



*Happy Memorial  
Day!*



### Congratulations to the AAUW NYS Convention Team!

Congratulations and thanks to Jane Pfeiffer Russell, AAUW-NYS Program VP and the Convention Team for an excellent AAUW NYS Convention held on April 17-19, 2015 at the Byblos Niagara Resort and Spa Grand Island, NY. Jane was the Moderator on Saturday Morning Panel of Municipal Leaders which included special guest, **Kathy Hochul**, NYS Lt Governor; **Marjory Jaeger**, Amherst Town Clerk; **Julie Huntsman**, Otsego Town Council; **Crystal Peoples-Stokes**, NYS Assembly; **Lovely Warren**, Mayor of Rochester. The speakers were very informative and inspirational.



In 2011, Jane was elected Supervisor for the Town of Pulteney. When taking office the Town was in arrears financially \$20,000 and upon leaving office at the end of 2013 the coffers held over \$300,000. She has been a staunch advocate for antifracking in NY and held a position on the steering committee for Elected Officials to Protect NY. During that two years much time was spend in lobbying the Governor, the NYS DEC and the NYS DOH as well as local advocacy events. Jane joined AAUW in 1976 when she moved back to Steuben County and has held many local and state offices, including that of AAUW NYS Program Vice President in the early 2000's. She was part of the then widely visible "Living the Mission" program developed by the NYS Board under Evvie Currie's presidency.

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**AAUW— Empire State  
Virtual Branch**  
973 216 4181  
<http://empire-ny.aauw.net>

*"Leadership is the  
capacity to  
translate vision  
into reality."*



*"What matters now as always,  
is not what we can't do:  
it is what we can and must do." - ER*



## A LETTER FROM THE EMPIRE STATE VIRTUAL BRANCH PRESIDENT, MARIA ELLIS



Dear Friends,

The AAUW NYS Convention held on April 17-19, 2015 at the Byblos Niagara Resort in Grand Island, NY was very informative and fun. Special thanks to the AAUW NYS Board members for creating and implementing such a successful convention!

Thank you also to each of our members and friends who made our Empire State Virtual Branch vision, a majestic reality, by creating and implementing AAUW mission based programs. I am very happy to report that the Empire State Virtual Branch received the following awards: 1) 21st Century Silver Program Award for the Mentoring at

the College of Mount Saint Vincent; 2) Award of Distinction for our quarterly Empire Virtual Times newsletter; 3) Public Policy Award for consistent efforts to educate members about Public Policy issues through our newsletter; 4) Public Policy Award for STEM Impact; 5) Public Policy Award for Voter Registration & Education Award; 6) Award of Distinction for Social Media; 7) Spare change 4 change Initiative; 8) Award of Distinction for Visibility; 9) Membership Award for recruiting and maintaining members; 10) Award of Distinction for our Website; 11) Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) Star Branch; 12) Seventh (7th) Place Per Capita Contributions. Special thanks to our generous members including Dot McLane, Dr. Chigurupati Rani, Joan Monk!

Our Start Smart Spring Workshop took place at the College of Mount Saint Vincent (CMSV), Bronx, NY on April 9th, 2015 from 4 pm - 6 pm. Over 30 juniors and seniors from the CMSV participated in the workshop. Special thanks Roli Wendorf, Adie Shore and Cheretta Robson for making our Start Smart Spring workshop such a successful one!

Our "Great Decisions Series" meetings continue to be held every other Thursday at the Harvard Club in NYC. Let us know if you would like to join us for tea and conversation at the Harvard Club in NYC from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Please see the schedule below. For more information contact Julie Harrison Kleszczewski at [juliek@msn.com](mailto:juliek@msn.com). Chapter 7, "Human Trafficking" A serious challenge to humanity" Discussion Leader: Maria Ellis on May 14; and Chapter 8, "Brazil in Metamorphosis" - Discussion W

We have been working with AAUW's UN Representative Melissa Guardaro, Joan Monk, Dr. C.S. Rani and others and would like to share with you some ideas for possible inclusion in this year's activities: a) International Day of the Girl is October 11th and we all know that girls are not at parity with boys in STEM careers. Building off of the Beauty and STEM program, the ESVB branch could foster a "Take Your Girls to a STEM job" during the week of IDG. This could be executed in the many locations of the branch members; b) An easy but meaningful program would be to tie in with the "He for She" campaign orchestrated through UN Women. This is an effort to engage men in the fight for gender equity. <http://www.heforshe.org/> c) Collaborate in the organization of UN Day with Dericklyn Parker, the Poughkeepsie branch, the YWTF and, possibly, NJ AAUW. Click on the following links for additional information about potential joint programs with like-minded organizations.

