Engerlmchsicom1/AAUWIowaStateConferenceRegistrationForm>.

Mark your calendar now and plan to join us May 8, 2021. Bring your coffee and treats to our virtual meeting and share time with friends. Remember, you'll never save more gas and registration money attending an AAUW-Iowa state convention!

## The Speakers

**Jessica Crawford** joined the SHI team as the Africa Programs Specialist in 2019 after returning from a year of independent language study in France. She studied in Rwanda and Ghana while a student at ISU and, after graduating in 2010 with a major in Child and Family Services, worked with various organizations to improve the lives of families in Central Africa, Ghana, and the Des Moines area.

A Central College grad, **Barb Ramos** has advanced degrees in education from Eastern Kentucky, Drake, and Iowa

State. Her expertise includes elementary education and counseling, child and adolescent development, year-round education, and teacher leadership. Her husband Rich joins her at Simpson as Associate Dean of Students.

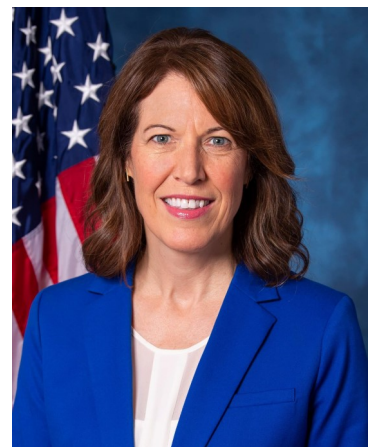
**Cindy Axne** is a fifth-generation Iowan, a small business owner, mom of two boys and a second-term U.S. Representative from Iowa's Third Congressional District. She earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Iowa and an MBA from the Kellogg School at Northwestern University. She and husband John own a digital design firm.



Jessica Crawford



Barb Ramos



Cindy Axne

# Nominations Committee Report

Members of the AAUW Iowa Nominating Committee are Janie Montang (Algona), Jo Richey (Indianola), Linda Morgan (Cedar Falls), Katherine Farris (Indianola), and Anne Johnson, past President (Palo Alto). The president-elect positions are always for one year only, with the expectation that they will probably be elected as president the following year. The program VP position is staggered so that there will be some officers with experience on the board during transitions. Here are the nominees to be elected for 2021-2022.

## Executive Board

**Co-President-Elect (2021-22): Karen Agee (Cedar Falls-Waterloo).** Retirement finds Karen active on many fronts including being Co-President for the Cedar Falls-Waterloo branch. In her community, she works on many issues including racial equity discussions, supporting weavers in the EMBARC community. Karen has a B.A. and an M.A. in Classical Languages and Literature from Indiana University and a Ph.D. from New Mexico State University in Literacy Education, and she was the Reading and Learning Coordinator at UNI. Her interest in weaving includes membership in the Northeast Iowa Weavers & Spinners Guild which promotes the fiber arts, a Weaving in the Schools Project, and a Fiber Arts Studio. In her spare time, she walks with friends several times weekly.

**Co-President-Elect (2021-22): Katherine Farris (Indianola).** Kathie earned a B.A. in history from the University of Illinois with a minor in English and an M.S. in special education from Drake. Now retired, she last taught at Chariton High School. She is active in church mission, delivers meals, and is on green teams at all levels. Kathie has served in several positions in both the Indianola branch and the AAUW Iowa Board. She and her husband Al have two daughters and five grandchildren. Hobbies include travel, reading, bridge (after COVID-19), and working on her various prairies.

**Program Co-VP (2021-23): Patricia Newman (Ames).** Music is Pat's game. She graduated with a B.A. in music from Winthrop College and an M.S. from the University of Illinois. She retired from Ankeny schools after teaching elementary music and being department chair. In addition, job experiences include adjunct professor of music at several universities, church organist, and children's choir director. Her family includes two sons, a daughter-in-law, and two teenage granddaughters whom she adores. Pat has been active in her church and lots of volunteer work from Cub Scout den leader to PTO officer to various music groups. Playing the piano, including for nursing homes, and attending concerts are special interests.

**Nominating Committee: Elaine Kresse (Davenport-Bettendorf).** Elaine was both a middle school teacher and CC adjunct reading instructor. She was also a John Deere consultant on time management. Elaine has served in all branch officer positions except treasurer. She has also served in several AAUW Iowa positions. In her community, she is a 50-year NAACP member and currently serves on committees for NAACP and One Human Family dealing with discipline and race in the Davenport schools. She works with PURPLE, a project to bring both Democrats and Republicans together to discuss what they may have in common. Her biggest skill is outreach and encouraging people to try new things.

