

In place of our April Branch Meeting, come to the  
**2021 AAUW-NM Virtual Convention**

Saturday April 17, 2021

9:00am to 2:00pm

Hosted by the Las Vegas Branch

The annual AAUW-NM State Convention takes care of the business of our state organization: electing officers, establishing dues, approving the budget, amending the bylaws when necessary. This year's conference includes a great deal more.

We will hear from AAUW speakers and learn about doing power differently in our program, and we will connect with AAUW members from all over New Mexico.

**Julia Brown**, AAUW National Board Chair and Las Cruces branch member, will tell us about a major change to membership eligibility requirements that is being voted on this spring.

**Pamelya Herndon**, AAUW-NM Public Policy Chair and Albuquerque branch member, will recap the current NM Legislative Session, and let us know about proposed changes to the AAUW-NM Public Policy Statement.

**Sarah Urech**, daughter of AAUW Las Vegas member, Beth Urech, will invite us to examine our relationship with power--within ourselves, our important relationships, and the larger world in an engaging and interactive presentation. We'll also talk about power "For What" and reconnect with what matters most to us. There will be an opportunity to learn from our fellow AAUW members and focus on how we can use our power for good.

There is **NO Registration Fee** this year, no cost for hotel and meals. So, this is your opportunity to attend the AAUW-NM annual State Convention and make a difference!

Click here to register for the 2021 Convention: [Register Now](#).

We will send you a Zoom link for the Convention online meeting on April 14.

If you are able, a donation of \$40 to help AAUW Las Vegas and AAUW-NM defray costs would be greatly appreciated. Just drop your check into the US Snail Mail to:

AAUW Las Vegas, NM  
PO Box 1383  
Las Vegas, NM 87701

## Roundhouse Report

In NM, the pocket veto takes effect 20 days after session close, that would be around April 9.

If you haven't already done so, AAUW-NM Lobby Corps is asking all AAUW members to **contact Governor Luhan Grisham** on these issues:

1. **Sign HB 20**, Healthy Workplaces Act
2. **Sign SB 304**, the Redistricting Act

The governor's phone number is 505-476-2200.

Email:

<https://www.governor.state.nm.us/contact-the-governor> (the website gives you a form to fill out with a box to include your message)

Talking points for the issues.

1. The Healthy Workplaces Act (HB 20) will provide New Mexicans with paid sick leave, which is an important healthcare benefit to every individual and family in NM. The act will support healthy workplaces and build loyalty between employers and employees. Working New Mexicans shouldn't have to choose between their health and their paycheck.
2. SB 304 (Redistricting Act) creates an independent, bipartisan redistricting commission to draw a new political map for NM based on 2020 census data. It will provide greater transparency to the redistricting process with more public input. It will also focus on drawing districts based on communities of interest rather than on the priorities of political parties. It will help prevent gerrymandering.

Let Judy ([djprono@msn.com](mailto:djprono@msn.com)) know if you do; Lobby Corps is interested in how many AAUW members call or email.

## AAUW National Town Hall on Member Education Requirement

Thursday, April 1, 2021 4pm ET

AAUW's annual election will begin on April 7 and run through May 17. Attend this member-only Town Hall to learn more about the Board-supported proposed changes to the bylaws that would eliminate the degree requirement and open membership. We will also discuss Get Out the Vote efforts during the COVID pandemic and what you can do to help make sure that members voices and votes are counted. The Town Hall will include breakout groups, which will allow for more specific discussion on the items up for membership vote this spring, as well as GOTV efforts that you can participate in. Please join us! [Register Here](#)

If you attend the state convention, Julia Brown will cover the arguments for approving this change. If any member would like to present the arguments against, please send me your arguments and I will circulate them to the membership. We have until May 17 to vote. So, you might want to wait till you hear both sides.

### Book Group

Zoom meetings will be hosted by Rozelle Wright and Denise George. All group members will receive meeting invitations to both meetings. Other branch members who wish to be invited should contact Karin Roberts, [karinroberts875@icloud.com](mailto:karinroberts875@icloud.com), to be added to the group mailing list. Evening meetings are on the first Monday of the month at 7pm. The daytime group meets the following Tuesday at 1pm.

The April book is Pachinko by Min Win Lee. Rozelle Wright will lead the discussions. The dates for the meetings are April 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.

A complete schedule is under the **study group** tab of our website at: [2020-2021 Book Group Schedule](#). Note that the order of the April and May books has been switched. The May book will be Unmarriageable.