Also, please let me know if you are interested in organizing any of the following UN Action For Civil Society suggested programs: a) Work with government officials at the local and national levels to establish legislation to help end violence against women; b) Initiate an SMS/text message campaign to create awareness about gender-based violence; c) Produce a compilation of real-life stories of women and men working to end violence against women, and send it to government officials, NGOs and media; d) Organize seminars and speaking events that focus on issues such as national legislation on violence against women and the role of men in stopping violence against women; e) Ask local artists to create a piece on violence against women and organize an exhibit to display the work. Screen a film which highlights the issue, and follow it with a panel discussion or question and answer session with the filmmakers; f) Run a workshop for local journalists to sensitize them to issues of gender and reinforce the importance of the role of the media in ending violence against women. I think that this workshop will bring us a lot of media attention, don't you?

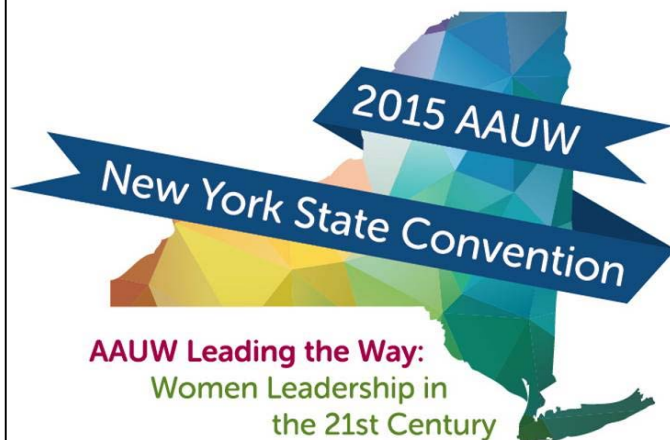
Finally, did you receive your personalized link to your ballot for the 2015 AAUW national election? Your ballot includes the candidates for the AAUW Board of Directors, amendments to the AAUW Bylaws, and proposed changes to the AAUW Public Policy Program. Details about the candidates and ballot issues are available on the website and in your Spring/Summer Outlook magazine. Also, you may go to [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) and click on the VOTE button. Enter your member ID and then click SEARCH. Enter your voter PIN and then review the ballot and cast your votes. Either way, voting in the AAUW national election is quick and easy. If you have any questions, please e-mail [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org) or call 800.326.2289.

Best & Thanks,

Maria Ellis, MBA  
AAUW Board of Director Candidate (2015-2017)  
Empire State Virtual NY Branch, President  
<http://empire-ny.aauw.net>; <https://www.facebook.com/EmpireStateVirtualNY>  
Email: [mellis@fsacap.com](mailto:mellis@fsacap.com); Mobile: 973-216-4181

To become a member of the Empire State Virtual Branch or to renew membership click on the following link: [https://svc.aauw.org/RECore/wMembership/ewJoinBranch\\_Enter.asp](https://svc.aauw.org/RECore/wMembership/ewJoinBranch_Enter.asp)

## Empire State Virtual Branch Won Many Awards!



**Congrats to all the ESVB members and friends  
who made possible winning so many awards  
at the AAUW NYS Convention  
on April 17-19, 2015  
at the Byblos Niagara Resort in  
Grand Island, NY.**

## Awards!

- 1) 21st Century Silver Program Award for the Mentoring at the College of Mount Saint Vincent
- 2) Award of Distinction for our quarterly Empire Virtual Times newsletter
- 3) Public Policy Award for consistent efforts to educate members about Public Policy issues through our newsletter
- 4) Public Policy Award for STEM Impact
- 5) Public Policy Award for Voter Registration & Education Award
- 6) Award of Distinction for Social Media
- 7) Spare change 4 change Initiative
- 8) Award of Distinction for Visibility
- 9) Membership Award for recruiting and maintaining members
- 10) Award of Distinction for our Website
- 11) Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) Star Branch
- 12) Seventh (7th) Place Per Capita Contributions. Special thanks to our generous members including Dot McLane, Dr. Chigurupati Rani, Joan Monk!