**Membership Vice President (2021-22).** Janie Montang is unable to continue in her position as membership vice president. We thank her for her service to AAUW Iowa. We are in the process of searching for someone to complete that term. Anyone who is interested in serving in this position is asked to contact Carletta Knox-Seymour ([carlettav@gmail.com](mailto:carlettav@gmail.com), 319-206-5515) or Kathie Farris ([katfarris5@gmail.com](mailto:katfarris5@gmail.com), 515-961-7647) by May 31.

## Are you Enthusiastic About AAUW?

We need you to serve as the Membership Vice President for AAUW Iowa for 2021-22.

Contact Carletta Knox-Seymour ([carlettav@gmail.com](mailto:carlettav@gmail.com), 319-206-5515) or Kathie Farris ([katfarris5@gmail.com](mailto:katfarris5@gmail.com), 515-961-7647) by May 31.



## Plan Wisely - for Today's Needs and for Tomorrow

Maxine Lampe, National Legacy Circle Liaison

How do you take care of the people and things that matter most to you – now and for the future?

Through careful planning, you can benefit your loved ones and your charitable interests while investing in equity for women and girls. Some reasons to create a plan include:

- Taking care of loved ones
- Memorializing someone you care about
- Advancing equity for women and girls through AAUW
- Increasing current income for you and/or others
- Passing more on to heirs with reduced taxes
- Reducing income tax
- Avoiding capital gains tax

As you consider what is important to you and how to reflect that in your legacy, we invite you to reach out to us. Our knowledgeable gift planning staff is available to assist with any questions you may have. You may also request a Legacy Circle brochure by calling or emailing AAUW's National Office. **You can make a difference in the lives of women and girls by joining the AAUW Legacy Circle.**

**For assistance, contact Heather Miller**, AAUW National's Director of Advancement, at: 202-785-7766 or by email, at [millerh@aauw.org](mailto:millerh@aauw.org). **Maxine Lampe of the AAUW Legacy Circle Team is also available to assist you** and may be reached by email, at [lampe.maxine@gmail.com](mailto:lampe.maxine@gmail.com).



### College University Connections

Elaine Kresse, AAUW Iowa College/University Director

Thank you to all the branches and members who reached out to colleges this year to renew their association with AAUW. It was a hard year all around for education. As we approach the next year, continue to build those connections and restore those that we lost due to the pandemic. As you are making contacts, we suggest contacting the gender studies and STEM departments. Also remember to look for speakers there for your programs for next year and don't forget Start Smart and Work Smart have worked well for many of them. Our student debt research and lobbying efforts are also very important when talking about

enlisting students to join or start student campus groups.

Thank you also if you submitted a nomination for the Distinguished Faculty Nomination. If you missed the deadline, you are welcome to contact me and see what we can work out before the spring conference. We may still want to honor someone who deserves to be mentioned. The application forms were sent out to the partner schools and the application forms are on our state website.

It has been an honor to serve in this position during this trying time.

### Making a Difference for the Future

If you are considering including AAUW National in your estate plans, please accept our thanks. So often, wonderful and committed AAUW members make these gifts, but we are unable to thank them because we don't learn of their decision during their lifetime. We ask that you let us know so we may honor and celebrate you in the Legacy Circle. These gifts make a huge difference, and we are deeply grateful for your generosity.

Here is some suggested wording for your attorney: "After fulfilling all other specific provisions, I give, devise, and bequeath \_\_\_% of the residue [or \$\_\_\_\_\_ if a specific amount] to AAUW National, a District of Columbia charitable corporation [Tax ID #52-6037388] currently having offices located at 1310 L Street NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20005."

### President's Meetings with Branches

Carletta Knox-Seymour

Recently, I sent out an email making a request to meet with all the branches at one of your meetings through Zoom. Some presidents have submitted their meeting dates and times, I have not heard back from all of the branches yet. If you are one of those branch presidents who have not yet responded, please do so. I'm excited to meet with your members.



# Shape the Future this Spring!

Pat Higby, AAUW Iowa Treasurer

Shape the Future events provide branches opportunities to recruit new members at half the national AAUW rate of \$62. Memberships created now get 15 months, since membership runs until June 30, 2022. But Shape the Future events can be held any time from March through the fall. Another great reason to get new members with this program is the free memberships your branch will receive: one free membership for every two Shape the Future applications!!!

