

President's Message

Dorothy Sandahl

There are so many issues where we can focus to address inequity for women. Of the five we laid out at the **Annual Meeting, You Chose...Education/DEI as the most important. Listed Below.**

This has always been a priority in AAUW but we can focus our energy and address what seems to impact more of our members. We will invest our energies addressing **Education**, not only for women but for our children. Our school board has chosen to eliminate and ignore **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**. That impacts programs, language and sports. It impacts how teachers and administration addresses issues when they arise.

So, our **DEI and Political Policy teams** are on point to **create directions to address these issues**. Our AAUW National team provides mission and Action material we can incorporate locally. WE have been in contact with the League of Women Voters and they will help us with any election promotions and listening to candidates. Maybe our **Program Team can help** by finding speakers/ leaders to address these issues. And we now have **Communication team/social media**, with contacts at the radios station and interaction at the Chamber to bring forward the issues as they arise. And of course, our **Funding team** works hard to raise Scholarship support. Maybe some selections of books by the **Bookclub** can promote education for women and promotion of equality, diversity and inclusion. As you can see, this issue is an important area for all of us to focus our energies and strive to achieve positive direction for our AAUW Branch in Hastings.

The MN Star Tribune Sunday edition, wrote a half page on the elimination of DEI in many corporations. We cannot sit by, go back, lose all that we have worked for over the years. When women work together to **address issues**, we can be very powerful. So this year, let's **focus our energy**, strive to promote **education, advancement and equality for all**. Continue the work that AAUW began over 100 years ago.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 12 Book Club
May 19 Book Sale, Meeting, Program
July 14Book Club
July 18-20 Rivertown Days
August 11Book Club
Sept. 18Oh La La

HASTINGS BRANCH

Meets on Mondays

St. Philip's Lutheran Church
1401 15th Street West,
Hastings, Minnesota 55033

2024-2025 PROGRAMS

September 23, 6:00 pm Salad Supper
Braver Angels
JoAnn Ward

October 28, 7:00 pm
Therapy Dogs: Biophilia and the Importance of Animal Kinship
Tanya Bailey & Maureen Kleckner

November 25, 7:00 pm
Women's Work: Minnesota women's contribution to the paid and unpaid economy
Christina Ewig, Univ of Minnesota Center for Women and Gender Public Policy

December 7, 10:00 am
Holiday Celebration at the Public House

January 27, 6:00 pm Chili Supper
Title IX: How has Title IX changed collegiate sports and games
Vicki Davis

February 24, 7:00 pm
Astronomy is for Everyone
Alex Grenbaum

March 24, 7:00 pm
The State of Dakota County
Dakota County Attorney Kathryn Keena

April 28, 6:00 pm Spring Social
Educational Strategies in Changing Classrooms
Kim Allgor

May 19, 7:00 pm Book Sale
Educational Strategies on Changing Classrooms
Kim Allgor

Education/DEI

- Funding for Education, Schools
- Dismantling Dept of Education impact on Title IX, children's IEP, women's rights
- Women generally have lower wages, so grants/loans for advanced degrees for women are needed and are being eliminated
- Elimination of any diversity protections, exclusion of people of color from history, from existence.
- Elimination of the recognition of LGBTQIA people.

Program

Danna Elling Schultz, Mary Ellen Fox & Becky Gartzke

Educational Strategies in Changing Classrooms

Young Sil Kim Allgor will be the featured speaker at the May 19 meeting of the Hastings branch of the American Association of University Women.

Born in South Korea and adopted at the age of 11 to the small MN town of Sleepy Eye, Young Sil Kim Allgor is a veteran teacher of the deaf/hard of hearing with 40 years of experience mostly in the itinerant setting. She taught students from birth to age 21 programs as the only teacher of the deaf/hard of hearing for 15 years before teaching at St Paul Public Schools with students who were primarily first and second-generation immigrants with mild/moderate hearing loss.

Allgor earned her Bachelor of Arts degree at Augustana University in Sioux Falls, SD, and Master of Arts in Instructional Design at St Mary's University in Winona. While teaching in St. Paul, she struggled to effectively advocate for and educate her students in the inner city.