## Empire State Virtual Branch Emerging Leader

**Congratulations Jan Lisa Huttner**  
for being nominated as an "Emerging Leader" for the Empire State Virtual Branch and being recognized at the AAUW NYS Convention on April 17-19, 2015 at the Byblos Niagara Resort and Spa Grand Island, NY.



# Spring 2015 NEWS

## Candidates for Election to the 2015-17 AAUW Board of Directors

### 2015 AAUW NATIONAL ELECTION one member, one vote

The slate of candidates for election to the AAUW Board of Directors is now available. For details about each candidate, click on the following link: <http://www.aauw.org/resource/candidates-for-election-to-the-aauw-board-of-directors/>

#### AAUW President

(vote for 1)

Patricia Fae Ho

#### AAUW Vice President

(vote for 1)

Alicia Hetman

#### AAUW Directors

(vote for 10 candidates of your choice)

Susan Barley

Maria Ellis

Malinda Gaul

Sally Anne Gooson

Eileen S. Hartmann

Ellie Hill

Traci Jensen

Melissa Johsen

Dot McLane

Eileen Shelley Menton

Rebecca Norlander

Judith Pfeil

Gleda D. Price

Martha Joh Reeder

Pam Thiel

## AAUW-NYS 2015 Convention Speakers



**Nancy Mion**, our Empire State Virtual Branch Public Policy Director and AAUW Islip Area Branch Long Island Suffragists Committee Chair. Nancy comes by this naturally for her grandfather, Nathaniel Schmidt, a professor at Cornell, was an active suffragist. She is a member of the statewide NYCHTN Women, Right's Committee. Nancy is currently: Islip Area Branch Program Vice-President & Public Policy Director; L.I. Interbranch Secretary/Treasurer; NYS Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) Director; and a National AAUW LAF Committee Member. She is a past NYS President and Public Policy Director. She has been an involved dedicated committed AAUW member for 40 years. Her other abiding interest is the

Suffolk County Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Nancy was a librarian who received her BBA in Management from Hofstra University and her MS in LS from SUNY Albany.

If you would like a copy of Nancy's [Powerpoint presentation](#) on the history of the suffrage movement especially as it applies to New York. Contact [Nancy Mion](mailto:myown220@aol.com) at myown220@aol.com.



If you were not able to attend **Joan Monk's** presentation about Eleanor Roosevelt and Leadership: "Eleanor's Alphabet Soup", you can e-mail Joan at [ftmaven@gmail.com](mailto:ftmaven@gmail.com) about interesting program(s) for your branch.

As you know, Joan is a fairy tale/happiness/play enthusiast engaging students of all ages in what has heart and meaning for her. With an e-mail moniker of 'ftmaven' she has been dubbed the "AAUW NYS Unofficial Director of Whimsy" because of her passion for fairy tales. As the former Education Director of the Peter Pan Children's Fund, she has unlimited access to pixie dust, sprinkling it wherever she goes!

Her latest fairy tale endeavor is "The Wonder & Wisdom of Oz," celebrating the 75th Anniversary of America's favorite fairy tale with students from age 4-104. As a Master Teacher in the Yonkers Public Schools, Joan "worked her magic" lovingly there for nearly four decades. She considers herself "an inspired not retired" educator, having worked as an early childhood teacher, parent trainer, workshop leader and college professor. Now she is putting put volunteer work center stage in her encore career. Jacob Burns Film Center, Westchester Children's Museum and The Academy for Character Education at Sage College all benefit from her energy and enthusiasm.

Inspired by the mission of AAUW, she joined as a 'lifetime member' twenty years ago. She is a member of four branches in NYS: Westchester, Kingston, Poughkeepsie and ESVVB. At present, Joan is Special Projects Director, District V Coordinator and is chairing the NY/NJ WILD Project. She served as District Director, International Affairs Chair and Cultural Interests Director also. She lives in Yorktown with Rob the prince, Toto the dog, and Mushy the cat



# Spring 2015 NEWS

## AAUW-NYS 2015 Convention Pictures



AAUW-NYS Team



Victorian Heidi & 3 Other Friends



Denise Reichard, Eleanor Roosevelt impersonator!



