



Cedar Rapids AAUW Branch

Bulletin 163

June 2022

Calendar

- June 1 **STEMEd for Girls Caregivers-Only Session**
- 19 **Juneteenth**
- 23 **[Member Webinar: 50 Years of Title IX](#)**
- July 1 **AAUW Membership Dues**
- Oct 11 **Open Minds, Open Doors**

Greetings from Linda Armitage:

I would first like to thank all of you who planned the nice membership luncheon at the Olive Garden on Saturday, May 14th. I appreciate all 22 members who came. Isn't it just lovely to be able to meet in person again?

Branch, state, and national AAUW's has been staying busy with Webinars and events and the College leadership Conference which is now in session. I encourage you to support and attend the many Linn County civic and social

events. Please notify us if you find something the branch might find interesting.

We will keep you informed about any additional info. that pertains to our AAUW mission and goals.

Governor Reynolds was unable to get enough support for her private school voucher Bill, and so our State committee is pleased that all of your letters and phone calls opposed to tax education dollars spent on private tuition were effective. We all know that AAUW wants only tax dollars spent for public education. Let us all stay vigi-

lant about the decision of the Supreme Court as it is announced about our women's right to choose about our pregnancies. Our organization supports our right to choose what we do with our bodies, and let us hope that our decision about using birth control will never be taken away.

Stay alert to any attempts by our leaders to take away the rights of children to read and study what the teachers and librarians have so professionally taught the last many years.



Gov. Reynolds' Iowa Education Bill

As most of you are aware, the Governor's education bill (vouchers) is dead for this session. I want to give a thank you to those that contacted their legislators encouraging them

to vote against the bill. Those emails and phone calls were very important. We do need to be vigilant however, as I'm sure this will come back in the next session. We need to re-

member that as we vote on June 7 and again in November. It would appear the legislature will probably adjourn before the week is out.



Cedar Rapids Branch has a May yearly luncheon to approve the new leadership team. This was held at the Olive Garden and the theme was "Together We Are One." Pictured are: Sue Jorgensen, Linda Armitage, Gwen Randall, Carole Bernard, Erica Yoder, Barb Goings, Carol Hedberg, and Jeaneal Weeks. Twenty-one guests/members were present. (add Helane Golden to the picture)

New AAUW Personal Portal

If you haven't already, please set up your account in the AAUW Community Hub, your personal portal into AAUW. You'll need an account to renew your membership, donate and update branch activities. Need help? We got you covered. Visit our [Community Hub: Tools and Resources](#) page for instructions, training videos and answers to your most frequently asked questions.

Now, you are ready to pay your national dues online.



AAUW Membership Dues

AAUW dues for 2022-2023 are due by July 1, 2022. You can pay two ways:

- 1) Use your new AAUW Community Hub to pay the \$67 for national dues (\$67) online AND send a \$21 check to Trudy Sundermann.
- 2) Send \$88 check to Trudy for national, state, and local dues.

Trudy Sundermann
2011 Fifth Avenue SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403

"Open Minds, Open Doors"

OMOD Evolution

Those of us who developed and nurtured the STEM conference for middle school girls beginning in 1997 always wished that we could continue mentoring girls. That wish is coming true, thanks to the inspiration of Letia Blanco. Combine her vision with the skills of Susie Green and the resources of Grant Wood AEA and our wish becomes a reality.

On May 12, Linda Armitage and Sue Jorgensen attended the first-planning meeting with Susie and Letia, and now they are inviting you to join the planning team.



Read more about Letia Blanco:
https://starlocalmedia.com/friscoenterprise/letia-blanco-being-an-engineer-is-cool/article_ca15d618-e0cd-11e5-b6be-bf2222956bef.html

The Brainchild and Keynote Speaker

Letia Blanco is a program manager with Collins Aerospace. She is a Cedar Rapids native, who attended Open Minds, Open Doors as a young girl. Then she went on to begin her career in engineering.

One of her accomplishments was implementation of a STEM conference for girls in Dallas, Texas. Letia is now back in Cedar Rapids, ready to make an impact here.

Join the OMOD Planning Team

Participate in the planning team as we prepare for this important event.

OMOD "Next Steps" Idea Generation Tue Jun 28, 2022 2pm – 3pm Central Time

Join Zoom Meeting gwaea.zoom.us/j/94674771894 (ID: 94674771894) Join by phone (US) +1 253-215-8782