

Hello AAUW members.

Welcome back! I hope everyone enjoyed their Summer and are ready to get together as our Branch meetings start again. There is some great info and updates in this newsletter.

Any questions or concerns? Reply to this email or contact me directly, JenniferL91@hotmail.com.

Jennifer Long
AAUW ESK Newsletter Coordinator



Edmonds SnoKing (WA) Branch

**Together, we can achieve a vision
of equal opportunity for all**

Contact Us at aauw.esk@gmail.com | On the Web at esk-wa.aauw.net
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Newsletter | September 2024

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President's Message

Hello wonderful members,

Welcome back to our program year. Hope everyone had a good summer and is ready to get back into a routine and welcome new

activities this year. The Program Team and Fundraising Team have been working hard this summer to bring lots of ways to engage with our Branch.

I love to read as I know many of our members do as well. I read the autobiography of Julia Child this summer. Julia was raised in a home that was very affluent in Pasadena, California and she had the opportunity to go to Smith College with plans to become a writer. Many of you may not be aware that she was a top secret researcher for the OSS (which later became the CIA) and spent many years in China before moving to Paris to study French cooking. Julia reinvented herself in her 40's. I write this to remind each of us that we don't know where our journey will take us, but one thing I do know is that the opportunity to learn and get an education opens doors that we may not know where they will take us. As part of our scholarship program, we are helping to open those doors for young women in our community. Please join us at our ***Evening of the Arts Fundraiser*** and be part of something bigger than ourselves.

See you on September 7th for our Welcome Back potluck and meeting.

Jodi Forsell
President



Put These Dates in Your Calendar

Saturday, September 7, 10:00am, Monthly AAUW-ESK Branch meeting; Snohomish Hall, Room 338, Edmonds College.

Thursday, September 19, noon-1:00pm, Monthly AAUW-ESK Branch Board Meeting; see online Branch calendar for details.

Saturday, October 19, 9:30am-4:00pm, State AAUW Meeting at Renton Technical Institute.



Programs

Our first meeting of the 2024-2025 year will be on September 7th - note this is a change from our regular meeting day.

We will have a potluck brunch, learn about the three initiatives on the ballot this November, and find out how to participate in our annual fundraiser and enjoy social time after taking the summer off.

We will not be having a branch meeting in October; however, AAUW WA State is holding a conference on October 19th at Renton Technical College. The cost is \$40 and includes a box lunch with choice of turkey sandwich, vegetarian wrap, or chicken mandarin salad. The theme is "Telling our Stories." We will watch the movie "*Arise Firebird*", a documentary film celebrating the resilience and empowerment of women and BIPOC professions in the workplace. Welcome and remarks will be by Dr Yoshiko Harden, President of Renton Technical College, and the Keynote presentation will be by April Sims, President of the Washington State Labor Council. She supervises all of its activities and staff, and leads Washington's largest union organization representing more than half a million union members. The

granddaughter of Louisiana sharecroppers and the daughter of a single mother, Sims has seen the power of unions to change lives.

Registration link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/telling-our-stories-tickets-980730871437>

Our November meeting will be on November 16th, via Zoom in collaboration with the Seattle Branch. More details in a future newsletter.

Jodi Forsell
Interim Program Director

AN EVENING OF ART FOR Scholarships

An Inspiring Evening of Art and Empowerment

A unique fundraiser designed to raise scholarships for local women in STEAM while also championing area artists.

Event hosted by Foundation A3E in tandem with the Edmonds SnoKing branch of the American Association of University Women. Silent auction, raffles and the opportunity to add to your personal art collection await you.

Together we can empower women's education in our community!

10.04.2024 **EARLY BIRD PRICING AVAILABLE UNTIL 9/8**

5-8pm **TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR OR ONLINE VIA QR CODE**

**WSU EVERETT CAMPUS
915 NORTH BROADWAY**

**\$25 TICKET PRICE
\$10 STUDENT ENTRY**

QR CODE

*student ticket price valid only with student ID upon entry

Outreach

Join us for an unforgettable evening of art and philanthropy at the **AAUW Edmonds SnoKing Branch's Scholarship Fundraiser!**

On **Friday, October 4, 2024, from 5-8 PM at WSU Everett**, immerse yourself in a vibrant atmosphere featuring local artists and crafters. Add to your collection or find a treasure for someone close to you.