Maria Ellis & Edwina Martin



Kimberly Pollard & Friends



Melissa Guardaro, Kimberly Pollard, Maria Ellis, Lucienne Nicholson & Friends



Dr. C.S. Rani, Eileen Hartmann, Maria Ellis, & Joan Monk



# Spring 2015 NEWS

## AAUW-NYS 2015 Convention Pictures Cont'd.

## Welcome New Member!



Next Generation Leadership: Students from our C/U Partners



Roli Wendorf &  
Jane Pendergast



Joan Monk, Marilyn Tedeschi, Jenn Mayfield & Friends



Lucienne  
Nicholson,  
Dr. C.S. Rani  
& Angelina



Dr. C.S. Rani,  
Joan Monk &  
Maria Ellis



Juliet Tarantino

We are delighted to welcome, **Juliet Tarantino**, newest primary member of the Empire State Virtual Branch! During fiscal year 2015-2016."

Juliet Tarantino joins the AAUW with international experience in education and academic training in anthropology (MA in Anthropology for The New School for Social Research). While an undergraduate student at the University of New Hampshire (Dual BA in Anthropology in International Affairs), she organized and led a week-long social justice awareness trip of twelve students to Nicaragua, where trip participants learned about the work of local grassroots organizations and facilitated classroom art activities. Her thesis, based on original research she conducted in Ecuador, examined the entanglement of Ecuadorian Otavaleño's rejection of tradition alongside their utilization of distinctive traditional dress to bolster their sales of artisan-made items. After graduating from college, Juliet was selected by the Spanish Ministry of Science and Education for the position of North American Culture and Language Assistant and taught English in Madrid.

Back in the U.S. and determined to maintain the level of Spanish fluency she had gained in Madrid, Juliet took on the role of Bilingual Intake Coordinator at an immigrant legal services and refugee resettlement agency in Chicago. There, she compiled a series of client stories expressing how their lives had changed after gaining residency in the U.S. She also worked as an independent translator, translating personal statements in support of VAWA cases. Inspired to engage more critically with issues of social justice, Juliet gained her master's degree in New York City, and began teaching academic research writing to college-bound seniors from underserved high schools. She also coordinates low-cost Spanish classes in her Brooklyn neighborhood as a means of building community. She is interested in immigrant and refugee issues, scholastic achievement gaps, and using research and education to teach social justice.

*The purpose of life after all, is to live it, to experience to the utmost, to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experiences.*

## Start Smart Workshop

**Learning to Negotiate the Wage Start Smart Workshop**  
 Sponsored by  
 AAUW's Westchester and Empire State Virtual Branch!  
 Place: College of Mount Saint Vincent  
 Date/Time: Fall 2015 (DTBA)



Suzanne DeChillo/photographer, The New York Times Annie Houle of the WAGE Project uses \$1 bills and play money to show men's pay advantage over different groups of women. Her program teaches women how to negotiate for better salaries. Did you see the article on the wage gap on the front page of the business section of the New York Times? If you haven't read the article, click on the link below for details:

## Ask the President

### *Why is it important to apply for the AAUW Standing Committees?*

The committees collaborate with AAUW staff to implement priorities set by the Board of Directors in accordance with AAUW By-laws. Task forces are charged with specific duties for finite periods of time and may be appointed by the president with the approval of the AAUW Executive Committee. Therefore, I highly encourage you to apply for AAUW National Committees and Task Forces which are comprised of volunteer AAUW member leaders.

Each Standing Committee mandated by the bylaws has at least three members appointed by the Board, one of whom is the chair. Other committees may be appointed by the Board of Directors. Task forces are charged with specific duties for finite periods of time may be appointed by the president with the approval of the executive committee. The Standing Committees include the Audit Committee, the Finance Committee, the Governance Committee, the Investment Committee, the Branch Program Resources Committee, the College/University Committee, the Fundraising Committee, the Legal Advocacy Fund Committee, Membership Committee, Nominating Committee, and Public Policy Committee. The Task Forces include the Diversity and Inclusion Task Force, the Voting Engagement Task Force, STEM Task Force.

To apply and for more information, click on the following link:  
<http://www.aauw.org/resource/national-committees-task-forces/>

## 2015 AAUW-NYS Summer Conference

**NYS Summer Leadership Conference**  
 July 24-26, 2015  
 Cazenovia College, Cazenovia, NY

**2015 AAUW National Convention**

June 18 - 21  
 2015  
 the Sheraton  
 San Diego Hotel

[www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) Join the wave in sunny San Diego!

## Heartfelt Thanks to Friends!

Thank you for your generous and thoughtful donations to the Empire State Virtual Branch!