On the national AAUW website you can download a brochure to print and hand out for people who prefer to write a check. (Go to <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/state-branch/shape-the-future-campaign/>) For those who prefer digital access, registration is super simple. Your branch treasurer or other officer with access to the Member Services Database (<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/state-branch/>) simply chooses the Shape the Future option from the menu on the left side of the page. See Figure 1 below. Simply fill in a date for the last day to register after your event. They suggest 10

days. Then ask for the link. Now you get the link, ready to copy and paste. See Figure 2 on p. 6. Simply share this link with any prospective member who attended your event, and they can register online with a credit card. They will need to supply their contact information, college or university, degree earned, and date of graduation.

You can register more than one Shape the Future event using this same process. Simply enter a new end date, and you'll receive a new link. I believe you should do this for each event, since national is keeping a record of the events. I tested this with my daughter's information. Her membership was immediately registered, and an automatic email was sent to me as branch treasurer, and also to our branch membership chairs. Easy peasy!

So let's have some fun this spring! Your events can be virtual, and you can interact with your prospects via email. Not as personal, but still doable during these pandemic times! Invite participants to join on the spot to receive 50% off national dues. Remember, AAUW national dues are \$62, of which \$59 are tax deductible.

Figure 1



Help via E-Mail | Help by Phone (800) 326-2289 | Master User Guide

- My Profile / My Membership Card
- State/Branch Logo
- State Branch Profile (Status)
  - Branch Status - IA6003
  - State Status - IA
- File IRS Form 990-N
  - Branch File IRS Form 990-N
  - State File IRS Form 990-N
- College and University
  - CU Partners and Reps Roster
  - Student Affiliate Roster
- Branch Member Contact Maintenance / Membership Cards
- State & Branch officer listing
- State/Branch Gift History
  - Branch Contribution
  - State Contribution
- Membership Payment Program (MPP)**
  - Renew My Membership
  - Branch MPP Opt-In Program
  - Branch MPP Dues Payment Entry
  - Branch MPP Member Roster
  - Branch MPP Dues Summary
  - Shape the Future Discount Link**
  - Life Membership Upgrade

## Create a "Shape the Future" Promotion for your Branch

Create and send branch member prospects (MOB) a special link to join AAUW at 50% off national dues, plus regular state and branch dues, after your event. Select a deadline (10 days recommended) for your promo to expire. Example: To run your promo until the end of October, select November 1 as your expiration date.

**NOTE: This offer is for new members only or those who have lapsed for two or more years. Use of this resource is otherwise prohibited.**

The offer will expire on the date you specify.

*Note:* Your promotion will expire at midnight E.T of the day you select.

For example, to run your promotion until the end of October, select November 1 as your expiration date.

### Your Branch: IA6003-Cedar Falls-Waterloo

1. Select promotion expiration date ▶▶

06/02/2021

2. Click "Create link" to start your promotion.

You will receive a custom link for your branch. Give the link to prospective members for discounted membership.

Create link

The link created only works for new members registering on line with their own credit cards. If your branch receives a check or cash at the event, you have the option of sending a check to national AAUW or using your branch

credit card to register the new members at the Member Services Database site. Be sure to choose the Shape the Future category, so you will only be billed half price for national membership!

Figure 2



Help via E-Mail | Help by Phone (800) 326-2289 | Master User Guide

- My Profile / My Membership Card
- State/Branch Logo
- State Branch Profile (Status)
  - Branch Status - IA6003
  - State Status - IA
- File IRS Form 990-N
  - Branch File IRS Form 990-N
  - State File IRS Form 990-N
- College and University
  - CU Partners and Reps Roster
  - Student Affiliate Roster
- Branch Member Contact Maintenance / Membership Cards
- State & Branch officer listing
- State/Branch Gift History
  - Branch Contribution
  - State Contribution
- Membership Payment Program (MPP)**
  - Renew My Membership
  - Branch MPP Opt-In Program
  - Branch MPP Dues Payment Entry
  - Branch MPP Member Roster
  - Branch MPP Dues Summary
  - Shape the Future Discount Link
  - Life Membership Upgrade

### Create a "Shape the Future" Promotion for your Branch

Create and send branch member prospects (MOB) a special link to join AAUW at 50% off national dues, plus regular state and branch dues, after your event. Select a deadline (10 days recommended) for your promo to expire. Example: To run your promo until the end of October, select November 1 as your expiration date.

