



Easton (PA) Branch

# The Easton Edition

Easton, PA Branch Newsletter

## CALENDAR

### Newsletter Deadline

Saturday **October 15**

### Branch Meeting

Tuesday, **October 18**

### Board Meeting

Monday, **November 7**

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*2022*

Fight for the things that you care about, but do it a way that will lead others to join you.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg

### FIX HARRISBURG

October 18th, 7 pm

Palmer Library



Bipartisan solutions deserve a vote

#fixharrisburg | fixharrisburg.com

Join us on October 18, 7:00 pm at the Palmer Library to hear Michael Skros, a speaker from Fair Districts PA, who will be presenting information about the FIX Harrisburg campaign and talking about Reforming the Rules that make it so easy for bills to never reach a vote. He will explain how current unfair rules allow committee chairs to block broadly supported bipartisan solutions from getting to a vote. He will address the need to reform the rules in Harrisburg and he will discuss ways that organizations like AAUW Easton Branch and individuals can advocate for change. This is a public education program and open to the general public.

Bring your questions and bring friends.

## From the Leadership Team

### It Is Time to Be Heard!

It is a busy time of year as we are getting ready for Autumn. The leaves are changing and falling; mums and pumpkins are everywhere. Autumn not only brings weather changes but, also elections. **Election Day is November 8.** We all are receiving mail and seeing ads that are promoting candidates especially for the PA Governor and US Senator races. But did you know that all of the PA House is up for election as well as half of the PA Senate?

To be informed voters, we need to know and research the issues and carefully examine the candidates' views as well as their political affiliations. Due to the number of positions up for election, the PA legislature could dramatically change and that would change the political climate in Pennsylvania and might change the laws governing our rights.

In addition to electing legislators, a proposal (HB106) to amend the PA constitution is on the ballot. HB 106 has five proposed amendments which include:

- Declare the state constitution does not grant any right relating to abortion, including no right to public funding for the procedure.
- Require government-issued ID to vote.

- Require the auditor general to audit elections.
- Allow each major party's gubernatorial nominee to choose their own running mate, rather than holding a separate primary for lieutenant governor.
- Expand the General Assembly's power to reject regulations.

Make sure you're examining each candidates' position on HB 106 because passage of that bill can change our lives and freedoms.

Vote for the candidate that represents your voice and your view.

Your vote is your voice and it won't be heard unless you **VOTE**.



**Evening At The Williams Center  
Thursday, November 10, 8 pm  
Ensemble Basiani**



In repertoire spanning the seventh to 13th centuries, Ensemble Basiani embodies a vocal tradition unique to the Republic of Georgia. The 12-member, all-male choir of the Tbilisi Holy Trinity Cathedral Church are practitioners of a complex, three-voice polyphony that weaves surprising harmonies, melodic yodeling, and pristine intonation to deliver a celestial sound. With a vast canon of sacred, folk, dance, and love songs that traverses their colorful country—from the mountainous north, to the eastern Kakheti region, to the Black Sea in the west—Ensemble Basiani’s music is the most captivating in the world.

Tickets are \$30. A portion of each AAUW ticket goes towards local scholarships. Spouses and friends are welcome. Please reserve tickets by October 31st.

Please send reservations by October 31st to: Rosemary Baker, address in yearbook or use “Contact Us” page of website. Make checks payable to: AAUW Easton Branch

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Order Form: Evening at the Williams Center November 10, 2022

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Tickets for Ensemble Basiani \_\_\_\_\_ (qty) @ \$30. Each

Total of check enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ (payable to AAUW Easton Branch)

## Get in on the Ground Floor of our new Adventure:



[Lunafest.org](http://Lunafest.org) enables non-profits to raise funds by showing high-interest high-quality films, made by women, on women's issues, challenges, and successes throughout the world. AAUW-Easton and Lafayette College, Landis Center have entered into a partnership to launch our own LunaFest in the spring of 2023. Carol Inman, branch member, who has previously launched two successful film festivals, will chair the committee.