Maria Ellis  
 Melissa Guardaro  
 Dr. C.S. Rani  
 Dot McLane

### 2015 Great Decisions

Great Decision Topics	Dates	Reviewers
U.S. Trade Policy	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs, May 14	Diane Daniels
The U.S. and Africa: The rise and fall of ...	4 <sup>th</sup> Thurs, March 28	Nnenna Agba

Charles Room, The Harvard Club, 27 W 44th St., 5:30—7:00 p.m.  
 For more information, email Julie K: [juliek@msn.com](mailto:juliek@msn.com)

**"Women, whether subtly or vociferously, have always been a tremendous power in the destiny of the world ..." ER**



# The Wild Women are Coming!



The NY/NJ AAUW "WILD"  
Women Project  
(Women In Leadership Development)

## "Embracing Eleanor in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century"

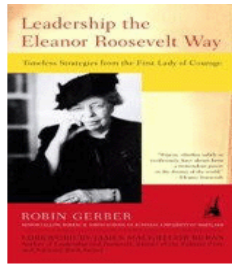
Members from the NY/NJ WILD Project (Women in Leadership Development) are attending the AAUW National Convention in San Diego come June. They will be promoting Phase 3 of the Eleanor Roosevelt Leadership Read. State board members connected at our last national convention in New Orleans and strong bonds of friendship developed, as they often do in AAUW. Robin Gerber, keynote speaker there inspired these women to focus on leadership through her book "**Leadership the Eleanor Roosevelt Way**." There are monthly conference calls, convention workshops and program planning. You too can become "WILD" and join in Phase 3 that starts this July. Members connect on the third Tuesday of each month to review and discuss the current chapter with a focus on the leadership virtues Eleanor exemplified.

Eleanor was named as the most influential first lady of all times by a Siena Poll in 2014. Ken Burns made her an integral part of his new series, "The Roosevelts" last fall. The UN has designated her birthday as the date to celebrate International Day of the Girl. The time is right for you to establish a relationship with Eleanor or renew an old friendship. Robin's book connects you to Eleanor in a very personal way.

National will be hosting round table discussions at the convention. We think this New York/New Jersey collaboration is something to talk about. There will also be opportunities in both New York and New Jersey to learn more about this project at their spring gatherings. If you have a personal or family story related to Eleanor be sure to share it with us.

Eleanor believes that we were all 'born to be WILD.

Interested in becoming a WILD Woman?  
Contact Joan Monk, AAUW NYS District Director –  
[ftmaven@gmail.com](mailto:ftmaven@gmail.com) or 914 245 7704



# Public Policy



## HOORAY! NYS EQUAL PAY BILL TO BECOME LAW

The NYS Assembly unanimously passed NYS Equal Pay Bills on April 27, 2015. The NYS Senate had approved them earlier this Session. AAUW and others have lobbied for Equal Pay Bills for well over a decade. When the Governor signs the Bills, he has said he will, in 90 days they will be law.

The Women's Equality Coalition, of which we are a member, reports that A.6075 updates New York Equal Pay Law by creating robust wage secrecy protections, so that employees *cannot be fired or retaliated against for sharing their wage information* as well as allow for *increased damages* up to triple the amount of unpaid wages when an employee successfully proves that an employer has willfully violated the law.

These are essential components in achieving pay equity. A person must know how much others who are doing equal/comparable work are being paid to institute a legal action. Having access to proof that wage discrimination on the basis of gender exists means cases can be won, thus forcing employers to face paying severe damages when they pay employees inequitably. The passage of this law means a reduction in the 86% gender wage gap in NYS.

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

1. Thank your NYS Assembly Member for voting for A6075. Contact info at <http://assembly.state.ny.us/mem/search/> fill in you zip & address, click and email your message.
2. Ask your member of the House of Representatives to co-sponsor the Paycheck Fairness Act. How? Go to [aauw.org](http://aauw.org); click on Take Action; enter your zip code then complete the Tow Minute Activist. AAUW Action Network members were asked to respond on April 17 to the e-mail titled "Ride the Equal Pay Day Wave".
3. It is certainly acceptable to contact your federal legislator more than once about an issue. To paraphrase the Tammany Hall quote "Write Early and Write Often"

Congratulations on the passage of the NY Equal Pay Bills. It would not have happened without your support.