To expand her knowledge in this area she participated in Seeking Equity in Educational Diversity (SEED) programs in the Twin Cities for the past 20 years. Within the program, she discovered how students' race, culture, and identities affect their learning styles and outcomes.

Currently she is a Professional Development trainer for Education Minnesota. In her biography she

notes: "I facilitate Professional development for educators in the re-licensure areas such as cultural competencies, American Indian History and Culture, Ableism, English Language learners, and Reading strategies across MN communities."

At our meeting, she will discuss her work and experiences in how race, culture and identity affect learning and educational success. Allgor's talk is free and open to the public.

Treasurer's Report

Renee Souza

April finances started with a checking strong balance of \$12,915.00 The bigger news is membership adopted our newly modeled budget format for 2025-2026 year which will be put into place next month! Thank you everyone for your feedback, the input was greatly appreciated and we look forward to a very robust budget kick-off.

Expenses for April included our anticipated contribution for NCCWSL and our newly joined membership into Hastings Chamber of Commerce! We ended our month at \$11,984. Thank you all!

Communications Team

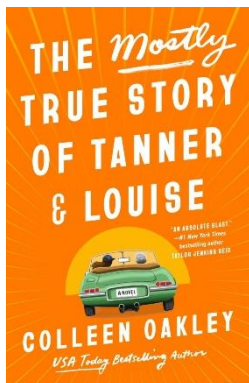
Julie Hicks

Our team is creating a new bookmark for the July book sale at Rivertown Days as a hand-out promoting AAUW. The Chamber of Commerce's "Lunch Mob" in May is Wednesday May 21st 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm at Dugarels. We are welcome to attend. There will be good food and conversation with other Chamber members. You pay for your own lunch.

Book Club

Ann Johnson, Cindy Toppin, & Linda Bindman

The book club meets the second Monday of the month at the Pleasant Hill Library at 1:30pm in the Old Mill Ruins room. Please join us, all are welcome!!



The May 12th selection is *The Mostly True Story of Tanner & Louise* by Colleen Oakley. An unforgettable pairing of a college dropout and a not-to-be-underestimated eighty-four-year-old woman. They are on the run from the law and if they can outrun the mistakes of their past, they might just have the greatest adventure of their lives. "This story is full of tremendous heart, humor, and wit."

Member Book Sale:

We will have our member book sale at our Monday, May 19th general meeting. This is our fundraiser for the annual Hastings Reads programs in February. We will sell used books before and after the meeting. We will be selling those used books that you are ready to get rid of. We prefer current books as they sell better. Prices are \$1.00 for paperbacks and \$2.00 for hardcovers. Any books left over will be sold at AAUW's Rivertown book sale.

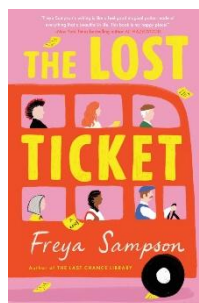
Please bring your books to St. Philips any time after 1:00pm on May 19th, someone from the book club will be there all afternoon to collect and sort your books. If you are not able to bring your books on the 19th, then:

1. Bring them to our May 12th book club meeting
2. Drop them off on Cindy Toppin's front porch (409 W. 7th St.) during the week before
3. Give Linda a call (651-210-8428) and they will be picked up at your place

Summer Meetings:

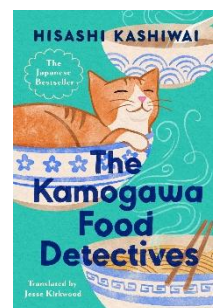
We will take a break in June but we will meet on July 14th and August 11th down by the river (east

end of Levee Park, near the train bridge) at 1:30pm. Bring your lawn chair. If it is raining, we will meet in the library.



July's book selection is *The Lost Ticket* by Freya Sampson. This is a beautifully uplifting novel about strangers on a London bus uniting to help an elderly man find his missed love connection.

For August we have picked *Kamogawa Food Detectives* by Hisashi Kashiwai. This is the first book in the bestselling Japanese series where a father-daughter duo started advertising their services as food detectives. They recreate dishes from their customers' pasts.