**NOTE: This offer is for new members only or those who have lapsed for two or more years. Use of this resource is otherwise prohibited.**

An email with your link has been sent to patricia.a.higby@gmail.com

**Your Branch: IA6003-Cedar Falls-Waterloo**

### Your Shape the Future Link:

[svc.aauw.org/recore/wmembership/NewJoinBranch\\_Special.asp?BranchID=IA6003&strPcode=120](http://svc.aauw.org/recore/wmembership/NewJoinBranch_Special.asp?BranchID=IA6003&strPcode=120)

Copy Link to Clipboard

For your convenience, click Copy Link to Clipboard, then Paste your link into your email or document.

**Link expiration date: 06/02/2021**



## Invitation to Join March 27 Cedar Falls-Waterloo Branch Meeting

Maria Murphy and Lori Schneider, Co-VPs for Program

The theme for 2020-2021 programs of the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Branch is Equity & Diversity: Moving Forward With Respect. The next "brunch" will again be held via Zoom, at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 27.

Dr. Sharon Duclos, Family Practice Medical Director at Peoples Community Health Clinic, will speak on the clinic's work. We have asked that she discuss the extent to which the clinic

is aligned with AAUW's focus on racial equity and our mission of gender equity and advocacy for women and girls.

Please join our Zoom program on **Saturday, March 27, at 10:00 a.m.** The meeting will be hosted by Iowa AAUW at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2017201809?pwd=WXcyREhjcjI0ZlNQMUtmZjI0U0RQQT09>



Dr. Sharon Duclos

## Diversity Directors Needed in All Branches

AAUW is attempting to increase diversity, in order to better achieve our mission of advancing equity for women and girls. The national organization has directed all branches to appoint someone to serve as a diversity director. AAUW has a lot of resources to help in working to increase diversity in a [Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Toolkit](#). Let's take this important step toward becoming

an organization that advances equity for **all** women and girls.

AAUW Iowa has a new diversity director who can help in your branch's work toward reaching out to diverse members of your community. Janice Harris-Williams is the president of the Davenport-Bettendorf branch of AAUW, and is the new diversity director for AAUW Iowa. She can be reached at [jdhw.mba@gmail.com](mailto:jdhw.mba@gmail.com) and 661-208-5953.



### Vote in the AAUW Election

There is an AAUW election this spring, and all AAUW members are eligible to vote. This election includes a bylaws change to remove the degree requirement, and a vote on 2021-23 Public Policy Priorities. Voting will open April 7, 2021, and close May 17, 2021. You are encouraged to vote online, but you may request a paper ballot before April 16. You may find information about their rationale in the [Open Membership Toolkit](#). Information about Public Policy Priorities is linked [here](#).

### From the Board of Directors:

“The AAUW National Board of Directors strongly supports elimination of the degree requirement for membership and will put the requirement up for a membership vote this spring. This important change is a critical step in bringing AAUW’s bylaws and membership requirement in line with our mission of advancing equity for women and girls. While AAUW is fiercely committed to the educational attainment of all women, given our commitment to inclusion, this is simply the right thing to do.”



### Invitation to Des Moines Program: Rise of the Radical Right

Members are invited to join the Des Moines branch for a program on April 13 at 1:00 p.m. using Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2017201809?pwd=WXcyREhjcjI0ZlNQMUMmZjIjCU0RQQT09>. Joanne Page will present a program, “Rise of the Radical Right,” based on the book, *Bring the War Home: The White Power Movement and Paramilitary America*, by Kathleen Belew. Kathleen Belew is on the faculty of the University of Chicago, specializing in the recent history of the United States. Joanne Page is a member of the Des Moines branch of AAUW, and is also a long-time member of the Organization of American Historians. The OAH has recommended the Belew book. Members are encouraged to invite others to sit in on the program. More information about the radical right is available on Kathleen Belew’s website linked here: <https://www.kathleenbelew.com/media>



Joanne Page

### Tax Tip

AAUW is a 501c3 charitable organization. Dues and donations to the national AAUW are tax deductible. AAUW Action, AAUW Iowa, and most local branches are 501c4 social welfare organizations, so those portions of your dues are not tax deductible. For most members, the amount that is tax deductible for the 2020 year is \$56.