Nancy Mion, ESVB Public Policy Director  
[Myown220@aol.com](mailto:Myown220@aol.com)



"The future belongs to those  
who believe in the beauty of  
their dreams!" ... ER

# Monthly Events

## Conversing on Diversity



### Conversing on Diversity: An Exchange of New Ideas, New language and New Consciousness

Heide Parreño

Diversity Director, Empire State Virtual Branch

May is a special month of cultural celebrations here in the United States and globally both secular and spiritual with diverse historical significance. May Day occurs on May 1 which is considered the first day of summer, a traditional summer holiday in many pre-Christian European and non-Christian cultures. In many countries including the U.S., May Day is synonymous with International Workers' Day a day of political demonstrations and celebrations. The festival of Flora, the Roman Goddess of flowers was the earliest May Day celebration in pre-Christian times and the Walpurgis Night celebrations of the Germanic countries and is also associated with the Gaelic Beltane, a Celtic festival. A more secular celebration is best known for its tradition of dancing the Maypole and crowning the Queen of May. In the Roman Catholic tradition, May is observed as Mary's month, and in these circles May Day is usually a celebration of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In Hawaii, May Day is also known as Lei Day, and is usually given prominence to celebrate island culture in general and native Hawaiian culture in particular, first invented by a poet and local newspaper columnist in the 1920's. It has since been adopted by state and local government as well as by the residents and has taken on a sense of general spring celebration in the area. The first Lei Day was proposed in 1927 in Honolulu. A traditional holiday song, "May Day is Lei Day in Hawaii" was composed by Leonard "Red" and Ruth Hawk. Originally it was a contemporary fox trot, and was later rearranged as the Hawaiian hula song of today.

Cinco de Mayo or the Fifth of May is a day that will be celebrated all over the world on Thursday, May 5, 2011.

In Mexico or wherever the culture of Mexico is celebrated including here in the U.S.—families, friends and neighbors gather to have a fiesta in honor of the event. This festival observes the 1862 victory of 4,000 ill-equipped Mexicans over 8,000 well-equipped French invaders. The battle known as *La Batalla de Puebla* or The Battle of Puebla took place on...[you guessed it] May 5.

Today, all is forgiven, with fiestas planned in Mexico and in many communities around the world where Mexicans live. Even "gringos" who have little idea why they are coming to a Cinco de Mayo celebration are happy to commemorate the day and join in the fun and parties on May 5th. Kids and adults all welcome the day to feast on Mexican food and celebrate national pride.

Nurses' week is celebrated from May 6 to May 12 which is Florence Nightingale's birthday.

A very significant celebration in May is Mother's Day which occurs the second Sunday of May in most countries including the U.S. This is the day to honor mothers with special attention from their families, friends and loved ones.

The practice of honoring Motherhood is rooted in the strong symbolic and spiritual practices by early societies that celebrated Goddesses and symbols rather than actual mothers. The personal human touch of Mother's Day is a recent phenomenon and only in recent history that the celebration of Motherhood has developed a human focus.

The first North American Mother's Day was conceptualized by Julia Ward Howe's Mother's Day Proclamation of 1870. Howe had become so distraught by the death and carnage of the civil war that she called on Mother's to come together and protest what she saw as the futility of their Sons killing the Sons of other Mothers. With the proclamation she called for an International Mother's Day celebrating peace and motherhood. Words she used is very appropriate on what is happening today. Here's a sample of some of the quotes:

"We the women of one country  
Will be too tender of those of another country  
To allow our sons to be trained to injure others  
In the name of womanhood and humanity, I earnestly ask  
That a general congress of women without limit of nationality  
May be appointed and held of some place deemed most convenient!  
And at the earliest convenient  
And at the earliest period consistent with its objects  
To promote the alliance of the different nationalities  
The amicable settlement of international questions.  
The great and general interests of peace."  
We need to resurrect this proclamation today as we honor Mother's Day

## Explore Your Opportunities: The Sky's the Limit!™



### Explore Your Opportunities: The Sky's the Limit!™

13th Year Conference

Spring 2016 (DTBA)

College of Mount Saint Vincent

Riverdale (Bronx), New York

Congratulations to Lorrin Johnson, Wilma Gitchel and Marilee Scheuneman for another successful Explore Your Opportunities: the Sky's the Limit Conference held on March 21, 2015 at the College of Mount Saint Vincent in Riverdale, New York. We have received great reviews from our 7th grade participants about all the 17 workshops given at this Conference. Our key note speaker, the Australian GPS girl, Karen Jabosen received the most accolades from our students. We were all very engaged and enjoyed Karen's "Recalculate" motivational talk!