Fundraising

Ceil Strauss & Julie Larson

Wine Soirée

Please join us for 'An Evening in Paris' for the Hastings AAUW Wine Soirée V. Thursday, September 18th at 5:30 pm at the Hastings Public House. Proceeds benefit AAUW HHS Scholarships and College Leadership Scholarships.

Please see the attached flyer for registration information.

Gadabouts (Possibility)

Sarah Kiani

July 16th viewing of documentary **Zurawski v Texas** produced by Jennifer Lawrence, Hillary and Chelsea Clinton. This film highlights the consequences of restrictive laws on women's healthcare. To get tickets, see the flyer at the back of the TWIG.

If interested in carpooling, contact Sarah Kiani at 319-610-5711
email Sarah@hopetreecounselingservices.com

Gadabouts from the past:



Russian Museum
Feb. 2017

US Bank Stadium
Jan. 2019



4 Seasons Hotel
October 2021

Girlhood exhibit
March 2025



Hospitality

Nancy Ahn, Darla Kimmes, & Lois Twedt

Spring Social, 2025

"Spring is nature's way of saying 'Let's party' "
—Robin Williams

Our Spring Social, 2025, took a team to plan, pivot and bring about on Wednesday, April 30, 2025.

Thank you to Dorothy Sandahl, Linda Bindman, Linda Ferris, Mikayla Mirau, Nicole Sindelar, Danna Elling Schultz, and the Hastings Golf Club Staff for your support.

To AAUW members and guests, your understanding was greatly appreciated.

Please contact Nancy Ahn, at 651-437-8325 with questions about vouchers.

Sincerely,
The Spring Social Committee Members
Jackie Rigelman, Gail Glashan, Marilyn Tennessen, Xilian Maceda,
Darla Kimmes, Lois Twedt, and Nancy Ahn

AAUW Mission Statement

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

AAUW Vision Statement

Equity for all.

Minnesota State Website

<http://aauw-mn.aauw.net>

National Website

<https://www.aauw.org/>

Community

Lesley Lesch

City of Hastings

The City of Hastings hosts events at Levee Park June - September. All events take place at the Rotary Pavilion at Levee Park, 20 Ramsey Street, and along the Hastings Riverwalk. Enjoy music, movies, comedy, story times, and more! All ages are welcome. **Free of charge!**

<https://www.hastingsmn.gov/city-government/city-departments/parks-recreation/programs-events/levee-park-programs-and-events>

- **Summer Kick-off** - Kick off summer with live Reggae music, food trucks, inflatables, foam party, crazy hair, caricature artists & more.
 - **Tuesday, June 3rd; 5:30 – 8 pm**
- **Make Music Day** – Celebrate Make Music Day with a variety of live music, food trucks, music trivia & gift card giveaways at Levee Park!
 - **Saturday, June 21st; 12 – 6 pm.**
- **Party in the Park** - Celebrate National Parks and Recreation Month with live Caribbean music, food trucks, activity booths, caricature artists, bounce houses & an inflatable obstacle course.
 - **Tuesday, July 8th; 5:30 – 8 pm**
- **Maker's Market** – The City of Hastings' 2025 Music + Market is a place for area makers to sell their goods during live music performances adjacent to our historic downtown and riverfront park. We welcome artists, makers, crafters and small brands. **Thursdays 6:00 - 8:30 pm.**
 - **June 5, 12, 26; July 3, 10, 24, 31; August 7, 21, 28 and September 4, 11**
- **Comedy in the Park** - Enjoy comedy in the park with family or friends. Recommended for teens & adults. Sponsored by: SMEAD Manufacturing Company. **Tuesdays 6:30 - 7:30 pm.**
 - **June 24, July 22, August 26, September 16.**
- **Movies in the Park** - Watch a family-friendly movie on our big screen! Arrive an hour early for free activities and giveaways. Sponsored by Ardent Mills. **Cost: Non-perishable food donation**

- **June 13, July 11, August 8, September 5**

Hastings Downtown Business Association

- **Hastings Historic Car Shows** in Downtown Hastings 11:00 am – 4:00 pm. The show is limited to classic cars & trucks from 1985 and older. 2nd Sunday of the month.
 - May 18th, June 15th, July 20th - Rivertown Days, August 17th, September 21st, October 12th
- **Hastings Rivertown Days** – July 17-20 – Our “AAUW Book Sale” will be held at the Arts & Crafts Fair Saturday July 19 and Sunday July 20 – more details to follow.