Enjoy exciting raffles and a silent auction while supporting scholarships for women in STEAM fields.

Make an evening of it, invite friends, neighbors and family to attend. There is sure to be something for everyone; from unique portraits painted with espresso to ceramic goods, silversmith jewelry, landscape paintings, paper quilting, and marine photography. Variety abounds!

Don't miss out—early **bird tickets are \$20** until **September 8**. Every ticket purchased makes a difference in the future of education. Get your tickets now on our website: <https://esk-wa.aauw.net/>

If you'd like in-person assistance purchasing tickets, please attend the September 7th meeting.

Elena Cervantes
Outreach & Scholarship Fundraising



Membership News

Please watch for our next update in the October Newsletter.

Linda Clay
VP for Membership
lindarclay@gmail.com



Sharing and Caring

The Sharing and Caring Committee is excited to announce a new volunteer project dedicated to supporting women in our community. We will be collecting donations of feminine hygiene products to ensure that no one goes without essential items. Your contributions can make a difference in the lives of those in need. Please consider donating items like pads, tampons, and other hygiene products. These items will be distributed through the Edmonds Food Bank to reach women in our community. Together, we can help ensure dignity and health for everyone.

You can bring your donations to our AAUW meeting on September 7th, order from Amazon and have items delivered directly to the Food Bank, or call Vicki O’Gorman at 408-502-0636 to arrange pick up. The address for the Food Bank is:

Edmonds Food Bank
828 Caspers St. L100
Edmonds, WA 98020

If ordering from Amazon, please include “AAUW Donation” in the message section, if available.

Thank you for your support.



Notes From the Board Meeting

This section will return in our October 2024 Newsletter.

Sita Bhaskaran
Secretary



Our **Diversity Book Club** will meet at Harriet Fuji's house on Monday, Sept. 16, at 1:30pm. We will be discussing the book "Soil" by Camille T. Dungy. The subtitle is "The Story of a Black Mother's Garden." All members are welcome to attend. Please let Harriet know if you plan to come, so she will have an idea of how many people to expect

**Book Sale returns at
September Meeting!**

Did you read some great books

over the summer? If you are willing to part with them, please bring them to our Sept. branch meeting and donate them to the book sale. Do you need to replenish your reading stock? Please bring a few dollars to buy books at the sale. All proceeds go to our branch operations.



Public Policy Updates and Action

September 17th is National Voter Registration Day.

AAUW has a new [Voter Registration](#) webpage. You can order stickers and pens for your Get Out the Vote Events.

Our national [Voter Education](#) webpage includes a 2024 head-to-head candidate comparison template, a Voter Issues Guide (including suggested candidate questions), and other tools.

See [General Election Debates – WA state](#) for list of some primary as well as general election debates. Consider submitting questions for the debate. Review our [Voter Issue Guide](#) for ideas.

AAUW is a nonpartisan organization so we do not endorse candidates,

though we can compare their support statements on key AAUW issues.

AAUW can endorse Initiatives! See [Actions We Take](#) for an overview of three initiatives on the ballot in November that AAUW endorses a NO vote. I hope to see you at the September 7th meeting when we will talk more about the initiatives.

Being nonpartisan is hard! AAUW is inviting you to join the conversation with our National Policy Director on September 4th at 12:30 PST. Register in advance for this meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZErd-6vrToqEtxulnCR-IC994QRaxDAbKgg>

Do you receive AAUW Membership Matters emails? If not, you might want to ensure you are on the email list. The enews provides information and guidance on Branch scholarships.

Did you know AAUW was sued by [Do No Harm](#) because we offered a fellowship to “women of color”? Read CEO [Gloria Blackwell’s statement](#) about why AAUW settled the suit and removed “of color” from the scholarship application form.

Some branches are encountering pushback on “women only” scholarships or programs offered through schools that receive federal funding. This is happening more frequently. Read [AAUW statement](#) about what the rules are and how to engage with schools that have questions.

Sandra Distelhorst
Public Policy Team Leader
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