The 7-Grade girls attended the following 17 workshops for EYO 2015:

1. **Playing Games in Alice World**: learn to create interactive games using "Alice" programming.
2. **Brain Games**: Learn about some of the mind boggling things a brain can do from making memories to controlling emotions.
3. **Flower Hour**: Observe and describe flowers and discover similarities that group them and differences that make them unique.
4. **It's a Sugar...It's a Base...It's DNA!**: Discover the structure of DNA and learn how to isolate DNA from your own cells painlessly.
5. **Acoustics & Wildlife - Sound Can Save Animals!**: How do scientists track whales, recognize birds, and count tigers and frogs? They use sound!
6. **What Color is a Rose?**: Roses are red, violets are blue, ever wonder how plants get their color? See which plant pigments are hiding in your favorite plants using paper chromatography!
7. **Datalogging-A-Bot**: Learn how to program a robot to analyze sounds using a sound sensor.
8. **Plant Superhighways**: An introduction to the vascular system of plants with real-life applications in the food and florist industries.
9. **Grrrrrrs Leading the Way in Animal Science**: Learn how you can enhance animal lives and wellbeing in a hands-on enrichment workshop.
10. **Blizzard in a Bottle!**: Create a "snowflake crystal" scene in a jar using Chemistry!
11. **Cool Web Design**: Learn the basics of HTML and JavaScript by making your own "Web Page".
12. **Paper Engineering + Origami = (Fun)**: Use paper and geometry to build a spherical container to store jewelry and other small items.
13. **Play Doctor**: Learn the physical exam components and tools that doctors and PAs use to evaluate sick patients.
14. **Hands-On Cosmetic Chemistry (2 sessions)**: Step into the laboratory and design your own cosmetic potion.
15. **Wading Through The Web**: Smarter searching on the Internet - DeeperWeb, Clusty, Carrot, website reliability checks. Oh My.
16. **Brain on Overload?**: Learn about the neuroscience of cognition while conducting tests on the effects of multitasking.
17. **Using Leverage to get Super Powers**: Learn basics about how levers can multiply force and how leverage is used in everyday items.



Programming a Robot in  
Build-a-Bot



Kitchen is Full of Chemistry Too?



# CALENDAR FOR MAY - JULY 2015

Day	Date	Time	Event	
Tues	04/28/15	7:00-8:00 p.m.	Empire State Virtual Branch Teleconference, Call 712-432-0926 ; code 223128#	*****
Fri	05/08/15		Deadline for AAUW to receive request for paper ballot	*****
Sun	05/10/15		Mother's Day	*****
Mon	05/11/15	8:30 p.m.	Piano concert at the Harvard Club for new members/friends. RSVP ASAP mellis@fsacap.com	*****
Thurs	05/14/15	5:30-7:00 p.m.	Great Decisions	*****
Mon	05/25/15		Memorial Day	*****
Tues	05/26/15		Deadline for mailing paper ballot; ballots must be postmarked by 11:59 p.m. to be counted	*****
Tues	05/26/15	7:00-8:00 p.m.	Empire State Virtual Branch Teleconference, Call 712-432-0926 ; code 223128#	*****
Thurs	05/28/15	5:30-7:00 p.m.	Great Decisions	*****
Thurs-Sun	06/18-21/15		AAUW National Convention, San Diego, CA	*****
Fri	06/19/15		Online voting ends at 9 p.m. PDT	*****
Tues	06/30/15	7:00-8:00 p.m.	Empire State Virtual Branch Teleconference, Call 712-432-0926 ; code 223128#	*****
Sat	07/04/15		Independence Day	*****
Fri-Sun	07/24-26/15		AAUW-NYS Summer Leadership Conference, Cazenovia College, Cazenovia, NY	*****

**Happy Flag Day (6/14)!**

Members interested in scheduling an event/meeting for the branch please contact the Program VP to reserve dates and confirm before publicizing the event/meeting.

Maria Ellis & Dr. C.S. Rani  
mellis@fsacap.com

## Save the Dates:

Thurs.: 05/08/15  
5:30 - 7:00 p.m., The Harvard Club  
2015 Great Decisions

Thurs-Sun, 05/28-30/14  
National Conference for College  
Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL),  
University of Maryland,  
College Park, MD

Thurs-Sun, 06/18-21/15  
AAUW National Convention  
San Diego, CA

Fri - Sun, 07/25-27/14  
AAUW NYS Summer Leadership  
Conference  
Cazenovia College  
Cazenovia, NY

Join or renew your membership with Empire State Virtual Branch!