Black Dirt Theater

Black Dirt Theater Improv -

<https://www.blackdirttheater.com/>

- Saturday May 24 at 7:00 pm at Hastings Public House

Sheldon Theatre

Hailed as the "Jewel Box" of Red Wing, the Sheldon Theatre is a premier performing arts theater in Minnesota. Upcoming shows include.

<https://www.sheldontheatre.org/>

- Saturday, May 17 2025 at 7:30 pm; Tim Harmston & Mary Mack

Dakota County Historical Society – Le Duc Historic Estate

[Civil War Weekend at LeDuc - Saturday and Sunday, September 6 & 7; 10am - 5pm LeDuc Historic Estate. Fees: \\$8 - \\$10 at the door, FREE for DCHS members!](#)

<https://www.dakotahistory.org/events/1031-sep-6-7-civil-war-weekend-at-leduc>

Hastings Arts Center Concerts

216 4th Street East Hastings –
www.hastingsartcenter.org 651-437-4320

- Saturday - May 17th at 7:00 pm – Jenny Klukken, marimbist and her Jazz Combo. Classically-trained, jazz and world music crossover artist, genre-blending performer and composer. A great concert to close our 10th concert season!

NCCWSL **Gail Glashon**

Announcing the NCCWSL 2025 Scholarship Recipient!

We'd like to introduce Emma Hagen, our NCCWSL 2025 scholarship recipient. Emma will be going to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders May 28–30, held at the University of Maryland, College Park.

Emma is a Hastings High School Graduate. She attends the University of Southern California, Marshall School of Business. Emma will be a junior fall 2025, expected graduation May 2027, with a Bachelor of Science, Business Administration-STEM Designated.

On Emma's application, she wrote about how her background and interests will contribute to the diversity of the conference and what she would like to gain from this experience...

'As a member of the University of Southern California's Global Leadership Program, I had the opportunity to study international business and travel to Peru and Thailand. While in Peru, I worked with a local nonprofit, helping develop a fundraising strategy to support children's education. Collaborating across cultures, I learned how diverse perspectives drive creative solutions. This experience reinforced my passion for leadership, advocacy, and community engagement. As a USC student ambassador, I continue to foster inclusivity and connection. At NCCWSL, I hope to further develop my leadership narrative, reflect on personal identity, and build relationships with like-minded women leaders.'

Emma will be the twenty-first! college student leader that our branch has chosen to receive our NCCWSL scholarship.

OUR MISSION

Advancing gender equity through education and advocacy.

AAUW (American Association of University Women) is the nation's leading organization for equity in higher education and women's economic empowerment. Founded in 1881 by women who defied society's conventions by earning college degrees, AAUW has since worked to increase women's access, opportunity, and equity in higher education through advocacy and philanthropy of more than \$146 million, supporting thousands of women scholars. Learn more at aauw.org.

AAUW Hastings Branch NCCWSL Committee: Gail Glashon, Jan Junkman, Pat Powers, Jackie Rigelman

Diversity **Lisa Hedin**

May 2025 AAUW Hastings Newsletter – Diversity

May is Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders (AANHPI) Heritage Month in the United States. A celebration of Asians and Pacific Islanders in the United States. Asian/Pacific encompasses all of the Asian Continent and the Pacific islands of Melanesia (New Guinea, New Caledonia, Vanuatu, Fiji and the Solomon Islands), Micronesia (Marianas, Guam, Wake Island, Palau, Marshall Islands, Kiribati, Nauru and the Federated States of Micronesia) and Polynesia (New Zealand, Hawaiian Islands, Rotuma, Midway Islands, Samoa, American Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu, Cook Islands, French Polynesia and Easter Island).