We are looking for members with experience in graphic art, marketing, communications, and promotions including managing an active Facebook page. Members will intersect with LAF staff, participate (if you want) in interviews with press and local radio, help distribute posters, and host the event. In short, you'll be at the center of a fun high-visibility new event with two important goals: 1) raising money for our annual scholarship fund; and 2) raising awareness of women's challenges and strengths.

Contact Carol Inman through the "Contact Us" page of our website to volunteer for this exciting new venture of the branch.

## Save the Date – Holiday Party



Lois and Ken Wildrick are excited to host our Annual AAUW Holiday Party on **December 11**, 2022. Join us from 1 - 4 pm at 79 Central Drive, Easton, PA., 18045. A light lunch and cookies will be provided and a variety of non-alcoholic beverages will be available. You are welcome to bring a bottle of wine to enjoy.

## Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging Land Acknowledgment, 2021-22

The Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging Interest Group affirms that the land on which we stand is land that has been cared for and supported by Native Americans across time. We speak to the spiritual attachment of these peoples to the land. Our acknowledgment recognizes the intentional erasure of the Lenape from this land and embraces the reunion of the land with its original caretakers. It announces a commitment to seek out opportunities to engage with the Nation and build a relationship with its peoples. To regularly acknowledge is to promote awareness as a first step in acting on that commitment.

On September 17<sup>th</sup>, a beautiful sunny Saturday afternoon, our first program of the year was held at Palmer Library. Thirteen members enjoyed coffee and cake along with carrots, dips and conversation.

Following a brief summary of the book **Hunger: A Memoir of My Body** by Roxane Gay, we watched Ms. Gay in an interview with Trevor Noah. A very lively discussion of the book followed. In the book, Gay discusses her feelings related to her overweight body and how others perceive it. She was afraid to tell anyone she was gang raped when she was 12. She was lonely and scared and food offered her immediate satisfaction. The discussion covered feelings, societal expectations, body image, family relationships, assumptions, sexual abuse and more.

Action plan: Each member left with a stamped post card and instructions to write to the Committee on Education and Labor asking the committee members to take action on the Healthy Meals, Healthy Kids Act and bring bill HR 8450 to the floor for a vote.

Yearbooks were passed out to those present. You should be receiving yours soon.

## Newsletter Information

Wouldn't you like to learn how to put a newsletter together or just use WORD for all the articles? It is a great learning opportunity and would help tremendously. If this is you, please let Toni Hoffman know.

If any member has information that she wishes to have published in the newsletter, please e-mail the information to **Toni Hoffman**. This would include births, deaths, marriages, happenings at cultural institutions. We also encourage submissions of photos of events and anything that you think may be of interest to other members. Please note, however, that **submissions must be in by the 15th** of the current month to be included in the following month's newsletter. Otherwise it will be in the newsletter after that.

## Newsletter Ads

Do you have a business or service that you would like to promote? The charge for including an ad is only \$5 for each issue. Ads should be no larger than business card size and must come from members. Payment for ads should be made to the finance officer and she will notify the newsletter editor that the ad is ready to be placed.



Are you or someone you know looking for a part time job? Chameleon Blue in Clinton, NJ is a beautiful store with many interesting and one of a kind items. Learn about the products made by artisans, mostly women, from developing countries around the world. Find out what "fair trade" means and how it works.

No retail experience needed, training provided.

How do we best serve the public policy priorities of AAUW National and AAUW-PA?

When I looked up the definition of policies, this is what I found:

“A policy is a set of general guidelines that outline the organization's plan for tackling an issue. Policies communicate the connection between the organization's vision and values and its day-to-day operations. A procedure explains a specific action plan for carrying out a policy.”

The mission of AAUW is to advance equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy.

AAUW PA's public policy goals are to educate citizens about the impact of public policies on women and girls and to advocate for policies that will advance equity for women and girls.

The question then is: what is our branch doing to carry out the mission of AAUW and the goals of AAUW-PA? Do we have a procedure? What's in our Strategic Plan?

I'm not sure any of us are in a position to do research although we could certainly support the research done by AAUW through our donations to AAUW Funds.

We give scholarships to graduating high school seniors and to women whose college career has been interrupted so I think we can check that box.

