

CALENDAR

Newsletter Deadline

Wednesday, January 15

Branch Meeting

Saturday, February 1

Board Meeting

Monday, January 6, 7 pm

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2024

Live your beliefs and you can turn
the world around.

Henry David Thoreau



It's Party Time

You are invited to join us for our
Annual Holiday Party

Claire and Paul Deganan have graciously offered to
host our AAUW Holiday Party.

Date: December 8, 2024

Time: 2:00 pm

Location: 825 Paxinosa Ave, Easton, PA

RSVP: Karol D'Huyvetters by December 2.

A light lunch with cookies will be provided. A
variety of beverages will be available.



From the Presidents' Pen

**Happy Holidays from
our houses to yours.**

Fran and Lisa

PS - Remember no meeting in January

AAUW PUBLIC POLICY CONVERSATIONS – The No Kings Act

Reacting to the 2024 national election results, AAUW’s press release acknowledged that for a second time our country has decided it wasn’t ready to have a highly qualified woman hold our nation’s highest office. “The election results are extremely sobering,” AAUW CEO Gloria L. Blackwell said. “AAUW is committed to holding all elected officials accountable about women’s rights, bodily autonomy and access to education and economic opportunity, particularly for women of color.” A second Trump presidency puts women’s fundamental rights further in jeopardy, wrote AAUW’s senior director for policy and member advocacy, Meghan Kissell. AAUW vowed to “double-down” in its preparation for the Trump administration and Congress and be ready to deliver the organization’s agenda for the 119th Congress ahead of the new session.

One area of accountability to press forward on is a bill already introduced in the United States Senate, the **NO KINGS ACT**. In their forthcoming book, “Supremacy: How Rule by the Court Replaced Government by the People,” Harvard Law School professors Nikolas Bowie and Daphna Renan, argue that the U.S. Supreme Court has grown too powerful and Congress must intervene.

With last summer’s stunning ruling granting Presidents broad immunity from federal criminal laws, the authors argue that ruling and other opinions, “undermine Congress’s efforts to protect constitutional democracy.” In a 10/11/24 New York Times essay the professors point out that the idea of “judicial supremacy has long been challenged.” In a move to reassert the power of the legislative branch, Senate Democrats introduced the “No Kings Act” to overturn what Senator Chuck Schumer (D/NY) called “the most basic premise of our constitutional order—that no one is above the law.” “This brazen ruling contradicts American values, history, and the plain text of the Constitution,” Schumer states.

The No Kings Act would affirm that the President is not immune to legal accountability. “The Supreme Court has ensured that, going forward, the President will be a king above the law...Make no mistake about it. We have a very strong argument that Congress by statute can undo what the Supreme Court does.” The No Kings Act (1) Reaffirms that Presidents and Vice Presidents do not have immunity for actions that violate U.S. criminal law – (2) Removes the Supreme Court’s appellate jurisdiction for all actions challenging the constitutionality of the legislation – (3) Establishes additional jurisdictional and procedural guardrails. The Harvard Law School professors maintain that the No Kings Act “follows an admirable tradition, dating back to the earliest years of the United States, in which Congress has invoked its constitutional authority to ensure that the fundamental law of our democracy is determined by the people’s elected representatives rather than a handful of lifetime appointees accountable to no one.”

Columnist Jamelle Bouie has characterized recent rulings overturning decades of legal precedent writing, “Our Supreme Court does not exist in the Constitutional order as much as it looms over it like a robed tribunal of self-styled philosopher kings accountable to no one but themselves.” Pew Research polling shows favorable views of the Court remain close to a 30-year low at 23% points lower than it was in August 2020.

Lilly Gioia

Global Mamas Back for the Holidays

Home decor products include:

- Trivets
- Table runners
- Tablecloths
- Pot holders
- Button Baskets • Velcro baskets
- Batik reversible aprons, Child and Adult

Other products to consider:

- Eco products
- Water hyacinth items
- Jewelry from recycled glass
- Charming ornaments that can be repurposed – peace symbol, symbol for woman, unicorn, owl, and others
- Skin care products and soap
- Batik dresses for girls - sizes 2-8
- Onesies and shirts for babies and kids
- Accessories including scarves, scrunchies and headbands.

Give Fran Kennedy a call, and come pick out a special item for friends, family, or yourself. You will be helping to support women in Ghana to send their children to school at the same time. All products are fair trade. Ten percent of all proceeds will go to AAUW.



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.

Book Discussion

Chair: Susan McNamara



January 20, 2:00 pm
Hostess: Nancy Berry
The Women by Kristin Hannah

International Relations

Chair: Fran Kennedy



January 28, 2:00 pm
Hostess: Fran Kennedy
Topic: Women leaders in South America and the Caribbean: How is their leadership different from that of men

Bridge

Chair: Rosemary Baker



Contact Rosemary for date and time. New members welcome.

Out To Lunch

Chair: Claire Degnan



All members welcome.
Date: TBD
Location: TBD

Mah Jongg

Chair: Randi Blauth



January 13, 1:30 p.m.
January 27, 1:30 pm
Hostesses: Rosemary, Randi

Tapas Dining

Chair: Phyllis Finger



Date: March 28, 5:30 pm
Hostess: Phyllis Finger

Stitch and Be

Chair: Toni Hoffman



January 2, 2:30 p.m.
Hostess: Toni Hoffman

Science

Chair: Susan McNamara



Date: January 16, 1:30 pm
Hostess: Randi Blauth
Topic: **The Song of the Cell** by Siddharta Mukherjee
Section 1



Walking Group

Chair: Fran Kennedy
Every Friday 9 am

American Association of University Women

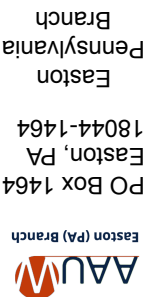
AAUW National	800.326.2289	www.aauw.org
Easton Branch		easton-pa.aauw.net
Co-Presidents	Lisa Spitale, Fran Kennedy	easton-pa.aauw.net/contact/
Membership Team	Carolyn Connors	easton-pa.aauw.net/membership/
Easton Edition	Toni Hoffman	easton-pa.aauw.net/contact/

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.



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