The commemorative month originated in Congress, but not without some challenges. In 1977 the first resolution calling for commemorations was introduced but not passed. After a second submission was successful, the first Asian/Pacific Islander week was celebrated in May 1979 and was expanded to a month in 1992. May was chosen to commemorate the first Japanese to the United State on May 7, 1834 and to mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869. The majority of workers who laid the tracks were Chinese immigrants.

Take a break from Netflix binging and using resources found at the Library of Congress, National Archives, National Gallery and National Endowment for the Humanities to learn more about the AANHPI experience in the United States.

<https://asianpacificheritage.gov/ExhibitsandCollections.html> While some of the links are currently broken, I particularly enjoyed the Colorful Realm: Japanese Bird and Flower Paintings by Ito Jakuchi, Go For Broke: The 442nd Infantry Regiment, and Highlights from the Veterans History Project.

Consider an in-person visit to the Minneapolis Institute of Art (MIA) to enjoy the historical and contemporary creative achievements of AANHPI contained in their comprehensive collection. A sample of what is currently on display are Transcendent Clay: The Kondo Family's Path of Porcelain Innovations spanning almost a century of creativity; From the Divine to the Mortal: Storytelling in Chinese Painting from nearly 2,000 years ago during the Han Dynasty and Catch of the Day: Humans and Marine Animals in Japan exploring the sea creatures that permeate Japanese art and culture.

Sources: asianpacificheritage.gov and Minneapolis Institute of Arts websites.



Secretary *Becky Arenivar*

Historian *Lisa Hedin*

2025 State Convention in Austin



AAUW Hastings Branch - Annual General Membership Business Meeting Minutes
April 30, 2025, 7:00 p.m. Location: Hastings Public House and Zoom

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by D. Sandahl.

Attendance: approximately 75. A quorum was in attendance.

1. President's Message: D. Sandahl
Copies of a 2025 AAUW Minnesota State convention summary were available. Please take the member poll to determine AAUW Hasting's public policy priorities for 2025-2026.
2. March 24, 2025 Meeting Minutes:
Correction – Xilian Maceda's title is assistant to the treasurer, not co-treasurer. L. Hedin moved to approve. P. Wilson seconded. Corrected minutes were approved by voice vote.
3. Treasurer's Report: R. Souza
Renee presented the proposed 2025-2026 Budget for approval.
Discussion: The proposed Operating Expense line item includes an increase in the amount to

be paid to St. Philip's Lutheran Church for our monthly meeting space.

Action taken: J. Hicks moved to approve; P. Powers seconded. The proposed 2025-2026 Budget was approved by voice vote.

4. Nominating Committee:

The following nominations to the Board were approved by voice vote: Treasurer - Pam Onnen; Vice President of Programs - Barb Hollenbeck.

5. Committee/Activity Reports

a) Technology – L. Ferris

We have 23 Facebook followers. Linda demonstrated how to follow our FB page. The member who generates the most followers will receive a prize at our May 19 meeting. Send the names of followers you recruit to Linda.

b) Communications – J. Hicks

This team's goal is to raise the visibility of AAUW Hastings in the community. AAUW Hastings joined the Hastings Chamber of Commerce. The team is placing informational pieces in local media, e.g. KDWA, Hastings Journal, etc. Let Julie know of any media or informational outlets to contact.

c) Fundraising – M. Tjomsland, J. Larson, C. Strauss

2025 Wine Soirée will be September 18. New this year: 1) Members who can't attend in person may make a donation to go entirely to the Scholarship Fund; 2) attendees can indicate dietary restrictions and/or request mocktails instead of wine on the registration form; 3) seating will be assigned. Registration forms are available tonight.

Our annual Rivertown Days Book Sale will take place July 19-20. This year we will emphasize outreach in addition to raising funds for Hastings Reads and scholarships. More details will be available at the May 19 meeting.

d) Book Club – L. Bindman

The May 19 membership meeting will include a book sale for attendees. We will discuss *The Mostly True Adventures of Tanner & Louise* at 1:30

p.m. on May 12 at the Pleasant Hill Library. There is no book club meeting in June. In July and August, Book Club meets at Jaycee Park.

e) Historian/School Liaison – L. Hedin

History - Lisa brought several scrapbooks tonight.