AAUW national dues are \$49, AAUW NYS dues are \$13.00, and the Empire State Virtual Branch dues are \$5.00. The branch dues year is July 1 to June 30, and if you join now, your membership is good through June 30, 2015. See the various memberships below and to join, please visit our website at <http://empire-ny.aauw.net/membership/>

- § Not currently a member of AAUW: \$67 (\$49 for national dues, \$13 for NYS; \$5 for Empire)
- § Current branch member: \$5 for a dual membership
- § Current member-at-large: \$18 (\$13 for NYS; \$5 for Empire)
- § Current student member : \$17\* a year (Campus is not a college member)
- § Current student member on an AAUW NY member campus: Free
- § New Graduate: first year free
- § Graduate Student: member \$18.81 a year
- § Primary Member & Donor for \$100\* a year including a generous contribution of \$33

**Empire State Virtual  
Branch Membership**

Membership dues can be paid by a credit card or check. This feature is available on our website. Go to: <http://empire-ny.aauw.net/PayPalMemForm.html> or simply fill out and mail the coupon below:

<b>Memberships Form</b>	Name:	Please click on the link below to join us:  <a href="http://www.aauw.org">http://www.aauw.org</a> and follow the steps for online registration. If you prefer to write a check for your membership, please issue a check payable to AAUW and mail it to Angela M. Cooper, AAUW Membership Dept, 1111 Sixteenth Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036. If you have any questions, please call Angela at 202 785 7782 or Maria Ellis at 973 216 4181.
	Address:	
	Telephone:	
	Email:	
	College Attended:	



AAUW Executive Director: Linda Hallman  
 AAUW President: Patricia Fae Ho  
 AAUW NYS President: Edwina Frances Martin  
 AAUW Empire State Virtual Branch President: Maria Ellis  
**Websites:** National: [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)  
 State: [www.aauw-nys.org](http://www.aauw-nys.org)  
 Empire State Virtual Branch: <http://empire-ny.aauw.net/>  
 Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/EmpireStateVirtualNY>  
 EYO: [www.aauw-eyhconference.org](http://www.aauw-eyhconference.org)  
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Members will kindly send in their articles for  
 the Empire Virtual Times  
 at the **beginning of each quarter**  
**(January, April, July, October)**  
 to [mellis@fsacp.com](mailto:mellis@fsacp.com) & [csrani.rani@gmail.com](mailto:csrani.rani@gmail.com).  
**Send your ideas and letters to**  
**Maria Ellis and Dr. C.S. Rani.**

## AAUW EMPIRE STATE VIRTUAL BRANCH

### Officers & Directors-at-Large

**President:** Maria Ellis, Empire State Virtual Branch (ESVB)

**Program VP:** Open

**Membership VP:** Open

**Educational Opportunities Fund VP:** Open

**Recording Secretary:** Eileen Hartmann, Fairport Area Branch, ESVB

**Treasurer:** Dr. Chigurupati S. Rani, (ESVB)

### Directors-at-Large:

**Bylaws:** Diane Haney, North Shore Branch, ESVB

**College & University Relations:** Lorrin Johnson, Westchester Branch, ESVB & Jan Huttner, (ESVB)

**Communications Director:** Open

**Cultural Director & Young Women Task Force Liaison:** Jenn Mayfield, ESVB

**Diversity Director,** Heidi Parreno, ESVB

**UN Representative:** Melissa Guardaro, Rockland County Branch, ESVB

**International Director:** Miki Noguchi, ESVB

**Parliamentarian:** Laurie Ginnitti, Jamestown Branch

**Public Policy:** Nancy Mion, Islip Area Branch, ESVB

### Ellis & Friends Fund

Any individual donations to the Empire State Virtual Branch  
 will be matched by the fund.

American Association of  
 University Women  
 advances equity for women  
 and girls through advocacy,  
 education, and research.

AAUW will be a powerful advocate and  
 visible leader in equity and education  
 through research, philanthropy and  
 measurable change in critical areas  
 impacting the lives of women and girls.

AAUW values and seeks a diverse  
 membership. There shall be no  
 barriers to full participation in  
 this organization on the basis of  
 gender, race, creed, age, sexual  
 orientation, national origin,  
 disability, or class.



Empire State (NY)  
 Virtual Branch  
<http://empire-ny.aauw.net/>



# Moving the Mission Forward

The Empire State Virtual Branch is the first virtual branch in New York State.