That leaves advocacy as a goal to strive for. What can we do to fulfill the advocacy charge? We can visit the local offices of our state and national legislators. We can make plans to register voters and to take eligible voters to the polls. We can hold programs on how to advocate for policies in which we and AAUW believe. We can make sure that schools in our area are adhering to Title IX policies. The benefits of Title IX are numerous and will be addressed in another newsletter.

What's your next step?

September 15, 2022	Income	Cost
<b>Banking</b>		
Fees		
Interest	\$0.18	
<b>Fundraisers</b>		
Donations	\$64.00	
Lunafest		
Poinsettia Sale		
Other Fundraisers		
<b>Membership</b>		
Branch Dues	\$645.00	
Postcards/Brochures		\$26.50
Yearbook		
Newsletter		\$5.72
Other Printing		
Insurance		
Mailbox		\$182.00
Postage		
Publicity		
Miscellaneous		
<b>Officer Expenses</b>		
Membership		
Leadership Team		
Finance Officer		
<b>Programs</b>		
Meeting Rooms		
Public Policy		
Scholarship		
Honorariums/Speaker Gifts		
Diversity		
Socials		\$60.79
Other Expenses-GRN		
Member Assistance		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$709.18</b>	<b>\$275.01</b>



## Interest Groups

The Easton Branch has several interest groups created to stimulate discussions, encourage networking and support the community. If you have ideas for additional groups, let us know. Every group looks forward to new participants. Call if you are interested in joining a group.

**All meetings contingent on control of the Coronavirus pandemic and may be held virtually.**

### Book Discussion

**Chair:** Susan McNamara



October 17, 2:30 pm  
Hostess: Karol D'Huyvetters  
Book: **The Mothers**  
by Jennifer Gilmore

### International Relations

**Chair:** Fran Kennedy



October 25, 1:30 p.m.  
Hostess: TBD  
Topic: Trade

### Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Belonging

**Chair:** Rosemary Baker



October 6 7:00 pm  
Hostess: Meet on Zoom  
Topic: **Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants** by Robin Wall Kimmerer- Part 3

### Bridge

**Chair:** Rosemary Baker



Contact Rosemary for date and time. New members welcome.

### Mah Jongg

**Chair:** Becky Goldenberg



October 10, 1:30 pm  
October 24, 1:30 pm  
Hostess: Lois, Toni

### Stitch and Be

**Chair:** Toni Hoffman



October 6, 2:30 pm  
Hostess: Susan McNamara

### Out To Lunch

**Chair:** Claire Degnan



All members welcome.  
Thursday, 11/3, 12:30 pm  
**Lutzi's**  
RSVP to Claire by 11/1

### Tapas Dining

**Chair:**



Date and hostess to be determined.

### Women & Science

**Chair:** Susan McNamara



Date: January  
Topic: **Braiding Sweetgrass**  
Hostess: Susan McNamara

### Walking Group

**Chair:** Fran Kennedy

Every Friday 9 am.  
Call Fran for details.

## American Association of University Women

AAUW National	800.326.2289	<a href="http://www.aauw.org">www.aauw.org</a>
Easton Branch		<a href="http://easton-pa.aauw.net">easton-pa.aauw.net</a>
Leadership Team	Rosemary, Karol, Fran	<a href="http://easton-pa.aauw.net/contact/">easton-pa.aauw.net/contact/</a>
Membership	Randi Blauth	<a href="http://easton-pa.aauw.net/membership/">easton-pa.aauw.net/membership/</a>
Easton Edition	Toni Hoffman	<a href="http://easton-pa.aauw.net/contact/">easton-pa.aauw.net/contact/</a>

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

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

The AAUW Funds include the Educational Opportunities Funds (formerly a part of the AAUW Educational Foundation) which help us to advance equity for women and girls through programs such as American and International Fellowships and Community Action grants.

AAUW Funds also include the Legal Advocacy Fund which provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sexual discrimination, the Leadership Programs Fund (formerly the AAUW Leadership and Training Institute), the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund, and the Public Policy Fund.