Schools - In April, AAUW Hastings members participated in a mock interview event at Hastings High School.

f) Gad-about – S. Kiani

Next outing is on May 17 to see comedy duo Tim Harmston and Mary Mack at the Sheldon Theater in Red Wing. A sign-up sheet is next to the coffee.

6. Adjournment: B. Hoeschen moved to adjourn; N. Letourneau seconded. Adjournment was approved by voice vote.

AAUW Hastings Board

President -----	Dorothy Sandahl
VPs Membership -----	Linda Ferris
	Jody Rudh
VPs Programs -----	Danna Elling Schultz
	Mary Ellen Fox
	Becky Gartzke
Secretary -----	Becky Arenivar
Treasurer/Finance -----	Renee Souza
Book Club & Hastings Reads ----	Linda Bindman
Communication -----	Linda Bindman
	Julie Hicks
Community -----	Lesley Lesch
Diversity -----	Jody Husting
Fundraising -----	Ceil Strauss
	Julie Larson
Funds & HS Scholarships -----	Marilyn Tennessen
Gadabouts -----	Sarah Kiani
Historian/School Liaison -----	Lisa Hedin
Hospitality -----	Nancy Ahn
	Darla Kimmes
	Lois Twedt
NCCWSL -----	Gail Glashan
Public Policy -----	Pat Powers
Technology -----	Linda Ferris

AAUW Hastings Presents

Oh la la

Join us for an enchanted evening in Paris!

Thursday, September 18 at 5:30 pm

Hastings Golf Club - 2015 Westview Dr

This is our scholarship fundraiser so we hope as a member you can attend however if you are unable, we kindly request you donate \$30.



Back by popular demand we will host an amazing Raffle! Raffle prizes include Hastings community experiences! Buy your tickets in advance - Raffle ticket prices; 2 for \$5 or 10 for \$20! You can pre-purchase raffle tickets by purchasing at our next meeting or emailing Julie Larson at julieaslarson@comcast.net and sending a check made out to AAUW to Julie Larson 1019 Zweber Ln, Hastings or Venmo @Julie-Larson-22.

Back by popular demand, guests will participate in a Dessert Dash! Your table will 'bid' on a dessert for the table! Will it be Macarons, Tiramisu, a Flourless Chocolate Cake? It is bound to be amazing with some added excitement too!

And plan to take home a little piece of Paris by participating in a Wine Pull - with a twist! We request all members either donate a bottle of wine OR champagne! Drop off at our next meeting or at Jody Rudh's- 2337 Brooke Ln, Hastings.

Proceeds go to AAUW Hastings Scholarship fund

DEADLINE SEPTEMBER 10th

SCAN QR CODE OR MAIL IN REGISTRATION FORM

Name(s) _____

Phone: _____

Email _____

Total attending-Price \$75 per person _____ Starting September 1st \$85 per person _____

Mail completed form to: Julie Larson 1019 Zweber Ln, Hastings, MN 55033 phone #651-335-7785

☐ Sending check made out to AAUW

Seating Request: _____

☐ Sending Venmo @Julie-Larson-22

Dietary Restrictions: _____

☐ Member non- attendance donation \$30.00 (or more)

Prefer Mocktail: _____ or Wine: _____



There will be a Q & A with the director Maisie Crow after the film.

This is not a drill.

ZURAWSKI v TEXAS

Minnesota Women's organizations are sponsoring a screening of *Zurawski v. Texas*, a documentary produced by Jennifer Lawrence, Hillary and Chelsea Clinton highlighting the consequences of restrictive laws on women's health care.

Showings are on Wednesday July 16th 2025 at 3:30 PM & 7:00 PM at:

The Main Cinema, 115 SE Main Street MPLS. Tickets are available only through the QR code below or at: <https://bit.ly/aauwwfm>.

Tickets are a \$20 donation to The Reproductive Freedom Fund.
A \$5 donation for students and others.



AAU
Minneapolis (MN) Branch

AAU
of Minnesota

AAU
empowering women since 1881

St. Paul Branch

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca
Minneapolis

WFM WOMEN'S
FOUNDATION
OF MINNESOTA