## **Nonfiction Book Group**

The next Zoom meeting is April 19, 7:00pm. The book is The Bad Ass Librarians of Timbuktu by Joshua Hamer. Nina Thayer will lead the discussion. Denise George will host the meeting.

## **Great Decisions**

The remaining meetings are:

April 1 Marilyn D China in Africa  
April 15 Carroll The Two Koreas  
April 28 Helena WHO's Response to Covid-19

## **Branch Scholarship**

The branch collected over \$1000 last year to fully fund our scholarship. The Scholarship winner of the 2020-2021 AAUW-UNM-LA Scholarship was Althea Denlinger, who is a Computer Science major. Although we were not able to meet her in-person, she attended a fall Zoom branch meeting to share with us her educational aspirations and her appreciation of the scholarship.

We are asking for contributions to fund the scholarship for the 2021-2022 academic year. Please consider making a contribution.

Make out your check to,

**University of New Mexico Foundation**

and write in the memo line,

**for UNM-Los Alamos AAUW Scholarship**

mail it to:

Margaret Gibson  
120 Rover Blvd  
White Rock, NM 87547

### **What is it?**

An annual one-year scholarship for a nontraditional female student at UNM-LA.

The student must be enrolled in a minimum of 8 credit hours.

The amount of the award will be \$1000.00.

### **How does it work?**

UNM-LA will provide our branch committee with a maximum of three candidates, the committee will make the final decision.

The committee members are Maryjane Giesler, Mona Wecksung and Marilyn Doolen. Student services will inform the student body of this scholarship. Finances will be managed by the UNM Foundation; all contributions are tax deductible and all contributions go directly to the student (the Foundation does not charge a management fee).

### **Why should we do this?**

UNM-LA serves the local community.

The university administration reports that there is a great need for a non-restrictive scholarship (no requirement as to major, marital status, nationality or NM residency).

Establishing a connection with UNM-LA and AAUW-LA will benefit both organizations.

## **Dues**

**AAUW National Individual Membership dues are now \$62:**

\$59 is tax deductible as a charitable contribution, and \$3 is not (because it supports the AAUW Action Fund's Section 501(c)(4) Lobby Corps and get-out-the-vote activities).

State dues are \$18

Branch are \$20

If you are a life member you will owe \$38.

Otherwise, the Total is \$100.

You may have received an e-mail from National explaining how to pay electronically. If you prefer to pay by check, make it out to:

AAUW-Los Alamos Branch

and mail to:

Margaret Gibson

120 Rover Blvd

White Rock, NM 87547

I'm sending this dues reminder early as I was surprised by the National's e-mail and thought other members might also have concerns.

National expects dues to be received by July 1.

## Coordinating Council 2020-2021

Alahna Weller	Facilitator The duties of facilitator will be shared among the council members	672-9539	<a href="mailto:acweller@comcast.net">acweller@comcast.net</a>
Carol Neal	Secretary	662-7256	<a href="mailto:the_neals@prodigy.net">the_neals@prodigy.net</a>
Bev Cooper	Publicity	672-9696	<a href="mailto:bcooper@cybermesa.com">bcooper@cybermesa.com</a>
Maryjane Giesler	University Representative	662-5574	<a href="mailto:mgiesler@unm.edu">mgiesler@unm.edu</a>
Margaret Gibson	Membership/Treasurer	672-3609	<a href="mailto:mfgibson1943@yahoo.com">mfgibson1943@yahoo.com</a>
Denise George	Newsletter/Webmaster	672-9688	<a href="mailto:denisegeorge@icloud.com">denisegeorge@icloud.com</a>
Terry Marzili	Co-Treasurer	661-4214	<a href="mailto:tmarzili@aol.com">tmarzili@aol.com</a>
Judy Prono	Public Policy	662-2691	<a href="mailto:djprono@msn.com">djprono@msn.com</a>
<b>Appointed positions</b>			
Helena Whyte	STEM	672-9153	<a href="mailto:mozden08@aol.com">mozden08@aol.com</a>
Marilyn Minshall	Historian	672-3499	<a href="mailto:mjbminshall237@q.com">mjbminshall237@q.com</a>
Mary Ann Lindahl	Hospitality	662-0995	<a href="mailto:moonbeamx@comcast.net">moonbeamx@comcast.net</a>
????	Nominating Chair		

## Calendar

Apr 1	Great Decisions: China in Africa
Apr 5,6	Book Group: <u>The Splendid and the Vile</u>
Apr 15	Great Decisions: the Two Koreas
Apr 17	Branch Meeting: State Convention
Apr 19	Nonfiction Book Group
Apr 28	Great Decisions: WHO and Covid